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BEIJING REVIEW

北京周報

A CHINESE WEEKLY OF
NEWS AND VIEWS

- Hu Places Hope on Young People
- Rural Industry Blooming
- Volunteer Service Encouraged



LETTERS

Open Discussion

Beijing Review should undoubtedly be congratulated for two articles published in recent issues, namely, "Education Among Minority Peoples" by Li Yongzeng (issue No. 42) and the interview with Minister Yang Jingren entitled "Working Towards Actual Equality Among Nationalities" (issue No. 44).

Usually the Chinese press prints very idyllic descriptions of the situation of minorities, though many people well know that the situation is not necessarily so good, and it cannot be such. Openly discussing what is good and what is still a problem in a given subject not only adds reliability to what you write, but also, perhaps above all, serves the cause in China. I personally would appreciate more and more materials presented in such a way. Being more informative than propagandistic helps rather than hampers even the propaganda itself.

Alfred F. Majewicz
Poznan, Poland

Aid to Third World

I particularly appreciate your articles on foreign aid in issue No. 26, 1983.

I see this as a great manifestation of your country's love for the third world nations.

The "Documents" section has proved its usefulness for the readers. It has aroused the attention of the information agencies, diplomatic corps and political research institutes on current issues.

There is more room for improvement in your information on the experimental satellite which entered orbit on August 19 and landed safely on 24th August, as scheduled.

B.A. Mackay
Sunyani, Ghana

Varied Interests

I found the articles on "Chinese-Type Modernization" to be of great interest. "Facts and Figures" presents good reference material. I consider the half-yearly index to be very valuable, because it makes your magazine into a good source for reference. One does not just read an issue and then throw it away, but will save it.

Your weekly is very informative on a wide variety of topics, and gives one a chance to make a thorough study of one's areas of interest.

For myself, the articles which have really captured my interest include: Communiqué on Fulfillment of China's 1982 National Economic Plan (No. 19), the Sixth Five-Year Plan (1981-1985) of the People's Republic of China for Economic and Social Development (Nos. 20 and 21), Higher Education—Today and Tomorrow (No.

6), Jinchang: A Nickel City in the Gobi Desert (No. 8), Appraisal of Confucius: Why? How? (No. 22), A Brief Introduction to Sun Yefang's Economic Theory (No. 24), Main Points of Premier Zhao's Government Work Report (No. 25), the Police and the People (No. 21), China's Space Science and Technology (No. 14), Computer Industry Development (No. 13), and Tibet: History and Anecdotes (Nos. 24 and 26), and so on.

I would like to see a series of articles on the applications of *qigong*. I also think you should include a column presenting the new sets of stamps issued in China.

As you can see, I have many areas of interest. As a scientist, I am interested in facts, as a teacher, in education, and as a man, in philosophy, and the cultural and spiritual values of the people.

Heinz O. Weber
Caracas, Venezuela

Index Documents

I enjoy articles which deal with China's development and modernization, particularly, articles on the special economic zones as well as the official Chinese view of current events.

For convenience, I would rather have the documents remain in *Beijing Review*. But an improvement could be made in indexing them separately, perhaps every six months.

I enjoy the contents, but would appreciate more on the special economic zones, joint ventures, energy, and trade.

John Eric Simley
Madison, Wisconsin, USA

A Great Help

Please accept my thanks for your magazine, which has been a great help in my work as a sociology teacher in an agricultural school. The international section has been very useful.

I hope your magazine will continue to be of such great service in our library.

Soledad Velez Valencia
Toro, Colombia

Exciting new release

DREAM JOURNEYS TO CHINA

Poems by Stephen S. N. Liu

This astounding collection of 56 poems chronicles a voyage in the mind of a Chinese man living abroad. To the author's lonely and exiled soul, both the memories of the past and the dream-world become soothing mirages in the remote North American deserts.

Written in English, this book is a must for poetry lovers everywhere.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Hu Pins Hopes on Younger Generation

At a rally of Japanese youth, General Secretary Hu Yaobang pinned his hopes on the younger generation for the long-term, steady development of good-neighbourly relations between China and Japan, which is the common wish of their peoples (p. 18). Hu concluded his historic visit to Japan, laying the foundation for a new era in Sino-Japanese friendship (p. 5).

"New Industrial Revolution": Opportunity & Challenge

With the shift to computer and other technology-intensive industries in the West, Premier Zhao Ziyang has called on the Chinese people to grasp the opportunity of this "new industrial revolution" in science and technology to advance China's modernization programme and narrow the gap between China and the developed countries (p. 4).

Sino-US Relations

A Foreign Ministry spokesman commented on the US Government's response to Chinese protests against recent "two Chinas" move in the US Congress. He announced that Premier Zhao would visit the United States next January in accordance with the agreement between the two governments (p. 9).

The Way to Nuclear Disarmament

Renmin Ribao commentator points out that the two superpowers must take the lead in stopping the testing, improvement and manufacture of nuclear weapons and drastically reduce their nuclear arsenals and delivery systems before an international conference can be held (p. 14).

Youth Volunteer Service

Young people all around Hangzhou are discovering the joy of helping others. Encouraged by the city and rural Communist Youth League, they have formed teams providing free services, labour and friendship to those who need them (p. 24).



Office workers in Beijing voluntarily help dredge the northern section of the city moat.

Photo by Wang Donghai

NOTES FROM THE EDITORS

New technology: opportunity & challenge

In recent years, while the Western economy, especially some "big chimney industries" such as iron, steel and automobiles, has declined with each passing day, new technologies represented by computers, biological engineering, photoconducting fibres, new materials and new energy sources have developed at an average annual rate of 20-50 per cent. Some newspapers in Japan and the United States have called this a "new industrial revolution." Some people say the world has entered upon an "information revolution." Still others think humanity is now faced with the "fourth industrial revolution" since the invention of the steam engine in the 18th century.

When bourgeois economists and sociologists advocate these viewpoints and even conjure up a "marvelous new period" in which capitalist society will be free from economic crises, they have their own political motivations. This is not at all surprising. The new technologies certainly will enable production to leap forward, and bring new changes to society. This trend cannot but arouse the attention of China, which is now working hard to push forward its socialist modernization programme.

On October 9, Premier Zhao Ziyang said that for us the "new industrial revolution" is both an opportunity and a challenge. If we can grasp this opportunity to use the new science and technology to develop our economy, we will be able to

narrow the economic and technological gap between China and the developed countries. Otherwise, the gap will grow and we will be left farther behind. He called on people throughout the country to work hard so that China can take advantage of this opportunity. A special group composed of 120 specialists in science and technology was organized last month to study the problem and draw up concrete plans.

The specialists believe that now, when science and technology in the world are advancing every day, we should not blindly follow the developed countries in expanding our economy and technology. Instead, we should focus our attention on some ways by which we can leap forward, while relying on China's existing industrial strength and our study of basic and applied sciences. At the same time, we should absorb as much as possible from the advanced scientific and technological results achieved in foreign countries through imports and international exchanges. In some fields where China has laid a solid foundation of knowledge, it is possible for us to bypass the stages of traditional industrial development and directly adopt the latest technology. Of course, concrete plans must be drawn up, which involve training a large contingent of technical personnel.

Economic and technological development has not been even in various regions of China. In the coastal areas, such as Shang-

hai, Tianjin and Guangzhou, industry is fairly developed, but there is a shortage of energy and raw materials. In these places, the emphasis should be on developing technology-intensive industries. The iron and steel, heavy and chemical industries should gradually be moved to the central and western regions. This requires an appropriate readjustment in industrial distribution.

Computer and information technology has aroused widespread attention among the people. Many people believe priority should be given to developing the type of microcomputers used in technical transformation, quality control and enterprise management, and that the conditions for such development are now available.

In the first nine months of this year, the electronics industry increased its output value by 24.4 per cent over the same 1982 period, far exceeding the growth rate of 7 per cent stipulated in the Sixth Five-Year Plan. Fifty-five per cent more medium-sized and small computers and 240 per cent more microcomputers were produced. When some small factories in Shanghai installed microcomputers, their efficiency and the quality of their products improved remarkably. Now, the supply of microcomputers falls far short of demand.

The idea of "grasping the opportunity and taking the challenge" has now been incorporated into China's development strategy. It is expected to distil into concrete plans in the near future, and set off even more scientific, technological, economic, cultural and educational advancement.

— Economic Editor Jin Qi

Hu concludes his historic Japan visit

HU Yaobang, General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee, concluded his week-long visit to Japan on Nov. 30. It was hailed by the Japanese as marking a new epoch in Sino-Japanese relations.

Sightseeing

After his four-day stay in Tokyo, Hu toured Hokkaido, Sapporo, Osaka, Kyoto, Hyogo, Kobe and Nagasaki.

Hu and his party visited the Historical Museum of Hokkaido, in which they saw an exhibition on the history and development of Hokkaido. They also visited the Development of the North Village, and a family animal farm in Hokkaido.

In Osaka, Hu's visit included an electronics pavilion in the



Hu Yaobang meets with Japanese youth representatives in Hyogo Prefecture who have previously visited China.

Osaka Fair, marking the 400th anniversary of the old Osaka castle, the Sakai Plant of the Nippon Steel Corporation and a video equipment making factory of the Matsushita Electric Industrial Corporation at Kadoma.

At Mount Arashiyama near Kyoto, Hu presented a bouquet and paid his respects at the

Premier Zhou Enlai Memorial Poem Tablet.

After arriving in Kobe, the Chinese leader was taken to the top of a tower for a bird's-eye view of the well-known, 4,360,000-square-metre man-made island, which serves as quarters for living, working, playing and learning.

Hu and his party visited Nagasaki Peace Park, and laid a wreath at memorial to Nagasaki citizens killed by the atomic bomb dropped on August 9, 1945.

Hu and his entourage enjoyed the enthusiastic hospitality of the Japanese people wherever they went.

During his Japanese tour, Hu was deeply impressed by the economic and technological achievements of the people all over Japan.

Achievements

As Hu Yaobang returned home from Nagasaki, the success of his visit was evident. Both the Chinese and Japanese



Hu Yaobang visits the Premier Zhou Enlai Memorial Poem Tablet on Mt. Arashiyama near Kyoto, and chats with Mogosaburo Yoshimura (centre), chairman of the committee that erected the tablet.

pledged to hand down their relationship of good-neighbourliness and friendship through the next century and beyond. To ensure this, 3,000 Japanese young people will visit China next autumn, and 12,000 more will visit in 1989, when the People's Republic of China celebrates its 40th anniversary.

Both countries also agreed to establish a joint committee for China-Japan friendship in the 21st century, and will work together to ensure peace and stability in Asia and the rest of the world.

Far-Reaching Impact

In the 11 years since Sino-Japanese relations were normalized, and particularly since the signing of the Treaty of Peace and Friendship five years ago, the two nations have made unprecedented progress in their exchanges and co-operation in economics, science, technology and culture. Enormous potential remains in this respect.

A matter of great concern to the people and leaders of both countries is how to be sure the efforts of their older generation will be passed on into the 21st century. Hu visited Japan to promote understanding, strengthen friendship and, together with the Japanese Government and people, work for the long-term, stable development of Sino-Japanese friendly relations.

At present, the international situation is very turbulent. If Sino-Japanese relations are to develop, the leaders of both countries must exchange views on bilateral relations and international issues of mutual concern, and deepen their mutual trust and understanding. That's why Hu's visit received great attention from the people of the two nations and the world.

Hu's visit to Japan has laid the foundation for a new era in Sino-Japanese friendship, and will have a far-reaching impact on the further development of relations between the two countries.

Trudeau praised for peace efforts

Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau of Canada, during his recent two-day working visit to Beijing, was praised by Deng Xiaoping for his efforts towards world peace.

Meeting with Trudeau on Nov. 29 to discuss major international issues, Deng, Chairman of the Central Advisory Commission of the Chinese Communist Party, said: "You have been working for easing the tense international situation. Such efforts are very important."

"We should," he said, "let the superpowers constantly

hear the voice of various countries opposing their nuclear armaments race."

Trudeau said the Canadian Government appreciates China's position of demanding that the two superpowers reduce their nuclear arsenals. Canada and China, he said, share a desire to respond to the people's aspiration for peace.

In talks with Premier Zhao Ziyang on Nov. 28, Trudeau expressed hope that more political leaders would show concern over the acute tension in the international situation and make efforts to ease it.

Zhao said the Chinese Government fully understands Trudeau's concern. He expressed his appreciation of Trudeau's efforts to improve East-West relations and to ease international tension.

Reiterating China's longstanding policy on disarmament, Zhao said: "China will make a serious study of the proposals put forward by Prime Minister Trudeau and leaders of other countries."



Deng Xiaoping meets with Pierre Trudeau.

On US Congress' 'two Chinas' move

The spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Dec. 6 answered some questions put by a Xinhua correspondent on the recent attempts in the US Congress to create "two Chinas." Following are the questions and answers:

Question: What is the nature of the recent successive attempts in the US Congress to create "two Chinas"?

Answer: Recently, the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee adopted a resolution on the "future of Taiwan," and then the US Senate and House of Representatives adopted an amendment to an appropriations bill concerning the Asian Development Bank. These are acts of crude interference in China's internal affairs and open attempts at creating "two Chinas" or "one China, one Taiwan," which totally contradict the principles established in the Communique on the Establishment of Sino-US Diplomatic Relations and seriously hurt the Chinese people's national feelings. On this account the Chinese Government has lodged strong protests with the US Government.

Q: What has been the reaction of the US Government to the Chinese Government's protests?

A: The US Government has reacted to the representations made by the Chinese Government. Through its reply note, the remarks of senior officials and the spokesmen of the White House and the State Department and the statement made by President Reagan himself on signing

the appropriations bill, the US Government has indicated the following:

(1) The related resolution and bill do not reflect the position of President Reagan and his administration.

(2) The US Government recognizes the People's Republic of China as the sole legal government of China.

(3) The US administration was against adoption of the resolution on the "future of Taiwan" by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

(4) With regard to the amendment concerning the Asian Development Bank, President Reagan reiterated the principle of recognizing only one China, and he made it clear that his signing of the bill did not reflect any change in the US position with respect to China and that the terminology in the amendment is not consistent with US government policy. The US State Department further said that Taiwan's participation in the Asian Development Bank can be settled within the framework of the policy of recognizing the People's Republic of China as the sole legal government of China.

We are dissatisfied with the failure of the US Government to oppose in explicit terms in its reply note and statements the substance of the resolution and the bill that constitutes a violation of China's sovereignty and an interference in China's internal affairs. In this connection, the Chinese Government

has already made clear its just position.

Q: Under the present circumstances, what is the Chinese Government's attitude regarding the development of Sino-US relations?

A: The position of the Chinese Government regarding Sino-US relations has been consistent. We have always attached importance to our relations with the United States and have exerted efforts for their development. But we have also repeatedly pointed out that obstacles still exist in the relations between China and the United States and that the crux is the question of Taiwan. Any words or deeds that constitute interference in China's internal affairs or amount to creation of "two Chinas" will meet with China's firm opposition. Now that the US Government has made clarifications and promises on the related resolution and bill, we expect the US Government to fulfil its promises by concrete actions in full compliance with the provisions of the Sino-US Communique on the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations and the Joint Communique of August 17, 1982.

Q: Will Premier Zhao Ziyang visit the United States as scheduled?

A: Premier Zhao Ziyang will visit the United States next January in accordance with the agreement between the two Governments on the exchange of visits between Premier Zhao and President Reagan.

Textiles petition seen as damaging

China has repeated its hope that the United States will deal with China's textile exports to the United States "properly," to avoid damaging trade relations between the two countries.

A spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade on Nov. 30 issued China's second statement in the past two months on the recent US Commerce Department decision to hear a petition seeking a special duty on China's textile exports to the United States. The statement said China hopes the US Government "will keep in mind the broad spectrum of economic and trade relations between the two countries, and handle the textile issue carefully and properly so that these relations will not be jeopardized."

The issue first arose on Sept. 12 when certain American textile manufacturers charged in a petition to the US Commerce Department that the Chinese Government had "subsidized" textile exports to the United States, and asked the US Government to levy a countervailing duty to offset the alleged subsidies.

China had brought the matter up with the United States on Sept. 27, hoping that it would not accept the case, which could affect the development of economic and trade relations between the two countries.

However, the US Commerce Department decided to accept it, and on Oct. 27 the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade issued a statement (see *Beijing Review*, No. 45, p.8) calling the petition "groundless"

and warning of the "grave consequences" that could arise.

The latest statement explained that Chinese import and export trade follows the state plan for the entire economy. Export commodities are purchased at domestic prices and sold at prices prevailing on the international market. Import goods are bought at international prices and sold at domestic prices. There is no direct relation between the domestic and international prices of import and export commodities.

Foreign exchange rates, it said, do not depend on the purchase and sale of import and export commodities abroad. The use of foreign exchange prices for internal settlement of trade transactions is intended to

meet the needs of China's economic opening to the outside world and to further the reform of its foreign trade management system. It applies to all import and export commodities, to all countries and regions, and to all enterprises and corporations.

There is no such thing as a government subsidy of any commodity, it said, and China has no internal multi-price settlements, nor has it applied special price settlements to any import or export commodities.

"China and the United States have different social and economic systems," the Ministry said. "The United States cannot judge China's exchange prices and settlement practice by the criteria of capitalist countries in general."

Peru's Vice-President pays visit to China

In a meeting on Nov. 26 with Javier Alva Orlandini, General Secretary of the Peruvian Popular Action Party and Second Vice-President of Peru, President Li Xiannian said both countries were faced with the common tasks of defending their independence and sovereignty, developing their national economies, improving living standards and establishing a just, reasonable new international economic order.

Peru was one of the first Latin American countries to establish diplomatic relations with China, in 1971, the President and Standing Committee Member of the Political Bureau of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee noted at the Shanghai meeting. Their relationship has been developing ever since, he said.

Vice-President Alva said Chi-

na's social model attracts the attention of the world. The Chinese Government and people are making concerted efforts to overcome underdevelopment and improve the social welfare, he added.

Ji Pengfei, Standing Committee Member of the Central Advisory Commission of the CPC, told Alva the Chinese Communist Party is willing to develop its relations with friendly political parties the world over on the basis of equality, mutual benefit and mutual respect. Ji said he hoped the Chinese Communist Party and the Peruvian Popular Action Party would strengthen their contacts and co-operation.

Qian Liren, Head of the International Liaison Department of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee, also met with Alva.

Chinese Leaders Greet Yugoslavia

Chinese Party and state leaders have sent messages of congratulations to their Yugoslav counterparts marking the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

The messages were sent on Nov. 28 by Hu Yaobang, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party; President Li Xiannian; Peng Zhen, Chairman of the National People's Congress Standing Committee; and Premier Zhao Ziyang to Dragoslav Markovic, President of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, Yugoslav President Milka Spiljak, Assembly President Vojo Srzentic and

Executive Council President Milka Planinc.

The messages said the Communists and people of China follow Yugoslavia's development with great interest and are gladdened by the achievements of the Yugoslav people during the past 40 years.

The messages expressed satisfaction with friendly co-operation between the two Parties, countries and peoples. To develop such comprehensive friendly co-operation on the basis of mutual trust, mutual respect and equality, the messages said, not only conforms with the fundamental interests of the two nations, but benefits continued world peace and promotes the progress of mankind.

Tunisia's stance praised by Zhao

Premier Zhao Ziyang has praised Tunisia and its President Habib Bourguiba for pursuing an independent policy in international affairs, adhering to a principled stand, upholding justice and firmly supporting the just struggle of the Palestinian people.

Meeting with Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi and his party on Dec. 4, Zhao reiterated China's independent foreign policy, emphasizing closer unity and co-operation with third world countries.

"The fundamental solution of the Middle East problem depends on the unity of the Arab World," he said.

"China is willing to continue to work together with Tunisia," Zhao said, "to promote the unity of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the unity between the PLO and Arab countries as well as the unity between the Arab world and Africa."

Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian met with his Tunisian counterpart for in-depth discussions on the situation in the Middle East and Africa and on a number of major international issues.

On the Middle East problem,

the two sides agreed that the Palestinian people's national rights, including their right to self-determination, must be fully respected. The two sides expressed support for the PLO headed by Chairman Yasser Arafat and for the Palestinian people in their just struggle.

They called for unity within the PLO and among Arab countries to cope with Israel's policy of aggression and expansion.

British scientist gets national award

A world-famous British scientist has received the National Award of Natural Science, First Class, the first time China has conferred the award on a foreign scholar.

Professor Joseph Needham, 83, was presented with the award in London on Nov. 29 by Chen Zhaoyun, China's Ambassador to Britain. He also received an honorary doctorate from the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and was named an Honorary Professor of the academy's graduate school.

The national award is the highest given by the government for outstanding achievements in the natural sciences in China.

Dr. Needham spent many years studying the history of Chinese science, eventually writing his 20-volume *Science and Civilization in China*, the first comprehensive and systematic work in this subject. Of the book's seven parts, five have been published.



Liu Shaoqi and Mao Zedong at the 1962 Enlarged Working Conference convened by the CPC Central Committee.

In commemoration of Liu Shaoqi

November 24 this year was the 85th birthday of Liu Shaoqi, the late Chairman of the People's Republic of China.

To mark the occasion, *Renmin Ribao* and other major newspapers in Beijing devoted their front pages on that day to excerpts from a report entitled "Persist in the Fine Style of Work and Improve Inner-Party Life," given by Liu Shaoqi to the Enlarged Working Conference convened by the CPC Central Committee in January 1962. In its editor's note, *Renmin Ribao* said it was publishing the article to commemorate "a great Marxist, proletarian revolutionary and outstanding leader of our Party and state."

The November issue of *Ji You* (Philately) carried a letter Liu Shaoqi wrote to the people of his home village — Huaminglou Township in Ningxiang County, Hunan Province — on October 23, 1953. The letter shows his true concern for the development of the countryside.

The Ministry of Post and Telecommunications also issued four stamps on November 24 to mark the occasion.

Recently, more exhibits were added to the visitor's centre at Liu Shaoqi's former home. Deng Xiaoping, Member of the Standing Committee of the CPC Central Committee's Political Bureau and Chairman of the Central Advisory Commission, did the calligraphy, "Former Residence of Comrade Liu Shaoqi," for the exhibition.

Liu Shaoqi was born in Hunan in 1898. He was involved for a long time in the workers' movement and underground work for the Party. He stood firm and made outstanding contributions in his struggle against reactionary forces, thus becoming one of the most respected leaders of China's proletariat.

In 1959, he was elected Chairman of the People's Republic of China. In 1969, he was persecuted to death by the Lin Biao and Jiang Qing counter-revolu-

tionary cliques. After the downfall of the Lin Biao and Jiang Qing cliques, the Party Central Committee held a solemn memorial meeting for him in 1980.

The exhibition at Liu Shaoqi's former residence was opened to the public in March 1980. It is divided among his revolutionary activities when he was young, his great revolutionary practices, his investigation tours of his hometown, and the memories the Chinese people cherish of him.

Writers discuss cultural pollution

Seven well-known poets, writers and literary critics answered questions put by Chinese and foreign journalists on clearing away ideological contamination at a press conference held on November 4.

Ideological contamination refers to bourgeois liberalism advertised by some theoreticians, writers, and artists, to the distrust of the Party and socialism they spread in their works, to extreme individualism and moribund class sentiments and to the idea of looking at money as everything.

When asked whether there would be a second "cultural revolution," poet Ai Qing answered, "The calamity known by everybody will never be repeated." He also said that he and his colleagues did not feel any pressure about clearing ideological contamination, because they all welcome it. He has already written two articles criticizing ideological contamination.

When a foreign reporter compared the present situation with



Poet Ai Qing (second from left, front row) talking with Chinese and foreign correspondents.

that preceding the anti-Rightist struggle in 1957, writer Deng Youmei, who was once wrongly labelled a "Rightist," said, "If anyone should feel nervous, it should be me. But I have not felt nervous at all." He added that to clear ideological contamination does not mean that writers will not be allowed to portray the seamy side of contemporary life. "However, while exposing mistakes and shortcomings, the writer should encourage people to overcome them."

Wang Meng, chief editor of *People's Literature*, said that criticism was not a bad thing. He hoped that criticism would become regular in the future. "I don't think the spear is pointed at intellectuals," he said. "The way I see it, the relationship between the Party and intellectuals is closer than at any period in the past. Through eliminating ideological contamination, the writers are required to reach a higher level both in ways of dealing with life and in artistic styles of creation."

Tang Dacheng, deputy editor-in-chief of the national literary gazette *Wenyi Bao*, said that works encouraging selfish attitudes are incompatible with socialist ethics. A foreign correspondent agreed that such works are fostering a generation of "solipsism."

When asked what effect the elimination of ideological contamination would have on writers, Ai Qing said that no writer would be ordered to lay down his or her pen for having written some bad works. It was necessary to point out that it was not right to write those works, but criticism would be offered in a comradely way.

Ai Qing, asked whether Chinese writers have enough freedom, said, "Nobody tells me what to write about."

Ai Qing, Wang Meng and the others believed that China would continue its policy of opening to the outside world. "By carrying out this policy, we'll get in touch with and study the rest of the world,"

said Tang Dacheng. "We'll learn and study everything excellent, progressive and healthy," he continued. "However, considering the differences in national cultural traditions and the world outlooks of writers, in addition to present conditions, some foreign works might be appropriate in their own countries, but would not be so in China if they were mechanically transplanted. We should assimilate selectively, rather than copying everything blindly. This is what we call 'making foreign things serve China.'"

Others at the press conference were poet He Jingzhi and writers Sen Rong and Zhu Ziqi.

Zhou Yang makes self-criticism

Zhou Yang, Chairman of the China Federation of Literary and Art Circles, said during an interview with Xinhua earlier last month that he realized there were shortcomings and mistakes in his report on the concept of "alienation," which he read at a symposium marking the centenary of the death of Karl Marx last March.

"I did not pay proper attention to drawing a clear line of demarcation between Marxist and bourgeois views on this question," he said. Thus this report could easily be distorted and utilized by certain anti-socialist people. It also might cause some weak-willed and wavering people to lose confidence in the future of socialism and communism, he said.

The concept of "alienation," Zhou said, was a complicated question deserving exploration, which had been discussed at

length by scholars both at home and abroad. It takes time to view this issue in its proper perspective. But it was rash and imprudent for me to bring up this concept on such a serious occasion, he said.

"As a result of my incorrect assessment of the situation in recent years," Zhou said, "I was preoccupied with opposing 'Left' errors without giving much thought to the grave influence of bourgeois ideology, which has been seeping into China since the policy of opening to the outside world was implemented." Zhou Yang said that he had not fully recognized or studied the question of ideological contamination in philosophy, literature and art.

Zhou said after the Second Plenum of the 12th Party Central Committee, General Secretary Hu Yaobang and some other comrades spoke at a meeting of the Central Advisory Commission of the CPC, of which Zhou is a member. "They made serious and principled criticisms. But they also helped me with warmth, and I have benefited greatly from their criticisms," he said.

On humanism, Zhou said socialist humanism must be combined with the Party's central task of promoting socialist construction and carrying on class struggle within a limited scope. The realities of socialist development, its possibilities and requirements must also be considered. Otherwise, discussions of "alienation" inevitably get bogged down in abstractions and are liable to misunderstanding and distortion, he added.

Zhou Yang said bourgeois humanist thought and its proponents should be analysed carefully for the different roles they played in history. But as

for the humanism claimed by bourgeois politicians, it is nothing more than false sentiment, Zhou said.

Zhou held that the fundamental error of the various bourgeois humanists was that they all resorted to abstractions in trying to explain history. This is idealism, he said, which is worlds apart from the Marxist ideological system.

Finally, Zhou Yang said he hoped that the Party consolidation and the struggle against ideological contamination would breathe a new life into the Party's working style and into social mores. Socialist literature and art will certainly flourish, Zhou concluded.

Crime rate drops after September

The crime rate in September and October was at its lowest in recent years, now that public security units throughout the country have meted out quick, severe punishment to criminals.

The crime rate dropped 46.7 per cent from August to September, of which major crimes went down 38.7 per cent. In October, the crime rate fell by another 11.5 per cent, and major crimes decreased 28.5 per cent.

According to statistics from 18 big cities, the crime rate went down by 46 per cent from August to September, of which major crimes fell by 48 per cent. There is a continued downward trend in October.

On September 2 this year, the Second Session of the 6th NPC Standing Committee decided to increase the maximum penalties, including capital punishment, which can be impos-

ed on offenders who cause grave harm to the social order and public security.

The decision has been firmly endorsed by government and security units, and warmly welcomed by the people. Many criminal gangs have been rounded up, and a number of unsolved crimes have now been settled. Public security and social order are improving remarkably.

Some offenders, impelled by the government's policy and persuaded by their parents, spouses, brothers and sisters, have confessed their crimes and have thus received more lenient punishment. By the end of October, 607 criminals in Beijing turned themselves in to public security units.

Although public security is improving, it has not yet equalled the best record since the founding of the People's Republic. The struggle must be continued.

US-Chiang Kai-shek atrocities shown

An exhibition showing the atrocities of US reactionaries and the Chiang Kai-shek clique in the concentration camp of the "Sino-American Co-operation Organization" (SACO) opened November 27 at the Capital Museum.

The exhibition commemorates the death of more than 300 revolutionaries who were killed in the SACO 34 years ago, on November 27, 1949, on the eve of the liberation of Chongqing.

The SACO, a centre of fascist agents, was established in 1942 in Chongqing by US reactionaries and the Chiang Kai-shek clique, under the pretext of ex-

changing information on the war against the Japanese invaders. Actually, it was a centre for suppressing the revolutionary movement of the Chinese people.

Many objects, photographs, charts and films show the history of the SACO—its formation, evolution and doom. While exposing the appalling atrocities committed by the reactionaries, they eulogize the heroic struggle and lofty spirit of the revolutionary martyrs.

The exhibition also covers the heroic deeds of Generals Ye Ting, Yang Hucheng and Huang Xiansheng, the murder of the dauntless Communist Song Qiyun and his family and the tireless struggle Communists like Luo Shiwen, Che Yaoxian, Xu Xiaoxuan, Jiang Zhuyun, Chen Ran and others waged in the camp.

In memory of General Yang

The late patriotic Kuomintang general who was one of the initiators of the Xian Incident, Yang Hucheng, was remembered on Nov. 26 at a meeting to mark his 90th birthday. Five hundred people from all walks of life attended the memorial meeting at Beijing's Great Hall of the People.

Born into a peasant family in Shaanxi Province in 1893, Yang Hucheng joined Sun Yat-sen's 1911 Revolution when he was 18. He also took part in the Northern Expedition in 1927, and subsequently rose to important posts in the Kuomintang army and government. After the



At the exhibition on General Yang Hucheng at his former home, Yan Zhicheng, a former bodyguard company leader, tells stories of the general.

September 18th Incident of 1931, when the Japanese invaded northeast China, he actively advocated resistance against Japan.

On December 12, 1936, he and General Zhang Xueliang detained Chiang Kai-shek in Xian to force him to end the civil war ravaging China. Later General Yang was detained by Chiang Kai-shek in Chongqing's "Sino-American Co-operation Organization" concentration camp, and was secretly murdered there in September 1949.

Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China Wang Zhen said at the meeting that General Yang was a sincere friend of the Communist Party of China. He agreed with Sun Yat-sen's Three Great Policies (alliance with Russia, co-operation with the Communist Party and assistance to the workers and peasants), and supported the stand of the Party for national salvation. The Xian Incident

promoted the second instance of co-operation between the Kuomintang and the Communist Party, and gave new impetus to the nation's struggle against Japanese aggression. In memory of General Yang, Wang Zhen said we must carry on his spirit of patriotism and strive to promote the third instance of co-operation between the Kuomintang and the Communist Party, to return Taiwan to the embrace of the motherland.

Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Committee of the Kuomintang Qu Wu said we cherish the memory of General Yang and express our great concern for Zhang Xueliang, who is still in custody in Taipei. Qu Wu said the Taiwan authorities, headed by Mr. Chiang Ching-kuo, should follow the trend of the time, draw lessons from the past, and work hard for a third instance of co-operation between the Kuomintang and the Communist Party of China and for accomplishing the reunification of the motherland.

*Nuclear disarmament***China's proposal points the way**

WITH the recent breakdown of the US-Soviet talks in Geneva on medium-range missiles, the rivalry between the two superpowers for nuclear superiority in Europe has grown even tenser and the threat of nuclear war more serious. The United States has started deploying its Pershing II missiles in Western Europe and the Soviet Union has suspended disarmament talks indefinitely and counter-deployed missiles in Eastern Europe.

Around the world, people are calling for an end to the arms race and for nuclear disarmament. Those concerned with safeguarding world peace are exploring ways to remove the threat of war and promote nuclear disarmament. However, despite years of disarmament talks between the two superpowers, with numerous proposals and drafts being put forward, the Soviet and US nuclear arsenals, far from being reduced, have risen both in numbers and quality. How then can real disarmament be achieved?

China's representative to the UN General Assembly has made a new proposal at the current session on the reduction of nuclear arms. After the Soviet Union and the United States have taken practical action to stop testing, improving and manufacturing nuclear weapons and have agreed to reduce by half their nuclear weapons and delivery systems of all types, a widely representative international conference should be convened with the participation

of all nuclear-weapons nations to negotiate a general nuclear arms reduction.

China's new proposal, made in light of the current international situation and the state of the world's nuclear arsenals, indicates clearly the main parties involved and the eventual goal of nuclear disarmament, and the measures needed to achieve it. China has a longstand-

ing position on nuclear disarmament, namely, all nuclear weapons must be destroyed and banned. The new proposal is a concrete step to realize this under the present circumstances.

The nuclear arsenals of the two superpowers are about equal. However, while accusing each other of attempting to gain unilateral superiority, each one is trying to gain such a superiority itself under the pretext of "equilibrium." In doing so, the two superpowers have accumulated large stocks of nuclear weapons that pose a

On Suspension of Soviet-US Arms Talks

A senior Foreign Ministry official has urged the Soviet Union and the United States to carry out disarmament in earnest rather than use such negotiations as a cover-up for their rivalry for nuclear superiority, to the detriment of the security and interests of other countries.

Speaking on Nov. 30 at the Foreign Ministry's weekly news briefing, Wang Zhenyu, Deputy Director of the Information Department, said: "The Soviet-US negotiations that were under way for two years have been suspended because of the Soviet Union's walkout. During the negotiations, each side tried hard to strengthen itself and weaken the other under the pretext of seeking a 'balance.'

"With the suspension of the negotiations, the Soviet Union and the United States have started, one after the other, to deploy new missiles, each trying to surpass the other like a boat going up with the rise of the river, thus further escalating the already intensified nuclear arms race and making the situation in Europe more tense, thereby posing a grave threat to world peace and security.

"The Soviet-US dispute over intermediate-range nuclear arms is the outcome of their rivalry in Europe and their nuclear arms race. The people of Europe have expressed grave concern and anxiety over this development and have launched a mammoth anti-nuclear movement, the main thrust of which reflects their legitimate demand for peace and for the reduction of armaments by the two superpowers, and their opposition to war and the nuclear arms race. We understand and support it.

"The Chinese people love peace and they desire a stable international environment in which to carry out peaceful national construction. China has always opposed the nuclear arms race between the Soviet Union and the United States in any part of the world and maintained that they should take the lead in drastically reducing and destroying their huge nuclear arsenals.

"It goes without saying that China, as an Asian country, also opposes the Soviet-US nuclear arms race in Asia. We hold that the nuclear weapons already deployed in Asia should be drastically reduced or destroyed."

grave threat to world peace. It is only right that they take the lead in stopping the testing, improving and manufacturing of nuclear weapons and in drastically reducing their nuclear weapons and delivery systems.

The two superpowers have no grounds whatsoever to refuse this. Rivalry for superiority can only prolong their arms race for ever. The steadily growing nuclear arsenals threaten not only the security of the superpowers but of the entire world.

Only by taking concrete measures to achieve nuclear disarmament and the destruction of all nuclear weapons can the threat of war be removed.

When demanding that the superpowers take the lead in arms reduction, China does not mean that they should be acting alone. The proposal at the United Nations suggested that once the superpowers have reached — not necessarily carried out — an agreement on reducing their nuclear arsenals by half, an international conference should discuss joint and proportional reduction and elimination of nuclear weapons by all countries possessing them. An agreement between the two superpowers in this respect would not only create an atmosphere of mutual trust but would win the confidence of other countries and eliminate interference in a non-stop arms reduction.

The new proposal shows again that China, as a nuclear country, is ready to assume its responsibility in arms reduction when the right time comes. However, if the superpowers possessing the largest nuclear arsenals refuse to take the lead in reducing nuclear weapons while trying to limit those countries with a small number

of nuclear arms, China will never take part in such a deal.

It should be pointed out that China proposed an international conference as one step in the entire process of arms reduction. This is completely different from a proposed "world arms reduction conference," which has neither clear aims nor concrete measures. For some time, one superpower has repeatedly called for such a world conference, but has remained silent on the superpowers' responsibility to act first to reduce nuclear arms. Such a conference indiscriminately calls on all countries to reduce arms. Therefore, it could not stop the nuclear arms race between superpowers; nor could it convince other coun-

tries of the superpower's sincerity. It would not result in the disarmament expected by the people of the world and thus has no practical significance.

The small arsenal of nuclear weapons possessed by China exists solely to deal with the nuclear threat of the superpowers. China will never threaten anyone or seek hegemony with nuclear weapons, and will never be the first to use nuclear weapons. Its new proposal fully manifests the Chinese Government's peaceful foreign policy and the Chinese people's consistent and sincere desire for nuclear disarmament.

— "Renmin Ribao" Commentator (Excerpts)

Middle East

US, Israel strengthen military ties

WHEN Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir met with US President Ronald Reagan in Washington on Nov. 28, the main topic of their talks was closer "strategic co-operation" to deal with what they perceive as the common threat posed by the increased Soviet involvement in the Middle East. The two leaders agreed to establish a joint military-political committee, which will meet in January to plan US-Israeli military exercises. Other areas of "strategic co-operation" discussed by the two leaders included the stockpiling of US military supplies in Israel and US assistance to that country.

Closer ties with Israel and increased "strategic co-operation" are by no means new ideas with Reagan. He has always seen Israel as his "hatchet man" in the Middle East, ready to protect US interests there.

Shortly after his inauguration in 1981, Reagan was trying to forge such a "strategic relationship" with Israel and signed a "memorandum of understanding on strategic co-operation." In the same year, former Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin also proposed "strategic co-operation" with the United States.

However, a series of events prevented implementation of these proposals: Israel's bombing of an Iraqi nuclear station, its invasion of Lebanon, opposition to Reagan's Middle East programme, and the establishment of more settlements on the West Bank of the Jordan River. Washington was displeased with Israel's unilateral military adventurism, which damaged its interests in the Middle East and kept it from meeting its goal of improved ties with moderate Arab countries and

thereby consolidating its position in the region and furthering its global strategy of containing Soviet expansion.

Israel, after signing an agreement with Lebanon last May on the withdrawal of foreign troops from that country, suddenly dispatched troops to invade southern Lebanon, sharpening internal conflicts among various Lebanese factions. US marines were also involved in the confrontation. Then in October more than 230 Americans died in a bomb attack on US marine headquarters in Beirut. The Reagan administration came under great pressure from both the US public and Congress to withdraw US troops from the Middle East. Trying to extricate himself from the predicament, Reagan adopted measures to strengthen US-Israel "strategic co-operation" so as to let Israel play a greater role in Mideast affairs both politically

and militarily. His aim was to deal with those hard-line Arab countries and put pressure on some Arab countries to adopt a moderate stance.

Observers say Reagan and Shamir have taken the new action to meet domestic needs. Reagan, in an attempt to win the support of American Jews in the upcoming presidential election, is making great efforts to strengthen ties with Israel. The newly appointed Israeli Prime Minister, beset with difficulties both at home and abroad, is anxious to gain greater US backing.

On the other hand, the US-Israeli co-operation reflects the United States' determination to engage in a global confrontation with the Soviet Union. To undermine the Soviet military superiority in Europe, Washington has already deployed advanced missiles in the major

West European countries. It is trying to get Soviet forces out of Latin America and recently invaded Grenada, ignoring the principles of international law. This was Washington's gravest military invasion since the Viet Nam war.

The Soviet Union, taking advantage of the Arab countries' anti-US sentiments, has strengthened its activities in the Middle East since Israel invaded Lebanon, sending large quantities of Soviet arms and numerous military personnel into the region. Washington has concentrated its largest naval force in the Mediterranean since World War II, saying that it will avenge the bomb attack on the US marine headquarters.

Washington's and Israel's new "strategic co-operation" is an important step to exclude the Soviet Union from the Middle East and leave the United States in control of the region.

The intervention by a variety of forces in the Middle East, especially the two superpowers, is worrying. Internal feuding in the Palestine Liberation Organization has not stopped yet; national reconciliation is still out of sight in Lebanon; Israel is strengthening its occupation of the southern part of Lebanon; the Iran-Iraq war has increased tension in the Gulf; and differences and conflicts have reappeared among Arab countries. It is bad news to hear that the United States and Israel has strengthened their "strategic co-operation." The Arab countries must keep up their vigilance and strengthen their unity to meet any unexpected incidents.

— Zhong Tai

US Military Intervention Condemned

CHINA has strongly condemned growing US military intervention in the Middle East. A spokesman of the Chinese Foreign Ministry on Dec. 5 said that attacks on Syrian and Palestine Liberation Organization positions by US and Israeli aircraft have increased tension in the Middle East. "We strongly condemn this," he said.

Renmin Ribao, in a commentary on Dec. 6, pointed out that the US-Israeli air strikes against Syrian positions in Lebanon and the US Sixth Fleet's shelling of Druze positions in Lebanon's Shouf area were grave provocations against the Arab people.

For a long time, the commentary noted, Israeli aggression and expansion have been inseparable from US support and connivance. In order to step up its contention with the other superpower in the Middle East, the United States is using various pretexts to gradually expand its military involvement in Lebanon and the rest of the Middle East. "The recent US air strikes and bombardment show that US military involvement in the region's conflicts is growing and they signal a worsening of the situation in Lebanon and the whole Middle East.

The commentary said that the recent US-Israeli attacks were the result of Washington and Tel Aviv beginning to implement their new agreement on "strategic co-operation." Peace in the Middle East will be gravely threatened if the situation there continues to develop in this direction, it said.

Storm over Turkish Cypriot state

WHEN the "Republic of Northern Cyprus" was proclaimed by Turkish Cypriots, relations between Greece and Turkey, neighbouring allies in the Atlantic Alliance but antagonists on the Aegean Sea, became tense, adding to the already turbulent situation in the southeast Mediterranean. However, the storm over the newly declared republic seems to have calmed down quickly. This is due to the wise approaches taken by those concerned. Greece's recent agreement to Britain's proposal for three-way talks among the guarantor states of Cyprus is one encouraging sign.

Promoting Talks

Although the Turkish Government swiftly recognized the new state and rejected the UN Security Council resolution which considered the declaration of the republic as "legally invalid" and called for its withdrawal, Turkey has encouraged talks between the two Cypriot communities. Turkish Foreign Minister Ilter Turkmen said that the founding of the republic does not necessarily mean a permanent division of Cyprus, and rejecting it will not help the two communities reach a compromise.

Owing to language, religion, customs and other reasons, there are deep differences between the two communities on Cyprus, which have given rise to bloody conflicts in the past. Since 1963, the Cypriot governments have been comprised of Greek Cypriots. The Turkish Cypriots refused to recognize the authority of these administrations or par-

ticipate in their activities. On Feb. 13, 1975, the Turkish Cypriot Federated State was proclaimed. However, its new president, Rauf Denktash, said he would not seek international recognition of the state. Since then two separate authorities — the internationally recognized Cypriot Government of the southern Greek Cypriots, and the northern Turkish Cypriot authorities supported by Turkey — have, in fact, existed on the island. Negotiations for eight years with no results.

On Nov. 17, Denktash, leader of the republic, said his people's declaration of independence two days earlier would aid the negotiating process by underlining the equality of the two parties, which had been "ridiculed and undermined" by the Greek Cypriots. The declaration was probably aimed at gaining a better bargaining position in the UN mediations, in order to establish a federal, two-zone state.

Restraint on All Sides

Greece's reaction to the declaration has been strong, but it has all along emphasized diplomatic efforts to solve the problem. Greek ministers and envoys were sent to various West European and Arab capitals to win support for withholding recognition of the "Republic of Northern Cyprus." In Nicosia, the attitude of the Cypriot Government is the same. When asked if force might be used to reunite Cyprus if diplomatic efforts failed, Cypriot President Spyros Kyprianou said, "This, in our view, is not the answer. The answer

lies in peaceful effective steps to change what has happened."

It is this restraint by all parties concerned which keeps the "green line" dividing the two parts of the island quiet, although the declaration was celebrated in the northern sector of Nicosia and demonstrated against in the southern sector, and some 2,500 UN peace-keeping forces stationed on the border of the two communities were put on alert.

Concerned that the conflict between Greece and Turkey and the split in Cyprus might harm its strategic interests in the Mediterranean and the Middle East, the Reagan administration has carefully avoided any crisis in its relations with Turkey. It did ask Ankara to use its influence to reverse the declaration, but refrained from condemning it.

In its Nov. 18 resolution, the UN Security Council appealed to all states to respect the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and non-alignment of Cyprus, and not to recognize any Cypriot state other than the Republic of Cyprus. So far, besides Turkey, only Bangladesh has reportedly recognized the newly declared state, but in Dacca officials denied the report.

The Council also asked the UN Secretary-General to pursue his mission of good offices in order to achieve the earliest possible progress towards a just and lasting settlement in Cyprus. So long as both the Greek and Turkish Cypriots consider their common interests and the good of the whole island, and persist in negotiations, it will not be difficult for them to seek a fair and reasonable solution to their dispute, in spite of the longer time it may take.

— "Beijing Review" News Analyst Ren Wenhui



Hopes on Younger Generation

Speech by General Secretary Hu Yaobang at a rally of Japanese youth

Following is the full text of the speech made by Hu Yaobang, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, at a November 26 rally organized by the steering committee of the Japanese youth for welcoming General Secretary Hu Yaobang, the Japan-China Friendship Association and four other Japan-China friendship organizations.

— Ed.

IT is an important programme of my visit to Japan to meet representatives of the Japanese youth from various fields in your country today. I myself proposed that this programme be arranged. My colleagues and I are very grateful to you for the cordial support and meticulous arrangements made by the heads of the Japanese Government and various friendship organizations in your country.

In order to meet all of you, I especially asked Comrade Wang Zhaoguo, the leading member of the biggest organization of Chinese young people, the Communist Youth League of China, to come with me. This action conveys the friendly sentiments

of the older and younger generation of China to the older and younger generations of Japan.

Hopes and Demands

I wish to take this opportunity to brief our friends on two points our government and the Communist Party of China demand of the Chinese youth.

First, they must work hard to build up their country.

Second, they must be friendly to the people, and especially the youth of other countries. That is to say, they must courageously dedicate themselves to the independence, unification, prosperity and power of their country, and never harm the interests of the nation and the people. They must resolutely safeguard and develop friendship with the people, the youth in particular, of other countries, and never encroach upon the interests of other peoples.

China was backward for a long time before liberation, and was subjected to endless bullying and humiliation. The extremely serious national crisis and calamities suffered by the people, as well as the heroic

struggles waged by the people to get rid of their tragic experience, made us realize fully how important and inviolable these two fundamental demands are! I can assure you, as well as other young friends all over the world, that the Chinese youth will uphold these two principles unflinchingly from one generation to another.

Frankly speaking, I have a special feeling of closeness to the young people. It is not just because I, like other elders, have had the experience of youth, but, more importantly, because I have engaged in youth work for 20 years. Long years of experience have convinced me that young people are the future of the nation and the hope of humanity, as well as the masters of the destiny and future of the state. This is a truth. Mankind will invariably advance from one generation to another, and the young people will also make constant advances through the generations. I sincerely hope you will look to the future and contribute your best to the peaceful development of your country and to the worthy cause of pre-

erving world peace and promoting the progress of humanity.

The Japanese nation is a great nation. The Japanese people have, since the war, built their country into a modern and economically developed nation through diligent efforts. Meanwhile, they have drawn a lesson from the past and gradually normalized relations with neighbouring countries. I warmly congratulate you on the flourishing of the Japanese nation. I am convinced that you can do still better when you take over from your elders.

Friendship Spanning The Generations

China and Japan are close neighbours, separated only by a narrow strip of water. The 2,000-year friendly exchange between the two countries is rare in world history. Serious confrontation over half a century, particularly the war of aggression launched by the Japanese militarists, brought untold suffering to both peoples. After efforts made by the people of this generation, the history of confrontation has been left behind and an entirely new chapter of friendly and harmonious relations has begun.

The common wish of the people of our two countries is to live in amity in future generations. This is a general objective and also an excellent ideal. If 30 years are taken as one generation, the first generation since World War II has passed. The task now at hand is to pass on the ties of friendship cemented by our present generation to the next one or two generations, so our friendship will grow firm and strong in the next 30 to 60 years. Only when one generation takes over the friendly ties from the previous one and improves them, can our two peo-

ples live in amity through all the future generations.

Therefore, when we leaders of both countries seek long-term and steady development of our good neighbourly and friendly relations, we pin particularly high hopes on the younger generations. We expect the young people of both countries, who have grown up in a time of peace, to understand and trust each other and recognize that peace and friendship between China and Japan did not come easily and that the two countries must and can possibly live in friendship, despite their different social systems and degrees of development.

Friendly coexistence requires a sense of modesty. A nation, whether big or small, strong or weak, has its own strengths and weaknesses. A country, even if highly developed and very powerful, needs to think soberly about the limits of its strength, and what can or cannot be done. It must consider what is in step with the historical trends and will lead to success, and what runs counter to the people's will and may court defeat. An American scholar, who warmly praised postwar Japan's achievements in construction in his book *Japan as the Number One*, also discussed those tragic events which can occur between nations. He referred to the moving stories of those all powerful and insufferably arrogant heroes in ancient Greek tragedies who offended Nemesis by their conceit and insolence and eventually invited their own doom. One story is about Icarus, who was so overjoyed because he had made himself wax wings, that he flew towards the sun. But the sun melted his wings, and he fell into the sea and drowned. I think the young people of our two countries can learn an im-

portant and valuable lesson from this story.

Chinese and Japanese Youth Join Hands

In order to strengthen the mutual understanding and friendship between young people in China and Japan, I will, on behalf of the Chinese people and youth, invite various friendship youth organizations in Japan to send 3,000 young friends to China next September and October, the golden season of autumn, for a week-long visit in our country. I hope this will be supported by the Japanese Government and the various friendship organizations. Of course, China is fairly backward economically and culturally, and there might not be much for you to see. Nevertheless, the long history of a neighbouring country, its vast territory and its large population who are engaged in peaceful construction are really worth understanding. I believe that our young friends in Japan are bound to see that the Chinese people, the youth included, are full of friendly feelings for all the Japanese.

I was told that you all very much like *The Song of Youth* in your country. Two stanzas in the song are, "The road you take is a long one. Why can you be so firm and indomitable and march forward courageously? The road you take is full of hope. When the morning sun shines, our young friends again start going ahead!" Is it true that the road of good neighbourliness and friendship the two great nations of China and Japan take is full of hope and morning sun? May the youth of China and Japan join hands and always march forward valiantly for the greater prosperity of both countries and the happier future of their peoples.

(The title and subheads
are ours. — Ed.)

Industry Thriving in Jiangsu Countryside

Our Correspondent Jing Wei

This is the last of three reports on the economy of Jiangsu Province. (The first two were published in issue Nos. 46 and 48). The constant hum of machines has awakened rural Jiangsu from its tranquil way of life and sounded an end to agriculture's domination of the local economy. "Beijing Review" correspondent Jing Wei tells why this change has had a profound significance for the countryside's economic structure and for the material and cultural life of the peasants. — Ed.

TO date, the 1,800 communes and their production brigades in rural Jiangsu have set up 70,000 industrial enterprises (including mining) by pooling the necessary funds and surplus labour created by a growing population and an increasingly efficient agricultural sector. These enterprises employ 3.5 million peasants or 15 per cent of the workforce. Their industrial output value in 1982 was 13,420 million yuan, or 26.7 per cent of the province's industrial total.

From Huaiyin in the north to the prosperous southern shore of the Changjiang (Yangtze), industry is sprouting overnight. The banks of the 1,300-year-old Grand Canal are lined with commune and brigade factories tapping local resources. The fertile Lixiahe region, for example, is studded with plants processing vegetables and other foodstuffs or producing goods of woven cattails.

In Hanjiang County, an area just north of the Changjiang known for its traditional arts and handicrafts, small factories produce jade carvings, gold and silver ornaments, embroidered slippers and flannel toys. These

products are selling briskly in China, Europe, North America, Japan and Southeast Asia.

Throughout the hilly regions of the province, quarries, lime and brick kilns, and cement plants are doing roaring business as the construction boom continues in the countryside.

"We have stressed all along," said one provincial official, "that commune and brigade enterprises should grow on the basis of local natural resources and in the light of local conditions."

In Wujiang County, in the extreme southeast of Jiangsu, one of China's four leading silk-producing areas, small weaving factories have long been known across the country for the brilliant colours and distinctive designs of their silk brocades. Near Wuxi, Changzhou and other industrial cities, the rural enterprises are growing at a quicker pace and on a larger scale than elsewhere in the



A factory run by Yaosai Commune in Jiangyin County produces more than 400,000 bedsheets every year, of which 100,000 are for export.

province owing to their strong economic foundation, their good transport service and the relatively high level of education among the peasants, who also have the help of technicians and skilled workers retired from nearby cities.

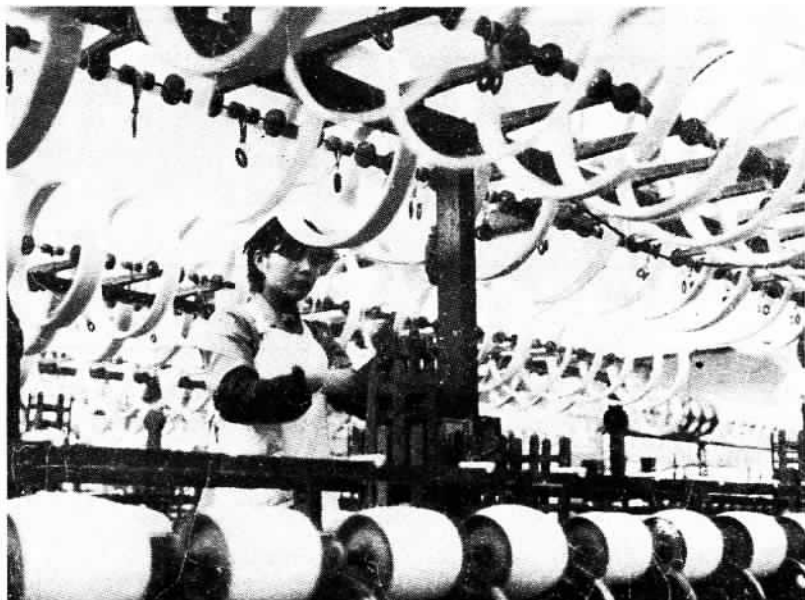
For many communes and production brigades, industry has become the chief source of income, surpassing farming and sideline occupations. Jiangyin County is a good example of the new prosperity.

Prosperous County

Located along the southern bank of the Changjiang, immediately north of Wuxi, Jiangyin is one of the most industrially developed of Jiangsu's 62 counties. It has 29 communes, with a total of 561 production brigades. Of its population of a million, 910,000 live in the countryside. About one-third of the rural labour force, or 150,000 peasants, work at the county's 1,045 commune- and brigade-run enterprises, which in 1982 had an output value of 820 million yuan, or more than half its gross industrial and agricultural output value.

Commune-run Enterprises. Xijiao Commune, for example, has 20 enterprises along with 33 brigade enterprises, which altogether employ 7,015 peasants, or 47 per cent of the commune's workforce. In 1982, these enterprises had a profit of 7.44 million yuan for an average 266 yuan per commune member—much more than the average earned by peasants in northern Jiangsu. The enterprises manufacture a wide variety of products.

• The tamping-machine factory employs only 300 but its products have found their way across China to 22 provinces and cities. Its entire output meets



A worker mans a brocade-weaving machine in a workshop run by Shengze Commune in Wujiang County, which has long been known for its silks.

state standards, an achievement noted by the Minister of Machine-Building Industries during a recent tour. Last year, the factory's output value was 3.15 million yuan.

• The refrigerator factory also employs 300, who work in eight spacious workshops producing between 1,000 and 1,500 high-quality and reasonably priced refrigerators of all shapes and sizes a year. There is a constant demand for these products from across the country.

• The commune's biggest enterprise is its steel-rolling plant, which employs 786. It produces mainly window and door frames, which last year netted it 1.48 million yuan. The plant also produces the raw materials needed by 10 brigade workshops, oversees the quality of their output and helps them market it.

Brigade-run Enterprises. The Huaxi production brigade, about 20 kilometres from the county seat, was a national pace-setter in farm production during the 1970s. But only after it got into

industry a few years later did the villagers' private income begin to rise. By 1982, each member's income from the collective distribution was 800 yuan or nearly double the 1979 distribution. Children now receive free nursery care and primary schooling, middle school students are given financial support, and everyone is under a labour protection system similar to those in state enterprises.

The brigade has three small factories, housed in old one-storey houses vacated by peasants moving into new dwellings. Their products, such as insecticide sprayers and plastic fertilizer bags, are all selling well, whether made with sophisticated machines or hand-operated tools.

"It is industry that makes us what we are today," said Wu Renbao, brigade Party branch secretary and deputy to the National People's Congress. (See Table.) "To live better, you must run industry and sideline occupations in a big way while doing a good job at farming. How can we count on farming alone for a better life when our

Huaxi Production Brigade's Output Value in 1982

Item	Value in Yuan	Proportion Of Total
Agricultural Output Value	256,000	4.3 %
Sideline Output Value	748,000	12.4 %
Industrial Output Value	5,000,000	83.3 %
Total Output Value	6,004,000	100 %

village has only an average of 0.05 hectare of farmland for each person."

Positive Effects

The rapid growth of commune and brigade industries in Jiangyin has had at least eight positive effects, according to county officials.

Surplus Labour Absorbed in Rural Areas. The county has a rural workforce of 460,000 but only 46,000 hectares of farmland, for an average of 0.1 hectare per able-bodied peasant. Given the current level of mechanization and intensive farming, an able-bodied peasant can till at least three times that much land. Hence two-thirds of the rural labour, if kept in farming, would be surplus. Moving these peasants en masse to the cities was no solution. They had to be employed where they were. Developing sideline occupations (animal husbandry, fishing, handicrafts, etc.) and building factories were seen as the best answer. Today, 150,000 peasants, or one-third of the county's rural workforce, are employed at commune or brigade enterprises.

Peasants' Income Augmented.

In 1982, Jiangyin's commune and brigade industries paid out 99.42 million yuan in wages and 10.18 million yuan in bonuses to peasant-workers, and distributed 8.33 million yuan in profits to all peasants. This came to a total of 107.93 million yuan,

or an average of 118.3 yuan per capita, and accounted for 53 per cent of the peasant's average income of 225 yuan from the collective distribution.

By contrast, in 1970, the year before the industrial boom began, each peasant received 80 yuan from the collective distribution.

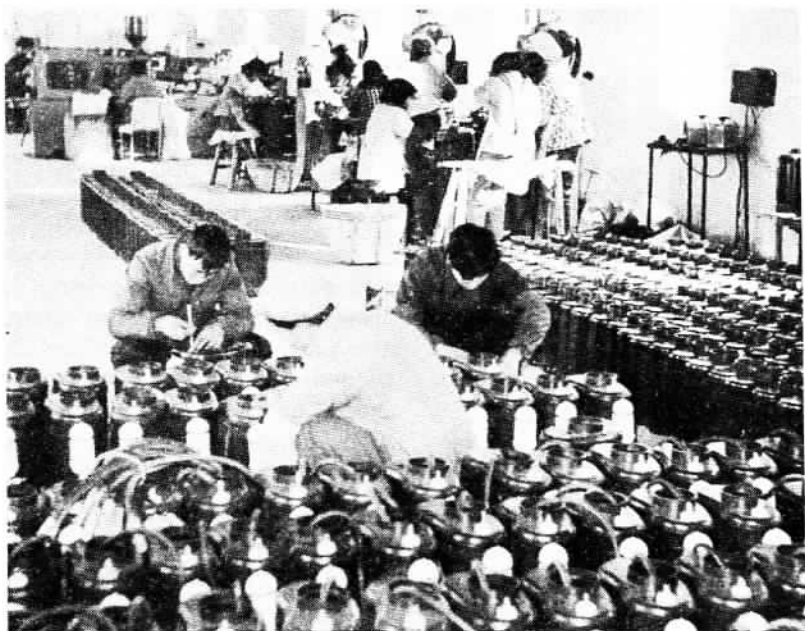
Farm Production Boosted. Commune and brigade enterprises today produce and service most medium-sized and small farm equipment used by local peasants. Their profits are the main source of funds for farmland and water conservation capital construction, for purchasing large machinery and for

other projects related to farming. From 1977 to 1981, these enterprises supplied 63.07 million yuan for these purposes, 100 times the amount invested in the county by the state during the same period.

State Revenues Increased. In 1982, the commune and brigade enterprises paid 60.61 million yuan in taxes to the state, or 45 per cent of the county's total tax revenue and 20 million yuan more than the tax revenues for 1970.

Deficiencies of Large Industries Eased and Markets Activated.

Generally speaking, communes and brigades can redirect their industrial enterprises to meet changes in market demand. In the past five years, these enterprises have supplied 1,150 million yuan in commodities badly needed on the market. Some have produced component parts for large urban factories so that these factories can increase output without having to add new buildings, equipment or workers.



Workers at the Huaxi production brigade put the finishing touches to type-16 plastic insecticide sprayers.

Urban Construction Promoted.

The boom in rural industry has enabled many communes to spend money on things they could not afford in the past, such as large residential quarters, paved roads, theatres, schools, kindergartens, hospitals, post offices, stores and banks. Many commune seats have become political, economic and cultural centres in the countryside.

Foreign Trade Developed. Garments, bedsheets, fur and leather goods and other products have made their way on to world markets. In 1982, exports from Jiangyin's rural enterprises totalled 20 million yuan, or 44 per cent of the county's total exports.

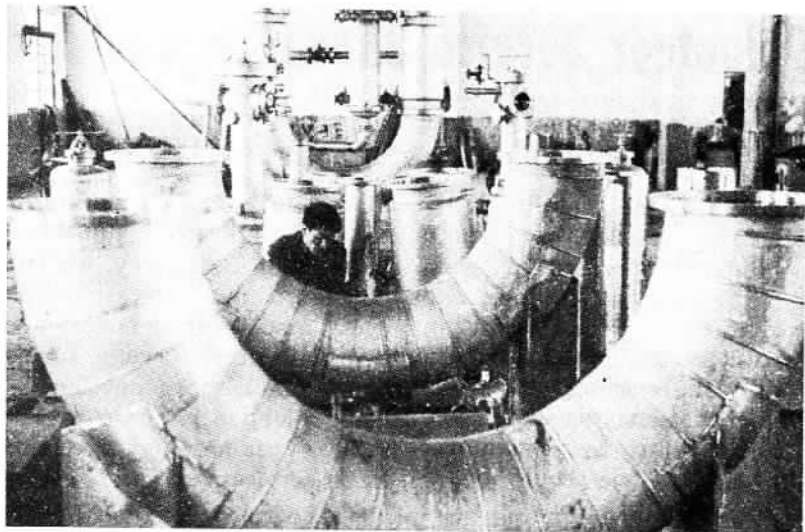
Expertise Absorbed From Urban Areas. Jiangyin's rural factories have invited about 400 technicians from the cities in the past few years to guide production and train their workers. They have also produced new products on a trial basis in co-operation with research institutes and universities. The Xijiao commune, for example, together with the Ministry of Communications water conservation design institute, has successfully produced a new kind of tamping machine.

Problems Remain

Benefits notwithstanding, small industries have also created new problems. Environmental pollution, for example, is serious. In rural Jiangsu, many rivers and ditches have been contaminated by industrial waste.

"We used to eat a lot of fish and shrimps," said one peasant. "Now they are hard to come by."

The local government is urging factories to take effective measures against pollution, but so far the results have not been encouraging.



Equipment used in the manufacture of textiles, produced by the Xitang production brigade in Wuxi County, is checked before going on to the market, where it is selling well.

Another problem is unplanned and often redundant development of factories. Because rural industry is regulated mostly by the market, once a shortage occurs in a particular commodity, everyone rushes to build factories specializing in that commodity. As a result, either a surplus of the commodity quickly appears or many factories must operate under capacity because they cannot get the raw materials they need. For example, the recent construction boom has bolstered demand for steel door and window frames. At one time, there were 150 window factories operating in Jiangyin and two neighbouring counties. But the supply of rolled steel simply could not meet the demand by industry. In the Xijiao commune, a window workshop expanded last year at a cost of 4 million yuan is still waiting for raw materials to begin operations.

The thorniest problem, however, is the shortage of energy, which is a stumbling block for the economic growth of Jiangsu as a whole.

"We need 300,000 tons of coal a year," said the deputy head of Shazhou County, "but the state only gives us 50,000 tons. To make up the shortage, we have to buy coal from distant mines at high prices. This increases the costs of our enterprises."

At present, efforts are being made to readjust, consolidate and restructure Jiangsu's rural industry. As one provincial official said: "We hope to solve existing problems through the adjustment and achieve new development."

In the late 1950s, when industry first appeared on China's communes and brigades, Chairman Mao Zedong saw in it the "bright hope" for the countryside. Today this hope is coming true—in Jiangyin County and elsewhere in Jiangsu. In the Xijiao commune (and especially in the Huaxi production brigade), there is barely any difference between the productivity and living standards of the peasants and those of workers in the cities. Rural industry has narrowed the gap between town and country and between workers and peasants. □

Volunteer Service Shows Improving Social Mores

Our Correspondent Jian Chuan

IN China, the tumultuous 10-year (1966-76) "cultural revolution" undermined good social morals and customs, and people became indifferent in their personal relationships. Today, the decadent bourgeois idea that money is everything contends with the communist ideology that one should live to better the lives of others. The emergence of a volunteer service in the past three years has shown that the communist morality is gradually taking root.

Volunteer service teams are made up of Youth League members and young people who offer their labour and skills to the people during their spare time.

In Hangzhou, a city known for its scenic beauty in east China, "Serve the People" teams can be seen everywhere in the streets, at the schools, in the parks and in the countryside.

The First Service Team

The city's first service team was organized by the Hangzhou General Bicycle Factory, located in the suburbs where there are few shops and service stalls. The situation created a lot of problems for its 1,700 workers and staff members, so the Youth League committee of the factory gathered some 20 League members with various skills to form a service team in July 1980. They turned out once a week to trim hair, do tailoring, take photos and repair bicycles and household appliances free of charge for the factory's workers and staff members.

During the first Socialist Ethics and Courtesy Month in

March 1982, the service team, together with the maintenance workers in the factory, went to people's homes to repair the bicycles made in their factory and help with other services, saving many families the nuisance of going a long way for trifles. The masses genuinely appreciated these services, and the factory leaders offered their encouragement as well. Within one and a half months, the service team had been invited to visit more than 40 light industry work units in Hangzhou.

These activities also gave young people an opportunity to get in touch with their city. After performing their services, the factory's League committee took them out sight-seeing, and held discussions to expand their horizons.

This, in turn, encouraged many more young people to join the service team. Within a year, the number of participants went from 20 to 500, 38.5 per cent of the factory's youth. Of those 500, only 40 per cent are League members. Ten volunteer teams have been set up in the factory, each divided into five to six service groups. They show up on a regular schedule at various locations to offer their services. In the last two years or so, volunteer service teams repaired 12,000 bicycles for the masses.

Through their services, the young people have developed their communist ideals, discovering that it is a pleasure to help others. This knowledge has transformed some under-advantaged youths.

Han Shuimu, a 27-year-old worker in the painting workshop,

has been a League member for 10 years. However, influenced by the idea that money is everything, he stole some materials from the factory with the idea of reselling them. He was caught and detained by the public security bureau. But following the campaign of learning from Lei Feng*, Han made up his mind to correct his misdeeds and took an active part in the volunteer service. He felt better being able to do something for the people with his own labour, and understood how disgraceful it is to reap without sowing. Having really changed, he was elected secretary of the League branch of the workshop, and group leader of a volunteer service team.

Following the example of the first service team in Hangzhou General Bicycle Factory, similar teams have been set up by young people in the city's various trades and professions. During the second Socialist Ethics and Courtesy Month this year, 1,000 teams provided voluntary services in the city.

Doing the Housework

The emergence of the volunteer service has brought great help to thousands of families, especially the childless elderly, the sick and the disabled.

In China these people are guaranteed a livelihood by the civil affairs departments, but many find it difficult to keep up with the household chores.

During the first Socialist

* Lei Feng was a young PLA soldier who served the people wholeheartedly and died while on duty in 1962.

Ethics and Courtesy Month in 1982, the Hangzhou Youth League committee, with the help of the city's local civil affairs departments, made a study of these people, and decided to take special care of those who cannot take care of themselves. League branches formed small service groups, and each was assigned to certain households. The group members visit their households regularly to help with the household chores, washing, cooking, and shopping. Those who work as shop assistants make deliveries to their homes.

Chen Ahua, an 85-year-old woman who lives in Shangcheng District in Hangzhou, lost her husband when she was 32 and then lost her 4-year-old child. She had supported herself working as a housekeeper, but when she got too old for that in 1964, she began living on the state. Now, she is too old to do her own household chores herself.

The League branch of Hangzhou Guangming Silk Mill, a small factory with only four League members, and 10 young people, formed a service group to take care of the old woman. Immediately, the mill's League secretary Xie Yinzhen and several members of the service group went to Chen's home to clean her room. Now they go two or three times a week, helping her wash her clothes and do her shopping.

Xie Yinzhen, who lives quite near Chen's home, came to see her every day, although she has a three-year-old child herself. At festivals, she cooked special foods for Chen. A year later, she has established a close relationship with the granny, who had long lived the life of a lonely old woman.

Xie's kindness inspired

many League members and young people working in nearby service trades to volunteer to help Chen. Young vendors bring her grain, vegetables and coal, while others do regular repairs on her house.

Last March, a sight-seeing tour to West Lake was organized specially for the childless elderly by the neighbourhood committee.

By the end of 1982, 1,269 service groups were helping 521 childless elders and sick or disabled people.

Timely Assistance

With the implementation of the production responsibility system for peasant households, families short of labour power were very concerned that their standard of living would decrease. They thought people would concentrate on tilling their own land, and none would be willing to help others.

Faced with this problem, young people in the rural areas have organized into groups similar to the urban service teams. They help families who are short of labour power, and give a hand to the childless elderly, the sick and the disabled who cannot take care of themselves.

Each group has a list of needy peasant families, whom they help according to their requirements. Households without adequate labour power receive special help according to the farming seasons, especially during the busy times of rush planting and quick harvest. League members and other young people also help each other during the busy seasons. The groups look after older people who are receiving funds from the production brigade, helping them with the chores, fetching water,

washing clothes and cultivating their personal plots.

Xiaoshan is the first county under Hangzhou city to set up assistance groups. Now, more than 10,522 League members and young people have formed 1,535 groups in 63 communes, providing assistance for 1,544 families or more than 90 per cent of those who need help.

Chen Renjun, a 43-year-old peasant in Dongfeng Production Brigade of Zheshan commune, was very worried about how he could cultivate the six *mu* (0.4 hectare) of land he contracted under the responsibility system. His two children are very young, he was in poor health and his wife has been confined to her bed for 16 years. He thought his income would decrease and his family would suffer. But after a service group was set up in his brigade, he was listed as needing special help. Last year he ended up earning more than he did the year before. The other 23 households in the brigade who were also short of labour power maintained their original incomes.

These activities are completely free of charge. Some groups have even drawn up posters urging their members never to accept anything from the families they help — not even food. They ask only to be supervised by the masses.

The rural service teams have helped make the responsibility system a success. Families who are short of labour power no longer worry about their contracted fields.

At the end of last year, the Youth League committee of Hangzhou held a meeting to popularize these teams. It expects this service to others will develop new human relationships and establish better social mores and customs. □

OPINION

Peasants mechanize agriculture

THE production responsibility system in rural areas has promoted the mechanization of Chinese agriculture. Since 1979, the number of farm machines owned or managed by peasants under contracts has increased rapidly. By the end of 1982, they made up two-thirds of rural China's total, and in the first half of this year, the number was growing.

The increase in farm machinery is no longer a result of state investment, as it was in the past, but of the peasants' willingness to upgrade farm

equipment and improve working conditions. It reflects the peasants' desire for improvement and the rise in their purchasing ability, as well as the need for improved productivity.

Xiao Peng, Vice-Minister of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fishery, said: "Some basic changes have taken place in China's agricultural mechanization drive. Now that the peasants have greater decision-making powers regarding agri-

cultural mechanization, the realization of this mechanization will depend mainly on them. Peasants should be allowed to do as much as possible where they can."

State and collective-run farm machinery enterprises and other relevant units should serve the peasants and satisfy their needs, Xiao said. To bring about the mechanization of China's agriculture, not only collective-owned machines but household-owned machines should be used to advantage.

—*"Zhongguo Nongmin Bao"*
(*The Chinese Peasant Paper*)

COMMENT

Another kind of diploma needed

THERE is a lesson to be learnt from the story of Wang Youmin, retired vice-president of the Gansu Engineering Institute, who left his daughter and the comfortable life of the city to teach English to educated youths in his home village in rural Hebei Province.

Leading cadres in the Hebei provincial committee of the Communist Youth League, hearing of this, paid a special visit to present Wang with a plaque reading: "A Good Teacher of the Young."

"I enjoy my work because talented people can be discovered and trained through education," said Wang as he accepted the token of merit. "I'll continue to burn like a candle in the remaining years of

my life, dedicating my light and heat to helping young people learn general and scientific knowledge."

The plaque not only rewards Wang Youmin but encourages society as a whole. It may be considered another kind of diploma, a certificate awarded by society. Every time a person graduates from a school — from primary grades till university — he receives a diploma to encourage him as well as show he is qualified. With this diploma, he can find a suitable job and receive a reasonable pay. But what happens to him after he leaves school? Shouldn't a diploma be given to him to show his marks in the university of society? Doesn't he need further qualifications and encouragement? This special kind of



Gao Zhengxin, a peasant in Guizhou's Zunyi County, maintains his walking tractor. Of the 26,000 farm machines in this county, 650 small and medium-sized tractors and trucks are bought by commune members at their own expense.

diploma is even more important to those who have had no chance for a school certificate.

While on the topic of people's merits and demerits, there is still the phenomenon of "eating from the same public rice pot." Some of those who have made contributions to the public will not be rewarded while they are still alive. More often than not their merits are commented on only at the memorial meetings following their deaths. Isn't this a shame! If hard-working people are not rewarded and lazy ones are not punished, healthy trends will not be encouraged; nor will the growth of talented people be promoted.

Just as a man's abilities may be strong or weak or his attitude towards work may be good or bad, so his contribution to society varies as well. There should be a certificate to testify to his real talents and abilities, of which the social award is the highest one.

— *Renmin Ribao (People's Daily)*

PEOPLE

Engineer betters study of light

A CHINESE engineer has made significant advances in the study of light during his recent stay in the United States, successfully solving the theoretical and practical problems in the treatment of white light information (that is, the use of light in storing information).

Zhuang Songlin, 42, deputy chief engineer of the Shanghai Optical Instruments Factory and recently appointed director of the Shanghai Optical Instruments Research Institute, con-

tributed 25 papers during his three-year stay starting in 1979, as a visiting research scholar at the Electronic Engineering Department of the University of Pennsylvania.

In a recent letter to Minister of Education He Dongchang, Professor Francis Yu, a noted US physicist and Zhuang's colleague at the University of Pennsylvania, praised Zhuang as "one of the major contributors to white light information treatment, who has been honoured in the United States."

Zhuang made several important research achievements in the study of light information, the most prominent being the development of a multi-channel treatment system, which he developed in co-operation with Professor Yu. This system can record a colour picture on black and white film using special codes. When needed, the colour picture can be restored, solving the problem of long-term preservation of colour pictures.

This process attracted attention from physicists in the world and received an award as one of the six major US achievements in optics in 1980.

Zhuang also developed a theory and method of colour information treatment, which can clarify faint colour pictures. For instance, photographs of the earth taken from a satellite may obtain high clarity after technical treatment of this kind. He also made a unique theoretical analysis of "rainbow holograms," significant to the application of the hologram technique.

Zhuang graduated from the Physics Department of Fudan University in Shanghai in 1962. During his first month in the United States, he wrote two first-class essays. His abilities attracted the attention of Pro-

fessor Yu, who offered support for Zhuang's doctoral studies. By using his spare time fully, Zhuang completed the five-year course in two years and nine months, winning A's in the more than 20 subjects. His doctoral thesis, *Theoretical Analysis of the Treatment System of White Light Informations*, was considered of advanced international standard. All the five professors on the thesis panel agreed to give it the "highest degree."

— *"Wenhui Bao" (A Literary Gazette)*

LIFE

Old-age homes report success

MORE than 137,000 old people who have no children or close relatives are now housed in more than 10,600 old-age homes managed by each province, municipality and autonomous region.

Most of the old-age homes are brick and tile buildings, with courtyards planted with trees and flowers. Some include dining halls, television and recreation rooms, clinics, gardens, vegetable fields and feed lots. The occupants' bedrooms are spacious and bright. When they fall ill, they receive immediate treatment. Those who are unable to move about have people to care for them; those who are fit can take part in light physical labour such as growing flowers and vegetables or feeding chickens.

Reports from around the country say that old people living there are happy and pleasant and their health is improving.

— *"Xinmin Wanbao" (Shanghai Evening News)*

PROFILE

*Ming Dynasty
scientist commemorated*

"Make the past serve the present, and foreign things serve China." China's scientific and technological policy in the current construction drive was once more underlined at last month's activities to commemorate the 350th anniversary of the death of Xu Guangqi, an outstanding scientist who ingeniously combined traditional Chinese techniques with advanced Western science.

A letter from Nie Rongzhen and inscriptions from Fang Yi and Lu Dingyi, all important state leaders who have contributed much to China's development, were presented at the commemoration at Shanghai, Xu's birthplace.

Xu Guangqi (1562-1633) was one of the most prominent scientists of the 16th and early 17th centuries, when industry began to grow in China, bringing a corresponding development in science and technology.

Although he was the cabinet member in charge of imperial rites and tributes during the feudal Ming Dynasty, he was in favour of political progress. Xu studied the new achievements in science and technology both at home and abroad and applied them in all fields of work. A versatile scientist, Xu made contributions in astronomy, mathematics, surveying, water conservation and agriculture.

Xu knew that mathematics was the keystone for astronomy, meteorology, pharmacology,

architecture, music and military science. Therefore, when he saw how mathematics treated as abstract theory, separated from practical applications, was hindering the development of the subject in China, he collaborated with the Italian missionary Matteo Ricci (1552-1610) to translate the mathematical classic, *Elements of Euclid*. Although they translated only the first six volumes of the monumental 15-volume work, theirs was the first Chinese translation of any well-known Greek scientific writing.

Changing the calendar system is an enormous matter, but when Xu weighed the pros and cons of the old *Shoushi* calendar, he decided to change it. There followed a burst of translating Western astronomical books with the help of foreign missionaries, manufacturing instruments and observing astronomical phenomena. In just five years, Xu and others translated 137 books and compiled the renowned Chinese astronomical calendar, *Chongzhen* calendar.

Xu Guangqi followed the traditional concept that agriculture is the economic foundation on which to build a prosperous country, and suggested developing agriculture first. He thoroughly investigated many types of crops, and how they grow in different regions. He dropped in at peasants' homes and experimented in person. Based on his investigations, he wrote several books on agricultural sciences, of which the 60-volume *Nong Zheng Quan Shu* (Encyclopaedia of Agriculture) was the best. It dealt with agriculture, forestry, husbandry, sideline occupations and fishery,

and some of his views are still valuable references today.

For instance, Xu Guangqi emphasized improving water conservation in order to prevent drought and flood, outlining methods he had studied over some 20 years. He went into detail about how to manufacture and use various irrigation tools, and the techniques of building wells, ponds and reservoirs. His descriptions mark the height of agricultural production in 16th and 17th century China.

Since the founding of New China in 1949, the Party and government have emphasized cultural and scientific development. As a result, academicians began to study Xu's role in linking Chinese and Western culture. A lot of work has been done collecting, sorting and publishing his works and translations. In the 1960s, the 12-volume *Collection of Xu Guangqi* came out. In the 1970s, *Nong Zheng Quan Shu* was published in its entirety. In recent years, many of Xu Guangqi's manuscripts and notes have been printed for the first time in more than 300 years. They include articles on the handicraft industry, mathematics and military science. The Shanghai Classics Publishing House compiled 12 newly found titles and 6 of his translations in the *Collection of Xu Guangqi's Works and Translations*, which appeared in October.

During the commemoration activities, the Shanghai municipal people's government renovated Xu's tomb. They erected a bust of him and renamed the tomb area "Guangqi Park."



MUSIC

Sounds of strings and bamboo

Beijing audiences were transported to the warm south when they heard the *sizhu* music from Hangzhou. The music, played with stringed and woodwind instruments, was just as beautiful as the city of Hangzhou, which is called "the paradise on the earth" because of its picturesque scenery.

The concert was given by a Hangzhou *sizhu* ensemble early last November. *Si* (silk) refers to musical instruments with strings made of silk, including the two-stringed *erhu* and some plucked instruments such as *pipa*, *ruan*, *guqin* and *zheng*. Each has a distinctive shape and a different number of strings. *Zhu* (bamboo) refers to wind instruments made of bamboo such as the flute, *xiao* (a vertical flute) and *sheng* (which comprises more than 20 bamboo tubes).

Southern China's *sizhu* music, pleasant, fluent, quiet and graceful, is considered light music.

The concert began with a traditional piece, *San Liu*, played with the plucked instruments, *pipa* (with four strings)

and *ruan* (with three strings), and the percussion instrument *yangqin* (with more than 20 strings) in a jubilant mood. The melody was quite varied, giving each player a chance to fully display his skill. Another piece, *Yangchun Baixue* (The Spring Snow), presented the audience a lively and vigorous view of spring.

Liushui (Flowing Water) was played on *guqin*, an ancient instrument with a 2,400-year history. It can imitate the sounds of flowing water and conjure up scenes enveloped in mist, although it has only seven strings.

Song Jinglian, 62-year-old flute soloist, played *Partridge Flies*. The gloomy melody tells a sad story. A girl who is badly maltreated by her mother-in-law changes herself into a partridge, flying out of her cage and into the sky.

Twelve pieces were presented, including solos and ensemble music. The staging showed great flexibility, and no piece was played by more than a dozen musicians.

Prize-winning violin

A violin made in Beijing won the gold medal for sound quality at the first Louis Spohr International Competition for Violin Making, held in Octo-

ber in the Federal Republic of Germany.

The violin was made of high-quality lacebark pine grown in the Hinggan Mountains in northeast China and dried naturally over more than two decades. The fine skills of Dai Hongxiang turned this seasoned wood into a melodious and bright, powerful and sweet instrument. Its music is resounding and penetrating.

Dai, 55, had been a peasant and later a sawyer at the Beijing Violin Factory. With the help of experts and senior engineers in violin-making, he learnt how to make violins, violas and cellos, constantly striving to improve his skills.

Over 30 years, he has repaired more than 300 foreign-made professional-quality violins, and so has been able to closely observe the unique skills of his foreign counterparts.

PUBLISHING

Three books on modern history

In the past few years, Chinese historians have taken an increasing interest in research. The three new books described here are but a sample of the work they've done.

Historical Figures in the Revolution of 1911, compiled by Li Xin and Ren Yimin, gives readers a thorough knowledge of that revolution through describing the lives of representative figures who had great influence at the time. Twenty-three bourgeois revolutionaries, two representatives of the reactionary ruling class, and three

bourgeois reformers and local officials who broke from the Qing government to join the revolution are vividly and succinctly described in the book.

Solid historical research makes this book, published in Chinese by Chinese Youth Publishing House, accurate and informative.

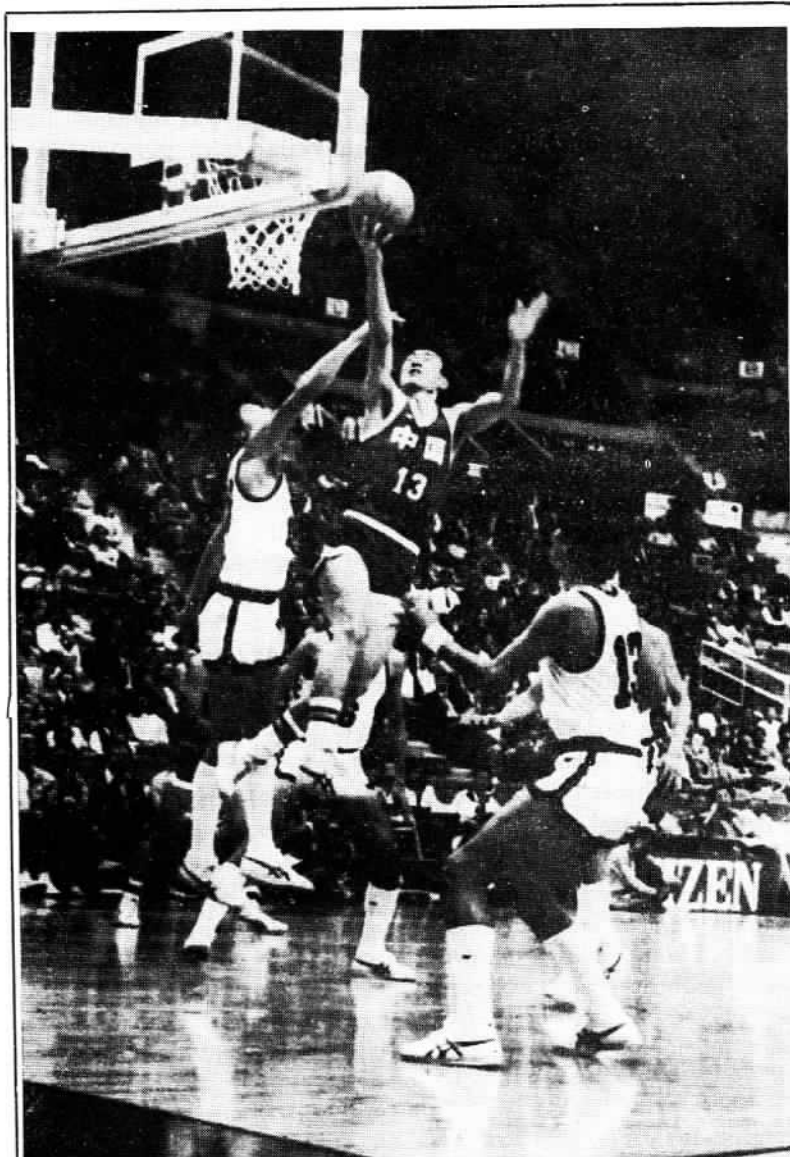
Long-serving diplomat, Dr. Wellington Koo, sheds light on the politics of pre-liberation China in his recently published memoirs. The author, now aged 96, recalls 55 years of his diplomatic activities; from 1912, when he became secretary to Yuan Shikai, Provisional President of the Republic of China and Cabinet Premier Tang Shaoyi, to 1967, when he retired from his work in the Hague International Court.

It took him 17 years to compile the 5-million-word *Reminiscences of Dr. Wellington Koo*, documenting his own recollections with numerous telegrams, archives, letters and diaries.

The book is being translated into Chinese from the original English by the Modern History Research Institute under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, and the first of 12 volumes has just come off the press. It describes the author's childhood, student life, and the first 10 years of his diplomatic career. Background material and new information on the Japanese occupation of Qingdao, the Twenty-One Demands the Beiyang warlords signed with Japan, the Paris Peace Conference and Washington meeting, and Yuan Shikai's diplomacy are offered.

China Book Company (Zhonghua Shuju) is bringing out all 12 volumes.

The causes, characteristics and effects of battle between the Kuomintang warlords are analysed in Zhang Tongxin's *Brief History of the Internal Warfare Among New Kuomintang Warlords*. The book, published in Chinese by Heilongjiang People's Publishing House, is helpful in the study of the Kuomintang after the failure of the First Revolutionary Civil War.



China's Liu Jianli making a breakthrough for the net in the finals of the 12th Asian Men's Basketball Championship held in Xianggang on November 29. The Chinese team defeated the Japanese team 95:71 to win the title for the fifth time in succession.

Feng Jianwu's Traditional Chinese Paintings

Born in 1912 in Renshou County, Sichuan Province, Feng Jianwu is now teaching in the department of traditional Chinese painting in the Sichuan Academy of Fine Arts.

With a vigorous, bold but terse style, he is especially good at painting landscapes and flowers. He painted *Beautiful Emei Mountain*, a large landscape painting, for the China Hall of the United Nations in New York.



A Monkey Observing the Sea.



On the Daning River.



Papayas in Autumn.



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