

BEIJING REVIEW

北京周报

A CHINESE WEEKLY OF
NEWS AND VIEWS

- Premier Zhao Concludes His African Tour
- How to Modernize China's Agriculture



Education: From Kindergarten to College

LETTERS

Chinese-Type Modernization

I very much welcome your decision to publish a series of articles on Chinese-type modernization, and I am sure they will be welcomed by thousands of progressives anxious to learn all they can about the application of Marxism to a particular set of circumstances. There is no doubt that a better and wider understanding of how and why the "focus of work" in China was "delayed for over 20 years" will be a great help to Marxist students everywhere.

Will the writers of this series of articles please explain in some detail what is meant by "mistakes he [Mao] committed by broadening the target of class struggle and thinking in terms of absolutes"? [issue No. 1, 1983, p. 15.]

Rose Smith
Beijing, China

We appreciate the importance you attach to our 1983 series "Chinese-Type Modernization."

Following is a brief answer to your question:

Although in reality class struggle exists only within certain limits in socialist society. At the 10th Plenary Session of the Eighth Party

Central Committee in September 1962, Comrade Mao Zedong wrongly asserted that throughout the historical period of socialism, the bourgeoisie would continue to exist and attempt a comeback and would become the source of revisionism inside the Party. This and other wrong assessments he made in subsequent years culminated in the "cultural revolution" of 1966-76. For details, see chapters 17, 19 and 20 of the Resolution on Certain Questions in the History of Our Party Since the Founding of the People's Republic of China carried in our issue No. 27, 1981. — Ed.

Women Members of the CPC Central Committee

I have been reading your magazine for years and I would like to venture some of my opinions while you are publishing articles about the 12th National Congress of the Communist Party of China.

I am delighted to see that tremendous advances have been made in the Party's democratic life. This is readily apparent from the list of delegates. However, one thing confuses me: Why are there only seven women among every 100 members and alternate members of the CPC Central Committee? I cannot understand why only such a small proportion of women hold high positions though they are active not only in the Party but also in

China's political and economic fields. Probably the old prejudice against women is still functioning in men's mind, even inside the Party. This prejudice may also hinder women in their progress.

I realize that there exist the conditions for eliminating inequality between the sexes in China and that better relationships between husbands and wives and within families have been established. I remain confident in the future. I appreciate articles about women's rights and their promotion to the traditionally man-held positions.

I would also like to know the difficulties women meet in their work and family life. Coverage of professional women and interviews with leaders of the women's federations would also be interesting.

Gruzieilu Dauquy
Bordeaux, France

Indian Physician

Thank you for publishing the story of Dr. Kotnis (No. 50, 1982), the international medical fighter from India. I could often read about Dr. Bethune from Canada, but it was hard to learn about Dr. Kotnis. People in the West should know the glory of Asia's internationalist communists.

Charles Andrews
Oakland, CA., USA

Rumours Corrected

I was impressed when I first read your magazine. Before reading the magazine, wild and untrue stories concerning politics in China and for that matter "communism" had been circulated to us in Ghana. By reading your magazine I discovered, to my surprise, that the rumours about communism were false. Actually communism provides one of the best democratic governments in the world.

Joseph Kwaw Qaidou
Samreboi, Ghana

Art Page

The articles in *Beijing Review* are a little bit stiff in content due to the nature of your magazine. Therefore, I hope you continue to publish the "Art Page." The column is so beautiful that I look for it in every issue. In particular, I was impressed with the works of Wu Shanming and Cao Wenhan (Nos. 48 and 49, 1982).

Shoichi Masubuchi
Tochigi, Japan

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Hu Yaobang on Ideological Work

Party General Secretary Hu Yaobang discusses the need to strengthen ideological and political work (p. 4).

1982 Industrial Achievements

Year-end figures show that China's total industrial output value last year was 7.4 per cent higher than in 1981. Heavy industry rose by 9 per cent and light industry by 5 per cent (p. 6).

Premier Zhao in Africa

Premier Zhao Ziyang concluded his tour of Africa with visits to Zambia, Zimbabwe, Tanzania and Kenya (p. 7). He gave news conference in Dar es Salaam (p. 18).

Diplomatic Relations With Angola

China and Angola established diplomatic relations on January 12 (p. 9).

Sino-US Textile Talks

The leader of the Chinese delegation says the US was responsible for the failure to reach an agreement (p. 10).

Education in China

Special feature on education in China during the past four years (p. 22).

General Trend in Agriculture

The third of the "Chinese-Type Modernization" series discusses the rural responsibility system, the trend to form various combinations, and long-term prospects for agricultural development (p. 14).



"Your picture is better than mine."
Photo by Xu Xiangjun

NOTES FROM THE EDITORS

China's independent diplomacy

It seems that China is drifting away from the United States and improving its relations with the Soviet Union. Does this mean that China has switched to "equidistant" diplomacy?

China adopts an independent diplomacy. That is to say, we formulate our foreign policy in light of China's specific conditions and in the interest of world peace and China's own national security. China will never tag after any big power or bloc of powers, nor will it succumb to pressure from any big nation.

China's foreign policy follows the principle of opposing hegemonism and safeguarding peace. This policy is no temporary expedient; rather, it is based upon a long-term, overall strategy.

China has no intention of balancing the scales between the United States and the Soviet Union. We are against whoever seeks hegemony, be it the United States or the Soviet Union.

It is no secret that we oppose US violations of the basic principles regarding Taiwan in the 1979 Sino-US joint communique, as well as the US policy of discrimination against China in economic and trade affairs. In the world arena, we stand against US support of Israel and South Africa in their aggression and expansionism.

It is also well-known that China considers its security threatened by the large number of Soviet troops along the Sino-Soviet and Sino-Mongolian boundaries and that China opposes the Soviet invasion of

Afghanistan and Soviet support of Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea.

We may emphasize opposition to Soviet hegemonism at one time and censure of US policy at another; we base our position on our judgment of the world situation, rather than on what is called an "equidistant" diplomacy.

Another aim of China's foreign policy is to establish and develop relations with other countries on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, which were jointly initiated by China, India and Burma three decades ago. The Five Principles apply to countries under different social systems, which certainly include the United States and the Soviet Union.

The deterioration of Sino-Soviet relations stems from Soviet hegemonism. Since March 1982, the Kremlin has repeatedly expressed a desire to improve bilateral relations between the two nations. Vice-foreign ministers of both countries have already held a round of talks in Beijing and soon will meet again in Moscow. China hopes that its relations with the Soviet Union will be gradually normalized on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. This has to be brought about by deeds rather than by words.

Incidentally, the improvement of Sino-Soviet relations is by no means directed against any other country.

— International Editor
Mu Youlin

CHINA

Hu on ideological and political work

China's open policy is principally beneficial but has also allowed many "germs" to creep in, said Hu Yaobang, General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee.

The country must take measures to resist decadent bourgeois influences, ideas and life styles while carrying on this correct policy, he said.

Hu's 10,000-character speech was delivered last April at a meeting with Deng Liqun, head of the Propaganda Department of the CPC Central Committee.

But the full text of the speech, entitled "On ideological and political work," was just published in the January 1983 issue of *Hongqi*, a theoretical journal of the Party. *Renmin Ribao* and other national papers reprinted it on their front pages.

Citing the historical experiences of the Communist Party, the talk also discussed in detail the nature, aim, tasks, salient features and method of current ideological and political work based on present realities.

Historically, the Party has led the people to one victory after another because of its emphasis on ideological and political work, he said. However, today this work is weak, partly because the Party has failed to conduct systematic summaries of its experiences with revolution and construction since the founding of New China.

Hu went on to say that the most fundamental aim and task of ideological work is to enhance



the people's understanding of the world and their power to transform it. This involves the need to enable people to cultivate a correct ideological viewpoint and take a correct political stand, and to mobilize the cadres and masses to strive for both immediate and long-term revolutionary goals.

Hu stressed that the basic principles of this work is to educate the people through persuasion and not through compulsion and coercion, nor by administrative or arbitrary means. In dealing with ideological problems, and other problems relating to people's understanding, we should guide them forward rather than stop them from doing this or that. He said that from time to time it was necessary to analyse current ideological tendencies that have a universal nature and seek ways to solve them.

Hu went on to say that those who educate others must be educated first. He said that they must have a higher level of knowledge, political consciousness and cognitive ability than those they educate and be familiar with their work. At the same time, they should set good

examples for others, so that they teach others not only through words but through their own deeds. Every Party member should take the lead in whatever conduct is required from the masses. As in the political and economic arenas, it is essential to eradicate "Left" elements in the ideological realm. It is also necessary to prevent the tendency towards

bourgeois liberalization and to overcome feudal influences, he said.

In accordance with the instructions of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee, national meetings regarding ideological and political work in the countryside and among workers and staff were convened recently. Similar conferences will be held in other fields.

A call to emulate model Communists

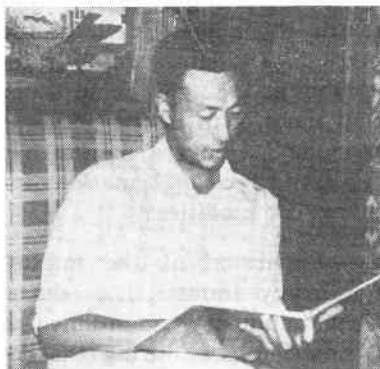
Renmin Ribao and other major newspapers in the capital recently published an article entitled "Wishes That Follow Grief" by Hu Qiaomu, Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, calling on the whole nation to learn from two model Communists who died recently, scientists Jiang Zhuying and Luo Jianfu.

Jiang Zhuying, 43, research associate at the Changchun Precision Optical Instruments Institute, died of complications arising from a serious disease on June 15, 1982. Luo Jianfu, 47, an engineer at the Lishan Microelectronics Corporation in Shaanxi Province, died of a very rare low differentiated lymphatic tumour on June 16, 1982.

Both had, before their deaths, insisted on working tirelessly despite their illnesses.

In the past month, *Guangming Ribao*, *Gongren Ribao* and other newspapers carried stories of their deeds which have attracted the attention of the people throughout the country. Their outstanding achievements and their deaths at an early age strongly impressed the public.

Praising their noble qualities, Hu Qiaomu pointed out that the two scientists had done quite a lot of things that were beyond the capabilities of ordinary people. But, he said, every Communist and every patriot can and should learn from their loyalty and dedication to the socialist motherland and communism, their spirit of working wholeheartedly in the interests of the people and others, their



Jiang Zhuying



Luo Jianfu

spirit of being the first to bear hardships and the last to enjoy comforts and giving no thought to personal gains, as well as their spirit of working tirelessly despite illnesses.

While expressing his regret at their early deaths, Hu Qiaomu wished that everyone would learn from the two model Communists. Hu also wished all the Party organizations, Party members and other people would show greater concern for such advanced elements and would not wait until after their deaths to remember to learn from them or to show regret for not having cared for them in a better way. He said that people like Jiang Zhuying and Luo Jianfu could

make more and greater contributions to the motherland and the people. "We advocate self-sacrifice. But this does not mean that the lives and health of the Communists and advanced elements are unimportant. Life and health, he added, "are the capital necessary to vanquish all enemies and build our great socialist motherland."

Hu said that he opposes those who benefit themselves at the expense of the public and those who care about nothing but saving their own skin on the pretext of protecting their lives and health. But, he stated, Communists are not ascetics, and illness must be taken seriously.

1982 industrial output up 7 per cent

China's total industrial output value in 1982 was 550,000 million yuan, 7.4 per cent more than in 1981, outstripping the planned target of 4 to 5 per cent. Heavy industry increased by 9 per cent and light industry by 5 per cent.

In 1982, attention was focused on achieving better economic results, balanced production and steady increase in industrial production. All-time records were set in the output of coal, electricity, rolled steel, cement, chemical fertilizer, sulphuric acid, wrist-watches, TV sets, cameras, washing machines and refrigerators.

The salient features of 1982 industrial production were:

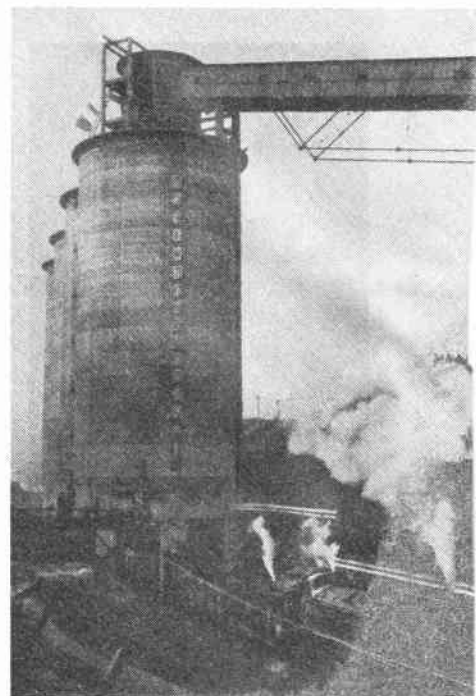
— Emphasis on raising economic results. The quality of most of the major industrial products was improved during 1982. Over 20 million tons of standard coal were saved last year as a result of the readjustment in industry and its product mix. Last year also saw reductions of funds in circula-

tion and reduction in the cost of production.

— Production geared to market demand. In the 1979-81 period, a 14 per cent increase was registered annually in electronics, light industry and textiles. To meet the ever-growing demand for quality goods, more new products with new varieties and patterns and improved packaging were turned out. High quality durable products registered an increase of over 30 per cent. Following the improvement in the people's livelihood, the output of food industry increased 10 per cent.

The ample supply of light and textile goods has stimulated the market. The gross retail sales volume in 1982 was about 9 per cent more than in the previous year. And a buyers' market has replaced a sellers' market for many commodities.

— Expansion of the market for heavy industrial products. Heavy industry maintained a steady increase during the readjustment. The supply of roll-



Production increased after a new pit was opened here at the Liuwan Coal Mine in Shanxi Province, a major coal base in China.

ed steel and some other products fell short of the demand. The growth of heavy industry has provided agriculture and light industry with a good supply of equipment and spare parts. For example, the machine-building industry turned out 2,000 kinds of special equipment for agriculture and light industry, 200 more than in 1981. More than 100 kinds of energy-saving products were manufactured.

Overfulfilment of state targets in energy. Coal production reached 651 million tons, 4.8 per cent more than in 1981; crude oil, 102 million tons, slightly higher than in 1981; and electricity, 325,400 million kwh, an increase of 5.2 per cent.

Beijing opens its first supermarket

Beijing's first supermarket opened on December 29 and was an instant success. With goods arranged on shelves for easy self-service, the market expects to provide faster and better shopping facilities than regular state bazaars.

At 5 a.m., three hours before the doors opened, the first customer had arrived by bicycle. Many among the crowds of eager buyers on the first few days came long distances to try out the new store.

The supermarket is stocked with 265 items including vegetables, meat, fish, eggs, poultry, bean products, tinned foods and spices. Although it is winter, the supermarket sells 42 vegetables, many more than on state market as a whole. All the vegetables are provided by nearby communes. Other supplies are from Beijing factories.

Goods sold in the supermarket are carefully selected, processed and packed. Furthermore, processed vegetables and meats are of higher sanitation standards than in the regular market. Therefore, their prices are somewhat higher. Fresh cucumbers are 2.28 yuan per kilogramme and tomatoes 1.86 yuan per kilo, 30 per cent and 15 per cent more than in other markets.

Liu Hongbin, one of the supermarket's four managers, said, "Our aim is to stimulate the market and improve commodity circulation. But it is even more important to make things convenient for the people."

Apparently, this new method of marketing is quite popular among the customers. Because so many goods are available, some people spent more than 50 yuan in one shopping trip.

At present, the supermarket is equipped with three imported cash registers, which are operated by six salesmen. As a planned closed-circuit monitoring system has not yet been installed, another eight people are assigned as floor supervisors. All of them were given a short period of training.

The supermarket received

12,500 customers in the first four days of business and the sales volume totalled 36,000 yuan. Manager Liu is optimistic about the sales volume, but is worried about the supply of goods.

The supermarket is located on the northwestern outskirts of Beijing in an area where many research institutes of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and other famous institutions of higher learning are concentrated. Several similar supermarkets are planned for other parts of the city.

Premier Zhao Ziyang's African tour

During his official visit to Africa, Premier Zhao Ziyang met with the leaders of Zambia, Zimbabwe, Tanzania and Kenya (Jan. 5-17) and expressed strong support for their policies of independence and non-alignment and for their condemnation of the South African apartheid regime. Economic and technical assistance was a major topic of the discussions.

In Zambia. Arriving in Lusaka on January 5, Premier Zhao had two rounds of talks with President Kenneth David Kaunda. They expressed firm support for the Namibian and South African peoples in their struggle for independence. Premier Zhao supported Zambia's stand opposing the attempt to link Namibia's independence with a withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

The two sides exchanged views and reached common agreement on a wide range of international issues. The two leaders shared the view that the

settlement of the Afghanistan and Kampuchea problems depended first of all on the withdrawal of all foreign troops from the two countries.

They also discussed bilateral relations and expressed satisfaction with the development of friendly relations between the two countries. President Kaunda spoke of the role and influence of co-operative projects between the two countries like the Tanzania-Zambia railway, a joint project of Zambia, Tanzania and China. Premier Zhao reaffirmed China's willingness to assist Zambia and Tanzania to improve the management and effectiveness of the railway in any way possible.

On January 6 Premier Zhao met with Oliver Tambo, Chairman of African National Congress, and Hage Geingob, Executive Member of the South West African People's Organization and Director of the United Nations Institute of Namibia based in Lusaka. Zhao said: China

supports the people of South West Africa in their just struggle for national independence and liberation and supports the people of South Africa in their just struggle against racial discrimination and apartheid and for national independence and liberation.

Premier Zhao visited the former residence of President Kaunda from which the President had directed the struggle for Zambia's independence finally achieved on October 24, 1964. He also visited Kabwe, the birthplace of Zambia's ruling United National Independence Party and the Mulungushi Textile Mill built with the joint efforts of China and Zambia.

In Zimbabwe. Premier Zhao arrived in Harare on January 9. He called on President Canaan Banana and said that the Chinese Government appreciated the fact that the Zimbabwe Government adheres to a policy of non-alignment and national reconciliation.

During talks with Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, Premier Zhao congratulated him on Zimbabwe's successes in consolidating state power and in national construction since independence. He said that China will continue to strongly support the Zimbabwean people in their struggle against threats from the South African racist regime.

On January 9, at a banquet given by Prime Minister Mugabe in his honour, the Premier said: "The independence of Zimbabwe has profoundly changed the face of southern Africa and greatly inspired both the Namibian people in their fight for national independence and the South African people in their struggle against racial discrimination."

Before ending his three-day official visit to Zimbabwe on January 11, Premier Zhao signed in Harare a Sino-Zimbabwean agreement on economic and technical co-operation.

In Tanzania. Premier Zhao arrived in Dar es Salaam on

January 11. At the state banquet given in his honour by President Julius Nyerere Zhao said: "The awakened Africa has become a powerful force in the international political arena. The African people, who succeeded in smashing the yoke of age-old colonialism, are undoubtedly able to create a beautiful future for their own nations."

Official talks were held between Premier Zhao and President Nyerere. The two sides exchanged views on major international issues and on bilateral economic co-operation. Zhao praised President Nyerere's great contributions to promoting the unity of third world countries and South-South co-operation. He said that the Chinese Government will adopt an active and co-operative attitude towards the efforts made by Tanzania in restoring its economy.

Accompanied by President Nyerere, Premier Zhao paid a visit to Zanzibar on January 12.



Left: Premier Zhao Ziyang, accompanied by President Kenneth Kaunda, watch welcoming performances at Lusaka Airport.

Right: Prime Minister Robert Mugabe welcomes Premier Zhao Ziyang at Harare Airport.



Left: Premier Zhao and President Nyerere holding talks.
Right: President of Kenya greets Premier Zhao at Nairobi Airport.

Speaking at a mass rally held in celebration of the 19th anniversary of the January 12 Zanzibar Revolution Day, Zhao said: "The Tanzanian people have the glorious tradition of combating imperialism, colonialism, foreign aggression and feudal oppression. All these great victories and achievements added splendid chapters to the annals of the African people's struggle against colonialism."

Zhao reiterated China's support for the Azanian people's liberation struggle against the racist regime in South Africa when he met John Nyati Pokela, Chairman of the Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania, on January 13.

Premier Zhao held news conference in Dar es Salaam on January 13 and answered questions raised by correspondents (see p. 18).

In Kenya. Premier Zhao arrived in Nairobi on January 15 to begin his official and friendship visit to Kenya, the last leg of his African tour.

At the banquet given in his honour by Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi, Zhao noted that 1983 was the 20th anniversary of the independence of Kenya as well as the 20th anniversary of the establishment of

diplomatic relations between China and Kenya. "In the past two decades under the leadership of the late President Kenyatta and President Moi, the Kenyan Government and people have worked to safe-

China and Angola Establish Diplomatic Relations

The People's Republic of China and the People's Republic of Angola agreed to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level as of January 12, 1983.

The communique signed in Paris, January 12, said: "The Government of the People's Republic of China supports the Government of the People's Republic of Angola in its just struggle to safeguard its national independence, state sovereignty and territorial integrity and to develop the national economy, and condemns the systematic aggression of the South African racist troops against Angola, and demands the withdrawal of South African troops from the territory of Angola.

"The Government of the People's Republic of Angola recognizes that the Government of the People's Republic of China is the sole legal government representing all the Chinese people, and that Taiwan is an inalienable part of the territory of the People's Republic of China.

"In this spirit, the People's Republic of China and the People's Republic of Angola wish to establish relations on the basis of the principles of mutual respect for state sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence."

guard their national independence and state sovereignty, attached importance to developing their national economy and culture and worked tirelessly in building up an independent and prosperous Kenya and achieved gratifying successes," he said.

In his talks with President Moi, Zhao said that China and Kenya shared identical or similar views on many international issues. He praised President Moi for his efforts to maintain the solidarity of the Organization of African Unity and hoped that the OAU member states would settle, through patient negotiations,

their differences so as to prevent splits. The leaders of the two countries also exchanged views on bilateral economic and technological co-operation.

Concluding his successful and fruitful visit to 11 African nations, Premier Zhao left Nairobi for home on January 17. In a written statement on his departure, he said: "I wish to avail myself of this opportunity to say good-bye to the enthusiastic and friendly Kenyan and African people. I shall convey the profound sentiments of friendship of the Kenyan and African people to the 1 billion Chinese people."

Sino-US textile talks stalled

The fourth round of the Sino-US talks on textiles ended unsuccessfully as a result of deliberate US acts of discrimination and restriction towards China.

The 1980 Sino-US agreement on textile trade, the first between the two countries, expired on December 31, 1982, and should have been replaced with a new agreement beginning January 1, 1983.

For this purpose the two countries held three rounds of talks in Beijing and Washington in August, September and October 1982, but achieved nothing due to lack of sincerity on the part of the Americans.

The fourth round failed to start on schedule in December 1982 because of US preconditions which the Chinese found unacceptable.

The two countries re-established trade relations in 1972. Every year since then except 1977, China suffered big trade deficits in its US trade.

The expired agreement stated that both sides should promote

bilateral trade relations and strive to keep the economic interests of both sides balanced.

However, in the discussions for a new pact, the US side has done nothing to strike a balance. Instead it has demanded that China reduce its quota of textile exports to the United States, particularly in one major category.

The fourth round of Sino-American talks were held in Beijing on January 6-13. On December 28, before the fourth round of talks began, despite China's objections, the US side released details of its proposed unilateral restrictions in an attempt to force China to accept them.

During the talks, while demanding Chinese concessions that would curb annual growth rate of imports from China, the US delegation, on the pretext of "no new mandate," made only symbolic concessions.

Faced with such unfavourable conditions, the Chinese delegation nevertheless made great ef-

forts to negotiate, in the interest of furthering Sino-US trade relations. When asked by the US side to increase the number of restricted items to at least 28 categories, the Chinese side made a major concession by agreeing to discuss expanding the coverage from 21 categories to 28. The Chinese also made fairly big concessions on limiting the level, annual growth and other matters.

Unfortunately, all these efforts and concessions were not favourably received by the US side. It did not respond to some Chinese proposals, and on other issues, it raised new and unacceptable demands. Thus, the US side bears the responsibility for the failure to reach a new agreement.

Since this round of negotiations was very short and there were difficulties, Li Dengshan, head of the Chinese delegation, proposed that the two sides hold consultations to make interim arrangements before an agreement was reached. However, this reasonable proposal was not answered by the US.

This showed clearly that the US side did not want to solve the problem but was stepping up its trade discrimination and restrictions against the Chinese side.

"We are willing to continue negotiations. But it is meaningless and fruitless to ask only the Chinese side to make concessions while the US side makes no substantial concessions," Li Dengshan said.

He advised the US side not to take unilateral action pending agreement. Should the US side obstinately impose unilateral controls, he warned, the Chinese side will be forced to respond.

*Non-Aligned Summit***Sihanouk should be invited**

ON January 11, some Indonesian parliamentarians expressed regret that India had decided not to invite Norodom Sihanouk, President of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea, to the forthcoming 7th Non-Aligned Summit in New Delhi.

The Indonesian appeal was echoed in other ASEAN countries. The Singapore paper *Sin Chew Jit Poh* in a year-end editorial said that New Delhi's failure to invite the Democratic Kampuchean Coalition Government to the summit ran counter to the aspirations of most non-aligned countries.

Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said Samdech Norodom Sihanouk is the legal and internationally recognized head of the Kampuchean state and should be invited to the non-aligned conference.

The precedent for India's action was the Cuban Government's decision not to invite the Democratic Kampuchean Government to the 1979 Havana summit. The ASEAN members and many other nations have expressed the view that Cuba's act was illegal.

Viet Nam invaded Kampuchea at the end of 1978. Cuban Prime Minister Fidel Castro not only failed to condemn the Vietnamese action which outrageously trampled on the UN Charter and the principles of the non-aligned movement, but also took advantage of his capacity as chairman of the conference to deprive Democratic Kampuchea of its right to attend the Havana summit.

Naturally, it was hoped that the New Delhi summit scheduled for this March would correct the Cuban Government's mistake and foil the Vietnamese attempt to prevent Democratic Kampuchea from restoring its legitimate seat in the non-aligned movement.

The Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea is the country's sole legitimate government and its president, Norodom Sihanouk, is a founder of the non-aligned movement. Thus, it is unjust to exclude Sihanouk from the movement.

Last year, when Sihanouk headed the Democratic Kampuchean Delegation to the 37th UN General Assembly, he received a warm reception by representatives of many countries.

The overwhelming majority of UN members, including almost all the non-aligned nations, voted for the resolution demanding that Viet Nam withdraw its troops from Kampuchea.

Thus India's decision not to invite Sihanouk to the New Delhi summit is not a popular one.

The Heng Samrin regime in Phnom Penh is but a puppet under Viet Nam's wings. To deny Democratic Kampuchea's right to attend the summit on the pretext of the puppet's "existence" contravenes the non-aligned movement's principles of independence, self-determination and non-bloc orientation.

Moreover, by refusing to invite the representative of the

Democratic Kampuchean Coalition Government to the summit, India harms its own role and position in the non-aligned movement. It is high time for the Indian Government to listen to the ASEAN appeal.

—Liu Ye

*Lebanon***Foreign troop withdrawal talks**

LEBANESE, Israeli and American negotiators have held six rounds of talks on withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon, at the last of which on Jan. 13, Lebanon and Israel agreed on a US-proposed compromise agenda for further negotiations. But a Lebanese official spokesman warned that people should not be "excessively optimistic" over the agenda agreement, that "long and difficult talks still lie ahead."

Begin Authorities Insincere

Under pressure from world opinion and Lebanese Government demands, the Israeli Government was forced to enter into the negotiations which began on Dec. 28, 1982, but immediately became deadlocked at the first session on the procedural question of an agenda. The Begin authorities demanded that "normalization" of relations between the two countries take precedence over troop withdrawal. Israel also demanded that the withdrawal of Syrian and PLO armed forces be a precondition for the withdrawal of

Israeli troops from Lebanon. This shows that Israel is unwilling to withdraw its troops, and it is attempting to use the negotiations to split the Arab countries and continue its control of Lebanon.

The Lebanese Government defined the current talks as military talks. It stressed that the withdrawal of Israeli troops should be at the top of the agenda, for now more than 30,000 Israeli troops are in control of one-third of its territory.

Crux of the Negotiations

However, Israel tried hard to turn these into political talks by seeking a "peace treaty" with Lebanon before ending its military occupation. After this first demand failed, Israel then demanded that Lebanon sign a "non-aggression pact." Now it has changed its tactic again and is demanding "normalization" of Israeli-Lebanese relations.

Underlying each of these changing demands Israel's principal aim remained the same, to force Lebanon to adopt a different policy from that of the other Arab countries, and thus isolate Lebanon from the Arab world, and bring Lebanon further under its control.

The presence of Syrian and PLO armed forces in Lebanon is quite different from the occupation of Lebanon by Israeli troops. Lebanon is a sovereign state, and has every right to decide how long the Syrian and PLO armed forces should remain in Lebanon and when they should withdraw. Israel has no right to say anything in this issue.

By demanding the precondition of the withdrawal of Syrian and PLO armed forces from Lebanon, the Begin government attempted to enable

its occupation troops to stay on in Lebanon. This shows the true features of the Israeli expansionists. The crux of the Lebanese-Israeli talks is whether or not Israel will be allowed to infringe on Lebanese sovereignty.

Washington has approved UN Resolutions 508 and 509 which called for unconditional Israeli troop withdrawal. The US Government has time and again made statements supporting the restoration of Lebanon's territorial integrity and sovereignty. Future negotiations on the question of foreign troop withdrawal from Lebanon will be a severe test for the US Government.

— *Zhong Tai*

Japan-EEC

No easing of trade frictions

THE hurried visit by Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe to Britain, West Germany, France, Belgium and Italy early this month was a response to sharpening discord over trade. Japan hoped to ease frictions with Western Europe before Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone went to the United States. However this aim was not achieved.

Measures to Narrow the Imbalance

Japan enjoys a huge favourable trade balance with Western Europe. In the early 60s the annual trade imbalance between them was approximately US\$100 million. But the scope expanded in the 70s. Japan exported large amounts of iron, steel, autos and sound equip-

ment to Western Europe, and in 1975 the trade imbalance was US\$4.5 billion. By 1981 it had soared to US\$14 billion. The Japanese favourable balance of trade in 1982 with the European Economic Community (EEC) was US\$10.3 billion. West Europeans say the Japanese have fattened on EEC markets.

Western Europe is suffering an economic crisis. In 1982 the unemployed numbered more than 10 million. The inflation rates were: 6.5 per cent in Britain, 4.5 in West Germany, 9.5 in France and 17.5 in Italy. The rate of real economic growth was estimated at 0.5 per cent in Britain, 1.5 in France, and zero or less for the rest of the EEC. The Japanese economy is comparatively better off. Although its 1982 rate of growth was not the expected 5.2 per cent, it was growing at about 3 per cent. Its inflation rate is only 3 per cent, the unemployment is less than 3 per cent. Japan, unlike the West European countries, has a large surplus in foreign trade. To combat the economic recession, Western Europe is adopting protectionist measures and Japan is the target of this attack.

Under pressure from Western Europe and the United States, Japan announced a simplification of the formalities for the importing of 67 kinds of goods last January. Last May Japan decided it should lower or abolish the tariffs on 215 items of industrial and agricultural imports beginning in 1983. And again in last December it announced that it would reduce import tariffs on 75 agricultural and industrial products.

In spite of these Japanese concessions, West European discontent with Japan continues to deepen. The meeting of

the EEC foreign ministers held on December 13 declared that Japan must provide tangible assurances from 1983 onwards that "it was pursuing a policy of clearly defined and effective modification towards the community as a whole as regards sectors where significant problems exist." It also called for setting up an international arbitration panel under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) to supervise Japan's efforts to open its markets further to imports.

Japan's Troubles

The Japanese foreign minister stressed that the economic problems of the industrialized countries could not be solved by Japan's opening of its markets, and that very little scope remained for any further tariff reductions. However, the EEC countries stood firm. Gaston Thorn, President of EEC, said that the action to lower the import tariffs adopted recently by Japan was not enough and Japan should adopt further measures if it wants to help Europe curb the trade protectionism. Leaders of West Germany, Italy, Belgium, Britain and France also stressed that Japan should further open its markets to Western Europe so that the trade imbalance could be redressed. Thus Japan still faces a difficult future in trade relations.

Foreign Minister Abe bluntly explained Japan's present realities and stand during his tour of Western Europe while the EEC countries stated their own difficulties. Thereby, mutual understanding has been furthered. As both sides have similar views on questions of global security, Japan and the West European countries

will keep their trade frictions within bounds.

—Zhang Yunfang

The Malvinas

Thatcher's visit criticized

BRITISH Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's recent visit to the Malvinas (Falkland) once again focused world attention on Britain's dispute with Argentina over the islands.

During her five-day junket, Thatcher emphasized that Britain expects to "defend" the islands "for a very, very long time."

Sovereignty Dispute Unresolved

Britain's reoccupation of the Malvinas by force last year isolated it politically without resolving the ownership issue.

The Argentine Government maintained its claim to sovereignty but called for negotiations, a position which has won increasing international support.

A 1982 UN General Assembly resolution called on Britain and Argentina to resume negotiations and to peacefully resolve the sovereignty dispute.

In December, Argentine Foreign Minister Juan Ramon Aguirre Lanari informed UN Secretary-General Javier Peres de Cuellar that his country was willing to begin such negotiations.

However, Britain disregarded the just demands of the majority of UN members. On the 150th anniversary of the British occupation of the Malvinas, Thatcher suddenly dropped in on the islands, an action that

insulted the national sentiments of the Argentine Government and people and evoked their indignation.

The Argentine foreign minister described Thatcher's trip as "a new act of provocation and arrogance." Many Argentine organizations protested the visit and the national press called for resolute actions to defend Argentine national interests.

New Obstacle

The Latin American countries have always supported Argentina on the question of the Malvinas. The meeting of the Organization of American Countries adopted a resolution patterned on the UN position, calling for negotiations between Argentina and Britain. During Mrs. Thatcher's stay in the Malvinas, Ecuadorean Foreign Minister Luis Valencia said that Latin America is united in the struggle against the continent's colonial remnant — the Malvinas.

A Peruvian newspaper called Thatcher's visit a manifestation of colonialist ideology.

The Uruguayan press commented that the visit is an obstacle to Britain's expressed desire to improve relations with Latin America.

The Co-ordination Bureau of the Non-Aligned Countries in Managua, Nicaragua, reiterated support for Argentina's claim to sovereignty in its statement. The non-aligned countries have repeatedly issued statements of support for Argentina's position.

At a time when the colonial system has fallen apart, countries like Britain have no choice but to establish equal and friendly relations with third world countries that have fully realized their national dignity.

—Guan Yanzhong, Li Zhiming

*Chinese-Type Modernization (3)***The Way for Agriculture**

by Lu Baifu

THE tremendous changes in China's countryside since 1979 have created new production incentives for the peasants and a stimulus to agricultural development.

The household contract system of responsibility has gradually become the principal method of rural management. It promises a positive correlation between hard work and higher pay and expands rural producers' decision-making powers. The system is a vast improvement over the previous arrangement, in which the collective administration distributed an equal amount of the collective's earnings to each member, regardless of his or her contributions.

Some of our foreign friends have expressed unclarity about the necessity for the contract system and concern that China may be deviating from socialism. I would like to address these questions in the context of an overall discussion of agricultural modernization.

Changes Since 1978

First, let's review the situation four years ago.

China's agriculture never gained momentum after the people's communes were established in 1958. Gross agricultural output value increased only 84 per cent in 21 years. The sluggish agricultural development coupled with the rapid population growth meant that China's per-capita grain increased only 1.2 kilogrammes between 1957 and 1978. In the same period, cotton dropped 0.2 kilogramme per capita and oil-bearing crops decline 1.2 kilogrammes (see table below).

Handicapped by "Left" policies, the peasants had few work incentives. Their incomes increased slowly and their lives improved insignificantly. During the 1965-76 period, the average per-capita income increased only 10.5 yuan, less than one yuan annually. The average per-capita income from the collective in 1978 was only 74 yuan, and nearly one-fourth of the rural population earned less than 50 yuan per person.

Obviously, this situation could not be allowed to continue. To accelerate agricultural development and modernization, it was imperative to formulate a new agricultural policy.

Table:

Year	National population (100 million)	Gross agricultural output value (100 million yuan)	Grain		Cotton		Oil-bearing crops	
			Total output (1 million tons)	Per-capita output (kg.)	Total output (10,000 tons)	Per-capita output (kg.)	Total output (10,000 tons)	Per-capita output (kg.)
1957	6.4653	793	195.05	306	164.0	2.5	419.6	6.6
1978	9.5809	1,459	304.75	318	216.7	2.3	521.8	5.4

Note: Figures of gross agricultural output value are calculated at 1970 constant prices.

Thus, in 1979 the state adopted the following policies and measures:

— Restore and enlarge private plots for the peasants, encourage household sideline occupations and rural trade fairs;

— Raise the purchasing prices of major agricultural and sideline products so as to increase rural incomes;

— Import 10 million tons of grain annually to lighten the peasants' burden and enable them to live a better life;

— Shift away from the one-sided emphasis on grain production, encourage the peasants to develop a diversified economy, open more avenues for increasing their income:

— Establish various forms of the production responsibility system suited to rural conditions.

The results have borne out the 1978 predictions that these would be successful production stimuli.

Gross agricultural output value has increased at an annual rate of 5.6 per cent over the last four years. Grain output estimates for 1982 were as high as 335 million tons; cotton, 3.3 million tons; oil-bearing crops, 14.185 million tons. These represent increases of 9.9, 52.3 and 171.8 per cent respectively over 1978 figures.

Peasants' income has increased fairly rapidly. Per-capita net income in 1981 was 223.4 yuan, a 66.7 per cent rise over the 134 yuan in 1978. The collective paid 116.2 yuan of this sum and the remainder was from their private plots and household sideline occupations.

With the exception of a few destitute areas where natural conditions are difficult, the quality of food, clothing and housing in rural areas has improved. The percentage of marketable rural products has increased, as have the quantity of agricultural and sideline products and raw materials for industry.

Responsibility System

Among the series of policies and measures, the decisive one was the institution of the household contract system of responsibility. It is based on three-party contracts signed by the state, the collective and the peasant household. First, the state works out a plan for rural pro-

duction, designating certain crops and products for a particular area. Based on the state plan, the production team then contracts out the tracts of land to peasant households, who agree to grow given quantities of a stated crop. Draught animals and medium and small farm tools are distributed to the peasant households by the collective (production team). Land is owned collectively. Big farm machines and implements as well as water conservancy facilities are operated and managed by the collective.

The household contract system of responsibility is essentially different from the individual economy based on the private ownership of land.

Distribution is organized as follows: Under the contract, peasant households pay agricultural taxes and sell a required quota of products to the state. The collective (production team) retains a share of earnings from product sales for its own use. The remaining portion is owned by the peasant households.

The contract form of the responsibility system provides a written statement of the labourer's responsibility to the state and collective. To meet the contract, the household may organize production with a much greater degree of self-management than previously. Gone are the days when the peasants' work was randomly determined by arbitrary orders issued from above.

Gone, too, is absolute equalitarianism. Today, the socialist principle of distribution according to work is actually being practised. Peasants who produce more earn more. Those whose households or labour power are poorly managed earn less.

Among the many opinions that have been expressed about the new policy, a common first reaction is, "This is retrogression." At one time it was believed that socialist agriculture, by definition, was operated by a big collective, the larger the accounting unit the better. Such thinking guided the organization of the people's commune for many years.

The introduction of the responsibility system has altered the old method of management. Management on a household basis reduces the size of the accounting unit and this seems to be a fall-back from the big collective. But in fact, a management method unsuited to the level

of productive forces impedes the development of production. If the adoption of a responsibility system is a "retrogressive" measure, then it regresses from a state unsuited to the development of productive forces to a management method compatible with the development of productive forces. Experiences with the new system indicate that it is an appropriate route for socialist agriculture, that it conforms to China's specific conditions and offers broad prospects for further development.

Has the adoption of a responsibility system changed the nature of the socialist collective economy? No. The household contract system of responsibility requires public ownership of the basic means of production, such as land. Management on a household basis is conducted on the premise that a co-ordinated plan for collective cultivation is applied and the collective exercises unified control over use of large farm machinery and other implements and water conservancy facilities.

The peasants have the right to use the land but have no right to sell, lease or transfer the possession of the land. They must deliver the required amount of products to the state and retain enough for the collective before they can claim possession of the remainder.

The present system is essentially different from the individual economy based on the private ownership of land as it existed in China before the co-operative movement. It upholds the unity of the collective economy, maximizes the flexibility of household management and has not changed the nature of the socialist collective economy.

Will the system cause polarization? After the adoption of the responsibility system, disparity in income between different families did arise. Some families earned six times more than others. The gap resulted mainly from differences in work force, technical level and management capacity. This gap has nothing in common with the polarization between two antagonistic classes, arising from the private system of ownership of the means of production under which capital goods were owned by a handful of persons who exploited the surplus value created by others.

The government encourages the peasants to seek prosperity through labour, knowing that some peasants will do better than others. At the same time, it has adopted measures to help needy peasant households to develop production



A maize harvester produced by the Agricultural Mechanization Research Institute in Heilongjiang Province.

and increase their income. These include tax reductions or exemptions, government loans on favourable terms and technical guidance. Both the small number of peasant households and members of army families which are short of manpower are entitled to social relief and special care. Since liberation, government provisions have guaranteed that they will have basic daily necessities.

China has a strong state-owned economy and a collective economy to guide the peasants forward along the socialist road. The Chinese peasants have more than 20 years of experience in socialist co-operation. They are socialist-minded; they have no desire to regress to the wretchedness of old China where there was a huge disparity between the rich and the poor, a consequence of a few families monopolizing the land while thousands of families were impoverished.

Trend of Development

China's agricultural development over the last few years can be described as having ascended the first floor of agricultural modernization.

With increased agricultural production, the peasants have more income and are using their surplus work force and funds to diversify the economy. Production of marketable agricultural and sideline products is rapidly developing.

This marks a change in China's agricultural production — from producing products completely or partly for one's own use to producing marketable products.

On the basis of the household contract system, a number of specialized households have emerged in China's rural areas, that is, households that engage in a specialized trade instead of farming, such as chicken- and fish-raising or growing mushrooms.

The system also designates some producers as key households which farm but also use their spare time and surplus manpower for certain priority production such as raising a large number of poultry or domestic animals. With the expansion of production and management, these key households gradually have a desire for economic co-operation. Therefore, specialized production association, production-supply-marketing association and technical service association have been established in some places. For example, there is co-operation between pig-raising households and households raising big porkers and producing pig feed; and between pig-raising households and veterinarians and pork-sellers.

These economic co-operations based on the system of contract for a special line of production and different trades have been established according to the principle of facilitating production and of voluntary participation and mutual benefit. The participating households undertake responsibilities and enjoy rights and interests as stipulated in the contracts or agreements. Managerial personnel of the association are elected by the participants themselves. The development of multiple associations will further activate commodity production and prosper the rural economy.

With the development of specialization and associations, an increasing number of peasants will gradually withdraw from their contracted land and crop-growing work and become producers and managers in specialized trades. The rural areas will shift from selling only primary products to selling processed products, thus stimulating the rural processing industries, commerce and service trades. This trend of development will provide large amounts of funds for agricultural modernization and job opportunities for the surplus work force in the countryside.

The development of specialization and the flourishing commodity production will gradually be concentrated in appropriate rural areas, thus forming many new small towns which will

become rural economic and cultural centres and bonds between city and countryside.

In sum, the household contract system will stimulate the development of specialized trades which will in turn encourage organization of various types of new economic co-operations. These will give birth to many small towns and will promote integration of industry and agriculture as well as mutual aid between the cities and the countryside and eventually, comprehensive management of agriculture, industry and commerce. All these will form the general trend in China's agricultural development.

The shift from farming to specialized trades will gradually change the practice of hundreds of millions of Chinese peasants who have long engaged in grain production. Peasants who specialize and take part in economic co-operations will not leave the countryside but will take part in the construction of small towns. Although this will involve a considerably long process, nevertheless it may represent an important feature of China's agricultural modernization. It is poles apart from capitalist agricultural modernization, characterized by the bankruptcy of large numbers of medium and small farmers that are forced into industrial cities to become an industrial reserve labour force.

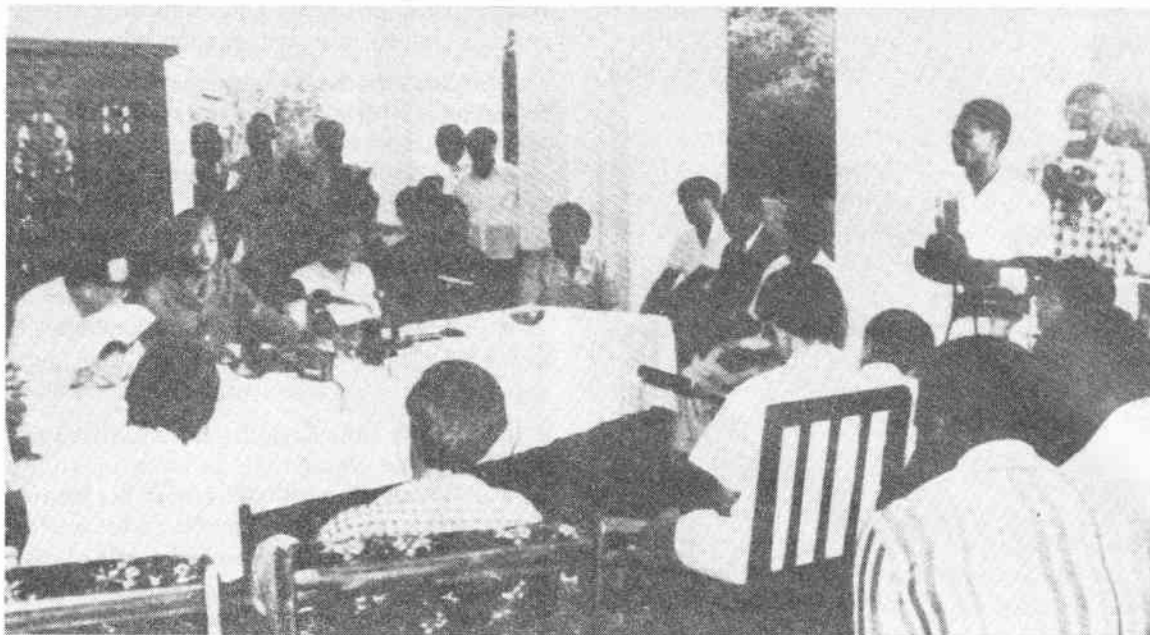
Prospects

We will bring about a modern agriculture with an all-round development of farming, forestry, livestock breeding, sideline occupations and fishery, comprehensive management of agriculture, industry and commerce and integration of agriculture with industry; we will build a rich and civilized socialist new countryside which has a good ecological environment and integrates the cities with the countryside.

In the long process, a large amount of arduous work remains to be done. Major measures will include:

Protecting the ecological equilibrium. Drawing lessons from some foreign countries and China's own lessons in disrupting ecological equilibrium resulting in the loss of fertility, indiscriminate denudation and soil erosion in the course of developing agriculture, China will strive to protect and improve its environment, rationally exploit and utilize agricultural resources. China has designated the protection of the system of ecological equilibrium as a basic state policy during

(Continued on p. 21.)



Premier Zhao Gives News Conference In Dar es Salaam

At news conference on January 13 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, Premier Zhao Ziyang spoke of the fruitful results of his African visit and answered questions raised by journalists. — Ed.

REFERRING to his African tour, Premier Zhao Ziyang said that it has achieved the expected purpose and was highly successful.

The Chinese Premier reaffirmed that "to strengthen unity and co-operation with African and other third world countries is a cornerstone of China's independent foreign policy."

Fruitful Talks

Zhao Ziyang said he felt honoured by the warm and fraternal welcome given him by the governments and peoples, and have renewed friendship with many old friends and made many new friends. Referring to his talks with the leaders of 10 African countries and leaders of some liberation organizations Zhao said: "We have many things in common. We hold

identical or similar views on a series of important issues including our stand against power politics of big countries, against the aggression, intervention and subversion of imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism and racism, our stand for world peace, for developing South-South co-operation and establishing a new international economic order. We feel very satisfied with the bilateral friendly co-operations already established, and feel confident in the prospect of their further development.

Africa Has Entered a New Historical Stage

Premier Zhao said: "I am happy to see that the African countries and peoples are advancing triumphantly on the road of independence and self-determination. They are dauntlessly safeguarding their national independence and state sovereignty." The countries and peoples in Africa who have won independence "take it as their own responsibility to liberate the whole Africa, they give full support to the just struggle of the people of Namibia and South Africa

Zhao on Co-operation With African Countries

PREMIER Zhao Ziyang declared at a news conference in Dar es Salaam on January 13 that "equality and mutual benefit, stress on practical results, diversity in form and achievement of common progress" are the four principles on China's economic and technological co-operation with African countries.

The four principles are:

1. In carrying out economic and technological co-operation with African countries, China abides by the principles of unity and friendship, equality and mutual benefit, respects their sovereignty, does not interfere in their internal affairs, attaches no political conditions and asks for no privileges whatsoever.

2. In China's economic and technological co-operation with African countries, full play will be given to the strong points and potentials of both sides on the basis of their actual needs and possibilities, and efforts will be made to achieve good economic results with less investment, shorter construction cycle and quicker returns.

3. China's economic and technological co-

operation with African countries takes a variety of forms suited to the local specific conditions, such as offering technical services, training technical and management personnel, engaging in scientific and technological exchanges, undertaking construction projects, entering into co-operative production and joint ventures. With regard to the co-operative projects it undertakes, the Chinese side will see to it that the signed contracts are observed, the quality of work guaranteed and stress laid on friendship. The experts and technical personnel dispatched by the Chinese side do not ask for special treatment.

4. The purpose of China's economic and technological co-operation with African countries is to contribute to the enhancement of the self-reliant capabilities of both sides and promote the growth of the respective national economies by complementing and helping each other.

Zhao Ziyang said: "We are ready to further discuss together with all African countries and to sum up experiences so as to gradually open up this vast area of economic and technological co-operation."

and join the common struggle for the complete elimination of racism and colonialism on the African continent," he added.

Zhao said that the African countries and peoples "are making constant efforts, through various means, to unify their positions to strive for 'speaking with one voice' in the international arena. Many leaders of the African countries hold the view that within the third world countries efforts should be made to constantly strengthen unity and co-operation and, by getting rid of outside interferences and through patient peaceful negotiations, iron out their differences and solve their disputes. We highly appraise such a spirit of taking the interests of the whole into account and of maintaining unity." He stressed, "To us third world countries, our strength lies in our unity."

Premier Zhao paid high tribute to the gigantic efforts made by the African peoples to develop their national economy and culture.

He said that many African countries are in serious difficulties particularly because some developed countries try to shift their economic crises on to others. He expressed deep concern over this situation but said that these difficulties are after all temporary phenomena in the process of development.

"Generally speaking," he went on, "the whole continent of Africa, except the corner of southern Africa, has entered a new historical stage characterized by struggles for economic independence, through which to consolidate the political independence. Africa, which had been accused falsely as the 'dark continent' by colonialists in former days, is playing an increasingly important role in international affairs. I am encouraged by such earth-shaking changes in the African continent and full of confidence in its unity, progress and development."

Economic and Technological Co-operation

On economic and technological co-operation among the third world nations, Premier Zhao said that "while striving to change the unfair and unreasonable old international economic order, third world countries, in developing their economies, must rely on their own efforts, take the path and adopt policies most suitable to the conditions of their respective countries and take concrete steps to strengthen economic and technological co-operation among the third world countries, that is, the South-South co-operation. In talks with African leaders, we

hold that such a co-operation is of great strategic significance and has a broad prospect for development."

China Supports the Just Struggle of The People of Southern Africa

Premier Zhao said that he and President Nyerere had a wide-ranging exchange of views on international issues, and the two parties were unanimous in all the questions involved.

African Unity. The Premier said that both Tanzanian President Julius K. Nyerere and he believe that the OAU must and can overcome any difficulty it is facing.

He expressed appreciation of and admiration for President Nyerere's efforts to keep the organization from falling apart. He is convinced that President Nyerere will continue to play a positive role in this aspect, he said.

Namibia. On Namibia, the Premier expressed China's firm support for the Namibian people in their struggle for national independence. China firmly opposes the South African authorities which, with the support of a superpower, are obstructing the implementation of UN resolutions on Namibia and the realization of Namibia's independence. He also said that China is opposed to making Cuba's withdrawal from Angola a prerequisite for South Africa's withdrawal from Namibia and Namibia's independence.

Frontline Countries. Premier Zhao said that China is concerned about the situation of the frontline countries under South Africa's threat. China will take a positive attitude and do everything in its power to help these countries strengthen their political power and defend their national security.

Liberation Organizations in Southern Africa. Referring to China's attitude towards the liberation organizations in southern Africa, Premier Zhao said he had met the leaders of the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC) and the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) in Lusaka, Zambia, and had also met the leaders of the Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania. China supports equally and without discrimination the national-liberation organizations in southern Africa and supports their just struggle against racial discrimination and apartheid.

Asked if there are any differences between China and the Soviet Union in their support for

southern Africa's liberation struggle, Premier Zhao said: "China treats various liberation organizations in the region equally and without discrimination. It is not warm to one faction and cold to another. China also hopes that they would become united. You can judge for yourselves whether there are any differences between China and the Soviet Union on this question, and if there are, what are they."

China and Angola. When asked about the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Angola, Zhao said China supported all the patriotic organizations in Angola during their struggle for national independence. The two countries decided to establish diplomatic relations as both have the same wish and want to develop their friendly relations, he said.

Trade Forms. Asked about his opinion on President Nyerere's proposal of barter trade among third world nations, Premier Zhao said: "I think this is a very important proposal put forward by President Nyerere, which merits attention. It is necessary to take various means and ways to develop South-South co-operation. In short, diversification is called for. So far as trade between China and Tanzania is concerned, we are ready to hold concrete discussions with the Tanzanian Government on this matter."

On Sino-American Relations

Premier Zhao said that the US arms sales to Taiwan are acts of interference in China's internal affairs.

Answering a question on Sino-American relations, Zhao said that the China-US joint communique of August 17, 1982, was an important step in removing obstacles blocking Sino-American relations and that the development of Sino-US relations depends on the conscientious implementation of the joint communique. The communique is important, but action is even more important, he said.

On Sino-Soviet Relations

China wishes to normalize Sino-Soviet relations on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, said Premier Zhao. After mentioning that the two countries were holding consultations at the level of vice-foreign ministers on the improvement of relations between the two countries, he said that China sincerely wishes that the Soviet leaders will make new efforts to remove the obstacles on Sino-Soviet relations.

On Mao Zedong Thought

Premier Zhao said that Mao Zedong Thought remains the guiding principle for all China's actions. It is precisely to restore the true features of Mao Zedong Thought that China is now carrying out reforms. Those who called these reforms "demaosism" are either trying to distort facts or know too little about China, he said.

On Sovereignty Over Hongkong

Premier Zhao stressed that Hongkong is an inalienable part of China; the sovereignty over Hongkong will be recovered when the time is ripe.

At the same time, he said, China will adopt a series of policies to preserve the stability and prosperity of Hongkong.

On the Taiwan Question

On the Taiwan question, the Premier said that China wishes to reunify the country by peaceful means. Under the new Constitution, he said, special administrative regions will be set up. Therefore, after returning to the motherland, Taiwan will enjoy full privileges and the way of life and the system there will remain unchanged. He reiterated that there is only one China and Taiwan is an inalienable part of Chinese territory. "We oppose 'two Chinas' or 'one China, one Taiwan.'" □

(Continued from p. 17.)

agricultural modernization. In effecting the change in measures for projects and biotechnology and in the farming system, strict attention should be paid to preventing ecological equilibrium from damage.

Maximum use of our abundant labour force, and giving full play to manpower. China will combine traditional agronomy with the achievements of modern agricultural science, make the most of the numerous small and simple means of production and facilities so as to reduce energy consumption. For a considerably long period of time to come, China will simultaneously have mechanization, semi-mechanization and hand tools: utilize manpower, animal power, mechanical and electrical power. It will follow a path of labour intensity, low energy consumption, making use of organic fertilizer in key areas and raising per-unit output.

Intensive exploitation. Through effective capital farmland construction, China will raise the rate of land utilization and labour productivity, diversify its economy and make full use of all mountains and rivers. While developing farming, it will increase the proportion of livestock breeding, forestry, fishery and sideline occupations and encourage the development of the processing industries for agricultural and sideline products.

Popularize education in science, technology and culture. An important goal is universal education in the rural areas so that peasants will be able to acquire knowledge of modern agricultural science and technology.

Two Stages

It will take a long time to achieve the above objectives. The first stage will be completed at the end of this century, with the achievement of the following targets.

—The agricultural economic structure will by and large be rationally readjusted, a fairly rapid all-round development of agriculture, forestry, livestock breeding, sideline occupations and fishery will be made and the peasants will be well-off;

—Natural resources and the environment will be effectively protected, ecological relationships will be basically harmonious and the first steps towards ecological equilibrium will be consolidated;

—Many peasants will use agricultural machines suited to various local conditions. Fairly big achievements will be scored in improving seed quality and reorganizing farming;

—The needs of the state for grain, nonstaple food and industrial raw materials will basically be met; the nation's per-capita grain output will increase from the present 330 kilogrammes to about 400 kilogrammes (calculated according to the population figure of 1,200 million by the end of this century); and

—Popularization of agricultural science, education and culture will be initially realized.

The Chinese people will continue to march towards the goal of bringing about a comprehensive socialist modernization of agriculture and that will be the task set for the years after 2000. □

Education in China: The Past Four Years

by Our Correspondents Wei Liming and Li Yongzeng

Departments of education throughout China have been devoting particular efforts in the past few years to expanding pre-school education, strengthening elementary education, reforming middle school programmes and offering extensive vocational training. This special feature focuses on accomplishments and problems in Chinese education since 1978. — Ed.

Nursery School Education

NURSERY school education, neglected in the past, has been emphasized more and more in recent years by government and other agencies. In August 1979, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health, the State Bureau of Labour, the All-China Federation of Trade Unions and the National Women's Federation jointly sponsored a national conference specifically devoted to discuss-

ing child care. In 1981, leading comrades of the Central Committee of the Party, meeting with representatives of Beijing and Tianjin nursery school teachers, pointed out that the quality of nursery school teaching directly influences the future of China and of the Chinese people, so efforts must be made to make it good.

In accordance with the national educational policies and

general objectives for promoting education contained in "Regulations for Nursery School Education," departments of education in October 1981 began emphasizing the need for well-rounded child education that includes physical, intellectual, moral and aesthetic training, so that upon entering elementary school children will already have a good foundation for healthy active growth, both mental and physical.

With Party and government encouragement, the number of nursery schools has grown from 164,000 in 1978 to 170,000 in 1981, 27,000 of which are in urban areas while 143,000 are rural nursery schools. At present, about 10.56 million children attend nursery schools, roughly 15 per cent of the total number of pre-school children in China.

In the past four years, pre-school educators have been stressing the need for teaching that takes full account of the children's age characteristics, and also for improving physical training, nutrition and health care.

Health

"The reason for giving first priority to physical education, is the fact that children at this age are growing rapidly," noted Liu Sixiu, director of the Beijing Mianhua Lane Kindergarten. "They especially need good nutrition and the right amount of exercise to improve physical fitness and co-ordination."



Zhu Huarong, retired primary school teacher of Zizhong County, Sichuan Province, now runs a neighbourhood kindergarten.

This kindergarten, under Beijing Xicheng District's department of education, is located in the quiet, lovely surroundings of a traditional Chinese-style courtyard, filled with tall trees and flowers. It has some 200 children from three to six and a half years of age.

As stipulated in the "Regulations for Nursery School Education" of the Ministry of Education, the content of China's pre-school education is divided into eight segments, "living and health habits, physical activity, ethical values, language, general knowledge, arithmetic, music and art." Differing subjects and needs are specified for the lower, middle, and higher classes. The final year of kindergarten must consolidate the educational content and demands of the first- and second-year classes.

Although this kindergarten's surroundings, facilities, equipment and the qualifications of its teachers are above average, and thus are not entirely typical or representative of nursery schools in general, it is a good example of the direction in which China's nursery schools have been moving in recent years.

Director Liu said that during the "cultural revolution" the kindergarten overstressed political instruction, requiring children to behave like adults, and neglected the need for giving the children a systematic and scientific education. Today, the kindergarten not only teaches children according to the educational guidelines, it also encourages teachers to experiment with new teaching methods.

This kindergarten stipulates that the children spend three hours a day in outdoor activities so that they may



"See my pretty ice flower!" Beijing kindergarten children learn about ice formation by making ice sculptures of different colours.

enjoy the fresh air and nature. The middle class pupils were playing in the garden. The teacher in charge of this class said that this kind of play was in fact a form of physical training, that it taught the children the skill of manoeuvring through low-hanging obstacles.

The kindergarten's kitchen was just in the process of preparing the evening meal. They had already stir-fried dishes of tomatoes and scrambled eggs, and of sliced pork with beans. The director said that the kindergarten made every attempt to meet the national diet standards for the needs of the children.

Aesthetic Training

The higher class of children were in a drawing class. They were drawing pictures of man-made satellites in space. The teacher of this class said that she encouraged her pupils to use their own imaginations, that they could draw man-made satellites they had seen in picture books or elsewhere, or as they imagined them.

An appreciation for beauty is being emphasized more and more in children's education. The kindergarten has music, dancing, drawing and literature classes which teach the children the rudimentary basics and skills of these fields and lead them to take their first steps towards developing a sensitivity, expressiveness and creativity about life around them, about nature, and about literature and art.

When the teachers take the children out in the garden to play, they remind them to observe the natural scenery around them, each blade of grass, each tree. As a result, the children not only knew the names of the trees in the garden, they could also tell you when each kind of tree bloomed and when it bore fruit.

In the classrooms, they had set up their own "nature corners." This was usually a sunny corner of the classroom. One class had planted beautiful flowers, another was raising different coloured goldfish, and

yet another had turtles. Still another class was raising silkworms. The teachers said that the reason for setting up the "nature corners" was to teach the children a love for nature while at the same time training their powers of observation.

The assistant director, Song Zhiqing, said, "In addition to teaching the children a sensitivity for the beauty of music and dance, we first of all want to develop in the pupils' beauty

of mind.' We demand of the pupils courtesy and friendship among themselves, a desire to help their friends and to not laugh at the weaknesses of others. We also teach them to respect their teachers and parents."

This kindergarten has had a good deal of experience and success in this area. I was deeply impressed by the children's respectful courtesy and open frankness with visitors.

Elementary Education

SINCE 1978, elementary education in China has become stronger and more substantial. More than 628,000 primary school teachers have attended in-service-training schools with pay. The state has given out 1,380 million yuan to repair and improve the buildings and facilities of primary schools.

Primary schools throughout China have adopted new textbooks to replace those teaching materials edited locally during the "cultural revolution," which were highly uneven in quality. Courses in ethical values for primary school pupils have been added.

The 1980 "Decision on Problems of Making Elementary Education Universal" of the Party Central Committee and the State Council requires that universal elementary education should be implemented as far as possible by using a diversity of methods before 1990.

An Urban Primary School

Entering the Shijia Lane Primary School in Beijing, one senses the serious and strict yet

lively, bustling atmosphere. In a well-ordered classroom, the pupils were reading aloud after the teacher. On the athletic field, the physical education teacher was leading the pupils in drill formations. The assistant principal, Huang Weiyuan, said that this old school, with a history of more than 80 years, made strict demands on the pupils.

In the school display room, I saw many trophy banners awarded for Beijing primary school physical education and

health competitions. In a glass case, specimens of plants that the teachers had helped the students collect were on display.

Huang told me that in the process of continually improving teaching quality, the homework assignments of the pupils have been reduced, making it possible for the students to participate in more extensive and varied extracurricular activities. One afternoon a week, the school has "interest group" and science and skills group activities. Depending on their individual interests, the pupils may join an embroidery, stamp collecting or handicraft group and learn the rudiments of a skill. The school also regularly organizes "love labour" competitions, knowledge contests, and once a month a drill formation contest. In addition, the students must have physical exercises one hour a day and must do eye exercises designed to prevent nearsightedness three times a day.

While talking about the one-sided emphasis during the past two years on the issue of the rate of pupils that go on to higher



To protect the students' eyesight, teachers of the Beijing Chunshuguan Primary School stress good posture.

grades, Huang observed, "We have always held that in evaluating the graduation qualifications of primary school pupils we should take into account all aspects of a pupil's growth. You cannot tell from grades alone whether or not a child is qualified to graduate. Our graduates not only have very good overall academic grades, their excellent ethical character and physical health also are widely praised. Thus they have an excellent foundation for their future development."

In the Countryside

China today has 140 million children in primary school, but elementary education is not yet fully universal. Although 93 per cent of school-age children enter school, only 65 per cent finish primary school. The drop-out rate is greater in the countryside than in the cities.

There are many reasons for the higher drop-out rate in the countryside. Today, more than 30 years after liberation, it is common for pupils in rural areas to drop out of school because they cannot keep up with their classes, because of family difficulties, or because the school is too far away for first- or second-year primary school pupils to walk. This is not just a recent phenomenon.

As the countryside implemented new forms of production responsibility systems, education ran into new problems, mainly, the problem of teachers.

In China's rural areas, 60 to 70 per cent of the primary school teachers are appointed and paid by their local communities while 30 to 40 per cent are assigned and paid by the state. The government has not made any specific stipulations on the wages of locally appointed

teachers apart from laying down the principle that they should be slightly higher than the actual average income level of other workers in their commune or production brigade. These teachers' wages, therefore had been left entirely to the local communities to determine in accordance with their own conditions.

Before implementing the responsibility system in production, most places used the work-point plus allowance system, under which the teachers were given work-points equal to those of an average commune or brigade worker. At the end of the year, they shared in the distribution of commune profits according to work-points accumulated. They also receive an annual allowance of 250 yuan each which the state provides to such locally appointed teachers.

With the implementation of the responsibility system, the situation changed. The original method of calculating wages according to the work-points of commune members was no longer feasible. In some localities, in addition to giving the entire state allowance to the individuals concerned, the locally appointed teachers, too, were given production responsibilities for a plot of land, just like other members of the commune. After giving a portion of the harvest to the brigade as contracted, they kept the rest and received no further income from the commune or brigade. Thus some teachers paid less attention to teaching and concentrated their efforts on planting their fields.

Another aspect of the problem is that in those places where living conditions are still very difficult, the people must first solve the problem of adequate food and shelter. During the



Believing that every child deserves a chance to study, Li Jingchun, a rural teacher in Shandong Province, has carried a paralysed child to and from school for four years.

reign of the gang of four, family sideline occupations were forbidden, so able children could not help out. After the economic policies for the countryside were relaxed, more older children began returning home to help with the farming. This is another reason for the higher drop-out rate of school children in the countryside.

Yet another factor is the problem that pupils have if their studies are interrupted even temporarily. Those who have not attained a good foundation in the first and second years of school find it increasingly difficult to study in succeeding years. They lose confidence in their abilities to learn, quit school and return home. This problem is related to the severe

damage done to education during the 10 years of the "cultural revolution," to the falling quality of teachers in the countryside, and to difficulties in setting up and running schools.

Ji Zhijian of the Department of Elementary Education of the Ministry of Education said that one serious problem facing Chinese elementary education at present is that of how to adapt universal elementary education in the countryside to this new production responsibility system.

Today, of the more than 2,100 counties in China, some 600 have universal primary school education. Some counties already have considerable experience in making elementary education universal.

For example, to solve the problem of the high drop-out rate of primary school pupils, Quanjiao County in Anhui Province besides having a well-run full-time primary school has mobilized all its production brigades to set up spare-time primary schools so that children can attend a nearby school. This county also adjusts the school schedule to the agricultural busy seasons so that children may return home to work in the fields.

In 1980 this county instituted a remuneration system for locally appointed teachers in which each production brigade determined a monthly wage standard for teachers of 30 or 40 yuan, depending upon the production level of the brigade and the abilities of the teachers. That portion of their wages which came from the state subsidy was given directly to the teachers, and the rest they received at the end of the year when the brigade profits were distributed. The locally appointed teachers were not given production responsibilities for

plots of land. This county also built new school buildings using both brigade funds and government assistance and set up a work-study programme for teachers and pupils. In 1981, this county achieved a 96 per cent rate for school-age children

entering primary school and a graduation rate of 74.3 per cent.

Departments of education are currently studying and synthesizing the experience of successful programmes so that they may be applied more widely in China's countryside.

Secondary Education

IN the past three years, secondary school education in China has been undergoing adjustments and reforms to strengthen junior middle school education and to control the tendency towards the blind development of senior middle schools. Vocational courses are being added to secondary school curricula and many vocational and technical secondary schools are being founded.

The adjustments and reforms have been necessary because, during the "cultural revolution," specialized vocational and technical secondary schools were badly hurt or eliminated, creating a tendency which left conventional middle schools as the sole form of secondary education.

On the other hand, the yearly student enrolment capacity of higher education today is limited. Of the millions of students graduating each year from the senior middle schools, only 4 to 6 per cent can enter institutions of higher learning. Large numbers of those who cannot go on to college have no vocational or technical training, making it difficult for them to find suitable jobs. Thus reforms in the structure of secondary education are designed to allow the educational system to better meet the needs of China's construction and modernization.

Moving in the Right Direction

After a period of reorganization, in 1979 the secondary



Guided by their teacher, students of the Beijing Shiyuan Middle School conduct a chemistry experiment.

schools began moving in the right direction. The Beijing Experimental Middle School, with a history of more than 60 years, in this year formulated a three-year plan to change the features of the school.

The Experimental Middle School is one of China's current 5,000 key middle schools. The guidelines for running a key school are based on China's present economic conditions and needs. Having limited resources, it is necessary to concentrate manpower and funds by investing somewhat more in those schools which have better foundations. The relationship between these schools and ordinary middle schools is one of mutual encouragement and study.

The assistant principal of the Experimental Middle School, Wang Benzong, said that during the period of reorganization, the school adopted three ways for raising the professional level of the teachers. First, some of the younger teachers were sent to study full-time two to four years in institutions of higher learning. Second, some teachers were selected for part-time training at district or municipal teacher in-service-training schools. Third, the older teachers were taking younger teachers under their wings to advise them and pass on their experience. Those who were studying, whether full-time or part-time, continued to receive their full salaries.

It was also at this time that the school's laboratories and library were reopened. In accordance with the stipulations in the Middle School Teaching Programme, the school spent more than 40,000 yuan to replace all the laboratory equipment that



A Beijing Hotel chef demonstrates for a culinary class of the Beijing No. 158 Middle School.

had been destroyed during the "cultural revolution."

Since 1980, departments of education have adopted measures to strengthen political classes and political and ideological work in middle schools. New courses were added including: junior middle school courses, "Youth Training" (first year), "General Understanding of the Law" (second year), and "Brief History of Social Development" (third year); and senior middle school courses, "Elementary Political Economy" (first year) and "Dialectical Materialism" (second year).

Assistant Principal Wang said that education in ethical values and in the philosophy of life had brought about clear changes in the thinking of the students. Last year, one of the students in a first year senior middle school class lost both parents in a fire. Upon hearing the news, the students in his class and other classes raised a donation of more than 400 yuan to help him buy new bedding and daily necessities. His class held a meeting to discuss the

topic, "Flames have no feelings, people have feelings." Some of the students who had formerly thought that "humanity is selfish by nature" changed their attitudes.

Overcoming Onesidedness

Since 1977 when college entrance examinations were restored, they have been an annual topic of intense interest. The proportion of students accepted to college became the only criterion for judging the quality of a middle school. Since the Experimental Middle School was a key middle school, this almost inevitably added to the psychological burden of teachers and students alike.

In order to attain a high rate of college entrances, some of the teachers mercilessly swamped the students with huge quantities of facts and assigned a great deal of homework. Some students studied so hard for the examinations, working on their assignments late into the night, that they badly lacked adequate sleep.

Assistant Principal Wang said that this situation brought about three serious problems. First, the scope of knowledge learnt became very narrow, students studied only what would be useful for the examinations and nothing else. Second, they learnt by rote, simply memorizing whatever was required for the examinations. Third, the psychological burden became so heavy that it affected the students' mental and physical health.

The great majority of both students and teachers resented this onesided emphasis on raising the proportion of students passing the college entrance examinations. Since 1979, this school has insisted that it is necessary to adhere to the Middle School Teaching Programme, that the pace of teaching should not be accelerated. At the same time, emphasis was placed on improving classroom teaching methods to raise its quality, and on reducing the students' homework assignments.

This problem attracted the attention of the public and of departments of education. In January 1982, Jiang Nanxiang, then Minister of Education, in an article specifically addressing this problem, noted, "Today, the problem in both society and the schools, of seeking solely to raise the proportion of students entering college and the corresponding excessive burden on the students, urgently requires solution." He also pointed out that this phenomenon has been caused by the disproportionate development between higher education and middle school education. "The huge number of middle school graduates and the very small number of places available in the colleges has created an unprecedented sharp

contradiction and this intense competition," he said.

In early 1982, the Ministry of Education addressed this problem in a notice to the departments concerned throughout the country, calling on them not to seek solely to increase the proportion of students accepted to college.

This tendency has already been corrected, due in part to the fact that departments of education are upholding the correct educational guidelines and implementing the Party's

educational policy of all-round development, and in part to reforms in the structure of secondary education. More specialized secondary schools, agricultural middle schools and vocational technical schools have been opened, making it possible for more students to master specific production skills during their middle school years, giving them a good foundation for future jobs. (See *Beijing Review*, No. 42, 1982, pp. 23-28, "Tailoring Education to Fit China," for a more in-depth review of secondary school reforms.)

Higher Education

THE tasks of higher education in China since 1978 have primarily been to restore some of the pre-"cultural revolution" aspects of the system, to re-establish normal teaching routines, to raise the quality of teaching. More specifically, this has been accomplished by restoring the college entrance examination system and enrolling more students in alternative forms of higher education; by restoring faculty titles and promotion procedures; by revising teaching syllabuses and teaching programmes, and editing standardized nationwide teaching materials; by establishing the system of academic degrees; by instituting many specialized elective courses; by stressing the all-round ethical, intellectual and physical development of students; by strengthening the teaching of patriotism and of communist thought.

The six classes admitted between 1977 and 1982 via the national entrance exams, totalling some 1.85 million students, have already graduated nearly 600,000 persons of diverse talents. By the end of 1981, China had 704 institutions of



Newly promoted associate professor Jin Kaicheng, Beijing University, teaches Chinese literature and has published 30 essays and two books since 1977.

higher learning, an increase of 106 since 1978, with an enrolment of 1.28 million regular full-time students, plus another 1.35 million persons enrolled in various adult higher education classes.

To better understand this issue, let us visit Beijing University in the northwestern suburbs of China's capital.

A Chat With Two Associate Deans

"This year, we bade farewell to nearly 3,000 students in undergraduate school. They

were the first graduates of those who were enrolled by the restored national entrance examinations." observed the two associate deans, 51-year-old Chen Shouliang and 53-year-old Xia Ziqiang.

Beijing University, one of China's key comprehensive arts and sciences universities under the Ministry of Education, currently has 10,700 students, all of whom were enrolled through the national entrance examinations.

"Beginning in 1978, we started to restore the system of faculty titles and promotions. Two groups of faculty members have had their titles restored or have been promoted."

At present, the entire university has nearly 2,800 faculty members, of whom 134 are full professors, 516 are associate professors, and 1,473 are lecturers. "One of the main problems with the faculty of our university is the fact that the core of our faculty is rather old in age. Our full professors have an average age of nearly 70. Too few of the core faculty are middle-aged or younger. Another problem is the uneven composition of the faculty. In some fields we have no faculty, in others a surplus. Thus, we have an urgent need to reorganize."

In order to provide the nation with highly competent personnel, Beijing University is revising its teaching guidelines and plans. Dean Xia said that "the main function of a university's undergraduate courses is to provide a good foundation and at the same time to give essential professional training." Compared with the past, the university's objectives today put more emphasis on strengthening and broadening the student's foundation so that he or

Academic Degree System

In 1981, China instituted the system of bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees, in the 10 fields of philosophy, law, literature, history, economics, education, science, engineering, agriculture and medicine. The Academic Degree Committee of the State Council which directs the awarding of degrees nationwide, has empowered institutions of higher learning and the relevant research institutes to establish degree evaluation committees, to organize thesis and dissertation defence committees, and to implement the actual work of conferring degrees.

she may adapt to a wider range of jobs and professional demands. Teaching methods also have undergone corresponding changes. First, specialized professional courses have been greatly expanded and basic courses have been strengthened. Second, many elective courses have been added so that they now constitute not less than 20 per cent of a student's course-load. Third, hands-on training has been strengthened. Social science and humanities students do field work while students of the natural sciences work in the laboratories. These changes are designed to help graduates respond better to the many sided needs of the nation in their respective fields, and to give them a foundation for further development as advanced specialists.

China has always recognized the great importance of university research activities. Beijing University has 15 specialized research institutes, which in the past four years have completed nearly 100 research projects which have won state awards, and have presented more than 1,000 theses and papers at scholarly conferences or in

periodicals, both at home and abroad. Their teaching materials include the most recent research findings. From 1978 through 1981 the university has edited and published a total of 206 volumes of arts and natural science teaching materials to be used in institutions of higher learning throughout the nation.

The students of Beijing University are of very high quality. Of the 1,500 graduates of the 1978 entering class, nearly one-third passed the examination for master's degree candidates. Of the 1,100 graduates of the entering class of 1977, nearly all received bachelor degrees.

The associate deans explained that these fine achievements were primarily the result of the students' own efforts. However, there was something of a tendency for students to bury their heads in their books without any regard for others. Among a few students this has produced an attitude of bourgeois liberalism which must be addressed by strengthening the inculcation of ideological consciousness. Through the teaching of modern history and by comparing the history of society old and new, the university cultivates in the students a faith in communism and a correct outlook on life.

The main campus of Beijing University, located in the north-western suburbs of the city, is a residential university. Since 1979, two branches of the university have been established within the city proper for commuter students. The figures show that the cost to the state is 8,000 to 10,000 yuan for each regular resident student from admittance to graduation, while that for a tuition-paying commuter student is only 400 to 800 yuan, and that for a corespond-

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ence student is a mere 150 yuan. Given the current shortage of funds for education, in order to educate more people, the state is emphasizing various forms of alternative schooling. Since 1977, the state has successively established television universities, correspondence universities and spare-time universities. The number of students enrolled in these alternative universities has already surpassed the number attending regular full-time universities.

A College Student's Day

"I get up at six in the morning, go to the classroom at 6:30 and use this period of time before the start of classes to study foreign languages," said Han Zhigang, a meteorology major of the 1979 entering class, introducing the way his school day is arranged. Han, 20 years of age, is 1.82 metres tall, has a healthy, dark complexion and sturdy physique, resembling his herdsman family from the grasslands of Inner Mongolia.

"Classes start at 7:30. This morning the lecture was on atmospheric optics. This is a required course in my major field. The lecture syllabus, edited six months ago, is revised once every year but the professor frequently adds new materials during his lectures." Han showed me his six full pages of notes, the beginning of which were crammed with impressive formulas and symbols. Because the new materials are related to current production and research, the students find them very interesting.

After the exercise break in the morning, Han's next class was computer programming. This was a limited-elective course, one among a number of courses from which the students had to choose one. Another kind of course is the unlimited-

elective course which any student is free to take. Han said that the school had more than 100 elective subjects. So many students in both the arts and sciences liked the sociology courses that the school had to move the classes into an auditorium accommodating more than 500 persons.

After four morning classes, the students are mentally ex-



Han Zhigang in the library.

hausted so they take a short noontime nap after lunch. The dormitory has small rooms; 12 square metres in size with four double-decker bunk beds against the wall on two sides of the room where Han and his six roommates sleep. Although every inch of space is piled high with their things, the students seem accustomed to their cramped quarters.

Since Han usually has no classes in the afternoon, he hurries over to the library. This library, one of the best in the nation, has 3.3 million volumes of books, and 16 reading rooms with more than 2,000 seats.

Between five and six in the afternoon is the most lively time on the campus. Even the most diligent students come out to move around. Everywhere there are students playing bad-

minton, table tennis, volleyball, basketball and soccer. Han and his fellow students really enjoy these activities.

All levels of education in China emphasize well-rounded moral, intellectual and physical development. This has already been written into the new Constitution. Han and his fellow students believe that "since it is the labour of the people that makes it possible for us to attend college, we should work hard to live up to our position as college students." Han receives a monthly student subsidy of 19.5 yuan. Since the dormitory is free, after paying for his meals, he still has a little money left over. Of the 17 students in his class, 12 receive this subsidy.

After supper, the students spend another two to three hours in the library before going to bed.

"Science students also have many other interests," Han explained. "Some of those in my class like literature, history, or military science. Some like to play bridge. We also like Western classical and light music, and historical and general knowledge films. Before going to sleep we do *taijiquan* (shadow-boxing) exercises."

The undergraduate programme is a four-year course. Han Zhigang will graduate next year. Asked about his plans, he replied, "Including myself, 15 in my class have already expressed the intention to take the examinations for the master's degree graduate studies. If I don't pass, of course I'd like to stay in Beijing where the job and study conditions are somewhat better. But if I'm assigned to Inner Mongolia, I'd agree without any hesitation, because I'm needed there, too." □

Sculptures by Pan He

A native of Nanhai County, Guangdong Province, 57-year-old Pan He now teaches at the Guangzhou Institute of Fine Arts.

He specializes in sculpting historical images. *Strike* depicts a worker from the 20s, and *A Peasant*, detail of a sculpture on the War of Resistance Against Japan, shows a face enraged at the Japanese imperialists. His sculptures draw on his own memories and are realistic and unique.



A Peasant.



Strike.



A Girl.



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