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BEIJING REVIEW

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A CHINESE WEEKLY OF
NEWS AND VIEWS

- Vitality of 5 Principles of Peaceful Coexistence
- Hainan Island Opened to Outside World





Tourists watch a buffalo lifting water at the wheel.



An ancient loom in Huaxi village. A tourist is having a try at the old weaving methods.

SPOTLIGHT

Angling is a popular tourist attraction in the village.



A colourful veranda at the Huaxi Nanyuan Hotel links its five houses. Inset: Inside one of the guest rooms.



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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Five Principles Reaffirmed

The Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence have been shown to have great vitality in the 30 years since their publication. If these principles are conscientiously observed by all countries, world peace and security will be safeguarded (p. 4).

Ba Jin Addresses Writers Group

Ba Jin, China's most prominent writer, in his address to the 47th congress of International PEN (Poets and Playwrights, Essayists and Editors, and Novelists), tells how he began to write, why he writes and how he conveys his thought and emotions through his novels. He believes a writer's greatest aim should be the readers' prosperity and happiness (p. 16).

Hainan Island to Take Great Strides

Hainan is seen as a Treasure Island with its vast tropical rain forest, fruit trees, wild animals, sea-life and rich mineral resources — all of which have high economic and scientific value. In the past three decades it has developed steadily and its potential for future development is even greater (p. 20).

Prelude to the Summer Olympics

As the 23rd Summer Olympics draws near, a *Beijing Review* correspondent interviewed Lu Jindong, Vice-President of the Chinese Olympic Committee and deputy head of the 350-member Chinese delegation to the Los Angeles games, about China's participation in this major world sports event (p. 24).

Mexico's Development

Although its economy has run into some trouble, Mexico has made marked progress in its overall development. In doing so, it has retained its uniqueness by combining advancement with traditional culture (p. 26).

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The Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence

by **MU YOULIN**
International Editor

The well-known Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence — 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 — were jointly initiated by China, India and Burma on June 28 and 29, 1954. For the past 30 years, China has always insisted that these principles are the basis for developing relations with other countries, and made great achievements in developing these relations. China also advocates that all countries follow these principles and make them truly universal norms for guiding international relations.

As early as the 1955 Asian-African Conference in Bandung, Indonesia, China was energetically promoting the Five Principles, exerting tremendous efforts to have them accepted as the guiding line of the conference and acknowledged by most countries in attendance. The communique issued at the end of the conference proposed 10 principles for directing international relations, which included all the contents of the Five Principles.

Soon afterwards, China successfully settled its historical boundary issues with Burma, Nepal, Mongolia, Pakistan and Afghanistan according to the spirit of the Five Principles.

These principles were also affirmed in the 1972 Sino-US Shanghai Joint Communique, the 1979

Joint Communique on the Establishment of Sino-US Diplomatic Relations, the 1972 Sino-Japanese Joint Statement and the 1978 Sino-Japanese Treaty of Peace and Friendship.

China also sincerely desires that the Soviet side remove the serious obstacles with which it has hindered relations between the two

***Only when all actions
contravening the Five
Principles are unremittingly
opposed can world peace
be safeguarded.***

countries so as to normalize the Sino-Soviet relations on the basis of the Five Principles.

Events of the past 30 years testify that the Five Principles have great vitality. More and more nations have accepted them as universally acknowledged basic principles for handling international relations and have applied them in their routine diplomacy.

The Five Principles are not only applicable to relations between countries with different social systems, but to those with similar social systems as well, such as relations between socialist countries or between capitalist countries. As Premier Zhao Ziyang pointed out in his recent report on the work of the government: "If the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence

are adhered to, countries with different social systems can live in harmony and maintain amicable co-operation, but if not, even countries with similar social systems may come into sharp confrontation or even conflict."

Following the collapse of the colonial system after World War II, dozens of independent countries stepped into the world arena, playing a major role in international affairs. These countries face the pressing tasks of safeguarding their hard-won independence and developing their economies to consolidate their independence. They stand firmly opposed to wars of aggression and outside interference in any sense. They advocate the settlement of disputes with other countries through peaceful consultations. They demand that the unreasonable international economic order be transformed and that economic exchanges and co-operation between nations be effected on the principles of equality and mutual benefit. In short, they want to see the Five Principles guiding international relations in both political and economic fields. Owing to their efforts, there is a strong trend in world opinion against criminal aggression and expansion, intervention in other countries' internal affairs, bullying of weak countries by the strong ones, and high-handed treatment of small countries by the big ones.

However, some quarters disregard the trend of the times. This is what the superpowers and hegemonists are doing. They have intervened in other countries' internal affairs, invaded and occupied the territory of



sovereign states, brought other countries into their sphere of influence and developed regional or global hegemony. The global scramble between the United States and the Soviet Union, the Soviet aggression in Afghanistan, the Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea, the US invasion of Grenada and the Israeli incursion into Lebanon are the most conspicuous examples of such wrong-doings in recent years, and have gravely threatened world peace. These also bring out in sharp relief the necessity of insisting upon following the Five Principles in handling international relations.

Although the Five Principles were introduced 30 years ago, they are not at all out of date. On the contrary, they have become even more important in today's world. Only when all actions contravening the Five Principles are unremittingly opposed can world peace be safeguarded.

China, to bring about its socialist modernization, needs a peaceful international environment. The Chinese people ardently love peace. In the 30 years since the Five Principles were proclaimed, China has not invaded one inch of another nation's land; nor has it stationed a single soldier on another country's territory. As an initiator of the Five Principles, as well as a follower and defender of them, China will continue to work towards eliminating the danger of war and realizing peaceful co-existence and friendly co-operation between nations.

LETTERS

Different Views Available

As a reader of *Beijing Review* for seven years, I never get tired of your magazine. With the information you offer, I can understand China in all its changes. Through the international reports and the analytical articles, we Europeans can hear different opinions, which are always unavailable in our mass media.

I am most interested in your articles and documents. How I wish I could discuss and exchange my opinions with you! Sometimes I feel disappointed when I have a different viewpoint, or when I come across some problems for which I fail to find an answer. I hope you open a column in which readers can find the answers.

Another suggestion: In the column "From the Chinese Press," views from various newspapers might be aired. In this way, your readers would become aware of different views held by the Chinese people.

I'd like to praise your lovely layout, especially your satisfactory cover photos. However, the quality of the pictures inside is too shoddy. This may be a small matter, yet it is somewhat regrettable.

I hope these suggestions will help in improving your weekly. Finally I'd like to extend my regards to all staff of *Beijing Review*, who have been working so hard to enhance friendship and understanding among the world's people.

Cartiaux Jean-Claude
Belgium

Analysis Too Simple

The article "Upsurge in World-Wide Technological Revolution"

in issue No. 17 is inspiring. But it is a pity the final analysis is so simple. It should involve "Dialectics of Nature" by Engels or Lenin's exposition about Hegel.

On the whole, your weekly is nice and the subjects are well-chosen. But, I hope to read more convincing and profound articles in philosophy and ideology.

The direct distribution is fine and timely, but the magazine has not been well advertised in our country.

Over the past one and a half centuries, Germany has made several blind advances. This resulted in gross mistakes and sacrifice. I sincerely hope the Chinese people will avoid repeating these mistakes.

Michael Florsheimer
Russelheim, FRG

A New Reader's Proposals

As a new reader of *Beijing Review*, I don't know how your magazine has changed. Still, I enjoy its present look very much. But to my regret, there are not clear prices and addresses in advertisements appearing on the back cover.

I especially like reading your articles on international events for their objectivity and comments. I also enjoy your "Highlights," but you should add longer notes for it.

I believe the People's Republic of China has a bright future, both in the international and political spheres and in the cultural and economic fields. *Beijing Review* accurately presents the constant efforts of your people and the great successes you have gained.

By the way, I would like to praise your timely distribution in our country.

Birgit Koeh
Soltau, FRG



Deng Xiaoping talking with members of a Hongkong business delegation.

Deng Voices Confidence in Hongkong People

The people of Hongkong should have high aspirations for and confidence about administering that part of China well, Deng Xiaoping has said during an interview with a business delegation from Hongkong.

Deng, Chairman of the Central Advisory Commission, told the delegation on June 22 that he believes Hongkong residents who love both the motherland and Hongkong will competently run Hongkong by themselves.

"After China restores its sovereignty over Hongkong, the socio-economic system and life-style there will remain unchanged and two systems will coexist in the country," he said.

Deng pointed out that the People's Republic of China has two traditions: "The first is that it doesn't believe in fallacies and

stands rock firm no matter what storms sweep the world. The second, recognized worldwide, is that the Chinese mean what they say."

"Some people are worried that our policies will change," he said. "I can say with certainty that as long as our policies are correct, no one can change them.

"The policies adopted since the Third Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee in 1978 have yielded tangible results first in the rural areas. If these policies are changed, the living standards of 80 per cent of the Chinese population will be affected. No one can alter correct policies."

The two-hour interview with the Hongkong delegation of industry and commerce, headed by H. C. Tang, Jack Tang and Ngai Shiu-kit, proceeded in an atmosphere of mutual trust and frankness.

In talks the following day with three well-known Hongkong visitors, Sze-yuen Chung, Lydia Dunn and Q. W. Lee, Deng emphasized that the Chinese Government's position, principle and policy on settling the Hongkong issue are firm and in the interests of the 5 million Hongkong residents.

"We have discussed the matter extensively with public figures from Hongkong over the past two years, and we know very well what is really in the minds of Hongkong residents," Deng said. "Our proposal for two systems to be practised in one country has taken into full consideration Hongkong's actual conditions."

He told the three visitors that he believes the people of Hongkong have the ability to run Hongkong well. "The Chinese are by no means short of talent," he said.

Foreign Investment in Hongkong Rises

Foreign investment in Hongkong has been increasing since the beginning of last year.

The Chinese Government's decision to maintain the existing system in Hongkong for 50 years from 1997, when its sovereignty over Hongkong is restored, has enhanced the confidence of investors. Many far-sighted foreign entrepreneurs and businessmen are pouring investments into this monetary and trading centre of Asia and the Pacific.

According to the Hongkong Registry Department, 257 foreign companies were registered in Hongkong last year, an increase of 20.7 per cent over 1982. Subtracting the 84 firms which withdrew their registration in 1983, the net increase was still 10.2 per cent.

Newcomers came mainly from the United States, Japan, Singapore and Britain. They still want to do business in Hongkong, which has close links with inland Chinese provinces and cities with great market potential.

The number of factories run by foreign firms rose to 486 in 1983 from 438 in 1982, with total investment increasing from HK\$7,562 million to 7,839 million. This included eight expanded and newly built projects by US firms. The Exxon Corporation plans to build two additional generating units in the Tap Shek Kok Power Plant at Tsing San, with an estimated investment of US\$750 million.

Japan also has increased its investment in the manufacturing industry in Hongkong since 1983. The investment of Yoshida Co. Ltd. alone has come to HK\$300 million.

Firms from Switzerland, Federal Germany, Britain and other countries have also increased their in-

vestment in Hongkong since last year.

Banks are still pumping fresh funds into new projects. The Bank of America has decided to set up data-processing centre in Hongkong for the northeast Asian region.

The US Citibank has erected a high-rise building to expand its services to ordinary customers. The US Chase Manhattan Bank set up an automatic service network in co-operation with the Bank of China. The number of Japanese banking institutions increased from nine to 15 last year.

2 Million Motor Vehicles Produced

By the end of last year, 2 million motor vehicles were produced in China. This represents 80 per cent of the vehicles on the road today, or more than 40 times the number in 1949, when New China was founded.

Before liberation, China had no automobile industry, only a few repair shops in Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjin and Chongqing. There were only 50,000 automobiles in the country, all made by foreign companies.

Soon after liberation, China began building its first motor vehicle plant in Changchun, Jilin Province. It was listed as key project in the First Five-Year Plan which began in 1953. Three years later, the plant turned out the first Chinese automobile, ending the nation's reliance on imports.

Thirty years later, 2,400 state-owned enterprises are producing 300,000 motor vehicles a year. There are 37 major engine-making factories and more than 2,000 assembly plants throughout China.

From 1949 to 1983, the motor vehicle industry earned the state 11,000 million yuan in profits and taxes, 2.7 times as much as the state has invested in the industry.

Since the implementation of new economic policies in China, the motor vehicle industry has entered a new stage. These enterprises now can produce 82 types of vehicles in six categories (heavy-duty lorry, cross-country car, self-discharging lorry, tractor, town bus and sedan), and 200 varieties of special-purpose cars in 10 standardized categories.

New Rules Benefit Foreign Investors

According to *China Daily*, Gu Mu, State Councillor and Member of the Secretariat of the Party Central Committee, said that foreign investors who supply China with advanced technology and equipment will be allowed to sell a portion of their goods in China's domestic market.

This is one of the new measures accompanying the decision to open 14 more port cities to the rest of the world.

Gu said foreigners will now be allowed to operate factories and businesses in China. They may sell some of their products here if they supply China with advanced technology, and need to pay only 15 per cent income tax if they produce high-tech goods or if they invest more than US\$30 million.

The 14 cities are Dalian, Qinhuangdao, Tianjin, Nantong, Shanghai, Yantai, Qingdao, Lianyungang, Ningbo, Wenzhou, Fuzhou, Guangzhou, Zhanjiang and Beihai.

In the 14 cities and Hainan Island, all production equipment and building materials imported for joint ventures, co-operative enterprises or foreign-financed enterprises will be tax-free, Gu said.

This also applies to imported raw materials and spare parts for producing export goods.

In the 14 cities, economic development zones may be set up in designated areas, concentrating on introducing advanced foreign technology, producing high-grade goods and providing inland areas with new skills and experience in modern management.

The state councillor stressed that priority should be given to upgrading the existing enterprises in these cities and to establishing a number of small and medium-sized projects that can contribute to the nation's modernization.

These cities will enjoy much greater decision-making powers in their co-operation with foreign firms. In upgrading enterprises or building new factories, for instance, Shanghai and Tianjin can go ahead with any project under US\$30 million without approval from higher authorities, Gu pointed out.

Also, those enterprises established mainly with foreign funds or foreign equipment may be approved directly by the city authorities, no matter how large the investment.

To help these cities accelerate their economic development, the Bank of China will expand its services by organizing investment consortia with foreign banks, Gu said.

Gansu Seeks Outside Investment

Gansu Province in northwest China recently declared its first 60 projects to be open to investment from other provinces and foreign businesses in order to jointly develop Gansu's rich mineral and energy resources.

The province will grant even more preferential conditions than

the coastal areas to outside partners and provide sites, workers and resources, Deputy Governor Hou Zhongbin said at a press conference.

The 60 projects involve light industry, textiles, chemistry, metallurgy, building materials, machinery, electronics, coal, energy, communications, medicine, animal husbandry, tourism, commerce, education and other trades.

There are diverse forms of co-operation: enterprises with exclusive outside investment, joint ventures, contracting enterprises or providing loans, equipment and technology.

Investors who build enterprises with their own exclusive funds may manage their businesses independently with all after-tax profits at their own disposal. Joint ventures may also be run exclusively by outside partners. The profits will be divided according to the proportion of investment, with due consideration given to the interests of the outside partners.

The outside partners have the right to sell and distribute additional products resulting from increased production capacity brought about by their investments or upgraded technology. In the division of the increased profits, the largest part will go to the outside partners.

In enterprises where local partners are repaying outside investment with products, the value of these products will be calculated by the producer price. The investors may also apply for a tax reduction, depending on the situation.

The province's natural resources will also be opened to outside investment, the deputy governor said. Accurate and reliable resource materials will be provided for investors. Feasibility studies will also be conducted, to ensure the

economic interests of the outside partners.

Procedures will be simplified. Preferential interest rates will be granted to enterprises with an investment under US\$1 million. For those projects which have an appropriate repayment schedule and do not involve the state's overall financial balance, the enterprises themselves may make arrangements and sign contracts, which will immediately be acknowledged as legal.

Spreading 454,000 square kilometres along the Silk Road, which once linked trade between the East and the West, Gansu is rich in mineral resources. Sixty-one minerals have been discovered, including rare metals, whose reserves are among the first in China. It also has the potential to produce 14.24 million kw of hydroelectric power. So far, only 2 million kw have been tapped.

Peasants Own Tractors, Trucks

Chinese peasants privately owned 2.12 million tractors by the end of 1983, a 110 per cent increase over the previous year. There were 89,000 individually owned trucks for agricultural use, 72,000 more than in 1982. The big increase is a result of China's thriving agriculture, which has made some peasants well-to-do.

In the first quarter of this year more peasants bought their own tractors and trucks. The sales of walking tractors reached 124,000, up 25.4 per cent over the same period last year.

Of the tractors owned by peasants, 69 per cent belong to individual households. The rest were bought collectively by several households. According to the new agricultural policies, peasants are allowed to buy tractors,



Thirty trucks bought by specialized households in Beijing's Changping County.

trucks and other agricultural machines privately or collectively.

Almost 90 per cent of the new tractors are under 20 horsepower, which suit production and transportation for a family. In central China's Henan Province, the peasants own 239,000 tractors and 11,000 trucks, the highest number in the country. In Anhui Province, where the production responsibility system was first implemented, the peasants own 167,000 tractors, the second highest number.

Numerous tractor drivers, water pump operators, grain-processing workers and agro-technicians are being trained in junior and senior agricultural schools throughout the country to meet the needs of the rural areas. At the same time, special courses have been set up to train more drivers and repairers.

Reforms Set for Student Enrolment

China's universities and colleges plan to reform their enrolment practices, putting the emphasis on enrolling the proper number of rural students. The change was announced in a recent Ministry of Education report on a national

conference to discuss college enrolment.

The report has been approved by the State Council. The reforms will start this year at Nanjing University, Shanghai Jiaotong University and four other key universities and colleges.

The report calls on the institutes affiliated with various central departments and with the departments of the Commission of Science, Technology and Industry for National Defence to enrol a proper proportion of students from regions where agriculture, forestry and mining predominate. Upon graduating, these students will then be assigned to jobs in their native regions in agriculture, forestry, the coal and petroleum industries, geology and hydropower generating.

The provincial institutes of forestry, agriculture, medicine and education are also asked to start enrolling the proper number of rural students. The same method of college enrolment will also be adopted in less developed regions.

This year about 450,000 students will be enrolled in junior and senior courses at China's universities and colleges — an all-time high. This figure includes 36,000 cadres receiving special training

and 10,000 middle-school teachers taking advanced studies.

Enrolment was formerly decided only by the examinees' marks, with the result that some middle schools neglected the students' moral and physical education. This year only these examinees who are strong morally, intellectually and physically, as well as scoring high grades, can be enrolled.

Based on experiences in Shanghai, some institutes will establish close contact with middle schools to recommend outstanding all-round students for entrance examinations. These institutes will place a priority on enrolling them, according to their marks and their character.

To encourage youths to major in agriculture, the coal industry, education and other areas where graduates are urgently needed in the modernization drive, some institutes in Sichuan, Shandong and Beijing will establish contact with middle schools to recruit good senior middle school students for these specialities.

Scientists Hoping To Alter Weather

A group of noted meteorologists are working at means to send the warm, moist air in the upper reaches of the Changjiang (Yangtze) River in southwestern China flowing north over the Bayan Har Mountains to the Qinghai Plateau in the northwest, the source of the Huanghe (Yellow) River.

This ambitious plan, if successful, will not only increase the water level of the Huanghe River; it will also influence the weather patterns in much of the country, increasing rainfall and reducing drought in the vast northwest.

Not long ago the group studied eastern Qinghai Province and the

Bayan Har Mountains, covering 3,500 kilometres during their 20 days of fieldwork and collecting data about the topography, geology, meteorology and hydrology.

Zhu Mingdao, one of the group, said their investigations indicated that it was possible to send the warm, moist current flowing over the plateau through artificial interference. But to realize a scheme of this magnitude, many difficult problems must be solved.

Throughout the world, various methods of influencing the weather artificially, such as using strong electromagnetic charges to promote cloud movement, using chemical catalytic agents and opening corridors for moisture, have been used with success reported in increasing rainfall. But this is the first time that methods of this sort would be applied on "the roof of the world."

A leading group for this operation has been organized, including Huang Jingbo, Governor of Qinghai Province, Luo Yuanzheng, Secretary General of the China Federation of Economic Organization and Qiao Peixin, celebrated economist and honorary chairman of the Bank of China. More scientists will be invited to produce testimony for the plan later this year.

At the same time, experiments will be carried out in eastern Qinghai, where the clouds and moisture in cold but moist areas will be shifted to dry, hot areas through artificial interference, to change the weather conditions there and promote agriculture.

First Snack Bar Opens in Beijing

Beijing has recently opened its first Western-style fast-food restaurant, as part of an effort to free the city's working couples from the heavy burden of household chores.

Located on Xidan Street South, one of Beijing's commercial centres, Yili Fast Foods sells about 20 kinds of food, including hot dogs and hamburgers, French toast, prawn toast, vegetable soup, fried chicken, beef curry, pepper steak, ice cream, and orange juice. It also serves traditional Chinese snacks and dishes such as soybean milk, salted eggs, deep-fried twisted dough sticks (*you tiao*), fried rice and sweet and sour pork.

The restaurant is staffed by 37 trained cooks and waiters, with two fast-food chefs from Hongkong as advisers.

The opening of Yili Fast Foods is good news for Beijing's more than 9 million people, particularly for the 3.6 million workers and staff members, most of whom are working couples. In order to lessen their housework burden and save more time for study, recreation and cultural activities, Beijing's food industry is trying to expand

its processing capacity and supplies of prepared and easy-to-cook foods.

Yili Fast Foods is only a trial, and a similar restaurant will be established in the eastern part of the city this year. A large number of snack bars are planned for all over Beijing in the near future. At present, preparations are under way to run several soft-drink joint ventures with Chinese and foreign investment.

Beijing's food industry plan envisages a steady, large increase in the output of highly processed flour, edible oils, meat, eggs, milk, beer, beancurd and other soybean products and prepared foods. Major efforts will be devoted to developing fast foods, foods for children, the aged and tourists, and traditional delicacies. More than 150 items have been included in the capital's food research plan.

Relations Resumed With Swiss Party

Relations between the Communist Party of China and the Swiss Labour Party have been resumed following talks between Hu Yaobang, General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party (CPC) Central Committee, and Armand Magnin, General Secretary of the Swiss Labour Party Central Committee.

Magnin described the June 19 talks as fruitful. The Swiss delegation stayed in Beijing from June 7 to 22.

Hu said differences between the two Parties on some issues would not prevent the resumption of their relations or the further development of relations. He said the many communist parties in the world today have both merits and shortcomings and it is inevitable and normal to have different views on certain issues.

Whether these views are correct should be verified through practice, Hu said. "Our differing views on certain issues will not hamper the unity and co-operation between the two Parties."

Hu added that the two Parties share the identical views that communist parties in power must not practise hegemonism.

Magnin stressed that the resumption of relations will not be directed against any third party.

"Though official relations between our two Parties came to a halt for 20 years, let bygones be bygones," said Qiao Shi, Alternate Member of the CPC Central Committee Secretariat, at a banquet on June 8 for the Swiss delegation. "We have already summed up our respective historical experiences and unanimously agreed to look to the future."

A meeting between the two Parties in March showed that they shared identical or similar views on many issues, said Qiao. Magnin's latest visit indicates a new starting point in the relations between the two Parties.

Deng Meets Burmese Leader

China and Burma have a special *paukphaw*, Deng Xiaoping, Chairman of the CPC Central Advisory Commission, told U Tun Tin, Burma's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Planning and Finance in Beijing on June 21 *paukphaw* is Burmese for "fraternal friendship."

The same day, U Tun Tin and Chen Muhua, Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, signed an agreement on economic and technical co-operation.

U Tun Tin told Deng, "Our Chairman, U Ne Win, visited China 11 times and the late Premier Zhou Enlai visited Burma nine times. The frequent exchange of visits between leaders testifies to the *paukphaw* friendship between our nations."

Deng briefed the Burmese delegation on China's domestic policies. He said the country is determined to advance construction and the four modernizations wholeheartedly, unless a new world war breaks out. The guiding principle of China's economic construction is opening to the outside world and enlivening the domestic economy. The policies followed by China since 1978 have already shown some good results.

Deng said China's objective is to quadruple the 1980 gross industrial and agricultural output value by the end of this century and achieve initial success in its modernization programme. By that time, the average per-capita income is

expected to rise to US\$800. In the past four years, China's industrial and agricultural output has gone up by an average of 7.2 per cent a year. It seems this goal is within reach.

President Li Xiannian told U Tun Tin on June 20, "China strictly implements the five principles of peaceful coexistence, respects other countries' sovereignty and territorial integrity, and does not interfere in their internal affairs. China will never practise hegemonism."

Chinese Vice-Premier Wan Li also met U Tun Tin.

Chinese Nuclear Policy Reaffirmed

The Foreign Ministry reaffirmed China's position on nuclear non-proliferation and expressed regret that the Sino-US agreement on co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy had still not been signed.

At the weekly news briefing in Beijing on June 20, the official spokesman said Premier Zhao Ziyang has publicly stated the Chinese Government's nuclear policy several times — most recently in his government work report on May 15.

In that report Zhao said, "China is critical of the discriminatory treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons concluded in 1968 and has declined to accede to it. But we by no means favour nuclear proliferation, nor do we engage in such proliferation by helping other countries to develop nuclear weapons."

This report was passed by the Second Session of the Sixth National People's Congress, the spokesman said, and as such is the

official position of the Chinese Government.

"All relevant questions have been fully discussed and resolved in the course of negotiations between China and the United States," the spokesman said, regarding the Sino-US agreement on nuclear co-operation. "It is on this basis that the two sides initialled this agreement in Beijing." That the agreement is yet to be signed is not the fault of the Chinese.

He expressed regret that the United States had raised the question of whether China fully understood the execution of the agreement and had brought in "unnecessary new issues" after it had been initialled.

Military Sale to Taiwan Opposed

China has expressed its opposition to the United States' proposed sale of a number of C-130 military transport aircraft to Taiwan, announced by the US Defence Department on June 19.

At the weekly news briefing in Beijing on June 20, a Foreign Ministry spokesman pointed out that the functions of the C-130 aircraft far exceed those of aircraft previously supplied to Taiwan by the United States, which runs counter to stipulations set out in the joint Sino-US communique of August 17, 1982.

The Chinese Government, he said, reiterates that the United States must abide by the communique.

The Chinese Government lodged solemn representations regarding the matter with the US Government prior to the Defence Department announcement.

United Nations

Renewed Bid for Mid-East Peace

by REN YAN

THE recent visit to the Middle East by UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar shows the international community's deep concern for a peaceful settlement of the Middle East problem.

Perez de Cuellar visited Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and Israel from June 5 to 13, sounding out their leaders about an international conference to be sponsored by the UN Security Council to resolve the Mid-East crisis. His efforts received positive response from many Arab countries but encountered obstacles in Israel and the United States.

The Middle East has been a hot spot for decades because of Israel's policy of expansion and its aggression, with the support of the United States, against the Arab countries and more recently the Palestine Liberation Organization. The tension poses a serious threat to the peace, stability and security of this region and the world as a whole. Peace programmes have been put forward by the Arab League, several Arab countries and countries elsewhere in the world, but none has been put into effect because of the differing views of the parties concerned.

The proposed international conference was approved by the UN General Assembly last December. However, Israel rejected the idea and stubbornly insisted on holding separate talks with the Arab countries. The United States, too, still clings to President Ronald Reagan's pro-Israel plan despite the opposition it has met from most

Arab countries.

Recently Israel even threatened to interfere in the Iran-Iraq war if necessary — a further indication of its ambition and refusal to relinquish its policy of aggression and expansion.

The Philippines

Austerity Measures Tried Out

by XIN ZHONG

THE Philippine Government's decision on June 5 to float the peso — one of a package of austerity measures intended to help the country out of its economic distress — immediately resulted in a 28.57 per cent devaluation of the currency from 14 pesos to 18 pesos per US dollar and promises to bring about a host of new problems.

The other measures included increasing the prices of petroleum products by an average 24 per cent, the prices of 11 essential commodities including rice by an average 13 per cent and the costs of public transportation.

A few days later, on June 12, President Ferdinand Marcos announced that, to alleviate the impact of the price rises on living standards, the minimum wage would be increased from 43 to 51 pesos a day.

The Philippines, which is in the midst of its worst economic difficulties since the end of World War II, has for years been supporting

Judging from the outcome of Perez de Cuellar's tour, it would not be easy to hold the proposed conference. However, because of the various political and economic interrelations* and interactions in today's world, the Middle East problem can and must be solved through peaceful means. Peace will surely come so long as the people of the region and the world persist in their struggles.

its economy with loans from abroad. The serious drought last year severely hurt export crops such as coconut and sugar cane, and as a result the trade deficit and foreign debt rose abruptly. In addition, the political turmoil touched off by the assassination of opposition leader Benigno Aquino last August has frightened both domestic and foreign investors, who have since been diverting their investments out of the country. The Government's foreign exchange reserves dwindled, and last October it had to suspend the repayment of the Philippines' foreign debt. Foreign exchange trading at banks has come to a virtual standstill. Companies relying on imported raw materials had to cut production or even halt operations altogether.

The foreign debt now totals US\$25,600 million, of which more than US\$15,000 million in repayments is overdue and pending refinancing. The Government is now seeking a US\$650 million reserve loan from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and is in the process of borrowing US\$4,000 million from foreign banks.

By floating the peso rate, the

government hopes to improve the country's international balance of payments and delay the repayment of foreign debts. Prime Minister Cesar Virata said the new floating rate will help restore world bankers' confidence in the economy and put the country in a better position to obtain the IMF reserve loan. The government also hopes that the floating rate will help boost exports and significantly reduce the trade deficit. It expects the trade deficit to decline from US\$2,500 million last year to US\$500 million this year.

Observers, however, have pointed out that the floating rate could have a number of adverse effects, such as a further rise in inflation. The announcement of the floating rate immediately resulted in panic-buying of rice, sugar, soap and other items. In a press conference recently, Marcos said the government, in its latest package of measures, will take all steps necessary to return the economy to normal. Some Philippine bankers believe that the floating rate cannot reflect the true value of the peso and see further devaluation as possible. Should this happen, Filipinos will be caught in more difficulties and there may even be social instability.

Viet Nam

Returning to the Same Old Trick

by DUAN PING

WITH the approach of the rainy season in Southeast Asia, Hanoi again disguised itself as a lover of peace, announcing that nearly 10,000 Vietnamese troops would pull out from Kampuchea in the last 10 days of June. For the best possible propaganda results, it invited some foreign correspondents to Phnom Penh to watch the withdrawal.

But prior to the onset of the monsoon season, Vietnamese troops carried out massive offensives on the Kampuchean-Thai border. The extra troops are just going home.

The recent withdrawal is only a rehash of the previous two "partial withdrawals," which took place in July, 1982 and May, 1983. Then the international opinion was that the two withdrawals were simply to relieve garrisons rather than abandon the occupation of Kampuchea. And the international community does not trust the intentions of the latest announced withdrawal. A high-ranking Thai official pointed out that it is another propaganda trick of the Vietnamese authorities.

Canada

New Leader Promising Reforms

by GU YAOMING

JOHN TURNER, the former Federal Finance Minister in the early 1970s, has become the new leader of Canada's Liberal Party after defeating his main rival, Energy Minister Jean Chretien, at the party's recent leadership convention. He succeeds Pierre Trudeau as the country's 17th prime minister at the beginning of July. His election is seen in Ottawa as a reflection of the desire for change prevalent both within the Liberal Party and throughout the country.

During his 16 years in office, Trudeau made outstanding contributions to Canada's international relations, repatriating the country's constitution, maintaining national unity, enacting the Official Languages Act on bilingualism and introducing more social welfare programmes.

However, there have been wide-

The UN General Assembly has adopted many resolutions calling for the withdrawal of all Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea. Brushing aside these resolutions, the Vietnamese authorities have trotted out their "partial withdrawals" to deceive the international community. They aim to continue the occupation of Kampuchea.

The announcement of the latest withdrawal comes at a time when Hanoi is stepping up its aggression along the Sino-Vietnamese border. It is therefore reasonable to wonder whether Viet Nam wants to move some troops from Kampuchea to strengthen its military deployment along the Sino-Vietnamese border.

spread complaints about his economic policies and his approach towards federal-provincial relations and government-private sector relations.

Economic issues, in particular, have tormented the Trudeau administration. In late 1981, the Canadian economy plunged to its lowest point in the post-war period. The recovery, which started late last year, is crawling. There is still no sign of an immediate easing of the 11.7 per cent unemployment rate.

The monotony of the Liberal Party's 20-year rule was another factor in the party's declining popularity under Trudeau. Even within the party, members were eager for a new face, fresh policies and a party reorganization to revive the Liberals' fading prestige.

All seven candidates running in the leadership race supported re-

forms of some sort. But every candidate besides Turner was currently a minister in Trudeau's administration and their proposals were based mainly on Trudeau's policies, representing very limited reform. Turner's proposals, on the other hand, seemed fresh in comparison and more comprehensive, because he has been out of politics for nine years.

For example, he recommended reduced government interference in private enterprise, improvements in the tax system, streamlining the government bureaucracy, major budget cuts, improved federal-provincial relations and promoting free trade with the United States. All these policies have appeal both inside and outside the party.

During the leadership campaign, Turner especially stressed the economic needs of Canada's four western provinces, which was seen as helping him win their support. His proposals to ease unemployment among the young and raise the status of women were also better received than those of the other candidates. Also, support from powerful blocs within the party, as well as the support of banking and business circles, put Turner in a favourable position.

After taking office, Turner will announce a date for a general election, expected to be held in late October or mid-November. But the new party chief is faced with problems that must be solved before entering an election campaign.

His biggest task is to patch up the rifts within the party and rally the Liberals behind him. He has stressed the need for reforming and reorganizing the party, while Chretien, who still has considerable influence in the party, stands for continuing the traditional policies of the Liberals. Turner's tendency towards conservatism has led a number of party members to fear that he will push the party to the right. It is imperative that Turner

succeeds in persuading Chretien and his faction to accept his ideas and support him as the single Liberal candidate in a national election.

The formation of a new cabinet will be another headache. In the leadership race, Turner repeatedly called for streamlining the government and civil service. But now he has to satisfy the demands for positions which will come from a crowd of followers, including more than 20 ministers and 40 parliamentarians, and to some extent, from his rivals. He must also offer more official posts to women, in line with one of his campaign promises.

The third task facing Turner will be the working out of a compre-

hensive party platform, which should revamp Trudeau's policies without going too far to the right, and should take into account the interests of both Liberal Party members and the voters in general.

The economy is now the greatest concern of all Canadians. Worried about the unstable and uneven recovery, people are pinning their hopes on a new, strong leader to emerge from a general election to lift the country out of its economic doldrums.

At present, both the Liberals and the Conservatives are warming up for a nationwide duel for power. Which party will win hinges on the policies they offer to solve the huge deficit, high unemployment and rising interest rates.

South Africa

Obstructing Namibia's Independence

by DONG CHENGBIN

DURING his recent European tour, South African Prime Minister Pieter Botha said that South Africa is "willing to withdraw" its troops from Namibia if one or more of the five Western contact group countries take over the tasks of administration and defence there.

This proposal was strongly rejected by the other countries in southern Africa as well as some Western countries, since it mentioned nothing about implementing UN Security Council resolution 435, which stipulates that South Africa should withdraw from Namibia and allow a UN-supervised general election in that country.

Observers have noted that apart from Botha's new proposal, South Africa has been playing "peace games" since the new year to peddle its proposal for resolving the

Namibian issue outside the framework of the UN resolution.

Although South Africa appeared sincere last February about withdrawing its troops from Angola under its agreement with that country on a military disengagement, it has since put off a complete withdrawal on the pretext that Cuban troops in Angola must also go.

At the talks on Namibia's independence in Lusaka in May, no agreement was reached simply because South Africa and members of the Multi-Party Conference (MPC) delegation in Namibia insisted on linking Namibia's independence with the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

South Africa recently made another ploy in an attempt to lure the Southwest Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) into accepting what it called an "internal settlement" in Namibia. It proposed that SWAPO might form and

lead a transitional government in Namibia with the pro-South African MPC heading the crucial defence, security and internal affairs portfolios, while South African troops would remain stationed in Namibia until the Cubans pulled out of Angola.

To improve its image, South Africa is also playing double-faced tricks about releasing Namibian political prisoners. After setting SWAPO co-founder Toivo free in March and 54 other SWAPO mem-

bers in May, South Africa illegally arrested 37 others including SWAPO's acting president in Namibia N. Maxuilili on June 9.

The Namibian issue will not be resolved by bypassing UN resolution 435. It is clear that so long as South Africa is insincere and refuses to give up its colonial policy of occupying Namibia, whatever moves it proposes will only cast shadows over not only the Namibia issue but the situation in southern Africa as a whole.

only pay 50 per cent of its scheduled debt payments and interest. Since the beginning of this year, the increases in US interest rates have aggravated their economic crisis.

It is estimated that the Latin American GDP declined 3.3 per cent last year and average income per capita 15 per cent. Both inflation and unemployment have increased rapidly and threaten political stability. Only when the Latin American countries have settled their debt problem can they develop their economies.

Latin America

Joint Efforts to Solve Debt Problem

by CHEN GONG

ELEVEN Latin American nations have ended a two-day meeting in Cartagena, Colombia—the first of its kind by these countries to state their common position on the debt crisis—with an agreement on a package of proposals and demands to ease their financial stress.

The meeting, held on June 21 and 22 at the suggestion of the presidents of Mexico, Brazil, Argentina and Colombia and attended by senior ministers from those countries and Ecuador, Venezuela, Peru, Chile, Bolivia, Uruguay and the Republic of Dominica, called for the adoption of steps leading to the immediate and drastic reduction of both real and nominal interest rates in international money markets. The countries urged the industrialized countries to negotiate with them extensions of payment periods by both banks and governments and a reduction of interest rates on government loans. They also asked that rich countries eliminate tariffs and other imports barriers and that they stabilize the prices that developing countries get for their commodities.

The ministers attending the conference considered it necessary to hold international talks on the debt problem. They agreed that next meeting will be held in Buenos Aires before September, to review the execution of the goals set at the first meeting. They also decided to set up a Latin American debt co-ordination commission in Buenos Aires and a secretariat under it to study the debt problem.

The ministers also proposed a meeting with creditors to study the political, social and economic consequences of the debt problem in Latin America.

The Latin American countries have a total debt of US\$350,000 million—half the total foreign debt of all third world countries and equal to 56 per cent of last year's total annual Latin American gross domestic production (GDP). The 11 countries at the conference are the region's major debtors and their foreign debt accounts for 90 per cent of the Latin American total.

In the past two years, over US\$60,000 million has been spent each year on repayments and interest. Latin America's total income from foreign trade in 1983 was US\$31,200 million, which can

The Latin American debtor countries have always observed their international duties and strived to defuse the debt crisis. However, their efforts have not won the active co-operation of the creditor countries, led by the United States. The United States has continually refused to join in debt negotiations, requesting that the debtor countries hold direct talks with the creditor banks with the participation of the International Monetary Fund to solve the debt problem individually.

For two years the process of individual negotiations has done very little to relax the debt crisis. The banks have generally stipulated that the countries adopt austerity programmes requested by the International Monetary Fund. These austerity programmes have actually forced the debtor countries to tighten their belts to meet payments and pushed them further into debt crisis from which they no longer recover. The method of individual settlement is impracticable.

The Latin American countries' joint actions on the debt issue are an important step in opposing the unequal international financial order and demanding the establishment of a new international economic order. The Cartagena conference once again shows the unity of the Latin American countries on the major issues.

The Literature of the Nuclear Age —Why Do We Write?

In a speech at the 47th International PEN Congress in Tokyo last May, Ba Jin, Chairman of the Chinese Writers' Association and the China PEN Centre, talked about how he began to write novels and why he wrote. He said he tried to explain to his readers what he was searching for and what had impressed him. Ba Jin, now 79 years old, has written and translated dozens of novels, short stories and essays since he wrote his first novel "Extinction" in 1928 while studying in France. He is one of the most influential, prolific and accomplished writers in China today. He told the meeting, "The writer's main goal is to enrich humanity and provide some form of contentment for his or her readers." In fact he has spent his entire life in this endeavor. The following are the main points of his speech. — Ed.

by **BA JIN**

ATTENDING this particular congress in Tokyo to discuss literature with our colleagues from all over the world brings to mind the tragedy which took place in this country 39 years ago.

I have had the opportunity of visiting Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the only two cities in the world which have been subjected to atomic attack. In these cities, we can still find people suffering from radiation sickness, as well as more fortunate survivors; we can see a severed hand suspended in a mass of fused glass; and we can still hear tales of the mushroom cloud, the "sea of fire," the black rain. . . . In Hiroshima alone, the total number of human casualties resulting from the atomic blast has been calculated at 500,000. In these two cities, I heard countless tragic tales; here I'll tell one that involves a little girl:

Ten years after the atomic bomb fell on Hiroshima, a 12-year-old girl became ill. According to an old traditional belief, a sick person could cure himself or herself by making 1,000 folded paper cranes. So this little girl lay in her bed and began to fold. After complet-



ing her first 1,000 cranes, she went on and made 300 more; but then she died. A "Thousand Cranes Memorial" was erected to her memory in Peace Park, and paper cranes sent by children from all over Japan still hang there. When I visited the park, I was given a crane made of stiff blue paper, which I took home to Shanghai with me. Though I never met her, the image of this child with her strong desire to survive frequently appears before me: as if she were asking me to protect her, to prevent death from taking her away. If it were possible, I would give up my own life

to bring her happiness. This made me realize something of the writer's courage and responsibility.

The choice of "The Literature of the Nuclear Age" as the theme of this congress is a timely one, since it clearly reflects the present world situation and the hopes of the world's people. "Why do we write?" What an excellent question! I've been trying to answer it for years, though it is not easily answered. Actually, I've spent my entire life trying to answer it.

Every author approaches literature from a different point of view, seeking truth and an understanding of life through the process of creation. Why do we write? Every book and every article provides part of the answer. How many writers have lived and how many books have been written since the beginning of time? Despite their different lives, different environments, different thoughts and beliefs, and different world views, all truly sincere and honest authors open their hearts to their readers, and thus their works survive from generation to generation. Every author has his or her own individual creative life, yet all authors share something in common: we write because we have things to say and emotions to express; and we use words to express our feelings — happiness, anger and sorrow.

When I was here in 1961 interviewing a noted Japanese author, in our conversation he told me that he was originally a diplomat, but had fallen ill and learnt from a doctor that he did not have very long to live. Not wanting to die empty-handed, he made up his mind to do something meaningful for other

people, and decided to write a novel in which he would set down all the good things he had seen and experienced in his life. As fortune would have it, the doctor's diagnosis was wrong, and this man is still alive and writing today. I will never forget his great sincerity and openness with me.

My own experience is somewhat similar. I first began to write when I arrived in Paris as a foreign student. I missed China and my family very much. To release the flames in my heart, I began to write. I lived on the fifth floor of a small hotel in a room that smelled strongly of coal gas. There, while listening to the bells of Notre Dame, I wrote feverishly. All my past loves and hates, sadness and joy, suffering and compassion, hope and despair poured out of my pen. When I finished my first novel,* the flames in my heart gradually diminished, and I enjoyed a period of peaceful respite. The novel was published and well received. That marked the beginning of my career as a writer. From the 1920's until today, the only time I laid my pen to rest was during the 10 years of the "cultural revolution." During all the past years, I wrote with only one purpose in mind: to make some contribution to the society in which I lived, and to perform the duty of a compatriot for my readers.

I have never lost contact with my readers, and have always considered their hopes to be my encouragement. I often say: If my works can bring a little warmth into my readers' lives, or if I can offer them a little support when

* This is his first novel *Extinction*. It tells how a youth decides to devote himself to the revolution, under the rule of reactionary warlords. He detests the corrupt society and hopes for an ideal one. But he also feels very isolated and weak, and pessimistically believes he will die before the morning comes.

their lives become difficult, then I will be satisfied.

I remember another wonderful story about a young girl who lived through the Great Patriotic war in the Soviet Union. Leningrad had been surrounded by the Nazi troops for weeks. The entire city was blacked out; there was no electricity or candles. In order to get through those long dark scary nights, the girl sat in the dark and recalled all the novels she had ever read, particularly Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina*. The message here is that works of literature can bring true strength and support to the reader.

From being a reader of books I became an author. In my childhood, I absorbed many nourishing things from books. The concrete images in literature stirred me and elevated my thinking to a higher plane. The enchanting qualities of art roused my spirit, and I was deeply affected by authors' loves and hates. Chapter by chapter, volume by volume, I devoured every work of literature I could get my hands on. Ordinary people, everyday life, strong and true feelings and lofty emotions all stimulated my own feelings of love and compassion. Imperceptibly, my approach to other people and things gradually changed. Great books gave me courage, gave me ideals to live for. The writers of the past fired me with a passion for living, and I passed this fire on to others. At the beginning, my pen lashed out at the darker side of life; I had seen enough of human suffering, that's why I loved life and light more. As I wrote, I kept searching and probing, never ceasing to temper myself, until I finally emerged from a forest of thorns. I never lost sight of the light burning in front of me, and the "burning hearts" of authors of the past led me forward. Though I encountered great difficulties and set-

backs, I was never discouraged, nor did I ever lose hope.

Countless generations of writers have left us a rich legacy of great literature. These works support and sustain us, inform us, encourage us and compel us to write diligently; they make us more honest, more pure, more useful to others, and even more courageous. Faced with the threat of a nuclear war, courage is certainly one of the things we are in great need of. Gorky's image in one of his novels of the brave Danko, who forged ahead through the darkness with a "burning heart" seems to be a description of Gorky himself, for he tells us over and over, "The purpose of literature is to better mankind." In the works of many authors of the past, I find a feeling of love so powerful that no evil force can destroy it. This feeling is constantly inspiring readers to join together and struggle for a better life.

I recall Tolstoy's famous statement, "Anything that furthers the cause of human unity is good and beautiful; anything that opposes this cause is bad and ugly."

When discussing the literature of the nuclear age, we must not overlook the present tense world situation. The foreign troops are invading other lands, slaughtering their people and destroying their cultures. The nuclear disarmament talks between two nuclear powers have not produced concrete results, and the nuclear arms race hangs above the heads of the people of the world like the sword of Damocles. Should this sword fall one day, the number of victims will vastly exceed that of Hiroshima; the entire civilized world will face disaster.

Nevertheless, the literature of the nuclear age need not be pessimistic. We must never underestimate the power of the people, for they are inevitably the leading characters of our works. Modern

science and technology should be used to bring benefits to mankind, and atomic power should further the progress of mankind. Only peaceful construction can lead to prosperity, and safeguarding the peace of the world is an author's unshirkable duty. The literature of nuclear age is a part of this peaceful construction, it is a way for people to use their intelligence and wisdom to create a better life and a more splendid civilization.

A single author can produce any number of stirring poems; yet at the same time, the wonders that people accomplish every day greatly enrich an author's works, and

these works can in turn inspire people.

It would be the most natural thing for us here at this congress in Tokyo to speak in exalted language of the glorious future. But this is impossible. Dark clouds are gathering over our heads and the drums of war are beating in our ears; there is no way I can forget the tragedy of Hiroshima.

When I visited Hiroshima in the spring of 1980, I left the following message in the guestbook at the Peace Memorial Museum: "The world's people will never allow what occurred here on August 6, 1945 to occur again." I have read

many of the so-called "gory" reports written about Hiroshima and the diary of the director of a hospital who himself was a victim of the blast. On that visit to Japan, I made a special request to visit Hiroshima. What I saw there was not the ruins of 39 years ago, but a thriving and beautiful modern city. Peace Park was built directly on top of the ruins of the epicenter where the bomb exploded. I was intoxicated by the beauty of the Inland Sea; by the grass stretching out like a green carpet; by the cherry blossoms in full bloom; by the flocks of pigeons pecking for crumbs; by the children playing; by the highly ornamented shrines;

Writers and Human Rights

by JIN JIANFAN

DIFFERENT people may interpret the theme of "writers and human rights" in different ways. But most of the people might agree that the right of national existence and a secure future—a problem facing millions of people throughout the world today—constitute the most fundamental and cardinal human rights issue for the people of the world.

The Charter of the United Nations adopted in 1945 reaffirmed "faith in fundamental human rights, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small. . . ." It also stressed that one of the aims of the United Nations was to assure respect for people's equal rights and the principle of self-determination. History has proved that the right of na-

The author is an administrative secretary with the China PEN Centre. These are excerpts from his speech at the meeting of the International PEN in Tokyo last May.

tional self-determination is the most important precondition for the realization of other fundamental human rights and, at the same time, for guaranteeing national independence. National self-determination means respect for each country's sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and self-determination without foreign intervention.

Forty years have elapsed. Yet in the past four decades the Charter has been repeatedly trampled underfoot. The grim realities of the world today have taught us that armed invasion, occupation or domination of sovereign states by foreign powers is the greatest, most harmful infringement upon human rights. The two superpowers' possession of the world's largest nuclear arsenal present the most serious threat to the fundamental human rights of the people of the world.

It is the writers' duty to be the spokesman of the people. It is our unshirkable mission to strive un-

remittingly to safeguard the fundamental human rights of the people throughout the world. By means of varied artistic forms, we can create moving works to denounce foreign aggression, show compassion and support for the people in their just struggles, as well as take part in those struggles directly. In the fight against fascism and wars of aggression and in safeguarding world peace and fundamental human rights, the International PEN and progressive writers throughout the world have a history which they can be proud of. Exactly 50 years ago, the International PEN made the historic decision to expel the German PEN Centre, which supported Nazi fascism, from its roster. We must carry on and further develop this progressive and fine tradition.

Outstanding writers and poets from all over the world have not only been highly praised for their superb works, but also for their taking a frank and just stand in struggles for national independence, in struggles against fas-

by the modern factories; by the clean and busy streets. . . . I saw much in my short two-day visit. I also thought a lot. I told the people of Hiroshima, "I have seen the great victory of the power of peace and creation." Once again I became aware of the invincible power of the people — something no nuclear weapon can destroy! I learnt this moving lesson in Hiroshima. In preventing a repetition of the Hiroshima tragedy, the power of the people cannot be overlooked.

The greatest wish of all those writers who have gathered here in Tokyo to discuss the literature of

the nuclear age is as follows: not to allow a single country in the world to be devastated by a nuclear bomb. We strongly oppose war, and more strongly oppose nuclear war. We advocate peace, and strongly hope for lasting peace. We don't underestimate ourselves — the pen has a definite power of its own.

In subtle, imperceptible ways, literature moulds men's souls. Like water wearing away at a rock, the dissemination of literature over a long time has a profound effect on people. With literature as our weapon, we can reveal the truth and expose evil, strike out at the forces of darkness, and rally around just causes; if all the peo-

ple in the world who long for peace and stand for justice could unite in a single body, take the destiny into their own hands, all world wars and nuclear conflicts could be avoided. The day the "Lamp of Peace" in Peace Park goes out will be the day the world becomes free of nuclear weapons, when atomic power is directed towards serving the purpose of enriching and bringing greater happiness to mankind. On that day, the fervent aspirations of the people of Hiroshima for peace will finally be realized.

This is the second congress of the International PEN which I

(Continued on p. 29.)

cism, foreign invasion and slavery, and in safeguarding world peace and human rights. Their names are familiar to all: the Indian poet Tagore, the French novelist Romain Rolland, the Chilean poet Pablo Neruda, and the Japanese novelist Junichiro Tanizaki, to mention only a few. This list could easily be enlarged.

In their striving for freedom and independence, and in their struggles to safeguard fundamental human rights, the Chinese people and writers have a history both tragic and glorious. In the history of modern China, foreign intruders have oppressed and slaughtered the Chinese people at random, bringing to the Chinese nation not flowers but bombs, not human rights but slavery. A plaque reading "No dogs or Chinese allowed" once hung at the gate of a park on the Bund in Shanghai. The Chinese people retain a keen memory of this gross insult. Many Chinese writers fought heroically for national freedom, independence, and against fascism in the interests of world peace. Lu Xun*, the most popular and beloved writer in China, stands at the pinnacle of the Chinese culture and art. Headed by him and other well-

known social activists such as Soong Ching Ling, the China League of Safeguarding Human Rights condemned both domestic fascist atrocities and German fascist crimes. In May 1933, the leaders of this league, including Lu Xun, Soong Ching Ling and Cai Yuanpei, submitted a petition to the German consulate to protest the German fascists' suppression of human rights and destruction of culture. They denounced Hitler's burning of books and persecution of people with progressive political viewpoints, and supported the people of other countries in their fight against fascism. When the World Committee to Oppose Imperialist War sponsored the Far East Anti-War Conference in Shanghai in 1933, Lu Xun gave his full support and was elected one of the honorary chairmen of the conference. When the progressive Japanese writer Takiji Kobayashi was murdered, Lu Xun and other writers lodged a protest with the Japanese government. Lu Xun himself wrote the condolence telegraph and, together with Mao Dun and other writers sent donations to the deceased's family as a way of expressing their grief and respect.

The winter has passed and a new springtime of literature and art has begun. In China today, literary creation is flourishing, with many new writers making their debuts on the literary scene. The Chinese people and Chinese writers have never before enjoyed so much democracy and freedom as they do today. Under the guidance of the principle of "letting a hundred schools of thought contend and a hundred flowers blossom," we write for the people, easy in mind. In the context of the past and the present, we Chinese writers feel more keenly than ever before the importance of national self-determination and the genuine human rights for the people. We are grateful to people and writers with a sense of justice throughout the world, who sympathize with and support the Chinese people's just cause. Meanwhile, we will, as always, extend our most profound sympathy and strongest support to the oppressed people the world over in their just struggles for freedom and independence.

* Lu Xun (1881-1956), a great thinker and revolutionary, is the founder of modern Chinese literature. He is an accomplished novelist and essayist.



A busy street in Sanya town.

Hainan — A Treasure Island (1)

Like other big coastal cities in China, Hainan Island has recently been opened to the outside world. To give our readers a better understanding of its resources, construction and development, our correspondent made a special trip to the island. This is the first part of his report. — Ed.

by HAN XI
Our Correspondent

A JAPANESE correspondent said not long ago that after adopting the policy of opening to the outside world, Hainan Island will be known as "China's Hawaii."

The total area of Hainan Island is almost the same as that of Taiwan, China's biggest island. It covers 34,000 square kilometres and the difference between the two is only 3 to 4 per cent.

Because of historical reasons, Hainan Island had always been out of touch with the rest of the world. Before the policy of opening to the outside world came into effect, it was even a mysterious "forbidden zone" in China. It was unknown to the people of the new generation.

If my trip to Hainan Island had taken place 1,000 years ago, it would have been the most dangerous, difficult and terrifying journey in China.

In 847 A.D., Li Deyu, a prime minister during the Tang Dynasty, was sent into exile to Hainan Island when he found himself losing ground in some factional fighting. He called Hainan Island the "gate of hell" in a poem.

The "damnable place," as people used to call it, reflects their dread of the minority people who were then still living in a primitive society, but more specifically refers to the inconvenient traffic, scorching sun, humid weather, and dense and unconquerable virgin forest infested with various snakes and beasts of prey. But the most awful problem was the communicable

tropical diseases, such as malaria, which threatened the life of many people.

The people of Hainan Island have worked hard to gradually change this impression of their home. But compared with other regions on the mainland, the island is still economically backward.

Hu Yaobang, now General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee and then Secretary of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Youth League, made an inspection tour of Hainan Island in 1955. In his speech in Haikou, capital of the island, he called Hainan a "treasure island." The phrase quickly caught on, and in the ensuing three decades it has become almost synonymous with Hainan. But is it just a name?

Tropical Rain Forest

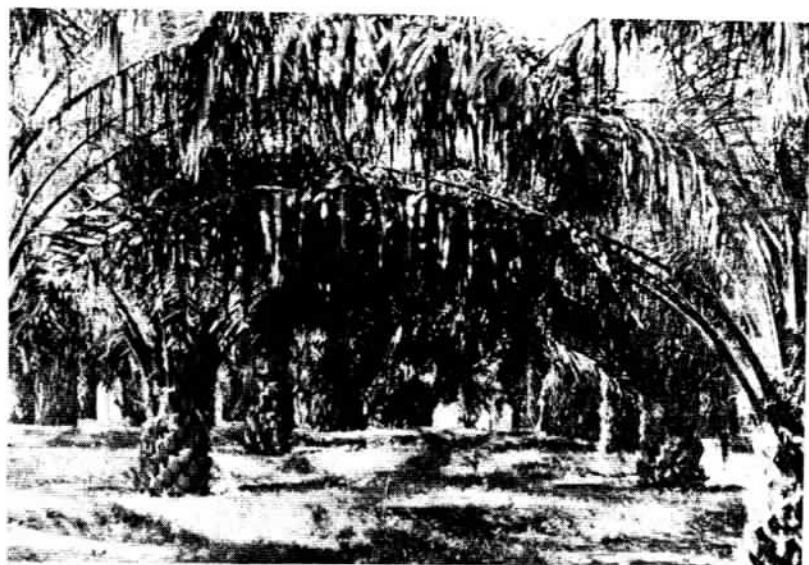
In fact, Hainan's vast tropical rain forest offers a variety of treasures. Looking from an airplane, the South China Sea looks like a green jadeite tear drop inlaid in a

huge jade sea. On the southwest of the island is a group of zigzagging mountains, extending to the centre. The highest is Wuzhi Mountain, 1,867 metres above sea level. Its five peaks are like the fingers of a huge hand. Below the mountains is China's biggest tropical rain forest.

There are about 333,000 hectares of tropical rain forest in this region, whose produce and woods have become quite popular. The trunks of the trees in this region are straight and hard. There are no borers in the trees. *Fructus aurantii immaturus*, *homalium hainanensis* and other precious trees are as hard as iron, and a 3 hp chain saw can hardly get through them. They don't rot even when soaked in water for decades, and won't crack when they dry.

The woods range from dark green to black to bright red and their fine grain is like the clouds swirling around the mountains. Other trees give off a subtle fragrance.

Wood from Hainan Island has been used in ancient buildings such as the Palace Museum, the Ming Tombs and the summer re-



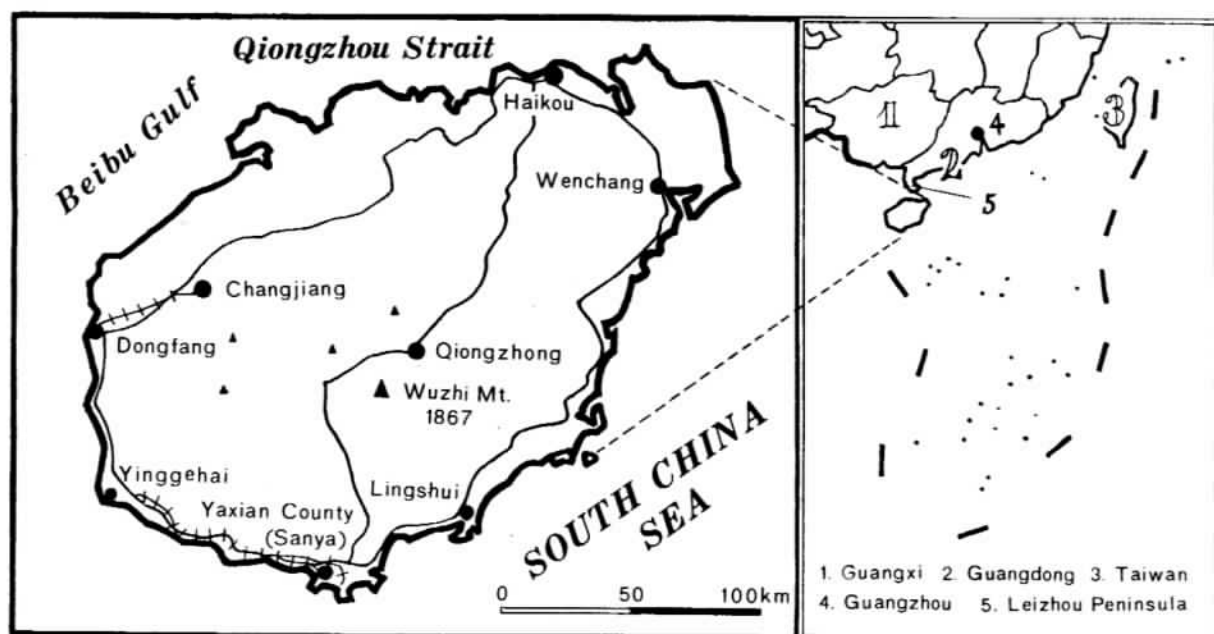
Shady oil palms.

sort in Chengde. A large part of the wood used in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing came from Hainan.

Many trees are also used in medicine. For instance, the famous *cephalotaxus fortunei* contains 21 single alkaloids, four of which can be used to treat cancer. Esterase extracted from *cephalotaxus fortunei* can be used to treat leukemia, and is also effective against lung cancer. It was the first chem-

ical substance used to treat these diseases in the world.

The inner heart of *ormosia henryi* can be used to replace *acronychia pedunculata*, stop bleeding and ease pain. *Maoyedinggongteng* can treat rheumatism. *Sanchaku* can be used to treat skin disease. Chaulmoogra can be used to treat leprosy and psoriasis. Extracts from wattle trees can stop internal hemorrhage and *dalbergia hainanensis* can be used during chest operations to help the incision heal.



There is a kind of fruit called *haimangguo* on the island, belonging to *nerium indicum*. Its white flowers, curved twigs and long and thin leaves are pleasing to the eye, but if one eats the fruit, death comes instantly. It is said that in the past, women who wanted to commit suicide would eat *haimangguo*. But now this deadly fruit can be used to treat rabies.

The most famous tree on the island is the high upas tree. Its branches are white, and if the branch is cut, a milky substance drips out. Previously, people of the Li minority would smear this on the tips of their arrows. Animals and enemy soldiers would die immediately when struck. Now the tree is protected by the state, and its poison is used to counteract the venom of snakes.

Other trees also have their special uses. The resin of *vatica astrotricha* is an anti-coagulant. When mixed with lubricating oil, the oil will not solidify even in 54 degrees centigrade below zero.

There is another kind of tree called bread fruit. Its fruit is like

a ball, and weighs over 20 kilograms. If picked before it is ripe, it can be sliced and roasted, and it tastes just like bread. Its trunks, branches and roots all bear fruit. From blossoming to bearing fruit takes nine months. But if the tree is domesticated and improved, one tree can provide two people with enough food for one year.

The diesel-oil tree grows over 30 metres high, and can reach 1.2 metres in circumference. Oil pours out when a saw hits the heart of the tree. About 10 to 25 kilograms of oil can be obtained from one tree; the most ever was 50 kilograms. According to appraisal by experts, the combustibility of the oil is more or less the same as diesel oil. These trees total more than 10,000 cubic metres on Hainan Island.

There are 4,200 species of plants on Hainan Island, accounting for 15 per cent of the nation's total. Of these, 600 are unique to the island. There are also 800 varieties of arbor trees, one-third of all the species in China. Forty per cent of these are rare trees protected by the state.

Entering the tropical rain forest reserve on the island, one is lost in wonder at the tangle of life all around. The trees average 30-40 metres tall. In between their tops and their roots, plants cascade down on five different levels, ending with the green ground cover. In the densest part of the forest, five trees will crowd into two square metres. Besides their economic value, the trees are a treasure for horticulturists studying tropical plants.

In addition to the rain forests of the mountains, there are peculiar mangrove forests on the seashore.

Mangrove swamp forests are part of a group of water plants which grow in sea shoals. When the tide rises, these plants are mostly under the water, with only their tops showing. They join together, like a huge green floating carpet. When the tide ebbs, they stand firmly on swamp shoals, exposed to strong wind and scorching sun.

These plants and trees, which line the coasts of Hainan Island, serve as protection against typhoons and waves, shielding banks, ports, farmland and villages on the seaside like a green great wall. They also have a high economic value. The bark of most trees contains tannin, used in tanning and dyeing. Their hard wood is good for houses, bridges, ships, handicraft objects and furniture. Extracts can also be used as medicine.

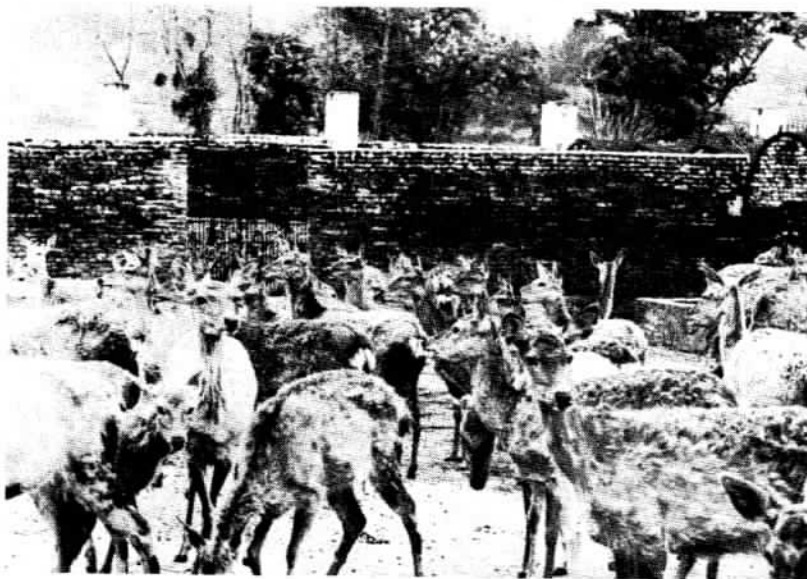
Island Wildlife

The tropical plants on Hainan Island are not the only treasures. The rich variety of wildlife living amidst these plants are also precious.

The rarest animal on the island is the Hainan deer, also protected by the state as other scarce animals as the giant panda and the snub-nosed monkey. It is said a British businessman came to the island 50 years ago to purchase

Harvesting tangerines on Hongjiang Farm.





A deer farm.



Rhesus monkeys at the Mihou Nature Reserve.

hides and brought back some pieces of Hainan deer fur for exhibition. They caused a sensation among British zoologists. They had never seen the animal before.

In fact, the Hainan deer is only found on Hainan Island in small numbers. It is the most valuable of China's 17 varieties of deer for research and medicine. The Hainan deer resembles sika in appearance, but is thinner. In the same dark red, sika deer has white spots over the whole body,

while the Hainan deer has white spots only on the sides of its back. The horns of a sika turn inwards, while those of a Hainan deer turn out.

The Li minority hunters on the island say these deer protect their antlers. When their antlers begin to grow, they are unwilling to move about for fear their antlers will be damaged. If they are chased they always run to the grassland instead of into the forest, to avoid damaging their antlers.

Unfortunately, the Hainan deer were caught and killed at random in the past. There are now only about 40 left in two nature reserves covering 2,500 hectares of tropical grasslands on the west side of the island.

The black-headed gibbon is another rare Hainan animal under strict state protection. Living in Asian tropical forests, these gibbons are now found in China only in small numbers on Hainan Island and in Xishuangbanna, Yunnan Province. They are the only apes in China, and are very valuable for scientific study. In the past there were about 20,000 living all over the island. But past hunting and trapping reduced their numbers to just 30, living in the Bawang and Jianfeng Mountain Nature Reserves.

On the Nanwan Peninsula in southern Hainan, 600 rhesus monkeys live in 16 groups in a rhesus monkey protection area in China. Because their physical characteristics are similar to those of humans, these monkeys are very important in scientific experimentation.

Hainan is home to more than 80 kinds of animals. There are Hainan flying squirrels, Hainan rabbits, Hainan *neofelis nebulosa*, black bears and pangolins, all unique to the island and protected by the state.

The island also accommodates 340 kinds of birds, such as red jungle fowls, Hainan hill mynas — which can imitate human language, peacock pheasants with beautiful feathers, curled magpies and red-chested parrots.

These rare animals and birds living in the tropical rain forests and grasslands are sources of quality hides, medicines, delicacies and great beauty. They are the living treasures of Hainan.

(To be continued)

On the March to the Summer Olympics

Last February, 37 Chinese athletes competed in the 14th Winter Olympics at Sarajevo, Yugoslavia, and in July, a 350-member Chinese delegation will arrive in Los Angeles for the 23rd Summer Olympics. In a recent interview with "Beijing Review," Lu Jindong, Vice-President of the Chinese Olympic Committee (COC) and deputy head of the Chinese delegation to Los Angeles, talked about China's participation in this major world sports event.

Question: What is the significance of China's taking part in the Los Angeles Summer Games?

Answer: Since they first appeared in 1896, the modern Olympics have become part and parcel of the life of the world community through nearly nine decades of twists and turns. Now, for the first time in the 35-year history of the People's Republic, China is sending a full-fledged delegation to the summer Olympics. This shows that China has entered the world sports arena in an all-round way — an epoch-making event in the annals of the Chinese athletics. It is the result of long years of hard work by the Chinese people, the sports workers in particular.

At the upcoming games, the Chinese athletes will do their best to win honour for their country, humbly learn from competitors from other countries, and strive to improve themselves.

During the games, the Chinese delegation will make friends, promote friendship between the people and sportsmen of China and other nations, and contribute towards implementing the guiding principle of the Olympics. China's decision to take part in the Los Angeles games is evidence for our good co-operative relations with the Olympic movement.

Here I'd like to look back on the arduous road China had travelled before it made its full-fledged appearance on the world sports scene.

China's sports organizations were recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) as early as 1922. As an IOC member, China competed at the tenth (1932), 11th (1936) and 14th (1948) Summer Olympics. China, however, was weak and poor at the time, and its sports were underdeveloped, making it impossible for its athletes to fully participate in the games, let alone obtain good results.

The founding of New China in 1949 put an end to this situation. After a short period of intensive preparation during which one difficulty after another was overcome, China sent a 40-member delegation to the 15th Summer Olympics in Helsinki in 1952. And for the first time New China's five-star red flags were flown over an Olympics site. But due to reasons known to all, the ties between the COC and the IOC were severed for 21 years between 1958 and 1979.

During that period, the Chinese people and sports workers worked ceaselessly for the return to international sports. Thanks to the support of the IOC headed by Lord Killanin and friends in sports circles in many countries, China was finally restored to its lawful IOC seat in November 1979.

In the meantime, sports have become more and more popular in China. It is our hope that through our participation in the upcoming Summer Olympics, the Chinese people will further understand the

Olympics and more of them will take part in sports activities so that, physically fit, they can make more contributions to the socialist modernization.

Q: What races will China compete in?

A: Except for sports for which our athletes are not qualified (such as soccer) and which do not exist in China (such as boxing), China will compete in 16 of the 20 events on the agenda of the Los Angeles Olympics. They are basketball, volleyball, handball, swimming (including diving and water polo), track and field, wrestling, judo, cycling, rowing, canoeing, yachting, gymnastics, weightlifting, shooting, archery and fencing.

The Chinese delegation will field many world-class athletes such as Lang Ping and Zhang Rongfang (volleyball), Song Xiaobo and Guo Yonglin (basketball), Zhu Jianhua (high jump), Liao Wenfen (long jump), Chen Xiaoxia and Li Hongping (diving), Tong Fei and Li Ning (gymnastics), Wu Shude (weightlifting), Wu Xiaoxuan (shooting) and Luan Jujie (fencing).

Q: Please elaborate on China's preparations for the Summer Games.

A: The Chinese athletes have long been looking forward to the opening of the 23rd Olympics. "March to the Olympics" is both their watchword and their ardent wish.

China has made good preparations for the games, both in organizational work and in the training of select competitors.

We have devoted our major efforts to developing Olympics-designated sports ever since our lawful Olympics rights were restored. Frequent competitions, both domestic and international, have provided ample opportunities for our athletes to steel themselves and make constant progress.

The 11th Asian Games held in India in 1982 were a good opportunity to test the strength and ability of Chinese athletes. There we achieved satisfactory results, making the first step out of Asia to become a force to be reckoned with on the world sports scene.

After the Asian Games, we readjusted our ranks, formulated new training plans and actively organized our athletes to take part in international competitions. For example, our women's volleyball team has competed repeatedly with the world's other top teams after some of its members were replaced by new ones. We have paid attention to developing highly difficult techniques for our gymnasts and divers, and we have done much to strengthen physical and psychological training in various sports, thus ensuring the improvement of the competitors' skills.

Apart from the Fifth National Games held in September 1983, China has also sponsored many national competitions for individual sports. There were also the Olympic qualifying heats and the tournaments for choosing China's Olympic teams. All these have provided favourable conditions for the Chinese athletes to improve themselves and gain experience.

Last April, China's Los Angeles teams began intensive pre-Olympic training, in which much effort was devoted to eliminating their weaknesses in order to increase the athletes' adaptability to unexpected

changes in competitions. The track and field team went all the way to the United States for training, and the women's volleyball team visited both the United States and the Soviet Union. The diving team did a stint of field training in southern China.

Apart from choosing the best athletes and organizing pre-Olympic training, we have also made necessary preparations in the equipment needed in contests and scientific research. It can be said that we have made ample preparations for the upcoming games.

Q: The return of China to the Summer Olympics after 32 years is expected to arouse the interest of people the world over. The Chinese people, including those living overseas and compatriots in Hongkong and Macao, and many foreign friends hope to see China become strong and are anxious to see Chinese athletes achieve good results in the Olympics. What are your predictions on the chances for the Chinese in the various events?

A: With some 140 countries participating, there should be keenly contested matches in every Olympic event. What the result will be, therefore, is anyone's guess. However, we can still venture some predictions based on our observations of some leading Chinese athletes at major international sports events in recent years, particularly the Olympic qualifying heats.

After winning the Third World Cup in 1981 and the Ninth World Championship in 1982, the Chinese women's volleyball team has emerged as one of the world's top three teams, alongside the United States and Japan. The seasoned Chinese team is known for its well-balanced offensive and defensive techniques. Now, after a major shakeup, the team is almost neck and neck with the other two countries. This was amply borne

out by the results of their matches last year, in which each showed its strength and none could emerge victorious without losing. The Chinese team's potential was again revealed when it won a landslide victory in all six matches played May-June this year at the Soviet invitational meet between China, Japan, the United States and the Soviet Union. I believe the Chinese women's volleyball team will try its best to win a gold in Los Angeles.

The men's gymnastic team is yet another strong force to emerge in recent years. At the 22nd World Championships in 1983, it won the team event. This time our best gymnasts are going to the Olympics and there are reasons to believe that they will gain new successes.

Diving is one sport that has propelled China into the world's front ranks. Chinese divers, women and men alike, have brought home gold medals from many international contests. They have the physical abilities to accomplish the seemingly impossible, but compare unfavourably with their opponents in psychological factors. Their chances lie in whether they can show their best form during the competitions.

The Chinese women's basketball team won nine games and lost one at the Olympic qualifying trials. But each victory was hard won. The participating teams were well matched in strength, which augurs well for some hotly contested matches at the Summer Games. The Chinese team will sum up their experience and strive for new success to match its place as one of the world's top three.

There are some other events in which China has hopes of attaining the world's top levels. We were weak in track and field but in recent years we have come along fairly well. Zhu Jianhua caught the

attention of the world when he twice rewrote the world high jump record last year and once again recently. Weightlifters Wu Shude and Chen Weiqiang have chalked up the 56-kg class world record in the snatch and the clean and jerk respectively. In shooting, Chinese competitors are definitely among the world's best in some events.

Despite our big improvements in recent years, we are still trailing behind the world's best in most sports. Our athletes still lack the experience in competing in the world class Olympic games. They need to redouble their efforts and

be good at learning if they are to achieve good results.

Q: Athletes from both sides of the Taiwan Straits will meet each other at the Olympics. This will catch much attention. What is your opinion?

A: As a matter of fact, athletes from the mainland have met their Taiwan compatriots at many matches, and it is not uncommon to see them talk to each other and have photos taken together. In this way they have gained a better understanding of each other. I believe that they will treat each other in a friendly manner at the coming Olympics. We sincerely

hope that our Taiwan athletes will get good results and add honour to the motherland. We will be very happy if they can achieve outstanding successes.

At the end of the interview, Lu Jindong said that although some countries have refused to participate, the coming Los Angeles Games will dwarf any previous one in the number of competing nations and athletes, which shows the vitality of the Olympic movement. He hoped that the organization committee would take the most effective measure to ensure smooth and successful progress of this world event. □

Report From Mexico

Combining Development and Tradition

Mexico, as it has done in recent decades, is stressing both the development of its economy and the preservation of its traditional culture, which has helped it stand firm during the current crisis

by **ZHENG FANGKUN** and
TAN ZHONGSHU
Our Special Correspondents

IN recent years reports about Mexico have kept springing up in the press; first those about its oil boom, then, in 1982, news of an economic crisis worse than any it had gone through since World War II. As we toured this vast country, we could see that the crisis was not yet over. Yet we witnessed the great sacrifices being made by Mexicans to restore their country to an economic equilibrium. We also saw the achievements of recent decades, which have lifted the country to a comparatively high level of industrialization in the third world.

While developing their economy, Mexicans have never forgotten to safeguard their culture and traditions, distinctive exam-

ples of which exist almost everywhere. It is this culture and these traditions that cultivate a dauntless spirit and shape an invisible force which allows ordinary Mexicans to meet difficulties with equanimity and to forge ahead confidently.

Throughout the country, the general view was that the government has the economic crisis under control and that some improvements have been made. According to reports, production in some industries has begun to rise, inflation has subsided somewhat compared with recent years, and there was a trade surplus of US\$13,700 million for 1983 and US\$4,000 million for the first quarter of 1984. Public spending has decreased and international payments are balanced. Government officials estimate that the economy will grow 1 per cent this

year, compared with a decline of 4.7 per cent in 1983.

However, some economists say the crisis has not yet hit bottom, especially with regard to production and employment. The number of unemployed and under-employed keeps rising. They think there is still a long way to go towards a recovery. The government is seen as being faced by an enormous challenge, and is in a difficult position to make a choice.

Jose Luis Cecena, Director of the Economic Research Institute at the Mexico Autonomous National University, said that despite the austerity measures taken to temporarily regain the country's international prestige, there are hidden dangers on the road ahead. That's because these measures were adopted at the cost of lowering the standard of living. A limited wage hike was less than

the rate of inflation. People cannot tighten their belts indefinitely; eventually they will protest, and a long-term policy of retrenchment will result in political and social upheaval. Cecena also believes that the policy of limiting imports actually discourages production, which will consequently lead to a drop in exports. The policy of attracting foreign investors to buy shares in failing enterprises is also questionable, he said. This could result in the denationalization of domestic capital, which would be a complete turn-around from Mexico's economic policy of the past and also a great political change. Cecena urged Latin American countries to unite to renegotiate more favourable and reasonable conditions for repaying their foreign debts. Mexico, for instance, has managed to obtain new loans to pay back those foreign debts falling due, but it has been unable to reduce the principal.

But our brief experiences in Mexico revealed that although prices are still rising, everyday life, both in the city and in the countryside, is normal and stable. There is an abundance of goods

available in the markets. It seemed the government's readjustment policy is making progress. In addition, the increased economic strength resulting from the efforts of recent decades, together with the cushion provided by the country's massive oil reserves, contributes to helping Mexico stand firm in the current crisis.

Mexico is an oil power in today's world. For the first three decades of this century it produced nearly a quarter of the world's petroleum. In 1938 it became the first developing country to nationalize foreign-owned oil companies. Since then, Petroleos Mexicanos (Pemex) has been in charge of Mexico's oil production and has become the largest oil company in Latin America.

Wanting to see the Mexican oil industry's achievements, we managed to visit the Bay of Campeche, reportedly the richest offshore oilfield in the world. Pemex gave us a warm reception.

A helicopter carried us from Ciudad del Carmen 180 kilometres out to sea. From a distance, we could see flames rising from the

sea to the sky. That was our destination—the exploitation zone of the Akal-I platform production team. The helicopter landed on the roof of a multi-storied steel building. Looking through the perforated metal steps at the waves below, we got the impression that the entire structure was moving under our feet. Fortunately the pillars supporting the platform go 100 metres into the seabed.

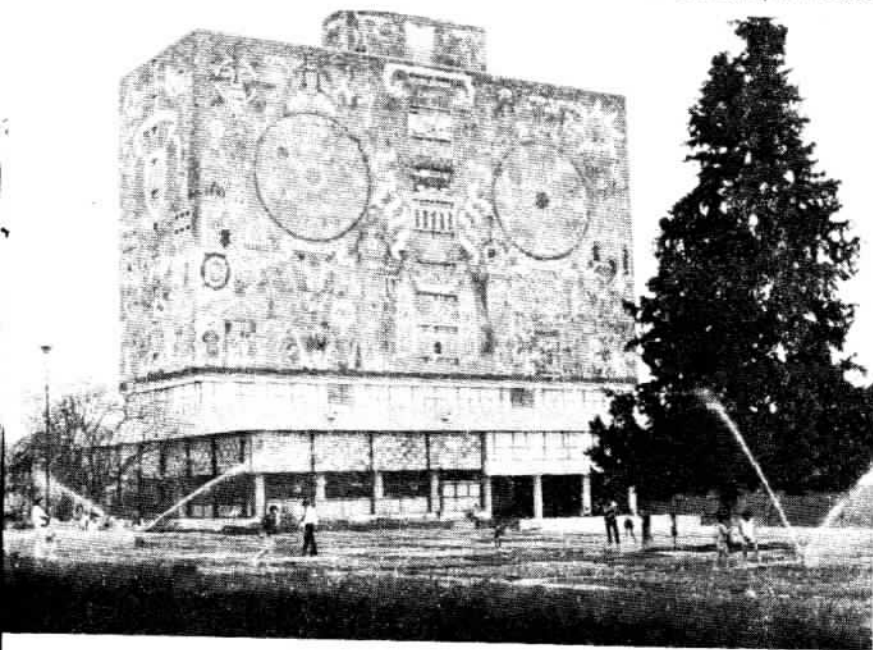
The Akal-I production team is made up of seven platforms, one for accommodating the workers and the other six for operations such as drilling, extraction, condensing and oil-gas separation. The platforms are linked by steel bridges and heavy pipes bring oil and gas from the seabed to tankers anchored about 20 kilometres from the platforms or to shore.

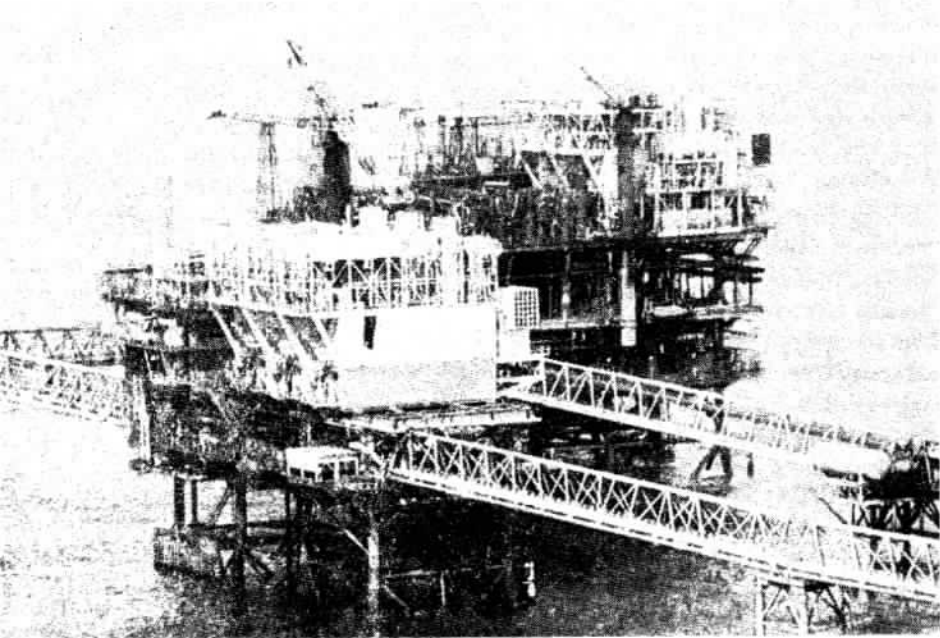
Totosaus Escalante, captain and supervisor of the production team, briefed us on the situation and then showed us around. From a steel bridge, we could see a large criss-cross network of pipes everywhere, as if a huge factory had been moved to the sea. At one site, gas was being burned off continuously at the rate of 15 million cubic feet a day.

We later went to the accommodation area to see what life on a platform was like. There were offices, a clinic, dining rooms, a dormitory and recreation rooms, all large enough to accommodate the team's 220 workers and staff. The dining hall served up the region's famous fried lobster and other dishes. Life on the platform seemed just as good as that on the land.

Mexico's offshore oil production, which uses the most advanced technology, is entirely handled by Mexicans. Procoro Medina superintendent of production engineering in the zone, told us that some equipment was imported, but the project employed no

Mural covering a building of the Autonomous National University of Mexico.





Platform over oil well Akal No. 1 in the Bay of Campeche.

foreign technicians. Mexico has even exported oil exploration technology. The recovery of oil from the seabed is much more complicated than recovering it on land. The operation and maintenance of machinery is more difficult, and Mexico's success is a great accomplishment for a third world country.

Mexico's offshore oilfields are marked by their huge output. Production began in 1979, and soon daily output reached a mammoth two million barrels plus, accounting for 66 per cent of the country's total production. There are altogether four platform production teams with 94 producing wells appended to them. The Akal-I team, with 24 producing wells, has an average daily output of 560,000 barrels and a peak daily output of 660,000 barrels.

The rapid development of Mexico's oil industry is, no doubt, due largely to the sheer abundance of petroleum. The country has proven reserves of 72,500 million barrels, almost half of them in the Bay of Campeche. However, progress could not have been achieved

without the efforts of the Government and Pemex workers.

The oil industry, which was given top priority in the government's previous development plan, is the pillar of the Mexican economy. It has provided the nation's construction with power resources and funds. It has also played an active role in stabilizing the currency, checking inflation and guaranteeing payment of foreign debts.

However, Mexico is caught in a deep crisis, resulting from many internal and external factors. The huge foreign debt is the worst enemy. Pemex is also heavily in debt because of the government's explosive investments in exploration and development. In 1982 it owed foreign creditors US\$24,800 million. People say Mexico's economy has been "petrolized"—that is, become dependent on the petroleum industry. In addition, President Miguel de la Madrid has had to declare war on corruption—the cancer of the economy. If these problems are resolved, Mexico's development will take a

more balanced, smoother and sustained course.

Mexico City, one of the world's fastest growing cities, has more than 3 million cars on its streets, probably because of abundant and cheap fuel. With an estimated population of 17 million, that makes one car for every six people. That ratio is fairly high for a developing country. As a Mexican friend put it, this shows that Mexicans want to modernize their life, they want "to be the riders, not the horse being ridden." Of course, this material prosperity has brought traffic jams and air pollution, troublesome problems in the city.

But, as a worker in a Mexican artists' society wrote, "To retain our national characteristics, we must have a solid economic foundation." The national culture, on the other hand, is the country's armour against outside aggression, and to cast it off would be to negate the existence of the nation itself, he said.

"Mexicans never forget their origins," one tourist commended.

A walk through the city streets evokes the grandeur of Mexican history. The Plaza of Three Cultures, the ruins of the Great Temple, the bronze statues on both sides of Paseo de la Reforma and the Anthropology Museum—all these remind one that Mexico is a country with an ancient civilization that extends to the present day. In the heart of Mexico City is the site of Tenochtilan, the capital of the Aztec Empire, where more than 300,000 were living when the Spaniard Cortez arrived at the beginning of the 16th century.

One Sunday we went to Chapultepec Park. Crowds kept pouring in to rest in the "lung of Mexico City," known for its fresh air. There were just as many visitors at the History Museum. At least some of them go there not only

for rest but to learn. Sitting before the exhibits about Benito Juarez, the Indian Mexican President and one of the most powerful and heroic figures in modern Mexican history, young people were taking notes.

The National Museum of Anthropology is even more splendid and gigantic. Its new and original design suggests that its exhibits belong to a unique culture. The entrance plaza is like an enormous "mushroom" structure, serving both as a roof support and as decoration, with engraved Indian images on the metal pedestal and column and an inserted fountain. In the adjoining exhibition rooms the large number of archaeological finds and restored model describe the three ancient Indian civilizations in the Americas, two of which, the Aztec and Mayan, were in Mexico.

Touring the historic sites of the Mayas — Chichen-Itza, Uxmal and Labna — and standing before the grand pyramids and ruined temples, we were awed by the creativity of this ancient people. We were also moved by the determination of modern Mexicans to preserve their cultural relics. Desolate broken walls are considered national treasures. Today, many of these places have been opened to tourists, and various shops and modern hotels have been built nearby. We met many tourists during our stay, demonstrating why tourism is Mexico's

second largest source of income after petroleum.

The trip in southern Mexico gave us the impression that Mexicans do not take a nihilist attitude towards their national culture. They do not regard the past as barbarian, backward, uncivilized or uneducated. Nor do they reject progressive thinking or advanced technology and equipment from abroad. They value their history, not in the least to restore the ancient ways, but to review the past in order to analyse the present situation.

There are still about 7 million Indians in Mexico. They make up 56 tribes with 56 different languages. Despite exploitation and oppression in the past 400 years, they still preserve their culture. After being briefed by Juan Larios, a specialist on Indians, we went to San Felipe del Progreso, an Indian village near Atacomulco in Mexico State, to pay a visit in the company of officials of the Institute of Mexican Indigenous Peoples. The residents were scattered. In a public-owned grocery we met the Indian manager, who took us to his home. His family mostly does knitting. The villagers are busy building new houses. Apparently the village life has been improved by the grocery, clinic, primary school, middle and agricultural school and roads leading to the cities. However, many people are unemployed. A serious drought in recent

years has caused many Indians to move away.

The government's policy towards Indians is to help them promote production, raise their educational and sanitation levels, and protect their culture and traditions. Both Spanish and the Indian languages are taught.

Mexican cultural organizations pay special attention to absorbing and developing the Indian culture and traditions, and some gains have been made. The art of murals is a good example.

The Indian mural has a long history. It is characterized by bright colours and a deep perspective. Drawing on this legacy, Mexican artists have created a national style and developed a unique school recognized throughout the world.

Mexico City has been called a capital of murals. On the campus of the Autonomous National University of Mexico, the world's largest mural covers all four walls of a tall building. The painter included major events in Mexican history and projected the world outlook of ancient Indians.

Looking at these meaningful murals, we understood how Mexican national culture is the distillation of its age-old civilization. Embodying unity and harmony, it has given Mexicans a common goal in their thinking and a basis to maintain their independence and dignity. □

(Continued from p. 19.)

have attended. The first congress I attended was held in Lyon in 1981. As an international organization with a long history and a membership roster of great men — Romain Rolland, Maxim Gorky, George Bernard Shaw, and H.G. Wells, to mention a few — the PEN has always been accorded the highest respect in China. For many

years, the International PEN has worked hard to support progressive causes (such as during the anti-fascist period); to further international literary exchanges; and to make it possible for authors from all over the world to become acquainted with each other.

If all the writers and all the pens in the world could join together, we could create a better, more

beautiful world for future generations. This is the writer's responsibility. It's an ideal, a goal, but the prospects are great. I truly believe that the power of the people is capable of destroying any nuclear arsenal. In the end, our wish will come true: in a world free of nuclear weapons, mankind will achieve great things by making peaceful use of atomic power. □

What the Rural Youth Are Thinking

from "ZHONGGUO
QINGNIAN BAO"
(Chinese Youth News)

SINCE the Third Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee at the end of 1978, our Party has adopted a series of correct rural economic policies which have brought great changes to the rural areas. In the past few years many rural youths have done a lot of thinking about society and their own future. They have changed their traditional beliefs about countryside, and have cast aside the idea that "those who live in the countryside have no promising future." Rural youths no longer feel any sense of inferiority to the urban young people. Now they have new ideas:

1). They are satisfied with the existing social conditions and the Party's new rural economic policies. They have a new concept about the value of rural youth. Possessing lofty ideals, they are full of confidence about their future and ambition for prosperity through hard work.

2). They want to enlarge their social contacts to make friends in various occupations, and especially with specialists in their chosen pursuits. They hope to be guided by and co-operate with these specialists.

3). They are keen to establish a speciality. They do not mind paying money and working hard if they can have a chance to quickly learn some advanced techniques in planting, breeding, food processing or service trades.

4). In order to become self-

taught competent people, they are hungry for practical and popular science readings.

5). They like to live separately

Sports Tourists Flocking to China

from "WENHUI BAO"
(Wenhui Daily)

LAST fall, a sensation was caused by a British man who ran from Beijing to Hongkong. Qi Fufu, manager of the Hongkong Yinxi Sports Centres, took his first step from Tian An Men Square in Beijing on the afternoon of October 25, facing 55 days and 2,800 kilometres. Qi ran through Beijing, Hebei, Henan, Hubei, Hunan and Guangdong, where he was received by friendly local governments and people, and left the nutritious food he had brought from Hongkong untouched. "No tourist is lucky enough to have so much delicious food," he said, enjoying the local hospitality.

On arriving in Hongkong on December 18, he told reporters he had visited dozens of countries but had never seen such hospitable people as the Chinese. His journey was arranged by the China Sports Service Corporation.

Bicycle touring is also becoming very popular with foreign tourists. To date, five routes have been opened. This year 46 bicycle tourist groups have applied to visit China.

In June last year a group of 20 Americans toured the Inner Mongolian grassland for five days, covering 450 kilometres. They felt

from their parents and own some fashioned furniture and electric appliances, in order to have modern, happy families.

6). They hope to enjoy more cultural and recreational activities. They like to spruce themselves up.

intoxicated by the strong ethnic flavour and at home in the Mongolian yurts. In Hongger Commune they had a high-spirited basketball match with the commune team.

Last September a Japanese motor tourist group of 12 persons called the Silk Road Squad set forth from Jiuquan and drove through Yangguan, Yumenguan and Dunhuang, a distance of some 600 kilometres. Some said later that the trip had cost their savings in the last few years, but was well worth it.

In the past two years the Guangdong Sports Service Corporation had offered services for parachuting, hang gliding, shooting and other activities. Some sports service corporations in other provinces and municipalities also offer special services, according to what they have available. Last Spring Festival, for example, two coaches from the Zhanjiang Diving School and four members of the Hongkong Diving Coaches Society began a diving tour in the sea off Sanya, a city on Hainan Island. At 200 metres, on the sea bottom, they found about one hundred types of coral, of different shapes and colours, and came upon a vast stone forest of dramatic shapes.

In recent years visitors have been pouring into China studying

taijiquan (shadow boxing) and *wushu* (martial arts). This year, China has added more to its sports

tourism programme, including boating, bus trips, angling, kite flying, horse riding and so on.

grains and oils and co-ordinate the purchases of 16 warehouses (up from three).

Computer Helps Agricultural Sales

from "XINHUA RIBAO"
(Xinhua Daily)

THE village of Zhangmu in Jiangsu Province has successfully converted an obsolete electronic assembly plant — which had been on the verge of closing — into a factory turning out mini-computers programmed to handle grain and edible oil purchases.

The idea came up early last year after it was discovered that local households were having difficulties selling their agricultural output despite record advances in production in recent years.

The problem was that following the introduction of the production responsibility system each household had taken over the task of selling its agricultural output from the collective, and the increased number of accounts had created a bottleneck because existing pur-

chasing procedures and facilities were inadequate.

Obviously an improvement in purchasing was needed. The idea of designing a mini-computer to handle the problem was supported by the workers and staff at Suzhou's part-time university, and together everyone worked for more than a month to build the province's first LST-1 mini-computer.

On June 1, 1983, the prototype was tested, calculating everything from the moisture content of grain to the ratio damaged by pests and from prices per product to net income. The results were enormously successful — to complete each household's business took an average of only 15 seconds!

During the next six months, the factory designed and began to produce a more versatile second-generation mini-computer that can handle as many as 28 types of

Mao Zedong's Four Teachers

From "ZONGHENG"
(Across the Land)

YANG Changji, father of Yang Kaihui who had been Mao Zedong's wife, taught ethics and philosophy in the No. 1 Normal School in Hunan Province where Mao studied. Yang was familiar with the neo-Confucianism of the Song and Ming Dynasties and with the German philosopher Kant. His teaching had a great influence on Mao, who studied a wide range of subjects and had great learning in Chinese and Western philosophies.

Yang Jieliu taught in the No. 1 Normal School for many years. He was a calligrapher and well versed in classical Chinese. Mao wrote excellent articles in his youth. He recalled, "It was with the help of Yang Jieliu that I could write articles in classical Chinese."

Xu Teli was one of China's outstanding revolutionary educators. In 1937, in a letter to celebrate Xu's 60th birthday, Mao wrote to him, "You were my teacher 20 years ago, you are still my teacher and you will be my teacher in the future." He called on the whole Party to learn from Xu Teli.

Fu Dingyi was a Member of the First National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. He was appointed the first director of the Research Society of Cultural and Historical Data. At that time, Fu thought people working in the society were no good. But Mao told him that the country needed "talented, virtuous and respected people" to work there. His words comforted his teacher.

Su Fanggui, professional chicken feeder in Wendeng County, Shandong Province, uses a mini-computer to mix feed. The chickens will weigh half a kilo within a month.



Zhu Jianhua Tops His Record Again

Zhu Jianhua raised his own world high jump world record one centimetre to 2.39 metres on June 10 in Eberstadt, Federal Germany.

This is the third time the 21-year-old Chinese has broken the world record in 12 months. On June 11 last year he shattered the world record in the preliminaries of the Fifth National Games, held in Beijing, by slipping over the bar at 2.37 metres. About three months later he jumped one centimetre more in the Fifth National Games in Shanghai.

The Eberstadt international high jump contest was a head-on match among the world's best, on the eve of the Los Angeles Olympic Games. All the participants were among the top 25 high jumpers in the world.

The match was so close that five competitors had to clear the bar at 2.30 metres. After two failures at 2.36 metres, Zhu got over.

The three referees pushed the bar up to 2.39 metres with slightly trembling hands — a height never jumped before. Only Zhu and two others were left to challenge the record.

On his first attempt, Zhu's right arm touched the bar, and one leg dragged it down.

When he was called for his second attempt, he studied the bar, pursed his lips, and ran his fingers through his hair in an habitual gesture of concentration.

Then, with a seemingly effortless takeoff, Zhu flew over the highest bar yet jumped by a man.

The 4,000 spectators broke into a roar of applause, while Zhu,



Spotlight on Zhu Jianhua returning in triumph from Federal Germany.

carried away by his performance, bounced on the foam rubber land-

ing mat and then leapt into the air with joy.

First Tibetan Dance Drama

The curtain rises. A group of Tibetan performers holding bell drums walk along a tortuous mountain trail in a storm. A Tibetan folk song, "Spring left and autumn comes, my home is everywhere, I want to traverse every rough and bumpy road on earth," takes the audience back to the miserable days long gone.

So begins *The Story of Reba*, the first full-length dance drama staged by the Tibetan Song and Dance Ensemble in Beijing. It tells of the Rebas' life of suffering under the yoke of feudal serfdom.

Rebas were the street performers often seen in eastern Tibet before liberation. They were good at folk dances, particularly the bell drum dance. Generally the troupe

members were of one family. Unlike the serfs who were the property of the serf-owners when they were brought into the world, the Rebas were, in a sense, free. Like the gypsies, they travelled from place to place living a life of want.

The dance tells the story of Zhan Dui, a chivalrous young Reba and Zhuo Ga, the kind-hearted daughter of a woman serf. When the street performers are picking their way along a mountain path they come across the serf and Zhuo Ga, being chased by the overseers of their serf-owner. Zhan Dui and other performers shield them.

Days later Zhan Dui and Zhuo Ga again meet at a fair, where the mother and daughter are sel-

ling ribbons. Unfortunately, they are detected by an overseer of the serf-owner. Once again the artist and his friends help cover them, in the guise of giving a performance.

The mother and daughter run away taking refuge in a deep forest. Zhan Dui falls in love with Zhuo Ga and they become engaged. Unfortunately, the girl is kidnapped by the serf-owner, who later humiliates her. At a New Year banquet, Zhan Dui performs for the serf-owner in his mansion. All the while, he intends to redeem Zhuo Ga. The girl discovers the owner's intention to murder her fiancée with a poisonous drink. She snatches the wine and drinks it herself, to show her devotion to her lover.

The dance has a strong ethnic quality. The bell drum dance provides a theme, and the folk dances are fully elaborated and dramatized. To express the character of Zhuo Ga, the soft and graceful *Xianzi* dance is used, along with the swirling movements of Western ballet. The movements of the hero are characterized by energetic and vigorous steps.

The drama gives the audience a chance to see the main folk dances of the Tibetan nationality, their gorgeous costumes and orna-

ments and the life of the street performers.

The music is composed by Gesang Daji and Baideng Langji, both Tibetans. Based on local melodies, the composers also borrowed the contrasts of dance drama from abroad, making it more expressive. The theme music of the heroine is based on the traditional melody of the Rebas, sorrowful, sweet and feminine. But the theme music of the hero is characterized by strong rhythms, matched perfectly with his dance movements, displaying his vigour and vitality.

A collective work of the Tibetan Song and Dance Ensemble, the drama is arranged by Li Chengxiang, head of the Central Ballet Theatre. The chief directors Basang Ceren and Caizhen, are both Tibetans, as are 80 per cent of the performers.

Nuclear Technology Brings Benefits

Applied nuclear technology has been modernizing production in such fields as textiles, printing, papermaking, plastics, petroleum and chemistry. China now has 1,700 radiation instruments working in industry.

In the chemical industry, nuclear radiation has helped China develop a dozen badly needed new materials, which have been used in satellites, submarines and telecommunications.

Radioactive surveying is now indispensable in oil and coal prospecting and exploitation. Four to five thousand oil wells in the country are surveyed with this technique every year.

In water conservation, radioactive sand gauges have been installed in 12 measuring stations along the Huanghe (Yellow) River to survey the changing silt content in the water.

In medicine, more than 800 units are now using 100 types of isotope therapy to diagnose and treat 18 million patients every year.

Other nuclear techniques have been used to provide important data for research in physics, chemistry, biology, geology, archaeology and environmental protection.

China began research on applied nuclear technology in 1956, emphasis was first put on agriculture and medicine. After more than two decades of efforts, China now ranks among the world's leaders in using radiation to develop new crop strains.

China has also achieved considerable success in using radiation to increase silkworm production, fish and shrimps, control insects and preserve food.

Nuclear technology has wide applications in the national economy and peoples' lives. However, many people are skeptical towards nuclear development, because they always associate it with atomic weapons. To correct this misunderstanding, the Chinese Nuclear Power Society works to popularize nuclear science. It has a popular science commission, sponsors lectures and publishes a magazine called *Atomic Era*.

A bell drum dance by the Reba artists.



Development in Chinese Education

A Nation at School (in English, French, German, Spanish, and Japanese editions)
(China Today series)

Published by "Beijing Review"

Written by Wei Liming, Li Yongzeng, etc.

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Education and its development played an important part in the deliberations of the Chinese Communist Party at its 12th National Congress in September 1982. Together with agriculture, energy resources, transportation and science, education was listed as strategic priority in China's programme for economic and social development. This means that in the years ahead greater emphasis will be put on education, as the country strives to attain the goal of four modernizations.

In part this is because 10 years of internecine strife left the schools and universities in a mess. The trauma needs to be healed, and reforms instituted. In part this is because the magnitude of economic construction is such that it cries out for an enormous number of qualified people. The old way of running the schools can in no way meet the needs of the state in quantity or quality.

True, the Party and the government have done much in recent years, and with success, after the gang of four was swept into the dustbin of history. Still, greater efforts must be made to realize the goal of modernization. When the time comes for its young men and women to leave school and go into

society, China expects them to be full-grown, ready morally, intellectually and physically to take up work; in a word, to become labourers with socialist consciousness and culture.

Beijing Review's readers have shown great interests in China's education since the downfall of the gang of four. As a result, we organized several reporters and a photographer to gather materials all over the country, and invited some leading educators to write articles for us. All these reports and articles have been published in the pages of our magazine. Now, in response to our readers' requests, we have compiled nine articles into a book, with some additions and deletions and a new design.

This volume will give our readers a handy booklet describing how a country with a billion people recovers, in terms of education, from the scars of 10 years (1966-76) of domestic turmoil, and how it is addressing itself to the present-day task of tackling the formidable education problem so as to meet the needs of the modernization drive. It tells of the efforts exerted and the achievements made by people throughout the country in improving education from kindergarten to college, from students to school-leavers.

While initial progress has been made, there remain problems and growing pains. Reform must be carried out across the board. At one end is reform in rural areas, where 80 per cent of China's one billion people live. Rising production and prosperity since the introduction of the responsibility system have whetted the peasants' appetites to learn about scientific farming, to reap still higher yields. Gone

are the days when Chinese farmers valued ploughs more than pens. They now appreciate the importance of learning, and long to educate themselves and their children. They want schools, especially those teaching agronomy, to be opened in their neighbourhoods.

In a May 6, 1983 circular from the Party Central Committee and the State Council announced measures to cope with these pressing appeals from the countryside for more and better educational facilities, to help make the transition from outmoded, traditional farming to modern agriculture. One of the things the circular stresses is an all-out effort to accomplish universal primary education in the Chinese countryside by 1990, with the exception of the inaccessible sparsely populated hilly regions.

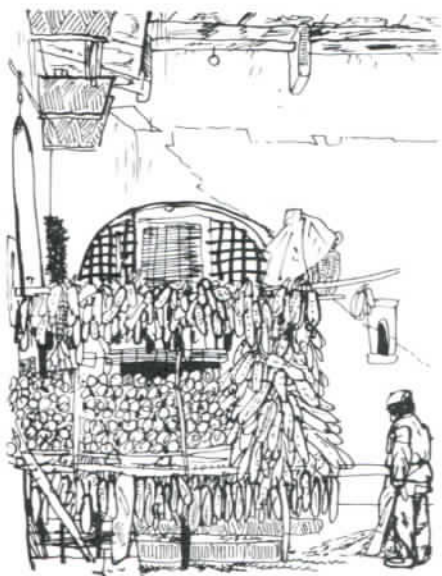
At the other end of reform are the urban areas, where almost all the institutes of higher learning are located. Here the problem is of a different nature. There are far too few places in the colleges and universities to admit the ever-growing number of high school graduates eager to receive a higher education. Emphasis is now on more determined efforts to fill the gap, expanding the present facilities, in terms of faculty, equipment and classrooms, revising the present enrolment system, opening more night and correspondence schools and using the radio and TV to make higher education courses available to all who wish to learn.

A Nation at School takes up many problems which confront China today in education, and provides, wherever possible, some solutions. We sincerely hope it satisfactorily answers the questions of our readers at home and abroad.

— Zhou Shu



Peasants in Shaanxi Province.



Drying Corn in the Sun.



Masons.



楊家尚老
農 叔 元

An Old Peasant.

Sketches of Rural Life by Ma Gang

Born in 1956 in Sichuan Province, Ma Gang is now an art editor for *Guangming Ribao* (Guangming Daily).

Have a Rest.



ART PAGE

