

BEIJING REVIEW

北京周報

A CHINESE WEEKLY OF
NEWS AND VIEWS

Qin Qiang Zhan on China's Foreign Policy
Developing Nuclear Power • National Minorities Prospering



SPOTLIGHT

A glimpse of Lhasa.



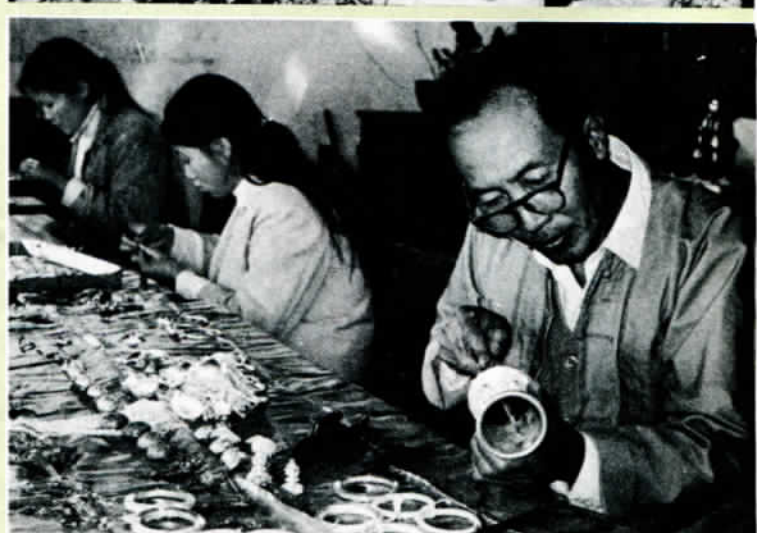
Running water has been installed at this herdsmen's settlement in Inner Mongolia.



Wang Huizhu, an agronomist in Turpan, examines grapes, which are her area of specialization.



Kucong girls kicking a chicken-feather shuttlecock.



Silver ornaments are made for Dais and Jingpos in Yunnan.

BEIJING REVIEW

Vol. 27, No. 25

June 18, 1984

CONTENTS

NOTES FROM THE EDITORS	4-5
Reforming Enterprise Leadership System	
LETTERS	5
EVENTS & TRENDS	6-12
Zhao Stresses Open Door With Belgium, EC	
Spanish Party's Position Praised Hu on Party's Six Decades of Experience	
Italian Communist Leader Mourned	
Global Ties Urged by Youth League	
Co-operation With Malaysia Stressed	
Businesses Enjoy Expanded Powers	
Economic Progress in Minority Areas	
Household Chores Done by Company	
INTERNATIONAL	13-16
Britain: More Talk Than Action at Summit	
Lebanon: Main Tasks Facing New Government	
South Africa: Botha Seeks Support in Europe	
India: Old Differences End in Violence	
Bolivia: Debt Crisis Rebounds on West	
Developing China's Nuclear Power Industry	17
'Independence of Tibet' Untenable and Futile	21
Growth of China's Minority Population	22
A Case Study of Small Towns (IV & V)	
Smooth Commodity Flow Needs More Avenues	27
Service, Culture and Education Centres	29
FROM THE CHINESE PRESS	31-32
CULTURE & SCIENCE	33-34
DOCUMENTS (Centrefold Pages)	
Zhao's Two Speeches in Western Europe	
COVER: In a night school at a mountain Miao village.	

Photo by Shen Yantai

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

China's Position Clarified

During his visit to Western Europe, Premier Zhao Ziyang explained China's independent and peaceful foreign policy before the French National Assembly on May 30 and spoke of expanding economic exchanges and promoting common prosperity before Belgium's Royal Institute on International Relations on June 5 (See centrefold pages).

Nuclear Power for Peaceful Use

A leading Chinese scientist says China must speed up the development of nuclear power, especially in the coastal areas where industry is concentrated but energy resources are insufficient. China has the necessary conditions to build nuclear power stations and it can meet safety requirements. It is expected that reactors with a total generating capacity of 10,000 mw will be completed by the end of the century (p. 17).

Growing National Minority Population

Many of China's national minorities have skipped several stages of social development to enter socialism. Thanks to government policies and better hygiene, their populations are increasing rapidly instead of declining as in the pre-liberation days, and their cultural level is getting higher. An analysis is also given of their geographical locations, changing age structure and educational levels (p. 22).

Reforming Enterprise Leadership System

The present system, where factory director has limited powers but great responsibility, is one of the main reasons for poor management and disappointing economic results. It will gradually be replaced by another, where the director granted full powers to control production, management and operations. This will enable enterprises to quickly improve efficiency and profitability (p. 4).

Greater Powers Granted to Enterprises

Although state enterprises have been granted some decision-making powers since 1979, they are not enough to fully activate the initiative of the enterprises. The State Council therefore decided to grant still greater powers in 10 areas, including planning, production, selling and purchasing (p. 10).

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

Distributed by **China International Book
Trading Corporation (GUOJI SHUDIAN)**,
P.O. Box 399, Beijing, China

Subscription prices (1 year):
Australia..... A.\$14.00 USA... US\$13.00
New Zealand... NZ\$18.00 UK..... £8.00
Canada..... Can. \$15.00

Reforming Enterprise Leadership System

by JIN QI
Economic Editor

Various possibilities have been explored for the leadership system in state-owned enterprises since the founding of the People's Republic in 1949, and the one that prevails in most enterprises is a system under which the director of a factory assumes full responsibility under the collective leadership of the Party committee.

Now, this system will be gradually replaced by another, under which the factory director or manager alone assumes full responsibility for directing the production, management and operation of his enterprise. This reform was announced by Premier Zhao Ziyang at the Second Session of the Sixth National People's Congress in Beijing last month.

Dalian, a port city in northeast China, and Changzhou, a medium-sized city in east China, will take the lead in carrying out this reform. Beijing, Tianjin, Shanghai and Shenyang will also experiment with reforms in selected units. These trial reforms are very important to the eventual restructuring of China's entire economic system.

The reform is necessary in order to run modern enterprises smoothly. Industrial production—a highly socialized economic sector—needs advanced technology and complex production processes. The various departments in an enterprise must act in close co-ordination, and many problems call for

accurate and speedy solutions. Like the conductor of an orchestra, an enterprise also needs a highly authoritative director.

The present system, where the director assumes full responsibility under the collective leadership of the factory Party committee, makes no distinction between Party leadership and enterprise management, which often leads to the replacement of the latter by the

The reform of enterprise leadership system is necessary in order to run modern enterprises well. Its success will enable the enterprises to quickly improve efficiency and profitability.

former. The director has limited powers but great responsibilities. This is one of the major reasons for the poor operation and economic returns of state enterprises.

But when the director alone assumes full responsibility, he will have extensive powers. Under the leadership of the factory director, each enterprise will set up a management committee composed of the director, the Party committee secretary, the trade union chairman, engineering and technical personnel and workers' representatives. The committee will make major production and operational decisions, leaving the factory director responsible for the organization

and implementation of the decisions. The day-to-day production and operation of the enterprise will be controlled by the director.

Under the unified state leadership, the director of an enterprise has the power to decide on the production and sales of products, the purchase of raw and semi-finished materials and the technical transformation of the enterprise, and to control appointments, transfers, rewards and penalties among the workers and staff.

The implementation of this system will not weaken the leadership of the Party, which manifests itself in the Party's line, principles and policies. While making his own decisions, the director must sincerely follow the relevant principles, policies, plans and stipulations of the Party and the state. This is where the Party's leadership of China's enterprises will be felt.

After the director assumes full responsibility in his enterprise, the Party committee can free itself from day-to-day production and administrative affairs, and concentrate its efforts on the Party's work, and the political and ideological work of the enterprise. It can then play a supervisory role in the production and administration of the enterprise.

The workers and staff are the real masters of any factory in China. This is an important feature of all socialist enterprises. After the reforms are completed, the workers and staff will still participate in the democratic management of their enterprise, and the current workers' congresses will



still bring their role into play. A factory director can be appointed by a higher department, or be chosen by the authorities through the election of the workers' congress. The factory director should regularly report on his work to the workers' congress, canvass its opinions and suggestions, and accept the criticisms and supervision of the workers and staff. The workers' congress should also discuss and decide on problems concerning the well-being of its members.

In the past, state control over state-owned enterprises has been excessive and too rigid, and the enterprises could not make the most of their initiative. The independent decision-making powers of the enterprises have been enlarged in the past few years, and the relationship between enterprises and the state has been readjusted. The current reform of the leadership system is an important step in the complete reform of state enterprises. Its success will facilitate other reforms, and enable the enterprises to quickly improve efficiency and profitability.



Design Suggestions

The colour covers of your magazine are very attractive. The photos on the front cover should be those with unique Chinese character and substantive content (such as the front covers of issue Nos. 9 and 11). I suggest the back cover should carry reproductions of colour paintings.

The inside front cover should specialize in carrying photos of important political, economic and cultural events (if possible, colour photos should be used). For example, you can use photos of a lovely street if you have an article on population development, or pictures of Istanbul if you have another on the friendship between China and Turkey. Each photo should be captioned, and at the same time tell your readers if there is an article about the photo inside the same issue, and which page it is on.

The inside back cover should be left for some special use (it is all right to leave it as it is now).

The articles I like best are those about Chinese socialism and its modernization programme. My interest is natural, since my major is philosophy. These articles should also include some information about where to find more reference books (in every major language). I find them worth reading because they are full of information and illuminate China's characteristics.

I'd like to say more about your various columns. Starting with "Letters," I think this column should do something to encourage discussion among your readers and increase communication between them. Since your readers are from various countries, discussion is necessary and valuable.

The articles in the "International" column should have a more

clear-cut attitude, reflecting internationalism. Undoubtedly, *Beijing Review* has its own position. Diplomatic reservation is not always necessary. According to our experiences, we can read much between the lines in Chinese publications. But this is not easy for everyone.

In your "Culture" column, an important book should have an order form with it, telling readers where to get the book and in what languages it is available. Generally speaking, I think China should strengthen its book services, offering things such as comments, guidelines for publication, price lists and the opportunity to buy a certain book. In order to reduce the shipping fees, is it possible for the cultural sections under your embassies to take care of group subscriptions?

Christoph Aebersold
Veyrier-Geneve, Switzerland

Friends the World Over

Beijing Review has grown tremendously from what it used to be in the 1960s. The colour cover is splendid and makes the journal appear brighter than ever. The contents are ever rich and keep one busy with what is happening in China and other parts of the world.

I must express my appreciation for China, which has been making friends with all the countries of the world. This is evident in the visits between your leaders and the leaders of other countries, the most recent of which are your leaders' visits to Japan and other Asian nations. Praise should go to your great leaders who have made it possible for China no longer to be isolated from the affairs of the world.

Alex N. Nwade
Ikeja, Nigeria

Zhao Stresses Open Door With Belgium, EC

Premier Zhao Ziyang, in Belgium on the second leg of his six-nation European tour, has said that China will always keep its door open to Europe and especially to Belgium.

He also visited the headquarters of the European Community (EC), while in Belgium from June 3 to 6.

Zhao held talks in Brussels with Prime Minister Wilfried Martens, and met separately with King Baudouin, Senate President Edward Leemans, Jean Defraigne, President of the Chamber of Representatives, and Herve Brouhon, Mayor of Brussels.

In their talks, Zhao and Martens agreed that China and Belgium hold similar or identical views on many international issues and on the

development of bilateral relations, and they hoped to expand economic, trade, scientific and technological co-operation.

Zhao spoke highly of the Belgian Government's policy of attaching importance to the development of economic co-operation with the Asian-Pacific region and especially with China.

Martens said the current Belgian-Chinese economic relations are in accordance with their political relations. Belgium will continue to provide China with equipment, loans and investment, he said, as well as contribute to China's modernization drive by operating joint enterprises and by co-operating in business, science and technology.

At a reception in honour of the Chinese Premier held by Belgian industrialists and businessmen on June 4, Zhao hoped more Belgian entrepreneurs and technicians would run joint or wholly owned enterprises in China to furnish it with industrial technology.

The Belgian hosts indicated they would respond to China's call for an exchange of experiences to develop trade and supply loans and investment to China, because, in the words of one guest, "Belgium and Belgian industrial circles believe in China."

Belgium leads the way in economic and technological contacts between China and Western Europe. Its volume of trade with China, which totalled US\$216 million in 1982, makes it the third

Premier Zhao Ziyang at a ceremony presided over by Belgian Prime Minister Wilfried Martens (right), and talks with EC Commission President Gaston Thorn (left).



Zhao Meets Journalists in Brussels

Premier Zhao Ziyang held a press conference in Brussels on June 5. The following are some of his statements.

China's Relations with Western Europe. "I don't think that China is playing the Europe card, and I don't believe Europe will play the China card. No far-sighted statesman would play political card because card playing is merely petty manoeuvre."

COCOM Rules. Asked about the rules of the Consultative Group Co-operation Committee (COCOM) on technology transfers to China, Zhao said that the present situation, under which technology transfers to China from developed countries are still subject to COCOM scrutiny, does not tally with the friendly relations between China and these countries. "Therefore, the COCOM rules must be changed."

Hongkong-EC Relations. On China's attitude towards trade between Hongkong and the European Community after 1997, Zhao said that it is important to Hongkong's prosperity and stability that it takes part in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and enjoy favourable treatment under it. He expected this matter to be fully considered in the Sino-British talks on Hongkong's future.

largest trading partner with China in the EC. In recent years, the number of joint production projects between the two countries has increased. Three joint ventures have been set up. Last year, two documents were signed, one on the joint production of a modern S-240 telephone exchange, the other on an interests-free loan of 300 million Belgian francs made by the Belgian Government to China for this project. Cultural exchanges have also increased, and about 100 Chinese students are studying in Belgium.

An investment protection agreement was signed during Zhao's visit.

In his visit to the EC headquarters, Zhao had successful talks with EC Commission President

Sino-Soviet Relations. Asked about the Soviet system, Zhao said he was interested more in the Soviet Union's foreign policy than in its social system. "The question about its social system should be put to the Soviet leaders."

"But," he added, "I would like to answer the question in another way." The past three decades have shown that relations between states are determined not by their social systems but by whether they abide by the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence, he said. There have been numerous examples of countries with the same social systems that have not necessarily lived in friendship and have been sometimes even very hostile to one another.

The possibility of normalization and the establishment of good-neighbour relations between China and the Soviet Union depends on what attitude Moscow takes towards China and whether it is willing to remove the three obstacles in the way of normalization, Zhao said. China and other Asian countries are concerned about the deployment of SS-20 missiles in Asia by the Soviet Union. China has time and again called for a reduction and eventually the destruction of all such weapons based in Asia in the course of Sino-Soviet consultation, he added.

Gaston Thorn. He also addressed Belgium's Royal Institute on International Relations on the importance of China's economic relations with Western Europe, his second important speech during his European tour (For text, see the documents section in this issue). He stressed that it would be mutually beneficial to develop Chinese-Western European co-operation.

Relations between China and Western Europe have been strengthened and developed in recent years. Their trade volume was US\$4,200 million in 1983, up 20 per cent from the previous year. This increase was greater than that in Sino-Japanese and Sino-US trade.

However, there are still some issues hampering the further development of economic relations. But the close political relations and China's open-door policy will help remove these impediments. As Zhao put it, China particularly emphasizes its economic and technological co-operation with Western Europe, and hopes to further its trade with that region through opening new fields, tapping new potential and studying new forms of co-operation.

Spanish Party's Position Praised

General Secretary Hu Yaobang has told a delegation of the Spanish Communist Party that in international affairs, their Party maintains independence and keeps the initiative in its own hands, and has contributed positively towards defending national independence and sovereignty, opposing the war policies of imperialism and the expansionism of the superpowers, and safeguarding world peace.

The delegation, led by Party General Secretary Gerardo Iglesias, visited China from June 7 to 9 at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.

The Spanish Communist Party, founded in 1920, is the third largest party in the Spanish Parliament. The Spanish and Chinese Communist Parties have extended mutual support as far back as the time of the Spanish Civil War (1936-39). Since the victory of the Chinese revolution, the two Parties have increased their contacts and firmed their ties. In the past few years in particular, there has been a satisfactory development of the relations between them on the basis of Marxism and in the spirit of independence, full equality, mutual respect and non-interference in each other's affairs.



General Secretary Hu Yaobang (second from left) holds talks with Spanish counterpart Gerardo Iglesias (second from right).

Hu on Party's Six Decades of Experience

General Secretary Hu Yaobang says the historical experience gained by the Chinese Communist Party since its founding in 1921 boils down to a single point: "The Party must have a correct political position and normal inner-Party life."

"This correct political position will not come easily," he told a June 7 banquet for a Spanish Communist Party delegation led by General Secretary Gerardo Iglesias. "It can only grow out of protracted and repeated practice of integrating the universal principles of Marxism with the concrete realities of the revolution in our country."

"Since social practice is ever changing and developing, the Party's political position must also change and develop along with history and the changes in the circumstances."

"Such a political position, naturally, cannot be copied from books or brought in from abroad. It can only stem from the struggle of the working class and the people of our country as a whole."

"The essence of this political position is that it must truly represent the interests and aspirations of the working class and the people of the country as a whole and rally the broadest possible section of the people around the Party so that they will strive for their own emancipation."

"Similarly, normal inner-Party life does not come easily either. The most important thing is to establish and uphold democratic centralism in the Party, give full play to inner-Party democracy, strengthen organizational loyalty and discipline, carry out criticism and self-criticism correctly, and keep to a just and fair cadre policy. Only in this way is it possible to foster a vigorous and disciplined inner-Party life."

"The Party's political position and inner-Party life are interrelated and interacting. A correct political position is the prerequisite and basis for a normal inner-Party life. Whether our inner-Party life is normal has to do with whether the Party's correct political position can be implemented. It also determines whether various mistakes, which are inevitable in the Party's complicated and changeable revolutionary practice, can be overcome and corrected in good time."

"We always hold that the Communist Parties of various countries should hold themselves responsible to their own people and that they have the right to choose their own road of revolution and construction and independently decide all their own affairs."

"Even when they encounter difficulties and setbacks, it is up to these Parties themselves to find the correct methods to overcome them."

During his stay in Beijing, Iglesias exchanged views with Hu on bilateral relations, Party building and the international communist movement.

Hu said that over a long period of time the two Parties have adhered to the correct principles governing inter-Party relations and opposed hegemonistic behaviour in the international communist movement.

Hu said that the equal and friendly co-operative relationship is based on a common ideal and on independent efforts to realize that ideal.

Iglesias said the Spanish Communist Party follows with great interest and highly appraises the innovative views of the current leadership of the Chinese Communist Party on the basis of Marxism.

He said that, in view of its own experience, the Spanish Communist Party is more resolutely safeguarding its own independence than ever before and fighting against all manifestations of dogmatism, which denies the guiding role of Marxism.

He said the Spanish Communist Party will decide its own road to socialism, based on the situation in Spain and in Europe.

He said that in the present difficult conditions faced by the world, including the danger of nuclear war, the Spanish Party will absolutely not support any confrontation between military blocs, which would lead to disaster if not checked.

Speaking on June 9 before more than 400 Chinese Party cadres and students, Iglesias said the overall current world situation shows that there is more need for socialism now than ever before, not only to win the genuine liberation for the oppressed, the exploited and the enslaved, but also to prevent the outbreak of war and make produc-

tive forces mastered through science and technology serve mankind.

In fact, he added, socialism is the only way out for mankind.

Italian Communist Leader Mourned

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) has sent a message to the Central Committee of the Italian Communist Party, expressing deep condolences and sincere sympathy on the death of General Secretary Enrico Berlinguer.

Berlinguer died of a stroke in the northern Italian city of Padua on June 11, at age 62.

The message, sent the same day, said, "The unfortunate death of Comrade Berlinguer has brought the Italian Communist Party the loss of an outstanding leader, the international workers movement the loss of a distinguished activist, the cause of world peace the loss of a staunch fighter and the CPC and the Chinese people the loss of a close friend."

"Comrade Berlinguer," it continued, "devoted all his life to the Italian people's glorious cause of democracy, freedom and socialism. He worked hard to integrate the universal truth of Marxism with the concrete practice in Italy, inherited and developed the thought of Antonio Gramsci and Palmiro Togliatti, made unremitting efforts to explore the way to socialism in Italy, and made important contributions to the building and development of the Italian Communist Party."

"Berlinguer upheld the principle of combining internationalist support with respect of the independent rights of the Communist Parties of various countries, and stood for the norms in inter-Party relations of independence, equality and non-interference in each other's internal affairs, thus mak-

ing an outstanding contribution to the establishment of appropriate relations between all Parties and to the healthy development of the Communist movement."

The message paid tribute to Berlinguer's efforts to enhance the traditional friendship between the Italian and the Chinese Communist Parties as well as between the two peoples, saying that his visit to China in 1980 "pushed the friendly and co-operative relations between the two Parties into a new phase, and brought about a positive effect in the international communist movement."

In conclusion, the message expressed the conviction that the Italian communists, during these sad hours, will carry out the behest of Comrade Berlinguer that they close their ranks and overcome various difficulties and obstacles to open up more favourable prospects in promoting democratic reform and social progress in Italy, and that the traditional friendship and co-operation between the Chinese and the Italian Communist Parties will continue to develop.

The CPC Central Committee has delegated Zhao Ziyang as its representative to attend Berlinguer's funeral.

Global Ties Urged By Youth League

The Chinese Communist Youth League has passed a resolution on promoting friendly exchanges and co-operation with youth organizations worldwide.

Youth are the masters of the future, says the resolution, passed on June 10 by an enlarged session of the Youth League's central committee. Their mutual trust, friendship and solidarity today will be a guarantee of world peace. China's youth will expand their economic, scientific, cultural and sports ex-

changes and co-operation with youth organizations in other parts of the world and will work together with them for world peace and the happiness of mankind.

"China's youth understand that they need a peaceful environment to build their country, and a powerful modernized socialist China will be an important factor in defending world peace," the resolution says. "China not only needs peace today but will still need peace after it is modernized."

"China's youth will uphold the principles of peace and friendship, independence, equality and mutual help, and of learning from each other," it says.

In 1985, the China Organizational Committee of the International Youth Year will invite representatives from Asia and the Pacific region to meet in China.

The resolution says China's youth will further their friendship and co-operation with the youth of all countries, including the United States and the Soviet Union, in the cause of safeguarding world peace.

China's youth will support all peoples in their just struggle against imperialism, colonialism, expansionism and racial discrimination and support the third world countries in their struggle for national independence, the development of their national economies and the establishment of a new international economic order.

China's youth and student organizations, it says, are willing to establish relations with all their counterparts, both official and non-governmental. They will make friends irrespective of race, religion, politics and social strata. Differences in social systems and ideology would not hinder them in seeking understanding, friendship and co-operation. It is the firm belief of China's youth that youth from all over the world can and should transcend these dif-

ferences and promote their friendship and co-operation in working for world peace.

Co-operation With Malaysia Stressed

General Secretary Hu Yaobang has told Malaysian Foreign Minister Tan Sri Ghazali Shafie that China is willing to promote its relations with Malaysia in the areas of politics, economics, culture, science and technology.

Hu, in his meeting with Ghazali on May 31, hoped that the relations between the two countries would be constantly improved.

Ghazali's visit, from May 29 to June 5, was his first official visit to China and reciprocated the visit by his Chinese counterpart Wu Xueqian to Malaysia last February.

Referring to the ties between China, the ASEAN and Southeast Asian countries, Hu Yaobang told the Malaysian guests that China hoped its good-neighbour relations with these countries would become even better and that they would achieve common prosperity, make constant progress and grow strong.

He said that there are many countries where both people of Chinese origin and overseas Chinese are living. As a matter of policy, China would never ask them to do things detrimental to the interests of these countries, he added.

During his stay in Beijing, Ghazali exchanged views with Wu Xueqian on bilateral political and economic relations, Southeast Asian peace, world peace and other issues of common concern.

Wu said the most important thing was mutual trust between the two governments. The Southeast Asian countries are friendly neighbours of China and good partners for co-operation.

"We welcome Malaysia and other ASEAN countries to set up joint ventures or independent enterprises in China," Wu said. "We also hope to share research with Malaysia and other ASEAN friends in all new fields and new forms of strengthening mutual economic and technical co-operation."

Ghazali said that the expansion of Malaysian-Chinese friendship and co-operation was in the interest of both countries. "Malaysia hopes to be involved in more activities in China's modernization programme," he said.

Businesses Enjoy Expanded Powers

China's economic reforms, which began in the countryside, bringing dramatic changes in farm production and living conditions for 800 million peasants, are now expanding to urban enterprises, with emphasis on the management system which has handicapped the development of the economy.

In recent months, China's newspapers have often carried letters from factory directors or managers, appealing to higher authorities to "free them from their bonds" and give them more decision-making powers.

The Luoyang Cotton Textile Mill in Henan Province is a typical example. The mill produces goods worth more than 100 million yuan a year. Starting last November, production costs at the mill increased substantially, because their regular suppliers of second-class and inferior cotton couldn't meet their requirements. In order to fulfil the state plan for cloth made of second-class and poor-quality cotton, the mill had to use high-quality cotton instead. Later on, the mill purchased 365 tons of poor-quality cotton directly from a local county. As a result, production costs dropped.

He also hoped that China would assist Malaysia in its construction. "The success of China's modernization construction would help safeguard world peace and be of great importance to Malaysia," he stressed.

Ghazali also met with Acting Premier Wan Li and Chen Muhua, Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade.

A letter of intent on building an international trade centre in Beijing was signed between Chinese and Malaysian companies on May 30.

But according to the Ministry of Commerce regulations, state-owned enterprises have no right to purchase commodities as cotton. For its action, the mill was fined by the Luoyang Industrial and Commercial Bureau.

In his article in *Renmin Ribao* (People's Daily), the factory director asked if state-owned enterprises could be granted the right to buy a certain amount of raw materials.

Since the economic readjustment and reforms of 1979, state-owned enterprises have been granted some decision-making powers, such as the distribution of profits. But these powers are not great enough to bring the initiative of enterprises into full play.

New Regulations

To help enterprises solve problems arising from the economic reforms, on May 10 the State Council issued the Provisional Regulations on Greater Decision-Making Powers for State-Owned Industrial Enterprises. They are as follows.

- Businesses have the right to produce whatever is needed or is in short supply, after fulfilling their state plans and orders. They may also ask for a readjustment of the

state plans, if substantial changes occur in supply or demand.

- With certain exceptions, they have the right to sell products they retain for themselves, products in excess of state quotas, their own trial-produced or overstocked items and those refused by state purchasing agencies. They must keep special accounts for the products they sell themselves and pay tax according to regulations.

- For the means of industrial production which they sell themselves and the products exceeding state quotas, businesses have the right to set prices within a 20 per cent range of the state price, or to negotiate the prices with buyers. They must abide by the state prices for the means of livelihood and the means of farm production.

- Businesses have the right to choose their suppliers when they order state-distributed raw materials. The units in charge of ordering raw materials should give full consideration to the demand of enterprises, and make proper arrangements in accordance with the available resources and transportation conditions. Businesses may also obtain raw materials directly from producers without going through state monopoly suppliers.

- They have the right to decide whether their share of profits goes into expanding production, trial production of new products, a reserve fund, the workers' welfare fund or bonuses. They also have the right to use other funds for the first three items, together with funds for depreciation and large-scale renovation and repair.

- Businesses have the right to lease or transfer with compensation unneeded machinery or other fixed assets, but the income must be used to upgrade or renew their own facilities. When they lease or transfer unneeded high-quality and precision equipment belonging to higher competent departments, they

must seek the approval of the authorities.

- Businesses have the right to decide on the setting up of organizations and to assign their staff according to their needs as long as they stay within their authorized size.

- The factory director or manager has the right to appoint or dismiss cadres under him. His deputies, however, are subject to approval from above. The director or manager and the Party secretary are to be appointed by the higher competent departments concerned. The factory director has the right to reward and punish his workers and staff, with promotions, wage hikes, or even disciplinary dismissal.

- Directors have the right to employ workers on the basis of examinations under the guidance of the state labour recruiting agencies. They also have the right to reject forced assignment from higher agencies or individuals.

- Businesses have the right to adopt any wage system, in line with state standards. Factory directors may promote 3 per cent of their workers each year, with the increased wages counted as a cost of production.

- They have the right to enter into joint projects which cut across official divisions, as long as they maintain their present system of ownership, finances and subordinate relationships.

Economic Progress In Minority Areas

Hai Baoren, a peasant deputy to the National People's Congress from the Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region in northwest China, said he hoped to buy a colour TV set and a motorcycle from Shanghai during his stay in Beijing.

Hai, 48, lives in Hanqu village in the suburbs of Wuzhong city. His family contracted an orchard last year, which earned them more than 12,000 yuan and thus made them a well-off family.

Since the implementation of the responsibility system in the rural areas, Ningxia has developed its agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry and sideline production, increasing the incomes of almost all the peasants. The total output value of agriculture in 1983 reached 884 million yuan and that of industry, 1,612 million yuan. Compared with 1982, the increase of the total output value of industry and agriculture in 1983 surpassed the national average growth rate of 10.2 per cent.

Over the past few years, the lives of the peasants and herdsmen in minority areas have greatly improved. In addition to the per capita increase in consumption of grain, meat and edible oil, there is also an increasing demand for synthetic fabrics and high-quality clothes. The demand for tractors, motorcycles, colour TV sets and carpets is also increasing with each passing year in Xinjiang, Qinghai and Inner Mongolia. Every household in Hai's brigade has a TV set, and six families have bought motorcycles.

Since the People's Republic was founded, remarkable progress has been made in agriculture, industry, commerce, transportation, science and education in minority areas. Compared to 1949, the total output value of industry and agriculture in all minority autonomous areas in 1982 increased 11.4 times, grain went up 3.2 times and the number of various livestock rose 4.4 times. In 1982 output of grain, cotton, edible oil, livestock and animal by-products reached a record since liberation. The grain output of the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region reached 4.5 million tons, enough to feed its 13 million people.



Herdsmen of the Yili Kazakh Autonomous Prefecture in Xinjiang buy TV sets.

But the economic development in minority areas would be impossible without help from the state. From 1950 to 1982 the state invested 77.700 million yuan in minority areas.

Over the 26 years since the Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region was established, it has received more than 4,600 million yuan in financial subsidies (including fixed and special subsidies) from the state, accounting for 56.6 per cent of the total income of the region.

At the same time, the state has also organized the coastal provinces and regions, which are economically better off, to help the minority areas develop production through technical co-operation, economic co-ordination, and intellectual development, and provide them with advanced technology and equipment. From 1980 to 1982, 1,178 projects, donations and equipment came from Beijing, Tianjin, Shanghai, Hebei, Jiangsu and Sichuan. Four hundred agreements on economic co-operation and co-ordination were reached between Xinjiang and Shanghai or Jiangsu.

China has 55 minority nationalities, and five autonomous regions, 31 autonomous prefectures and 80

autonomous counties have so far been established. They cover more than 60 per cent of China's territory, with a population of 120 million. Of these, minority people account for 50 million.

Household Chores Done by Company

China has begun to run companies providing housework services as a part of the efforts to vary its economic structure and offer what is needed.

The Chaoyang Housework Service Company, which was established at the end of last year in Beijing, is the first in China. Unemployed youth, retired workers and other idle labourers are trained, and then assigned to customers' houses. By March this year, 2,500 households had asked for the company's services. Now more than 460 attendants are doing housework for customers.

Of the company's customers, 33.3 per cent are workers, 29.3 per cent are cadres, 33.9 per cent are people working in science, educa-

tion, culture and medicine, and 3.5 per cent are people working in other fields. About 58.8 per cent of the customers ask for someone to look after their children, 17.8 per cent need attendants to care for their aged parents or patients.

Zhao Ju, deputy manager of the company, volunteered for her post after graduating from the Beijing College of Economics last year.

Noted sociologist Fei Xiaotong pointed out after his investigative tour of Yunnan that the heavy burden of household chores on 60-70 per cent of workers and staff in the area is the main obstacle to their study and work. They wanted housework to be socialized.

For a long time, it has been the practice in China for members of the family to do the housework. Usually nurseries, kindergartens, and homes for the aged are run by the state and collectives. This practice provides great convenience for the people, but the state alone cannot solve all problems concerning household work. Scattered individual housework services can do this and satisfy customers' different needs.

Housework service companies are being founded to reduce the burden on the state and help people cope with difficulties in their daily lives.

Recently the All-China Women's Federation and other concerned units held a meeting at the Chaoyang Housework Service Company, hoping to encourage the representatives from 20 provinces and big and medium-sized cities to support housework service companies.

CORRECTION: In issue No. 24, page 4, first column, third paragraph, lines 3-4, "... 78 autonomous counties" should read "80 autonomous counties."

Britain

More Talk Than Action at Summit

by YANG YI

AS the summit of the seven major Western industrial countries ended on the evening of June 9 with a banquet at Buckingham Palace hosted by Queen Elizabeth, it appeared that expectations for this type of meeting, as well as interest in it, have diminished considerably. Political analysts in various countries note that the summit did not accomplish much.

Compared with the summit in Paris two years ago, the just-concluded 10th summit was notable for its show of unity, in spite of reported clashes and repeated wranglings which caused repeated postponements of its final document.

Some political analysts, however, argue that the meetings failed to achieve concrete results. They pointed out that nearly all the leaders face major elections this year and they needed to put up a "united" and "successful" front at the summit.

The seven countries — Canada, Federal Germany, France, Britain, Italy, Japan and the United States — adopted an economic declaration which emphasized a continued strengthening of the economic recovery in the West.

Another four political documents on East-West relations, the Iran-Iraq war, international terrorism and the value of democracy were all characterized by empty promises and few effective measures.

The United States was criticized by the other six countries for its high interest rates, which they said

were impeding economic growth in their countries and "could put recovery at risk." US President Ronald Reagan, while voicing his willingness to reduce interest rates and cut the budgetary deficit, insisted that his administration's economic policy will remain unchanged in the future. This has been echoed by the chairman of his Council of Economic Advisers and the head of the Federal Reserve Board, who predict that US interest rates will go even higher before long.

The economic declaration failed to find ways to discourage growing protectionism and to dismantle tariff barriers.

The worsening debt crisis in the developing countries is closely related to the policies in the United States and other Western countries of raising interest rates, restricting imports from the third world and forcing down commodity prices. This policy has not only seriously harmed the economies of the developing countries but also has affected the growth of production in Western countries, threatening the development of its financial system.

France and some other Western countries have advocated strengthening the role of governments and international monetary institutions, opening up markets of the developed countries and realizing a comprehensive settlement of the debt problem. The United States, however, wants debtor countries to adjust their economies on their own, open domestic markets to foreign countries and protect foreign investments. It also has adhered to the principle of solving

the problems of indebted countries one by one.

The summit's economic declaration, which talks a lot about the problem, concludes with a compromise that largely supports the US programme of defending the interests of creditors. As a result, it is impossible to make a real contribution to easing the debt crisis.

Observers in London generally believe that the political declarations adopted at the summit will solve few practical problems, though they have, among other things, proposed political dialogues and long-term co-operation with the Soviet Union and its allies, offered support for a peaceful settlement of the Iran-Iraq war and elaborated on the value of freedom and democracy.

As a result of the US-Soviet global rivalry and their weakened ability to manipulate international affairs, some far-sighted politicians in the developed countries have come to understand more and more clearly the importance of strengthening co-operation with the third world. Messages sent to the summit from seven Latin American nations, including Mexico and Peru, asking the Western leaders to seriously tackle the debt problems of the developing countries, found a sympathetic hearing in the French and Canadian delegations.

The seven-nation summit was originally a response to the economic recessions in the capitalist countries. Today, the troubles facing these countries are becoming increasingly complicated and internationalized. Therefore, it is necessary that this type of summit, which costs so much and yields so little, devotes greater efforts to seeking co-ordination and narrowing the participants' differences.

Lebanon

Main Tasks Facing New Government

by YU KAIYUAN

WHEN Lebanon's new Prime Minister Rashid Karami told the press on May 29 that the month-old government of national unity has three major tasks ahead — ending the foreign occupation of southern Lebanon and Bekaa Valley, reorganizing the army to bring about a stable peace and security and working out a new constitution — he added a few words of caution: "Nobody should expect us to fulfil these tasks in one month."

He was responding to pessimistic comments about the future of the new government. Since its formation on April 30, it had been busy tackling the refusal of some prominent Lebanese figures to join the cabinet and seeking parliamentary support. The members of parliament refused to meet because security in the district of Beirut where the Parliament is located could not be guaranteed. A month had passed before the new government was approved by parliament — an unprecedented situation. Former governments had always won parliament's confidence within a week.

Also hampering the new government in its work has been the daily factional fighting in Beirut and its southern suburbs. Although there is still one corridor open in the capital running east to west, it takes people one to two hours to cross what amounts to a few hundred metres. There is no sign that the airport of Beirut and harbour, which have closed for months, will reopen soon. Factories have closed down and unemployment has increased significantly. It is no wonder that those who pinned great hope on the new government

should have some doubts. But foreign observers in Beirut say that it is too early and unfair to be pessimistic about the future of the new government.

However, the multitude of political and religious factions in Lebanon, together with the foreign influence, do not make it easy for the new government to fulfil its main tasks.

First, it must settle the question of an Israeli troop withdrawal. Syria, in exchange for an Israeli troop withdrawal, has agreed to the measures proposed by the Lebanese Government to guarantee security along Israel's northern border. But Israel will not agree readily to them, hoping to maintain as great a political benefit as possible. After Lebanon rescinded its earlier agreement with Israel, the Israeli authorities insisted on direct negotiations with Lebanon on security, rejecting the Lebanese proposal for negotiations through the United States or the United Nations. Israel also continues to sponsor its surrogate — the army of south Lebanon, which creates

South Africa

Botha Seeks Support in Europe

by YU CHENGZHI

SOUTH African Prime Minister Pieter Botha's recent visit to Britain and seven other West European countries provoked waves of condemnation from the moment it was announced. Throughout Britain protests came from opposition parties, the anti-racism movement, the press, churches and other quarters.

The South African regime has

further difficulties for the central government.

Second, the new government must settle the question of peace and stability. Nabih Berri, leader of the Shiite Amal faction, insists that the real truce and restoration of normal life be preceded by a reform of the army. However, this issue is sensitive. The Muslims demand the formation of a military committee with a rotating chairmanship to command the army, which had formerly been led by the Maronite Christians, and an increase in the number of Muslim officers. They believe the army should stay out of sectarian conflicts. But the Christians do not seem prepared to accept these requests.

Also problematic are the proposed constitutional changes intended to redistribute powers, which will involve the interests of all factions.

Karami has asked the entire population to share responsibility for making a success of the new cabinet, which he called "an extraordinary government shouldering special duties." The Beirut press believes that a temporary truce and stability might come to Lebanon but whether the three main tasks can be fulfilled remains up in the air.

hailed the tour, the first of its kind in 20 years, as a major diplomatic victory. By visiting Western Europe, Botha hoped to patch up his regime's bruised image and garner international approval of its policies. He also hoped to ease the UN ban on arms sales to South Africa and the international sporting boycott against his country. Since Botha came to office six years ago, South Africa has grown increasingly unpopular and isolat-

ed because of its external as well as internal policies. It has invaded Angola and on numerous occasions attacked Mozambique and other neighbours. It has thwarted a solution to the Namibian problem. It doggedly pursues a policy of racial discrimination, depriving black people of political rights and forcing more than two million to move into "black homelands."

In recent months, Botha's regime has readjusted its foreign policies to ease the military and economic burdens resulting from the long-standing tension with its neighbours and to ease its isolation in the world. However, its basic policies have changed little. It still insists on the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola as a prerequisite for Namibian independence and refuses to implement UN Security Council Resolution 435 or recognize the South West Africa People's Organization and the African National Congress.

Why did Britain invite the leader of such an internationally unpopular regime for an official visit? Speaking on BBC Radio on May 6, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said: "I hope we can influence him. I hope we can hear some more things that they are doing to increase the opportunities for all of the people of South Africa and to try to get rid of the apartheid system, which we do not like and which we condemn."

Malcolm Rifkind, Undersecretary of State in charge of Southern African Affairs at the British Foreign Office, said on Independent Television on May 27 that Britain hoped that the talks between Thatcher and Botha would help promote changes in southern Africa and help ease tensions there.

But looming behind these optimistic words are Britain's massive economic interests in South

Africa, which are a more plausible explanation of why the Thatcher government ran the risk of welcoming Botha. Britain is South Africa's third largest trading partner. In the first two months of this year, it increased its exports to South Africa by 36 per cent to 190 million British pounds. Direct investment in South Africa has gone up to 6,000 million pounds and indirect investment to 7,000 million pounds. It was expected that Britain hoped to use Botha's visit to secure more economic interests.

India

Old Differences End in Violence

by ZHONG TAI

THE storming of a Sikh bastion in the northwestern state of Punjab by federal troops on the evening of June 6 has brought to a bloody climax the long-standing differences between various factions which began with the partition of India and Pakistan in 1947 and have intensified rapidly in the last two years.

Since May 1982, when militant Sikh leader Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale set up his headquarters in the sprawling Golden Temple complex in Amritsar, 400 kilometres northwest of New Delhi, there had been frequent clashes in the district between police and Sikh extremists seeking greater political power for Punjab. The violence worsened in recent months as the turmoil in Amritsar spread to neighbouring states, with sectarian strife between Sikhs, Hindus and police growing more and more out of control.

On June 2, the central government, alarmed by the increasing death toll and lawlessness, dispatched troops to Punjab. Some of them surrounded the Golden Temple where Bhindranwale and his followers had taken refuge and

For years, Britain and the United States have given South Africa behind-the-scenes support because that country possesses an important geographic and strategic position, abundant natural resources useful for military purposes, and advanced industry and agriculture. As well, they have had traditional links with South Africa. By ploughing capital into South Africa to exploit the local technical know-how, the British and US Governments share a long-term ambition of extracting huge profits from the troubled region.

waited four days before entering Sikhism's holiest shrine to arrest the residents. When the fighting was over, there were nearly 300 people dead, including Bhindranwale, and 240 injured. In addition, the troops arrested about 450 Sikhs within the complex, including Harchand Singh Longowal, president of the Akali Dal Party, which had also made the temple its headquarters.

News of Bhindranwale's death and the occupation of the temple provoked further violence by Sikhs in New Delhi, Chandigarh, the capital of Punjab, and many other cities.

Underlying the sectarian violence are a number of political and economic factors, as well as religious and racial differences. Ever since the partition of Pakistan and India, Punjab's Sikhs, who make up a majority in the state, have demanded increased political concessions from the central government, which has resulted in sporadic conflicts over the years.

However, differences within the 15 million strong Sikh community itself has prevented the emergence of a unified political movement.

Certain extremists go all the way and demand that an independent Khalistan be set up, while more moderate groups opposed to secession seeking a degree of political autonomy that would leave only national defence and foreign policy under the jurisdiction of the central government. A third group seeks slight reforms of the current system and a measure of autonomy, while the upper class and the ruling politicians wish to maintain the status quo.

Punjab is India's "bread basket," producing half of the country's marketable grain. Agriculture flourished in the wake of the "green revolution" in the 1960s. At the same time there were widespread calls for the development of industry in the state. But the central government, which regards Punjab primarily as an agricultural state, did not promote the growth of industry there — a stance that has been received with dissatisfaction by the Sikhs. In addition, the advances achieved by the "green revolution" have largely benefited the landlords and prosperous peasants while ordinary peasants still live near poverty. The poorest of them, those without jobs or land, have tried to find work in the cities though usually without success. As a result, class polarization has sharpened.

The central government took several measures to allay discontent in the state. Last October, Punjab was placed under direct presidential rule; but the violence continued unabated. Then in recent months, the central government offered to meet for talks with the Akali Dal Party to seek a solution to the crisis but failed to make any progress. Meanwhile the situation worsened, and Indians began to worry that permanent turmoil could affect the national economy and domestic stability.

The signs now indicate that Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's ruling Congress (I) Party may call

general elections soon. The constitution stipulates that elections must be held every five years and the present government's tenure is due to end next January. A general resolution adopted by the 77th meeting of the Congress (I) Party, with its emphasis on a continued battle against poverty, can actually

Bolivia

Debt Crisis Rebounds on West

by ZHANG ZHENYA

THE Bolivian Government's decision to suspend repayments of its US\$1,000 million debt to foreign commercial banks sent stock prices in the major Western financial centres plummeting. The decision, announced on May 30, if harmful to the Western countries' interests, is completely a result of their stubbornness in trying to thwart the North-South dialogue, disregarding the developing countries' economic difficulties.

Bolivia has run up about US\$4,500 million in foreign debt. As the country cannot earn enough foreign exchange from exports to repay the part of its foreign debt coming due this year, it has been forced to suspend payment altogether. And Bolivia is not the only country that finds itself in this dilemma. On June 4, five days after Bolivia's decision, Ecuador made a similar announcement.

Many developing countries, which have run into heavy debt because of the old international economic order, have been urging the West to join them in North-South talks, but have not received any positive response. The repayment burden on these countries has been growing heavier as the interest rates of other Western currencies, along with that of the US dollar, continue to rise. Thus the danger that they will not be able to service their debt looms large.

be interpreted as a programme for the general elections. The Congress (I) Party had hoped to neutralize the opposition forces while stabilizing the political situation prior to the elections, but with the tough job ahead of dealing with its current difficulties in Punjab, it may find its hands full.

This problem is embarrassing to those Western commercial banks, and American banks in particular, who, seeking abundant profits, have made large loans to Latin America since the beginning of the 1970s. The ensuing concern over whether the loans can be recouped has shattered the public confidence in these banks and depressed the value of their stocks. As a result, the debt crisis in Latin America, beginning with Bolivia's decision, has caused a banking crisis in the West.

For a long time, the major Western countries have been exploiting the developing countries through selfish currency policies, exchanges of unequal value, protectionism and shifting their economic crisis on to the third world countries. Now these policies have turned on their instigators.

Today, all the world's economies have become interdependent. The old international economic order, if unchanged, will also bring losses to the developed countries should they continue to refuse to take into account the interests of third world countries.

Unfortunately, some developed countries still refuse to face the gravity of the current debt crisis and to undertake some responsibility for solving it. This irresponsible position will do nothing to help the third world countries out of the crisis; it will also do no good to the developed nations.

Developing China's Nuclear Power Industry

Developing nuclear power, especially in the more industrialized areas along the coast, has become an urgent task in China. China has now the basic conditions to build nuclear power stations with sufficient safety devices.

by **JIANG SHENGJIE**

SINCE the world's first nuclear power plant went into operation in 1957, more than 300 nuclear power reactors have been built in 25 countries and regions, with a total generating capacity of 191,000 mw. And construction is continuing. By the end of the century, an estimated 40 countries will have nuclear power stations and the total generating capacity will have increased to between 600,000 and 800,000 mw. Of the world's total energy output, 20 per cent will be produced by nuclear power stations, up from the current 12 per cent.

With so many countries considering nuclear power a technically practical, safe, reliable and economical source of energy, China is beginning to develop its own nuclear industry, and in the next few decades will see major efforts in this sector.

Inevitable Trend. When the Chinese Government decided in 1982 to speed up the development of its nuclear energy industry, especially when it announced that two nuclear power stations would be built in east and south China, some people were asking, "With all its rich natural energy re-

The author is a prominent nuclear scientist. He is President of the Chinese Nuclear Society and Chairman of the Science and Technology Committee of the Ministry of Nuclear Industry.

sources, why does China want to develop nuclear power?"

In 1949, China generated 4,300 million kilowatt-hours of electricity. By 1983, this figure had risen to 351,400 million kwh, an 81-fold increase. Yet despite the increase, the total output of elec-



tricity still falls short of the amount needed for economic and social development. In the past few years, electricity for Chinese industries has been short by as much as 50,000 million kwh, resulting in short-term shutdowns at many factories. These interruptions in production meant that the country's annual industrial output value in these years was 70,000 million yuan less than it potentially could have been.

An insufficient supply of electricity has also resulted in many

inconveniences in people's daily lives. For instance, there are often power cuts in small and medium-sized cities. Every urban resident currently has only 12 kwh of electricity on average a year. This figure is even smaller in the countryside. About half of the country's villages have no electricity at all. Compared with the developed countries, there is a very big gap in China.

China plans to quadruple its gross annual output value of industry and agriculture from 710 billion yuan in 1980 to 2,800 billion yuan by the end of the century. To fulfil this plan, the amount of electricity generated must also be quadrupled—from 300 billion kwh in 1980 to 1,200 billion kwh.

To achieve this enormous goal, China has made plans to rapidly develop its thermal and hydroelectricity capacity by making full use of the country's rich coal and water resources. By the end of the century, the amount of electricity generated by thermal power stations will increase to 900 billion kwh from 240 billion kwh in 1980, and the amount generated by hydroelectric stations will increase to more than 200 billion kwh from 58.2 billion kwh. That leaves a shortfall of some 100 billion kwh, which must be filled by developing nuclear power stations.

Uneven Distribution of Conventional Energy Resources. China

has proved coal reserves of 700 billion tons, more than 60 per cent of which, however, are concentrated in north China. Of the 380 million kilowatts of exploitable water resources, more than 70 per cent are concentrated in the high mountains of southwest China. The nation's industrial and agricultural base, however, is along the coast, which lacks these energy resources.

The uneven distribution of energy potential not only increases the difficulty in exploitation, but also makes the long-distance transporting of coal from the north to the south and the long-distance transmission of electricity from southwest China economically unfeasible. Coal transportation currently makes up 43 per cent of China's total railway freight and 47 per cent of its water transport, but it still falls short of the demands of the coastal industrial areas.

Therefore, developing the nuclear power industry, especially in the industrial areas along the coast, is an urgent task to be completed as soon as possible.

Favourable Conditions. Some

people have asked, "Has China the necessary conditions for developing the nuclear power industry?"

Since China built its first experimental nuclear reactor in 1958, more than 10 reactors of various kinds have been built and put into operation.

During this period, a fairly comprehensive nuclear scientific research and production system has been established. The technology to explore for, exploit and process uranium, as well as the technology to produce nuclear fuels and handle spent fuel, is available. Scientists and technicians have been trained for designing, installing, operating and rebuilding nuclear reactors.

China's verified uranium reserves are sufficient to keep pressurized-water reactors (PWR) with a total capacity of 15,000 mw running for 30 years. New geological surveys are being planned and new ore-bodies are expected to be found.

The basic conditions exist now for developing China's nuclear power industry. The 300-mw PWR

plant at Qinshan in east China now under construction is developed, by the Chinese.

China will also learn from other countries' experience. To speed up the construction of the nuclear power industry, China plans to import technology and equipment for large power stations. It also hopes to exchange experiences and establish cooperative relations with foreign nuclear agencies so as to enable nuclear power to serve humanity better.

Hu Yaobang, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, has said that in the coming few years China would import some nuclear power stations, each with a capacity of at least several hundred thousand kilowatts and even as much as 2 million to 3 million kilowatts, depending on the terms. China, he said, is ready to make decisions when the terms are favourable.

China is currently negotiating agreements on co-operation in nuclear technology with several countries that have already developed nuclear power. For instance, China and the United States initialled an agreement on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy on April 30.

Safety Devices. Around the world there is public concern about the safe operation of nuclear power stations. The Chinese Government also attaches great importance to safety. In the early 1970s, the late Premier Zhou Enlai pointed out that principles of safety, economy, practicality and self-reliance must be followed in developing nuclear power. Later, the government allocated special funds every year and organized specialists to carry out studies and to experiment with the safe operation of nuclear power stations. These experts believe that under



DOCUMENTS

- **Independent and Peaceful Foreign Policy**
- **Expanding Economic Exchanges and Promoting Common Prosperity**

Independent and Peaceful Foreign Policy

On May 30, Premier Zhao Ziyang spoke at the French National Assembly about China's foreign policy before an audience of senators, National Assembly deputies, diplomats and guests

I thank President Louis Mermaz for his warm and friendly speech just now. You are an old friend of the Chinese people. You and all the other French friends present here have always been enthusiastic about the cause of Sino-French friendship, promoting the development of Sino-French relations. I, on behalf of the Chinese Government and people, express my thanks and respect. I am also very glad to have a chance to meet French friends from every circle and the country's diplomats in this magnificent hall.

France is a country with a glorious revolutionary tradition and is known to the world for its splendid culture. Many chapters of contemporary human civilization and progressive history are linked with your country. Some vanguards of the Chinese revolution once sought truth in France in early days. The Chinese people cherish a very dear feeling towards the great French people.

Strengthening friendly co-operation, boosting economic exchanges and promoting world peace are the main objects of my current visit to Western Europe.

World peace is the universal and pressing demand of the people of all countries in the present era. Security is a matter of vital interest to the people of all countries, and world peace is inseparable. The Chinese Government and people are concerned about peace and stability in the Asian-Pacific region and in other parts of the globe, and so we understand the concern of the European countries and their people over the tension on their continent and in other parts of the world.

Being an ancient continent on the globe, Europe has witnessed the existence and proliferation of many ethnic groups. Europe is a cradle of the world's industrial revolution, and the European people have created a brilliant culture and developed economy. Europe occupies an important position

in the world. Europe should be peaceful, stable and united. Only with peace can there be growth, only with stability can there be prosperity and only with unity can there be progress. Two world wars in this century have led to serious losses for Europeans and the people of the world. After World War II, the confrontation between two military blocs on the continent has made all the European countries bear, to varying degrees, the consequences of division and confrontation, and pay high prices for them. Contemporary Europe is where troops, conventional weapons and unclear weapons are most concentrated in the world. What makes people uneasy is that the arms race between the superpowers, especially the nuclear arms race, has kept escalating in this region. This is the root cause for the increasingly tense situation in present-day Europe. Under the circumstances, the European people's urgent demand for disarmament and an easing of East-West tension is fully justified. We hold that the independence and sovereignty of European countries should be respected and their security guaranteed. China appreciates the efforts of the West European countries for alliance, supports the easing of tension between the East and West European countries, and wishes to see that this takes place between the United States and the Soviet Union — because all these are conducive to peace in Europe and the world.

The Chinese people love peace, oppose war and regard the maintaining of world peace as their sacred duty. We deeply hope that there will be a long-standing peaceful international environment. It is not only because this is indispensable to the modernization which the Chinese people are aiming for, but also because the Chinese people, like the people of all other countries, are not willing to see any holocaust wrought by another world war. However, the reality is harsh and the cause of peace is facing formidable challenges. The global rivalry of the superpowers has made the world situation ever turbulent. The alternate escalation between the

superpowers in the arms race, especially the nuclear arms race, is like the sword of Damocles hanging over the head of the people the world over, seriously threatening world peace and the security of all countries. It is based on this general view that we regret the breakdown of the US-Soviet talks in Geneva on intermediate-range missiles. In our opinion, in order to ease the tension in Europe and the world, the most pressing and primary task facing the world's people is to urge the superpowers to adopt an attitude of restraint, to stop deploying new nuclear weapons, to conduct serious talks and to make due efforts towards drastically reducing nuclear weapons.

China opposes the arms race and stands for disarmament, both conventional and nuclear. China is undertaking a large-scale economic construction, seeking to change as quickly as possible the state's backward outlook and raise the people's living standards. So we are not willing and are impossible to take part in this harmful arms race. It is entirely for self-defence and opposing nuclear blackmail that China keeps a very limited number of nuclear weapons. China understands France's position of maintaining an independent nuclear force of its own in the present world situation. China has always stood for the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons. This could be called a genuine, comprehensive and thorough "zero option."

On behalf of the Chinese Government, I hereby declare once again: At no time and under no circumstances will China be the first to use nuclear weapons and never will it use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear states. China has always been critical of the discriminatory "Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons." We declined to accede to it. But we do not favour nuclear proliferation; nor do we engage in such proliferation by helping other countries to develop nuclear weapons. We propose that all nuclear states should undertake the commitment not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear states or against each other. Naturally, it is also intolerable to use a superiority of conventional arms to threaten others and this should also be condemned.

We hold that the United States and the Soviet Union, whose nuclear arsenals account for over 95 per cent of the world's total, assume the main, special and unshirkable responsibility to carry out nuclear disarmament. The two superpowers should take the lead in stopping the testing, improving and

manufacturing of nuclear weapons and agree to substantially reduce their nuclear weapons. It is our belief that only on this basis can a broadly representative international conference to discuss reducing nuclear weapons of all nuclear states be meaningful, fair and reasonable, and something that will conform to the interests and aspirations of the world's people.

What is gratifying is more and more big, medium and small states, nuclear and non-nuclear as well as aligned and non-aligned, have been playing a role in defending peace. This is good. The rising demand for peace and the widespread peace movement cannot but be a great restraint on any forces intending to launch a new world war. We are confident that international tensions can be eased and peace be better guaranteed so long as the people of all countries take their destinies into their own hands, take decisive actions and strengthen their unity and co-ordination to make the superpowers stop this dangerous arms race and seriously reduce their nuclear and conventional arms. We believe that human wisdom can not only invent and manufacture nuclear arms, but is able to restrict and eliminate them.

We have consistently held that all countries, big or small, rich or poor, strong or weak, are sovereign and should be treated as equals. No bullying of the small by the big, oppression of the poor by the rich and subjugation of the weak by the strong should be tolerated. The affairs of a country should be managed by its people, and the affairs of the world should be settled through consultations between the countries concerned.

Thirty years ago, China proposed the five principles of "mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence." China has always abided by these principles in its relations with other countries and sincerely hopes that they will become the norms governing relations between all countries. Experience has shown that the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence are applicable not only to relations between countries with different social systems but also to relations between countries with similar social systems. If these principles are abided by all, universal peace would be quickly achieved. During the past 30 years, the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence have been accepted by more and more countries. It is regrettable that

these sound and reasonable principles are not observed by all. The superpowers, in particular, are still encroaching upon the sovereignty of other countries, occupying their territories and infringing upon their rights and interests. Through these acts of hegemony they have trampled on the principles of peaceful coexistence, and this has led to the emergence of "hot spots" in many areas, creating international tension and jeopardizing world peace and stability.

China seeks to develop normal relations with all countries, including the United States and the Soviet Union, on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. Long-term and stable development of Sino-US relations is possible so long as the United States strictly abides by agreed-upon principles and ceases to interfere in the Taiwan question, which is a matter of China's affairs. China also hopes to improve Sino-Soviet relations and establish neighbourliness with the Soviet Union, and normalization of Sino-Soviet relations can be realized so long as the Soviet Union takes practical actions to remove existing major obstacles.

In international dealings, China adheres to principle and stresses good faith. We will never be a superpower, nor will we pursue hegemonism. We uphold independence and will not attach ourselves to any big power or bloc of countries or yield to any external pressure. We are pursuing a positive independent foreign policy which stresses seeking truth from facts, and determine our position on the merits of each case, proceeding from the fundamental interests of the people of China and the world as a whole. To seek a relaxation of international tension and to safeguard world peace, we persist in justice and uphold fairness. China pursues an independent policy and respects such a policy pursued by other countries. We appraise highly France's consistent pursuit of an independent policy. We are pleased to see more and more countries, in accordance with their circumstances, make independent judgments on many major international issues and adopt positive steps in an effort to ease international tension. The development of this tendency will undoubtedly play a big part in containing the superpowers' aggression, expansion and pursuit of hegemony. We are convinced that closer co-operation between China with its independent policy and a Europe that is the master of its own destiny will definitely make a great contribution to the lofty cause of easing international tension and safeguarding world peace.

Although Western Europe and China are far apart geographically, the traditional friendship between our peoples and the current common pursuit of peace and development connect us closely. China has always attached importance to developing relations with Western Europe. This position is based on the value we place on such relations and is not a matter of expedience; therefore, it has a solid foundation. There is no conflict of fundamental interests between China and Western Europe, nor are there any major outstanding issues. The two sides have identical and similar positions on many international issues. China has a vast territory with rich natural resources and a great potential market. Western Europe has a developed economy, advanced technology and abundant funds. Both sides have their strong points, share common needs and can make up for each other's deficiencies. There are broad prospects and great potential for co-operation.

China is engaging in a modernization drive, and its policy of opening to the outside world is a major long-term national policy. China is expanding economic and technical exchanges with countries throughout the world. We hope that Western Europe's share of China's total foreign trade will increase steadily. We are willing to provide facilities and preferential terms for importing technology and absorbing funds from Western Europe. We hope that West European countries will also make similar efforts on their part. I hold that there is a requisite for developing long-term, stable and comprehensive friendly co-operation between China and Western Europe. I hope that through our common efforts, co-operation will be further developed in breadth and depth.

France, a country which enjoys international prestige, is playing its distinctive role in the cause of world peace. It was the first major Western country to establish formal diplomatic relations with New China. We attach special importance to consolidating and strengthening Sino-French friendship. It has been fully 20 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations between our two countries. This is a time of review and looking forward. We are satisfied with the smooth development of Sino-French relations to date and are fully confident about the prospects of future co-operation. To greet the next glorious 20 years of Sino-French relations, for economic prosperity between our two countries, for world peace, let us go forward hand in hand! □

Expanding Economic Exchanges and Promoting Common Prosperity

While in Brussels on June 5, Premier Zhao Ziyang spoke to the Royal Institute on International Relations of Belgium

I am very pleased to have this opportunity of meeting you all here today. I wish to thank Mr. Prime Minister and other friends present for the warm welcome. Brussels is the capital of the Kingdom of Belgium and seat of the European Community headquarters. China has good relations with the Kingdom of Belgium, the European Community and other West European countries, and is carrying out fruitful co-operation with them. Here, I would like to pay a tribute to those friends of all walks of life from various countries who have worked for and contributed to the promotion of the friendly relations and co-operation between China and West European countries.

Safeguarding peace and promoting economic prosperity are two important and closely related issues of universal concern to the people of the world. For all countries, a peaceful environment is an indispensable condition for their development while carrying out international economic and technical exchanges and promoting common economic prosperity can in turn give a strong impetus to the preservation of world peace and stability and the strengthening of friendship among their peoples. It is precisely with the desire to strengthen friendship and co-operation, expand economic exchanges and promote world peace that I have come to visit Western Europe.

Today, I have brought you a clear and definite message, that is, China is ready to further expand its economic and technical exchanges with Western Europe in order to promote their common prosperity.

As you all know, China is a large and populous country, rich in natural resources, but it is also an economically underdeveloped developing country. The Chinese people are now working for the modernization of industry, agriculture, national defence and science and technology, building socialism with Chinese characteristics and striving for making China a prosperous country and improving their

own well-being as soon as possible. Naturally, this cannot be accomplished in one move. It needs decades of hard work. We will mainly rely on our own efforts, at the same time, we need our friends in various countries to support and co-operate with us. Invigorating the economy and opening up to the outside world are two basic guidelines for our modernization programme. They supplement each other and help each other forward.

China's modernization drive requires us to open up to the outside world and expand its economic and technical exchanges with others. This not only conforms to the inevitable trend of economic development, but also is an important lesson drawn from our past practice of national construction. It has not been too long since we introduced the policy of opening up to the outside world. However, the volume of foreign trade over the past five years has doubled, more than 12 billion US dollars of foreign funds have been absorbed and enterprises and projects with direct foreign investments have reached 2,000. Indeed, the results are tangible. This open policy conforms to the fundamental interests of our people, thus winning their wholehearted support. It is a long-term basic national policy of China designed to rejuvenate the country and enrich our people.

In order to carry out this national policy, the Chinese Government has decided recently that while running the existing four special economic zones still better, 14 more coastal cities and Hainan Island will be opened up, where certain special policies of the special economic zones would be introduced. These cities and Hainan Island will be given greater decision-making power. Foreign businessmen are welcome to establish exclusive foreign-invested enterprises, joint ventures or co-operative production enterprises in China. We will offer preferential conditions to joint ventures using Chinese and foreign investment and exclusive foreign-invested enter-

prises, and open part of our domestic market to their products manufactured with advanced technology. In opening to the outside world, our guideline is not to retreat from the open policy, but to press ahead with it. We will not stop where we are, but keep going forward. China's already opened door will open still wider. China will never close its door again. As China's modernization efforts intensify, ties between the Chinese market and the world market will grow closer. Economic and technical exchanges between China and foreign countries will develop in both range and quality.

China has all along thought highly of the important role played by Europe in the world. We know that Europe has a splendid culture, and it has made a great contribution to the civilization of mankind. Europe was the birth place of the industrial revolution, and now has important international financial centres and brisk trade market. Despite the enormous growth and great changes of the world's economy and technology, Europe has retained its characteristics and vitality. In history, exchanges between our two sides played a useful role in promoting economic development and social progress. Today, expanding the friendly relations and co-operation between China and West European countries will surely be a boon to the peoples of both sides. Since the founding of New China, the good relations between China and West European countries have stood the test of time. We will not forget that during the 50s and 60s when China suffered difficulties caused by outside blockade and political pressure, West European countries established and maintained diplomatic relations with China and developed mutually beneficial bilateral economic exchanges with it. That was a token of their friendship towards the Chinese people and an important action as well on their part to decide their policies independently.

There are no conflicts of fundamental interests between China and Western Europe, nor are there major obstacles to the development of Sino-West European relations. In the current changeable world situation, it is to our common interests to safeguard world peace and stability. In the course of our rising to the challenge of the new world technological revolution, increased economic and technical exchanges between China and Western Europe will be an important factor for our common prosperity. As far as China is concerned, strengthening Sino-West European relations and giving important

place to expanding our economic and technical co-operation in particular is by no means a temporary expedient, but what we have been required to do by the world reality. Therein lie our common interests.

Then, what about the opportunities for strengthening economic and technical co-operation between China and Western Europe? In our view, Sino-West European economic and technical co-operation has great potentialities and bright prospects, and there are much we can do together. In a sense, China's development means the development of its economic co-operation with others. You probably all know that China's economy has already got on to a path of healthy development thanks to the economic readjustment in the past few years. Although the world economy was in recession, the average annual growth rate of China's gross social product from 1981 to 1983 reached 8 per cent. In 1983, its GSP increased by 10 per cent and its total imports and exports by 11.4 per cent. This momentum can be expected to be kept up. With the progressing of our economic construction and the expanding of our people's purchasing power, the market demand of the one billion Chinese people will grow steadily, and the base of China's economic and technical exchanges with foreign countries will certainly become more consolidated. The Seventh Five-Year Plan (1986-1990) is in the making. On the one hand, key projects will be undertaken with emphasis on energy, transport and communications items, on the other, a large number of existing enterprises will be transformed technologically. We will start building an extra large project on the Three Gorges of the Changjiang (Yangtze) River, several large nuclear power stations and many small and medium-sized conventional power stations. We will speed up the recovery of onshore oil and the development of offshore oil. We will transform and extend existing mines, increase the number of small and medium-sized coal pits and build large opencut mines. We will upgrade existing railways and harbours and build heavy loaded trunk railway lines. We will make good use of our abundant hydroelectric and mineral resources and speed up the exploration of non-ferrous metal resources. We will both reform traditional industries which have hundreds of thousands of enterprises and develop new industries such as electronics technology. We will both work to satisfy the needs of China's economic development in the near future and lay the foundation of her future economic rejuvenation. Such being the case, China's construction and technical renovation will be unprecedented in scale,

and foreign partners can expect opportunities of wide-range co-operation with China in respect of funds, technology, equipment and the training of personnel. Europe possesses abundant funds and advanced technology, each and every of many West European countries has its own advantages and specialities. In their co-operation with China, all West European countries, big or small, all West European corporations regardless of their size, and every friend of China, old or new, can give full play to their strong points. With its rich natural resources and great market, China has strong points of its own and can make a contribution to Western Europe's prosperity too. I wish to point out emphatically that China and Western Europe are not competitors but good trade partners given their respective economic structure.

In the past year, gratifying progress has been made in Sino-West European economic and trade relations. Two-way trade between China and Western Europe increased by 20.7 per cent and China's imports from Western Europe by 37.5 per cent last year as compared with 1982. This is quite remarkable considering that it was achieved when world trade was shrinking. This achievement is a result of Sino-West European joint efforts. We have also noted that Western Europe does not account for a large proportion of China's foreign trade and that Sino-West European trade is still below the level it should have reached. We hope Western Europe will be able to account for a larger proportion of China's economic relations and trade with others. To elevate Sino-West European co-operation to a still higher level, the two sides need to get to know each other better and overcome certain factors detrimental to their economic co-operation.

China and Western Europe have different economic systems. It will take some time for each to obtain a clear knowledge of the other's economic needs, technical competence, laws and regulations and forms of co-operation. I am glad to see there has been a steady increase in official and non-official contacts in recent years. Quite a few Chinese provinces and cities have established friendly ties with more and more cities and provinces in West European countries. Sino-West European exchanges are developing intensively in all fields. I believe that so long as each side steps up its efforts to learn more about the other and be more adaptable to the other, obstacles on the road to progress can be removed. As Sino-West European economic and technical co-operation does not go back a long way,

certain ups and downs and disharmony in the course of their co-operation are hardly avoidable. However, when tackling these problems, we should uphold the principle of mutual benefit and mutual accommodation and have the future in mind. As far as the Chinese Government is concerned, we will earnestly sum up our experience, improve constantly our laws and regulations concerning China's external economic relations and provide patent protection. We will also overcome bureaucracy and improve efficiency through reforming the economic system. We have already concluded agreements on investment protection and for avoidance of double taxation with some West European countries and are holding negotiations on similar agreements with others in Western Europe. All this is conducive to the smooth development of Sino-West European economic relations.

Here, I would like to point out that China's open policy applies to other countries too. There is intense competition on world market, so is there competition for access to the Chinese market. West European businessmen are welcome to enter the Chinese market. We hope they will enhance their competitiveness in price, quality, service and particularly terms for technology transfer. I have noted that in the past two years, West European countries have been promoting Sino-West European economic relations and trade in various ways. Some countries have provided loan on favourable terms or mixed credits in order to make a breakthrough in their co-operation with China. Some have advanced bilateral co-operation by way of developing mutually beneficial trade in technology. Others have paved the way for better economic relations and trade through scientific-technological co-operation and training Chinese personnel. Still others have encouraged their people to undertake co-operative production or joint development projects in China so as to bring direct investment to China. They are all desirable and welcome forms of co-operation. As the governments and businessmen in West European countries are experienced in international trade and financial activities, I believe they can create more mutually beneficial ways of co-operation and seize every opportunity of success.

To keep up the momentum of Sino-West European trade on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, we hope West European countries will create favourable conditions for Chinese goods to enter West European markets so as to improve China's ability to pay for imports from Western Europe. We

appreciate the forthcoming and co-operative approach taken by the EC and many West European countries in this respect. Let us all work with renewed efforts to increase steadily Sino-West European trade.

We have noted that West European countries have taken a wise approach to North-South relations. China is a developing country. Sino-West European economic co-operation comes under the category of co-operation between developing and developed countries. We hope West European countries will offer China favourable terms for trade and economic and technical co-operation with them. This will be beneficial to both China and Western Europe. Expanded economic exchanges between us can certainly promote common prosperity, open up new areas and provide useful experience for North-South co-operation.

All in all, I hope China and Western Europe

will be able to strengthen their co-operation and establish closer, stable and long-term economic relations. This is not only in keeping with the common interests of the Chinese and West European peoples, but also will make an important contribution to world peace and prosperity.

Strengthened co-operation in many fields between an independent China and a Europe which has grasped its destiny in its own hands will be of great and far-reaching significance. The good political relations between us have provided favourable conditions for developing mutually beneficial economic relations. In return, the steadily growing economic co-operation is bound to enrich and consolidate our political relations. World political situation and new technological revolution have put political and economic challenges before the people of all countries. Let us join hands and rise to these challenges and strive for the preservation of world peace and common economic prosperity. □



the current scientific and technical conditions the safe operation of nuclear power stations is no problem so long as there is proper management and proper treatment of spent nuclear fuels.

Some people are worried that a nuclear power station might explode like an atom bomb. This, however, cannot happen because the materials and structure of a nuclear power station are completely different from those of an atom bomb. Highly enriched fission fuel is used in an atom bomb, with uranium-235 or plutonium-239 making up more than 90 per cent of the fuel. A nuclear power plant uses a fuel of low concentration, of which uranium-235 makes up only about 3 per cent. An atom bomb involves the assembly of sufficient nuclear fuels and is installed with a precise detonator, which can start the nuclear fuels on an enormous and uncontrollable chain reaction that instantaneously releases a colossal amount of energy. In a nuclear power station, the nuclear fuels are in separate reactor cores and are under human control and the energy is released slowly. Under no condition can it explode.

There is an area, however, that requires vigilant safety practices. The fission of nuclear fuels in the nuclear power stations can release a large amount of radioactive wastes that could harm all living things if it escaped. To prevent any leakages of radioactive wastes, a nuclear power station is built with three barriers. The first shields the fuel core, keeping in 98 per cent of radioactive products resulting from fission. The second is the protective wall and the recovering system. A third barrier, the safety shell covers the protective wall and the recovering system to effectively control any leakages.

Nuclear power stations are also

installed with various kinds of safety devices to ensure that the three barriers are not broken if an accident occurs. For instance, an emergency coolant system is provided to cover a loss of coolant. It will automatically spray coolant to eliminate remaining heat in the reactor and to condense any vapour containing radioactive wastes. A purification system will remove the wastes to prevent a leakage into the outside environment.

China will actively import advanced technology and equipment to speed up the development of its nuclear power industry and at the same time gradually acquire the ability to design and build nuclear power stations itself.

Experience of the past 30 years has shown that people so far have not suffered serious harm from radioactivity from nuclear power stations. No one has died of radiation leakages, and even during the 1979 Three Mile Island accident in the United States, which was caused by human error, no one in or outside the power station died. A final analysis showed that people living within 80 kilometres of the Three Mile Island power station absorbed only 1.6 millirems (mr) of radiation per capita, less than the radiation dosage one is exposed

to when wearing a luminous watch or watching colour TV for a year. The average annual per-capita radiation dosage allowed by the International Radiation Protection Association is within 500 mr.

In addition, environmental pollution from nuclear power stations is much less than that from power stations burning coal. Apart from radioactive wastes, coal-burning power stations release other noxious gases. (See the table.)

The biggest problem is how to dispose of spent nuclear fuel—that is, how to isolate nuclear fuel waste for long enough that it can no longer harm the biological world. Some countries have suggested a number of ways, including burying it underground, deep in the sea bed or under the polar ice cap, or disposing of it in outer space.

At present, it seems that the safest and most reliable way would be to bury nuclear waste underground. The first step in this process is the carrying out of the post-treatment of the fuel units which have been burned up in nuclear power stations. Next, the nuclear wastes containing radioactive elements are solidified in glass ingots, which are put in stainless steel or titanium containers. The containers are then buried more than 500 metres deep in rock and the space between them and the soil stratum is filled with clay or bentonite, both of which are strongly absorbent. Many specialists believe that this process can keep the wastes from being exposed to light and damage.

	Radiation exposure (mr/year)	Sulphur dioxide released (ton/year)	Nitrogen oxide released (ton/year)	Dust and other substance (ton/year)
Thermal power station	4.75	46,000—127,500	26,250—30,000	3,500
PWR station	1.8	0	0	0

ing the environment before they have become harmless. The safety and reliability of this manner of waste disposal has been recognized by more and more people, and some countries have decided to build underground nuclear waste dumps.

China has not yet been faced with the problem of disposing of nuclear wastes. However, it is certain that the problem can be solved satisfactorily when it arises. There are many areas where the geographic conditions are stable and the density of population is low, which would be suitable for disposing these wastes.

Prospects for Development. China will actively import advanced technology and equipment to speed up the development of its nuclear power industry and at the same time gradually acquire the ability to design and build large, medium and small nuclear power stations itself. It will gradually establish an independent and complete nuclear recycling system and rely on its own resources for nuclear fuels.

The nuclear power industry will be developed first in the

coastal areas where industry is concentrated and energy is in short supply. The 300-mw Qinshan Nuclear Power Station is scheduled to be completed and put into operation in 1988. It is estimated that the 1,800-mw nuclear power station in Guangdong Province, the construction of which has started this year, will be completed in 1990. Also planned are several nuclear and thermonuclear power stations in east China, Liaoning Province and elsewhere.

It is estimated that by the end of this century China will have built nuclear power stations with a total generating capacity of 10,000 mw. Further development will gradually increase the proportion of nuclear power in the country's total power industry.

China will also undertake research on the fast neutron breeder reactor, the high-temperature gas-cooled reactor and the utilization of energy in controlled thermonuclear reaction so as to provide more and better new energy resources for the development of the national economy and to improve living standards. □

For Your Reference

Nuclear Power in the World

According to recent statistics by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), 23 nuclear reactors were built in the world last year. Up to now, 25 countries and regions have built 317 nuclear reactors for power generating with a total capacity of 191,000 mw, accounting for 12 per cent of the world's total generating capacity.

Many developing countries and regions have made progress in developing nuclear power stations. By the end of 1985, 13 nuclear power stations had been built in six developing countries and regions, including Argentina, Brazil, Pakistan and Yu-

goslavia. These nuclear power stations have a total generating capacity of 5,100 mw, accounting for 2 per cent of the developing countries' total generating capacity. At present, another 18 nuclear power stations with a total generating capacity of 11,000 mw are being constructed in Cuba, Mexico, the Philippines, China, Egypt, Libya and Turkey.

According to the IAEA, a total of 209 nuclear power reactors were under construction in the world at the end of 1985, and planned total generating capacity was 194,000 mw, bigger than the present total nuclear power generating capacity. □

by **WU NAITAO**
Our Correspondent

HADA — a snow-white silk ribbon used to show respect — was presented to Deng Yingchao by a man in a Tibetan robe during her meeting with some of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) delegates who have returned from overseas, on the morning of May 24 at the Great Hall of the People. The man said, "I feel regret for my past activities trying to gain independence for Tibet, in which I was against Premier Zhou. All along I have been considering repenting in your presence." Deng, chairman of the CPPCC National Committee and widow of the late Premier Zhou Enlai, shook his hand and nodded her appreciation.

The man is Alo Chhonzed, a newly selected CPPCC member. In 1951, after the peaceful liberation of Tibet, he was a businessman there. Later he became active in trying to gain independence for Tibet. In 1956 he fled China. Then in May 1983, he returned to settle down in Beijing.

On May 25, the correspondent interviewed Alo Chhonzed. Recalling the past, he said, "I have engaged in activities to split my motherland for the past 30 years. After I defected from China in 1956, I went to a number of countries looking to boost support for the independence of Tibet, all in vain. Even people on Taiwan told me Tibet had been part of China throughout history. My experience taught me that to strive for an independent Tibet is just like to sow seeds on granite.

"In recent years, I spared some time to study the history and culture of Tibet. What I learnt led me to the conclusion that Tibet has been an inalienable part of China since ancient times. I had

'Independence of Tibet' Untenable and Futile

been only too uninformed in the past," he added.

"It was in 1979 that I began to change my ideas," he went on. "At that time, the Party and government invited some Tibetans who had followed Dalai Lama in fleeing China to visit their motherland. When they went abroad again they talked about the breathtaking changes in China. They said the Chinese Communist Party would let bygones be bygones, and its policies had found favour in the eyes of the Chinese people. I made up my mind to come back to see for myself, because I did not believe what they said."

At the end of 1981, Alo Chhonzed got his visa from China's embassy in Nepal, and was soon on the road touring Tibet, Sichuan, Qinghai and his hometown — the Ganzi Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture in Sichuan. He said this time he did not believe his own eyes. He had never forgotten the sight of people carrying

their produce into town on their backs 46 years ago. Now transportation has developed, and motor vehicles and airplanes reach all quarters of the country.

The biggest change he had heard about abroad was that people's democratic rights had been greatly enhanced. Their hard lives have improved much, and witch-hunting has become history. His visit verified these facts.

"Tibet boasted of a great religion in the past, but had little medicine or education. No fewer than 95 per cent of its people lived in dire poverty. Under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, Tibet, like other parts of the country, underwent unimaginable changes," he told me.

After his visit in 1981, Alo Chhonzed decided to make up for his past activities with some suggestions as to how to best build Tibet. In 1983 he took his family

back to, settle down in China, and the Chinese Government helped them arrange their new life. At present, his wife is visiting her parents and relatives in Tibet and his youngest son is studying at the Sichuan Institute for Nationalities.

Alo Chhonzed said, "I believe in Buddhism. In the past I had been suspicious that the Party would do away with religion, and I felt bitter about it. Upon returning, I went on a pilgrimage to Mount Wutai and other places and saw there were so many Buddhist temples in the interior of my country, and all were in good condition. Quite a few temples which had been damaged during the 'cultural revolution' are being repaired. Now I believe that the Party's policy of religious freedom is real and sincere." He hired a carpenter to set up a niche to worship Buddha in his new home.

"Now I am a member of the CPPCC and have a part in discussing state affairs. All that has happened enables me to envision a bright future for national solidarity and the prosperity of China. I am deeply impressed by the Party's policy that patriots are always welcome whether they rally to the common cause early or late. Bygones are certainly bygones, and one is permitted to come and go as he likes."

Talking about the Tibetans living abroad, especially the intellectuals, Alo Chhonzed said he believes they have already come to understand the fact that Tibet is part of China. In the future, most overseas Tibetans will come back.

Since he returned to China, Alo Chhonzed has been busy writing his autobiography, which will soon be published. After the current session of the CPPCC closes, he will visit the Kangba district in Sichuan. "Then I will tell my experience to the overseas Tibetans matter-of-factly," he said. □

Alo Chhonzed (first right) together with his wife (first left) and son (centre).



Growth of China's Minority Population

by ZHANG TIANLU

Based on the national censuses of 1953, 1964 and 1982 and other statistics, the author analyses the development of the national minority populations, their geographical locations, changing age structure and educational levels. —Ed.

CHINA is a united multi-national country. The state has already identified 55 minority nationalities, while the ethnic origins of about 880,000 people remain to be identified. However we can get a comprehensive picture of the minority population based on the 1953 and 1964 national censuses, and particularly the manual tabulation of the 1982 national census and a 10 per cent population survey.

From Decreasing to Increasing

Before liberation the population of many national minorities maintained primitive reproduction patterns. Among some groups, the mortality rate was higher than the birth rate.

One example was the Mongolians in Inner Mongolia. There were 1.18 million Mongolians in the early 19th century. But in 1947, when the autonomous government of Inner Mongolia was set up, there were just 832,000, a 29.5 per cent decline.

There were 5 to 6 million Tibetans during the later part of the 8th century, but the first national census in 1953 counted just 2.77 million. The population was cut by half in the intervening cen-

The author is an associate professor of the population research institute of the Beijing College of Economics.

turies. A survey made by a Russian, S.M. Shirokogoroff, between 1915 and 1917, counted 4,111 Oroqens. But only 2,000 were left in 1945 when the north-eastern areas where the Oroqens lived were liberated, a 50 per cent drop in just 30 years. The decline of the Hezhe nationality was even more dramatic — 12,000 in 1661, 1,980 in 1930, but only 300 in 1945 when they were liberated. The group was almost on the verge of extinction.

But after liberation, and especially after 1964, the minority population actually increased faster than the majority Han nationality.

The 1953 census showed the population of China (except Taiwan) was 579,603,000, of which 35,320,000 were minority people. In 1982, the population was 1,003,937,000, a 73.21 per cent increase in 29 years. The average

annual increase was 19.12 per thousand. The Hans accounted for 936,700,000 people, a 71.2 per cent increase over 1953, and an average annual increase of 18.7 per thousand. The minority people numbered 67,230,000, a 90.4 per cent increase over 1953, and an average annual increase of 22.4 per thousand. (See charts 1 and 2.)

Between 1953 and 1964, the average rate of growth was lower for the national minorities than for the Hans. This was when most of the minority areas were undergoing democratic reforms and socialist transformation, and their economies, cultures and public health were just beginning to develop. The birth rate was higher than before, but mortality rate was still high.

From 1964 to 1982, the social, economic, cultural and health work in the minority areas de-

Chart 1

Population at Three National Censuses

	July 1, 1953		July 1, 1964		July 1, 1982	
	Population	%	Population	%	Population	%
Total	579,603,000	100	691,220,000	100	1,003,937,000	100
Han	547,283,000	93.94	651,296,000	94.2	936,704,000	93.3
Minority	35,320,000	6.06	39,884,000	5.78	67,233,000	6.7

Note: The number of soldiers is not included.

Chart 2

Rate of Population Growth

		1964/1953	1982/1964
		Population growth between two censuses	Han 19.01% Minority 12.95%
Annual average rate of increase	Han 1.59% Minority 1.11%	2.04% 2.94%	

veloped further. Family planning began in 1979 or even later for minorities, 10 years after it was introduced among the Hans. And more flexible family planning regulations were practised in minority areas. The 1982 sample survey showed that in 1981 the rural minority birth rate was 5.05 per thousand, compared with 2.76 per thousand for the Hans. The minority mortality rate was very close to that of the Hans, so the natural growth rate for minorities was slightly higher. Before 1964 there were only 10 minority groups each with more than one million people, but by 1982 there were 15. (See chart 3.)

There are three major reasons for the big increase in the national minority population. First, after the democratic reform and socialist transformation, the policy of equality for all ethnic groups was implemented. Unity and prosperity was encouraged by eliminating class exploitation and discrimination. One hundred and seven autonomous regions, prefectures and counties were set up all over China. The self-government bodies established in these areas



A Hezhe woman (left) thanks a doctor from Jiamusi city in northeast China who successfully treated her.

Chart 3

National Minorities With a Population of One Million Or More in 1982

	July 1, 1953	July 1, 1964	July 1, 1982
Zhuang	6,611,500	8,386,000	13,378,200
Hui	3,559,400	4,473,000	7,219,400
Uygur	3,640,100	3,996,000	5,957,100
Yi	3,254,300	3,381,000	5,453,400
Miao	2,511,300	2,782,000	5,030,900
Tibetan	2,775,600	2,501,000	3,870,100
Mongolian	1,463,000	1,966,000	3,411,700
Manchu	2,418,900	2,696,000	4,299,200
Bouyei	1,247,900	1,348,000	2,120,500
Korean	1,120,400	1,340,000	1,763,900
Yao	665,900	857,000	1,402,700
Dong	712,800	836,000	1,425,100
Hani	481,200	629,000	1,058,800
Bai	667,100	707,000	1,131,100
Tujia		525,000	2,832,700

may stipulate different rules and regulations from those in force among the Hans, including more flexible marriage and family planning policies.

Second, to facilitate the growth of minority populations, the state helps them in their economic, cultural and health work. Every year medical teams from the major cities tour the minority areas to help prevent disease. This has greatly improved the health of the local people, and dramatically lowered the mortality rate.

Finally, because the state now officially encourages prosperity among minority people, many who had not declared their nationalities before have now re-identified themselves. For in-



A film projection team member of the Hani nationality in Yunnan Province gets ready to give a show.

stance, Tujia nationality has jumped from 545,000 people in 1964 to 2,833,000 in 1982, the average annual increase being as high as 9.8 per thousand. This is partly due to the large number of people who reidentified themselves.

Also, children of Han-minority intermarriages usually prefer to be identified as minorities. For example, in the Madian neighbourhood of Beijing's Haidian District, all 33 children of Hui-Han parents choose the Hui nationality, and of the 35 children of Manchu-Han parents, 19 choose Manchu nationality. A few minority faculty members of the Central Institute for Nationalities have married Hans, and of their 66 children, 64 have chosen minority nationalities.

Population Distribution

The minority people in China, comprising only 6.7 per cent of the nation's population, are spread over 62.5 per cent of the country's territory. The long history of China has resulted in the intermingling of different nationalities either living in compact communities or over scattered areas. Some minorities (such as the Mongolians, Huis and Manchus) not only live in compact communities, but can also be found in other parts of China. According to the 1982 national census, the autonomous areas (including 5 autonomous regions, 30 autonomous prefectures and 72 autonomous counties) had about 120 million people, or 11.96 per cent of China's population. Of

these about 50 million were minorities, accounting for 41.7 per cent. There were on the average only 20 people per square kilometre in these areas, while the national average was 105 per square kilometre. But distribution was uneven. In the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, for example, the population density was 158 people per square kilometre, 98 times higher than it was in the Tibet Autonomous Region.

The uneven population distribution can be attributed to different natural conditions and economic structures. Generally, those autonomous regions, prefectures and counties with high population density are in tropical or subtropical areas, plains, or hilly lands with a temperate climate where rice, wheat, maize and other high-yield crops can be planted. Low population density areas are generally inland plateaus, deserts and grassland where the climate is cold and dry.

In addition, those national minority areas with a longer history and a higher cultural and technical level are more densely populated.

The 1982 statistics show that there were 17.16 million minority people living over a scattered area or with members of other ethnic groups, as against 14.74 million at the end of 1980. This is an increase of 16.4 per cent in just one and a half years. The figure includes the natural growth of those who had always lived over a scattered area and those who moved away from their minority communities. In 1982, 25.5 per cent of the minority people did not live in compact communities, as against 23.8 per cent in 1980.

The increased intermingling means closer contacts among nationalities with different ethnic backgrounds. In this way, they can learn from each other and progress together, and help de-



Two Miao doctors in Hunan on their way to visit their patients.

velop the special characteristics and merits of each group. This will also help increase the minority population, raise their cultural levels, thereby contributing to the common prosperity.

The increase in intermingling is due to the policy of equality and unity for all national groups, large or small. This ensures everyone in urban and rural areas to be respected and well taken care of.

Younger Age Structure

Half of China's total minority population is under 19.41 years old. According to the international standard, a population is young if half of its members are under 20. (See chart 4.)

If we compare minorities of

different age groups with the ages of all the people in China, and in other countries and regions, we can see that the minority popula-

Chart 4

Median Ages of Minorities With More Than One Million Population

	<i>Half the population is under</i>		<i>Half the population is under</i>
Total Minority population	19.41	Dong	19.35
Korean	24.32	Bouyei	19.33
Manchu	21.28	Bai	19.26
Hui	20.38	Mongolian	19.08
Tibetan	19.72	Yao	18.81
Tujia	19.66	Yi	18.25
Uygur	19.61	Miao	18.21
Zhuang	19.46	Hani	18.03

Note: Based on the tabulation of 10 per cent sample survey of the third national census.

tion of China is quite young. (See chart 5.)

From this we can suppose the future birth rate and natural growth rate among minority people will be relatively high, with an increasing type pattern of reproduction.

Relatively Fast Cultural Development

Before liberation many minority groups were living reminders of the history of China's social development. Primitive societies, slave societies, feudal serfdom and feudal societies all co-existed. Restricted by such socio-economic forms, the cultural level of most minority groups was fairly low. Some were still living in a primitive society.

Of the 55 minorities, 13 had their own languages — Mongolian, Hui, Tibetan, Uygur, Korean, Manchu, Kazakh, Dai, Russian, Xibe, Tartar, Uzbek and She. Although eight other groups (Miao, Yi, Lisu, Va, Naxi, Lahu, Jingpo and Jing) had written languages, they were seldom used or were not complete. The other 30 minority groups had no written languages at all.

Schools were unheard of in many minority areas. And where

Percentage of Different Age Groups of Minorities in 1982, Compared With All of China and Other Countries and Regions

Region	0-14 Years Old	15-64 Years Old	65 and Older	Old to Young Ratio
World average ¹	35	59	6	17.1:100
Developed countries & regions ²	23	66	11	47.8:100
Developing countries & regions ³	39	57	4	10.3:100
China ⁴	33.6	61.5	4.9	14.6:100
China's minority areas ⁵	39.2	56.3	4.5	11.5:100

Notes: 1,2,3: From 1982 World Population Data Sheet of the Population Reference Bureau Inc.

4,5: From the 10% sample survey of the third national census.

schools did exist, most people couldn't afford to attend. The illiteracy rate was as high as 95 per cent. In a few areas, events were recorded by tying knots or carving on wood. Soy beans or sheep droppings were used to keep accounts, and tree leaves were used to communicate with one another. Lack of education brought untold obstacles to the social development.

Before liberation, with the exception of the Huis and Manchus who used the Han language, the remaining 53 nationalities spoke their own languages. This made learning from one another very difficult, further hindering their progress.

After liberation, the government expended great efforts developing the written and spoken minority languages. The 1949 Common Programme of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and the 1954 Constitution both clearly stipulate that every nationality is free to use and develop its written and spoken language. So, allowing each group to choose its own language, the government helped 10 minorities work out their written languages, using the Latin alphabet. These were the Zhuang, Yi, Bouyei, Miao, Dong, Hani, Lisu, Li, Va

and Naxi. The government also helped the Dais reform two Dai languages from their two major areas — Xishuangbanna and Dehong. The Jingpos and Lahus have improved their languages by using the Latin alphabet. These measures have promoted the cul-

tural and educational development of China's minority people.

Education

The calculation from the 10 per cent sample survey of 1982 showed that 37 out of every 10,000 minority people had attained a university-level education, 38.3 per cent lower than the national average. Four hundred fifty-five had a senior middle school education, 31.3 per cent lower than the national average; 1,216 had a junior middle school education, 31.5 per cent lower than the national average; and 3,021 had a primary school education, 14.6 per cent lower than the national average. Yet educational development has been rapid when we consider the low standard among minorities at the time of liberation. (See chart 6.)

(Continued on p. 30.)

Chart 6

Economic and Cultural Development in Minority Areas (1952-82)

	Unit	1952	1978	1982	Rate of increase (%)
1. Total output value of industry and agriculture	billion	5.79	36.77	56.49	875.6
Total agricultural output value	billion	4.65	15.56	28.10	504.3
Total industrial output value	billion	1.14	21.21	28.39	2,390.4
2. Number of students in institutes of higher learning	thousand	2.9	36	53.4	1,741.4
Middle school	thousand	92	2,526.2	1,873	1,935.9
Primary school	thousand	1,474.2	7,685.6	8,238.6	458.8
3. Number of minority teachers in institutes of higher learning	thousand	0.623*	5.876	9.15	1,368.7
Middle school	thousand	2.7	116.9	112.6	4,070.4
Primary school	thousand	59.8*	310.2	343.2	473.9

Based on China's Statistical Yearbook, 1983.

* Refers to 1953 figures.

Smooth Commodity Flow Needs More Avenues

The commodity circulation in the small towns of Wujiang County is based on administrative levels, and the scope of marketing depends on the size of each town. The rapid development of the rural commodity economy calls for new, smoother circulation channels. Small towns must promote and adapt to this change.

by FEI XIAOTONG

As I explained in the previous article, the revival and prosperity of the small towns in southern Jiangsu Province is the result of the booming small industry, particularly the commune- and brigade-run enterprises. The commodity circulation in small towns, which serve as distributing centres, and the rural economy, are interdependent. Each promotes the development of the other. To open up new circulation channels, we need to have a clear understanding of the current commodity circulation links in small towns.

Circulation Links

Circulation links refer to the processes by which commodities are passed on to consumers after leaving the factory. In the small towns of southern Jiangsu, commodities usually get into the hands of the peasants after going through five departments of non-direct consumption. For instance, products of a certain factory in Shanghai are first shipped to the city of Suzhou. They are then distributed to Wujiang County by the materials department in Suzhou. The commercial department of Wujiang County then allots these goods to each commune, where the supply and marketing cooperative divides the goods among the various collective commercial establishments for resale. Finally, the retail outlets sell these products to the peasants. Agricultural and sideline products circulate in the

opposite direction, also through several links.

Here, I would like to give a detailed analysis of the flow of commodities from the small towns to the rural areas, from which the readers may find that circulation links differ from place to place, depending on the size of the small town.

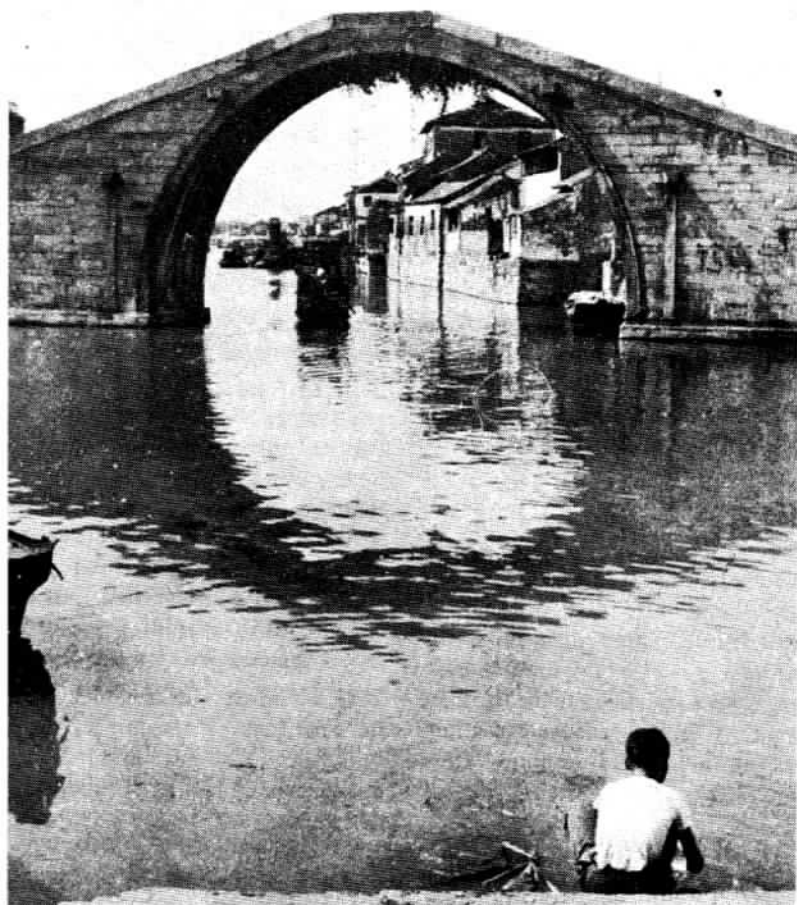
In the first part of the series I classified the small towns in Wujiang County into five types, show-

ing their different roles. But even small towns of the same type play different roles. What is more, a multi-level administrative system is a decisive factor in China's commodity circulation process.

Three Levels

The small towns in Wujiang County can be divided into three levels, according to their administrative locations. The first level includes seven county towns, i.e.,

A quiet spot in Pingwang town.





Fei Xiaotong chatting with a peasant family about their income.

towns directly under the jurisdiction of the county government. Each town has commercial departments set up by the town and nearby communes. Of these, Songling, the seat of the county government, also has county commercial departments.

The second level comprises 16 commune towns (or small towns) which have communal commercial departments. The three with the largest population also have county commercial departments, whose scope of management exceeds that of the commune in which they are located.

The third level includes 12 brigade towns (or villages) which have no commercial administrative departments. From this we can see that commodity circulation links are based on different levels of administrative organizations.

Kaixuangong Village, for instance, is also a production brigade. It has a shop selling matches, candy, cigarettes, wine, soy sauce, salt and other daily necessities. There were three aluminium pans on the shelf, which, I was told, had been there for three years. It is not because the villagers do not use aluminium pans, but because there are no alterna-

tives offered. The villagers would rather go to the town or the commune to buy their durable goods.

Ordinarily the peasants can get things like edible oil, salt, soy sauce and vinegar from their village shops. A village usually has fewer than 10 such shops, serving people within a radius of one kilometre. The peasants buy thermos flasks, washing basins and other low-grade durable goods at shops in county seats or big towns.

In the small towns, because the same kinds of goods are usually sold by one shop, the varieties and quantities are always limited. There are between 10 and 50 retail shops in a small town, and their customers generally live within three kilometres.

In the county towns, the same types of goods are usually sold by two or more shops, so that there is a greater variety and quantity than in the small towns at the choice of the buyers. There are between 50 and 100 retail shops in this kind of town, and they sell to customers within a radius of five kilometres.

The commercial establishments in small towns should be distributed in a way to enable the peasants to spend the least amount of

time and money to get the most satisfactory goods. Therefore, the shops must be very clear about what kinds of goods they should stock, in what quantities. Otherwise they will run short of goods in great demand, while letting unpopular items pile up.

New Channels

To ensure the smooth circulation of commodities, it is necessary to establish rational circulation links. But opening up new circulation channels is even more important. In the last few years, the revived rural fairs have prospered in the small towns of Wujiang County. But these markets are still in a primitive state; the peasants just sell what they have carried to town on market days.

A short time ago, I received a letter from some comrades in Songling, asking me to help them buy a truck to transport their Phoenix Tail mushrooms to the market in Suzhou. In 1981, I brought back some mushroom spores from Australia and gave them to the people in my hometown. The next year, the agricultural technical research department of Wujiang County succeeded in growing this type of mushroom, *Pleurotus ostreatus*, and soon introduced it to the peasants, adding the pretty name Phoenix Tail. Because this variety of mushroom is well suited to sideline production, it quickly became popular in the rural areas. Now the mushroom has become a favourite food in Suzhou, Shanghai and other cities. But transportation is a problem, so the peasants asked me to help.

It dawned on me that new circulation channels must be opened up for new commodities. The development of new commodities may stimulate people to create new channels. We should support and encourage the producers to organize themselves and do so.

This problem also convinced

me that it is necessary to thoroughly study such questions as to what extent rural produce has become commodities, and how this change influences the small towns. Small town commerce develops slower than commune and brigade indus-

tries because the rural commodity economy, which is limited by the existing circulation channels, has not yet become strong enough to change the small towns. Once it grows stronger, the monopoly in circulation will be broken.

Currently, all of southern Jiangsu faces the challenge of trying to open new circulation channels. We must consciously adapt ourselves to and promote this change, an endeavour which will lead us to a bright future.

Service, Culture and Education Centres

In the last part of the series on small towns by noted sociologist Fei Xiaotong, the tremendous potential of small towns as service centres, and the urgent need for cultural facilities are outlined. The author suggests that great efforts be made to turn them into educational centres.

DURING my fourth visit to Jiangchun Village, a cinema in the town of Zhenze was showing *Shaolin Temple*, a popular *gongfu* film. Peasants from the nearby villages all rowed their families up to the town to see the film, which ran for a week to capacity audiences. The cinema grossed about 10,000 yuan.

By habit, when the peasants go to the movies they always treat themselves to some dim sum and noodles and do some shopping. During the week when the *gongfu* movie was on, the town's shops increased the total volume of business by 60,000 yuan. This example illustrates the tremendous potential of service trades in small towns, the rural centres. Unfortunately, today some of us do not quite understand the peasants' demand for a modern social life. This may explain why the variety, standard and quality of services in small towns falls far behind what the situation demands.

Hair perming, a new service for rural women, is a good example. On my first visit to Jiangchun in 1981 I saw few coiffured women. But on my fourth and fifth visits, I noticed more women with stylish hairdos. This year, when I visited for the sixth time, almost all the

young women I saw, whether in the commune and brigade factories or in the fields, had their hair curled. I was told most of them had their hair done in the hairdressers' in Miaogang or Zhenze. Each treatment cost only 2 yuan. I was also told that on the eve of big festivals, the hairdressers' in these towns stay open round the clock. On the matter of hairstyle, at least, Miaogang and Zhenze have become the rural girls' service centres.

In the past, tea houses in small towns functioned virtually like the peasants' information exchange centres. There, all sorts of news from the cities, towns and villages found their way through the grapevine, and then spread to the nearby villages. They were also where the peasants sought advice from each other, over a cup of tea, on matters ranging from farming techniques to matchmaking. Today we must ask whether the peasants still regard tea houses as the ideal places for information exchanges and mutual consultation, and, if the answer is no, whether there are some other channels for these activities. What sort of services do the peasants need, after the rural production responsibility system was instituted and agriculture, sideline occupations and in-

dusty were substantially boosted? And how can the peasants' new demands be satisfied?

In social life, except for cinemas, the towns have almost no cultural facilities for the peasants. Young people generally do not go to tea houses. There are hardly any recreational or sports activities in small towns, and when the rural youth go to the town they have no place for dating. Last year, Songling town finally built a park, which is now filled with young rural couples.

Because the young people have almost no social life, they barely know anyone outside the circle within which they live and work. Many have to look for their future partners in their own village, factory or department. As a result, the number of choices is diminishing. I was told that in some out-of-the-way mountain villages the number of retarded children is increasing. The main reason is generations of in-breeding. It is therefore extremely important to change this situation.

Young people need social lives, and so small towns need to build cultural centres, where the peasants can also meet with each other and exchange information when they come to town. Such places may

serve as materials exchange centres as well.

I found the educational level disappointing. Jiangsu Province's illiteracy rate is higher than the nation's average, while Wujiang County is the worst in the province. Generally speaking, an area's economic development should be in direct proportion with its education level. But here, it is the other way around. This abnormal phenomenon raises a series of questions: Why do people need education? When the illiterate can make more money than the educated, is education still necessary?

One day when I was strolling by Lake Taihu, I met some fishermen of different ages and asked them whether they know how to read and write. All shook their heads no. They told me that their income in the last few years was much higher than that of the local peasants. As far as I know, to be

a successful fisherman one needs a rich knowledge of the locality's natural and geographical conditions, such as the climate, the wind and the location of shoals. The fishermen on Lake Taihu gained this knowledge not from books, but from their elders and their own experiences. This being the case, they argued, what was the point of spending several years in school to learn some characters which have nothing to do with their living? So, they decided they'd rather learn how to make a living than go to school.

But today, the improvement of fishing techniques makes artificial breeding necessary. The breeders must know about temperature, humidity, the oxygen content of the water and so on. One cannot learn these things if he does not know how to read and write. The need for experienced fishermen to become fish pond managers predicts that the mode of fish produc-

tion will become increasingly sophisticated, and the fishermen will change their ideas about education, coming to believe it is highly necessary.

The trip helped me gain a deeper understanding of the problem of wiping out illiteracy. Education cannot be universalized without the development of the productive forces. Studying the problems in current rural education from this perspective, one may find that the rapid development of the productive forces in the rural areas not only makes the universalization of education necessary, but also makes it possible.

I also realized that whether the peasants' demands for education can be satisfied depends on the content of the education offered. Today, the question of how to build small towns into cultural and educational centres for the rural areas has become a new challenge.

Tibetan folk-singer Sunayanzong coming home with her Han husband Li Hua.



(Continued from p. 26.)

The 1982 third national census showed an illiterate and semi-illiterate rate among minority people over 12 years old of 42.6 per cent. Wiping out of illiteracy and raising educational levels, a problem left over from the old society, remains an arduous task. This is especially true for those nationalities which on the eve of liberation were still primitive societies, slave societies, or landlord-serf societies. They have skipped several stages of social development to enter socialism, but it will take more time and energy to raise their cultural level. □

Strength and Health in the Party

from "RENMIN RIBAO"
(People's Daily)

I WAS confronted with a thorny problem in 1981 when I worked in the Propaganda Department of the Deyang county Party committee. Using their powers to serve their own interests, some leading cadres of the county Party committee built six two-storied houses for themselves, each one covering 119 square metres. This stirred up much talk among the masses. At a time when there was a serious shortage of living space for the people, these leaders built spacious houses, beyond the standard limit. I thought this would tarnish the Party's image and damage the close ties between the Party and the masses. Compelled by the sense of responsibility of a Communist Party member and after consultation with two other comrades in the propaganda department and the county commission for inspecting discipline, I, on behalf of we three, wrote a letter to the superior Party organization and *Sichuan Ribao* (Sichuan Daily) in March 1982, exposing and criticizing the six leaders for their wrongdoings.

Not long after I posted the letter, the Mianyang prefectural Party committee and administration sent down the deputy head of the prefectural construction commission to inspect. As a result, the floor space of the second building, which had just started construction, was reduced. This made me feel that the Party organizations are reliable. But the matter was not at an end, because the six leaders who had moved into the excessively spacious houses already built did not move out. They tried to get off by just saying that they wouldn't do it

again. I thought the matter should not end like that, and decided to write another letter to *Renmin Ribao* (People's Daily), exposing them.

As we were considering writing the second letter some colleagues tried to dissuade us, telling me that the leaders had much more power than I, and that they might retaliate. But I thought: I am a Communist Party member and as such should place the interests of the Party and the people above everything else, ignore my own gains or losses and be courageous in fighting unhealthy tendencies. So we sent our second letter to *Renmin Ribao*.

Renmin Ribao published the letter on June 28, 1982. As soon as the paper reached Deyang, the letter became the topic of public talk. People followed the development of the matter with great interest, and many of them expressed their support for us. Later, the *Renmin Ribao* and *Sichuan Ribao* carried readers' letters on this matter, urging the Mianyang prefec-

tural Party committee to take firm measures to help the county leaders correct their mistakes. Realizing their mistakes, the county leaders made self-criticisms, and the six leaders who had moved into the new houses soon moved out. Three of them even had talks with us, praising us for our courage to expose and criticize the leaders' mistakes, and expressed their readiness to accept our criticisms.

They also promised never to take revenge, which was proved by the following facts. Last summer, after mass recommendation and the approval of the county Party committee, I was cited as an outstanding Party member; in autumn, I was promoted two grades in wage; and at the end of the year when the county units went through restructuring, I was appointed deputy secretary of the county commission for inspecting discipline at the recommendation of the masses and the county Party committee.

Facts convinced me that we have a great Party and a great people. This is the guarantee for socialism's prosperity and vitality, and it has also given us great strength to fight unhealthy tendencies.

Majority Prefers Extended Families

from "BEIJING WANBAO"
(Beijing Evening News)

A STUDY of 306 households in western Beijing by the Beijing Research Institute of Social Sciences shows that the extended family is still a dominant factor in everyday Chinese life.

The term extended family refers to a family made up of parents, grandparents and grandchildren. In recent years, extended families have been gradually outnumbered by nuclear families, which are

made up only of couples and their children.

An interesting point brought out by the study was that most people stated that they would prefer living in an extended family with three generations under the same roof.

Of 177 young married couples asked if they were willing to live with their parents, 162 answered yes and 15 no. Of those who answered yes, 52.2 per cent said it would make it more convenient to care for their parents. Another

28.9 per cent said yes because their parents could help raise their children and 12.5 per cent thought it was a good idea because they have no houses. Those who answered no said that living separately from their old parents can avoid many unnecessary misgivings or that they found it hard to get along with their parents.

Of 158 old couples asked if they were willing to live with their married sons or daughters, 111 said yes and 47 no. Forty per cent of those who said yes wanted others around to take care of them. Another 31.3 per cent said they didn't want to feel lonely, and 20.1 per cent enjoy looking after their grandchildren. Of those who answered no, 39.5 per cent said their houses were already crowded, 15.8 per cent found it hard to get along

with their married children, and 21.1 per cent felt their chores were already too heavy.

The study concluded that most old couples and young couples are willing to live with each other because they need mutual help.

Yet it is noteworthy that of reasons given by married children for wanting to live with their parents, two had nothing to do with filial affection — namely, they needed someone to care for their children or they had no houses. If the social services were to shoulder the task of caring for the old and young and housing were to become freely available, then both parents and the married children said they would prefer to live separately, yet not too far apart so that an adequate balance could be kept in their relationship.

Peasant Opens His Own Post Office

from "JINGJI CANKAO"
(Economic Reference)

ZHAO Guofa, a young peasant in Bangshan village, Henan Province, opened a post office in his village. Now the villagers no longer have to leave the village to send or receive their mail, and the number of subscribers to newspapers and magazines has increased nearly eight-fold.

After the implementation of the responsibility system, the peasants are eager to know the Party's policies, study agricultural science and get up-to-date economic information on commodities. But the county post office only delivers newspapers and magazines every other day to the brigade office, instead of daily to each home. The peasants found this very inconvenient. They could not receive their mail promptly, and had to go to the brigade office to get it themselves.

When Zhao Guofa, an educated young man who returned to farm in his hometown; found out about the

poor postal service, he wrote to the provincial, prefectural and county post and telecommunications offices asking to open a post office himself to receive and send mail for the villagers.

His request was granted by the county post and telecommunications office, and he was provided with mail bag and transportation. According to the regulations, the post office will give him 10 per cent of what he takes in selling subscriptions to newspapers and magazines, and 20 per cent of the price of stamps he sold. The state does not give him any pay or administrative expenses.

Zhao opened his post office July last year. He advertised the contents and prices of every newspaper to all the families in the village. He promised to those peasants who worried their mail might be delayed or lost that he would personally collect and send mail to every family, send the newspapers the day after they are printed, and would pay an indemnity if he lost their post.

Wealthy Peasants Buy Dream Cars

from "ZHONGGUO NONG-MIN BAO"

(China Peasants Daily)

and "BEIJING RIBAO"

(Beijing Daily)

UNDER the new economic policies for the countryside, it is not uncommon to find prosperous peasants building new houses and buying electric fans, washing machines, colour TV sets and refrigerators with their new wealth. But now some have even come to afford limousines, an undreamed of possession in the past.

Last year, three farm households in the village of Zhangguantun in Yanggao County, Shanxi Province, pooled their money to buy a plush Ford, and started a taxi service in the district. Their Ford plied the country roads, carrying patients to the hospital or elderly people to scenic spots. When an old woman in the village fell into a coma one night, the Ford rushed to her rescue, getting her to the hospital in time. A week later it brought her back, recovered.

The Ford is also popular with newly-weds, who hire it to ride about the district with a marriage symbol draped over the car. The local peasants are enthusiastic about the new taxi service.

Elsewhere, a chicken breeder on Dongerqi Production Brigade on the outskirts of Beijing has gone it alone in buying a Toyota.

In recent years, Sun Guiying had earned enough to afford a 21,000-yuan truck to transport feed and eggs. This year, she sold the state 32,500 kilogrammes of eggs, earning 44,000 yuan in all, and in March she bought the car to further her egg business. But she has not forgotten the collective — she contributed 7,000 yuan to the brigade's accumulation fund.

Urban Sculpture Models Shown

Warriors and heroes, flowers and clouds, mothers and children will all be honoured in metal and stone, as part of a programme to bring more sculpture to China's urban areas. More than 300 models were shown recently at the China Art Gallery in Beijing, selected from 2,000 designs by sculptors all over China.

Although sculpture has a long and splendid history in China—from the terra cotta army in Xian to the magnificent grottoes of Dunhuang and Longmen—in recent years city planners have not paid enough attention to installing new works in the cities.

To redress this oversight, urban planners invited 500 professional sculptors, and many amateur artists to take part in a nationwide programme to decorate the parks, squares and buildings with sculpture.

Today, sculptors take a more serious attitude towards urban construction, and are even planning sculpture gardens. In Beijing, a dove of peace poised on an arch is planned for the small district of Hepingli, and a dragon will soon appear in front of the China Art Gallery, according to the old Chinese saying, "Bring the painted dragon to life by drawing in the pupils of its eyes."

Other plans and models at the exhibit include figures of veteran revolutionaries, patriots, scientists, writers, artists and military leaders. The late Premier Zhou Enlai and other Chinese leaders will be featured. There are also statues of Genghis Khan and one of Monk Tripitaka, a translator of Buddhist scriptures.

Also to be immortalized are such foreigners as Karl Marx, Edgar Snow, author of *Red Star Over China*, and the Canadian doctor Norman Bethune, whose statue will be carved in stone atop a hill in Hebei Province.

Some works will depict historical events, such as the liberation of Chongqing, a city in Sichuan Province, and the massacre in Nanjing by Japanese troops in 1937.

Other sculpture will be purely decorative, intended for parks, gardens, street corners and beach fronts. For instance, in designing *Xingyun Liu shui* (floating clouds and flowing water) for a spring garden in Beijing's Lakeside Park, sculptor Tang Yao tried to integrate the symmetry of modern sculpture and space with the tradition of Chinese calligraphy, showing the characters in a natural, unrestrained hand like the things they describe.

Mother and Daughter shows the deep love of a young mother as she plays with her angelic little baby.

A group of sculptures about the Gezhouba project—China's biggest hydraulic engineering feat, cutting the Changjiang (Yangtze) River in half—is designed by Liu Zhengde. Shapes



The statue of Zhao Yiman (1905-1937), a revolutionary martyr who was executed by Japanese invaders during their occupation of northeast China.



Playing pipa behind the back.

and profiles of cement slabs are used to evoke the imagination and

memories of the construction.

Surfing by Miao Xintian captures the strength and courage of a young man pitted against the sea. *Lotus Celestial* by Zhang Manhan seems a reappearance of an ancient legend.

Also on exhibit are models and photographs of major outdoor sculptures erected since the founding of the People's Republic of China.

New Discoveries Of Old Literature

Works by Tang Xianzu. Three short works by Tang Xianzu, a prolific dramatist and writer during the Ming Dynasty, were discovered in Jiangxi Province's Guangchang County not long ago.

Tang Xianzu (1550-1616), a native of Jiangxi and a contemporary of William Shakespeare, is perhaps best known for his play *Peony Pavilion*, which tells the story of Du Liniang, the daughter of the governor of Nanan Prefecture. Du falls in love with the scholar Liu Mengmei in her dreams, and awakes only to die of lovesickness. When Liu comes to Nanan three years later, he too falls in love after seeing Du's self-portrait. Du returns to life, and the couple marry.

One of the newly discovered works is a preface written for *Selected Poems* by Huang Daci, an official in charge of selling salt in Fujian Province. In this moving piece, Tang describes his deep friendship with Huang and his father.

The other two pieces are epitaphs written for He Pingchuan and his wife. He Pingchuan was the fifth descendant of He Qiaoxin, a scholar and calligrapher from Guangchang and aide-de-

camp of the governor of Jinzhou Prefecture.

Tang's romantic works reject feudalism, expose the unjust practices of the society around him. They represent a high level of thought and artistry.

Critics will find these three works of great value in the further study of Tang's poems and essays.

"Anecdotes of Court Life." Recently, the only son of a former Qing official sent the Qingdao people's government a huge novel in which his father recreates the life of a Qing courtier in northern Xinjiang.

Yue Leshan, from Hangxian County in Zhejiang Province, wrote the 16-volume *Anecdotes of Court Life* after working as a court lawyer and negotiator in Xinjiang towards the end of the Qing Dynasty.

Yue's father was a tax-collector who became general of Tacheng County, one of the four in northern Xinjiang. After studying law, the author joined his father in Xinjiang to negotiate with the Russians.

Under the command of the general of Yili County, Yue twice led an army to victory. Upon his return to the capital, he worked as a law officer.

In his last years, Yue retreated to Qingdao, where he created the character Qiu Shan, a court official who reflected the life he and his father had led.

Yue's novel richly describes the life and customs of northern Xinjiang in the late 19th century, exposing the exploitation and corruption rampant among Qing officials. He writes about China's negotiations with Russia over border issues, the repression of the Kailuan coal miners' and peasants' uprisings, the suffering caused by the Huanghe (Yellow) River flood, the Reform Movement of 1898 and other historical events.

Computer Software Research

China now has 10,000 software technicians and will need more than 100,000 by 1990, the Vice-Minister of Education Huang Xinbai has told a symposium of university computer software experts.

China has made great progress in developing microcomputer software for practical use in the last few years. Several thousand software researchers have been trained in institutions of higher learning, and more than half are now associate professors or those who attained an associate professor's educational level. By the end of 1983 about 1,000 new programmes were successful in research fields such as engineering and scientific calculation, controls and measures, data selection and processing, automated management and computer teaching.

One of these achievements is the laser typesetting system for Chinese characters, developed by Beijing University with help from other units. Its technique of compressing Chinese character information is up to advanced world levels, and is five times more efficient than lead typesetting.

In order to strengthen software research, a national university computer software research and development centre has been established in Beijing. It will pool the technical strength of all institutions of higher learning to fulfil the computer software research tasks set out by the government and the related departments, offer technical services to train software technicians, organize and co-ordinate the popularization and export of software for practical use, arrange international academic exchanges and co-operation, and assess research achievements.

北京周报英文版本第二十五期(一九八四年六月十八日出版) 邮政代号二一九二·北京市期刊登记证第七三三号

**Traditional Chinese
Paintings by
Chang Kaiyu**



Mountains.

Spring.

Born in 1923 in Shanhaiguan, Hebei Province, Chang Kaiyu taught himself painting as a boy and is now deputy head of the Qinhuangdao Public Art Gallery. He has developed his own style by constantly studying painting techniques both at home and abroad. His lyrical works show his love of nature.



Wild Ducks.



 **HERO**



"HERO" AND "FENG HUA"
BALL-POINT PENS



**SHANGHAI STATIONERY & SPORTING GOODS IMPORT
& EXPORT BRANCH**

128, Huqiu Road, Shanghai, China

Cable: STASPORT SHANGHAI

Telex: 33132 STASP CN