

# BEIJING REVIEW

北京周報

A CHINESE WEEKLY  
OF  
NEWS AND VIEWS

- Changes in Class Status in China's Countryside
- Afghanistan: The Bell Tolls
- Discussion on Profit in Socialist Society



# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

## The Bell Tolls

When Hitler gobbled up the Sudetenland in 1938, the bell tolled. But the West paid no heed. Czechoslovakia fell, then Poland. . . . Each concession merely whetted the Fuhrer's mad ambitions, until the world was engulfed in a conflagration. That was the bitter lesson of World War II.

Now, more than 40 years later, the bell is tolling again. This time in Afghanistan. There's no doubt about what the Kremlin is after. The Afghans are fighting back. Protests and sanctions have followed one after another. But will the world rally in time and will its reaction be sufficiently forceful to check the aggressors? (Pages 9-10)

## Secretary Brown in China

Coming right after the Soviet

invasion of Afghanistan, the discussions between Chinese and U.S. military leaders in Beijing gain added importance. The two countries will take parallel actions in order to safeguard world peace. (Page 7)

## Class Status in China's Countryside

Some four million people had their landlord and rich peasant designations removed last year. What is the significance of this move? Our correspondents went to Beijing's outskirts and conducted on-the-spot interviews. (Page 14)

## Chinese Youth Look at The New Decade

Five young men and women talk about their aspirations for the future, and how they see the Cultural Revolution, modernization and Western life modes. (Page 22)

## The Dazhai Experience: A Realistic Appraisal

What to learn and what not to learn from the nationally famous Dazhai Brigade in Shanxi Province. (Page 5)

## Discussion on Socialist Profit

Two economists answer questions by our readers. (Page 24)

## Facets of Chinese Life

Greater power for the enterprises (Page 5); efforts to combat cadres' extravagance (Page 6); breakthrough in synthesizing RNA (ribonucleic acid) (Page 27); people policing prices (Page 30).



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**COVER:** A retirement system has been introduced in some rural people's communes in China. Old people unable to work receive pensions according to the length of time they have worked in the communes so that they can spend their remaining years in happiness. Picture shows Jin Yongshun (second from left), a member of the Yuyuantan Commune on Beijing's outskirts, chatting with other pensioners.

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**POLITICAL****Zhou Enlai's "Guidelines For Self-Training"**

To mark the 4th anniversary of Premier Zhou Enlai's death, *Renmin Ribao* published on January 8 his "Guidelines for Self-Training" written in Chongqing in 1943 when he was 45. The guidelines are:

(1) Study hard, grasp key points, be selective and specialize rather than pay attention to too many subjects.

(2) Work hard and have a good plan, concentrate on major things and be orderly.

(3) Combine study with work, keep them in proper balance according to time, space and circumstances, review and put in order what has been done. Discover and create.

(4) Be principled in struggling against all wrong ideas, my own as well as those of others.

(5) Use my good points properly and correct my shortcomings in action.

(6) Never become alienated from the masses, learn from them and help them. Lead a collective life, pay attention to investigation and study and abide by discipline.

(7) Keep fit, lead a reasonably regular life. This is the material basis for self-training.

An accompanying editor's note in the daily said: Though at first glance the guidelines do not seem very extraordinary, it is not easy to carry them out in earnest. Premier Zhou had followed these guidelines during his lifetime. In practice, he actually went far beyond them, setting an example for the Chinese Communists and the people as a whole. If we use the guidelines as the criteria, they will make us ponder and encourage us to move forward and make improvement. Of the seven guidelines, there was one that Premier Zhou did not follow to the letter. He did not

take enough good care of his health. For many years he worked too hard day and night, more so in his last few years, and was unable to "lead a reasonably regular life." This seriously impaired his health. He gave his all to the Party, the people and the nation. We must learn from his example.

For several days before and after January 8, the nation's newspapers published many articles in memory of this beloved Premier of the Chinese people.

**Minority Peoples Living Among the Hans**

A Hui production team in Chaoyang Prefecture in north-east China's Liaoning Province, which used to be poor and backward, has become well-off since 1978. It reaped 75,000 kilogrammes of grain that year and a still greater amount last year. Thus it has turned from a grain-poor into a grain-rich team, with a surplus to sell to the state.

This transformation was due to the help given to the team in the past two years by the department in charge of work among the nationalities in this prefecture, which is mainly inhabited by the Hans while the national minorities live there over a scattered area. To raise the team's production capacity speedily, subsidies were given to its members, who were also helped to buy draught animals and to sink wells.

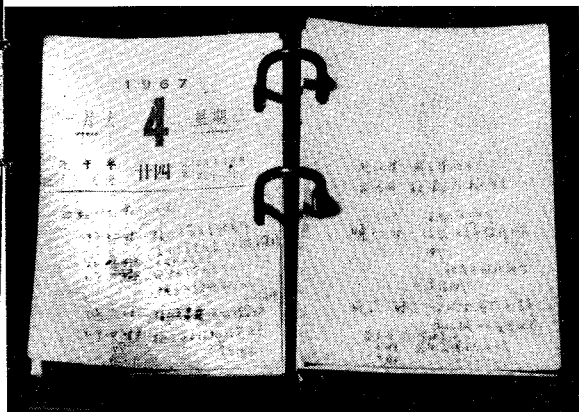
Similar aid was given to a production brigade composed of Mongolians in the same prefecture. As a result, the brigade gathered in a record grain harvest in 1978.

**One Day on a Desk Calendar**

Leafing through the desk calendar Premier Zhou used, one finds that the pages are filled with small, closely written Chinese characters.

This picture of one page from his calendar, January 4, 1967, shows the Premier had a full schedule from 11:30 a.m. that day to 6:30

a.m. the next day, meeting with people, receiving guests, attending meetings, etc., with practically no interval in between.



China's 55 national minorities mainly live in compact communities in the frontier areas and in the autonomous regions. About 10 million people of the Hui, Manchu, Mongolian, Korean and other minority nationalities live over scattered areas in the cities and towns and in the villages all over the country.

The Party and government have always attached great importance to work among the national minorities. Effective measures have been taken to protect their rights, develop their economies and cultures and raise their living standards by taking into consideration their special needs.

However, the government's correct policies were sabotaged during the Cultural Revolution and an abnormal situation emerged. For instance, the equal rights enjoyed by these minority nationalities were infringed upon. The situation has changed for the better in the past few years in the autonomous regions where the minority peoples live in compact communities, but the special needs of those living among the Han people were often neglected.

At present, government departments in various localities are doing their best to help these minority peoples develop their economies and cultures and to abolish step by step the inequalities that exist between the Hans and the minority peoples.

A recent *Renmin Ribao* article stressed: "The ways of life, religious beliefs and customs and habits of the national minorities living over scattered areas should be respected. . . . Those who discriminate against the national minorities and disrupt unity

among different nationalities should be dealt with."

## ECONOMIC

### Modernization March

- The first Chinese-designed large and up-to-date installations to make synthetic ammonia went into successful trial operation at the Wujing Chemical Works in Shanghai at the end of last year.

The new installations have an annual capacity of 300,000 tons of synthetic ammonia and 240,000 tons of urea. Most of the 600 pieces of equipment and 10,000 valves and meters were made in China.

- Construction of two big gold mines has been completed in Yexian County in the north-western part of the Jiaodong Peninsula in Shandong Province. Three kilometres away from each other, the two sister mines — Jiaojia and Xincheng — handle 500 tons of ore each per day.

- The building of a 25-storey hotel in Shanghai for tourists

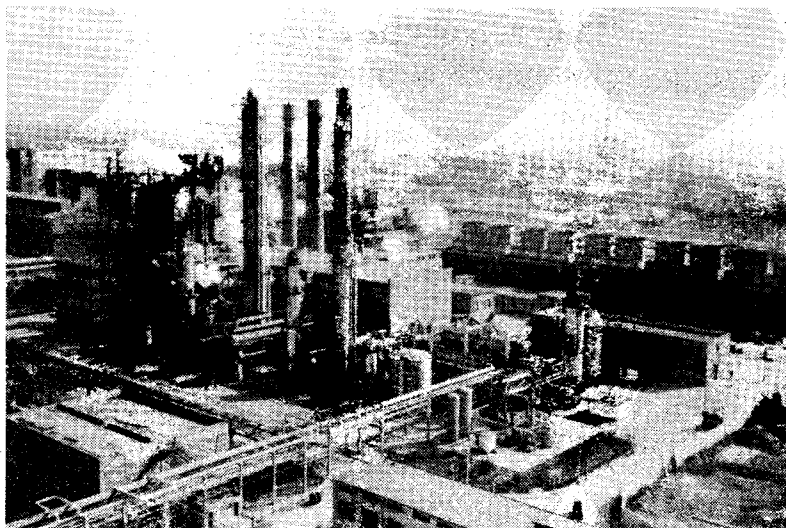
started on December 20, 1979. When completed, the hotel will be 90 metres high and will have a total floor space of 43,800 square metres, with 600 rooms, 11 dining halls, a central lobby and many service centres.

The project is Chinese-designed and is being built with Chinese materials and equipment.

- Oil has been found by Chinese geological workers in the northern part of Jiangsu Province in east China.

A comprehensive survey shows that the plain in that area is a sedimentary basin formed in the Mesozoic and Cenozoic eras, where oil and gas are often found. Wells promising a rich flow of oil have been drilled recently. Prospecting and opening up of the oilfield are going on simultaneously.

- A big coal field has been found in northern Anhui Province. It is called the Zhangji Coal Field, covering a total area of 97 square kilometres, with 12 coal seams and a verified reserve of 2,200 million tons.



The installations for producing synthetic ammonia in Shanghai's Wujing Chemical Works.

## Greater Powers for the Enterprises

People talk with gusto about the changes that have taken place in some enterprises in southwest China's Sichuan Province, which have been given greater powers on a trial basis.

Extending the powers of the enterprises is a reform now being tried out in some parts of the country. Under the existing economic management system, the production quotas of most enterprises are fixed by the state, their products are distributed by the state, their profits are all handed over to the state, and any deficits they may have incurred are made up by the state. In view of the shortcomings in this system, reforms were introduced in 100 enterprises in Sichuan in 1979.

One of the changes is that, so long as the state interests are fully guaranteed, the enterprises are empowered to draw out a certain percentage of the profits accruing from the overfulfilment of plan and use it for the expansion of production and welfare facilities and for bonuses to the workers and staff members. The Leshan Paper Mill recently reported on the rewarding results of the new practice.

By last October this mill had fulfilled the supply contracts and all major economic and technical targets, and made 20 per cent more profit than required by the state. This enabled the mill to use a portion of the excess profit to do 14 things to improve the well-being of its workers. These include:

— Building new living quarters with a floor space of 6,500 square metres for its workers;

— Building a recreation centre with an area of 2,000 square metres;

— Expanding the school for the workers' children and reducing tuition and creche fees;

— Paving the roads in two workers' residential areas with cement and planting trees around the mill;

— Setting up some auxiliary productive units which recruited 160 people, including the workers' children who were waiting for jobs;

— Opening a bus service to the city proper;

— Setting up a public bath for the workers free of charge.

All these needs for which the workers had long hoped were met after the enterprise was given greater powers. Though the reforms have been in effect for only a short time and much remains to be improved, the results have already proved to be beneficial to the state, the collective and the producers. Because of this, similar reforms are being introduced in another 100 enterprises in Sichuan this year.

## On the Question of "Learning From Dazhai"

"In agriculture, learn from Dazhai (Tachai)." This was a call issued by Chairman Mao in 1964. Dazhai is a mountain village of some 80 households in north China's Shanxi Province. It has made outstanding achievements and the once poor village has been transformed and built into a new socialist one.

In the years following 1964, cadres and peasants in China's

vast countryside have learnt from Dazhai's basic experiences, which Premier Zhou Enlai summed up as: the principle of putting politics in command and ideological education first, the spirit of self-reliance and hard struggle, and the communist style of loving the state and the collective. As a result many advanced units have emerged in various parts of the country.

Later, the ultra-Left line disrupted the movement and led it astray.

Recently, the Party committee of the Central Shanxi Prefecture, where the Dazhai Production Brigade is located, summed up its work in leading the movement to learn from Dazhai. It realized that though some achievements have been made, it had also committed "subjective and metaphysical" mistakes.

First of all, it was wrong to "deify" Dazhai as a model in carrying out the "all-round dictatorship" over the bourgeoisie by the proletariat and to enlarge the scope of class struggle in the countryside. Before acquiring a clear idea of capitalism and revisionism, it laid undue stress on the "criticism of capitalism and revisionism." As a result, things which actually were not capitalist in nature were indiscriminately criticized and opposed. For instance, the commune members were not allowed to keep their small private plots, and domestic side-line occupations and rural fairs were banned. But all these were allowed by the Party's policies and state laws. Moreover, they were complementary to the socialist collective economy; to abolish them, therefore, hampered the development of the rural economy and the im-

provement of the peasants' livelihood.

Another mistake was to present Dazhai as a model for all fields of work. There were such slogans as: "In education, learn from Dazhai"; "In medical work, learn from Dazhai"; "In physical culture and sports, learn from Dazhai," and so forth. The experiences gained by Dazhai were thus turned into an all-embracing "universal truth." This of course was not in accord with the actual conditions.

Another point was that people in various places and departments copied Dazhai's experiences mechanically in total disregard of their specific conditions. Chairman Mao and Premier Zhou advocated learning from Dazhai's basic experiences, but some people sanctified Dazhai's ways of doing things and required that they be followed to the letter without exception. For instance, when Dazhai concentrated its efforts on developing grain production, various other places followed this example and took the amount of grain output as a yardstick for good or bad work, without considering whether their own conditions were suitable for developing grain production or for developing forestry, animal husbandry and side-line occupations.

How then should Dazhai be evaluated? The Decision of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on Some Questions Concerning the Acceleration of Agricultural Development, which was promulgated last October, said that Party committees at various levels must continue to lead the broad masses of cadres and peasants in learning from Dazhai's basic experiences.

At the same time, it said they must resolutely implement the Party's policies concerning

agriculture and the rural economy, learn from the good experiences of both China and foreign countries, master advanced science and technology and learn to run modernized farming.

Dazhai and other advanced units, it said, must apply the principle of "one divides into two" (meaning to see both their good points and shortcomings), try to make new achievements and create new experiences so as to contribute to the quick development of China's agriculture.



## SOCIAL

### Combating Extravagance

The Central Commission for Inspecting Discipline under the Party Central Committee recently issued a circular criticizing the sanitation, inspection teams of Xian and Lanzhou for extravagance and waste. The circular laid down specific measures to combat and prevent a recurrence of such practices.

Last September, Xian and Lanzhou in northwest China jointly carried out an inspection of the sanitary conditions of both cities. However, because of the perfunctoriness of the members of the two teams, the inspection became a mere formality. The members took

the opportunity to indulge in eating and wining and sight-seeing. This aroused the resentment of the people. Many wrote to the State Council and *Renmin Ribao* calling for a curb on such wasteful and objectionable practices.

The circular pointed out that since the overthrow of the gang of four, Party discipline has been strengthened and the Party's working style has greatly improved. However, some cadres in the Party have turned a deaf ear to the criticisms of the Party organizations and the masses. What the inspection teams of Xian and Lanzhou did is not an isolated case. Such malpractices have undermined the fish-and-water relations between the Party and the masses and dampened the enthusiasm of the people for the four modernizations. The circular said that this deserves the attention of the whole Party.

To combat such evil practices, the circular underscored the following:

(1) If state funds are under any pretext used to indulge in eating, wining and sight-seeing, or to entertain guests and buy gifts, the leading comrades concerned shall be held responsible and any financial loss incurred by the state will have to be repaid; serious cases shall be dealt with according to Party discipline and state laws.

(2) When cadres, workers or staff members go out to attend a meeting, to inspect work in the rural communes or in the factories and mines, to study or to visit some place in connection with their work, their food expenses must not exceed the amount allowed by the state. Anyone who spends more than what is allowed will have to pay from his own pocket.

(3) Those in charge of finance and accounts at all levels have the right to refuse disbursement of expenditures that violate financial or economic regulations, and they can report the matter to the authorities concerned. No retaliation is allowed. Any disbursement that does not comply with state regulations is a neglect of duty.

(4) Cadres who are Party members and especially leading cadres must observe financial and economic discipline of their own accord. They should lead the masses to combat undesirable tendencies. Individuals or units that have upheld financial and economic discipline and combated evil practices should be commended.

## FOREIGN RELATIONS

### Egyptian Vice-President's Visit

Vice-President Mohamed Hosni Mobarak of the Arab Republic of Egypt and Mrs. Mobarak paid a visit to China early this month. This was the Egyptian Vice-President's second visit of China.

Entrusted by President Anwar El Sadat, Vice-President Mobarak exchanged views with Chinese leaders on the Middle East situation and other international problems and elucidated the Egyptian Government's stand. During the talks, the two sides had many common or similar points of view on international affairs. China and Egypt need to carry out extensive co-operation in opposing

hegemonism and safeguarding world peace. Other problems discussed by them included problems in the Middle East and South Asia and other international issues.

During his meeting with the Egyptian Vice-President, Premier Hua Guofeng said: The Soviet Union's armed invasion of Afghanistan constitutes a direct aggression and occupation of a non-aligned Islamic country of the third world. Moscow's action has thoroughly laid bare its true character as a social-imperialist power in the eyes of the world's people.

The Chinese Government's consistent stand is that Israel must withdraw from the Arab territories it has occupied, and that the Palestinian people's national rights, including the right to establish their own state, must be restored. These are the essential conditions for a fair solution of the Middle East question.

### Talks Between Chinese and U.S. Military Leaders

U.S. Secretary of Defence Harold Brown discussed in detail with Chinese leaders the international situation and bilateral relations from the angle of security during his visit to China from January 5 to 13. This is the first formal contact between military leaders of the two countries. Secretary Brown's visit took place at a critical moment when the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan. Thus the visit was of special significance.

During their talks with Secretary Brown, Chinese leaders

Premier Hua Guofeng, Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping, Vice-Premier and Minister of National Defence Xu Xiangqian and Vice-Premier Geng Biao made a detailed analysis of the present turbulent international situation and dwelt at length on the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and its after-effects. After a thorough exchange of views, the two sides found that they had a broad spectrum of identical views on the situation as a whole, despite their differences on some issues.

Both sides held that the Soviet Union's pursuance of hegemonism and expansion abroad constituted the main danger to the world. In view of the situation, both sides expressed the desire to strengthen their own defence capabilities and take parallel actions on the basis of equality and mutual benefit in order to safeguard world peace.

The Chinese leaders said in their meetings with Dr. Brown that the Chinese people wanted an enduring peaceful international environment in which to build up their country. But peace cannot be achieved by begging. It can be preserved only when all countries upholding peace unite and work in a practical and effective manner to counter Soviet hegemonism.

The two sides made an assessment of the effects of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and planned to make respective responses which they considered appropriate. They agreed to continue consultations in the future.

An invitation to reciprocate Secretary Brown's visit at an appropriate time has been ac-

China's view is consistent on the matter of global strategy. The Soviet Union is the main source of a turbulent international situation and a threat to peace and security. The policies of hegemonism and global expansionism pursued by the Soviet Union will not change because of one factor or another. All countries in the world should unite and deal seriously with the Soviet policy of global expansionism. China and the U.S. should do something in a down-to-earth way so as to defend world peace against Soviet hegemonism.

— **Deng Xiaoping**, Vice-Premier and Chief of the General Staff of the P.L.A.

I hope our global strategic relationship will broaden and deepen. I found that we share a similar assessment of the global strategic situation. The wide ranging and candid discussions we have held . . . will also help to ensure that our parallel actions will be mutually reinforcing.

— **Harold Brown**, U.S. Secretary of Defence

cepted by Chinese military leaders. Both sides agreed that such contacts were beneficial and expressed the hope to continue their efforts in this respect.

## Japan and China Jointly Build Six Projects

According to the press communique released on Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira's visit to China last December, China and Japan will jointly build six industrial projects and Japan will extend a government loan of 50,000 million Japanese yen for China's modernization programme.

The six projects are:

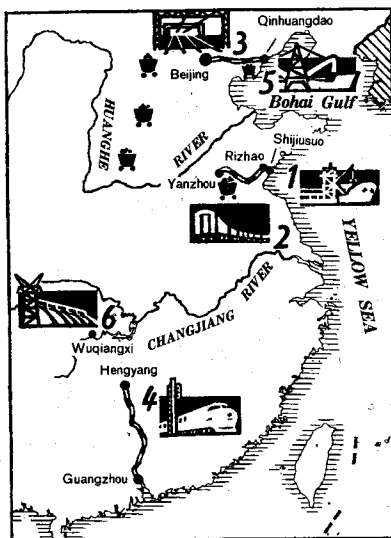
(1) A deep-water wharf that can accommodate 100,000-ton class vessels is to be built as an extension to the Shijiusuo port in Rizhao County, Shandong Province. Shijiusuo is on the coast of the Yellow Sea between Qingdao and Lianyungang. The new project includes a berth capable of handling 10 million tons of coal a year for export and another berth capa-

ble of handling 5 million tons of imported iron ore a year.

(2) A 300-kilometre-long railway line from Shijiusuo to Yanzhou, a city on the trunk railway line from Tianjin to Shanghai.

(3) A 300-kilometre-long double-track electric railway line from Beijing to the port city of Qinhuangdao.

(4) A new railway line parallel to the Hengyang-Guangzhou line.



(5) An extension to a coal terminal in Qinhuangdao which is an important north China port for exporting petroleum and coal. The new wharf will have the capacity of handling 20 million tons of coal a year.

(6) A hydroelectric power station on the lower reaches of the Yuanshui River in Hunan Province. The project, known as the Wuqiangxi Hydroelectric Power Station, will have an installed capacity of 1.5 million kilowatts and is expected to produce 7,100 million kilowatt-hours a year. The project will also serve the purposes of flood control, irrigation and navigation in western Hunan.

Completion of these projects will play a big role in improving China's communications and power industry, and in promoting the national economy and foreign trade.

## News in Brief

• On January 5, Li Xiannian, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, met and had a cordial and friendly conversation with Michael Klonsky, Chairman of the Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist) of the U.S.A., and his wife Susan Klonsky, Member of the Central Committee of the Party.

Comrades Michael and Susan Klonsky visited Beijing, Hainan Island, Guangzhou and Chengdu.

• From December 20 to 31, Vietnamese armed forces created 13 incidents along the Chinese border in Yunnan and 235 along the border in Guangxi.

The intensified Vietnamese armed provocations are gravely threatening the security of Chinese border residents and their property, and disrupting their normal life and production.



## Aggressors Must Be Punished

ON January 14 at the special emergency session of the U.N. General Assembly, the 24-nation motion calling for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan was passed by an overwhelming majority, 104 for, 18 against and 18 abstaining. This just verdict returned by the international community on the recent Soviet invasion of Afghanistan reflects the will of all countries and peoples who uphold justice and love peace.

Apart from strongly condemning Moscow, many countries have also recently taken various measures to impose sanctions against the Soviet Union. This is the first time in history that so many countries have come out to oppose the Kremlin's hegemonist policies of aggression and expansion, landing the Soviet Union in extreme isolation. This reflects the much heightened awareness of the world to Soviet hegemonism and a greater willingness to combat it.

**"The Natural Ally."** Afghanistan is a Moslem country and a non-aligned country of the third world. Soviet tanks, aircraft and cannon killing Afghans in Afghanistan are making people everywhere see more clearly the true nature of the self - claimed "natural ally" of the third world. It is not without reason

that the world is talking about the dangerous escalation of Brezhnevism. If the Soviet Union is allowed to get away with what it is doing to a sovereign country, it is tantamount to giving the green light to aggression.

In the last two weeks, the Soviet Union has been roundly condemned by more and more third world countries. Soviet aggression was particularly strongly denounced by the governments, political parties, mass organizations and state leaders of Moslem countries such as Egypt, the Sudan, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Iran, Mauritania, Iraq, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Jordan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Turkey, Malaysia and Indonesia. At the suggestion of Bangladesh and Pakistan, the Organization of the Islamic Conference on January 10 announced an emergency meeting of foreign ministers of its 42 member states to be held on January 26 to discuss the situation resulting from Soviet armed interference in Afghanistan. People of many third world countries have taken to the streets to protest the Soviet



"I'm here to prevent outside armed interference."  
Cartoon by Fang Cheng

invasion of Afghanistan, publicly burning Soviet flags and portraits of Brezhnev.

**Sanctions.** The Soviet occupation of Afghanistan gravely threatens the oil-producing Gulf area and the Indian Ocean oil routes and cannot but arouse opposition from the United States, Western Europe and other countries concerned.

U.S. President Carter has announced the following countermeasures: Requesting a delay in discussions of the U.S.-Soviet SALT treaty in the Senate; revoking licenses for exporting high technology and other strategic items to the Soviet Union or cutting back such exports; severely curtailing Soviet fishing in U.S. waters; halting delivery of 17 million tons of grain ordered by the Soviet Union from the United States; postponing the setting up of new American and Soviet consular facilities; and deferring most of the scheduled cultural and economic exchanges.

Strong resentment and indignation were also expressed by the governments of Britain, France, Italy, West Germany, Japan, Canada and Australia. Soon after the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan, emergency meetings were called by the United States, Britain, France, West Germany, Italy and Canada, and by NATO, to discuss the gravity of the situation in Afghanistan. The European Economic Community announced on January 7 the decision to halt exports of grain and milk products to the Soviet Union. The Japanese Cabinet on January 8 considered suspending co-operation in Siberian development projects as part of Japan's possible sanctions. It also asked the House of Coun-

cillors to delay inviting the representatives from the Supreme Soviet to visit Japan. Australia approved the following measures at a special cabinet meeting on January 9: Proposing to the United States greater Australian involvement in patrolling the Indian Ocean; indefinite suspension of all agreements and discussions with the Soviet Union on fishing; supporting the U.S. grain embargo against the Soviet Union; turning down the Soviet request for direct Soviet-Australian air flights; banning the use of Australian ports by Soviet scientific research vessels; and indefinite suspension of scientific collaboration and official talks and visits.

**The Situation.** The wave of condemnation from all parts of the globe shows that the world knows what is just and right. However, the social-imperialists are not backing down. They have sent another two to three divisions into Afghanistan, bringing the total to seven or eight divisions. Even as the special emergency session was in progress, Brezhnev declared that Soviet troops would stay on in Afghanistan. At the same time, the Soviet daily *Pravda* has kept attacking and threatening Pakistan, Afghanistan's neighbour. According to a UPI report of January 7, a Soviet official in Washington hinted that if the United States esca-

## Moscow Threatens the Southern Outlet of the Red Sea

**Report From Cairo**

**T**HE Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan not only to control over that country, but also to further its long-term strategic objective of expanding its power in South Asia and the

Middle East. This larger purpose becomes readily apparent when we review Moscow's recent actions in the Red Sea area.

**Entering the Middle East Through the Backyard.** People in the Middle East and through-

## A Grave for Invaders

**S**UBJUGATING Afghanistan would be as easy as a bear robbing a hive. That was what Moscow thought, when it sent its troops equipped with sophisticated weapons pouring over the border into that country. But Moscow has found it has stirred up a hornet's nest.

The Soviet invaders are meeting with fierce resistance from various forces in Afghanistan. In early January, resistance had spread to 16 provinces including Badakhshan and Takhar in the northeast; Konar, Nangarhar and Paktia in the east bordering Pakistan; Gandahar in the south; Herat in the west contiguous to Iran; and Ghazni, Kunduz, Laghman and Baghlan.

According to reports, there are 80,000 Soviet troops in Afghanistan. Some are tied down in the Hindu Kush Range

in northeast Afghanistan. Even in Kabul, saturated with Soviet troops, tanks and artillery, the invaders are meeting with all kinds of resistance.

Resistance to the Soviet invasion has a very broad base. Everyone unwilling to be Soviet slaves is joining the fight. A spokesman of the Islamic Party of Afghanistan said in Peshawar on January 7 that at least five Moslem parties and organizations have decided to join forces against the Soviet invaders. Moslems and non-Moslems are now uniting against foreign invasion and in defence of their common national interests.

Sow the wind and reap the whirlwind. History will show that the Soviet invaders are digging their own graves in Afghanistan.

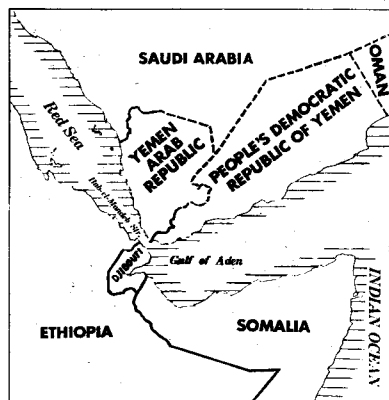
lates sanctions against Moscow, the Soviet Union may move against Pakistan.

The Soviet Union's southward drive has not slackened in the least. This calls for all peace-loving countries to strengthen, not to relax, their joint efforts to punish the Soviet aggressors by applying sanctions against the Soviet Union, pushing back its expansionist offensive and frustrating its global strategy. Only thus can world peace be maintained.

— "Beijing Review" news analyst Yu Pang

out the world have long been concerned about the Soviet military presence at the southern entrance to the Red Sea. Now the Soviet Union has deployed a fleet of 28 ships, including warships, in the Gulf of Aden and Arabian Sea, and established naval and air bases in certain countries and on a number of important islands. Soviet naval vessels, planes and "trawlers" have been roaming the Arabian Sea, the Gulf of Aden and the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait. A forbidden airspace has been declared in one area at the narrow southern tip of the Red Sea and civil airliners have to stay within a 10,000-metre-wide air corridor. Particularly noteworthy is the stepped-up effort to form Soviet-type "emergency troops" at the southern outlet of the Red Sea. The Soviet military presence means that Moscow has extended its influence into the backyard of the Middle East.

The pace of Moscow's aggressive activities in the southern



tip of the Arabian Peninsula has picked up as a result of its recent manoeuvres in the Red Sea area. When Moscow was elbowed out of the Middle East peace

process with the signing of the Camp David accords and the Egyptian-Israeli peace agreement, it resorted to its old tricks of sowing discord as well as to setting up a sphere of influence at the southern tip of the Red Sea. In the last two months of the 70s, the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic signed four treaties of a military nature, one right after the other, with South Yemen and Ethiopia. The "federation" Moscow has been trying to engineer for several years has practically taken shape.

**What Will Moscow Do in the 80s? What can we expect from**

Moscow militarily and politically in the Gulf of Aden and in the south Red Sea area in the 1980s? This problem concerns both the countries of the Middle East and the rest of the world.

1) As Egyptian-Israeli bilateral relations develop, the Soviet Union may disturb or even blockade the navigation of the Suez Canal from the strategic position of the southern tip of the Red Sea.

2) Recent Soviet activities indicate an interest in infiltrating the hinterland of the Arabian Peninsula as part of its long-term strategic aims. Many West-

### *Security Council on Iran*

## **Chen Chu Explains China's Stand**

The U.S. draft resolution in the United Nations Security Council for economic sanctions against Iran was put to the vote on January 13, but the Soviet Union used its veto again.

Explaining why China did not take part in the voting, Chinese Representative Chen Chu stated, "We fully understand and sympathize with the American people's serious concern over the fate of the American hostages. In this connection, we have always maintained that the accepted norms of international relations and diplomatic immunity should be universally respected. We stand for the implementation of the provisions of Security Council

resolutions calling on Iran to release immediately the Americans being held as hostages in Iran. But those resolutions have not been implemented thus far. The Chinese Delegation cannot but express regret over this."

He said, "At present, the application of economic sanctions against Iran may not necessarily lead to the relaxation of tension and the release of hostages. It can also be seen from developments over the past few days that the possibility still exists for a solution to be found through patient consultations and negotiations and that this possibility merits further exploration. Therefore, we appeal to the

parties concerned to exercise restraint, avoid taking any action that may aggravate existing contradictions and refrain from blocking any channels that might lead to the release of hostages through consultation and mediation."

Chen Chu pointed out, "The performance of the Soviet Union over the question now under consideration shows that it intends to take advantage of the crisis in the U.S.-Iranian relations to disguise itself as the 'guardian' of Iran and a 'natural ally' of the Islamic countries, so as to make cheap political capital out of it. We believe that the peoples of Iran and the rest of the Islamic world will certainly see through the intrigues of the Soviet Union and not allow it to succeed in its plot to sow discord and fish in muddied waters."

ern reports stated that the Mecca Mosque incident was manipulated by Moscow from behind the scenes.

3) The Kremlin can be expected to step up its activities in the Gulf area in order to, in the words of a responsible Saudi Arabian official, launch a "pincers movement" against the Arabian Peninsula. In fact the "pincers" have been active in the area. Soviet warplanes based in the Soviet Union proper and in the Gulf of Aden area often keep watch on U.S. warships which sailed into the Arabian Sea after American hostages were taken in Iran.

**Powder-Keg Beside an Oil Depot.** Since the Middle East serves as a vital line of communication and is an indispensable oil-providing area for the industrially developed countries in Western Europe and North America, Soviet actions in the area are equivalent to putting a powder-keg next to an oil depot. Even usually apathetically-minded people are concerned. Washington has just recently taken measures to

deal with this problem. After Americans were made hostages in Iran, the proposition to set up a fifth fleet and organize a force of 100,000 "emergency troops" in the Indian Ocean has been discussed in government circles and in the public domain.

The vital factor which will determine the outcome of developments in the region is, of course, the people of the Middle East themselves. Twenty-three years ago, Britain also set up its Middle East ground, naval and air headquarters in Aden after it was pushed out of Egypt and the canal zone. But in the end it was forced to abandon this position. Moscow's sabre-rattling these days is an indication that it is going downhill politically in the Middle East. Only a few in this vast region fully support it. As a result, it has been forced to resort more and more to military means. Prospects for an eventual Soviet success in the southern tip of the Red Sea seem dim.

*"Renmin Ribao" Correspondent Xing Xiangchao*

stitutional government in place of the present military one;

- In August, the military juntas in Ecuador and Bolivia handed over power to the elected civilian leaders;

- In the same month, the Brazilian Congress approved the draft Amnesty Act which constituted another step towards open politics taken by the military government since the repeal at the end of 1978 of the two institutional acts which invested the President with special powers.

- In October, officers with democratic inclinations in El Salvador rose and overthrew the military government headed by Carlos Humberto Romero Mena and formed a junta which was joined by some civilians. They then announced that free elections would be held in the future;

- Early in October 1978, the military in power in Panama stepped down to make way for the government led by President Aristides Royo; the military regimes in Argentina and Uruguay incorporated some civilians and promised a progressive transition to a constitutional government.

## Political Changes in Latin America

**T**HE alternation of civilian and military governments has almost been a common occurrence in the history of Latin America. The political turbulence started in the mid-60s has resulted in more military governments on the continent. For a time, 13 of the 17 Spanish or Portuguese-speaking Latin American countries were ruled by the military.

### Developments

The year 1979, however, witnessed the emergence in Latin America of some con-

stitutional civilian governments and freer politics.

- In April, the people of Ecuador elected Jaime Roldos Aguilera, candidate of the Concentration of Popular Forces, to be President after seven years of military rule;

- In July, general elections were held in Bolivia which had not had a civilian government since 1964;

- In the same month, the President of Peru announced that general elections would be held in May 1980 to form a con-

### Reasons

Since 1975, Latin American countries, affected by the economic crisis in the capitalist world, have experienced serious economical troubles. Some countries under military rule were particularly hard up owing to certain incorrect policies, mismanagement of nationalized industries and other shortcomings. This sharpened the conflict between the military governments and the people.

Another factor is that these military governments obtained



political stability at the cost of democratic political rights. The high-handed measures adopted by the military governments, such as the dissolution of political parties, outlawing of trade unions, bans on strikes, restrictions on news freedom and the suppression of the opposition, have given rise to growing conflicts with the popular demands for democratic rights.

As a result, mass movements to demand democracy and safeguard the right to live rose in many Latin American countries. In some countries, traditional political parties that had been banned for many years became active again and began calling for the reinstatement of representative democracy. Out of Brazil's economic development has emerged a growing national bourgeoisie which also has made the same political demand.

The "human rights diplomacy" pushed by the Carter administration to defend the U.S. interests in Latin America has also helped the birth and growth of this political tendency on the continent.

The events of 1979 show that the restoration of civilian administrations and freer politics in those Latin American countries still under military rule will be tortuous and slow. For instance, the general election held in Bolivia in 1978 was negated and another was called in 1979. And during these two years three military coups actually took place there.

Members of the military juntas in other countries have shown an inclination to gradually admit more civilians into the government, but they have no intention of renouncing their power. Thus, power

struggles in these countries are expected to be as intense as ever.

#### JAPAN

### The Three Monkeys With a New Message

**I**N several oriental countries, 1980 is the Year of the Monkey. In the 12-year cycle of the old calendar in China and other nations, the Year of the Monkey begins this year in February in the Gregorian calendar. In Japan it starts earlier, on January 1, and it is reported that in Tokyo, ornaments and decorations bearing images of the monkey have sold faster than the proverbial hot cakes.

However, the monkey in Japan this year has brought a new message. Usually symbolizing the "see nothing, hear nothing, say nothing" philosophy of non-involvement for self-survival, with one covering its eyes with its hands, the other its ears and the third its mouth, the three monkeys sit together this year, one with its eyes wide open to see everything, the other's ears pricked to catch all that is being said, and the third's mouth wide open to speak its piece. They are called "The Three Monkeys of the Showa Period." The manufacturer of these monkeys said changing the image of the three monkeys was to get people to pay attention to world affairs so as to safely weather the tumultuous 80s.

Japan, a country short in resources and energy, faces a testing decade. A Japanese critic recently stated that in the 80s, Japan not only must pass on its experience to others but must also learn from others, be

like the "Three Monkeys of the Showa Period."

At his New Year press conference, Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira said: "Following the arrival of the 80s, increasing pressure is compelling Japan to play its role in the fast changing international arena." It is Japan's "international duty," he said, to render aid to the developing countries. The Japanese Ministry of International Trade and Industry also stated: "Japan should determine its basic attitude towards economic co-operation with the developing countries, but must avoid misunderstanding and suspicion."

The New Year editorial of the *Yomiuri Shimbun* pointed



out that Japan must overcome the philosophy of selfishly pursuing national interests and establish the ideal of comprehensive international co-operation, which will help change Japan's international image and should be the foundation of an overall policy for ensured security in the 80s.

— Xinhua Correspondent  
Kong Mai

# Class Status in the Countryside: Changes Over Three Decades

**This time a year ago the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China made a decision on removing the designations of landlord and rich peasant. This involved a major policy. Why was it made and what role has it played? What is the present situation? Our correspondents Zhou Zheng and Ji Zhe recently went to the countryside on the outskirts of Beijing to investigate. They outline the changes as follows:**

**A**T the end of 1978, there were more than 4 million people in the Chinese countryside who were still designated as landlords or rich peasants. In 1979 after a critical examination of their behaviour over the last 30 years was made by the peasant masses, the designations of landlord and rich peasant were removed in the overwhelming majority of cases. Those whose conduct was rather bad and whose designations have not been removed now number around 50,000 throughout the country. Ours is a vast nation peopled by more than 900 million and a mere 50,000 living scattered in various parts of the country is a very insignificant number.



A corner of the Dahanji Production Brigade.

In some counties with a population of several hundred thousand, there are now only a few people who are still designated as landlords or rich peasants. Compared with the situation 30 years ago, there is indeed a world of difference.

## Harsh Feudal Exploitation

**O**LD China was a semi-feudal, semi-colonial society. At that time, generally speaking, landlords and rich peasants made up about 8 per cent of the rural population, but the amount of land in their possession took up 70 to 80 per cent of the total, whereas the poor peasants and farmhands (over 70 per cent of the rural population) and the middle peasants (about 20 per cent) owned only 20 to 30 per cent of the land in the countryside.

Exploitation of the peasants by the landlords mainly took the form of exacting land rent. The impoverished peasants who had little or no land at all were compelled to work on land owned by landlords and to hand over, as often as not, half of the produce or even as much as 80 per cent of it as rent. This had to be paid even when there was a crop failure. The

Recently we visited a number of communes on the outskirts of Beijing, including the Dahanji Production Brigade of Zhoukoudian Commune at Fangshan County, home of the Peking Man; the Tiangezhuang Production Brigade of Chengguan Commune in the same county, and the Shenglijie Production Brigade of Chengguan Commune, Pinggu County, at the foot of the Great Wall. We have seen with our own eyes the radical changes in class status in the countryside and listened to first-hand accounts given by those involved.

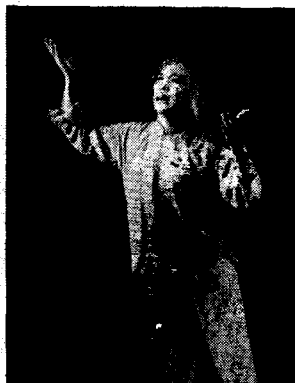
landlords also made the peasants do excessive labour and pay tribute in the form of gifts. They exploited the peasants further through usury and hiring farmhands.

Rich peasants who generally owned land, rather good farm tools and some working capital, did physical labour part of the time; some or most of their income came from exploitation. The chief mode of exploitation by the rich peasants was hiring farmhands, while some also leased out part of their land and practised usury.

Harsh exploitation and oppression of the peasants by both landlords and rich peasants seriously impeded the development of the productive forces.

At Dahanji Brigade we called on some people who had been

## "The White-Haired Girl"



In the years of the War of Resistance Against Japan (1937-45), artists in the liberated areas created and produced the opera *The White-Haired Girl* describing the exploitation and oppression of the peasants by landlords. Old poor peasant Yang Bailao, unable to pay the year's rent and driven to desperation by his landlord, kills himself. His daughter, to escape ill treatment by the landlord, seeks refuge in the mountains where she lives under such harsh conditions that her hair turns white. In the end the Eighth Route Army comes to her rescue and she begins a new life.

poor peasants and had suffered greatly in the old society. They told us something about their past life and the history of their locality.

On the eve of liberation in 1949, Dahanji was a village of 380 households. Most of the land, 213 hectares all told, was in the hands of its 20 landlord and rich peasant households. The biggest landlord there was Ma Jiwu.

Wei Fuzhou, a farmhand, and his family had the most bitter experience. One Spring Festival Wei Fuzhou, who had nothing to eat, borrowed 25 kilogrammes of maize and 15 kilogrammes of rotting cabbage from Ma Jiwu. At the time of the transaction Ma refused to set the price of the food, but the next spring when everything was in short supply, he insisted that Wei repay him at the current exorbitant price.

Wei could never manage to pay the debt. Some time later, Wei's father fell sick and died; his mother died with her grandson a beggar in the streets; his wife had no alternative but to remarry; Wei himself had to leave the village. He died

away from home among strangers.

Under feudalism, the impoverished masses were not protected by law even in form. Both the government and the judicial organs were in the clutches of the propertied classes and the peasants had no place to turn to for justice. Frequent famine, death on a massive scale, countless human

tragedies . . . many foreign writers have given objective reports on these nightmares of the past.

We had an interview with old poor peasant Han Jinming who is now blind. Once shortly before liberation, Han refused to do household chores for a local petty official of the Kuomintang government, a *bao* head. In retaliation, when the Kuomintang military conscription was being enforced, the petty official tried to recruit Han into the army or compel him to hand over 750 kilogrammes of wheat. Han had just married and had barely enough to eat, naturally he could not produce that amount of wheat.

Han was thus caught in the draft. He deserted and was captured. By order of an army officer, he was to be buried alive. When earth came up to his neck, many soldiers who were as destitute as Han put in a good word for him and saved his life. Afterwards his eye-

## Rent Collecting Courtyard

A group of 114 clay figures made by artists according to the true story of the cruel exploitation of peasants by Liu Wencai, a landlord of Dayi County, Sichuan Province. They have been on display in the rent collecting courtyard belonging to that landlord. The purpose of the display is to remind the younger generation not to forget about the miseries of the past.



Liu Wencai, with a family of six, had 800 hectares of land and every year collected close to 3,000 tons of grain from his

tenants. He had land in 10 counties and 28 housing estates. His main means of grinding the faces of the peasants was collecting rent for the use of his land. Photo shows a lackey of the landlord ill-treating a peasant rent-payer.

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sight began to fail gradually and he lost his sight completely soon after liberation.

In the old society, there was a folk song popular in Fangshan County:

*Landlords and "bao" heads  
are rapacious wolves,  
While every poor man starves  
to death.  
How they hope the Liberation  
Army will arrive  
In time to save their parents!*

## Land Reform

**A**T Tiangezhuang Production Brigade, Fangshan County, 60-year-old poor peasant Chen Quan, an activist during the land reform, gave us an account of the land reform there 30 years ago.

In 1948, the People's Liberation Army freed Fangshan County. In the first half of 1949, the county people's government dispatched a land reform team to Tiangezhuang. It made preparations for the land reform according to the Outline of Land Law laid down in 1947 by the Party Central Committee and its directives on land reform in 1948. In the meantime, some land, draught animals and farm tools were immediately transferred to the

poor peasants and farmhands who were in dire poverty. Land reform began at Tiangezhuang in the latter half of 1949.

The Outline of Land Law said that the land system of feudal and semi-feudal exploitation should be eliminated and land given to the tillers, and that land belonging to landlords should be confiscated and the surplus land in the hands of rich peasants requisitioned for distribution among poor peasants and farmhands who had little or no land at all. The policy for the land reform was: to rely on the poor peasants, unite firmly with the middle peasants, and eliminate the feudal, semi-feudal exploitive system of the landlord class and the old-type rich peasants.

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Farmhands were also known as "the rural proletariat." Generally speaking, they had no land or farm tools. Some of them had a tiny plot of land and a few farm tools. They depended wholly or mainly upon the sale of their labour power for a living.

Poor peasants made up the semi-proletariat in the countryside. They had some, but not enough farm tools, and no land at all or insufficient land. In general, they had to cultivate rented land and sometimes hire out as labourers. They were exploited by others through land rent, interest on loans and low wages.

Middle peasants occupied an intermediate position between poor peasants and rich peasants, forming the rural petty bourgeoisie. Many of them owned land and a considerable number of farm tools, and supported themselves wholly or mainly through their own labour. They generally did not exploit others, nor did they sell their labour power.

Rich peasants constituted the bourgeoisie in the countryside. They generally owned land, rather good farm tools and some working capital. They themselves took part in physical labour, but lived partly or to a large extent on exploitation.



A landlord during the land reform.

Chen Quan recalled that before the land reform movement actually began, a poor peasants' league made up of poor peasants and farmhands was set up and they elected a committee to represent them. This was followed by the establishment of a peasant association embracing poor peasants, farmhands and middle peasants, and they elected their committee. The peasant association was the legal organ for carrying out the land reform, while the poor peasants' league played the leading role in the actual day-to-day struggles during the land reform. Chen Quan at that time was elected one of the chief leaders in both the poor peasants' league and the peasant association.

At the time of land reform, Chen Quan said, Tiangezhuang had about 230 households, about 1,300 inhabitants and over 400 hectares of land. The peasant association, in strict observance of Party policy, followed the Outline of Land Law and differentiated the classes in Tiangezhuang in the light of the specific local conditions.



As a result, five households were classified as landlords, four as rich peasants and seven as upper-middle peasants. The remaining 214 households were either poor peasants, or farmhands, or lower-middle peasants, except for a few middle peasants. The landlords and rich peasants, living in Tiangezhuang or elsewhere, owned more than 80 per cent of the land in the village.

As to Party policy at that time, Chen Quan recalled that in differentiating classes and distributing land, great efforts were indeed made to unite firmly with the middle peasants and to meet the needs of the poor peasants and farmhands; at the same time, the landlords and rich peasants were given the means of earning a living by their own labour as a way out. The land and property for landlords and rich peasants should not exceed those of the peasant masses in general. Ultra-Left policies were avoided, such as "no land for landlords, poor land for rich peasants" and "a clean sweep out the door" (that is, completely depriving landlords of their housing and other means of subsistence).

In Tiangezhuang an average of 5.1 *mu* (0.34 hectares) of land per person was distributed. The middle peasants were allowed to keep what they had; land was also given to many lower-middle peasants and middle peasants with big families

In answer to our questions about the class struggle at the time of land reform, Chen Quan said:

Before liberation, the biggest landlords in the village were the Gao clan. Each Gao household

had 27 to 40 hectares of land. Gao Guirong's family alone had about 40 hectares of land and he himself, as commander of the township (composed of three villages including Tiangezhuang) security force, acted as chieftain of the armed landlords.

The class enemy will never hand over their land peacefully. Gao Guirong joined a special agent organization of the Kuomintang, and schemed to stage an uprising to snatch back his lost paradise. For this, during a country-wide movement in 1952 to suppress counter-revolutionaries he was executed together with other local bullies who, though few in number, had committed heinous crimes and whose hands were stained with the blood of the peasants.

At the start of the land redistribution, one of the Gao family women put up a stubborn resistance. During one month the peasant association in the village organized a number of struggle meetings at which the poor and lower-middle peasants were aroused to

come up before the masses, pour out their grievances and use reason in a face-to-face struggle against her. The arrogance of the enemy was thus suppressed and they were forced to hand over title deeds, surplus farm implements and other means of production.

The earth-shaking land reform movement in the village was unfolded in the summer of 1949 and concluded in early spring the following year. The title deeds which guaranteed the land ownership of the landlords and rich peasants under the feudal system were brought out at a big meeting of the whole village, burnt and reduced to ashes.

A village people's government was formed some time around the Spring Festival and it issued land deeds to the new owners. That was how the peasants of Tiangezhuang stood up. They sang and danced in celebration of the occasion, praising the Communist Party and Chairman Mao amidst the sound of cymbals and drums.



Peasants burning title deeds during the land reform.

## Remoulding Landlords and Rich Peasants

**B**Y the winter of 1952, land reform was basically completed throughout the country with the exception of Taiwan Province and some national minority regions. About 300 million peasants who had little or no land were given about 46.6 million hectares and freed of the heavy burden of paying rent to the landlords. This burden alone in the past amounted to 35,000 million kilogrammes of grain a year, although at that time the total

hands, practising usury and engaging in other exploitive activities.

This problem could only be resolved by socialist revolution, that is, by introducing the public ownership of land and other means of production. This was where agricultural co-operation came in.

The co-operative transformation of agriculture proceeded step by step from mutual-aid teams, elementary co-operatives and finally to advanced socialist co-operatives. In this most profound social change involving several hundred million people, the normal drop in productive forces was avoided and agricultural development was also accelerated. At the same time, the policy of transforming the exploiters into labourers earning their own living was also implemented.

But this transformation was not easy. Those landlords and rich peasants, who for years had lived a parasitic life, only underwent real changes after years of public supervision and participating in collective productive labour. The grass-roots Party and government organizations in the countryside and the masses did a great deal of work in this respect.

The cadres of Tiangezhuang

### Removing Designations

**T**HE leading cadres of Tiangezhuang Production Brigade told us about the actual process for removing designations in 1979.

In the 30 years since libera-

and Dahanji Production Brigades in charge of public security told us how they placed the landlords, rich peasants; counter-revolutionaries and bad elements under surveillance and control after the co-operative transformation of agriculture. Their general method of doing this was as follows: About ten poor and lower-middle peasant households formed a group responsible for remoulding a person under surveillance. The person in question was required to behave and was not allowed to say or do anything freely; he or she had no right to elect or to be elected to a government post. Those who could work had to take part in collective labour. This kind of labour was compulsory but they would get the same pay as the commune members for the same kind of work.

Every month a production brigade would call an evening meeting for people belonging to these four categories. Those who had behaved well would be acknowledged and those who had not would be criticized. The production teams would call a meeting of its members every year and the masses were organized to comment on and examine those belonging to the four categories. Those who had a good conduct for a long time would be recommended to the commune and county authorities for consideration to have their designations removed, subject to the approval of the county government.



Assessing the value of cattle to be accepted as the owners' shares in a farm co-op.

annual grain output of the whole country was only 108,000 million kilogrammes. The land reform greatly enhanced the peasants' class consciousness and fired their enthusiasm for production.

But after the land reform, land was still privately owned. The spontaneous forces of capitalism began to develop in the countryside and a polarization towards the two opposites, the rich and the poor, occurred. Natural disasters and man-made catastrophes caused many people to incur debts, some even had to sell their land. New rich peasants were on the rise everywhere. They began hiring farm-

tion, most of the landlords and rich peasants in the village had died. By early 1979 only three landlords, three rich peasants, two counter-revolutionaries and one bad element were left. After the peasants discussed and con-

sidered the matter, the consensus was that these people had not committed any offences for quite a long time and it was agreed that their designations should be removed. This recommendation was reported to the Fangshan County Revolutionary Committee (the People's Government) and after its approval, all their designations were removed.

Before the meeting, they first organized cadres and commune members to seriously study the Party Central Committee's document on removing the designations of landlords and rich peasants. After that, the Party branch of the production brigade mobilized the masses to examine the behaviour of those belonging to the four categories. Preparations were made prior to the examination, including checking up on these people's dossiers and canvassing some peasants' opinions. The preliminary conclusion was that among the nine with designations, three had had good conduct, four were ordinary and two were not very satisfactory. After that, the production brigade called a meeting of the people in question to whom the Party Central Committee's document was explained. They were asked to prepare to tell commune members about the progress they had made in remoulding themselves.

Finally, each production team called a meeting at which team members commented on and examined the persons in question. Persons with designations spoke first, telling how they had remoulded themselves; then members of the team expressed their opinions according to the criteria for the removal of designations (whether they had abided by the laws and decrees of the government during all these years, whether they had la-

boured in real earnest and whether they had done anything bad). A serious discussion ensued about the two whose behaviour had not been very satisfactory. Many were of the opinion that these two had failed to take part in collective labour in the last two years not because they were opposed to being remoulded but because they were getting old and not

physically fit. When the production team members voted on this question, it was agreed that the designations of these two should also be removed. The results were sent to the commune for its consideration and after the county revolutionary committee approved the removal of the designations, these people began to enjoy the status of a commune member.

## Mobilizing All Positive Factors

**I**N the municipality of Beijing, up to September 1959, there were around 11,000 landlords and rich peasants. As of February 1979, about 8,500 of them were still living. The removal of their designations began in February 1979 and by the end of the year, the work was in the main completed. More than 7,800 people have had their designations removed and 700 still retain their designations. They are scattered in 13 outlying districts and counties — several at most in a commune and none in some communes.

Under the influence of the ultra-Left line pursued several years ago, the children and relatives of these people were also discriminated against or even persecuted. The Party policy in this regard has always been clear: In so far as the children and relatives of the exploiting classes are concerned, one must take notice of both their political attitude and their class origins. As long as they support socialism they should not be discriminated against. But this policy was not seriously implemented for a number of years.

The effect of the removal of the designations everywhere in the country shows that these people themselves are happy, their family members are satisfied and their relatives are no longer worried, while the masses in general have nothing to complain of. Thus, with the designations of a few now removed, the enthusiasm of a large number of people is aroused.

We went to Pinggu County about 100 kilometres to the northeast of Beijing city proper. According to statistics compiled in October 1979, only seven landlords and 13 rich peasants in the whole county did not have their designations removed.



Wang Guangfu (front) and members of his team carting manure to the field.

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ed. More than 50 children of landlords and rich peasants who did have their designations altered have found spouses (previously very few were willing to marry people of these families); the children of those formerly belonging to the four categories who showed good conduct have become cadres of production brigades or teams, agricultural technicians, work-point keepers or tractor drivers. A few from these four categories who behaved well during all these years and who have some skill have become the heads of truck gardens for production teams or leaders of farming groups.

At the Shenglijie Production Brigade, Chengguan Commune, Pinggu County, we interviewed Wang Guangfu (who came from a landlord family), the newly elected deputy leader of the No. 1 production team.

When Wang's father had his landlord designation removed, the production brigade he belonged to assigned him to raise pigs on a pig farm because he had special training in that area. Soon after Wang Guangfu was born, land reform took place in the village. Since he was brought up in a socialist environment, he knew something about the wrong-doings of the landlord class. To be born in a family like that certainly was not of his own choice. He finished his junior middle school in 1963, but at the age of 32, he still could not find someone who would marry him. Soon after his father's designation was removed, he got married and his younger brother became engaged. Wang Guangfu supports socialism, always works hard and enjoys some prestige in the production team. Since he was

elected deputy leader of the team, he has done his job well

and many members of the team are pleased.

## Road to Common Prosperity

**F**ROM land reform to the founding of communes — this is the course taken to eliminate the system of exploitation and the exploiting classes in the countryside. The changes over three decades show that the socialist road is the right way to transform the utterly poor and backward countryside of the old days. Had it not been for the long years of turmoil and big losses caused by the ultra-Left line, rural development would have been much faster.

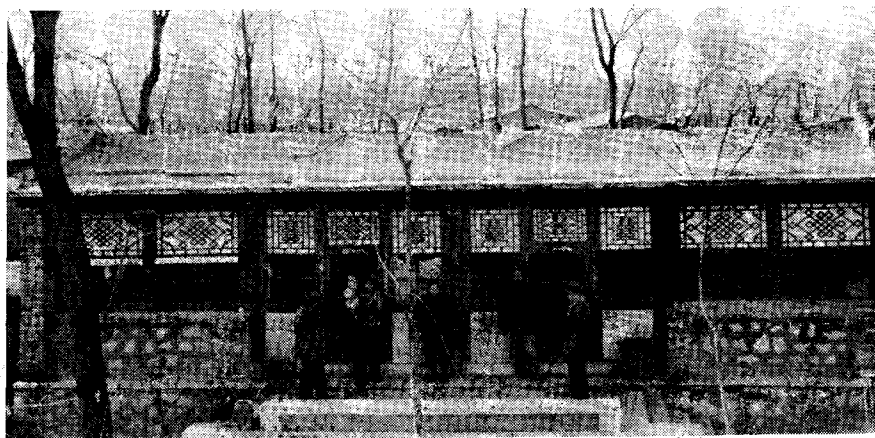
At Tiangezhuang Production Brigade in Fangshan County, we looked into the old and new accounts together with the cadres of the brigade in order to make a factual comparison.

At Tiangezhuang, the average yield per hectare increased from 1,200 kilogrammes in 1948 to 8,490 kilogrammes in 1978, a more than sevenfold increase in three decades. The whole village now boasts two giant tractors, 23 walking tractors, 12 threshers, 7 harvesters and 53 pieces of irrigation and drainage machinery. Thirty years ago, peas-

ants in this village had never seen any farm machinery. Today, young people go to primary and middle schools free, commune members do not have to pay for haircuts, for running water, electric lighting and food processing. The production brigade has co-operative medical service under which an individual pays only 40 per cent of the costs for his medicine. The three old folks with no one to look after them are taken care of by the brigade. In the village there are seven television sets (one for the brigade and six for the production teams). These have never happened before.

At Tiangezhuang we made inquiries into the economic conditions of three representative households.

Du Baoquan, formerly a poor peasant, has a family of six, three of whom are counted as labour power. In 1978 the whole family received 1,623 kilogrammes of grain and 433 yuan in cash. They live in a four-room house (each room about 15 square metres in size) and have



Du Baoquan and family in front of their new house.



two bicycles, a wrist-watch and a transistor radio. Life, of course, is not so good, but compared with the old days, it is much, much better. Besides, they feel very secure, not having to worry about bankruptcy or unemployment.

Gao Shi, formerly a rich peasant, has seven people in his family, three of whom are



Gao Shi.

counted as labour power. In 1978 the whole family got 2,300 kilogrammes of grain and 350 yuan in cash. Gao and his wife are ashamed that they once exploited others by hiring farmhands in the hope of acquiring more land. Now, as labourers earning their own living, they and the rest of their family live more or less like other commune members.

Li Yinshou, formerly a middle peasant, recalled how in the old society his whole family could have wheat flour only for a month each year round the time of the Spring Festival; the rest of the year they had to eat maize and other coarse cereals and they had practically no meat at all. Today, they have wheat flour all year and are eating quite a lot of pork. His two sons are married and have their own places. Li and his wife live with their youngest son in a four-room house. The three share two bicycles (one brand new), a wrist-watch and a radio.

## Hua Guofeng on Class Struggle

Premier Hua Guofeng said at the Second Plenary Session of the Fifth National People's Congress in 1979.

Practice shows irrefutably that in our country (except for Taiwan) the feudal and capitalist systems of exploitation have been abolished and the system of small-scale production has been transformed through appropriate and reasonable measures favoured by the vast majority of the people, and that the socialist system, having undergone rigorous tests, has become firmly established. As classes the landlords and the rich peasants have ceased to exist. . . . The capitalists no longer exist as a class. After nearly 30 years of struggle and education, most members of these classes who are able to work have been transformed into working people earning their own living in

socialist society. . . . Of course, there are still counter-revolutionaries and enemy agents, criminals and political degenerates who seriously disrupt socialist public order, and new exploiters such as grafters, embezzlers and speculators. Remnants of the gang of four and of the old exploiting classes including the few unreformed landlords and rich peasants will persist in their reactionary stands and carry on anti-socialist activities in the political and economic spheres. What is more, class struggle at home is closely connected with class struggle abroad. For these reasons there will still be class enemies of all kinds in China for a long time to come, and we must exercise proletarian dictatorship over them. Although they are few in number, we must under no circumstances relax our vigilance or lower our guard.

In the vast countryside as a whole, production and living standards are at a rather low level. But the exploitive system has already been eliminated and the disorder and chaos caused by enlarged class struggle have become a thing of the past. The decision to remove the designations of landlords and rich peasants has by no means negated class struggle but is a manifesta-

tion of the actual fruit of many years of struggle against the exploiting classes in the countryside, the result of their being remoulded. The decision is helpful to preserve stability and unity throughout the country and is, therefore, conducive to the realization of socialist modernization in the countryside. This is a view shared by many cadres and commune members we have interviewed.



Li Yinshou and wife.

## How Chinese Youth Visualize the 80s

LOOKING ahead, the Chinese people see the 1980s as a crucial decade for the country's modernization.

Xinhua correspondents recently asked five young people in Beijing, who were recognized for their contributions to the country's development during 1979, how they view the 1980s and how they understand the need to combine ancient civilization with modern science and technology.

These young people came from very different occupations — peasant agronomist, steelworker, metallurgy student, rural barefoot doctor and waitress — and their opinions about the road ahead and what should be achieved in the next ten years are indicative of their generation.

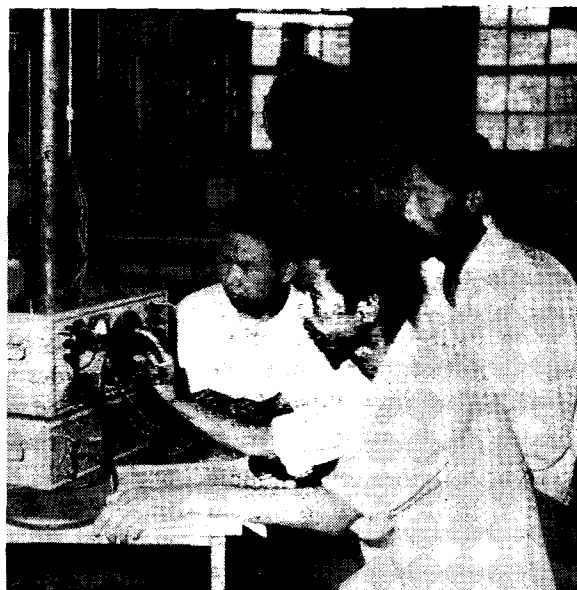
**Li Zhengfa**, a 28-year-old peasant from Huairou County, said he hoped the 1980s would be a period of enormous progress in agricultural mechanization and scientific farming. He is particularly interested in the development of hybrid seeds and was commended at a recent national conference of agricultural science for crossbreeding a fine wheat strain. Commenting on how his area is still using some 15-year-old hybrid seed varieties because they cannot get the needed new hybrids, he expressed the hope that in the future new hybrid seeds can be replaced every five years, before the old ones degenerate.



Hu Xiaodi overhauling the rolling mill.

**Hu Xiaodi**, a 24-year-old steelworker, would like to see China overcome its dependency on imported high-grade steel in the next ten years. Since entering the Beijing High-Grade Steel Plant in 1977, he has worked under the direction of a veteran worker to draw up a plan for automating the rolling mill and streamlining the whole production line. "My teacher says he is too old to see the whole plan through and he expects me to carry it on," he said.

**You Wenquan** is a college student of the Beijing Iron and Steel Engineering Institute,



You Wenquan (front) doing an experiment with his schoolmates.

who had worked for ten years as an iron smelter at the Shoudu Iron and Steel Plant. He said: "When I worked there, only someone in his early 20s could stand that heat." Looking ahead, he hopes to see greater progress in the mechanization of iron smelting.

**He Ying** is a cadre's daughter who has settled down in the countryside outside Beijing and works as a barefoot doctor. She is confident that the next decade will bring city amenities to the countryside. "Although I have been in the countryside for only two

years, there have been spectacular changes during this period. For instance, I can get to my production team in a few hours by bus, whereas two years ago it took me two days."

Speaking about her own area of work, she commented: "As a barefoot doctor, I hope we will have our own operating room and pharmacy producing our own Chinese herbal medicine by 1985."



Ma Guizhi serves her customers.

**Ma Guizhi**, a waitress at a Dongfeng Market restaurant, wants to see restaurant work mechanized. "To serve one customer, I have to make five trips from the kitchen to the table. I walk approximately 40 kilometres a day."

She hopes to learn a few Chinese dialects because her customers are mostly from other parts of the country. She also wants to learn more about cuisine so that she can be in a better position to recommend dishes.

The Xinhua correspondents, when asking about their personal lives, found that four of the five had already been married.

He Ying married another barefoot doctor in the village two months ago. "We share the same desire to do medical work in the countryside," she said.

"A happy family helps a person with his work," said Li Zhengfa, who married a young woman from his village. "Marriage is the continuation of love. This is something I didn't know before. My wife is very understanding when I get so caught up in my work that I don't take the time to express my feeling for her."

The tall and handsome Hu Xiaodi does not have a girl friend yet. "But I do plan to start a family in the coming ten years. Life should be rich, colourful and full of pizzazz." He plans

to finish a self-study university course on steel rolling over the next five years.

The five young people expressed different views on Western life, of which they are now more conscious because of films, TV coverage, tourism and cultural exchanges.

Li Zhengfa, the young peasant, commented: "I don't like Western films and I believe a lot of young people in the countryside share my view. Kissing and embracing in public just aren't part of Chinese custom. Maybe city youths feel differently. But I hope we will see less of such kind of films in the rural areas."

He said he was not against cultural and technical exchanges with other countries. In fact when he heard about a Mr. Hinton in the United States who farms some 130 hectares of land with only the help of his son, he said: "I would like to go to the United States and see them in action."

Speaking more specifically about the question of the relationship between his work and the West, he said: "Seed breeding is my work and the joy of my life. Whenever I travel on a train or bus, crops along the road attract my attention. I always find myself estimating their output. I heard that there is a strain of wheat in the United States that yields 18 tons of grain per hectare. This is fantastic and almost unbelievable. The strain I am using, for instance, would fall over if the output exceeded 6 tons per hectare. I'd love to go to the United States and see how they do it for myself."

The Xinhua correspondents found Hu Xiaodi more receptive to Western culture. "It is natural for a young generation that grew up in a decade of cultural hiatus to be interested in new things. I don't think, for example, that dancing or wearing bell-bottom trousers is bad. I'm all for cultural interchange between East and West to bring about mutual enrichment. I don't think China will lose its national integrity. Chinese love things Chinese. Gradually Chinese composers and designers will produce new light music and clothing based on our national characteristics and Chinese youth will turn to them."

All of these interviewed felt that the last decade were years of anarchy and that their revolutionary ardour was misused and misdirected during the Cultural Revolution.

Li Zhengfa expressed this sense of loss when he noted: "I am 28 years old now and no longer a youngster. The gang of four took the best ten years of my life but I'm trying to

make up for lost time and dedicate what's left of my youth to agricultural development."

Hu Xiaodi said: "Young people's minds were confused during the Cultural Revolution." Hu wants to see the confusion which existed on many questions cleared up so that the Chinese people can reach some agreement on what is morally right in the socialist society. He believes that the tragedy of the Cultural Revolution can only be prevented by popular support for the socialist legal system and democracy.

Referring to the negative consequences the Cultural Revolution had on young people, he said: "I would also like to see the rise of a

generation in the next ten years that is eager to work for the country, and is well-educated, morally sound, polite and pays attention to personal hygiene. Most people do not think very highly of our generation. We'll have to change that impression.

"A nation must have confidence and self-respect. It's like taking a high jump. If you waver in front of the bar, you won't make it. But if you are determined and confident, you will be able to do it.

"All men are the same. We Chinese are just as intelligent as any people. We have a good social system and rich resources, so we have full confidence in the future of our country."

## Answering Our Readers

# Is There No Profit in a Socialist Society?

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*We have received letters from readers who maintain that there can be no profit, but only "surplus," in a socialist country like China. We turned to Lin Qingsong and Lin Quanshui at the Institute of Economics under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences for advice. They have expressed their views in the following article. — Ed.*

**I**S profit a special category pertaining to capitalist economy? No, there are different kinds of profit.

True, both Marx and Engels pointed out in *Capital* and other writings that under the conditions of capitalist economy, profit is just another name for surplus value, thereby revealing the exploitive nature of the capitalist relations of production. But they never said that profit is a special category pertaining to capitalist economy. On the contrary, they clearly stated the historical fact that long before the emergence of capitalist relations of production, in antiquated commerce, there already existed pure "profit upon alienation."

Against this background Engels, in his remarks on *Capital*, Vol. III, pointed out that before the birth of capitalism, when production was still mainly in the hands of labourers who had their own means of production and whose labour, therefore, did not produce surplus value

for any capital, there were **both profit and rate of profit**. This profit had **no immediate relation** with surplus value.

This being the case, to identify profit with capitalism is a viewpoint not in conformity with historical fact and is also against the fundamental principles of Marxism.

## Socialist Profit Is Essentially the Social Fund

Under conditions of socialism, there also exists a special form of profit, that is, **socialist profit**, which is an objective thing and cannot be avoided.

Before we can clearly understand the objective base of socialist profit, we must first of all bear certain things in mind: First, necessary labour and surplus labour still exist in a socialist society, as does the difference between necessary products and surplus products. This is because "a surplus of the product of labour over and above the costs of subsistence of the labour, and the formation and expansion of a social production and reserve fund out of this surplus . . . were and . . . are the basis of all social, political and intellectual progress." (*Anti-Duhring*, 1894.) This is easy to understand.

Secondly, commodity economy inevitably remains an objective reality in a socialist society. This is because under the conditions of

socialism, the productive forces have not been highly developed, which makes it impossible to thoroughly eliminate the old-type division of labour and the "three cardinal differences." While the relations of economic interest among the individual labourers have to be regulated according to the principle "to each according to his work," the relations of economic interest among the collectives of working people in various economic units must also be subject to regulation through an exchange of commodities at equal values.

Marx and Engels could not foretell the second phenomenon because it had not yet taken place in their time. However, it does not follow that we should identify commodity and money with capitalism. To do so would be ahistorical. Besides acknowledging the existence of simple commodity production prior to capitalism, Marx also noted that commodity exchange between economic units under public ownership (between two primitive communes) already took place in the later period of primitive communal society. Therefore, to say that commodity economy exists in socialist society as an objective thing and as a matter of course is in full accord with that basic Marxist stand.

Proceeding from these two premises, we can affirm that in a socialist society there are not only  $c$ ,  $v$ , and  $m$  in a material form, but also in their value form. In other words, surplus labour or surplus product can be expressed in terms of value, namely, the surplus product value. The only difference is that, determined by the socialist economy of public ownership,  $m$  no longer stands for the surplus value taken away from the workers by the capitalists; it now represents a necessary deduction by society from the labour or labour product that a worker

has so provided. This deduction is necessary to the consolidation and development of the socialist public economy, which accords with the interests of the labourers as a whole and in the long-term interests of the individual labourers. It was referred to by Marx and Lenin as the social fund.

Socialist profit is essentially the social fund. In other words, it is another form of the social fund.

### Reasons for the Existence of Socialist Profit

Under the conditions of socialism, the social fund either presents itself as socialist profit or is transformed into socialist profit. Why? This is, in our opinion, determined by the specific form of combining the means of production and labour power under socialism.

Under the conditions of socialism, a labourer's ability to work is still an "endowed privilege" of an individual and he does not work for society without compensation. Therefore, the collective he belongs to, which actually manages social production, is required to expend not only a certain amount of the means of production but also to hand out a certain amount of the means of subsistence if production is to continue. In the form of value, this kind of expenditure, be it  $c$  or  $v$ , is an indication that the said collective, or the management of production, has paid out a certain amount of social funds for which it must be compensated in the course of reproduction.

Judged from the angle of the result of management, we may say that in the composition of the value of a socialist product ( $c+v+m$ ), the  $c$  and  $v$  paid out by the social production management become one and the same thing, present themselves as, or being transformed into, the social cost-price  $k$ . Accordingly, the social fund  $m$  presents itself as something over and above the social cost, or social profit (the socialist profit).

Only in the future stage of communism is social production no longer required to provide individual labourers with the means of subsistence in the form of remuneration. By that time, the productive forces are highly developed and the old division of labour and three cardinal differences have been eliminated, so the labourers no longer work for society with remuneration and social products and the economic conditions of the society as a whole have already developed to such an extent that the principle "to each according to his needs" ap-





plies to every member of society. By that time, v exists merely as a pure distribution category, not as the operating expenditure of the production management (the labourers' collective), still less as a kind of consumption of social funds. It, therefore, does not present itself as a part of the social cost-price as c is. And so, m naturally will not present itself as profit.

Thus, it can be seen that in a socialist economy, the objective base of profit is still in existence and so socialist profit is an objective economic category of socialist economy.

### Differences From Capitalist Profit

However, socialist profit, as a particular form of profit, is essentially different from the pure "profit upon alienation" and capitalist profit.

When Lenin in *Comments on Bukharin's Book "Economics in the Period of Transition"* repudiated Bukharin's natural economy concept, he confirmed the objective existence of socialist profit and pointed out the essential difference between socialist profit and capitalist profit. He also stressed the position and role of socialist profit in a socialist economy. Bukharin said: Under conditions where capital holds sway, production is the production of surplus value, production for profit. Under conditions where the proletariat holds sway, production is production designed to offset the social needs. Lenin countered: No good. Profit is also something that meets the "social needs." Under this condition, surplus products do not belong to the private-owner class but to all labourers, and to them alone.

Thus, it can be seen that the difference between socialism and capitalism does not lie in the presence or absence of profit but in the fact of to whom the profit goes. Here, the essential difference between capitalist profit and socialist profit is quite evident.

Under the conditions of capitalism, profit is merely another name for surplus value, a transformed form of surplus value. Its economic essence is surplus value, the value created by workers over and above the value of labour power and taken away by capitalists. So what capitalist profit reflects is the exploitive relationship between workers and capitalists, except that this relationship is covered up under the form of profit. It was Marx who brought to light the exploitive nature of the capitalist relations of production by penetrating into the very nature of profit.

The economic essence of socialist profit is the social fund, the material wealth created by socialist labourers for themselves and the collective they belong to. So what it reflects is a relationship of dialectical unity between labourers' personal interests and the interests of society as a whole, between their immediate interests and long-term interests. It is an indication that the old exploitive relationship has been eliminated. Unlike capitalist profit for which workers are bled white, socialist profit serves to consolidate and develop the socialist public economy and thus to steadily meet the ever growing material and cultural needs of the labourers. And so, all those I-cheat-you-and-you-cheat-me activities in the capitalist drive for profit, a logical outcome of capitalism, also do not tally with the very nature of socialist profit.

The increase of socialist profit is an indication of the consolidation and development of the socialist economy. To make efforts to increase socialist profit is one way of upholding socialism.

But why should we use the same word "profit" when socialist profit and capitalist profit belong to two entirely different economic categories? This, as Marx noted in *Capital, Vol. I*, is because in no science can the use of one and the same technical term in different senses be altogether avoided.

Some economists in our country once proposed to use the term gain for socialist profit in contradistinction to capitalist profit. But, profit and gain, both having the attribute of "excess of the value of the commodity over its cost-price," do not really have any essential difference in their shades of meaning. This is why an author of Marxist classics, in analysing this objective economic relations under capitalism, sometimes called it profit and sometimes called it gain, the two words being used alternately.

Thus, if instead of seeing things in the light of their economic essence, we merely change our nomenclature and call socialist profit gain, we do not succeed in bringing out the essential difference between capitalist profit and socialist profit. History does not ask people to keep away from this historical phenomenon of "excess of the value of the commodity over its cost-price"; what it asks us to do is to know where the line of demarcation lies between the two essentially different things which have the same phenomenon.

SCIENCE

**A Major Breakthrough  
In Synthesizing RNA**

Chinese scientists have successfully synthesized a RNA (ribonucleic acid) half-molecule 41 nucleotides long. This success is a big step forward in the work to synthesize ribonucleic acid.

The newly synthesized polynucleotide is a 3'-terminal half-molecule of yeast alanine transfer ribonucleic acid, which is 76 nucleotides long with a molecular weight of about 25,000. The structure of the nucleotide it contains is complicated and it is no easy job to synthesize it. The successful synthesis of this polynucleotide is significant for further study of the relationship between the structure and function of RNA and is of great importance in the study of virus and cancer.

The research was started in 1968. After repeated experiments the scientists succeeded in July 1979 in synthesizing

chemically the nucleotides into three sections of 10, 12 and 19 nucleotides long. Then they linked up the three sections which formed the ribonucleic acid half-molecule 41 nucleotides long. Like natural ribonucleic acid, it has rare nucleotides.

Till December 29, 1979, synthesis had been repeated on four occasions with comparable results.

Taking part in the research project were research institutes under the Chinese Academy of Sciences—institutes of biochemistry, organic chemistry and cytobiology in Shanghai and the Institute of Biophysics in Beijing, the biology department of Beijing University and related factories.

CULTURE

**Book-Buying Spree**

Beijing's biggest bookstore, the Xinhua Bookstore in Wangfujing Street, sold 9.1 per cent more books in 1979 than in

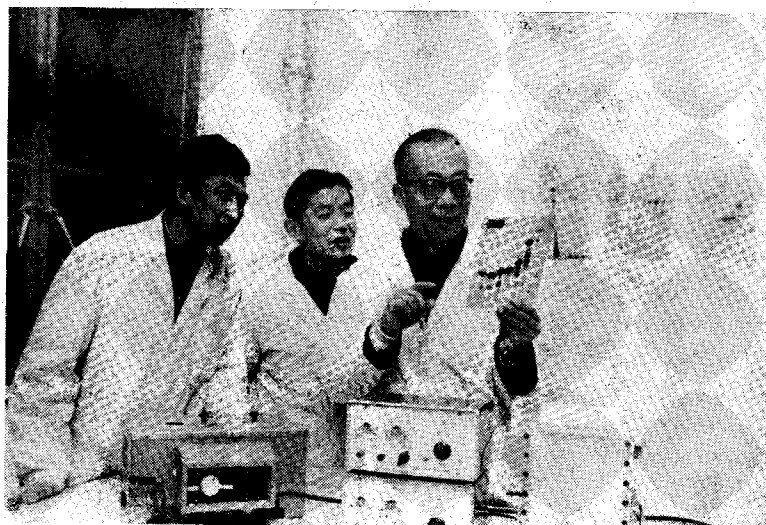
1978. Queues a kilometre long often form outside bookstores after a new publication is announced. What a contrast to earlier years, when bookstores were desolate deserts.

Best sellers were science, university teaching materials, Chinese and world classics and dictionaries.

The capital's 105 bookstores sold 400,000 copies of a "teach-yourself" book series for middle school students in a month. Subjects covered included mathematics, physics, chemistry, and others. As the figure was well over the number of 1979 middle-school graduates, the rest could only have been bought by those young workers and urban school-leavers who have settled in the countryside aiming to sit for the college entrance exams. Foreign textbooks in Chinese were also snapped up quickly.

The demand generally is greater than predicted. For example, 200,000 copies of the Shanghai-printed 6-yuan *New English-Chinese Dictionary*, with a 80,000-word entry, were sold out in a few days, necessitating an order for another 200,000 copies. *The Xinhua Chinese Dictionary* sold 800,000 copies in Beijing in 1979. Books for courses in English and Japanese broadcast over the radio sold 3 million and 800,000 copies respectively.

A small bookshop in an industrial district sold over 100,000 copies of a set of books on metal-cutting and quality control. Apparently, almost every young worker has bought a copy. The shop reported that it was selling 20 times more books in 1979 than in 1975.



In the laboratory where the ribonucleic acid was synthesized.

Manager Liu Dengcheng of the chain of Xinhua Bookstores in the capital has observed that the young people are particularly interested in buying literary works and theoretical writings that had been selected for savage attacks during the Cultural Revolution. "They are thirsting for knowledge and truth," he remarked. Popular works include writings by Hegel, Einstein and Stanislavsky. Interest in Chinese and world classics runs high. Sales of Shakespeare, Balzac, Tolstoy and Greek mythologies were in the six-figure bracket. Over 1,000 titles of Chinese and foreign literary works are now on the shelves of Beijing's bookstores.

## SPORTS

### Top Ten Sports Stars

Chen Xiaoxia, the World University Games women's diving champion, heads the list of China's top ten sports per-

sonalities for 1979. She was the top vote-getter in the first poll ever conducted in New China by the Central People's Broadcasting Station, the Central Television Station, *Zhongguo Qingnian Bao* (China Youth News) and sports newspaper *Tiyu Bao*.

The 17-year-old diving champion won the women's platform diving event at the World University Games in Mexico City last September by edging out the reigning world champion, Irina Kalinina, of the Soviet Union. Chen Xiaoxia received 89,348 votes from 95,000 people all over the country who mailed in their votes. Altogether 140 athletes were named.

Runner-up was Chen Weiqiang, a 21-year-old weightlifter, who received 77,771 votes. He posted a world record of 153 kilogrammes in the bantam-weight clean-and-jerk event at last year's world championships in Salonika, Greece.

Zou Zhenxian, the first Asian to break the 17-metre barrier in

the triple jump event, also was one of the top ten vote-getters. This 23-year-old champion jumped 17.02 metres at the Asian Track and Field Championships in Tokyo last June.

Others voted into the top ten were: Luan Jujie, an Asian games champion in women's foil fencing; Wu Shude, another weightlifter who captured a gold medal by improving two world records in the flyweight competition at last year's world championships; Nie Weiping, a master *weiqi* chess player; Rong Zhihang of the Guangdong football team; Wu Xinshui of the army men's basketball team; Song Xiaobo of the Beijing women's basketball team; and Ge Xinai of the world champion Chinese women's table tennis team and current world women's singles and mixed doubles champion.

The photos of the top ten sports stars are printed below (from left to right) in the order listed in the text:



## BOOKS

### Suzhou Classical Gardens

By Liu Dunzhen of the Nanjing Industrial Engineering Institute;

Chinese Architecture Publishing House;

480 pages; Renminbi 30 yuan;

Distributed by Xinhua Bookstore.

Since very ancient times gardens have been a part of town planning in China. There were charming parks and gardens built by imperial or aristocratic families in most of the ancient capitals and metropolises. Records of them can

a thorough study of more than 190 gardens and courtyards in the city, researched the history and present state of some of the more famous ones, sketched architectural details of some typical buildings and their decorations and took thousands of photographs, gathering much valuable data for the preservation and study of Suzhou classical garden art. The book also has an analysis on the characteristics and artistic achievements of each garden and arrives at some laws governing garden building.

The traditional Suzhou garden is a conglomeration of many arts. Its design represents nature in a limited space by combining skilfully the mansions, pavilions, ponds, rocky hills, flower beds and trees as an organic whole. Contrast, counterpoint, juxtaposition and other means are employed to bring into bold relief a landscape of particular beauty. After a deep analysis of the layout of the gardens, the author concluded that in garden building, like essay writing and painting, a theme is first chosen and then the overall arrangements unfolded around it.

In traditional Suzhou gardens, buildings were put up with two aims in mind: the aesthetic and the utilitarian. As the buildings and artificial hills, ponds, flower-beds and trees form an organic unity, the artistic designing and grouping are extremely important. The author has dealt at considerable length the arrangements, the type, structure and outfitting of the buildings as well as furniture arrangement, decoration, colour harmony and the environment.



• *Selected Works of Zhou Enlai in His Youth* is a two-volume collection of Zhou Enlai's writings while he was a student in Tianjin. Printed by the present-day Nankai University, it comprises 49 of his theses, speeches, informal essays, poems and translations. These works were carried in the then school magazines, *Jing Ye* (Respect the Cause) and *Xiao Feng* (School Spirit) from 1913-19. They exposed the dark rule of imperialism and feudal warlords, censured the feudal ethics and morality, criticized the educational system of the old society and advocated that it be remoulded by relying on the strength of the people.

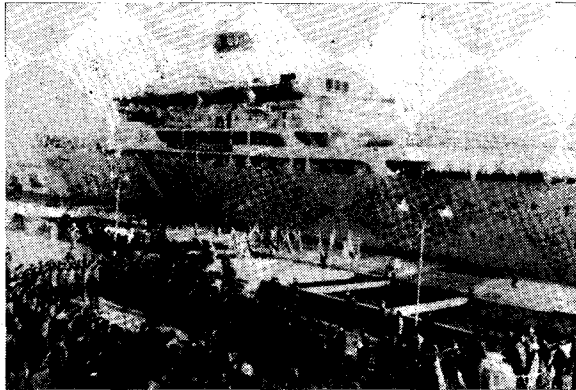
• *The Story of Comrade He Long* is a collection of more than 30 stories and legends about Marshal He Long in his youth, during the Nanchang Uprising (1927), the period of armed struggle and the Long March in the 30s. These stories recount He Long's revolutionary history from the time he fought with two kitchen knives until he commanded the Second Front Army of the Red Army in the Long March.

be found in many history books, local chronicles, miscellanies, novels, and poems. In 2,000 years of practice, Chinese landscape gardeners acquired rich experience in designing and building gardens, which have been handed down from generation to generation. But in order to make them serve socialist New China, these skills have to be summarized, developed and expounded systematically. *Suzhou Classical Gardens* is a book towards this end. An ancient city in east China, Suzhou is full of exquisite gardens.

The writing of the book began in 1953. Its author made

● **Shanghai-Xianggang Shipping Service Begins**

Passenger liner service between some coastal cities and Xianggang (Hongkong) has been opened recently.



A ceremony at the Hongqiao International Dock, Shanghai, to mark the opening of the passenger liner service.

On January 7 service between Shanghai and Xianggang resumed for the first time in 28 years. The green and white passenger-cargo ship *Shanghai* with a displacement of 19,000 tons left Shanghai's Hongqiao International Dock that afternoon. It has 115 rooms equipped with air conditioning and central heating and a big cabin accommodating 180 people. Facilities include a dining room, a cinema, a swimming pool, a reading room, a bar, shops and a clinic.

This is the first Chinese ship to accept commercial advertisements from abroad.

The liner makes a round trip run once every two weeks. Normally the 850-nautical-mile voyage between the two places takes 56 hours.

A ceremony was held at the Heping Dock in Xiamen (Amoy) on the afternoon of January 1 to mark the opening of the Xiamen-Xianggang passenger shipping service. After the

ceremony the 6,400-ton passenger ship *Gulangyu*, which will run on a weekly basis, carried passengers to Xianggang. The ship has more than 200 air-conditioned rooms with 600 beds, a dining room, a bar, a club, shops and a swimming

pool. The trip from Xiamen to Xianggang takes 20 hours.

The passenger shipping service between Guangzhou and Xianggang has also started.

● **People Police Prices**

A shop selling non-staples outside Dongzhimen Gate in Beijing has been praised for persistently relying on the public to police its prices over the last ten years.

In China these state-owned shops are allowed to set their own prices within certain limits for such things as fresh vegetables, live poultry and fish. Prices for salt, sugar, edible oil and other items which are closely bound with the people's livelihood are fixed by the state.

As early as 1969 the shop set up a supervisory committee consisting of representatives of its own staff, local workers, residents and nearby commune

members. The committee meets at fixed intervals to discuss if the state price policy is strictly observed. If necessary the masses' opinions are directly solicited.

Besides, the shop also has adopted the following steps to ensure the people's supervision:

Invite the representatives to walk in at any time to examine prices. If there is a problem, solve it as soon as possible;

Ask the representatives what they think about the shop's prices;

Organize the representatives to check prices regularly; and

Install an accurate steelyard for customers to check weights and a book for the public to put down their findings and views.

Management has been of a high order, thanks to public supervision. For example, the shop last year invited the representatives to examine, evaluate and help set fair prices for one million kilogrammes of cabbages sorted into lots to be sold to the public for storing over the winter.

Prices for 1,540 items examined at the end of last year revealed that only two were wrongly priced. All the measures for oil, wine and other liquids were accurate and 7 of the 72 scales and steelyards were faulty. These were corrected at once.

The shop assistants work according to guidelines the public helped draw up, such as shop staff members are not allowed to raise prices at will, sell seconds at best quality prices, give short measure, or undercharge relatives and friends, let them get first choice, bargains and so on.

## People in the News



When bee-specialist **Zhou Song** was young he wondered why larvae fed with royal jelly developed into queens and those fed ordinary bee food became worker bees. What was in the royal jelly? He kept asking himself why, even after he joined the Shanghai Music School.

Zhou became a deputy head of the symphony orchestra of the Central Philharmonic Society. In 1958 when he heard that China's first research institute of apiculture was being set up, he gave up his post to join it. He wanted an answer to the questions which he had been asking

all these years.

After several years, Zhou suggested in the early 60s that the royal jelly contained some kind of nucleic acid. This was later proved. Not long after that, he published a paper entitled "The Role of Nurse Bees in Bee Heredity." This attracted much attention in science circles.

Over the last ten years, Zhou has contributed much to the identification and selection of the best breeds as well as designing and manufacturing apicultural equipment. Zhou, 53, is an associate research fellow of the Beijing Academy of Agricultural Sciences, head of the Fruit Trees Research Institute and a national model worker.

At present, he is doing research on getting female bees from parthenogenetic eggs and has finished a paper on this subject. If this proves successful, a new, haploid method will be available for developing new species of bees.

The shop staff are respected and trusted by the community they serve for they have proved scrupulously honest and fair for over a decade.

### ● *Ridding the People Of a Scourge*

Huang Sheng, a militiaman over 50 years of age, was commended by Chaoan County, Guangdong Province, for heroically killing a leopard with a hoe which was threatening to attack a group of women and children.

On the day of November 18, 1979, Huang was just winding up his work in an orchard when he heard someone call for help. Turning around, he saw a leopard that was about to spring on the women and children who were gathering firewood. At that critical moment, Huang

immediately ran after the beast with his hoe.

The leopard tried to pounce on him several times but the brave militiaman successfully dodged the beast. Though exhausted, Huang remained calm and resourceful during this crisis and finally managed to kill the leopard by hitting it on the head.

### ● *Poplar Forest*

Forestry technicians discovered large tracts of natural poplar trees during a two-month study on the Tarim Basin, Xinjiang. Such a find is unique in the world and has never occurred in China before.

This diversiform-leaved poplar is said to be the oldest kind of poplar in the world. It usually grows in the deserts and arid

regions of Europe, Asia and North Africa and can thrive in a windy, dry and saline soil environment.

These 200,000 hectares of poplar trees are instrumental in preventing the shift of sandhills from the Taklimakan Desert and protecting production and people's livelihood in southern Xinjiang.

### ● *New Park in Lhasa*

A new cultural park is now open to the public in the ancient city of Lhasa, capital of the Tibet Autonomous Region.

The park has been built in a former wilderness below the Potala Palace and covers an area of 30,000 square metres. Artificial hills were made from stalactites mined in Tibet. One of the park's most impressive buildings with distinctive local style is a 9-metre-high pavilion with eaves and pillars that are carved with birds and beasts and painted with multi-coloured lotuses and peonies symbolizing good fortune. The beauty of the park is also enhanced by a man-made lake near the pavilion.

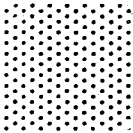
Since the peaceful liberation of Tibet in 1951, both the scenic sports of Longwangtan and Norbu Lingka have been turned into public parks. Now they have become popular resorts for the 90,000 residents of Lhasa.







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