

BEIJING REVIEW

北京周報

A CHINESE WEEKLY OF
NEWS AND VIEWS

- China's Women Intellectuals
- Contract System in Rural Jiangsu
- Guo Moruo's Heritage Reviewed



LETTERS

Aid to Understanding China's Construction

I have read *Beijing Review* every week since 1970 and find its articles valuable for understanding your achievements in socialist construction and related problems. In recent years, the statistical figures have been very useful, and I hope to see more from various fields. This would be to China's advantage, because these figures are not only useful to readers' understanding of your country, but they help to dispel rumours.

It is a good idea to include official documents as supplements. Would you please give more coverage to news on the economy and science? I think these are also important.

Occasionally, I have found some small mistakes in your magazine. You are improving, I notice.

By the way, I'm worried about certain trends in your country. In Western countries, Europeans attribute epidemic diseases to the growing consumption of cigarettes, sugar and meat. Now I read that the output of tobacco and sugar in China has increased greatly. This leaves me unhappy and uneasy.

China is building a spiritual civilization. But expenditures on cigarettes, meat and sugar are

contrary to raising spiritual quality. This can be proved just by looking at the situation of Western people. Buddhist priest Hai Deng at the Shaolin Temple is in good health. He is a living example of good health through a vegetarian diet, which other people should follow. Could you publish an article on Chinese vegetarian principles?

Besides news on economics, society, politics and culture, I also hope to find articles on many other subjects in your magazine, such as:

— A study of China's rare and extinct animals, such as elephants, sturgeons, giant cobras, Manchurian tigers, and dinosaurs, as well as the varieties of dogs and cats in China;

— The remains of the Yetis ("Abominable Snowman") in Tibet and Neanderthal Man in Xinjiang (Tianshan Mountains), Inner Mongolia and other places;

— The various skills of *qigong* (a system of deep breathing exercises);

— A study of psychology in China;

— The exploration of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) in China.

I major in anthropology and sociology. I sincerely hope I can soon read articles on the above subjects in *Beijing Review*.

Your effective work has informed the world of China's achievements, and contributes to the de-

velopment of revolutionary thinking, which we are short of these days.

Jean Michel Hermans
Paris, France

Collecting Facts About China

First I would like to tell you that I am a university student, and for a long time I have taken an interest in studying and collecting facts about Chinese history, education, politics, etc. In secondary schools in Argentina we learn very little about you, but I have saved a lot of materials.

The article which most interested me was the one about a young inventor. The "Documents" section is also really useful.

The first time I received *Beijing Review* was through the Chinese Embassy to Argentina.

Stella Maris Palacio
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Some Articles Lacking Personality

I generally find *Beijing Review* very interesting, but some of the articles are flat and lacking personality. The series on "Chinese-Type Modernization" and the "Facts and Figures" column are too long and academic.

The layout, photographs and illustrations could all be more striking and artistic.

I enjoyed the article "1982, a Year of Mounting Troubles" in Nos. 1 and 2.

Paul Delmas
Toulouse, France

More Reports on Latin America

I am very satisfied with the articles you publish on the cultural and social policies of your country, and haven't a thing to say against them.

It would be a positive thing to add articles pertaining to Latin America in your international section. There are many people like myself who are interested in this subject.

Your distribution system is excellent, and I always get your magazine in the post within eight days.

Alirio Humberto Wilches Lopez
Tunja, Colombia

Chinese Documents

The First Session of the Sixth National People's Congress

- Report on Government Work
- Report on 1983 Plan for Development
- Report on 1982 Final State Accounts
- New Government Leadership

Published by the Foreign Languages Press, Beijing
Distributed by China Publications Centre (Guoji Shudian),
P.O. Box 399, Beijing, China

BEIJING REVIEW

Published every Monday by
BEIJING REVIEW
24 Baiwanzhuang Road, Beijing
The People's Republic of China

Vol. 26, No. 48 November 28, 1983

CONTENTS

LETTERS

NOTES FROM THE EDITORS 4-5

Getting ready to open up
northwest China

EVENTS & TRENDS 5-9

National symposium on Mao
Zedong Thought

First Japanese company set up
Incomes rising for minority
peasants

More railways to be built
China is elected IMO council
member

Botswana's President pays visit
to China

Hu Yaobang meets Korean
youth group

US resolution on "Taiwan's
future" protested

INTERNATIONAL 10-13

Kampuchea: New message
from the battlefield

Washington-Tokyo: Strengthen-
ing their partnership

Reagan's tour harmful to Ko-
rean stability

The Two Germanys: Stronger
ties sought amid tension

United States: Criminals must
be duly punished

China: Women Intellectuals Advance 14

Economic Newsletter (2): Re- sponsibility System Revives Jiangsu Countryside 17

Remembrances of the Well- Digger 22

Research on Guo Moruo, a Cul- tural Giant 24

CULTURE & SCIENCE 29-30

ART PAGE 31

Distributed by China Publications
Centre (GUOJI SHUDIAN),

P. O. Box 399, Beijing, China

Subscription prices (1 year):

Australia A. \$12.00 USA US\$13.00

New Zealand . . . NZ. \$14.00 UK £ 6.80

Canada Can. \$15.00

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Perspective of Northwest China's Development

Rich yet hitherto underdeveloped, northwest China will be built into an important economic base in the 21st century. At present, efforts will be concentrated on developing forestry, animal husbandry and farming and on making preparations for tapping the region's natural resources on a large scale (p. 4).

National Symposium on Mao Zedong Thought

While reaffirming the leader's theoretical contributions, the 500 participants in this symposium agreed that Mao Zedong Thought is the crystallization of the collective wisdom of the Chinese Communists. The symposium, held in Nanning from Nov. 5 to 12, is one of the many activities marking the forthcoming 90th birthday of the late Chairman Mao (p. 5).

China Protests US Senate Resolution

The Chinese Government has lodged a strong protest with the US Government against the recent resolution on "Taiwan's future" passed by the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The full text is printed in this issue (p. 9).

Role of Women Intellectuals

The emancipation of Chinese women is evident in many aspects of life today. But conflicts between career and family, and problems of discrimination still exist. The growth, achievements and difficulties of China's women scientists and technicians are discussed in interviews with delegates to the recent National Women's Congress (p. 14).

Responsibility System in Rural Jiangsu

The second article in a three-part series describes the profound change that has occurred in rural Jiangsu since the production responsibility system was adopted in 1979 (p. 17).

Research on Guo Moruo

Chinese scholars are studying Guo Moruo (1892-1978), one of the major fighters of the proletarian cultural movement, as a writer, poet, dramatist and historian. A nationwide research society was founded last May. Also in this article is a list of his published works (p. 24).



Associate Professor Hu Meijie of Beijing University (second from left), who contributed to successfully synthesizing yeast alanine T-RNA for the first time in China in 1981.

Photo by Yang Wumin

NOTES FROM THE EDITORS

Getting ready to open up northwest China

Rich with natural resources, the vast, hitherto desolate northwest China will be built into one of the nation's important economic bases in the 21st century. Therefore, preparations must begin now for the large-scale construction which will start at the turn of this century.

This major strategic decision, now high on the state agenda, was announced by Hu Yaobang and Zhao Ziyang during their respective July and August visits to Qinghai and Gansu Provinces and the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.

Northwest China, which also includes Shaanxi Province and the Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, covers 2.97 million square kilometres, or 30 per cent of China. Its 69.35 million inhabitants make up 7 per cent of the national population. While Shaanxi Province is predominantly a Han area, the rest of northwest China are inhabited by minority nationalities in compact communities.

This region has changed tremendously since liberation in 1949. The highland province of Qinghai, for example, had no railroad at all before liberation, handicapped as it was by its dry, freezing weather; today the Xining-Lanzhou and Xining-Golmud railways run across its high mountains, vast tracts of desert and pebbly wasteland and marshlands dotted with salt lakes. Highways have reached all its counties and most of its communes; and civil air lines now link the province with the rest of the country. In the past

Qinghai's only industry was eight handicraft workshops; today it has 1,300 enterprises in petroleum, chemical, electronics and other industries, with the fixed assets multiplying 300 times in the intervening years. Grain output has more than tripled and the number of livestock has increased by 2.9-fold. Many new cities and towns have sprung up on what used to be a vast expanse of wilderness.

But most of the northwest is still underdeveloped. There are many mountains waiting to be forested, transportation is still primitive on the pebbly wasteland, desert and grassland, and the local people still live in poverty.

This situation obviously has much to do with the fact that the region's abundant natural resources are not being fully utilized. The plentiful runoff from the many snowcapped mountains and glaciers, for example, augurs well for future hydropower development; and the tremendous reserves of coal, oil and natural gas are waiting to be tapped. Northwest China boasts the world's largest potassium chloride deposits and many other metal and non-metal minerals which are rare in the economically developed coastal areas. When these resources are fully tapped, they will certainly bring vast improvements to the material and cultural lives of the local people and give a powerful impetus to the national economy.

Preparations for the forthcoming major construction projects will proceed mainly in the following two directions:

First, we must stop putting undue emphasis on grain production and let farming develop hand in hand with forestry and animal husbandry. First of all, persistent efforts should be made to plant trees and grass throughout the region, so as to restore the disrupted ecosystem. The pastureland should be improved and fine breeds of livestock should be propagated to pave the way for the development of animal husbandry. Then we can further expand agriculture, commerce and the industries for processing farm produce, animal by-products and local specialties — all with the aim of activating the local economy and improving the people's lives as quickly as possible. Where the state and collectives cannot afford to reclaim the barren mountains, the local people are encouraged to do so. They are allowed to keep what they have thus reaped, and their children may inherit the wealth they have accumulated.

Second, we must create favourable conditions for tapping the mineral resources. The local governments should, while cooperating the construction of key projects financed by the state, use their own limited funds, materials and labour power to develop energy resources, build transportation and communications and other basic facilities, and explore for natural resources. They should also develop their light industry and expand the production of consumer goods the local minority people need every day.

National symposium on Mao Zedong Thought

To fulfil these tasks, a large contingent of professional personnel must be trained, and preferential provisions should be offered to encourage scientists and technicians from the coastal areas to lend a hand in the construction of northwest China.

The call to open up the northwest has received a positive response from all over the country. Since the Chinese press announced this strategic decision on August 4, Qinghai Province alone has received applications from 20,000 volunteers to participate in this endeavour. In the last couple of years, 15,000 citizens of Shanghai have returned to Xinjiang, where they had worked during the 1960s as educated youths, a clear indication of their increased confidence in the future of the development of this region.

It has been the dearest dream of many veteran revolutionaries to build the vast northwest China into an integral part of an industrialized China. Today we have set about working out the blueprints. Eventually this cherished dream will come true through the work of this generation and the next.

— Economic editor Jin Qi.



Participants at the recent national symposium on Mao Zedong Thought held that it is the crystallization of the collective wisdom of the Chinese Communists. With Mao as its major representative, Mao Zedong Thought has guided the Chinese revolution and socialist construction to victory.

The symposium, held in Nanning from Nov. 5-12, received more than 300 papers on the great Marxist Mao Zedong's contributions to philosophy, military thinking, Party building, the united front, socialist construction, independence and self-reliance, especially his ideas about relying on the masses and seeking truth from facts.

Sponsored by the Party History Research Centre of the CPC Central Committee and the National Party History Society (with a membership of 10,000), the symposium marks the forthcoming 90th birthday of Mao Zedong (December 26). About 500 theoreticians attended. Many theoreticians in local Party history research institutes, Party schools, army colleges and institutes of higher learning held their own symposia earlier in the year, in preparation for the national one.

One of the society's major tasks is to study the new developments in Mao Zedong Thought. They concluded that since Mao's death in 1976, and especially since the Third Plenary Session of the Party's 11th Central Committee in 1978, the Party has achieved outstanding results in upholding and developing Mao Zedong Thought. An excellent example is the re-

cently published *Selected Works of Deng Xiaoping*.

Experts at the symposium also discussed Mao's theoretical contributions. Many papers dealt with his ideas on building a socialist China, including Chinese-type modernization, industrialization, democracy for the people and within the Party, building ideology and culture and theories of building the Party. Papers were also presented on shifting the focus of the nation's work to economic construction after completing the socialist transformation of private ownership of the means of production, and the correct exposition of basic contradictions in socialist society.

Speaking at the symposium, Liao Gailong, deputy head of the centre, summed up the developments in Mao Zedong Thought since 1978:

- Regarding modernization of the economy, a high degree of political democracy and socialist culture and ethics as the major tasks for the socialist construction;

- With economic construction as the nation's major work, carrying out the policy of opening to the outside world and new policies to activate the economy at home;

- Practising democracy in political life and setting up a socialist legal system to ensure socialist democracy;

- Educating people in communist thinking and promoting the revolutionary spirit of serving the people wholeheartedly;

- Reforming and perfecting

the various Party and state systems, according to careful planning;

- Rectifying the Party's style of work and consolidating its organizations, thereby making the Party a strong core of leadership in the socialist modernization drive.

- Following the ideological line of seeking truth from facts and the line of relying on the masses in work.

First Japanese company set up

The first business run exclusively by Japanese investment, the Sanyo (Shekou) Company, began operation in China's Guangdong Province on October 31.

The enterprise was set up by the Sanyo Electric Co. Ltd. of Japan at the Shekou industrial district in the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone. It will produce tape recorders, quartz watches, luminous electronic diodes and other products in six factories, of which three are controlled by Japanese investment and the other three by joint Sino-Japanese investment. All of their 1,000 workers were recruited from Guangdong Province.

The Sanyo (Shekou) Company assumes sole responsibility for its profits and losses, and pays taxes to the Chinese Government.

The Sanyo Electric Co. Ltd. of Japan began investigating the prospects for investment in China in 1979. In April this year it decided to set up an enterprise at Shekou. It took only six months to cover the whole process from negotiating to starting construction.

Now the Japanese Sanyo Group is expanding its investment at Shekou. It has reached an initial agreement with the department concerned in Guangdong Province to run an air-conditioner factory.

Since the Shekou industrial district was completed in 1981, 65 co-operation agreements have been concluded with the United States, Norway, Japan, Switzerland and Singapore as well as Xianggang (Hongkong).

State Councillor Gu Mu sent a message of congratulations on the opening of the company. He expressed the hope that the Sanyo (Shekou) Company would pay attention to productivity and quality while introducing advanced equipment to China and helping train good managers.

Kaoru Iue, President of the Sanyo Electric Co. Ltd., said he would make the new enterprise a model in China.

Earlier, in Guangdong and Fujian Provinces, there were already some 30 enterprises financed exclusively by overseas Chinese.

Incomes rising for minority peasants

Peasants and herdsmen in the national minority areas netted a

per-capita income of 248 yuan in 1982, up 37.9 per cent over 1980. Of that, per-capita income from the collective averaged 111.3 yuan, up 50.8 per cent against 1978, according to figures published by the State Statistical Bureau after an investigation of 610 minority counties this month.

The increase was attributed to the new rural policies implemented since 1979, and more state support in the forms of financial subsidies, reduction or exemption of state taxes and material and human resources. For example, between 1980 and 1982, the state allocated 1.91 billion yuan for Tibet, averaging 1,000 yuan per person.

China's minority people live mainly in the southwest and northwest, where the economy has so far lagged behind the Han-inhabited areas for various historical and geographical reasons.

But recently the rural economy in these areas has picked up. Calculating according to 1980 constant prices, agricultural output was valued at 28.1 billion yuan in 1982, up 33.7 per cent over 1978. Grain output reached 37.45 million tons, up 19.9 per cent against 1978. Two and a half times more cotton was produced in 1982 than in 1978, and oil- and sugar-bearing crops as well as other cash crops more than doubled their output.

Tibetan herdsmen sell milk to the state.



In 1982, each agricultural worker in these areas produced goods to the value of 702 yuan, a 13 per cent increase over 1978. For every 100 yuan spent, the net income was 335 yuan, 45 per cent better than in 1978.

Altogether 7.5 billion yuan worth of farm and sideline products was purchased from these areas, 78.8 per cent more than in 1978.

Food, clothing, housing and daily necessities have all improved for minority peasants and herdsmen in these areas.

The rural economic development, however, is still unbalanced in the minority areas, and in some mountainous areas where production is underdeveloped, the life of the peasants and herdsmen there is still relatively poor, the report of the State Statistical Bureau pointed out.

Effective measures will be taken to tap the resources of the mountains and further the economy in these regions, the report said.

More railways to be built

Ten new railways will be built in the next two or three years, as part of a plan to lay 10,000 more kilometres of track by 1990. Three of these lines will be electrified, as China sets its sights on a complete network of modernized railways by the end of the century.

The new construction will be concentrated on coal transportation in Shanxi Province, China's biggest coal centre, the Inner

Mongolian Autonomous Region and Shaanxi and Henan Provinces. The plan is to lengthen China's railway lines from the present 50,000 kilometres to 60,000 kilometres by the end of the next decade.

The three new railways planned for Shanxi include a heavy-duty line, the first of its kind in China, which can carry twice the freight at doubled speed of ordinary tracks. The new line, from Datong to Qinhuangdao, will, together with the other two, add 1,128 kilometres of new track to the province. By 1990, 20 railway lines including six electrified and four double-track railways in Shanxi will carry three times the current 95 million tons of coal annually.

A fifth north-south trunk line stretching more than 1,000 kilometres from Beijing to Jiujiang, Jiangxi Province, is also slated for completion by 1990.

However, the need for new railway lines intensifies the need for trains to run on them. At present, only one quarter of China's railways and one-third of its major marshalling yards are operating at full capacity. Railway stations throughout the country load only 60,000 trains a day, 20,000 fewer than are needed. This year's railway freight is expected to reach 1,140 million tons, 11 times what it was in 1950.

Passenger trains are also heavily used. China's railways now carry 3 million passengers each day, and 1,000 million people are expected to ride the trains this year. That is 6.6 times the number in 1950.

To meet this growing demand, China is also launching a pro-

gramme to improve its railway equipment, especially engines. High-power and internal combustion locomotives will be developed, along with new kinds of passenger and freight cars. Facilities will also be developed to increase the loading capacity of freight trains, and the percentage of heavy-duty rails will be increased.

Investment for these projects comes either from the central government, local governments, or jointly from both. Foreign loans are also being used. For example, the railways currently under construction from Beijing to Qinhuangdao and from Yanzhou to Shijiusuo are using loans supplied by the Japan Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund. China is also negotiating with foreign banks to obtain loans for laying and electrifying railways, and building and expanding locomotive plants.

China is elected IMO council member

China was elected a council member of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) of the United Nations at the organization's 13th assembly on Nov. 11.

Delegations from 105 member countries and representatives from more than 30 world organizations attended the assembly, which was held in London from Nov. 7 to 18. The Chinese delegation, headed by Qian Yongchang, Vice-Minister of Communications, attended the assembly.



President Li Xiannian meets with President Masire.

Botswana's President pays visit to China

President Quett K.J. Masire of Botswana visited China from Nov. 13 to 21, at the invitation of President Li Xiannian. The distinguished guest had visited China in June 1980 as head of the Botswana Democratic Party delegation.

At a banquet in honour of President Masire on Nov. 14, President Li Xiannian, said the Chinese Government and people strongly condemn the South African authorities' racist policies and criminal acts of aggression and expansion, and stand firmly behind the frontline states and the just struggle of the people of southern Africa.

The basic cause of the tension in the region is the stubborn pursuit by the South African authorities of colonialism, racism, aggression and expansion, he said.

Alongside the other frontline states in Africa, President Li said, Botswana has consistently and resolutely supported the peoples of Namibia and South Africa in their struggles for national independence and against military threats and invasions by the South African racist authorities, for the eradication of colonialism and racism from the African continent and for

the complete liberation of Africa.

President Masire said that South Africa, encouraged by the United States, is now frustrating the international community's efforts to bring about Namibia's independence. The solution to the problems of southern Africa lies in dismantling apartheid in South Africa and colonialism in Namibia, he pointed out.

The prevailing political situation in the world leaves much to be desired, said President Masire. The superpowers' endless competition for world domination and their insatiable appetite for new weapons of mass destruction continue unabated. He called on all the developing countries to pressure these two countries to stop their drift to disaster.

When he met with President Masire on the same day, Premier Zhao Ziyang said the increasingly fierce contention between the two superpowers had made the situation in the Middle East, southern Africa, the Caribbean and other parts of the world more turbulent and tense.

Premier Zhao and President Masire agreed that the relevant

UN resolutions must be implemented and Namibia must be granted independence at an early date. Both sides were opposed to linking the withdrawal of South African troops from Namibia with the stationing of Cuban troops in Angola.

The two leaders said they were satisfied with the development of friendly, co-operative relations between their countries in many fields and expressed their willingness to explore possibilities for expanding co-operation in agriculture, transportation and other fields.

Hu Yaobang, General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee, met with President Masire on Nov. 16.

They also expressed satisfaction with the relationship of mutual trust and mutual support between the two countries, which established diplomatic relations only a few years ago.

During President Masire's visit, the foreign ministers of China and Botswana also exchanged views on the situation in southern Africa and other major international issues.

Hu Yaobang meets Korean youth group

General Secretary Hu Yaobang has told a visiting Korean youth delegation that he hopes the youth of China and Korea will work together and carry on the friendship fostered by their Party elders and hand it down from generation to generation.

Meeting with members of the Socialist Working Youth League of Korea on Nov. 15, Hu said, "The youth of the two countries should strengthen their contacts

and learn from each other to play a positive role in the construction of their countries."

Li Yong Su, head of the delegation and a Member of the

Korean Workers' Party Central Committee, said discussions were held during its visit on how to promote friendship between the youth of both countries.

"We are determined to work together to further this friendship," said Li, who is also Chairman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Working Youth League of Korea.

US Resolution on "Taiwan's Future" Protested

On Nov. 18, Assistant Foreign Minister Zhu Qizhen summoned US Ambassador to China Arthur W. Hummel and lodged a strong protest with the US Government against a resolution on "Taiwan's future" passed by the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The Chinese Government's note of protest reads:

"On Nov. 15, the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee passed a so-called resolution on 'Taiwan's future,' which claims that '... Taiwan's future should be settled peacefully, free of coercion and in a manner acceptable to the people on Taiwan and consistent with the laws enacted by Congress and the communiqués entered into between the United States and the People's Republic of China.'

"This action of the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee constitutes a deliberate infringement on China's sovereignty and an open interference in China's internal affairs, which has aroused the strong indignation of the Chinese people. The Chinese Government hereby lodges a strong protest with the US Government.

"Last March, the Chinese Government made serious representations in connection with the draft resolutions on 'Taiwan's future' brought up in the US Senate and House of Representatives.

"Now, eight months later, when Sino-US relations have just begun to turn for the better, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee has gone so far as to take up this draft resolution again and adopt it as a resolution. One cannot help wondering what exactly is the attitude of the US Government towards improvement of Sino-US relations.

"Taiwan is an inalienable part of China's territory. It is entirely China's internal affairs as to how the Taiwan question should be resolved and the reunification of the motherland achieved, and no foreign country has the right to interfere. It is a gross violation of the basic norms governing international relations and a manifestation of hegemonism for the Foreign Relations Committee of the US Senate to comment unscrupulously on the future of a part of China's territory and even pass a so-called resolution on it. This resolution is in essence designed to per-

petuate the separation of Taiwan from China under the signboard of the so-called 'self-determination' of the people on Taiwan. This is totally incompatible with the principles embodied in the previous Sino-US communiqués and is absolutely unacceptable to the Chinese Government and the entire Chinese people, including the Chinese compatriots on Taiwan.

"The resolution asserts that the Taiwan question should be settled in a manner consistent with the laws enacted by the US Congress, i.e., with the Taiwan Relations Act which gravely contradicts the principles embodied in the Communiqué on the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations Between China and the United States. This is most absurd. It can only raise new obstacles in the relations between the two countries and bring greater damage to them.

"The Chinese Government strongly urges the US Government to immediately take effective measures to prevent further aggravation of the situation. The Chinese Government expects an explicit reply from the US Government."

*Kampuchea***New message from the battlefield**

AS the rains end and the dry season begins, a new message is reaching the world from the Kampuchean battlefield. The National Army and guerrilla forces of Democratic Kampuchea are growing stronger. In the past six months, from May through October, they were able to attack the Vietnamese aggressors far more often than they could during the rainy season a year earlier.

Even the physical boundaries of the war have grown. Across the country, from the provinces of Siem Reap and Preah Vihear in the north to Pursat and Battambang in the west, and Koh Kong in the southwest, there were frequent attacks on the enemy. During August and September, the Democratic Kampuchean forces liberated nine villages in Kompong Som

and Battambang Provinces. A surprise attack on Sept. 23 in Pailin County, Battambang Province, left more than 100 Vietnamese troops dead and six military strongholds destroyed. With this pitched battle, the military activities of the Democratic Kampuchean forces reached a new high.

Strength Conspicuous

Western observers have noticed the National Army's growing ability to maintain the war effort during the rainy season, and some have even noted that this favourable situation is worrying the Vietnamese.

At the same time, another two patriotic armed forces — the Khmer People's National Liberation Front and the National Liberation Movement of Kampuchea — have stepped up their

fighting against the Vietnamese during the most recent rainy season.

The Democratic Kampuchean forces also used the rainy season to carry out raids deep behind the enemy lines with small armed units. These surprise attacks took place even as far as Phnom Penh and its suburbs, posing a grave threat to Vietnamese-occupied areas and in particular the area north of Lake Tonle Sap. It is now reported that the Democratic Kampuchean forces are opening a second front to the east and south of Lake Tonle Sap.

The fighting capability of the Vietnamese troops in the last rainy season has obviously weakened. As in previous years, the physical obstacles brought on by the wet weather made it difficult for them to mount large-scale offensives. Relying on a strategy of defence instead, they withdrew their main forces to the larger cities and communication centres. Occasionally they sent small units to conduct reconnaissance and raids on Democratic Kampuchea's rear bases.

The Vietnamese are frequently deploying troops near the Thai-Kampuchean border, apparently in preparation for large-scale military operations during the dry season. The patriotic armed forces of Kampuchea are exercising vigilance against this. Radio Democratic Kampuchea recently issued a call, urging the army and people of Kampuchea to persist in the war effort during the current dry season, and to initiate attacks against the enemy and win greater victories.

— Chen Guang



Democratic Kampuchean troops set out to attack Vietnamese positions in the rainy season.

Strengthening their partnership

AT the end of US President Ronald Reagan's four-day visit to Japan on Nov. 12, it was clear that though both sides shared common interests in international issues, such as facing the threat of a Soviet global military buildup, neither side was ready to make concessions on vital economic issues.

Reagan's trip to Japan came at a time of international turmoil, with Moscow and Washington sharpening their global rivalry. Reagan and Prime Minister Nakasone stressed the need to strengthen the US-Japanese partnership, and to solidify the unity of Western countries.

In his speech to the Japanese Diet, Reagan underlined the importance of the US-Japanese alliance and Western unity. He said the two countries "can become a powerful partnership for good," explaining that one bow is easy to bend, while three bows are hard to break.

During their talks, Nakasone briefed Reagan on the "Tokyo Statement" he issued jointly with Federal German Chancellor Helmut Kohl on Nov. 1, which also stressed the need to strengthen their co-operative relations and the solidarity of the Western world. Reagan favoured the statement and said it had "very good contents." Combining the concerns of Japan, the United States and Federal Germany, Reagan said Washington will not accept any weapons agreement which transfers the threat of nuclear missiles from Europe to Asia, and he demanded a global reduction of the Soviets' SS-20 intermediate-range missiles. Washington, Tokyo and other Western

countries have pledged to strengthen their co-operation and sustain their defence capabilities while pursuing world peace and stability.

In their talks, both sides focused on Japan's defence capabilities. Reagan demanded that Japan share the responsibilities of defence, and made an emphatic remark on the importance of the Pacific region, over which both countries should exert their influence.

An article in *Tokyo Shimbun* sees this as an attempt to de-

velop the Japanese-US military alliance into a "Pacific alliance." From a strategic point of view, Washington expects the Japanese Government to further increase its own defence capabilities.

On economy and trade, Reagan stressed that the partnership should be based on mutual credit and intercourse. Reagan said only open market and just trade measures can advance economic development and international stability. He complained that Japan's market had not been opened so widely as that of the United States, and expressed concern about Japan's restrictions on imports from the United States.

Reagan's Tour Harmful to Korean Stability

THE US President's three-day visit to south Korea was not conducive to stability on the Korean Peninsula. During his stay, Nov. 12-14, President Ronald Reagan inspected the demilitarized zone dividing the peninsula and addressed the "National Assembly" in Seoul, vehemently attacking the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and advocating the maintenance of US forces in south Korea.

In a joint statement with south Korea on Nov. 13, he said the United States would continue to make available the weapons systems and technology necessary to strengthen south Korea's armed forces. His activities and remarks only aggravate the tension on the peninsula and in no way contribute to the peaceful reunification of Korea.

The independent and peaceful reunification of Korea is the aspiration of the entire Korean people. President Kim Il Sung of the DPRK has already put forward three principles for such a reunification and has proposed a new Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo. This is the only reasonable formula for reunification.

If the United States truly supports stability on the Korean Peninsula, it should withdraw its troops from south Korea and urge the authorities there to change their attitude and hold sincere peaceful negotiations with the northern part of Korea. President Reagan, however, has deepened the existing division by strengthening the military forces of the Chun Du Hwan clique, whom he has supported in their refusal to hold peaceful negotiations. He has directly interfered in Korean internal affairs. This has drawn the condemnation of the Korean people and brought strong protests from the fair-minded world public.

The peaceful reunification of Korea is an inevitable historical trend. The Korean issue can be settled only by the Korean people themselves, free from external interference. The Chun Du Hwan clique's obstruction of peaceful reunification runs counter to the wishes of the people, and the US interference in Korea's internal affairs is even more perverse. The Chinese people strongly condemn such deeds on the part of the United States.

— Ren Yan

Reagan called on Japan, and all industrialized nations, to share a responsibility "to open up capital and trading markets, and promote greater investment in each other's countries." He also proposed removing those restrictions which impair trade and a revaluation of the Japanese yen. Reagan's proposals reflect Washington's own economic interests, and his preparations for next year's presidential election.

Reagan also expressed his wish that Japan help reduce the US deficit in foreign trade. US officials acknowledge that America's trade deficit with Japan will reach \$22,000 million in 1983, or about one-third of the total US foreign trade deficit. This figure will certainly become a target for Reagan's opponents during the US presidential campaign.

Nothing more concrete was achieved than the formation of a joint Japan-US special commission to study and solve the relationship between the Japanese yen and the US dollar. No progress has been made on the crucial issue of eliminating the trade deficit and relaxing Japanese restrictions on importing farm products from the United States.

The Japanese press indicates that Tokyo's restrictions on farm imports are measures adopted with an eye to the coming Japanese election, while restrictions on exports of autos to the United States are US measures for its presidential election.

Observers predict that Japanese-US relations will advance, although there will be constant quarrelling.

— *Xin Ping*

The Two Germanys

Stronger ties sought amid tension

THERE has been a new development in European politics which, at first glance, is hard to understand. Despite a chill in relations between the United States and the Soviet Union, relations between the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) and the German Democratic Republic (GDR) are slowly warming up.

The two Germanys have different social systems. Each is a major ally (both political and military) of an opposing superpower, either the Soviet Union or the United States, putting them at the forefront of the superpowers' rivalry. One would assume that under these conditions relations between the two countries would precisely reflect relations between the United States and the Soviet Union. However, this is not entirely true.

Missile Deployment

In the past six months, the US-Soviet confrontation over the deployment of intermediate-range missiles in Europe has become sharper and their arms reductions talks in Geneva have nearly broken down. The US administration has repeatedly reaffirmed its determination to deploy missiles in the FRG and other member countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and has actually begun to do so. The Kremlin has responded by starting to deploy new missiles in the GDR and other Warsaw Pact countries. At the same time that all this has been happening, the two Germanys have been strengthening their ties.

Since last July, Franz Josef Strauss, Chairman of the ruling Christian Social Union in the FRG, former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, Minister of Finance Gerhard Stoltenberg, and Richard von Weizsaecker, Mayor of West Berlin, have each visited the GDR. Last October, FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Erich Honecker, Chairman of the GDR Council of State, exchanged messages.

The two leaders have more than once expressed their wish for better relations between their countries. Kohl, speaking in June at the Bundestag (parliament), emphasized that efforts should be made to create an atmosphere in which the two Germanys could live together and develop closer relations. Honecker, when receiving von Weizsaecker in September, made it clear that the improvement of relations between West Berlin and the GDR has become even more urgent as the world situation grows tenser. Later a FRG spokesman said Honecker expressed his desire to improve relations between the two countries during his interview with von Weizsaecker. Also, in his message to Kohl on Oct. 9, Honecker emphasized that the two countries share responsibility for the German people and should co-operate with each other.

Both sides have taken concrete measures to improve their relations. Last June, Bonn offered to lend the GDR 1,000 million marks. In return, the GDR cancelled the minimum exchange quota for visiting

children and dismantled all automatic gun emplacements along the border. The FRG has increased its trade with the GDR by 16 per cent—even though its overall foreign trade dropped 1.5 per cent during the first half of this year.

Frequent Contacts

The two countries have maintained frequent contacts in many fields. A recent FRG proclamation declared science, research, trade, environmental protection, natural disaster prevention, development aid and sanitation to be fields of co-operation between the two countries. Also, disarmament experts from both countries met on Oct. 21 to exchange views.

Observers have likened the relations between the two Germanys to a blade of grass growing imperceptibly but tenaciously in the cold weather. The Munich newspaper *Suddeutsche Zeitung* reported on Nov. 4 that the two countries share a common position. Both, it said, "are suffering under the influence of the big powers' nuclear policy, an influence which they cannot head off but only try to ease."

The two countries' efforts in recent months are apparently intended to reinforce their relations so as to survive the new tension expected with the scheduled US deployment of missiles in the FRG. Their present relations prove that though they have contradictions and disputes, their interests differ from those of the Soviet Union and the United States. What concerns them is not how to be spokesmen for the superpowers, but how to develop good, neighbourly relations.

— Xia Zhimian

United States

Criminals must be duly punished

FOLLOWING a long protest campaign against what have been called unduly light sentences for a racially motivated murder, a grand jury in Detroit has indicted the killers, two white men, on new federal charges. This comes shortly after a two-month Justice Department investigation, prompted by the public outcry, looked again into the brutal murder last year of a 27-year-old Chinese-American. However, it remains to be seen whether the US courts will seriously uphold justice and duly punish the criminals.

On the evening of June 19, 1982, only days before his wedding, Vincent Chin was in a Detroit bar for his bachelor party. It was to be his last party ever. Two autoworkers, Ronald Ebens, 44, and his stepson Michael Nitz, 23, after taunting Chin with racist insults, chased him out to a parking lot where they beat him savagely with a baseball bat. As a result, Chin died four days later.

Lenient Sentences

Eben and Nitz later confessed to the murder, and in March a judge of the Wayne County Circuit Court handed down the amazingly light sentences of three years of probation and a fine of US\$3,780 each. His leniency, in what was clearly a racially motivated crime, enraged Americans of Asian and other minority backgrounds, who have since called for stiffer punishments to safeguard the civil rights of minorities. They have argued that had the victim been white and his kill-

ers non-white, the sentences would have been quite different.

Demonstrations were staged and protests presented to various branches of the Justice Department, insisting that the circumstances were not those of an ordinary murder but of a racist attack. The murder, argued the protestors, was a gross violation of civil rights.

Bowing to this pressure, the Justice Department began an investigation into the case in May. Its findings resulted in the indictment of Ebens and Nitz on Nov. 2 on new charges: "conspiring to deprive Chin of his civil rights" and "causing his death because of his race." If the federal court, acting on proven evidence, enforces the law strictly, the murderers will inevitably receive the punishment they deserve.

Justice Needed

At a press conference the same day as the new indictments, Lily Chin, mother of Vincent, expressed her thanks for the public support she had received. But she said she was uncertain whether the injustice could be redressed.

There is promise of a great wrong being righted. The outcome, however, depends on whether just actions to defend civil rights can continue. It is widely believed that a new civil rights movement is needed to draw up laws to guarantee the rights and interests of Americans of Asian descent. Only in this way can they prevent the tragedy of Vincent Chin from reoccurring.

— Qian Xing

China: Women Intellectuals Advance

by Our Correspondent Zhou Zheng

ONE of the highlights of the Fifth National Women's Congress held in Beijing last September was the participation of delegates who had distinguished themselves in science and technology. But because their successes are always accompanied by failures, their experiences both amply testify to the superiority of China's socialist system and reveal the many problems which remain to be solved.

General Emancipation and Women's Emancipation

Charles Fourier once remarked, "The degree of emancipation of women is the natural measure of general emancipation." This axiom, much appreciated by Marx and Engels, has been borne out in China. The victory of the Chinese revolution in 1949 paved the way for women's political liberation and the development of their talent, but there are still some problems in the women's movement calling for our attention.

However, the birth of New China undeniably improved the lot of women in their hundreds

of millions. Zhao Suying, a 41-year-old engineer with the Daqing Oilfield Designing Institute, is a good example. Her grandfather was a poor peasant, and her father wandered about the country trying to eke out a living. He finally became a purchasing agent for a traditional drug store in the northeastern city of Harbin. In 1966, Zhao graduated from the Northeast China Institute of Petroleum Engineering—the first in her family with a college degree—and began working in the Daqing Oilfield. Over the years she has independently organized, or taken part in, drawing up the blueprints for developing eight oilfields and planning work for 12 others in the vicinity of Daqing. "Without New China, I would not have gone to college and become an engineer," she said.

Wang Suxiang, a 59-year-old expert in livestock breeding from Gansu Province, holds a similar point of view. This Northwest China Animal Husbandry and Veterinary College graduate has gained a wealth of experience through more than 20 years of work in Gansu. In 1979, when a lively debate was going on in a leading national newspaper on how to transform the loess plateau in northwest China, she wanted to contribute an article, but then decided not to. "I'd rather do something concrete about the problem," she said. So, she arrived at Shenjiashan—a poverty-stricken, arid place. There, she taught the villagers how to grow forage grass, thus developing animal husbandry and helping with the increase in

grain output. She received nationwide attention for her unique method of maintaining the local ecological balance.

"Women can achieve nothing without the independence of the country and the emancipation of the nation," Wang Suxiang said with deep feeling. Her grandfather advocated new or Western learning during the Qing Dynasty, and her father was an engineer who once studied in Japan. Both were champions of equality between men and women. Under their influence, Wang has never let the fact that she is a woman hold her back. However, she had very little opportunity before liberation, when the nation was under the heels of foreign invaders. On March 8, 1938, when she was on her way to school, the Japanese invaders suddenly landed on Chongming Island near Shanghai, forcing her family to flee all the way to Chongqing in Sichuan Province. Then, in 1940, their house in Chongqing was destroyed during a Japanese air raid and her father died broken-hearted. She finished her college studies only after liberation came in 1949.

In feudal China a woman was considered virtuous if she was unlearned. Although this feudal idea was mildly repudiated when China became a semi-feudal, semi-colonial society, girls still did not have as much educational opportunity as boys. Few ever managed any intellectual achievements.

Liberation brought more educational opportunities for women, and with it a big increase

Zhao Suying.



in the number of female scientists and technicians. By 1978, there were 1.41 million women working in natural science and technology at state-run institutions. In 1982, the figure was 1.98 million, accounting for 31 per cent of all scientists and technicians. There were 6,588 senior professional women in natural science, making up 10 per cent of all senior scientists and technicians.

These figures, though higher than those of 30 years ago, still leave much to be desired.

Maturing in Struggle

Wan Shanshan, a 45-year-old senior engineer, has designed 25 large bridges, either independently or in co-operation with others. Her most remarkable work was the Huanghe (Yellow) River bridge in Jinan, which she designed together with a male colleague. The bridge, 2,023 metres long with the main span 220 metres long, is by far the longest spanning prestressed concrete cable-stayed bridge in Asia. The bridge won an award for outstanding design in the 1970s and another award for high engineering quality in 1982.

Wan's husband is also a civil engineer. Because their jobs often require them to work away from home, they have to either leave their children behind with neighbours or bring the kids along with them to the work-site.

In 1976, when Wan had one of her two children with her where she was working on a cable-stayed bridge over a river near Qingdao in Shandong Province, she came to understand the problems facing an engineer who is also a mother. Her 8-year-old daughter lived with her in a makeshift house while going to school in a nearby village.

One day, finding the harsh life unbearable, the girl wrote on the door, "I want to go home." Tears ran down her cheeks when Wan read this. She could well have stayed in her office doing designing work, but would have missed the chance of obtaining the first-hand data, thus slowing the progress of her career. So, after weighing the pros and cons, she decided to stay on. "Here is where my career is: I will not go home until my task is finished," she said.

One may wonder why girls do as well as boys in schools and universities but often fall behind when they enter the work world. According to Wan Shanshan, this is because some leaders think men are superior and are not willing to trust women with important jobs. This, of course, robs them of opportunities to gain experience. Often, too, women find themselves tied hand and foot by household chores and caring for their children. "Once you are one step behind, it seems you will lag behind for ever," said Wan. In fact, if women want to achieve something, they should work harder than men and should never slacken their efforts, she added.

Qin Zisheng, an associate professor of biology at the Nanchong Teachers' College, recently was appointed by the Ministry of Forestry to be deputy director of a giant panda research centre in the Wolong natural reserve in Sichuan. At 51, she is the mother of a 16-year-old daughter. Because her profession, botany, requires extensive field work, she was still childless after 10 years of marriage. But, like so many other teachers, she had nothing to do after 1966, when all colleges were closed down. "If I gained anything from the 'cultural rev-

olution,' then it was that I had a daughter during that period," she said.

Work is uppermost in Qin Zisheng's mind. While she has been a conscientious teacher for the past 20 years, she has also participated in a dozen research projects, including the survey of the Wolong natural reserve, (which was part of the UNESCO-organized Biosphere Reserve Network) and studies of medicinal herbs and ground vegetation in Sichuan. In collaboration with others she has written eight books, including *Medicinal Herbs in Sichuan*.



Qin Zisheng.

which won a prize at a national science and technology conference.

The Wolong Mountains, 3,000 metres above sea level, are the native habitat of giant pandas. During their biological and ecological studies of bamboo, the panda's staple food, Qin Zisheng and her colleagues often lived in tents and caves. They had to travel extensively amid mountains. But she never complained about this hard life. Qin's only frustration is that she is always pressed for time. "In my profession, we need to

know about many other fields, such as geology, geomorphology, meteorology, hydrography and optics. I missed some of these during my college studies in the 1950s, and I now have to make up for them while pursuing my career. If only I were 20 years younger!"

She is typical of New China's first generation of career women, now in their 40s and 50s. Their dedication and achievements are the pride of Chinese women everywhere.

Stress on Contribution

In her report to the women's congress, Chairman of the All-China Women's Federation Kang Keqing said that one lives in the world in order to contribute to society instead of pursuing personal gains. Her words rang true to the delegates, because that is precisely the way many women in China live and work.

When Li Dejie, 45, graduated from the department of horticulture of the Central China Agricultural College in 1960, she and her boy friend went to work beside a reservoir then under construction in southern Hubei Province. There they got married.

"We didn't buy anything for our new home," she said, recalling their honeymoon. "The only thing we did was write to our relatives about the news. My mother, unable to send us any wedding gifts in time, cabled her greetings."

Li and her husband both gave up the comfortable urban life to grow orange trees on a far-away mountain slope. After 20 years of strenuous work, they had established a four-hectare orange grove, which yielded 18 tons of fruit last year. Following their lead, the local peasants also began to grow orange trees beside their homes.

While studying orange cultivation, Li joins the workers, rain or shine, in weeding, applying fertilizer and insecticides, pruning and other chores. The long years of exposure to the weather have left her lean and dark. When her mother came to visit her, she was shocked by her daughter's appearance. "You've made the wrong choice. That's why you've been worn out like this," she said. "I like my job, mom," came the daughter's reply. Li has actually turned down many offers of city jobs from friends. Her reason was, "The mountainous areas need technicians more than the cities."

In 1981, Li's husband went to visit his parents, who live in Xianggang (Hongkong). Their colleagues suspected that he might not return, and she might go to join him. Li Dejie simply retorted, "Isn't socialism superior to capitalism?" Last year, when her husband made a second visit to Xianggang, this time to attend his mother's funeral, nobody raised an eyebrow. They know the couple better.

Lin Xuewen, a pediatrician who graduated from the Hunan Medical College, is a humble woman. Whenever someone mentions her good deeds she simply says, "That is what I am supposed to do."

She is well respected for her superb medical skills, her sense of responsibility for her patients and her devotion to work.

Both her parents are now in Xianggang, and some of her brothers and sisters are living in North America. They all wanted her to move to Xianggang, and even found her a job during her third visit to Xianggang in 1978. But, unconvinced, she returned to Hunan.

Life in China is not as comfortable as that in North Amer-

ica or Xianggang, and middle-aged intellectuals like Lin Xuewen earn only a little more than ordinary workers, although they are making bigger contributions. Why does Lin Xuewen choose to stay where she is? She gave her reason: "The motherland has nurtured me, the people need me. Nothing can tear me from their embrace."

Family and Career

Fifty-year-old Mao Bijun is an associate research fellow who heads the cultivation section of the Guangdong provincial agro-science academy's rice research institute. At the 1978 national science conference, she and her colleagues received an award for their fruitful research into rice tillering and the growing of early rice ears. She has also taken part in six other prize-winning projects in the province. Asked about the key to her success, she replied, "I have a good mother-in-law."

Her mother-in-law, a hard-working widow for many years, has lived with Mao Bijun and her husband and taken care of all the house chores, so that the woman scientist can devote herself to paddy rice studies in the countryside. "My mother-in-law brought up my three children," said Mao Bijun, full of gratitude.

The life of Li Zisen, a gynaecologist and associate professor of the Henan Medical College, tells a different story. In 1981 she went to Zambia as member of a Chinese medical team. She was so busy there that sometimes she had to work for three days straight. "I often had to prepare a cup of coffee just to keep myself awake, and took a short nap whenever I could. But often you were just dozing off when a patient was rushed in and you had to pull yourself up to work." Her difficult life was

made even harder by bad news from home. Her husband came down with cirrhosis and recurring acute neuritis, and was rushed to the hospital several times.

Li met her husband when they were classmates in college. "Now we are both competent doctors but not competent parents," she said. Their two daughters were brought up by nurses. When the younger girl, whose education was interrupted during the "cultural revolution," failed the college entrance examinations, she blamed her mother for not showing her enough love and not giving her enough help during her school years. Li is now trying to make up for her negligence by tutoring her daughter in English.

In Li's family nobody likes to spend time grocery shopping or cooking. For them, life is lived in school dormitory style, and they eat their meals in the public canteen. Lately Li Zisen has

had to buy special foods and do some cooking for her sick husband, but the kitchen remains the last place she goes to in her home. "If only I had not married," she often thinks.

Needless to say, family chores often clash with a person's career. This is even more true in China, where people have to spend a lot of time shopping, cooking, washing and cleaning house. Most kindergartens and nurseries are only day-care centres, as the Chinese love to spend time with their little ones. That means young parents still must take care of their children after work. The heavy household chores are affecting the careers and health of many women. It is therefore vital to bring about the speedy socialization of family chores.

Recently some sociologists in China came up with the idea of driving working women back to the kitchen. "Too many people are working in our coun-

try," they argued, "so women should return to tackle the heavy burden of housework." This idea was censured at the women's congress, because it runs counter to the principle of equality between men and women and of the women's liberation movement. It can do nothing but weaken the socialist construction.

History will never be allowed to repeat itself, and the same is true for the history of the Chinese women's liberation movement. "Women hold up half the sky," as the saying goes. Despite the fact that women have more difficulties than men on their road of progress, and that discrimination against and maltreatment of women are not yet completely eliminated in China, women play an important role in the socialist revolution and construction. Today they are fighting to increase that role and safeguard their own rights. □

Economic Newsletter (2)

Responsibility System Revives Jiangsu Countryside

by Our Correspondent Jing Wei

This is the second article in a three-part series on economic development in Jiangsu Province. (The first appeared in issue No. 46.) "Beijing Review" correspondent Jing Wei spent three weeks in the Jiangsu countryside studying the changes that have occurred since the production responsibility system (see box) was introduced in 1979. He also looked at the problems that have cropped up and the steps taken to solve them. — Ed.

HUAIYIN Prefecture, an area of about 20,000 square kilometres in north-central Jiangsu, was the first region in the province to adopt the responsibility system. Previously

its 8 million peasants, who make up 93 per cent of the prefecture's population, had had a long history of poverty, resulting in part from frequent flooding and drought. Against these nat-

ural calamities they had been helpless, owing to the water control and conservation system being in a state of disrepair. They subsisted mostly on maize, sweet potatoes and other coarse

grains, and dwelled in crude thatched houses. Eventually many resorted to begging in the cities.

To encourage Huaiyin peasants to stay and work the land, the state spent more than 1,000 million yuan in the 1950s to construct water conservation projects. But with the establishment of the communes in 1958 and the adoption of "Leftist" economic policy, the peasants soon lost their enthusiasm for farming. Agricultural production slowed to a snail's pace and the peasants remained as poor as ever.

The average annual wage for a peasant on a collective in 1978 was 56 yuan, with a quarter of the peasants getting less than 40 yuan per capita. This was at a time when to buy one egg a day, at more than 10 fen each, would cost more than 40 yuan a year. A popular folk song of the time commented on the frustrating situation:

*Able-bodied men are we,
A-toiling day on day;
Looking to the end of year
When we'll receive our pay.
But when that longed-for moment comes,
We can't believe our eyes—
A hen that lays an egg a day
Earns more than you or I!*

In 1979 the responsibility system was introduced to Huaiyin Prefecture. The prices for farm produce and sideline products were raised and the development of a diversified economy was encouraged. Within three years, production had risen sharply as the peasants regained their enthusiasm (see table). The amount of grain sold to the state rose 2.7 times from 1978, cotton output doubled and oil-bearing crops output rose nearly eight times. By 1982, Huaiyin had become self-sufficient in food grains and in

Economic Growth Between 1978 and 1982 in Huaiyin Prefecture

ITEMS	1978	1982	CHANGE
Total agricultural output value (billion yuan)	1.81	2.81	55%
Grain output (1,000 tons)	2,960	4,809	62%
Cotton output (ton)	16,400	40,380	119%
Oil-bearing crops output (ton)	20,900	165,800	693%
Peasants' per-capita income (yuan)	56	236.4	320%
Average food grain per peasant (kilogrammes a year)	211	370	75%
Grain sold to the state (1,000 tons)	444	1,210	173%

addition was selling the state 1.21 million tons a year—a far cry from the period 1962-72 when the state had to supply the prefecture with 750,000 tons a year. Huaiyin was now a major supplier of a marketable grain surplus within Jiangsu.

Over the same period, the average per-capita income of a peasant rose 4.2 times, and his staple diet was now rice and flour, a result of expanded rice paddies and wheat fields. A development boom in recent years also saw more peasants living in brick houses with tiled roofs. There is a new song they sing today:

*Responsibility system:
We think it's ever so grand;
Hard work and higher wages,
We've learnt to go hand in hand.
Behold our new brick houses
And larders never bare;
The commune members are happy,
We have so much to share.*

Although the per-capita income for Huaiyin peasants now nearly equals that for most peasants in the province, years of widespread poverty have left their general standard of living below those of the well-off peasants in southern Jiangsu. In the south, thatched houses

are seldom seen, and the new houses (many of them two-storeyed) are spacious and well furnished. In comparison, the new houses in Huaiyin are smaller and poorly furnished. It will probably take several years of hard work before the Huaiyin population catches up with the affluent areas.

Income Gap

At the same time that the average income has risen, the gap between the rich and the poor has widened. The situation in Suqian County illustrates the problem. There are about 200,000 peasant households in the county, with an average per-capita income of 260 yuan a year. About 3,400 households earned more than 500 yuan per capita last year, and about 80 earned more than 1,000 yuan per capita.

"There are also some needy families," says Shen Qingyun, head of Suqian County Bureau of Civil Affairs. "About 5 per cent of the households have a per-capita income of less than 100 yuan a year."

(According to the county, 100 yuan of per-capita income was considered to be poor in 1982 as against 40 yuan in 1978.)

One of the poorer families is that of Yu Yonghun, 40, who lives with his wife and four young children on Xiaodian Commune. Their possessions consist of several hundred *jin* (1 *jin* = 0.5 kg) of grain, a few pieces of crude furniture and some threadbare clothes. Because Yu suffers from a chronic illness, only his wife is capable of doing heavy farmwork. Unable to make ends meet, he has continually borrowed from his production team. In 1982, the family's per-capita income was 150 yuan, but their debts wiped this out and they still owe 69 yuan.

At the other end of the scale is Cai Zhien on Zhikou Commune. Cai, his wife Chen Anxia and their two children raise more than 2,000 chickens; in 1982 this brought in a net income of 5,000 yuan, or 1,250 yuan per family member. Named as a model worker, Chen Anxia, 31, was also elected a deputy to the provincial people's congress on her record of prosperity through hard work. A certificate of merit from the county government hangs on their living room wall.

"The gap between the rich and poor at the moment is caused mainly by the difference in their ability to work," says Wang Yuanlong, secretary of the Suqian county Party committee. "It is not a sign of class polarization caused by exploitation. Now that all the basic means of production, such as land, are owned by the public, we'll never allow the emergence of two antagonistic classes in the countryside a second time.

"Our goal is prosperity for all," says Wang. "But like people riding bicycles, not everyone can ride abreast of one another. Our peasants, too, do not all become better off at once. Some are better off earlier than

others. We must not go back to egalitarianism, in which case no one would be in a position to prosper."

Suqian County has developed a three-point plan to narrow the income gap: support some peasants to prosper first; help impoverished peasants to prosper through labour; and have those who prosper first help others to follow suit.

Supporting Some Peasants to Prosper First. The county government is providing peasants, who are obviously skilled, with funds, technical know-how and raw materials to specialize in certain lines of business. These peasants, in turn, are expected to work hard, apply their talents and prosper before the average peasant does. To encourage this process, the county has drawn up a number of provisions. Among them:

- Specialized peasants need no longer enter a contract with a production team to work a plot of land and will gradually disengage themselves altogether from working in the fields.

- Carpenters, blacksmiths and tailors may specialize or run sideline businesses, with permission to hire two or three apprentices.

- Specialized peasants will be allowed to open shops or run factories.

- Educated peasants or those with some technical background may run clinics, nurseries, schools and bookshops individually or jointly, subject to the approval of the authorities concerned.

- Specialized peasants may buy tractors, horse-drawn carts or boats to engage in transportation.

- All supply and marketing departments in Huaiyin Prefecture have been asked to help specialized peasants buy what they need and to market their output. They are also asked to supply them with top-quality poultry, livestock, seed and fodder.

- Scientific research departments are asked to give technical guidance and advice.

Responsibility system applied to agriculture

THE production responsibility system, which has been introduced in 98 per cent of rural China, has eliminated many shortcomings of the previous system (based on egalitarianism, or called "equality in distribution") by allowing the peasants to farm according to local resources and conditions.

Under the new system, state planners advise each production team (or collective) in general terms on how farming in its area should proceed and what results are expected. The production team then draws up contracts with each household, under which the household is allotted land, draught animals, and small and medium-sized farm equipment. These contracts are binding on the state, the production team and each household.

The household is responsible for working its allotment (which remains the property of the collective) and for caring for its livestock and machinery, which it can use exclusively. The collective is responsible for providing and maintaining large farm equipment and water conservation projects.

Farm produce is divided three ways: the state buys its quota at a set price, the collective takes a certain amount for the common reserve, and the household, which must pay a state agricultural tax, keeps the remainder for personal use or sale.



Peasants from the formerly poor Xuyi County load surplus grain to be shipped to other parts of the country. Income from the collective has quadrupled since the adoption of the production responsibility system in 1979.

- Law enforcement agencies are to provide protection for richer peasants who have prospered through their own efforts.

- Propaganda teams will publicize the new economic policy and reassure specialized peasants that their efforts will not be denounced or impeded.

"This year," said Wang, "we expect the number of better-off families to increase to more than 30,000 from 3,400. This will encourage more peasants to follow suit and will provide an impetus to the production of marketable goods and help the rural economy to prosper."

Helping Impoverished Peasants to Prosper Through Labour. If the aid for specialized peasants is like "adding flowers to a brocade," then aid for impoverished peasants is like "bringing coals in snowy weather." First the county studied the conditions of a number of impoverished households, analysed the causes of their poverty, and prescribed specific measures to overcome the hardships. Then every county official—from the Party committee secretary down to commune and produc-

tion brigade leaders—selected several households and lent a helping hand. These households were given loans, material aid, medical services and tuition fees.

"In helping these households, our foremost concern was to help them gain confidence in their ability to prosper through labour," said Shen Qingyun of the Bureau of Civil Affairs. "The next step is to help them map out plans to achieve this goal and to provide them with the necessary funds and technical guidance."

Yu Yongshun, the chronically ill peasant from Xiaodian Commune, had despaired that insufficient funds and labour power would kill his chances of ever prospering. However, after receiving encouragement from local officials and loans of more than 570 yuan from various quarters, he began to believe he could help himself and drew up the following economic prosperity plan:

- Under a contract with his production team, Yu will cultivate nine *mu* (1 *mu* = 1/15 hectare of land), with an expected output value of 2,200 yuan. He

will also plant 2,000 grape seedlings with an income of 300 yuan.

- He will raise one hog and two sheep worth 500 yuan, one sow which will have three litters worth 800 yuan in all, two milch ewes yielding milk worth 500 yuan, and 100 high-grade chickens worth 200 yuan.

- He will make bean-curd to be sold for 300 yuan.

The total output value of Yu's prosperity plan comes to 4,800 yuan. After costs, he will still net 3,840 yuan, or 640 yuan per family member.

"Carrying out this plan is a backbreaking job," said Yu. "I have to leave every morning at five to sell bean-curd, and after a long day's work I have to grind beans until midnight. But when I think of the government's concern for my well-being, I'm determined to stick it out."

Today every impoverished household in Suqian County has its own prosperity plan, with the government rewarding those that succeed in putting an end to poverty.

In 1981, Tong Daosheng of the Three Trees Commune received a government loan of 60 yuan to buy a sow. The sow bore 23 piglets that year, which sold for 600 yuan, and another 25 piglets the next year. This, together with earnings from a rich crop of food grains and oil-bearing crops and sideline production, raised his family's per-capita net income to 750 yuan. Accordingly, the Bureau of Civil Affairs sent him a letter reading:

"Comrade Tong Daosheng was given government help in 1981 and through his personal efforts, he has since then said good-bye to his poverty-stricken past. The loan of 60

yuan is hereby cancelled and the sum is awarded him as a prize in recognition of his hard work."

Tong was excited about his latest prosperity plan. "This year," he said, "my family is raising 200 ducks, 150 chickens, 50 geese and two hogs. Plus the earnings from making brooms, cultivating lotus roots, from farming contracted land and from the plot reserved for private use, I reckon my family's per-capita income will average about 1,000 yuan."

Those Who Prosper First Must Help Others. On the door of Cai Zhi'en's house a couplet catches the eye: "It is no good for a single flower to bloom alone. When a man has prospered, he must think of his neighbours." Cai himself has sold chicks at cost to seasonally impoverished families and at half the cost to permanently impoverished families.

At the Three Trees Commune, Zhang Fuzhi, a peasant with a family of 10 who owns two walking tractors, a thresher, a diesel engine and a crusher, has shared his farm machinery with impoverished households free of charge. He has also refused to accept any payment for helping his production team deliver grain sold to the state.

"Before the introduction of the responsibility system," Zhang said, "my family was also in big trouble. Now that I'm better off, I hope that the rest of you will prosper."

Tong Daosheng, too, has helped others. Last year he sold a pig to an impoverished family and agreed to let them defer payment until the suckling was fully grown and sold. This year he lent another family 50 yuan interest free.

Another prosperous peasant,

Wang Chengyi of Gengehe Commune, started an oil-pressing mill this year with seven poor households and a cement-tile factory with another three households. He provided the money while the other households provided the labour power. The two enterprises are expected to have a net profit of 17,000 yuan. Wang is counting his investment as only one share in the profits, with the other households each getting more than 1,000 yuan.

Three Complaints

Although the peasants, without exception, spoke highly of the policies now in force in the countryside, they also had three major complaints.

Difficulties in Buying and Marketing. A typical complaint heard was: "The chemical fertilizer I am supposed to buy under the contract with the production team is still unavailable." Although many peasants have enough money, they are unable to obtain the bricks, tiles and concrete needed to build houses. Some are asking friends with connections to buy supplies for them or they are offering to pay higher prices.

There are also bottlenecks in marketing. One peasant told how he drove his pigs to a purchasing station only to be told it could not buy any more for the time being. He had to drive the herd back. Other peasants were unhappy with the state trading agency that failed to purchase a rich harvest of rapeseed and fruit.

Heavy Financial Burden. "The government keeps telling us its plans to lessen the burden on us," complained a peasant woman, "but there are simply too many payments we have to make. Apart from the agricultural tax and the accumulation

fund,¹ public welfare fund² and administrative fund,³ we must pay for water and electricity, for the tractors working our land. How much do they think we can sell the grain from one *mu* of land for?"

Before the introduction of the responsibility system, the expenses this woman listed were covered collectively by the production teams. The peasants then had only a vague idea of how this money was being spent. Now each household must, under its contract, bear these expenses, with payments based on the size of land it tills and the size of the household. Many households, however, feel they are financially over-extended.

Li Yang, deputy secretary-general of the Huaiyin municipal government, the highest administrative unit in the prefecture, pointed out that the agricultural tax stipulated in the contracts was low, about 3 or 4 per cent of the yield per *mu*. The other contributions are another matter. The municipal government has repeatedly said that accumulation fund, public welfare fund and administra-

1. *Accumulation fund*: Money retained by the collective for the construction of farmland and water conservation projects and spent on the purchase of large farm machinery and agricultural implements for expanded production.

2. *Public welfare fund*: Money reserved by the collective for improving collective welfare and used for relief to impoverished families and preferential treatment given to families of revolutionary soldiers and martyrs, as well as expenses on co-operative medical service and family-planning programmes.

3. *Administrative fund*: Money for the administrative expenses of the production teams and production brigades as well as extra allowances for brigade cadres' living expenses.



Peasants choosing walking tractors.

tive fund reserved by the collective must not exceed 15 per cent of its income and that the expenses on families of revolutionary soldiers and martyrs should be drawn from the public welfare fund. However, some commune and brigade officials, under various pretexts, have raised the money directly, putting a heavy burden on the peasants.

"This is a major issue affecting the peasants' enthusiasm for production," said Li, adding that the municipal government was acting to solve the problem.

Unrealistic Provision. In most areas of rural Jiangsu, the amount of land allotted to each household is determined by the size of the household. This applies without exception to all households, even those whose members hold regular jobs in towns or cities and have insufficient labour power to till a large plot.

A driver with the Shazhou County government, when asked why he was leaving the next day to help with the wheat harvest, said: "My wife and children simply can't do the job alone and if I don't go home

and lend a hand, they won't be able to bring in the entire crop. The remaining wheat could be damaged if there is a rainstorm and we would not fulfil the production quota."

A woman peasant in Jurong County told a similar story. "My husband works away from home," she said. "I have to care for our two children alone. Our plot is too large for me to handle myself."

A possible solution to this problem may lie in the contract system used in Jiangyin County, where the size of the allotment is determined by the household's available labour power. A senior provincial official said the government was taking steps to smooth out these problems. "There are some new problems facing the countryside. They point to the fact that there is a lot of work we must do in improving commerce in the rural areas and in perfecting the responsibility and distribution systems."

The third article in this series will look at the growth of industry in the Jiangsu countryside in recent years. — Ed.

Remembrances of the Well-Digger

by Cao Zhenghuai

This week Hu Yaobang, General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party, is visiting Japan, with whom China has had a tradition of friendship. This article remembers those who pioneered friendly relations between the two countries — Ed.

**"Everytime you take a drink of water, don't forget the man who dug the well."
— Chinese proverb**

IT was a sweltering August day on the northern Jiangsu Plain. An almost unbearable mugginess had settled in after a rainstorm, and most of the

local residents were staying indoors to avoid the heat.

A busload of Japanese tourists were speeding alongside the ancient Grand Canal on their way to Huaian County, the birthplace and childhood home of the late Premier Zhou Enlai.

The author is deputy head of the office of the Huaian County People's Government in Jiangsu Province.

To break the monotony of the 150-kilometre journey, the local tourist agency had prepared some pre-recorded tapes describing the scenery and customs along the route. But hardly had the bus set off when an elderly silver-haired man asked, "Please, let me be the guide," and picking up the microphone began to recall with passion his many meetings with Zhou Enlai since the early 1950s.

This was Okazaki Kaheita, 86, permanent adviser to the Japan-China Economic Association and an old friend of the Chinese people. Believing that Chinese communism differed in practice from Soviet communism, Kaheita had urged his country years ago to quickly resume diplomatic relations with China. Later, under the leadership of Kenzo Matsumura (an early advocate of Sino-Japanese relations), he worked untiringly towards that goal.

But today he was returning to pay homage to the man who had laid the foundation for Sino-Japanese friendship.

"Every time I met the Premier, I watched him closely," Kaheita said. "He always gave you the feeling that you were talking with someone out of the ordinary. No matter what he talked about, he was always considerate of the situation on the other side. That's why his opinions were always readily accepted."

Talking with unfailing vigour as the bus sped on, he recalled stories from Zhou's life that showed how magnanimous and talented the late Premier was — such as his handling of the Xian Incident in 1936 when Kuomintang leader Chiang Kai-shek was captured by two KMT generals and later released; or how in 1945 he put Mao Zedong's life before his own to

protect the Chairman during his dangerous journey to Chongqing, then the Kuomintang political centre.

But the story that Kaheita remembered most vividly was of an airplane flight Zhou was on. As the plane was flying over the Qinling Mountains in southern Shaanxi Province, it ran into problems and at one point was in danger of crashing. There were not enough parachutes for every passenger. Zhou, with no regard for his own safety, gave a young girl the parachute he had for his own use.

"I often think: could any ordinary person behave like that?" said Kaheita. "What I am telling you is only a fraction of what he did in his lifetime. What a pity he died in 1976."

Kaheita could still remember almost every word of a conversation Zhou had had with him about relations between their two countries. Zhou had detailed the causes of friction between them, starting with the Sino-Japanese War of 1894-95 and then Japan's step-by-step invasion of China during the 1930s. He noted in particular the horrendous loss of life and property when Japan overran the Chinese hinterland following the 1931 Northeast Incident, all of which created a deep hatred for the Japanese invaders.

"But these 30 years of animosity," Kaheita recalled Zhou saying, "are only a twinkling of the eye in comparison with the 2,000 years of friendly relations between our two nations. That is why we Chinese are trying to unlearn this hatred. Shouldn't we forget it and forge a new friendship? Shouldn't the two countries work together to make Asia strong? Making Asia strong does not mean we want to invade other countries. What

it means is that if someone outside Asia should dare invade this continent, Japan and China should fight shoulder to shoulder to beat him back. What do you think of that, Mr. Kaheita?"

Shamed by his country's past behaviour, Kaheita was at a loss for an answer. But in his embarrassment, a story from Chinese history came to mind. He remembered how in the state of Zhao during the Warring States Period (475-221 B.C.) a certain general named Lian Po was so piqued that Prime Minister Lin Xiangru had been promoted to a higher post than his that he went about trying to discredit the other man. But Lin Xiangru faced the obstacles placed in his way with such modesty and magnanimity that Lian Po was shamed into repentance. The two men eventually became bosom friends.

So in response to Zhou's query, Kaheita said that Japan's relationship to China was like General Lian's to Prime Minister Lin — they would finally become close friends. Zhou agreed.

The rain began to fall heavily again and the bus stopped at the county seat of Caoyou. But Kaheita, refusing to take a break, continued his story, talking and gesturing like a robust young man.

"I met Premier Zhou so many times, 18 occasions alone during bilateral negotiations. Indeed, he is the man to whom I am most grateful. I have so much to say about him."

He remembered the day he received the news of Zhou's death. "Chen Kang, now the Chinese Ambassador to Malaysia but then a counsellor with the embassy in Tokyo, came to my office to tell me the bad news. He wept and talked for three hours. I cried, too."

"What Premier Zhou did before he breathed his last convinced me that he was indeed a great man," said Kaheita. "On the evening of January 7, 1976, the Premier gathered all the poems he was reading and put them by his pillow. Then feebly he began singing *The Internationale* and songs in praise of Chairman Mao. After that, he told his doctors and nurses: 'There is nothing any more you can do here. Please go to the other wards. The patients there need you.' What a man Zhou was!"

By the time the bus reached its destination night had fallen, yet Kaheita was still eager to talk. Later at a banquet given

in his honour by the Huaian County government, he talked for another 50 minutes. "I was older than Premier Zhou by one year. Yet when I was with him I always felt I was just a baby," he said.

The next day the tourists visited Zhou's childhood home to pay homage to the great man. Kaheita, immaculately dressed despite the hot weather, studied everything on display with rapt attention. Posing for a picture on the chair where Zhou used to read, standing in the room where he was born, or pacing up and down the vegetable garden where he worked, Kaheita was lost in reverie. He said he was the happiest man in the world.

He was particularly interested in the well Zhou had used in his childhood. He drew up a bucket of water and drank from it with his hands. Recalling the ancient proverb about the well-digger, he called his granddaughter over to taste it, too.

"He, the Premier, was indeed the well-digger for the friendship between our two countries," he told her. "We are the beneficiaries of his hard work."

But likewise, Mr. Kaheita and many other Japanese friends have also done their share of pioneering Sino-Japanese friendship. All this has been written on the annals of Sino-Japanese friendship and will be remembered by posterity. □

Research on Guo Moruo, a Cultural Giant

by Our Correspondent Ling Yang

GUO Moruo (1892-1978) was one of the major fighters and guides of China's proletarian cultural movement since the early 20th century. His compatriots look upon him as the pride of the nation in this era for his great learning, remarkable talent and academic achievements.* After his death, more activities were started to study and commemorate this man of letters. Last May, a nationwide research society was founded in Beijing, and an academic discussion was held about the studies of the past few years.

Literature

Chinese scholars are studying Guo Moruo's literary activities, from his original ideas and the path of his creative endeavours to his representative

works of different periods, and are making headway.

Poetry. Guo Moruo made a name for himself with his new verses while still in his twenties. After that, he never stopped writing poems. *The Goddess*, his first collection of poems (published in 1921), imprecated the dark society he lived in and opposed traditional ideas in a stormy and romantic spirit. His free verse rocked many youths, who sought a ray of hope during the anti-imperialist and anti-feudal democratic revolutionary movements, and stimulated their revolutionary consciousness. While inheriting the tradition of Chinese classical poetry, the poet also borrowed forms of free verse from abroad, thus pioneering a new style for Chinese modern poems,

Academics have always attached great importance to his poems; more new interpretations have appeared in the last few years. For example, at the nationwide forum of research on Guo Moruo held in 1979, many scholars affirmed the positive factors of his poems written half a century ago, which advocated the scientific spirit and material civilization. One associate professor of Beijing University said that in the past, too much emphasis was placed on the influence of idealistic "art for art's sake" aspects of the poet, to the neglect of the positive role of his theory of romantic poetry. One therefore failed to get a full picture of the influence of his theory on

* Guo Moruo's life and achievements were covered in issues No. 25, 1978 and No. 47, 1982 of *Beijing Review*.



Guo Moruo delivering a speech "Lu Xun Is With Us" at a meeting commemorating the 10th anniversary of the death of Lu Xun in Shanghai in October, 1946.

the development of new poems today.

"An Attempt to Study *The Goddess*," published in Shanghai, is one of the many research papers on Guo's poems. In this 139-page pamphlet, the author discusses the world outlook of the poet when he wrote *The Goddess*. The paper suggests that the poet had already adopted revolutionary democratic ideas and the philosophic concept of pantheism before 1921, and had accepted socialist theories. The author devotes much space to the complicated origin of Guo's pantheism, and how his unique outlook on nature and history was formed by absorbing ideas from many different sources. He concludes that *The Goddess* was a reflection of Guo's outlook in the early 20s.

Drama. As a dramatist, Guo Moruo wrote a dozen plays. An expert in writing historical plays, he was at his best during the War of Resistance Against Japan in the 40s. *Qu Yuan*, written in 1942, is representative of his works.

A patriotic poet of 2,300 years ago, Qu Yuan's experience is used as a metaphor for Guo's own experiences during the late 30s and early 40s. Chiang Kai-shek, the autocrat who ruled the country then, launched one wave after another against the Communists. In 1941, the Kuomintang ambushed the New Fourth Army, which was fighting the Japanese at East China's Anhui, resulting in the death of 8,000 officers and men. Guo Moruo used the voice of Qu Yuan to express the anger of the people against the reactionary rule and to castigate the rulers.

In the play there is a long and stirring soliloquy, "Invoking the Thunder" in which the ancient poet summons thunder and storm to drive away the pitch darkness and burn all vices. The play was an outburst of the writer's love and hatred, and also an expression of his strong hope and confidence in the brightness to come.

At the recent academic discussion, 74-year-old Professor

Chen Shouzhu of Nanjing University expressed his views after making comparisons between Guo Moruo and the Western playwrights.

He said in the 1940s tragic literature was on the decline in Europe and America. Playwrights no longer wrote tragedies, theatres no longer staged them, and there emerged a "death of tragedy." Some held that this was due to the lack of heroic figures in real life. In response to this, Arthur Miller of the United States suggested writing "tragedies of the common man."* Precisely at this period, Guo Moruo wrote in succession six tragedies, all about just-minded patriots of old China and their heroic and lofty spirit in fighting against the intruders and autocratic rulers. These historical tragedies greatly encouraged the Chinese people, who were combating autocratic rule and the Japanese aggressors.

Professor Chen remarked, "Objectively these works of Guo Moruo's stimulated the dying literature of tragedy. In China's earliest tragedies (the drama of the Yuan Dynasty of the 13th and 14th centuries) many of the male and female characters were selfless people who fought for certain ideals. Guo Moruo carried on this tradition in the 1940s. His plays, moving and tragic, opened a new vista for the Chinese stage, which was then a scene of desolation. The aesthetic sentiments of his tragedies went beyond merely arousing the sympathy of the audience and making them feel sad, as was common for most tragedies, but

* His successful attempt was "Death of a Salesman," a truthful reflection of the American society of his time written in 1949. Last May the play was well-received in Beijing under his direction.

had more profound noble and stirring qualities. Audiences were often encouraged and inspired by them."

In his recent work *Guo Moruo's Historical Plays*, Wang Yao, a renowned professor at Beijing University, held that this prolific playwright had formed a comprehensive theory of writing historical plays, guided by historical materialism and based on the varied character of history and art. He said Guo's desire to write historical plays began after he had translated Goethe's *Faust* in 1919. His purpose was "to borrow ancient corpses and breathe life into them . . . thereby arousing the people to turn their indignation into force, to support the new-born elements and to fight the dying elements." According to Guo, the task of the historians was to review and discover history, but the task of the writers of historical plays, especially romantic historical plays, was to "develop the spirit of history." The professor said this explained why the plots of many Guo

Moruo's plays were not entirely the same as the historical records, but contained an idealism which truthfully reflected the sentiments and aspirations of the people of his time.

About "Li Bai and Du Fu." This was Guo Moruo's last academic work, written in 1971. When it was published, this book about the two poet laureates of the Tang Dynasty in the 8th century immediately raised a controversy. Breaking away from the conventional views, Guo lavished praise on the romantic poet Li Bai, whose verses were characterized by their ornate and gorgeous style, while depreciating the realist Du Fu, traditionally regarded as the poet saint. Many scholars found this view objectionable.

No fewer than 50 articles expressing diverse views about *Li Bai and Du Fu* have been published since the writer's death. And the debate is still going on.

One of the recent articles was published in the *Gazette of Sichuan University* in southwest China — the fourth issue on

Guo Moruo research in the past few years.

The writer agreed with Guo Moruo that contemporary researchers have given too much praise to Du Fu, a respected poet of the feudal times. He joined with Guo in calling for a reversal in the 1,000-year-old tradition of playing down Li Bai in favour of Du Fu. He also said Guo's creative view was thought-provoking, but some prejudices of Guo's — sometimes very arbitrary ones — might have hindered him from making analyses in a scientific way.

History

Several scholars held Guo's success in the realm of history was greater than his success in literature, but little research has been conducted on the former, and it has been the subject of fewer articles.

Research on Chinese Ancient Society. So far no one denies Guo Moruo was the founder of the Chinese Marxist science of history. He began to study ancient Chinese history when he took refuge in Japan in 1928, after the defeat of the anti-imperialist and anti-feudal great revolution. From then he wrote no fewer than 7 million words relating to history.

In his book *A Study on Ancient Chinese Society*, published in 1930, Guo Moruo said there was a stage of slave society in Chinese history, which grew from the primitive society and was later transformed into the feudal society. This provided evidence for the Marxist law of development of human society, and served to strongly refute those who resisted Marxism at the time and opposed revolution under the pretext that "the situation in China differs from other countries."



Guo Moruo (first from right) with Chairman Mao, Zhou Yang and Mao Dun (from left to right) when he was elected chairman of the All-China Federation of Literary and Art Circles in July, 1949.

At the recent discussion Huang Lie, associate researcher of history, who is currently edifying Guo Moruo's historical works for *The Complete Works of Guo Moruo*, remarked that Guo used the key of Marxism in opening the door to the scientific research of Chinese history, thereby guiding the study of ancient Chinese history on to a genuinely scientific path. Huang laid particular emphasis on his excellent style of study, i.e., integrating historical research with current revolutionary needs, employing dialectical materialism in studying the development of Chinese history and stressing the use of first-hand material to test the basic principles of Marxism against the reality of Chinese history. Thus Guo gained an understanding of history which was governed by regular laws, and set a good example for other historians after him.

Guo's views on the division of periods of ancient China has aroused wide interest among historians and laymen alike. So far 800 articles and books on the division of periods have been published, and there is still no agreed conclusion. During the half a century of discussions, Guo's own understanding of these periods changed three times. With each change he gained a deeper understanding. He finally concluded that China's slave society ended and the feudal society began in 475 B.C., the transition from the Spring and Autumn Period to the Warring States Period.

The 486-page *Fifty Years' Discussion on Division of Periods of Ancient Chinese History*, published in August 1982 in Shanghai, gave a detailed account and appraisal of the topic. The three authors cited Guo Moruo as the pioneer who first confirmed that a slave society

did indeed exist in Chinese history. Many Chinese and foreign historians later proceeded in their studies on the basis of Guo's views. Guo himself continued to revise his views examining them critically in the light of new cultural and literary findings, and in accordance with Marxist principles of the economic formation of society. Guo's contributions are indelible, the authors noted.

Research on Ancient Characters. While in Japan from 1928 to 1937, Guo Moruo studied and interpreted a large number of inscriptions on ancient oracle bones and tortoise shells. These 3,000-year-old relics contain the earliest Chinese characters so far discovered. He also studied inscriptions on bronzes of a late date. His original studies were published in 10 books from 1930 to 1937.

The publication of 56 letters he wrote to Prof. Rong Geng, an expert in philology who died last March at 90, was considered among the most valuable materials in the study of this literary giant. These letters, which Rong kept for long years and made public only after the death of the writer, were a record of how Guo Moruo pioneered the way in the study of ancient Chinese characters under very difficult conditions. After the publication of these letters, two scholars at Zhongshan (Dr. Sun Yat-sen) University wrote an essay saying the letters would help people understand the principal reasons for Guo's great achievements in this area, using scientific methods and Marxist theories.

Pay Attention to Philosophy of this Great Man. Liu Danian, a prominent scholar and the executive chairman of the Chinese Society of History, claimed, "Guo Moruo exceeded



Guo Moruo (middle) and Mao Dun congratulate Qi Baishi when the artist was awarded the International Peace Prize in Sept. 1956.

his predecessors and some of his contemporaries academically, first and foremost because he excelled others in philosophical ideas." "Even though Guo Moruo had not written systematic philosophical works, his philosophical views were clearly manifested in his historical writings. In his appraisal of many ancient scholars and historical personages, he based his assessment on their political and philosophical ideas. Many of his works were, to a certain extent, products of his struggle against moribund and retrogressive philosophical ideas." Liu added.

Liu Danian suggested that since Guo's literary works were also governed by his philosophical ideas, future studies of the writer should cover this subject.

Guo's Works Published

To commemorate this literary giant and to facilitate the study

of his works, the *Complete Works of Guo Moruo*, annotated by famous scholars, will be brought out in 38 volumes (20 on literature, 8 on history, 10 on archaeology) in 1985 (eight have already been published).

The 13-volume *Collection of Inscriptions on Oracle Bones* compiled by Guo Moruo will be published in full before the end of 1983. This is a study of inscriptions on oracle bones and tortoise shells excavated within a period of 80 years.

Just off the press is *Prefaces and Postscripts by Guo Moruo*, containing 119 essays about his own works and pieces by his contemporaries which were not included in the *Complete Works of Guo Moruo*.

Last December, *Guo Moruo in Chongqing* was published in the remote northwest province of Qinghai. Guo's stay in Chongqing from 1938 to 1946 is considered the "second golden age" or "a period of rejuvenation" for Guo after his 10 years' stay in Japan. There, under the leadership of Zhou Enlai, he united progressive men of letters to oppose the Japanese aggressors for national salvation and waged struggles against the autocratic rule of Chiang Kai-shek. His most outstanding historical plays and many important historical works were written during this period. The book also includes Guo's speeches, photos and news about his activities.

Among the materials celebrating Guo's 50th birthday was the noted speech of Zhou Enlai: "Lu Xun [1881-1936] was the leader of the New Cultural Movement, and Guo Moruo is a major fighter of the movement. If we see Lu Xun as the vanguard blazing the trail, then Guo Moruo must be seen leading the rest of us along that trail."



Guo Moruo in his study.

Newly published is a collection of 66 letters Guo wrote to his family when he was in Japan between 1913-23. The content of the letters, names of persons and events were annotated by the editors. These letters, which make their first appearance, will be of great value to the study of the writer's ideas in his youth, as well as China's cultural movement.

Not long ago, Guo's two youngest daughters edited and published his Chinese translations of 50 English verses which he did in the 60s but were never published.

In Memory of Guo Moruo, written by 83 scholars and celebrities, was published on the second anniversary of his death. Later similar materials were published, some discussing his relations with the Chinese Communist Party after he joined the organization in 1927 and how he and his family members were persecuted by Jiang Qing and her followers during the "cultural revolution."

Guo Moruo's Calligraphy, the cover of which features the calligraphy of Soong Ching Ling, was published in Hebei. It includes 80 samples of calligraphy gathered from among people of various circles. During his life-

time Guo willingly gave his calligraphy to all who asked.

A selection of his works in three volumes has also been published, along with many biographies, bibliographies and other reference materials.

Two years ago his former residence in his native town, Shawan in Leshan, Sichuan Province, was opened to the public. It is a delicate four-courtyard house nestled on a hill with a river in front. Guo spent his boyhood and teenage years in this garden home. After the founding of the People's Republic, the house was inhabited by several families. After 1978, these residents moved out and returned the furniture they once used. The rooms were furnished as they had been in Guo's time.

In the family school, where he studied from age four-and-a-half to twelve-and-a-half, his exercise books, stationery and school records are exhibited. All these were collected during the years of turmoil by the local cultural relic workers, who risked great danger. These records have been carefully studied in the past few years. His former residence in Beijing, where he spent his last 15 years, is listed as a key cultural relic unit under state protection. □

TECHNOLOGY

*Applications of
nuclear technology*

A comprehensive exhibition on the applications of nuclear technology in industry, agriculture, medicine and national defence was held in Beijing's Military Museum of the Chinese People's Revolution from October 19 to November 13. Visitors were able to learn about the wide range of devices and techniques using this technology.

For instance, isotope test devices and radiation technology have been widely applied to metallurgy, mining, chemistry, rubber-making, paper-making, plastics, building materials, textiles and cigarette-making. According to incomplete statistics, China has more than 1,700 isotope test devices of 15 types.

Radiation technology is now used mainly in food storage, the processing of solid materials and in sterilizing clinical apparatus.

Marked achievements have been made in developing new crop strains with radiation. Chinese scientists have developed 160 new seed varieties using radiation, which account for one-third of the world's total.

These new strains have been sown on 8 million hectares of farmland in China, and account for an annual increase of 3 million tons of grain. New rice, cotton, soya bean, corn and wheat strains are planted on about 330,000 hectares.

Crop strains bred with radiation techniques ripen early,

yield larger harvests, are disease- and cold-resistant and have a high protein content. For instance, "Lumian No. 1" cotton is a high-yielding strain developed by the Shandong Provincial Cotton Research Institute using nuclear radiation. Between 1979 and 1981, the cotton was sown on 1.92 million hectares of land, increasing their ginned cotton yield by 450,000 tons, valued at 1,950 million yuan.

Isotope tracing is also being used in the study of crop metabolism, fertilizer and water absorption and effects of saline soil. This has helped improve plant cultivation techniques including manuring, irrigation and soil improvement.

Chinese scientists have also developed a radiation technique to render harmful insects sterile, including the corn borer, cabbage butterfly and silkworm fly, and reduce environmental pollution caused by chemical insecticides.

Since China applied isotopes to medical research in 1956, great developments have been made in nuclear medicine. Big hospitals in all China's provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions except Tibet are using isotope technology in diagnosis, treatment and research. Now, China has developed more than 100 isotope treatment devices, and about 18 million patients are diagnosed or treated with these each year. Many patients of hyperthyroidism have fully recovered after treatment with isotopes, and liver scanning is now indispensable in diagnosing liver cancer. Isotope tracing technology has also been widely used in family planning, acupuncture anesthe-

sia, pathology, pharmacology and immunology.

DIVING

*Under simulated
high altitude*

Tests using a module to simulate the effects of atmospheric pressure on divers in 30 to 50 metres of water on a plateau 5,000 metres above sea level were done recently at the Navy General Hospital in Beijing. The successful tests brought China into the lead in this field.

Scientists, technicians and medical workers checked divers' brains, hearts, lungs, circulation and other physiological functions while under the medium and heavy pressure conditions and serious lack of oxygen equal to that of a dive on a high plateau.

The tests were conducted to find out whether the health of divers working on hydroelectric power projects at very high altitudes would be adversely affected.

Three five-member groups of professional divers took part in the trials from September 7 to October 12, this year. The first group, in the Chinese-made module for 10 days, were subjected to pressure equivalent to that at 4,500 metres above sea level and then to changed pressure as if working 30 to 50 metres underwater. The second group experienced the same pressures for 12 days. The third group was subjected to pressures simulating those at 5,000 metres above sea level.

A children-run paper

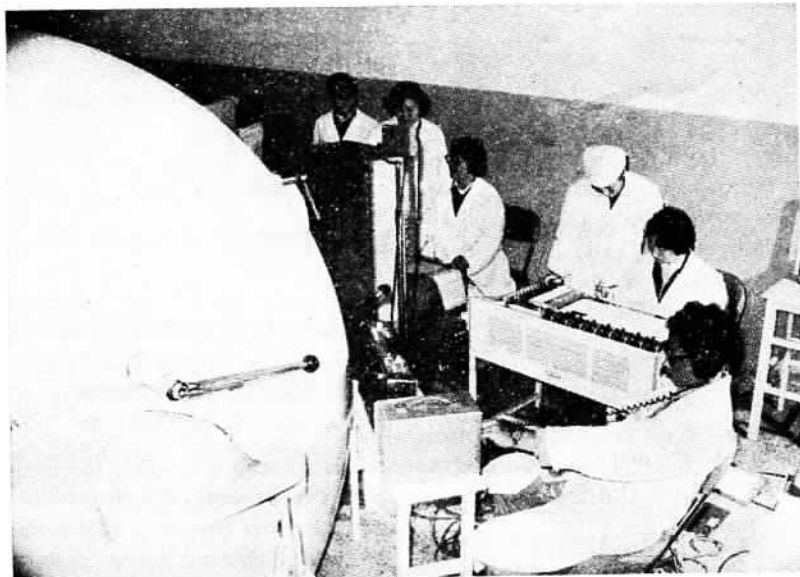
A newspaper run entirely by children, the first in China, started publication last July in Shanghai. The chief editor of *Xiao Zhu Ren* (Little Master) is a 14-year-old middle school girl named Shen Yimin.

Staffed mainly by 12-year-olds, *Xiao Zhu Ren* has three press photographers and five art designers. Together they gather news, write articles, take photos and draw pictures for their paper's 13 regular columns. The four-page journal includes such features as "Our Compositions," "Comments on Compositions," "Satirical Essays," "Small Inventions," "Make It Yourself" and a question and answer column called "Intimate Friends."

Shen Yimin is from a worker's family. In school, she studied hard and helped organize a mimeographed newsletter run by the students. When *Xiao Zhu Ren* was formed, she visited publishing houses in the area to learn from the adults with other editors. In an editorial diary in the paper, she wrote that it should reflect the worries and joys of children.

Although there is room for big improvement in the paper, its little editors are full of confidence. The paper itself still appears irregularly, but they gather twice a week in the Children's Palace in Changning District to discuss upcoming articles, plan interviews and answer readers from all over the country. The children are very proud to be working independently.

The new publication, with a circulation of 12,000 copies, is partly subsidized by the Education Bureau of Changning District.



Scientists monitor the progress of tests using a module to simulate the effects of atmospheric pressure on divers.

China plans to verify the results of the recent test under natural conditions on the Tibetan Plateau, 5,000 metres above sea level, next year.

WATER RESOURCE

Underground reservoir

Using the sand China's rivers left behind thousands of years ago, China put its first underground reservoir into use in Hebei Province earlier this year.

Built along ancient river courses, the Nangong underground reservoir covers 206 square kilometres and can store 480 million cubic metres of water in a thick layer of porous sand.

Ancient rivers such as the Huanghe, Qinghe and Zhanghe ran through the reservoir area four thousand years ago. Because the rivers changed their courses several times, they left

behind a sand layer 2 to 30 metres thick, which can absorb and conserve a huge volume of fresh water.

When research workers of the Hebei provincial geographical institute surveyed the ancient river paths in 1975, they discovered these thick, absorbent sand layers north of the Huanghe River.

In 1977, scientists further studied the possibility of underground reservoirs in the region. They chose the catchment at Nangong, Hebei Province. From 1980 to 1982, they pumped more than 2 million cubic metres of water down into the underground sand layer. Because its floor is lined with impervious clays, there was little seepage at the site. Results showed that the Nangong underground reservoir was capable of storing and supplying large quantities of water.

Scientists of the institute also found that the ancient river courses cover a total area of 15,000 square kilometres north of the Huanghe River, where there are 30 or more potential underground reservoir sites.



Airing Fishnets.



A Bus Conductor.

Woodcuts by Mao Huaisu

Mao was born deaf in Beijing in 1927. He learnt fine arts as a boy, and now works at the Shanghai People's Fine Arts Publishing House.



Grey Dawn.



Mountain Hamlet.

BEIJING REVIEW



Airmailed direct to you every week from Beijing

- Keeps you abreast of political, theoretical, economic and cultural developments in China,
- Acquaints you with Chinese views on major international issues,
- Carries translations of important Party and government documents,
- Standing columns and regular features include: "Notes From the Editors"; "Events & Trends"; "International: Reports & Comments"; "Special Feature"; "Culture & Science"; and art pages.

1984 Subscription Campaign

(Valid from Nov. 1, 1983 — Feb. 29, 1984)

Subscriptions entered within this period enjoy preferential prices on the basis of the following subscription rates

Subscription Rates

		1 year	2 years	3 years			1 year	2 years	3 years
Australia	A\$	14.00	22.00	30.00	Italy	Lira	13,200	21,000	28,800
New Zealand	NZ\$	18.00	28.00	38.00	Switzerland	SFr	22.00	35.00	48.00
Austria	Sch	200.00	310.00	420.00	UK & Other European Countries	£	8.00	12.60	17.20
FRG	DM	30.00	49.00	65.00	Canada	Can\$	15.00	24.00	33.00
Finland	FmK	57.00	90.00	120.00	USA	US\$	13.00	21.00	28.00

Order from **CHINA PUBLICATIONS CENTRE**
(Guoji Shudian)

P.O. Box 399, Beijing, China