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BEIJING REVIEW

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A CHINESE WEEKLY OF
NEWS AND VIEWS

Zhao in L America: Seeing Is Believing

Eureka: Shifts in Western Alliance



*Hu Yaobang and
"Gongqing City"*

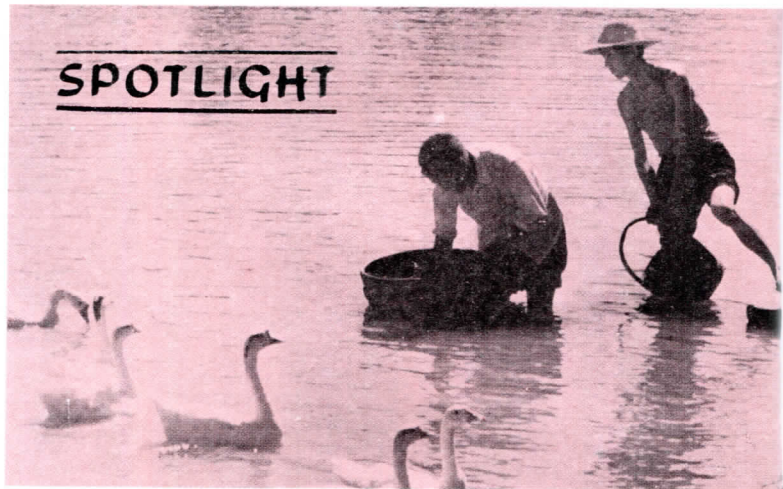
Qu Yongshou— An Outstanding Rice Farmer

Qu Yongshou, a model farmer in Hunan Province, has used a scientific method of farming that involves close field planting and effective field management for many years. As a result, Qu has reaped several bumper harvests and in June 1985 was recognized as an "Outstanding Rice Farmer" by the International Rice Research Institute of the Philippines.

Qu Yongshou and others inspecting rice seedlings.

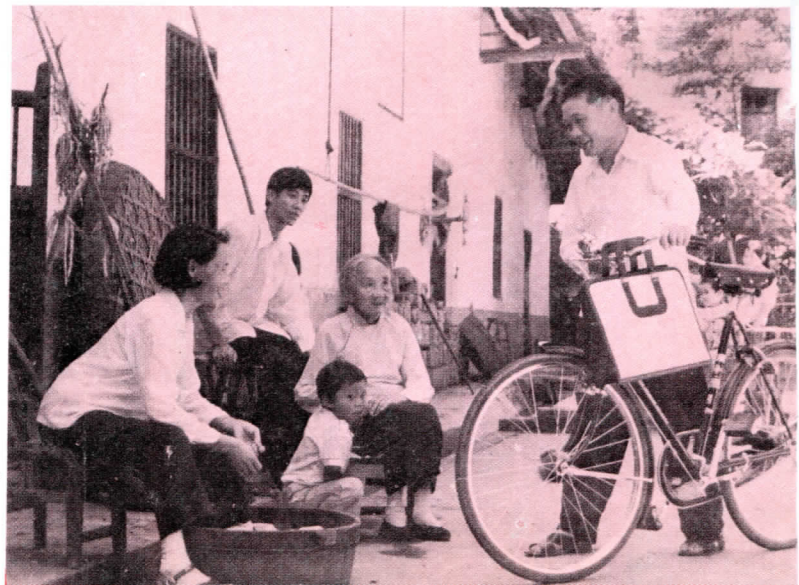


Qu receives the award in the Philippines.



SPOTLIGHT

Qu (second from right) soaking seeds.



Qu (right) and his family.

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COVER: General Secretary Hu Yaobang visits the farm in Jiangxi. Photo by Guo Yugun	

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Eureka Signals Shift in Western Alliance

Eureka is not only a European counterpart to the US Strategic Defence Initiative, but is also an important facet of continued West European unity and development. Though somewhat amorphous, the fledgling plan has increasingly commanded international attention (p. 15).

Zhao Winds Up Latin America Trip

Premier Zhao Ziyang's recent Latin America tour, which one Western newspaper called a "trip that won over friends," has consolidated the common political ground shared by China and that part of the world and paved the way for bigger economic co-operation between them (p. 6).

ASPAT 1985 Opens in Beijing

The Fourth Asia-Pacific International Trade Fair (ASPAT '85), which opened in Beijing on November 15, has turned out to be a microcosm of the economic progress and potential of the Pacific countries. It also has provided the chance for all participants to share their experiences (p. 7).

Two Generations Pioneer the Wilderness

This article by our correspondent describes how, through the hard work of youths who came from all over the country 30 years ago, a former wasteland located near Poyang Lake has grown into an affluent farming community called "Gongqing City." Hu Yaobang visited the community twice, first in the capacity of the secretary of the Central Committee of the Chinese Youth League, later as the Party General Secretary (p. 22).

More on Socialist Ethics and Culture

While good results have been achieved by promoting socialist ethics in recent years, there also exist some unhealthy tendencies that come in the wake of opening up to the outside world. To overcome these negative factors, the Party has once again emphasized the importance of socialist ethics. But this does not mean that China will close its door again. Rather, combating decadent ideology while opening to the outside world remains China's long-term policy (p. 4).

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More on Socialist Ethics and Culture

by **AN ZHIGUO**
Political Editor

Many foreigners are concerned about what effects China's stress on socialist ethics and culture will have on its policy of opening to the outside world. Before answering, let it be said that we think stressing socialist ethics will have only good effects on the open policy.

While carrying out socialist economic construction, China also emphasizes education, science, culture, revolutionary ideal, morals, collectivism, serving the people and good relationships between individuals. The Chinese people call the former material civilization and the latter socialist ethics and culture.

In recent years, China has promoted the programme of "Five Stresses and Four Points of Beauty" among its people. (The five areas to be stressed are: decorum, manners, hygiene, discipline and morals; The four points for beautification are: the mind, language, behaviour and environment). The Chinese government has set the month of March every year as "Socialist Ethics and Courtesy Month." At this time ideological and political work is strengthened among staff members, workers, peasants and students, who are all urged to have revolutionary ideals, sound morals, good education and a strong sense of discipline. All these are connected with socialist ethics and culture.

Because of efficient work being done in this field, many model individuals and units have emerged.

However, viewed from the country as a whole, the effect does not live up to what is desired. For example, the unhealthy tendency to "put money above all else," which goes against socialist ethics, has somewhat spread among certain people. In pursuit of personal interest, some people raise prices without authorization, sell faked goods, break laws and discipline, accept bribes, embezzle funds and sell pornographic materials. In view of this situation, at its recent national conference the Communist Party of China once again underlined the importance of building socialist ethics and culture.

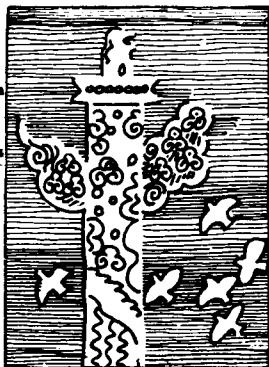
It should be noted that the open policy has exerted a positive influence on Chinese people. Closer ties with the outside world broaden people's minds, and this is conducive to overcoming feudal ideas and eliminating backwardness.

On the other hand, however, it is true that with the adoption of the open policy, some decadent ideas and undesirable things have also been brought in.

China will never again close its door simply because of negative outside influence. Economic construction, the development of socialist ethics and culture and the open policy are indispensable to socialist modernization. Socialism should eliminate poverty. To speed up socialist economic development, we must draw foreign funds and introduce advanced sciences and technologies from abroad. To do so requires an open policy. But material wealth alone doesn't mean socialism. Socialism must wipe out all social

evils and corrupt phenomena rooted in capitalism and other exploitative systems. At the same time, socialism must establish new ideologies, morals and ethics to match the system of public ownership, which reflect a high level of ethics and culture. It can be said that material wealth is the foundation for modernization, while socialist ethics and culture guarantee the socialist direction and the open policy provides a shortcut to modernization. Therefore, combating decadent ideology while opening to the outside world is a long-term Chinese policy.

Correcting the Party's style of work is the key link to promoting socialist ethics and culture. Recently, the Party's work style has improved to some degree. For example, the practice of seeking truth from facts has been carried forward, correct policies have been adopted and a democratic style has been promoted. There are, however, some dark sides. Some Party members and leading cadres pursue personal interest by abusing their power, and bureaucracy and anarchism still exist. The ongoing campaign of Party consolidation will lead to the fundamental improvement of the Party's style of work which will in turn bring a change in the social mores. In the economic field people are encouraged to cultivate good professional morality and abide by laws and discipline and to resist all kinds of dishonest practices. In cultural circles better works of literature, art, music and drama are being produced to meet the people's needs, while bad intellec-



LETTERS

Suggestions and Criticisms

Beijing Review should not be bound with thick staples. Thin staples would make it easier to tear out pages.

The quality of the magazine's printing is pretty good. Some of the photographs, however, are too light, lacking contrast between black and white.

I read almost all articles in your magazine, especially the ones about China. I think China is a subject you cover better than other publications.

Robert Zwahlen
Neuhausweg, Switzerland

Beijing Review should cut down on its number of sports stories. If someone wants to know more about China's sports, he or she should subscribe to China's sports publications.

You should give more complete information about the books reviewed and advertised in *Beijing Review*. Things such as languages, circulation, cost, etc. would be helpful.

I enjoyed your "Business and Trade" column. I think, however, that the articles should be explained in greater detail.

Some readers would like to see more colour photographs in your magazine, but I disagree. *Beijing Review* is not for entertainment, but for information. Of course, the magazine should include some photos, but you needn't run them on every page. Moreover, with colour photos, the price of your magazine would increase. I suggest that you recommend *China Pictorial* to those people who want photographs. It, too, is a good magazine.

Peter Romen
Lochau, Austria

China and Pakistan

It is with great interest that I read your article "Pakistan Protesting Afghan Border Raids." It is clear from this article that *Beijing Review* and China stand for human rights and the strengthening of friendship among the peoples of Pakistan and China.

I also thank you for the assistance that you grant to the progressive, revolutionary Afghan people in their battle for their country.

China firmly stands on the side of all peace-loving people.

Haji Muhammad Saeed
Lahore, Pakistan

Education Reforms

Beijing Review is an excellent weekly to be read not only for information but also for pleasure. People from different walks of life satisfy their need for information with your magazine.

As a student, I particularly appreciate the articles on China's educational reforms that your magazine publishes. They have given me an understanding of education's importance in development. "Teaching should be the most respected and admired profession in society," said Chen Yun, member of the Standing Committee of the CPC Central Committee Political Bureau, when he recommended an increase in teachers' salaries ("School Teachers Due Pay Raise," No. 2, 1985). That statement illustrates China's firm decision to promote its education system.

Could you publish an article about how the Beijing Foreign Languages Institute works? I would also recommend that *Beijing Review* contains a tear-out page with Chinese lessons.

G. Eskola
Ibarra, Ecuador

tual products are opposed and resisted.

Negative phenomena conflicting with socialist ethics and culture obstruct the proper implementation of the open policy. For example, two years ago the government decided to open Hainan Island (China's second largest island after Taiwan) to the outside world in order to import foreign funds and advanced technologies and to tap local resources and gradually establish a rational economic structure unique to the island. Hainan authorities, however, proceeding from their local interests, violated state regulations and resold a large number of imported automobiles for a fat profit in only a little more than one year. This practice disrupted the country's plan and delayed the island's economic development. When the central government discovered the wrongdoing, it promptly corrected the error and punished the local leaders involved. Hainan now is headed in the right direction.

Some foreign business people hope China has a sound environment for investment and construction. We think a good environment not only includes material content, such as preferential treatment and good service facilities, but should also include the development of a society's ethics and culture. Socialist ethics imply not only a rich and colourful cultural life, they also require good social order, healthy social tendencies and honest people. And no doubt they will help promote the implementation of the country's open policy.

Zhao's L. America Trip: Seeing Is Believing

After an action-packed tour of parts of South America, a jubilant Premier Zhao Ziyang returned home November 15 feeling more confident than ever about the growing Sino-Latin American economic ties recently boosted by the new-found political affinity between China and the four nations he visited (pictorial in centrefold shows the warm reception given to Zhao during the tour).

To sum up his trip, Zhao referred to the expression, "Seeing is believing." A good summary this is, for in 16 days, he discovered a land of unmatched charm, wealth and great promise.

Brazil, for example, ranks eighth in the West for its industrial output value, while Argentina, nurtured by well-developed agriculture and animal husbandry programmes, is known as the world's largest granary. Venezuela is among the few oil-rich countries of South America; and Colombia stands as the world's second largest coffee producer and exporter, not to mention its gold and silver resources.

"Latin America is indeed a great New Continent," Zhao stated. "It is my deep belief that Latin America in the process of development is bound to contribute greatly to the progress of mankind."

But what seemed to touch the Chinese premier most was the good-will the Latin Americans lavished on the Chinese. Wherever Zhao went, he was met by people who showed a candid admiration for China's ancient civilization and a keen interest in the Chinese revolution and modernization programme. "During my stay here I have had the feeling that I am

living among old friends and brothers," he said at a press conference in Caracas on November 12, the day he wrapped up his tour.

Zhao also found great similarities in South America with his own motherland. Brazil's Carajas reminded him of his own country's thriving mining industry, and Argentina's idyllic countryside invoked North China's vast pastures and bustling villages. But more than such landscape resemblances, both hosts and guests were taken with their common political ground.

At a banquet thrown by the Chinese premier in Buenos Aires on November 6, President Raul Alfonsin said that despite the distance and different social systems between Argentina and China, "we share many common views on major international issues. That makes it possible for us to search for new ways and means to develop economic co-operation."

Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi said that after reading Deng Xiaoping's recent interview with *Time* magazine, he discovered that the markets of China and capitalist countries do not necessarily clash with each other. "This point has not been lost on you," Lusinchi said in the typically candid manner of Venezuelans, "so I hope it will not be lost on private businesses in Venezuela either."

Brazilian President Jose Sarney's comment was terse and to the point. He told Premier Zhao during his visit that Brazil and China, having so much in common, "should become very good partners."

But it was the Chinese premier who summed it all up on his way

home. "Since there are no fundamental contradictions of interest among us, China and the Latin American nations are friends who can trust each other and advance hand in hand in safeguarding world peace and building themselves up," he told the Chinese journalists who had accompanied him on his tour.

China's open policy, he added, applied to both developed and developing countries. Accordingly, during his busy travel, he worked relentlessly to expand Sino-Latin American economic ties that date back to the mid-16th century. The result was the signing of a series of economic agreements between China and each of the four countries the premier visited.

But despite such progress, the bilateral trade relations are still rather underdeveloped. While China and Latin America account for 30 percent of the world's population and 20 percent of the world's land mass, trade between them makes up less than 1 percent of the world's total. Considering the potential, the expansion of economic co-operation made during the Chinese premier's Latin American visit was at best the first step towards narrowing that yawning gap.

The entire trip gave Premier Zhao the opportunity to reacquaint Latin America with China's independent foreign policy. Unity and co-operation with the third world countries, said Zhao, constituted the cornerstone of such a policy. He expounded some of its major points:

War and Peace. China maintains that while there is still the danger

of a third world war, the forces blocking such a war are growing rapidly. As long as the peace-loving nations and their people unite and work in concerted effort, world peace will prevail.

Debt Problem. China sympathizes with debtor nations in Latin America and appreciates the demands and solutions put forward by the 11 major debtor nations. Only with renewed economic growth can these nations' repayment capability be fortified.

Central America Crisis. The crisis in Central America stems from profound internal causes, but they also have much to do with superpower rivalry in that part of the world. China supports the efforts made by the Contadora and Lima Groups and Latin American countries that work towards peaceful settlement of the Central America crisis, and it is opposed to any interference in this matter by the superpowers or any other outsiders.

Malvinas Islands. China supports Argentina's claim of sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands, and hopes that Argentina and Britain will, through peaceful negotiations, reach a reasonable settlement in accordance with related United Nations resolutions.

Throughout his 16-day tour, Zhao drew world attention. The West German paper *Die Welt*, for example, described the tour as "a trip that won over friends," adding that it served to enhance China's prestige and influence in the international arena.

Mexico's paper *Uno Mas Uno* predicted in a commentary that China's enhanced relations with South America would become a major factor in consolidating world co-operation and peace.

The Brazilian paper *Correio Braziliense* observed the trip from a more pragmatic angle. "Since China's political views,

much in common with those of the third world, enable her to consider prices on a more just and equal footing," an article read, "there is no need to worry about profiteering or exploitation."

Beijing Hosts ASPAT 1985

It seemed winter had suddenly turned to spring, what with all the red balloons floating amid a blue sky outside Beijing's newly opened International Exhibition Centre on November 15. Tens of thousands of spectators lined up outside the hall, anxious to attend the opening ceremonies of the Fourth Asia-Pacific International Trade Fair (ASPAT'85), a celebration of commodities from around the world.

Co-sponsored by the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the 15-day trade fair includes participants from Australia, Japan, India, Thailand, the Soviet Union and the United States — 26 countries and territories altogether.

Inside the exhibition hall, pavilions displayed a collection of eclectic products imbued with their nation's characteristics.

Director of the Chinese pavilion at the fair, Lu Fengchun, said the exhibition was aimed at increasing mutual understanding between China and other Asia-Pacific countries and regions, and at promoting trade, scientific and technological co-operation between them.

When one enters the Japanese pavilion, he is greeted by a band of five robots that perform a melody of tunes. In the Soviet pavilion, a surgical laser device, designed by the Science Academy of the Soviet Union, can perform surgical operations without anaesthetics or causing haemorrhage. The Bangladesh pavilion, though not as grand as the superpowers', is filled with sumptuous carpets and other colourful goods.

Nearly every pavilion used videotape recorders and photo displays to explain their products and to introduce to the viewers their history and customs. The United Nations also occupies a room to introduce its function and history.

The Chinese pavilion is the

ASPAT '85: A scene from the Chinese pavilion.



News in Brief

China will turn out more than 30 million bicycles this year, accounting for one-third of the world's total. There are about 200 million bikes in China today, ranking it first in the world.

China's first international ophthalmological meeting opened in Guangzhou on November 12. More than 600 eye specialists from home and abroad participated in the meeting that lasted three days. During the meeting an ophthalmological foundation was laid, in dedication to Chen Yaozhen, a world-famous ophthalmologist. An exhibition for scientific research and ophthalmological instruments was also on display.

The China Welfare Fund for the Handicapped recently opened a computer institute for the handicapped, the first of its kind in China. The institute already has enrolled 65 students who will attend four classes. They will receive free tuition for courses in computer language, hardware and principles, higher mathematics and probability statistics.

In 1985 China will turn out 13.6 million TV sets, 5.5 times the 1980 figure, and 32,000 minicomputers, a whopping 546-fold increase, according to Liu Jianfeng, vice-minister of electronics industry.

largest. Designed in traditional Chinese style, it is divided into several exhibition rooms, entered through moon-shaped doors with ornamental engravings.

Its exhibits include machinery, electronics, textiles and light industrial products, as well as food stuffs and products of arts and crafts. Many products are on show for the first time, such as an oil-pumping machine, a digital-controlled lathe, an offset printing machine, and oscillating machines for selecting ore and generators manufactured by factories under the Ministry of Machine-Building Industry.

Premier Zhao Ziyang, who just wound up his 16-day visit to Latin America, sent a congratulatory message to the trade fair officials. He said the fair, which has drawn interest from so many countries and territories, would promote trade and was bound to give a powerful boost to world friendship and co-operation.

Heading South to Explore Antarctica

As Beijing residents were stocking upon honeycomb briquets and cabbage for a long cold winter, 39 Chinese scientists and explorers headed south for their summer survey of Antarctica.

China's second expedition team left in three groups on November 13, 14, and 20 for Antarctica to conduct a three-month survey in geology, geophysics, marine biology, glaciation and meteorology, and to build some new observation stations.

China's first expedition team, which stayed in Antarctica from November 1984 to April 1985, built its first research station tagged the "Great Wall." There are still eight Chinese scientists at

the station on George Island conducting winter surveys.

Eh Dongchen, a 46-year-old university lecturer from Wuhan, Hubei Province, and deputy head of the team, is one of the seven scientists making their second visit to the station. His first stay on the southern continent gained him the nickname "Santa Claus" because the hard life and sub-zero weather turned his eyebrows and hair completely white in a mere month's time. Hardly had his hair turned black again when he was on his way back for a second tour.

"We represent our country," Eh said. "No matter what difficulties may occur, we must fulfil our goals at all costs. As for me, I'm ready to become 'Santa Claus' once again."

Wang Xianlan and Xie Youyu, both 48, will become the first Chinese women scientists to set foot in Antarctica. It so happened that Xie's husband had just returned from a North Pole survey only a few months earlier. When asked whether he was willing to let her go, Xie replied, "If he is allowed to go to the North Pole, why shouldn't I be allowed to take pleasure in Antarctica?"

The new team includes two reporters from Hongkong, a new move in scientific study since the signing of the Sino-British Declaration on Hongkong last year.

Ruan Jihong, a 27-year-old correspondent from the Hongkong-based *Wen Wei Po*, said since he saw the exhibition on China's first exploration of Antarctica in Hongkong, he had been dreaming of travelling to the southern continent.

"I heard the reporters who went with the first exploration team also took part in the building of the station," he said. "I'm determined to fulfil whatever tasks our team leader will give me. I will report

on the environment of Antarctica, as well as the hardships and deeds of every member."

Gao Qinquan, head of the team and on his third visit to Antarctica, said the goal of this exploratory trip was to conduct varied scientific surveys using the "Great Wall" station as their base. "Our aim is to build on the progress of our predecessors instead of repeating research at low levels."

Three Chinese astronomers have joined the expedition to make observation of Halley's Comet from Antarctica, Gao said.

Institutions and factories throughout China gave strong support to the expedition, so that the team was much better prepared than the first one. The team took off with state-of-the-art equipment, instruments, medicine and expedition clothing — some factories even gave them new products to test out in Antarctica.

Beijing Residents Seek Housemaids

Baomu is the Chinese word for those women and girls who are employed in urban households to look after small children, take care of the sick, elderly, or disabled people.

At present there are 36,000 *baomu* in Beijing, three and a half times the number in 1966, according to an investigation by the newspaper *Chinese Women*. Despite the increase, demand still far exceeds supply. The investigation determined that four out of every 100 families in Beijing need a *baomu*, so 90,000 *baomu* are needed for the more than 2 million families in the city proper.

With such a small supply and large demand, finding a *baomu* can be difficult. A worker who came from Wuhan, a city in central China, to Beijing to look after his sick



Tianjin Completes China's Largest Lift Bridge

The Haimen Bridge was completed and opened to traffic near Tianjin Harbour on November 13. It is 903.74 metres long and 14 metres wide, and flanked with 2-metre-wide sidewalks. Its centrepiece is China's largest vertical lift bridge with a span of 64 metres and a maximum height of 24 metres. It is large enough to accommodate ships at and under the 5,000-ton class.

parents with his younger brother and sister, said he had been looking for a *baomu* for nearly a month. "I have never been so worried. The three of us have been on leave for more than a month. Even though we don't care about the money, we can't leave our jobs," he said.

Another young worker named Chen Jiangang also complained that he had been looking for a *baomu* for a month and had to stay at home to look after his baby.

There are many reasons for the shortage of *baomu*. First of all, more and more families now can afford to employ a *baomu*, while in the past it was only the high-ranking officials and senior intellectuals who could afford it. A shortage of nurseries and child-care centres today is another cause behind the shortage. Last year only 42 percent of the children in Beijing were able to get places in nurseries. Therefore parents have had to employ *baomus* to take care of their children while they are at work. Another reason is that since the policy now is for each family

to have only one child, parents are taking greater care to keep their offspring from traffic and other hazards. And finally, since some families have more money to spare, they would like to cut down on strenuous housework.

Currently, most of the *baomu* in Beijing are women between the ages of 18 and 25 who come from provinces such as Anhui, Hebei, Henan, Shandong and Jiangsu.

These young women have come to Beijing to work as *baomu* mainly because there is a surplus of labour in the countryside. Take Wuwei County in Anhui Province, where the land provides only enough work for about half of the labour force. At least 30 percent have to leave their homes to find jobs elsewhere, which is why 80 percent to 90 percent of the *baomu* in Beijing come from this county.

Even so, some of the girls come to Beijing to earn more money, while others want to see the world and further educate themselves in their spare time.

After a trial period of a month or so, the *baomu* and the employer often sign a contract. The employer usually provides the *baomu* with room and board, and a salary between 30 to 40 yuan a month. The tasks for the *baomu* vary from family to family, but most of them look after small children, the elderly or disabled, while others do the cooking, cleaning, laundry and shopping.

Most of the *baomu* have good relations with their employers, who sometimes buy them clothes and offer them gifts when they go home. In return, a *baomu* back from a home visit often brings her employers special treats from the countryside.

"I like my job, although some people look down on it," said Pan Junjie, a 17-year-old girl from Runan County, Henan Province, who now does housework for a family of five in Beijing. "I am quite happy — as long as my employer treats me well."

There is a great potential for the supply of *baomu* in the vast countryside at present. In Huangchuan County, Henan Province, for example, there are about 20,000 women between the ages of 17 and 20 who are not gainfully employed, according to the statistics for the county.

But this potential has not been taken advantage of. One reason is that society in general and the city authorities in particular have failed to recognize the growing demand for household labour. There are few household service companies to take care of the problem. The problem is compounded by the lack of communication between the cities and the countryside. On the one hand, the urban residents don't know where to find a *baomu*; and on the other, the women in the countryside don't know where they are needed.

Pre-job training can also be a problem. Many of the *baomu* who

fail to meet their employers' qualifications because of lack of training and this merely exacerbates the shortage.

Some economists believe that with the development of the economy, more and more rural women will come to the cities to offer household services, and that it is feasible to rely on this source of labour in the future. But no effective regulations have been adopted to promote this trend; the complaints and calls for government attention in Beijing are growing ever louder.

TV to Show Serial On Liu Shaoqi

The Beijing TV Studio has released a new serial based on the revolutionary activities of Liu Shaoqi (1898-1969), an outstanding Chinese leader who died during the "cultural revolution."

Comrade Shaoqi in Northeast China will be shown on local stations all over China every week beginning later this month.

The show was set in 1929, when the Party sent Liu, then a workers' movement leader, to re-establish Party organizations in northeast China that had been undermined by the enemies.

TV critics said the actor who played the leading role resembles Liu in appearance and manner, and his excellent performance would help to make the serial a success.



China & the World

Tian Jiyun Ends African Trip

Vice-Premier Tian Jiyun returned to Beijing November 16 after a three-week tour of five African countries — Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Libya and Kenya.

China Helps Curb Nuclear Proliferation

A Foreign Ministry spokesman recently said at a news briefing that China requires all countries importing Chinese nuclear products to adhere to the International Atomic Energy Agency security safeguards. China neither advocates nor participates in nuclear proliferation, still less will it help other nations develop nuclear weapons, the spokesman said.

Catholic Group Returns home

A Chinese Catholic delegation, the first of its kind, led by Michael Fu Tieshan, vice-president of the Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association and bishop of the Beijing Diocese, returned to China on November 13 after a 12-day visit to Belgium, at the invitation of the rector of the Catholic University of Louvain.

NZ Youths Visit China

A youth delegation from New Zealand arrived in Beijing on November 14 for a 10-day trip at the invitation of the All-China Youth Federation. The 60-member delegation includes young government functionaries, teachers and students. A TV crew of five also accompanied the delegation.

GCC

Summit Signals Subtle Policy Change

To seek better relations with Iran, the Gulf Co-operation Council summit appears to have taken a more balanced position towards Iraq and Iran.

by **YI MING**

"Beijing Review" News Analyst

IN the final statement of the sixth summit conference of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC), from November 3-6 in Muscat, the wording of the paragraph about the Iraq-Iran war was a bit different this time around. This indicates a subtle change in the policy of six GCC nations — Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates — towards the prickly situation. Tehran also has expressed its approval of the change.

The summit statement neither expressed satisfaction with the "positive" attitude adopted by Iraq towards the peaceful settlement of the Gulf war, as the fifth GCC summit did last year, nor did it include any words stating "full support" for Iraq, as the foreign ministers' meeting of the six nations did this spring. The statement says only that the GCC supreme committee has studied the Iraq-Iran war and that its recent escalation would bring further threats to the region.

Analysts believe the word "escalation" refers to the recent Iraqi air raids on Iran's main oil terminal at Kharg Island. Baghdad has said its war planes have struck at the island oil installation more than 30 times since mid-August.

Kharg Island, the so-called lungs of Iran's, is located in the north eastern part of the gulf, about 40

kilometres away from Iran. In the pre-war year of 1979, Iran exported more than 3 million barrels of oil per day from the port, constituting the largest export of crude oil in the Middle East. After Iraq's raids, according to Iranian newspapers, Iran's oil exports stand at about 1.6 million barrels per day.

Tehran has time and again threatened that if its oil export, via the gulf, was completely cut off, it would blockade the Strait of Hormuz, which would have serious impact on oil transport to Japan and Western Europe. The Iranian navy last October carried out a large-scale war exercise in the strait, demonstrating its capability to turn threat into action. Furthermore, Tehran also threatened to retaliate against those gulf countries that supported Baghdad.

Since the shake-up of security and stability in the gulf, the GCC member states have held meetings between the heads of the armed forces and defence ministers, to study military co-operation and security in the region. A joint defence strategy plan has been mapped, and the six nations have set up a strike force known as the "Peninsula Shield." The sixth summit has agreed to the joint military strategy and has instructed the authorities concerned to begin to implement the plan.

The spokesman of the summit asserted, however, that these joint forces were not directed against any particular target, nor were

they intended to join in war. Meanwhile, Hashemi Rafsanjani, speaker of the Iranian Islamic Consultative Assembly, declared, the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz need not be inevitable. Iranian President Ali Khamenei recently also said in a speech that "Saddam [Iraq's President Saddam Hussain] extended the war to the water area of the Persian Gulf, compelling us to take part in the difficult contest. We are careful not to be fooled by him... We do not intend to create a crisis."

President Khamenei also charged that Baghdad was trying to obstruct Iran's effort to improve relations with other gulf countries. "We are not threatening them," he stressed, "but we are giving them a friendly warning. In spite of Saddam's obstruction, we are still willing to normalize relations with the countries in the Persian Gulf, and hope friendly relations will be strengthened."

Seeking better relations with the Arab countries in the gulf, as well as with other countries around the world, Iran has made some energetic diplomatic moves in recent months. It has sent envoys to tour gulf nations and also played host to a GCC delegation headed by the Saudi foreign minister last May. The Iranian foreign minister is expected to pay a return visit to Riyadh soon.

Nevertheless, Iran has set conditions for improved relations with gulf nations. After the statement of the GCC summit was published, Iran's Chief Justice Musavi Ardebili urged the GCC states to take measures to back up a more realistic stand on the Iraq-Iran war.

Senior Arab diplomats said the six GCC nations have decided to seek better relations with non-Arab Iran, but not at the expense

of relations with Iraq, which they have traditionally supported.

As major oil producers and exporters, the six GCC nations appear to be taking a more balanced position with Iran and

Iraq. Although this is not necessarily an indication that the five-year-old war is about to end, it will certainly help them to play a more effective role in mediating a peaceful settlement of the conflict.

gilhe said in his policy speech on November 7 that his government would pursue an expansion programme to promote economic growth by reducing taxes, lowering interest rates and encouraging private investment and consumption.

But the speech brought back bad memories of what happened in the early 1980s, when the SDP was in office and carried out an expansion policy. By the end of 1982, the nation's deficit increased sharply to US\$3.2 billion, and foreign debts reached US\$13 billion.

Analysts in Portuguese political and economic circles are concerned over the economic measures to be taken by the new government, fearing the expansion policy might touch off another financial crisis.

What will stir even further debate is the SDP stand for a revision of the Constitution, labour laws and land reform laws, in an attempt to accelerate the process of denationalization.

In his inaugural address, Silva emphasized the government's commitment to Portugal's entry into the European Economic Community (EEC) next January. But he also indicated that Portugal would defend its national interests with attempts to gain more subsidies while reducing its share in the EEC budget.

Some senior members of the SDP have admitted it will be difficult for the SDP minority government to rid Portugal of its instability. At the inauguration ceremony Prime Minister Silva called for a "constructive and clear dialogue" among all political and social forces to resolve the nation's economic and social crises. But so far his appeal has not received any positive offers of support. Instead, his address has been criticized by the socialists and communists; and observers agree, tough times are ahead.

Portugal

Social-Democrats Walk a Tightrope

With Portugal in the midst of a severe economic slump, the new minority Social-Democratic government in Lisbon faces a precarious first term.

by HUANG PENGNIAN

OBSERVERS in Lisbon predict that a long, bumpy road lies beneath the new minority Social-Democratic government, sworn in on November 6.

The Social Democratic Party (SDP) emerged as the largest party in parliament in the October 6 general elections, but it gained only 88 seats, far from the number required to command a majority in the 250-seat parliament. The Socialist Party gained 55 seats, the New Democratic Renewal Party won 45 seats, the Communist Party pulled in 37 seats and the Centre Democratic Party gained 20 seats.

President Antonio Ramalho Eanes requested the SDP form a new coalition government, but because other parties refused to be its partners, it had to form a minority cabinet. The new government is composed of 12 ministries and 13 ministers, the smallest one since 1974. The Portuguese media pointed out that the minority government was teetering on the edge because of an uncontrollable parliament where the government lacks support from other parties, and is up against

strong rivals in the Socialist and Communist Parties.

Following the general elections in 1983, the Socialist Party formed a coalition with the SDP but the latter withdrew from the alliance last June after a dispute over policies. For now, the socialists reportedly will take a wait-and-see attitude towards the new government.

As for the Communist Party, it opposed the formation of any government by the SDP from the very beginning. It declared soon after the new government was sworn in that it would reject the government's programmes.

But the gravest challenge the new government faces is Portugal's economic slump. New Prime Minister Cavaco Silva said at the inauguration ceremony that the country was confronted with "a profound economic and social crisis."

In the past two years, private investments have dropped 27 percent. Nearly 11 percent of the nation's workforce is unemployed, and tens of thousands of workers have been hit by wage cuts. The nation also carries a foreign debt of US\$1.5 billion.

Minister of Finance Miguel Ca-

Summit Rivets World Attention

by XIN PING

AS we go to press, US and Soviet leaders Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev meet in Geneva for a two-day summit in the first such encounter between the two superpowers in six years, thus attracting worldwide attention.

The summit is held at a moment when their relations remain as strained—despite signs of superficial relaxation—and their arms race threatens to extend into outer space.

The United States called a six-nation summit of the West, and then a NATO meeting in an effort to win backing from its allies. Militarily, it has completed ahead of schedule the siting of 228 medium-range missiles in Western Europe, originally due to be in place by the end of this year. At the same time, the United States indicated its willingness to negotiate a drastic cut in strategic nuclear arsenals with the Soviet Union.

Meanwhile, the Soviet Union

convened a summit meeting of the Warsaw Pact Organization, and issued repeated calls for a freeze on nuclear weapons, a halt to nuclear tests and a 50 percent cut in strategic nuclear weapons. It has made it clear that if the United States refuses to make concessions on its "Star Wars" plan, there will be no real relaxation in Soviet-US relations.

The summit will focus discussion on disarmament, regional issues and bilateral issues. The US side has indicated that it will also bring up human-rights issues during the meeting. But the key issue remains arms control, which sharply divides the United States and the Soviet Union.

In the previous three rounds of arms-control talks on Geneva, the two countries had agreed to a 50 percent cut in strategic nuclear weapons and had come closer in their positions on nuclear verification and other specific issues. But there was no substantial progress on such vital issues as the scope of disarmament and the US "Star

Wars" plan. US Secretary of State George Shultz, after visiting Moscow early this month, admitted that the deep differences separating the two countries "have not narrowed."

On regional issues, the two countries accused each other of engaging in expansion and infiltration, and in the past five meetings between them to discuss issues concerning Afghanistan, South Africa, East Asia, Middle East and Central America, little progress was made.

Since the first of their year, however, there has been a remarkable increase in mutual visits by top government officials and other personnel, and negotiations have been held on trade, civil aviation, aviation security, opening of more consulates and co-operation in the civil use of nuclear energy. Recently, the two countries have shown fresh interest in holding regular summit meetings. Accords on some of the above-mentioned issues are considered likely at the summit.

The world welcomes the summit meeting and hopes it will yield positive results. But US and Soviet government officials are cautious in predicting the meeting's outcome.

Guatemala

Guarding the Democratic Process

Although rumours about a brewing coup d'etat have come out of Guatemala city after the recent presidential elections, experts believe the democratic process is under way in the Central American country.

by YAO CHUNTAO

THE Guatemalans went to the polls on November 3 to choose a civilian president, a vice-president, a 100-member congress, mayors and city council members. As soon as the election results were announced, news that polit-

ical forces that had failed in the presidential elections were gearing up for a coup d'etat came out of Guatemala city.

Guatemala has long been ruled by military dictatorship. Since 1954, military juntas have been replaced one after another in an merry-go-round. Before the general

elections there was hearsay about a coup and many Guatemalans were nervous or sceptical about joining in the general elections.

Guatemala has a population of 7.7 million, 3.7 million of whom have the right to vote. But out of that, only 2.75 million have registered to vote and one third of those did not even vote in the elections. Twelve percent of the nearly 2 million voters cast blank or invalid ballots.

Before the election, the eight candidates stumped the country, passing out promises and spending liberally. According to the Constitution, the candidate who won

more than 50 percent of the vote would become president. If none of the candidates gained enough votes, the two took the top places in the elections would run in a second round of elections. According to the Guatemalan election committee's announcement, the candidate of the Christian Democratic Party, Mario Vinicio Cerezo, and Jorge Carpio of the National Centre Union, came in at the top. Cerezo gained 38.85 percent of the vote, and Carpio pulled in 20.23 percent, and both are scheduled to go through another round on December 8.

However, the Democratic Institutional Party and the National Liberation Movement, which took part in the presidential elections, are not content with the election results. And the three right-wing political parties have formed a national opposition front, asking the voters to reject the second-round run-off next month.

Public opinion in Mexico and other Latin American countries is that the right-wing Guatemalan political parties will not resign themselves to defeat and step down from the political arena. They have extensive ties with the military and political circles, as well as powerful industrial, commercial and financial connections.

But analysts also noted that in Latin America, military dictatorship is not the current trend, and democracy and law are the favoured methods in that part of the world today.

The economy in Guatemala stands on the brink of collapse and industrial and agricultural production has dropped; the currency has been greatly devalued; the prices of commodities are up; and unemployment continues to escalate, while living standards fall. Therefore the Guatemalan government need to mobilize its forces and bring in foreign aid, and many believe that in order to do so, a democratic process will have to firmly put in place.

It is predicted that Cerezo and the Christian Democratic Party

will come into power next January, but not without severe difficulty.

Albania

Leaving at Least a Window Ajar

The door is still shut with a sign on it that reads "independent." But Albania recently has begun to introduce openings, allowing in some light from its neighbouring countries.

by GE BAOZHI

ALBANIA is tacitly readjusting its domestic and foreign policies. Albania has traditionally been a nation of complacent self-reliance. Today, however, it is redoubling its effort to normalize its international exchanges, especially with its neighbours.

Albania's economic exchanges with Turkey, Yugoslavia and Austria have been on the rise, and in the past several months, a series of agreements for trade expansion were signed with Italy and Greece. Albania began to provide electricity to Greece and Yugoslavia through a high-voltage transmitting network. It also has decided to purchase a set of hydroelectric station equipment from France.

Ideological and political disputes among these nations should not affect their economic and trade relations, said Ramiz Alia, new first secretary of the Central Committee of the Albanian Labour Party. He has reiterated the guidelines for independence and self-reliance, set forth by Enver Hoxha, and has called for nationwide opposition of the "US imperialists" and "Soviet socialist revisionists."

However, Albania's ways have been somewhat revised in order to lightly push the country into contemporary world society. Albania used to steer clear of both Eastern and Western culture, but that is

slowly, but surely, changing. Its news agency and radio station now have exchange programmes with Italy and Austria and foreign journalists have been granted more elbowroom. Its first batch of students was recently sent to Italy, the first since World War II.

Albania has achieved some major accomplishments in foreign exchanges this year. The first protocol document in 45 years was reached between Albania and Greece, with three joint military commissions being set up to define the border between the two countries. Steps are also taken to connect highway transportation between the two countries.

A ferry line between Durresi in Albania and Trieste, Italy, has opened up a sealine to Western Europe for Albania. Albania also has signed a civil air-traffic agreement with Turkey.

The Albanian-Yugoslavian border was once a rigid barrier with scarce exchanges. But today a railroad links Albania's Shkodra and Yugoslavia's Titograd.

Albania used to boast an image of debt-free nation that regarded all foreign aid and loans as slave shackles. But more recently it has accepted aid from the United Nations' Exploitation and Development Organization. It has also dropped its demands for financial war reparation from West Germany, conceding that it is willing to accept technological assistance.

Eureka Signals Shift in Western Alliance

Eureka, which stands for the European Research Co-ordination Agency, is not only a European counterpart to the US Strategic Defense Initiative, but also a demonstration of Western Europe's intention to win an independent position for itself in the areas of arms, economics and technology.

by HU JIE

LAST March the United States formally invited its Western allies to join its research programme for the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), or Star Wars. Following the offer, in April French President Francois Mitterrand put forth proposals for a European alternative to the US programme. That programme, dubbed Eureka, though still in the conceptual stage, calls for a joint European effort to build a high-tech programme with space included. At the European Economic Community conference held in Milan in June, the multi-billion dollar plan found formal supporters. In July, 12 EEC countries, including Portugal and Spain, and five other non-EEC member nations, held a ministerial level meeting during which they announced their approval of and support for the still loosely defined Eureka project. At the second Eureka ministerial conference held in Hanover, Federal Germany, early this month, its 18 members including Turkey approved Eureka's declaration of principles and its first 10 projects. These moves mark Eureka's first practical steps.

Although SDI was not mentioned in the EEC's Eureka proclamation, to some observers the announcement revealed the degree to which Western Europe craves its military, economic and technological independence from the United States. To many the move also signalled the development of possible tensions be-

tween Western Europe and the United States. Moscow, which scorns Eureka almost as heartily as it does SDI, is closely scrutinizing Eureka's progress with hopes of somehow exerting an influence upon it. With the United States, the Soviet Union and Western Europe now all jockeying for position in space technology, a new factor has now come up in the already strained trilateral relations.

Eureka is also a major step of profound importance for a united and powerful Western Europe. Because of this, the fledgling plan has increasingly commanded international attention.

A Star Wars By-Product

Eureka is not an accidental development, but resulted from European misgivings about an American monopoly on high-tech space research. A year after US President Ronald Reagan proposed SDI in March 1983, the US Congress approved the allocation of US\$26 billion for the project, while soon afterwards military and scientific institutes seemingly sprouted overnight to begin the required research. In proceeding so quickly, the United States awakened Western Europe. Though questioning the feasibility of SDI, it no longer considered the venture a mere mythical fantasy.

While SDI was being launched in the United States, Western Europe and the United States began a heated debate on strategic theory. Western Europe felt

that by turning to the strategy of "space defence," the United States has created two protective zones in the Atlantic alliance. As such, the Europeans argue, the security of US territory is further strengthened, while the European theatre becomes even more exposed and vulnerable. This US-West European strategic disparity which had already cropped up when there was nuclear balance between the United States and the Soviet Union, becomes all the more serious with the debut of space-weaponry.

Feeling threatened by their strategic dislocation, some West European leaders have attempted at various stages to derail SDI. Their efforts, and their view of SDI in general, have had two effects. First, the United States has had to court its allies with explanations and concessions. And second, Soviet leaders also have gone stumping through the region, taking advantage of Western discord to promote its own alternatives in Western Europe, and trying to put pressure on the Federal Republic of Germany, win over France and neutralize Great Britain with diplomatic overtures and trade offers.

At the beginning of 1985, after US and Soviet representatives decided to resume their Geneva arms reduction talks, Western Europe and Washington lowered the tenor of their polemics over space weaponry, and chose instead to co-ordinate their positions to oppose Moscow. In order to assure Western Europe,

the Reagan administration revised its idea of strategic plans to include both defence and offence, rather than defence alone. Washington also pledged that its space weapons would defend its territory and that of Western Europe as well, and that the Kremlin would be consulted before such weapons were deployed. Though willing to make these concessions, Washington also stood firm in its resolve to proceed with SDI. In the face of US consolations and pressure, some West European countries acquiesced to support SDI out of consideration for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and the fact that the Soviet Union has also been researching and manufacturing space weapons. Though unable to prevent the United States from carrying out its plan, Western Europe is not willing to form the "common front" with the Soviet Union. Therefore, some West European countries have readjusted their policies and declared support for SDI, while others have toned down their criticism.

After winning some support from Western Europe for SDI, the United States went further to ask its allies to join the programme and to reply to the invitation by a certain date. At the same time, the United States also set up direct relations with nearly 100 West European industrial organizations and research institutes interested in SDI. Early on Washington appropriated US\$1 billion to foreign administrations to draw them into the research programme, while the department in charge of SDI is ready to accept a dozen organizations from five West European nations to join the related research projects. It was under such circumstances that the argument between Western Europe and the United States left the theoretical realm, and SDI became a realistic challenge to Western Europe.

According to its proponents, Eureka meets that challenge head on. Following Mitterrand's opening Eureka gambit, Washington became more solicitous. Now that Eureka had been hatched, the West European governments were no longer given a deadline for reply, while invitations to West European firms for participation and co-operation were further extended.

Challenging the Superpower Hold on Defence

Apart from its practical effects, the Eureka programme also has deep political, strategic and economic significance. As the embodiment of the European desire for political independence and high technology, Eureka also augurs a future joint defence of Western Europe.

The US demand for Europe's support in SDI is, by some accounts, Washington's way of forcing Western Europe to back US defence policy, and thereby meeting the US' strategic need. A US official once said Western Europe should contribute financial and technological resources to SDI. By doing so, the official said, Western Europe would be protecting itself from "self-Finlandization." The remark, as indicative of the US government's view, shows that one of the political purposes of the United States in pursuing SDI is to further confine Western Europe.

The countries of Western Europe, however, want neither to be pawns of the US, nor victims of a possible conflicts between Washington and Moscow. What they want is a strategy vis-a-vis the Soviet Union different from the one the United States has offered.

Eureka reflects the differences that surfaced between the United States and Europe over the development of SDI. Although some West European countries support SDI, hoping it will curb the Soviet

Union and force it to negotiate seriously for arms reductions, no countries in that region want to be involved in a stepped-up arms race. Eureka, an idea spurred by such thoughts, is, in fact, an expansion of the West European policy of detente and defence.

The space arms competition between the United States and the Soviet Union is a new page in the arms race history. Although nuclear arms will remain a mutual deterrent, the balance of military force, in the long range, will not only be decided by the quantity and quality of nuclear arms, but also, to an increasing extent, by each nation's ability to defend itself against nuclear attacks. The importance of outer space weaponry in defensive military strategy is ever increasing. If Western Europe hands over the outer space to the United States and the Soviet Union and lets them do what they like with it, non-nuclear countries will only be further controlled by US-Soviet strategy, while Britain and France will simultaneously lose their nuclear deterrent abilities.

France and the Federal Republic of Germany have already co-operated to launch military reconnaissance satellites in order to monitor developments in outer space. France also established within its general staffs a special task force devoted to space defence. Eureka shows Western Europe's commitment to be on top of future changes in the strategic balance of power. Despite the purpose of the Eureka programme being for civil use, rather than for defence, the plan does not preclude military developments. Having such a plan and putting it into effect will also give Western Europe more input into the overall development of space technology.

The military challenge presented by SDI is both long and short term. The keenest competition these days is in the technological field. In the

past, the Apollo Project took the lead in the development of new technology. Today the allocation of huge sums from the US government to American companies equipped to perform related research will also spur new defence and civil technology.

Technology Gap

The technological superiority of US companies has traditionally depended on national defence research and government contracts. SDI, therefore, will further strengthen the technological upper hand held by corporate America. In that case, the technological gap between Western Europe and the United States can be expected to widen. SDI has a strong appeal to West Europeans and could end up siphoning some of the area's financial, technological and personnel resources off to the United States, turning Western Europe into a processing factory for US technology. Eureka, in trying to co-ordinate Western Europe's technological efforts and enhance its competitive abilities, reflects the will of the region to prevent its brains and money from being drawn to the United States, as well as its desire to become self-reliant in technology.

From Drawing Board to Launching Pad

West European technical capabilities have been advancing. Some of the countries have made initial progress in transferring telecommunications and biological research. Successful spaceflight co-ordination between European nations has also enabled the members of Eureka to become competitors of the United States. Despite such progress however, Eureka remains an abstract concept that faces complex and potentially insurmountable problems. Those problems are currently being heatedly debated among Eureka members.

Eureka is an important step in continued West European unity

and development, even though it now appears to be merely a structure for technological co-ordination. While such vexing issues as budget and shareholding, standardization, and marketing need to be smoothed out before Eureka can be put into effect, the programme's effectiveness will depend on the members' abilities to reconcile their divergent political yearnings. The EEC members themselves have given quite varied degrees of approval to the Eureka programme. With its advanced space technology, France insists on carrying out the Eureka programme for political and strategic needs. The Federal Republic of Germany, the region's wealthiest country, however, hopes to take part in SDI in order to improve its own political and defensive positions, but fears Washington will not take it on as an equal partner. Realizing that being the only West European nation working with the United States on SDI could be politically awkward, West Germany endorsed Eureka on the condition that the programme pursue merely civilian and commercial uses, and thus avoid conflicts with the United States. London, initially cool to Eureka, has become a supporter. However, because Britain's major scientific and technological departments have already had private post-war co-operation agreements with the United States, it is unable to spare much more time and effort on Eureka. Italy, which has given its political and diplomatic support to the European programme, is actually interested in only a limited area — computers in particular. Since West European countries, France included, cannot stop private companies in their own countries from joining the SDI programme, or from accepting orders or research contracts from Washington, Eureka may turn out simply to be a loosely-woven programme of technical research co-ordination.

The original proposal stipulated that Eureka be independent of ex-

isting West European institutions. However, Britain and Federal Germany vetoed the idea, saying that to set up new independent institutions to oversee Eureka's finances would be both costly and time-consuming. Having to part with the concept of a separate agency, and still faced with the need to find a flexible organization design, France and Belgium looked to the West European Union (WEU), in hopes that it would produce concrete support for Eureka. Once again, Federal Germany and Great Britain opposed the idea. As a military setup, they said, WEU was not an appropriate organization to oversee Eureka, which is intended for civil use. The core to all these arguments is that Bonn and London are unwilling to rub Washington the wrong way.

Western Europe's advanced technological co-ordination within EEC faces many problems. First, the EEC will have to create corresponding budgets and common industrial and commercial policies for the programme. Second, some EEC members still refuse to join Eureka, claiming it could eventually be used for military purposes, while other EEC members may agree only to participate in individual research projects. Because of such divisiveness Eureka could suffer the same fate as the European strategic research programme in information technology — lack of sufficient EEC funding.

There are no clear, concrete steps the European community can take to surmount its Eureka hurdles. Glimmers of hope for co-ordinated efforts, however, have surfaced. Several large companies in France, Germany and the Netherlands have announced their intention to establish electronic industrial research co-operation in accordance with Eureka. French-German and French-Norwegian companies also have signed more than 10 such co-ordination con-

Zhao Ziyang, the First Chinese Premier to Visit Latin America



Premier Zhao Ziyang chatting with Colombian President Betancur Cuartas on October 28.

Presenting a tapestry to the mayor of Bogota.



Leaving the Brazilian presidential residence after his second round of talks with President Jose Sarney on November 1.



A big gift for the library of Brasilia University: more than 1,000 Chinese books.



Shaking hands with President Raul Alfonsin in Buenos Aires' parliament building before a banquet given by the host on November 5.

Visiting "Ranch General Belgrano" in Cordoba on the vast Argentine Rampas.



With Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi on November 9.

Addressing a banquet thrown in Caracas by Chinese residents in Venezuela.

tracts. As the first step to turn Eureka from a concept to a verifiable plan, Western Europe must first decide on Eureka's strategic aims, organizational design and management methods.

Eureka will swallow 55 billion French francs within the next five years, French officials have estimated. But funding pledges for the project have not come easy. France once proposed that the participating enterprises and the EEC divide the expenses for Eureka evenly. Under such an arrangement, the EEC, whose annual budget never allows more than US\$2 billion for scientific research, would have to double its allocation. More recently, France suggested that governments join the companies and the EEC in footing the bill for Eureka. This is one feasible method of bring-

ing in more reliable capital. Turning this theory into practice, however, is another matter. Other member nations have suggested funding be handled by the European Investment Bank, enterprises and allocations from participating states, similar to what has been done in West European space co-operation.

Dream or Reality?

Compared to SDI, Eureka, still in its conceptual stage, is described by some analysts as little more than a dream. The developing course of Eureka, however, is one that could force the EEC to readjust its internal relations and eliminate blockades against co-operation, building Europe into another high-tech power. Problems, some petty, others enormous, will continue to arise over money and or-

ganization, as well as over technical criteria and marketing. In addition to having to contend with differences within the EEC, Eureka also places science and technological co-operation between the EEC and other West European countries such as Switzerland, Sweden, Norway and Austria on the agenda. If the EEC opens its gates to these outsiders, overall economic co-operation could be promoted and a more unified West European market may result. The world waits to see how Western Europe will consolidate its ideas and efforts in creating the Eureka programme, and whether the programme will eventually lead to a pronounced crack in the region's relations with the United States, or if instead it will eventually become a "civilian" supplement to the SDI. □

School for Parents Tries to Curb Crime

by **YANG XIAOBING**
Our Correspondent

A CRIME survey of the capital of Gansu Province for the first half of 1984 put forth some surprising results: More than 83 percent of the convicted offenders were younger than 25 years old, and most of them came from bad family situation.

The survey, put out this September by the Home Education Study Group under the Lanzhou-based Gansu Provincial Ethics Society, also revealed that in the city only about 5 percent of the families provide their children with what the Home Education Study Group considers "proper and effective" education. Among the rest of the families, 60 percent do emphasize family education but fail to use proper methods, while the remaining 35 percent adopt a from pampering to spanking. Children from the third type of families are comparatively selfish, reck-

less and lack a respect for authority, according to the study group. It is this group of families from which the bulk of young criminals in Lanzhou come.

This alerted the group members to the danger that bad family education and customs can have on society. At a discussion meeting, it was proposed that a non-governmental night school be set up to teach family educators how to educate their children. The consensus was that this would not only be good for the social fight against crime, but for the ethics study group as well.

With widespread community support, the ethics society opened the Lanzhou Family Education School in October 1984, together with the Gansu Provincial Women's Association and the Lanzhou No. 18 Middle School. Over the past year, the night school has held five courses for more than 500 parents.

The school holds two-hour class-

es twice a week for one and a half months in a term. Each student pays two yuan at registration and fills out a form indicating what he or she wants to study, and from this the six instructors prepare teaching kits. The school is now teaching courses in family education, child psychology, public health, and ethics and law.

Dedication

According to the school president, Lei Xinlan, who is also director of the Children's Work Department of the Gansu Provincial Women's Association, all the instructors were dedicated to the work, even though their services were given on a volunteer basis.

Lei said 55-year-old Guo Jingyuan, a lecturer of the Lanzhou Education College, teaches at least five classes of child psychology a term. "She works far from home," Lei added. "Sometimes when her classes run late, after there is no

bus service, her husband or son will pick her up by bicycle." Lei said the other instructors were like Guo; they clearly understood the value of their work.

Their students study hard, President Lei said. Many of them have teenagers at home who are going through the difficult physical and emotional changes of adolescence.

Results

The night school receives financial aid and material support from many organizations that don't want to see their employees bothered by their children and unable to concentrate on their work. But most of the school's support turns out to be from the parent-students who are anxious to apply their lessons at home. One student felt he had learnt so much from the school, that he insisted on donating a sum larger than his one-month salary. The school administration appreciated the gesture, but declined.

Kong Fanxiang, an employee of the Lanzhou No. 4 Woollen Mill, and his wife, who works in the cafeteria business, told about how they loved their son and had high hopes for his future. But the couple thought corporal punishment

was the most effective way to educate their son. The beatings only sent the boy from his parents and into a clique of shady friends. After studies at the night school, Kong began to understand that beating the boy only drove him farther from home. In a chat with me the child said, "The most progress Daddy has made is that he has stopped beating me. I didn't dare to talk to him before, but now I feel family warmth."

Huo Tinggong is head of a neighbourhood committee in the Qilihe District. Both his 14-year-old son, Huo Xing, and 13-year-old daughter, Huo Hua, were terribly spoiled by their grandmother. They often burst into temper tantrums that no amount of reprimands or spankings can stop. The boy stole fruit from the market and began to date a girl behind both their parents' backs. At school, he was a notorious truant and class clown when he did show up. Kong and his wife were desperate and the night school came to their rescue. Through child psychology and health and hygiene courses, they learnt that a rebellious nature often reflects a child's stunted psychological maturity, while dating girls is only an indication of puberty, a period that calls for patience and gentle dis-

suasion. Putting what they have learnt into practice, the couple did their best to respect their children and show them great warmth. During weekends or holidays, they invited some of the children's pals to family parties, to show them what friends should be made of. Gradually, the boy became closer to his parents and even told them about his girlfriend. After more talks, he stopped dating her so he could concentrate on studies. Thoughtfully the boy said to his parents, "Children can be easily spoiled; it was a painful experience for me. Little sister is also growing and should be well-taken care of."

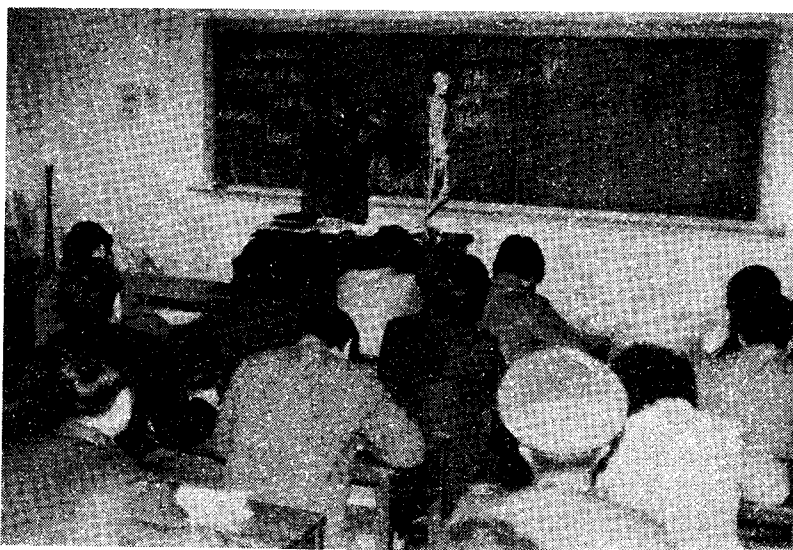
Development

Seeing all these changes that took place at home, Huo Tinggong decided to share his new-found family psychology with his community by starting up a school of his own. Similar moves are in the pipeline for two of Lanzhou's largest factories, the Lanzhou Chemical Works and the No. 3512 Factory.

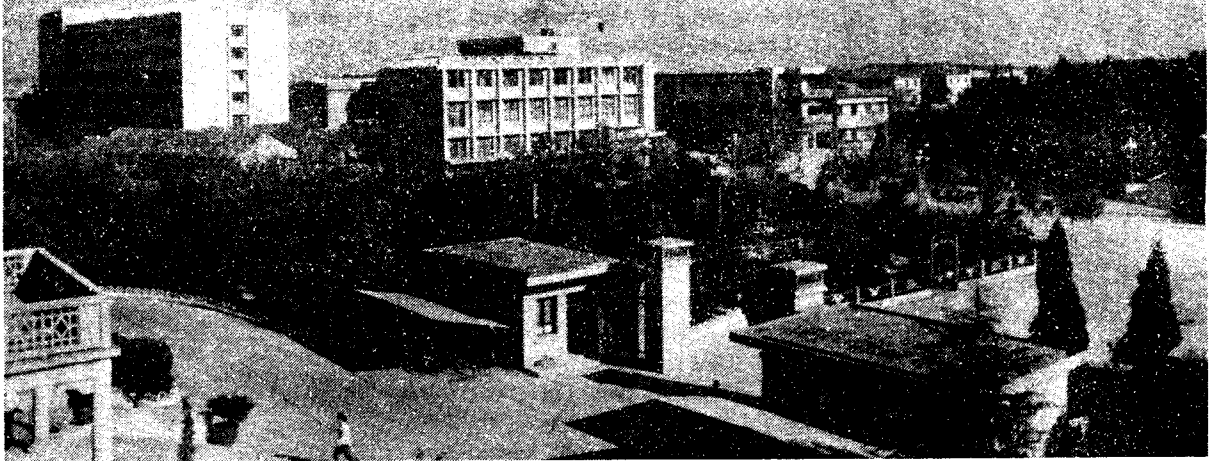
Despite these initial achievements, the ambitious night school teachers are not fully satisfied with their work. They are currently drawing up new plans to implement childbirth and pre-school courses into the curriculum and to conduct more research and consultation services.

The full implementation of the plan, however, has been met with some anticipated problems, namely money. The school's current financial resources come from the students' registration fees and community donations. As the programme expands, more teachers will have to charge some fees. The financial pinch has aroused community concern. The Municipal Educational Bureau plans to earmark some funds for the school, and eventually the private night school may become partly financed by the state. □

Parents attending a physiology class.



Two Generations Pioneer the Wilderness



by **WU NAITAO**
Our Correspondent

THIRTY years ago, 98 young people left their homes in Shanghai, the most bustling and prosperous city in China, to make new homes for themselves in the wilderness of Poyang Lake in Jiangxi Province. When the First Five-Year Plan (1953-57) for economic development was declared, this handful of youths was just one of the dozens of groups who volunteered to challenge more than 3 million of the country's 100 million hectares of wasteland.

Their hard work over the past three decades has paid off. This former wasteland today has grown into an exemplary place of affluence. The farm, popularly called "Gongqing City," or city of the Communist Youth League, has a population of more than 10,000, and has the country's largest down clothing factory, the largest soft drinks brewery south of the lower reaches of the Changjiang River and nine other factories. Its per-capita agricultural and industrial output value is three times that of the provincial capital city of Nanchang, and 16.5 times that of the whole province. The

state has invested 206,000 yuan altogether to Gongqing since 1969. But the farm has reciprocated with more than 20 million yuan in profits and taxes for the state.

Today, trucks loaded with goods can be seen running on the highways sprawled out among the fields, with pigs of lean meat type being shipped to Hongkong, dried salted ducks to Southeast Asia and down clothing to Europe, America and Australia as well as to other Chinese provinces and cities. In recent years, the farm has hosted

thousands of Chinese and foreign visitors every year who come for trade talks. Small as it is (only 21.1 square kilometres), the farm, which started from scratch, has become known throughout the country for its pioneering spirit and remarkable achievements.

Hu Yaobang Returns

On October 15, when the farm celebrated its 30th birthday, Hu Yaobang, general secretary of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee, sent the Gongqing

The farm's down factory produces more than 300 types of clothing that are sold in more than 30 countries. Its export value makes up 10 percent of China's total in this line.



farmers a letter of greetings, in which he praised the old pioneers for their noble spirit of building an enterprise through arduous effort. He pointed out that in today's socialist construction, it is still necessary to carry forward this valuable spirit.

Yu Weizhong, one of the first pioneers and now secretary of the farm's Party committee, said that just one month after the old pioneers arrived here in October 1955, Hu, then the first secretary of the Chinese Communist Youth League Central Committee, came from Beijing to see them, asking them the details about their lives, families, study and marriage.

At that time Hu encouraged the young people to overcome their difficulties and run the farm well. The group leader replied: "We are not to be intimidated by difficulties and hardships. We don't grumble living in these thatched shelters." One young man chipped in, "We built these homes and want to live in them forever." Hu said with a smile: "You are not supposed to live in these shelters forever. You will live in them for only three years. Today I eat your rice gruel and salted beans. I will come again to eat a banquet when your farm becomes prosperous enough to afford you the feast."

When Hu returned to Beijing, Yu recalled, he sent them several musical instruments together with a letter of encouragement, which read in part: "With my contribution fees I bought these musical instruments for your recreational activities, these books for you to read, and one alarm clock for you to use in your race against time."

And as Hu had promised, he returned to Gongqing last December, this time as the Party's general secretary. And indeed he was treated to a grand banquet. When Yu proposed inviting Hu and other state leaders to a grand celebration marking the 30th birthday of the

farm, Hu suggested it would be better not to hold celebrations of any kind. Rather, it would be advisable to organize some sort of meeting, and call it a gathering "to recall the past." He felt they should invite the old pioneers and their children, who were spread out over China. The guests should be mainly young people rather than state leaders. "Don't show off to the leaders, but educate the young," Hu said.

In the exhibition hall were Hu's photos taken with the farmers during his two visits to the farm, and his inscription, which read: "Where there is a will, there is a way," dedicated to the old pioneers; while, "Glory should go to the generation of the 1980s," was meant to encourage the young.

Currently, young people make up 80 percent of the farm's population. As enterprising as their old counterparts, these young people

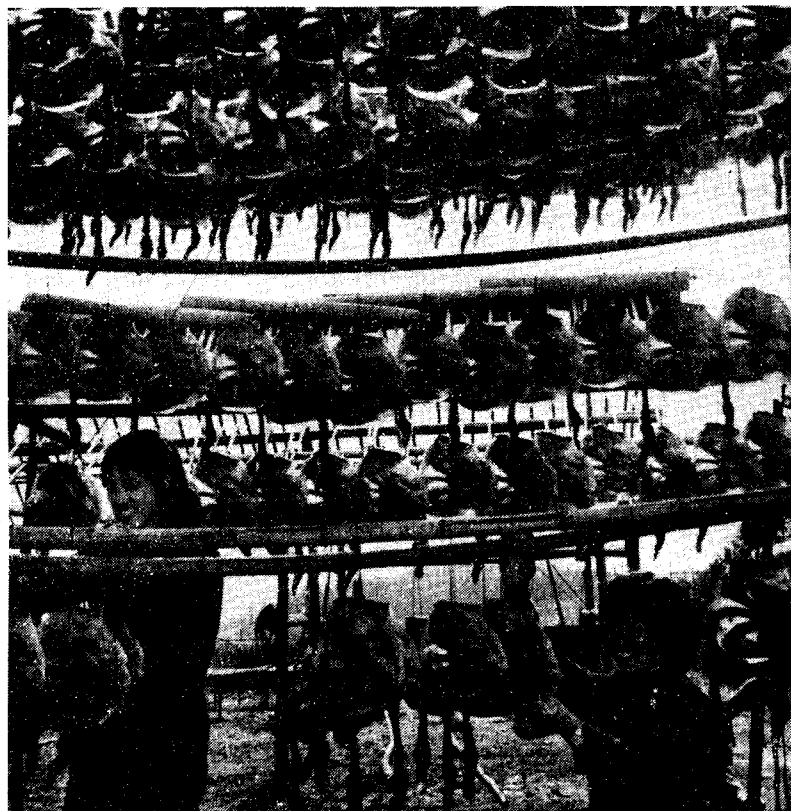
are searching for new lifestyles and ideals.

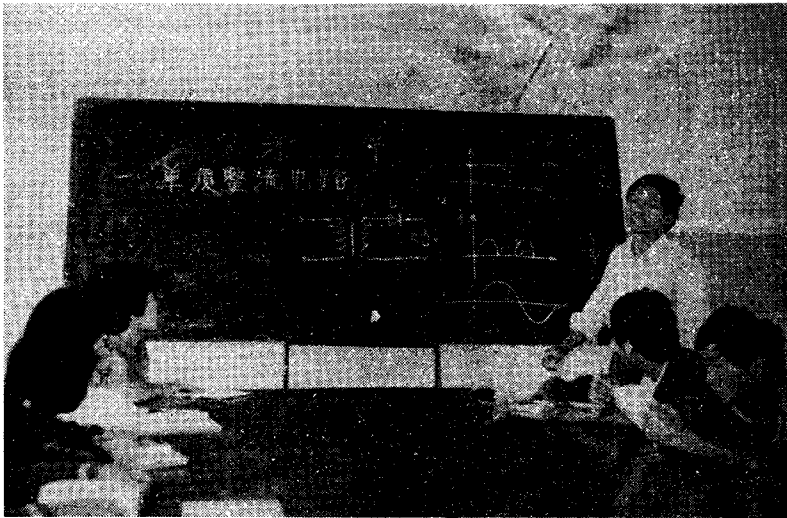
No Resting on Laurels

Tang Xiuying was one of the first wilderness pioneers. Thirty years ago, when Hu first visited the farm, he encouraged the 15-year-old Tang to work hard to overcome difficulties. "The most valuable spirit of young people," Hu had told her, "is that they have the courage to try something new." Tang's daughter, Zhou Lijun, was inspired by what Hu had said to her mother.

During the past hard times, the older generation displayed a dauntless spirit in dealing with any emergency. One day when floods washed through an area where 30,000 bricks were being submerged, a group of youths raced through the waters until they had saved all the bricks, and three other young men worked in the floods for seven consecutive days to save an electricity

The farm produces 100,000 dried, salted ducks every year, which are sold mainly to Hongkong and Macao.





Study after work.

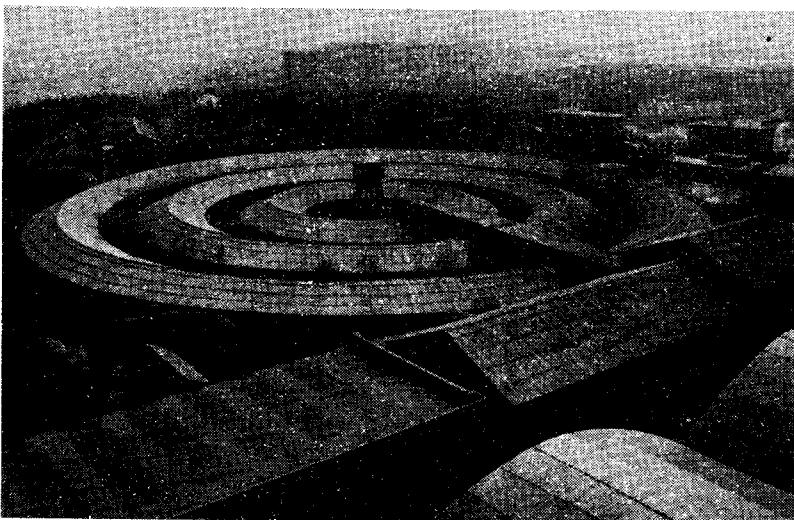
generator. Today, the material conditions are much better, but the daring spirit exhibited in those years is still being carried forward.

For example, when a decision was made in early 1980 to build an amusement centre to liven up the young people's spare-time activities, the young people declined a financial offer made by the farm even though it was already wealthy enough to allocate the money for the centre at the time. Instead, they worked extra hours every day and finally made 1 million yuan by the end of the year, and from this they took out 100,000 yuan for the new centre. It covers an area of 10,000 square metres,

the largest of its kind in the province. The centre was named "Home of the Young," in dedication to the youths who raised the money, worked out the blueprint and volunteered labour for its construction. It is complete with classical pavilions, European-style buildings, a skating rink, a ballroom, a reading room and a park. At the entrance to the centre stands a statue of a robust young man, half soaked in mud, with an atomic nucleus model in hands, indicating the farm's young people's determination to create a bright future.

They invite professors to give lectures at the centre and hold irregular forums and night classes

Gongqing City's mechanized pig farm.



on ethics, calligraphy and art, science and technology.

New Quests

Xing Qinglai, 37, had only completed junior middle school in the 1960s. Delving into piles of books after work, he finally passed the state examination to become an economist and today is deputy leader of the farm. Speaking of his farm, he said an enterprise could become "spineless," like a person with no ideal or goals. "Of course," he said, "we have targets for different periods. At the beginning when we actually had nothing, our target was just to keep the farm above water. By the end of the 1970s, as our economy improved, so did our targets. We wanted to build our farm into an enterprise complete with agriculture, industry and commerce and a thriving small town. Today we have raised our goals again. We hope to build our farm into a modern city."

Years ago, when 29-year-old Yu Xiulong was promoted to be leader of the building materials factory, the factory, with a staff of only 200 workers, was poorly equipped and operated at a loss. He worked hard together with his fellow workers and turned the factory into a profitable enterprise, bringing in 17,000 yuan by the end of 1984, and 34,000 yuan in the first ten months of this year. Yu said he planned to build the factory into one capable of producing several types of building materials.

Shen Jiayi, a 26-year-old farmer who works a vast stretch of rice paddies, said young people admired the old pioneers and have learnt from their examples. "Nevertheless," Shen said, "since the outdated toiling and molling methods are gone for good, and we are better educated, this generation should be even more outstanding." Today's young Gongqing farmers, like Shen, subscribe to the *Jiangxi Science and Technology Journal*

and listen to Radio Jiangxi's agro-technology programme to keep abreast of the modern science involved in farming.

Thirst for Knowledge

It is clear from the results of an examination taken by more than 3,000 young people from the farm that many of them are studying hard on their own in order to reach the level of senior middle school graduates or to win the title of technical positions.

Cao Yihua, a worker of the machinery plant, was a primary school graduate of 1977. After entering the factory, he became self-taught in mathematics, chemistry and physics and began to study English in 1979. Cao said his goal was to become an engineer, or at least a technician.

Yu Shuyu, a secondary technical school graduate of 1982, is now one of the leaders of a workshop. "I have much to learn," Yu said, sitting by his desk piled with col-

lege books. "I want to reach the college level on my own." The provincial authorities recently awarded him an advanced scientific prize for his research in co-operation with a research institute, using brewery wastes to produce protein sources for pigs. Since the beginning of this year, the farm already has sold more than 3,000 pigs to Hongkong, 80 percent of which produce lean pork.

Life Takes on New Colour

Yu Yaoling, a 23-year-old daughter of old pioneers, is now leader of the designing office of the down clothing factory. Staffed with 37 workers at an average age of 25, the office is responsible for designing and producing sample clothing for the main 3,000-worker factory. Yu Yaoling is said to be bright and productive, yet she often quarrels with her mother, a former tractor driver, because the older woman does not like her daughter to wear the new fashions. But Yu contends that times have changed. "I know

how hard their lives were and I work as hard as they did. But we are young people of the 1980s," she said. "We want to make our lives richer and more colourful. How can we just work and work without end?"

Yu Dayuan, a truck driver who has applied for Party membership, often complains about his older leaders. "I grumble because the farm still has much to be desired," he said. "I want to do my job well because I want to contribute more to the country."

The older generation, said Yu Xiulong, the leader of the farm, rests contented with its past achievements and does not concern itself with pay. The younger generation looks to riches and a colourful life and demands respect for personal rights and cherishes new ideas.

Despite the inevitable conflicts between the two generations, they have one thing in common: Both are enterprising and ready to bear great hardship, Yu said. □

Xingcheng: A Potential Summer Resort

by ZHANG ZEYU
Our Correspondent

XINGCHENG, a small town on the southwest coast of Liaoning Province, offers many attractions — ancient buildings, hot springs, sunbathing beaches, lush mountains and islands. Upon approval by the State Council, it was recently announced that the area would be developed into a tourist spot in north China in three to five years.

After a survey of Xingcheng many experts held that it was rare to find so many places of historic interest and natural beauty within 20 square kilometres in China, or elsewhere in the world.

Premier Zhao Ziyang also noted after his visit to Xingcheng that

the area could be developed into another famous summer resort, "Beidaihe."

For travellers the world over, Xingcheng could be the next spot on the map for summer resorts.

Ancient Town

Getting to Xingcheng is easy. It is linked to Beijing and Shenyang by train. Xingcheng faces the Bohai Sea and has undulating hills as its backdrop. Xingcheng County now has a population of 480,000, most being of the Han nationality, and Manchu, Mongolian, Hui, Korean and Xibo ethnic groups are also found in small numbers.

The ancient town, built during the middle period of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), has a history

that dates back 500 years. The outline of the town is shaped like a square, surrounded by a brick wall, and towers over the town gates at either side, as well as a bell-drum-tower in the middle of the town. The layout is typical of the Ming Dynasty style, and well-preserved so far. It has become a centre for the study of ancient architecture, and once served as an important military installation.

Entering the south gate, one steps onto South Street, reminiscent of the Ming Dynasty, clear and straight, flanked by grey-brick and tile houses. A stone memorial archway and stone lions along the street serve as witness to the age-old customs of Xingcheng. Originally, two stone archways were built in the street by Chong Zhen,

the last emperor of the Ming Dynasty, in honour of two governors under his rule, Zu Dashou and his brother Zu Dale.

The surviving five-tier archway, supported by four intricately engraved columns, is one of the town's most magnificent attractions.

Xingcheng's towers and gates have recently been repaired and restored to their original look. The renovation of old houses along the street also has begun, and when completed, the street will characterize the Ming Dynasty. All shop assistants will dress up in Ming costume and receive tourists with the etiquette and customs of that time. Goods and foods of the Ming tradition will be sold along the street, giving the visitor a real taste of Chinese history.

Sunbathing Beaches

A drive of some eight kilometres brings the curious traveller to one of the most fascinating and beautiful bathing beaches. Along the shore, you can see one summer health resort after another. The scenic coastal line spreads along 14 kilometres, and the plan is to

A stone memorial archway standing on South Street, reminiscent of the Ming Dynasty.



build four bathing beaches that will accommodate 200,000 swimmers. Two bathing beaches have been opened to the public.

The summer temperature in Xingcheng is 31 degrees centigrade (87 Fahrenheit), while the temperature of the sea water ranges between 18 and 20 degrees centigrade (around 70 Fahrenheit). The beach is broad and covered with soft, fine sand and the water clear of reefs. The mountains slope gently down to the shoreline, and this lovely backdrop creates a charming, natural scene.

In a pine forest along the sea-shore, a park offers visitors hills and ponds, pavilions and terraces to explore, as well as swimming and amusement facilities.

Hot Springs

A hot spring health resort nestled in green trees is located between the town of Xingcheng and the beach. There are 11 hot springs at the resort, that reach temperatures up to 70 degrees centigrade. The mineral hot springs contain potassium, sodium, calcium, magnesium, ammonia, sulphur, hydrogen and other elements, and have medicinal effects on rheumatism and skin diseases. The mineral springs are also known to help patients through quick recoveries after major operations. The "medicine water" has long been used as a tonic. The Mongolians come here every spring and autumn and take hot spring baths. When they return to their families, they bring back some of the mineral water, which is regarded as holy water and meant to keep the devil away.

According to the head of the health resort, General Secretary Hu Yaobang enjoyed a hot spring bath here not long ago.

Chrysanthemum Island

Tourists can get to Chrysanthemum Island, southeast of Xing-

cheng, by pleasure boat in 30 minutes. Chrysanthemum Island with an area of 13 square kilometres, was given its name because it abounds in wild chrysanthemums. There are rocky peaks covered with green trees and part of the grounds have been set aside for hunting. Places of historic interest include a pavilion, a glazed treasure well, a Tang Dynasty emperor's cave, and an ancient platform used by the rulers to take roll call of the officers. The island also had been a Buddhist centre in the Liao Dynasty (916-1125), according to historical records.

In the past, Chrysanthemum Island was hard to get to. Marriages among relatives became common so the islanders have tended to be short and slight in figure and are poor in health. The situation has changed greatly because traffic and travel have opened up since 1949.

Shoushan

About 2.5 kilometres east of the city, there is another gorgeous site to behold — Shoushan mountain. Its name, "head mountain," bears a striking resemblance to a figure's head. Apart from its precipitous and odd-shaped rocks, the mountain is celebrated for its cloud-capped rocky peaks. If one climbs to the top of the peaks, a fine view of blue sea, golden sand, pavilion and small bridges lies below.

With its natural beauty and numerous historical sites, Xingcheng offers a dangling rope in front of tourists, said Wang Zeming, head of Xingcheng County. But the development of Xingcheng will require much work, especially when it comes to the construction. Xingcheng officials are encouraging foreign entrepreneurs and businessmen to invest in the town for its development. To absorb more foreign investment, the Xingcheng County Tourism Development Company has been established to aid foreign investors. □

FROM THE CHINESE PRESS

Films, TV Co-operate to Prosper

from "RENMIN RIBAO"
(People's Daily)

NEW leisure distractions have lured away many young film fans. Some former cinemagoers have turned to self-education while others have acquired more sophisticated artistic tastes. All this is quite normal.

However, other factors have also had a hand in the decline in audiences. Some TV stations are importing trashy shows from Hongkong and elsewhere. Some video clubs entertain audiences with vulgar or even pornographic films. Unhealthy popular literature has spread unchecked. These factors combine to have a negative impact on the film industry.

Film studios, at the same time, are competing with each other to turn out superficial, low-quality films in the hope of winning over audiences, now that studios are responsible for their own profits and losses. Films that are more profound, more artistic and truthfully mirror life in present-day China have become scarce.

The solution lies in improving film quality. The pessimistic conclusion that TV will ultimately replace film is unfounded.

At present, there are only 50 million TV sets among China's 1 billion people. Last year saw a record crop of feature films, 140 in all. A total of 20 billion cinema tickets was sold last year.

In the United States, there are 77 TV sets per 100 people. But the nine major film producers still turn out 150 feature films annually.

In the Soviet Union, there are

80 million TV sets. Despite that, annual production of feature films is around 150 and 4 billion movie tickets are sold every year.

Good films are often later screened on television. The HBO cable TV station in the United States is geared to airing feature films. To accommodate different tastes, slots are set aside for classic movies, foreign films and other categories. "Little cinemas" are thus the homes of millions of families.

All this shows that the film and TV industries are becoming more interdependent. To raise the quality of films as well as TV, it is imperative to overcome the problem of their separate management systems.

This separation denies many good Chinese newsreels and science films access to TV screens. Moreover, film studios cannot afford to accept the low prices offered by TV stations now that they are financially accountable. This explains the film studios' reluctance to produce TV films.

Varied Viewpoints on Religion

from "XUESHUJIE DONGTAI"
(Academic Trends)

RELIGIOUS belief is protected by China's Constitution. Scholars, however, have different points of view on the merit of such protection. Their views fall into three categories.

The first point of view holds a negative attitude towards religion. Although religion is allowed to exist for quite a long time in so-

The Shanghai Film Studio, for example, produced two fine TV dramas—*Under the Shanghai Roofs* and *Night Roaming*—only to end up in financial straits. It has had to ask for "patronage" from factories and corporations—thinly veiled advertising. While finding difficulty in shooting hugely expensive military and historical films, studios face intense competition from TV. Under the pressure, they often resort to shooting pure "entertainment" and "commercial" films. This will ultimately lead to drastic deterioration in the quality of both films and TV dramas.

Films and TV shows have a daily audience of 300 million in China. Considering their great influence on society, improvement in quality is urgently needed. Film and TV drama producers need to find a wide range of fresh themes and explore different styles. Profundity must replace superficiality, and a truthful reflection of life must replace distortion. Political moralizing and stereotyped preaching, however, should be dropped.

cialist society, its fundamental doctrines and rites still distort the objective world. Its principles are in opposition to those of Marxism, and its narcotic nature remains unchanged. The people with this viewpoint say education on atheism should be emphasized in order to eliminate religion as quickly as possible.

The second school of thought contends that religion in socialist society is different from that of

other historical stages, but is, however, co-ordinated with socialism. Marx once said that besides its role as an opiate, religion also reflects people's hardships and their struggles against them. Unlike some other countries, China does not have its own state religion. Religion in China never became a political force controlling the state. It is only an undertaking organized by the believers themselves, and is not a tool used by the ruling class to control the people. As religion will exist for a long time in China, China should adopt a prudent and realistic policy to deal with it.

The third viewpoint maintains that in the beginning the world's main religions — Christianity, Judaism, Buddhism and Islam — were more positive than passive. Later they were used to exploit the masses, however. Religion, they say, played a positive role in the development of history, culture, arts, architecture and medicine. Politically speaking, progressive thoughts often fell into heresy when they first appeared. So now is the time to adopt a realistic attitude towards religion.

Suggestion for a Chinese Award

from "RENMIN RIBAO"
(People's Daily)

QIN MU, a famous writer, recently proposed that China offer an award for Chinese literature.

"Chinese is one of the world's 13 influential languages," Qin said. "People of 1,100 million speak and write Chinese, more than any other language in the world. In addition to people living in China, Chinese in Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines, the United States, Can-

ada, Australia and France also write books in Chinese. Besides, sinologists who are not Chinese also write in Chinese.

"Socialist literature on China's mainland and the literature of Hongkong and Taiwan constitute the body of Chinese literature. It is expected that Chinese literature will have a gradually larger influence on the world.

"Spain has the Cervantes Prize for literary works written in Spanish throughout the world, while Britain, the United States and France also have their own awards for prominent writers who write in English or French.

"In the near future there should be a large-scale assessment of fine literary works in Chinese. China should award the best of these for their excellence," Qin said.

China's Springs Fascinate

from "NONGMIN RIBAO"
(Peasants' Daily)

CHINA has many interesting freshwater springs.

The sensitive spring, located on Longmen Mountain in Guangyuan County, Sichuan Province, is so named because when a stone is thrown into the spring, the water will suddenly flow backward and then recommence flowing forward sometime later.

At the foot of the Yunlong Peak in the Cangshan Range in western Yunnan Province there is the butterfly spring. Next to it is an ancient tree. Each year, in late spring and early summer multi-coloured butterflies flock to the tree in droves. Their reflections in the mirror-like water of the spring make them look like beautiful flowers.

The responsive spring, located five kilometres north of Shouxian County in Anhui Province, answers when visitors call out. When people stand near the stream and shout, the normally placid spring comes gushing out in torrents.

The sister springs in Sanli village outside Zhengzhou, Henan Province, are two springs located close together. One is hot with temperatures above 32°C. The other is cold with temperatures below 18°C.

The intermittent spring in Haxi village in Dayong County, Hunan Province, has a water surface of 12 square metres and spurts out water every 20 minutes for three to seven minutes each time.

The fragrant spring in southern Suixian County, Henan Province, flows underground. The spring's water gives off the aroma of the locust flower and was first used in brewing about 800 years ago.

The milk spring on the southern slope of Xishan Mountain in Guiping County, the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, is China's sole source of softwater for export and is about 0.6 metres wide and 0.6 metres deep, and wells with milk-white water at about 9 am and 9 pm. The water from this spring is used in brewing China's famous "Maotai from Guangxi."

The coin-holding spring, or the Tiger Spring, near West Lake in Hangzhou, is a rapid spring with high surface tension. To throw a few coins into a cup filled with water from the spring the water will rise two to three millimetres higher than the cup. If you put another coin above on the water, it will remain atop it.

The water-fire spring in Tainan County, Taiwan Province, runs at a temperature of about 75°C. The water, which is black, bitter, alkaline and sulfurous, responds to matches being struck around it by billowing the matches flame.

Bridging Sino-Japanese Trade Gap

China's yawning trade deficit with Japan has affected the two countries' economic and trade development. Statistics show that in 1984 China's trade deficit with Japan reached US\$2 billion. In the first half of this year, the deficit rose to US\$2.3 billion, and this trend is still upwards.

In the past two years, many factors have contributed to China's expanding trade deficit with its largest trade partner. First, the amount of raw and semi-finished materials, machinery and chemical products imported from Japan to meet China's needs has increased. Second, China has increased its exports of petroleum, coal, farm produce, textiles and aquatic products to Japan at low prices, while its imports from Japan have been expensive and too much in quantity. In addition, China's exports to Japan are adversely affected by Japan's restrictions on the import of Chinese silks, satins, certain farm produce and other goods.

The volume of trade between China and Japan reached US\$12.73 billion in 1984, 25 percent of China's total foreign trade. If China's trade deficit with Japan continues to multiply, the steady development of trade between the two countries will be impossible.

In order to solve the problem of unbalanced trade between the two countries, both sides need to make concerted efforts. China will vigorously expand its production, improve the quality of its products, open up more channels for exports and strengthen its transport capacity, so as to meet the needs of the Japanese market. At the same time, Japan should step up its petroleum and coal imports from China and

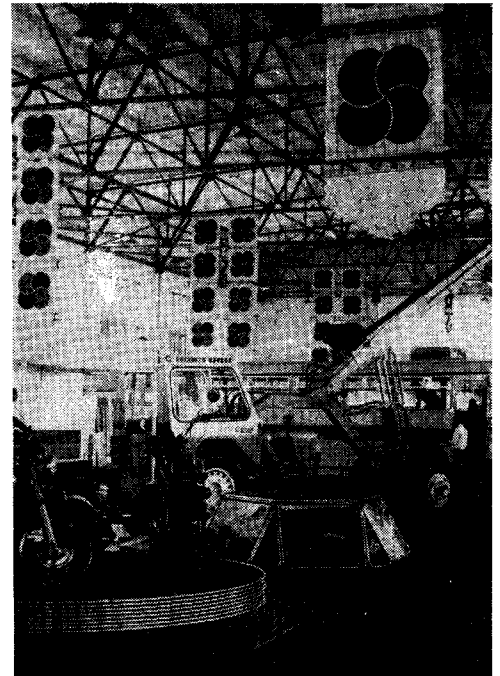
increase its imports of traditional Chinese products. Only when its exports to Japan multiply and its payment capacity improve will China be able to import more from Japan.

China and India Boost Trade Ties

On November 25 in New Delhi, representatives from China and India signed a 1986 trade protocol involving US\$160 million, the largest sum in Sino-Indian trade history.

In the past there have been frequent exchanges between China and India, but trade between the two has not become heavy for various reasons. With the recent development of relations between the two countries, Sino-Indian trade has made rapid progress, going from 25.6 million rupees (about US\$2 million) in 1977 to more than 400 million rupees (about US\$30 million) in 1984. China's major Indian imports include metal products, shellac, iron ore, iron and steel, chromite and other raw materials. Its exports to India include spices, silk, industrial chemicals, yarn and nonferrous metals.

In order to promote Sino-Indian trade, China and India signed a trade agreement in August 1984. That three-year agreement stipulates that each will give the other most-favoured-nation treatment in commerce, shipping, import and export procedures, customs duties and taxation. Upon expiration, unless one party disagrees, the contract



Vehicles from India on display at the Asia-Pacific International Trade Fair.

will be renewed for another three years. The trade agreement also stipulates that the two countries use mutually acceptable and convertible currency for the payment.

Apart from their trade relations, China and India are exploring the possibility for the establishment of joint ventures and technology transfers.

In 1984 China sent a delegation to attend India's international trade fair. This year, India also sent business people from more than 100 state-owned and private companies to attend the Asia-Pacific International Trade Fair held in Beijing, in order to seek new ways for trade, economic and technological co-operation between the two countries.

US Investment Up in China

The volume of US investment in China is growing year by year, and, to date, amounts to US\$1 billion. About US\$150 million of that sum is in the joint ventures, while US\$600 million has been invested in the joint exploration and development of China's offshore petroleum.

By the end of 1984, 62 Sino-US joint ventures had been launched, making the United States second only to Hongkong in the number of projects in China. Sino-US joint ventures involve machine-building, chemicals, petroleum, motor vehicles, textiles, food and tourist industries and are located in about a dozen provinces and cities including Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjin and Guangdong Province.

These joint ventures have been operated with advanced technologies, equipment and managerial expertise. Although many have not been operating long, they have obtained a fairly high rate of returns.

For example, tests showed that the quality of the coated razor blades produced by the Shenmei Daily Use Products Co. Ltd., a joint venture financed by the Shenyang Daily Use Metals Industrial Corp. and the Gillette Co. of the United States, has matched Gillette's technical standards. The venture's profits in 1984 were 2.3 times higher than predicted.

China and foreign oil companies have signed 23 contracts for the development of China's petroleum resources. Of these contracts, the most — 12 — are with Americans. Some of these companies have already struck oil and gas.

To encourage US investment in China, the two countries have concluded investment insurance, guarantee agreements and an agree-

ment on avoiding dual taxation. An investment protection agreement is now under discussion by officials of the two countries.

A Joint Venture to Modify Boeing 727s

On November 7, three Chinese companies and two American companies signed a preliminary agreement on the establishment of a joint venture to modify a fleet of Boeing 727-200 aircraft. With a total investment of US\$40 million, China and the United States own equal shares in the venture.

Boeing now has 994 aircraft of the 727-200 type in service. A major plan for their modification entails replacing the original three engines with two improved ones. Other alterations will include lengthening the fuselage and adding 18 seats, refitting the cockpit to accommodate a two-person rather than a three-person crew. The cost for refitting each aircraft is expected to be approximately US\$15 million.

Experts from China's astronautics industry said the revamped Boeing 727-200s would save fuel, have less noise, carry more passengers and be able to land and take off at medium-sized airports with runways of about 1,500 metres, making the model ideal for China's civil aviation services.

Under the contract, the prototype will be modified and refitted in the United States, but the modifications will be done in China.

News in Brief

• In the first half of this year, China set up 687 joint ventures. It is expected that the total number of joint ventures in China will exceed 2,000 by the end of 1985. Of the ventures currently under way, the number of large and tech-

nology-intensive projects has increased dramatically.

With the exception of Tibet, joint ventures have been launched in all parts of China. Foreign business people who have invested in China hail from 28 countries and regions, including developing nations such as Kuwait, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Tunisia.

• By the end of October this year, the Trademark Agency of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade handled more than 20,000 trademark registrations for foreign firms and individuals in China. Representatives from 40 countries and regions have applied for trademark registrations. The Chinese trademark agency has forged ties with 500 trademark agencies and lawyer's offices in 100 countries and regions.

• In order to develop its business in China, the World Bank opened an office in Beijing on October 25. The World Bank has established 36 representative offices around the world, and has granted China loans amounting to US\$1,100 million this year. The figure will jump to US\$3,000 million in the next five years.



Exhibiting Custom of Tujia, Miao People

An exhibit, displaying an assortment of cultural relics and photos from the Miao and Tujia nationalities of Hunan Province, opened in Beijing recently.

Located in the northwest of Hunan Province in central China, the Xiangxi Tujia and Miao Autonomous Prefecture is a picturesque area with 2.77 million inhabitants who share 20,000 square kilometres of land that are divided by the Wulin Mountains.

Tujia Love Song

The Tujia nationality has a history that dates back to the 10th century. The Tujia people originally engaged solely in agriculture and hunting rather than commerce and have traditionally carried their grain, firewood and water on their backs. Some of the baskets and pails they use to carry their products around are part of the current display.

As seen in a televised programme at the exhibit, the Tujia people excel at singing and dancing and have a song for nearly every occasion, including dating, which is heralded with the Tujia *Love Song*. The songs *Digging* and *Weeding* accompany those tasks, while young women sing *Weeping Bride* when they are getting married. The Tujia also have a song entitled *God* which is sung during worship.

The Tujia's more popular traditional dances include the *Baishou*, the *Flag Dance* and the *Horse Dance*. The *Baishou* includes different versions for different occasions. The *Xiaobaishou*, for example, is performed in January and focuses on farmwork, such as planting corn, and is accompanied by a trumpet, the *suona* horn,

gongs and drums.

About 10,000 dancers participate in another dance, the *Dabaishou*, which is held every three years. For the dance young people don the Tujia's typically colourful brocade and disguise themselves as warriors. The event lasts for one week. *Maogusi*, the Tujia's oldest drama about how the Tujias homesteaded in the wilderness centuries ago, is also performed at the festival.

Some of the Tujia's traditional musical instruments are also on display at the exhibit and visitors are treated to a performance called *Daliuzi*, a melody with a strong rhythm played with gongs, drums and cymbals.

Women of the Tujia nationality are skillful artists, particularly in weaving, embroidering, making batik, carving and painting, and tend to use the natural colours for their artwork. The Tujia's brocade, which is colourful and simple and bears traditional designs, captures many visitors' interests, often so much so that many ask to purchase pieces of the display. Tujia brocade can be traced back to more than 1,000 years ago when it was considered an article of imperial tribute. While the warp is of cotton yarn, the weft consists of thick silk, cotton and woollen yarn. The materials, patterns, colours all relate to daily life, with clouds, peonies, swallows and the good luck phoenix-peony pattern being the most popular.

Among the photos exhibited, one of the most prominent is of an 80-year-old woman engrossed in brocading. Ye Yucui, a veteran ar-

tist of the Tujia nationality, began brocading as a young child and can now sew nearly 100 different patterns. Ye's vivid brocade work won her international acclaim at a London Fair, as well as at other exhibitions in Eastern Europe.

Hailing Miao Heroes

About 3,000 years ago, the Miao people lived on the middle reaches of the Changjiang River. Today, however, they populate areas of Guizhou, Yunnan, Hunan, Guangxi and Sichuan.

Because Miao live in heavily wooded areas, most of their buildings are made of wood, while their roofs are usually of tile, bark, straw and stone. The typical Miao house is set up on the side of a hill, supported by long pillars on the lower half, and shorter ones on the upper half.

The Miao people have many festivals, among which "April 8" and "June 6" commemorating national heroes, and "Celebrating the Beginning of Autumn," are the most important. Behind "Celebrating the Beginning of Autumn" is a tale of one of the Miao's heroes, a young man named Baguidare. Baguidare, handsome and honest, was a skilled archer. One day, as he was hunting, Baguidare shot a hawk. After he did so he saw an embroidered shoe fall from the sky. Determined to find the owner of the errant shoe, Baguidare made a huge swing that could hold eight people, and at the beginning of autumn, Baguidare invited all the people in the area to come to use his swing. It was at one of these events that Baguidare found the woman who had lost her shoe. She later became his wife. Since then, young Miao people have come to

the "Beginning of Autumn" festival to look for spouses.

The colourful Miao costumes are one of the exhibit's most popular displays and include ancient scarfs, pleated skirts, cloaks, vests and shoes. The exhibit, in which the evolution of Miao clothing is explained, shows that the Miao still keep their traditional styles of dress. Long ago, both Miao men and women wore colourful clothing, pleated skirts, boat-shaped shoes, and colourful kerchiefs. In the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911), Miao men began wearing trousers and jackets with buttons down the front. At the same time, Miao women started wearing clothes of which the front, the cuffs and trousers were embroidered.

Miao costumes are of more than 20 styles. Miao dress, kerchiefs and dress decorations all have meanings—wishes and ideals, diligence and bravery, good harvests, love and happiness. The exhibit provides the public with a vivid picture of the Miao past, the Miao way of life, and Miao's close economic and cultural ties with other nationalities.

Left: A young Miao woman in traditional dress.
Right: An embroidered Miao work.



According to some experts, the geometric patterns found in Miao clothing in Sichuan, Guizhou and Yunnan are similar to that of the Yao in Guangxi, an observation, which some say supports the theory that the Miao and the Yao are descendants of the same ancestors. Although the theory needs further proving, it is likely that Miao dress is the mixture of its own heritage and that of other nationalities. Others suggest the geometric patterns are in some way related to the geometric patterns on the pottery of the New Stone Age.

Acclaimed as the "flower" of the Miao's artifacts, a sash woven with silk is also the collection's most unique piece. Learning to make the sash, which is woven into various patterns with multi-coloured edges, is compulsory for every Miao girl. When Miao girls come of age, they often give a sash as a gift to their boyfriend, who then wears it to let others know he has a girlfriend.

According to the Miao, silver is the symbol of light and wealth.

During important holidays, Miao women wear silver necklaces, earrings, bracelets and rings. A silver toothpick, carved with a double phoenix, means love, and one with a carp jumping across the dragon gate, means happiness. Such finery combines the customs, traditions and beauty of the Miao people.

Before liberation, the ruling class deprived the Miao of their cultural life, stifling the Miao's artistic talents. By 1949 when New China was founded, 90 percent of the Miao were illiterate and practised few of their traditional rites. Since liberation, however, the Party and government has stressed cultural development in the minority areas. Special teams have been sent to the Miao region to record legends, folk songs, and arts and crafts, and have since published the *Huamei* and *The Story of the Evergreen Tree*, two collections of Miao short stories. In addition, such Miao and Tujia epic novels as *Baishou Song*, *Weeping Bride* and *Old Sayings* have also been published.



The Thriving Art of Shaolin Kungfu

Every dawn, amid temples and towering cypress trees, 40 monks dressed in gray can be seen practising Shaolin kungfu, a form of martial arts that has been a part of the monks' morning ritual for hundreds of years.

The Shaolin Temple, located in Dengfeng County, Henan Province, is important to both Buddhists and kungfu, or *wushu*, masters. The temple achieved its distinction as a kungfu centre in the 5th century when an Indian monk named Damo, who came to live at the temple, brought with him an Indian branch of Buddhism called Dhyana, which included kungfu in its religious practices. Shaolin kungfu, as the art came to be known, reached even greater prominence in the 7th century after some of the Shaolin monks saved the life of Li Shimin (599-649), one of China's greatest emperors.

Today, the temple's current master, Dechan, 82, who is also vice-chairman of the Buddhism Association of Henan Province, still leads the monks in both their daily kungfu practice and in their scriptures. In addition to its Buddhist devotees, the temple also attracts thousands of kungfu enthusiasts from throughout China.

In Dengfeng County, where 20 percent of the residents practise kungfu, the area's *wushu* association, established in 1980, has three branches and more than 1,000 members. Every year, in addition to two major village competitions held during the Zhongyue Fair and the Lantern Festival, all the units

in Dengfeng County, especially the schools, hold year-round *wushu* competitions.

Considering the degree of China's current infatuation with kungfu, one would find it hard to believe that the activity was once forbidden. During the "cultural revolution", Shaolin kungfu was considered feudal, and monks of all ages were routed from their temples, converted to the secular world and put to work in the fields. Shaolin Temple, like other temples, was left deserted.

In 1979, when the temple was rehabilitated, the monks returned. Since 1980, 43 *wushu* schools, state- and privately-owned, have opened, enrolling more than 5,000 students and employing about 140 teachers. A complete training system has been formed with kindergartens, primary, secondary and high schools. The most prominent of these schools today are the Shaolin Wushu Training Centre and the Shaolin Wushu Sports School.

The Shaolin Wushu Training Centre focuses on educating kungfu coaches for other provinces and regions. The centre's 400 students, whose ages range from 11 years to 21 years, come from 24 municipalities and provinces. Their three-year programme, which is 20 yuan per month, includes instruction in the goals of kungfu — preserving China's heritage, fitness and self-defence — as well as in the physical movements of Shaolin kungfu. During their first year, students are taught basic skills and empty-hand fighting skills, while during the

third year, students study *wushu* theory and fighting skills between two.

Dengfeng County considers teaching quality very important. Three kungfu schools there have been closed down for the poor quality of their instruction. All the teachers at the Shaolin Wushu Training Centre have received a standard *wushu* education. The centre's president, Liang Yiquan, 56, a national grade two *wushu* coach, comes from a long line of *wushu* enthusiasts. Liang's great grandfather was a *wushu* apprentice to the renowned *wushu* artist and monk, Zhande, while Liang's father was the *wushu* director for the army of General Feng Yuxiang before liberation. Liang began learning *wushu* when he was six years old and has written a book on the subject entitled *Songshan Shaolin Quanfa*. With 40 years of coaching experience behind him, Liang now gives classes in *wushu* theory to the school's students. To raise the teachers' theoretical level, Liang said his centre invites teachers from the Beijing Sports Culture Institute to the Shaolin centre every summer to lecture on athletic subjects. Liang said his centre is popular not only with the Chinese, but with foreigners as well. He said he and his associates at the Shaolin centre have received dozens of letters from foreigners expressing their interest in studying there. Soon, the Shaolin Temple, he said, may go from being a relatively little known *wushu* centre for select Chinese and Buddhist monks, to one for *wushu* enthusiasts from around the world.

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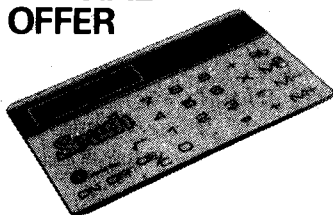
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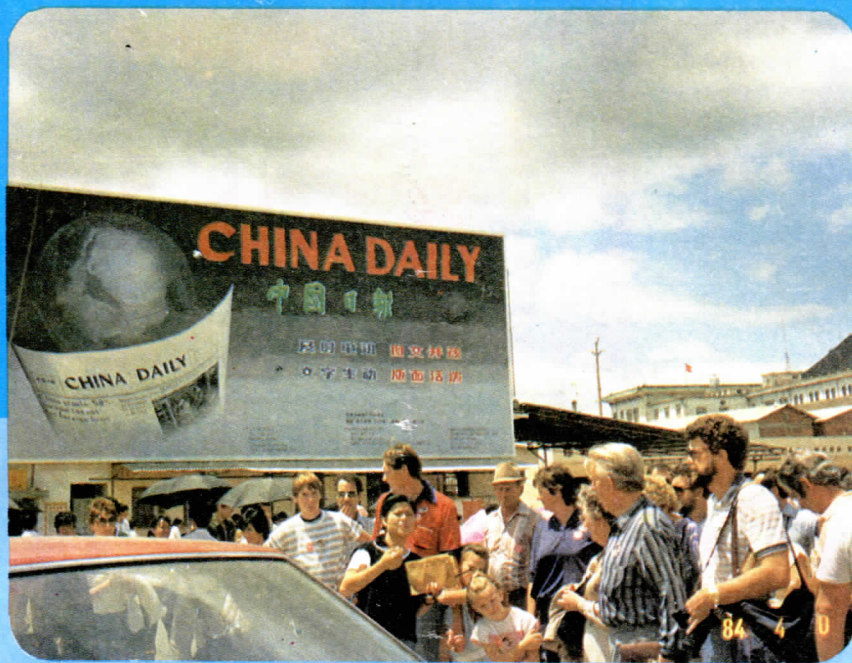
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