

No. 6 February 11, 1980

BEIJING REVIEW

北京周報

A CHINESE WEEKLY
OF
NEWS AND VIEWS

- Over Seven Million People Employed in 1979
- Just Call of the Islamic Community



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

The Employment Situation

More than seven million joined the nation's work force last year, representing the bulk of those urgently waiting for employment. How was this accomplished? What are China's employment policies and problems? The Director of the State Bureau of Labour answers, and our correspondent provides details with urban, suburban and rural roundups. (Page 13)

Right or Ultra-Left?

A philosophy researcher answers our readers' question as to why the gang of four's political line was ultra-Left and not Right. (Page 24)

Islamic Rebuff to Moscow

The Islamabad conference shows that the Moslem world is keenly aware of the Soviet threat. (Page 8)

Foreign Affairs

Advances in Sino-American relations (Page 3); No to Olympics in Moscow (Page 4); Vietnamese fake proposal turned down (Page 5).

More Trade, More Tourists

As part of the modernization programme, China is buying and selling more abroad (Page 6). Tourism is also expanding (Page 29). All this is only the beginning.

"Teahouse" to Go Abroad

Lao She's famous play enjoys a popular revival in China.

Come autumn, a Chinese troupe will stage it in West Germany and France. (Page 27)

Facets of Chinese Life

The housing situation (Page 7); a new oilfield in the north-east (Page 7); from Living Buddha to college professor (Page 30); and 22 Asian gold medals for Chinese athletes (Page 28).



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Vol. 23, No. 6 February 11, 1980

Published in English, French, Spanish, Japanese, German and Arabic editions

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COVER: About 7.5 million middle school graduates were given employment last year (see p. 13). Picture shows one of the girl graduates who is now doing service work in a mining area.

Published every Monday by
BEIJING REVIEW, Beijing (37), China
Post Office Registration No. 2-922
Printed in the People's Republic of China

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Message of Greetings To President of Iran

In a message to Abol Hassan Banisadr on his assumption of the office of the first President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Ye Jianying expressed the wish that the friendship and relations of amicable co-operation between China and Iran and between the two peoples will continue to grow in strength and develop.

The message, sent on January 30, also said: "We wish Your Excellency and the fraternal Iranian people many new successes in the noble cause of safeguarding state sovereignty and independence and turning Iran into a prosperous country."

Banisadr was formerly Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance. He was elected the first President of Iran last month.

Sino-U.S. Relations

Agreement on Trade Relations. The Chinese Foreign Ministry and the U.S. Embassy in Beijing exchanged notes on February 1, affirming that all the necessary legal procedures had been completed and the agreement on trade relations between the two countries came into force as of that day.

The agreement stipulates that "the contracting parties

shall accord each other most-favoured-nation treatment with respect to products originating in or destined for the other contracting party." The two sides "undertake to adopt all appropriate measures to create the most favourable conditions for strengthening, in all aspects, economic and trade relations between the two countries. The agreement provides that "the contracting parties affirm that government trade offices contribute importantly to the development of their trade and economic relations. They agree to encourage and support the trade promotion activities of these offices."

This agreement shall remain in force for three years.

Scientific and Technological Co-operation. Following U.S. Defence Secretary Harold Brown's visit to China, Dr. Frank Press, Science and Technology Adviser to the U.S. President, arrived in Beijing in the latter half of January. During his visit, which marked the steady growth of relations between China and the United States, the two sides signed the Report of the First Meeting of the Sino-U.S. Joint Commission on Scientific and Technological Co-operation, the Memorandum of Understanding on Setting up a Landsat Ground Station in China between the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and four other documents.

Scientific and technological co-operation between the two countries has achieved gratifying results and promises further development in the days to come. Last year when Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping visited

the United States, he signed with President Carter an agreement on scientific and technological co-operation. With this as the basis, the two sides have in the past year signed protocols on co-operation in agriculture, space, high energy physics, and for scholarly communication and exchange of students. The 80 items of immediate co-operation and exchange include a considerable increase in the number of exchange lecturers and scholars on study tours.

During the talks in Beijing, the two sides explored possibilities of extending the scope of co-operation to new areas, including environmental protection, electronics, nuclear energy and aviation.

At a press conference he gave in Beijing prior to his departure for home, Dr. Frank Press said that the United States and China discussed "the construction and launching of a broadcast and communications satellite." He added: "We have much to learn and the Chinese have much to learn from us as well." He said that in addition to earthquake prediction, China has made notable progress in the development of pest-resistant strains of crops, the epidemiological studies of cancer, population control and the building of small hydroelectric stations.

Both sides noted that the broad programmes for co-operation in science and technology were proceeding rapidly and satisfactorily towards the mutually-acknowledged goal of improving the well-being and prosperity of the peoples of both countries.

Summer Olympic Games in Moscow Inappropriate

"By invading Afghanistan the Soviet Union brazenly tramples on norms of international relations and poses a serious threat to world peace. While the Soviet Union continues to occupy Afghanistan in disregard of the resolution of the U.N. General Assembly, it is clearly inappropriate to hold the 22nd Summer Olympic Games in Moscow."

The above statement was made by a spokesman of the Information Department of the Chinese Foreign Ministry on February 1. He also said: "We support the call on the International Olympic Committee to decide on the transfer or cancellation of the games, and we will work to promote such a decision." If the International Olympic Committee fails to make such a decision, the Chinese Government will ask the Chinese Olympic Committee to seriously consider staying away from the 22nd Summer Olympic Games in Moscow.

An editorial published on February 4 in *Tiyu Bao*, China's most influential sports paper, said that the Chinese people, sports workers and athletes who uphold the Olympic spirit fully support the above statement.

"Chinese sports workers and athletes," the editorial said, "approve and uphold the Olympic spirit, and are very glad to participate in the Olympic Games to exchange experience with the athletes of other countries, make new achievements, enhance friendship and make joint efforts to promote world peace. A Chinese

sports delegation has arrived at Lake Placid to take part in the 13th Winter Olympic Games. Chinese sports workers and athletes have made a great deal of preparations for the 22nd Summer Olympic Games. But Soviet aggression against Afghanistan has prevented us from realizing our wish. We hope that the International Olympic Committee will make a correct decision so that the 22nd Summer Olympic Games, on which world attention is focused, will be held at an appropriate site. Chinese sports workers and athletes are willing to do their part to make the games a success."

China's Indisputable Sovereignty Over Xisha And Nansha Islands

On January 30, the Chinese Foreign Ministry published a document with the title, "China's Indisputable Sovereignty Over the Xisha and Nansha Islands."

Quoting incontrovertible historical records and official documents, the Foreign Ministry's document explodes the Vietnamese authorities' fabrications and proves China's indisputable sovereignty over the Xisha and Nansha Islands.

The document is divided into five parts.

The first part cites a host of historical records to show that China is the first to discover, develop and exercise jurisdiction over these two island groups. This jurisdiction has been exercised by successive Chinese governments over the centuries.

The second part is about the illegal occupation of these two island groups first by France and then by Japan in the 1930s and early 1940s. After Japan's surrender in 1945, the then Chinese government took over them all and put them under its jurisdiction.

The third part cites a wealth of facts to show that China's sovereignty over the two island groups has been widely recognized in the world.

The fourth part invokes the Vietnamese Government's statements, notes, official newspaper, map and school textbook to prove that up to 1974, the Vietnamese Government had always recognized that the two island groups belong to China, and to expose the perfidy of the Vietnamese authorities.

The fifth part refutes the "White Book" published by the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry on September 28, 1979. The Hoang Sa and Truong Sa Archipelagoes described in old Vietnamese writings are actually some offshore islands of central Viet Nam. And the "White Book" uses these descriptions which have nothing to do with China's Xisha and Nansha Islands to prove that these two island groups belonged to Viet Nam even then. The Chinese document shows that Viet Nam's argumentation cannot hold water.

In conclusion, the Chinese document says, "The Vietnamese authorities' illegal occupation of part of China's Nansha Islands and their territorial claim to China's Xisha and Nansha Islands can only serve to reveal their regional hegemonist and aggressor expansionist ambitions."

The Chinese Foreign Ministry's document will be published in our next issue.

Viet Nam's Tricky Proposal Exposed

Viet Nam's call for the cessation of armed conflicts during the Spring Festival "is nothing but a trick used by the Vietnamese side in exploiting the feelings of the Chinese and Vietnamese peoples towards the traditional Spring Festival."

This was said by Han Nianlong, Head of the Chinese Government Delegation, in his February 4 reply to a letter from the Head of the Vietnamese Government Delegation.

The letter of reply said that the proposal was made at a time when the Vietnamese aggressor troops were launching a dry-season offensive against Kampuchea, with the obvious aim of diverting public attention and at the same time shirking its responsibility for creating protracted tension along the Sino-Vietnamese border and launching a new anti-China propaganda campaign.

Han Nianlong's letter also said: "Over a long period of time, the Chinese Government and people have worked consistently for the maintenance of peace and tranquillity along the Sino-Vietnamese border." "In recent years," it added, "Viet Nam has never stopped its armed provocations and intrusions in the Chinese border areas. Incomplete statistics show that in the period of less than a month from the beginning of this year there were more than 200 such incidents created by the Vietnamese side. Vietnamese troops have often

opened fire into Chinese territory and dispatched armed personnel and special agents to encroach upon China."

The Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister pointed out in his letter: "If the Vietnamese side truly wishes to ensure peace and tranquillity along the Sino-Vietnamese border, it should immediately stop all its armed provocations and incursions in the Chinese border areas and withdraw its aggressor troops from Kampuchea."

POLITICAL

Urban Basic Organizations

On January 19 *Renmin Ribao* published the full texts of the regulations governing the setting up of neighbourhood committees and other organizations in the cities. They are the Organic Regulations of the Urban Neighbourhood Committee, the Provisional Organic Regulations of the People's Mediation Committee, the Provisional Organic Regulations of the Social Order and Security Committee, and the Organic Regulations of the Subdistrict Office. These regulations, all enacted in the early 50s, were recently reaffirmed by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress.

The first three are the people's self-governing organizations, and their staff members are directly elected by the residents. The fourth is a branch office set up by the municipal or district people's government to keep in close contact with the people. Its tasks are to direct the work of the neighbourhood committees and report to a higher

level on the residents' opinions and requirements. The sub-district office is set up in an urban district with 50,000 to 100,000 residents.

The neighbourhood committee is an organization for 100 to 600 households. Its tasks are to deal with matters pertaining to the public welfare of the residents, to canvass their opinions and convey their suggestions to the local government, to encourage them to abide by the law, to mediate disputes between them, and to direct the work of public order and security.

Under the neighbourhood committees are residents' groups, each made up of 15 to 40 households.

The tasks of the mediation committees are to mediate in civil disputes and handle minor criminal cases, and through mediation publicize the government's laws and decrees and promote unity among the people.

The tasks of the social order and security committees are to



Ten years ago, Sun Guilan (left), head of a neighbourhood committee in the city of Baicheng in north-east China's Jilin Province, adopted Zhang Yuhai (first from the right), an orphan and a juvenile delinquent. With Sun's help and education, Zhang has turned over a new leaf and has now become an advanced worker.

help the public security organs apprehend and exercise supervision and control over criminals and counter-revolutionaries who disrupt social order and security.

These organizations at the basic level played an important role in the 50s. Later, however, they were seriously sabotaged by Lin Biao and the gang of four who trampled on the people's democratic rights and undermined the legal system. In order to strengthen the socialist legal system and promote stability and unity, the government is making great efforts to restore, consolidate and improve these organizations. It is for this purpose that the four regulations have been reaffirmed.

Democratic Election of Cadres

Reform of the cadre system is going on as an experiment all over China. The experience of a united company of agriculture, industry and commerce in east China is attracting attention, for there the cadres at various levels (except company directors) are elected and not appointed by the leadership.

Located in Jiangxi Province's Yiyang County, this enterprise consists of two farms, two factories, a nursery garden, a transport team and a sales department. It is staffed by 358 workers, and 280 of them are middle school graduates who had worked for several years in the countryside.

Soon after the company was set up last year, the leadership solicited the masses' opinions as to how to reform the cadre system. After repeated discussions, it decided to take the following measures:

(1) Hold democratic elections once every year. The heads of the farms and factories, nursery garden, transportation team and sales department as well as the workshops and groups are all elected by secret ballots.

(2) Conduct opinion polls once every six months. Such polls are an appraisal and check on the work of the elected cadres.

Every worker in the company is given a ballot-paper with a list of names of the cadres, on whom they may express agreement or disagreement as to their re-election. Those cadres who get over 50 per cent of the workers' support are re-elected; those with less than 30 per cent support must resign; those with 30-50 per cent support may remain at their posts if they wish, provided they sum up their experiences and show determination to work better in the future. When the result of the polls is made public, the masses are clear as to which cadres are competent and thus enjoy high prestige, and which are not.

(3) Put up opinion boxes, in which any worker may give his or her opinion of the cadres. Those in charge of the boxes are chosen by the workers and trusted by them. They collect the opinions at regular intervals, sort them out and submit their suggestions for study by the administrative committees of the farms and factories, and they see to it that all questions are answered.

(4) Different amounts of subsidies are given to the cadres according to their positions and contributions.

Since the adoption of these new measures a year ago, competent technical personnel have been promoted to leading positions and the united company

is run in a much better way. Since competent cadres may be promoted and incompetent ones demoted, the company leadership does not have to worry about what positions to give the cadres.

ECONOMIC

Expansion of Foreign Trade

The total value of China's foreign trade in 1979 was 45,300 million yuan, an increase of 29.2 per cent over that of 1978. Exports amounted to 21,200 million yuan, 26.6 per cent more than in 1978, and imports, 24,100 million yuan, a 31.6 per cent increase.

In 1980 China will keep expanding its foreign trade, which is indispensable to the modernization programme.

The import of advanced technology and equipment is aimed at strengthening China's self-reliance. Priority is given to the introduction of technology and equipment for the exploitation of oil, coal and non-ferrous metals and for the construction of power stations. At the same time, equipment for the light and textile industries and for transport and communications will also be imported.

To pay for these, China will increase its exports. With the readjustment of the national economy, more textile and light industrial goods, agricultural and side-line products and goods in demand on the international market will be produced for export.

China will also expand business in such fields as compensatory trade and joint ventures.

Overseas Insurance Business

The Chinese People's Insurance Company is adopting effective measures to expand its overseas insurance business. Compensation payments involving a certain amount of money will be available from its agents abroad. The company's premium rates will be adjusted from time to time on the basis of information available to the company and international standards.

The insured parties which suffer small losses can make claims for compensation simply by showing the receipts.

In order to keep pace with the growing economic co-operation between China and other countries, the company has opened new areas of business including compensatory trade insurance, insurance for foreign goods to be processed in China and their transportation, insurance for engineering projects and installation of imported equipment and property insurance for joint ventures.

Two new categories of business have been added, one against "contract failure" and the other against "political risk." Under the "contract failure" clause, the insurance company will compensate losses caused by failure in fulfilment of contract. Losses incurred through wars, riots, or government requisition, confiscation or restrictions are covered under the "political risk" clause. However, government requisition, confiscation or restrictions in response to actions by the insured or his representative that violate the law will not be compensated.

The company has established over 300 agents in major ports and cities of more than 100 countries and regions.

The State Council has decided to restore the domestic insurance business this year, including insurance for property and transportation of goods.

Liaohe Oilfield

Building of the Liaohe Oilfield, which has a rich deposit of oil and gas, has been completed.

Situated in an area between Shenyang, Yingkou and Jinzhou in northeast China's Liaoning Province, the oilfield which is easy of access by rail or road produces 5 million tons of crude oil and 1,700 million cubic metres of gas a year at present.

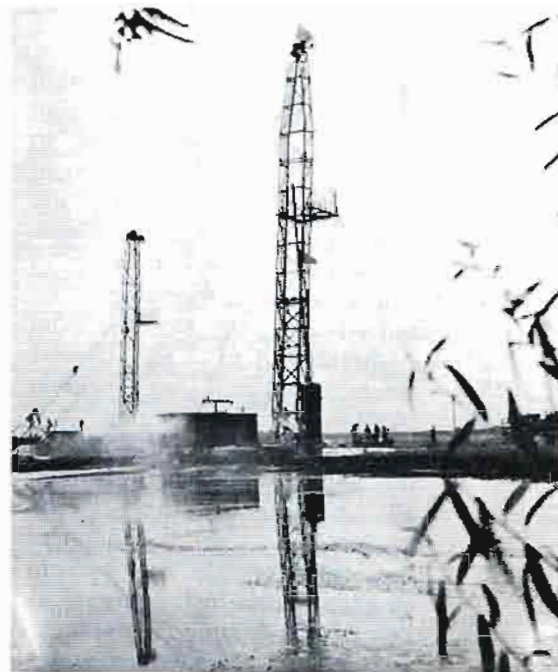
There are now eight oil-extracting centres, with 1,800 wells and 160 stations for storing and shipping out the oil and gas.

The oilfield has abundant oil and gas reserves. Some of the oil-bearing formations are more than 100 metres thick, with a daily output of several hundred tons. The crude oil it produces is of good quality, most being low sulphur, light oils.

Liaoning Province is one of China's major industrial bases. With the completion of the Liaohe Oilfield, there will be a plentiful supply of crude oil and natural gas for the local iron and steel, chemical fertilizer and other industries.

Housing Situation Improves

Last year, 56.4 million square metres of housing were completed in China's cities, towns and mining areas. This was a 50 per cent increase over



Two wells in the Liaohe Oilfield.

1978. An all-time annual high, it was about a tenth of the total housing area built since New China's founding.

Although over 4 million people were newly housed in 1979, the housing shortage remains a problem. Statistics issued at the end of 1978 showed that the average living space per person was only 3.8 square metres in 192 cities, where one-third of the families live in over-crowded houses.

With the increase of the city population and more and more young people reaching marriageable age, the demand for more houses is rising. But owing to the interference of the ultra-Left line and shortcomings in economic work in the past decade, city construction including housing was retarded or even stopped.

Hence priority is given to housing construction in the current readjustment of the national economy.

Just Call of the Islamic Community

THE extraordinary session of the Islamic Foreign Ministers' Conference held in Islamabad, Pakistan, adopted an important resolution strongly condemning the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan, demanding "the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of all Soviet troops stationed on Afghan territories" and urging "all countries and peoples to secure the Soviet withdrawal through all possible means." The resolution also announces suspension of "the membership of Afghanistan in the Organization of the Islamic Conference" and calls on the member states to withhold recognition of the illegal regime in Afghanistan and to sever diplomatic relations with that country

until the complete withdrawal of Soviet troops. The resolution also calls upon member states to consider boycotting the Olympic Games in Moscow until the Soviet Union withdraws all its troops. The solemn resolution is a concentrated expression of the aspirations and demands of the Islamic countries and hundreds of millions of Moslems, containing a series of practical measures to apply sanctions against Moscow and deal with its aggression. Besides giving energetic support to the fraternal Afghan people in their fight for national independence and survival, the resolution is an important contribution to the cause of the world's people against hegemonism and in defence of world peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF ISLAMIC POPULATION

ISLAM is a major world religion, with more than 700 million followers, about one-fifth of the world's population, and the faith is predominating throughout the Middle East and North Africa. In more than 40 countries Islamic followers make up 30 per cent or more of the population.

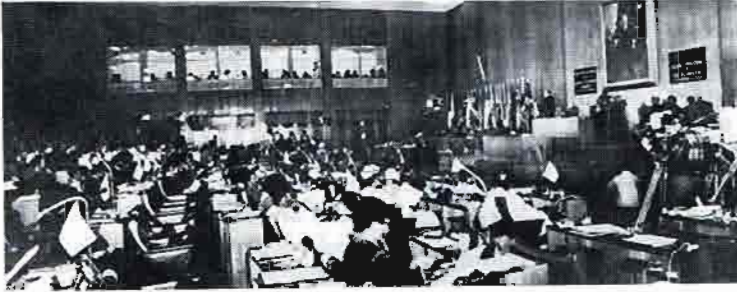
Country	Islamic Followers (Percentage of Population)		
Maldives	100	Bahrain	91
Qatar	100	Indonesia	90
Oman	100	People's Democratic Republic of Yemen	90
Yemen Arab Republic	99	Gambia	90
Somalia	99	Syria	87
Afghanistan	99	Bangladesh	85
Iran	98	Niger	85
Turkey	98	Senegal	82
Libya	98	Comoros	80
Algeria	97	Sudan	72
Pakistan	97	Guinea	65
Mauritania	96	Mali	60
Saudi Arabia	95	Sultanate of Brunei	60
Iraq	95	Lebanon	51
Morocco	95	Chad	50
Djibouti	94	Nigeria	47
Kuwait	93	Malaysia	44
Jordan	93	Ethiopia	40
United Arab Emirates	92	Malawi	33
Tunisia	92	Tanzania	30
Egypt	91	Sierra Leone	30
		Guinea Bissau	30

People are seeing more clearly today that the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan is an important link in Moscow's overall strategy for world domination. With Afghanistan as its springboard, Moscow is seeking to drive down through Iran and Pakistan and thrust further into the oil-rich Gulf area to complete its arc of encirclement stretching eastward from the Red Sea and the Arabian Peninsula, through the Strait of Malacca, to its military bases in Southeast Asia — an arc which would put Moscow in a position to outflank Western Europe and threaten the United States and Japan and intensify its moves to seize bases and resources and dominate the whole world. For the present, the drive is spearheaded against the majority of the Islamic nations. Saudi Arabia by the Red Sea and Indonesia and Malaysia flanking the Strait of Malacca will be the first to be severely threatened by outside aggression.

Joint Action

What has happened in Afghanistan points to what will happen in one form or another to one or more of the other Islamic countries if Soviet expansionism is not stopped or opposed. Stark reality compels the majority of the Islamic nations to come together to work out common measures to deal with the Soviet threat and aggression and defend their independence, stability and security. The resolution adopted at the Islamabad conference is a concerted action taken by Islamic countries to deal with their common enemy.

The Islamic Conference



Islamic Foreign Ministers' Conference in Islamabad, January 1980.

THE Islamic Conference is an important organization formally established in May 1971 by heads of state and government of Islamic countries, in Jiddah, Saudi Arabia. It has 42 member states. The conference holds meetings of Islamic Heads of State and Government, Foreign Ministers' Conferences and has a secretariat.

The aims of the Islamic Conference are: Promote solidarity among member states; consolidate co-operation among member states in the economic, social, cultural, scientific and other vital fields; endeavour to eliminate racial segregation and discrimination and to eradicate colonialism in all its forms; co-ordinate all efforts for supporting the struggle of the people of Palestine, and to help them regain their rights and liberate their country; and support the struggle of all Moslem people to safeguard their dignity, independence and national rights.

Since its establishment, the Islamic Conference has done much work in consolidating unity and co-operation among Islamic countries, helping their economic development and supporting the struggle of the Arab people against Israel.

There have been ten Foreign Ministers' Conferences of the Islamic Countries. The last conference, held January 27-29 in Islamabad, Pakistan, was an extraordinary session, convened at a crucial moment when a Moslem country was the victim of outside military intervention. Representatives from 36 Moslem countries participated.

The session adopted five resolutions: on the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan and its impacts; on foreign pressures against certain Islamic states; on the Palestine question and Jerusalem; on external pressures against Iran by the United States; and on foreign interference in the Horn of Africa.

The Main Danger

The resolution is also a demonstration of the strength and awakening of the leaders and peoples of the Islamic countries in the struggle against hegemonism and imperialism. The blood shed by the Afghan Moslems is making people see more clearly the real features of the Soviet hegemonists and that Soviet aggression and expansion is the main danger to the peace and security of the Islamic nations and the rest of the world. The resolution is a

call to the people and governments of all countries to sustain their condemnation of the Soviet invasion.

The resolution also shows that the leaders and people of Islamic countries are very aware now that they must close their ranks and take down-to-earth actions and measures to cope with the Soviet threat and aggression. The resolution urges the people of all countries to support the Afghan people and solemnly announces full solidarity with the Is-

lamic countries adjoining Afghanistan in their opposition to any threat to their security and well-being. At the same time, it appeals to the member states of the Organization of Islamic Countries to firmly support the above-mentioned countries in their endeavour to defend their sovereignty, state independence and territorial integrity and co-operate with them as much as possible. These are the practical actions the Islamic countries have decided on in their united struggle against their enemy.

Moscow's Plot Exposed

Fearful that it would be strongly condemned, the Soviet Union first tried to prevent the convocation of the extraordinary Islamic Foreign Ministers' Conference and, then, to divert the orientation of the conference and split the Islamic countries. But these Islamic countries, with their high sense of judgment, were not taken in by Moscow's hypocritical words.

As Agha Shahi, adviser of foreign affairs to the Pakistan President, noted in the closing address to the conference: Soviet interference has aroused the strongest repugnance in the Islamic world and the conference's condemnation of the Soviet Union is unparalleled in the history of the Islamic Conference. The outcome of the conference is a proof that Soviet schemes to sabotage the conference have been defeated.

The Islamic countries still have an arduous fight ahead to defend their independence and security. The Soviet Union will not lightly give up its prey. It wants to use Afghanistan as a base for aggression. It will continue its customary tricks to sow discord and divide the Islamic countries. This was

why Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko flew to the Middle East when the conference was in session. But things are not developing according to Moscow's wishes. The resolution adopted at the Islamabad conference is a case in point. Provided the Islamic countries

continue their unremitting struggle against superpower aggression, infiltration and subversion and its agents, they are bound to win in their lofty cause of defending national independence and world peace:

— "Renmin Ribao"
Commentator

Afghans Resist Invaders

AFGHAN guerrillas, supported by tribesmen in the country, are attacking Soviet aggressors in the villages and mountainous areas. Although the Soviet troops have occupied all major cities and towns and tightened control of strategic highways, their transport lines are being constantly disrupted.

In the northeastern provinces of Badakhshan, Kunduz and Takhar, guerrillas and tribesmen are fighting together against Soviet occupation troops. In one surprise attack at the township of Sharif in the north, they killed, wounded and captured scores of Soviet troops. In the provinces of Paktia, Jalalabad and Kunar in the east and southeast, small groups of guerrillas using "hit and run" tactics are very active, especially at night. Soviet convoys along highways frequently ran into ambushes. In Kandahar in the south and Herat in the west, the guerrillas destroyed highways to stop Soviet tanks and launched surprise raids to harass Soviet troops.

It is reported that the number of Afghan guerrillas has grown to tens of thousands. One northern tribe alone has sent 10,000 men to join the fight.

Getting United. On January 27, leaders of six Moslem organizations fighting the Soviet

invasion announced the formation of the Islamic Union for the Liberation of Afghanistan and the decision to convene a supreme commission conference on March 1 to elect a leading organ.

The leaders pointed out that the primary task of the I.U.L.A. is to drive the Soviet invaders out and make Afghanistan a genuine Islamic state. The establishment of the I.U.L.A. is of positive significance to the Afghan people's struggle against Soviet aggression.

The Kremlin had calculated that Afghanistan, a small nation, would knuckle under on the arrival of Soviet troops. As soon as the first shot was fired in Kabul, it smugly declared that "a new chapter in Afghan history has opened." It had never expected that the shot would kindle raging fires of resistance against slavery and occupation all over the country.

In their struggle, the Afghan people now realize that only by closing their ranks can they deal fatal blows to the enemy. The establishment of the I.U.L.A. marks an important step forward in the Afghan situation.

The people of Afghanistan are dauntless. They had three times humbled imperialist Britain between 1838 and 1919. Today, Soviet social-imperialism is running up against the same heroic resistance of the Afghan people to alien aggression.



Afghanistan —
overland to warm
waters.
Cartoon
by Wei Qimei.

New Developments in Iran

ABOL Hassan Banisadr was elected President of Iran with an overwhelming 76 per cent of the votes, an indication that Iran's political situation has entered a new stage.

In February last year, Ayatollah Khomeini returned from abroad to assume power after the overthrow of the Shah. Under his instructions, two referendums were held in

1979, one in March to approve the founding of an Islamic clerical republic, and the other in December to ratify the new Iranian Constitution drafted by the Constituent Assembly of Experts. The recent presidential election was held according to stipulations in the Constitution.

In the past year, the government, guided by Khomeini, has worked to liquidate the monarchic influence and realize Islamism. However, the deepening contradictions among various political forces, religious sects and minority nationalities in the country, have led to political instability, economic downturn and social turmoil.

Iranian-U.S. Crisis. The crisis in Iranian-U.S. relations was precipitated when Iranian students held U.S. embassy personnel hostage and demanded the extradition of the former Shah Pahlavi, who was then in the United States for medical treatment. This incident served to arouse the Iranian people's national sentiments, strengthen Iran's image as a fighter against the United States in the Middle East and push forward the new constitutional referendum. But as foreign reports indicated, it exacerbated the Iranian domestic situation and led to "a split in the Revolutionary Council." Prime Minister Bazargan, who had been fretting about his inability to exercise authority because the Revolutionary Council had greater power than the Provisional Government, was finally compelled to resign when he could do nothing about Iranian-U.S. relations. Immediately afterwards, the then Foreign Minister Banisadr — now the president — also resigned. He said in an interview with Iranian reporters that there were serious differences

among Iranian leaders over the crisis. He disapproved of the policy which rejected any negotiations with the U.S. Government.

Immediate Threat From the Soviet Union. The Soviet military occupation of Afghanistan and the deployment of Soviet troops along the Iranian-Afghan borders have compelled Iranian leaders to reconsider Iran's predicament. Aware that Afghanistan provides a more convenient invasion route for the Soviet Union than the Elburz Mountains to the north of Teheran and that Soviet troops have never before been so close to the oilfields of the Persian Gulf in northern Iran, the Iranian Government denounced the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan and decided to give support to the Afghan guerrillas. The Revolutionary Council also reaffirmed the abolition of the articles in the 1921 Iranian-Soviet treaty concerning Soviet intervention in Iran's internal affairs.

Firmly opposed to U.S. interference in Iran's internal affairs,

Report From Belgrade

An Unusual Test

PRESIDENT Tito was hospitalized for a serious illness just after New Year's Day. This put the whole of Yugoslavia through a rigorous and unusual test, made all the more trying by the deteriorating international situation brought about by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

When President Tito's hospitalization was announced, some 260 reporters from the West rushed into Yugoslavia, armed with cameras or tape recorders, hunting everywhere for an answer to the question: What

Banisadr was also the first to declare in the election campaign that the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, Iran's neighbour, was a latent threat to his country. After he was elected President, he told reporters that Iran would continue to struggle against the Soviet Union and the United States, but that the immediate threat to the nation came from the Soviet Union. He announced that he would give top priority to ending the Iranian-U.S. crisis and seek to resolve the problem between the United States and Iran in a manner that will safeguard Iran's interests and independence.

The U.S. Government, at the same time, also reconsidered its relations with Iran from a strategic point of view and decided to slacken its efforts for strong sanctions and retaliation against Iran. State Department spokesman Hodding Carter said that the United States was making efforts to solve the current crisis with Iranian leaders.

— Dan Lin

will become of Yugoslavia after Tito?

Everyone knows how high President Tito and the League of Communists of Yugoslavia led by him stand in the eyes of the people. In the course of protracted struggles, President Tito has become a symbol of the Yugoslav people striving for independence, freedom and equality. When the President was ill, letters expressing solicitude and sympathy, too numerous to count, came from every corner of the country. They piled high in the League's



President Tito with his sons on January 23.

Central Committee, the presidential office, and TANJUG, the Yugoslav news agency, and every Yugoslav newspaper office. Far more than expressions of the people's deep love for their President, they were a spontaneous "public opinion poll," which reflected the people's firm will and resolve to safeguard their independence, freedom and democracy and to build socialism in accordance with their own conditions.

At the beginning of the 70s, Yugoslavia began enforcing a system of federal presidency (that is, collective presidency) proposed by President Tito himself. In the past year the principle of collective leadership at all levels has been in effect. The system of executive presidency with a one-year term is enforced within the leading bodies of the League and government at higher levels. Members elected into the leading bodies are responsible for every decision they make collectively.

When President Tito was ill, the leading bodies at different levels carried out their functions normally according to this

principle. In those days, people saw for themselves that all League and government organs carried on their work effectively and normally. Top leaders of the League and government at a joint emergency meeting decided on three major tasks:

stabilize the economy, enhance national unity and strengthen total national defence. Meetings were held at once by the League's Central Committee and the leading bodies of republics, autonomous provinces, people's army and territorial defence forces to discuss measures to carry out the tasks. Within a very short time, a de facto "general mobilization" took place throughout the country. Every Yugoslav citizen stood at his post so that life went on as quietly and orderly as ever.

Most foreign reporters have left. No matter how much they may differ in their views, the impression they have in common is that the whole of Yugoslavia is advancing in an orderly way and that its people can stand up to any test.

— Xinhua Correspondent Ding Xiangqi

Castro Regime in Trouble

CASTRO has recently reshuffled his cabinet twice and the changes were accompanied by mass arrests, 2,000 to 3,000 within days.

Under Moscow's control, the country's economic development has been lopsided, resulting in a sharp decline in production, a severe shortage of commodities and a steeply rising foreign debt. Moreover, the Cuban authorities, in defiance of popular opposition, sent thousands of troops into Africa to die for Moscow. This has fuelled the anger of the Cuban people. A spate of anti-Castro leaflets and slogans has recently appeared in the streets of Havana.

The Castro clique has earned an unsavoury reputation abroad by its willingness to act in the interests of Soviet hegemonism. After the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, Cuba had to give up its contest for a seat in the U.N. Security Council.

It was in such a situation at home and abroad that the Cuban government reshuffles took place. What warrants attention is that Castro personally took over four ministries, and Rodriguez, Vice-President of the Council of Ministers, took charge of many other ministries. It points to the growing unpopularity of the Castro clique. This is not surprising, for no one likes those who betray national interests.

1979: More Than 7 Million People Employed

by Our Correspondent Wei Min

Jobs were found for more than 7 million people in 1979. They made up most of the accumulated number of people urgently needed employment during the last dozen years or so. But how could this be accomplished? Background knowledge is given in this special feature, telling how the problem was solved differently in the cities and countryside.

Interview With Director of State Bureau of Labour



Our Correspondent Wei Min interviewed Kang Yonghe, the director of the State Bureau of Labour. Following are the main points of the interview.

Question: Will you tell me who make up the people in urgent need of employment in China?

Answer: Those waiting for work in the cities and towns are mostly people unable to get jobs before 1978, and those eligible for employment in 1979, and educated youths who have taken part in productive labour in the countryside for a number of years and now need to return to the cities for work.

Q: Can you be more specific about exactly who these people are?

A: People waiting for jobs refer to those awaiting employment in cities and towns. Graduates from universities or colleges, secondary technical

schools or workers' training schools, and ex-servicemen to be transferred to civilian jobs are assigned to work by the government in good time, so the problem of waiting for jobs generally does not exist with them. People waiting for jobs fall into the following categories:

(1) Middle school graduates in cities and towns requiring to be employed;

(2) Those unable to work before because of illness or family responsibilities, such as those who have had to look after their ailing relatives, but are now eligible for employment;

(3) Educated youths back to the cities from the countryside;

(4) Other young people like undergraduates from middle schools in cities and towns;

Educated youths refer to middle school graduates who

left the cities and towns for the countryside and settled down to do physical labour in production teams or on collectively owned farms, forestry centres and stock-breeding centres. During their first year in the countryside, their grain rations and living costs were all borne by the state and the next year they earned work-points from the production teams and farms they belonged to, gradually becoming able to support themselves by their own labour. After they have tempered themselves for a period of time, part of them remained on the collectively owned farms, forestry centres or stock-breeding areas, others were to be assigned jobs in cities and towns.

It should be pointed out that a good number of young people have adapted themselves to rural life and are willing to permanently

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work as peasants in the countryside. Many have distinguished themselves in their work, are greatly welcomed by the peasants and enjoy high esteem. We will continue to encourage people from the cities and towns to follow their examples.

Why Is There an Employment Problem?

Q: Didn't China eliminate unemployment long ago? If so, then why are so many people waiting for jobs?

A: In 1949 when New China was founded, there were about 4 million unemployed in the cities, a problem left over from the old society. At that time, the People's Government adopted measures encouraging such people to engage in production and providing them with jobs in public works. The unemployed were thus organized and assigned to jobs. During the periods of national economic rehabilitation (1950-52) and the First Five-Year Plan (1953-57), we basically eliminated unemployment. Between 1957 and 1966, there was essentially no unemployment problem.

One major reason why the problem has reappeared in recent years was the ten years of turmoil starting in 1966. The national economy was brought to the brink of collapse and many avenues of employment were blocked.

The unbalanced development between various economic sectors, particularly between agriculture and industry, was another major factor. Light industry, commerce, catering and service trades in cities could not develop as they should. Though the urban population increased sharply in



A neighbourhood sewing shop in Wuxi, Jiangsu Province.

the last 20 years, the proportion of workers and staff members in commerce and service trades in relation to all the workers and staff members decreased by approximately one-third. This alone reduced several million opportunities for employment.

Of course, difficulties in providing jobs also arose

because, from the 1950s to the early 1970s, we did not pay enough attention to family planning, which resulted in the too rapid growth of the population.

How to Create More Job Opportunities?

Q: How many people were

Two Types of Ownership

There are mainly two types of ownership of the means of production in China today: the socialist ownership by the whole people and socialist ownership by the collective.

Ownership by the whole people is public ownership under which the state owns the means of production on behalf of all the working people. It is a higher form of socialist public ownership. In this economic sector, the means of production are commonly owned by the entire working people; the means of production and manpower are rationally allocated by the state according to the national economic needs. The economy owned by the whole people is the principal economic foundation and the force leading China's economy.

The collective ownership is a public ownership under which the means of production are owned collectively by the working people in the enterprises and communes. In this economic sector, the means of production and products belong to the labourers of the collectives concerned. It is a lower form of socialist public ownership.

**PROPORTIONS OF TWO TYPES OF SOCIALIST
PUBLIC OWNERSHIP IN INDUSTRY IN 1978**

Form of ownership	Total industrial output value	Fixed assets of industrial enterprises	Number of workers and staff members in industrial enterprises and their proportions to the total
Owned by the whole people	80.7%	91.8%	30,410,000 people 71.5%
Owned by the collectives	19.3%	8.2%	12,150,000 people 28.5%

assigned jobs in 1979? And where have they been working?

A: Thanks to government efforts and public support, the actual number of people getting jobs in 1979 was over 7 million, a fact unprecedented in Chinese history.

Most of them are working in collectively owned enterprises. This pattern is followed not only at present but will continue for a long time to come.

Q: Why?

A: The prospects for developing the collectively owned enterprises are much greater since the productive forces in China are generally still rather low in the cities and countryside. Also these enterprises can maintain a bigger work force. Due to the introduction of new technology and the raising of the level of mechanization and automation, the state-run enterprises under the ownership by the whole people, which form the mainstay of China's industrial production and the main force for the realization of the four modernizations, have only a limited capacity for employment of new labour force even though they will be developed.

Collectively owned enter-

prises have the following four characteristics: (1) Mainly medium and small-sized enterprises, they require less investment, are easy to set up and yield quick returns; (2) They are managed according to a system of independent accounting and assume sole responsibility for their profits and losses; success or failure in management has a direct bearing on the interests of the employees; (3) They comprise many trades and therefore can absorb a larger work force; (4) They have a flexible approach to their business according to the demands of the market.

However, these collectively

owned enterprises were unfairly treated in the past. For instance, the supply of materials and fuel was not guaranteed, their wage scale was lower than that of state-run enterprises and their welfare standards were inferior. Many people regarded collectively owned enterprises as inferior to enterprises owned by the whole people. This, of course, was wrong. Both types of ownership are forms of socialist public ownership and will coexist side by side and emulate each other for a long time in our country. The government is considering making an appropriate readjustment of relevant policies.

Recruiting the Best Qualified

Q: It is said that a recruitment procedure for choosing those best qualified has also been adopted. If this is the case, what will you do with those who are not recruited?

A: There has been a major reform in our system for recruiting workers. In the past, workers were assigned to enterprises by state labour departments under a unified plan. The



One of 16 bamboo-weaving arcraft shops in Shengxian County, Zhejiang Province. Their products sell readily at home and abroad.



Young workers of a Shanghai service centre repairing local residents' water meters.

enterprises had no choice of personnel and could not get all those who were qualified and willing to work there, neither could job-seeking youths choose the jobs or the units they liked. We are changing this system of recruitment. Now those waiting for work can voluntarily apply for jobs and the enterprises or departments concerned can choose the best qualified first through examinations. Both sides have a choice, thereby helping to eliminate the above-mentioned shortcomings

Implementation of this measure shows that the recruits are fairly competent. They are committed to their work and study hard. Both the recruits and the departments concerned feel satisfied.

Those who have failed the examinations will not be jobless. They will be assigned appropriate jobs later by state labour departments.

Q: Will universal employment lead to a drop in labour productivity?

A: Labour productivity in an enterprise is mainly decided by

its technical level and management. Lack of skill among the new recruits or improper placement may cause a temporary decline in the average labour productivity in some units. But as long as these units give the new recruits further training and improve management, the new workers can gradually master the required skills and be equal to their jobs. From the long-term point of view, the new recruits represent a positive factor in raising labour productivity.

Future Plans

Q: What are your plans for solving urban unemployment?

A: We want to create more job opportunities for people in the towns and countryside. There are 29 big cities in China with a population above one million people. To avoid overcrowding in the cities, we should direct our attention to building medium and small-sized cities and towns.

We are also prepared to reform the labour system. For instance, the textile industry,

an important trade in China today, formerly had a three-shift, eight-hour work-day. Now a four-shift, eight-hour work system is being tried. The workers can have two days off in every eight days. This will help increase job opportunities and raise production efficiency.

Apart from improving working conditions in the chemical enterprises where workers work with poisonous and harmful substances, a new system is being tried on an experimental basis. From one to three months a year, workers will recuperate, study or work in rotation in places without such substances. This not only helps protect the workers' physical and mental health but enables more people to hold jobs.

We also plan to organize urban middle school graduates to establish suburban enterprises combining agriculture, industry and commerce which will provide the cities with non-staple food, enlarge exports and serve the big industries. To help these enterprises develop, they will be exempted from tax and fulfilling sales quotas of farm produce to the state until the end of 1985. All their profits can be used to expand production and improve the workers' living standards and the collective welfare.

The people's communes and production brigades will develop diversified economies to employ their middle school graduates; in principle, these young people will not be employed in the cities.

In addition, to meet the needs of modernization, the state will continue to set up more universities and colleges and secondary technical schools so as to admit more middle school graduates.

In the City

Broad Vista for Employment

THE street to the south of Tian An Men Square in the centre of Beijing has become busier than ever. One of the reasons is that there is a good snack-bar service centre run by a dozen young women since last April. Collectively owned, it was organized by the young people waiting for jobs.

320,000 Got Jobs

A comrade from the Beijing General Co-op for Urban Production and Service (set up in June 1979 under the direct leadership of the Beijing municipal people's government and run by neighbourhood collectives) told me that last year altogether 370,000 young people were waiting for jobs. Of these, 30,000 could not or would not take jobs because they were preparing for college entrance exams or were sick or for other reasons. By the end of last year, 324,000 got jobs.

Among them 154,000 went to work in state-owned enterprises

or collectively owned enterprises of comparatively large scale; 30,000 became farmers in the suburban areas or on city outskirts. Still another 140,000 were absorbed by newly established small collectively owned enterprises, otherwise called producers' and service co-ops.

Altogether 1,335 collectively owned small factories, stores and other service centres were set up in Beijing last year. Among them were:

636	factories,
134	retail shops and snack-bars,
352	repair shops,
95	architectural repair teams,
36	transportation service teams,
47	cultural troupes and units, and
35	others.

The characteristics of these collectively owned units are less investment and greater flexibility. The amount of accumulation of the enterprise and the wages and

well-being of the personnel all depend on the success or failure of the business. Those which are run well get a certain amount of accumulation and can ensure none too low an income for their workers and staff members who are therefore of one mind in running it well. But income for some co-ops is not so steady and their staff members often quit. Some people in these co-ops simply think of them as a stopgap. Once they find a better job, they just quit. Beijing's policy on these co-ops says that people are free to join or leave them.

So the question arises: Is there a future for these newly established small enterprises?

"Waiting for Jobs" and "Jobs Are Waiting"

Employment in the last few years in the capital has posed an ever-sharpening contradic-

The "Grape Chang" Art Revived

More than 100 years ago, a Mongolian artisan named Yechangzai lived on Donghuashi Street in Beijing. He was well versed in blowing various kinds of exquisite glass grapes, so he was nicknamed "Grape Chang." The glass grapes he made were so similar to real ones that some people were tempted to eat them. The glass grapes won a medal at an international fair in Panama.

On the eve of China's liberation in 1949, the chief members of this family handicraft workshop were five Mongolian women headed by the eldest, Chang Zhulu. Last June, the neighbourhood committee of the Donghuashi Street asked Chang Yuling, the only survivor of the five, to organize a handicraft co-op staffed by some ten young people. Production of "Chang Family Grapes" has thus found a way to continue.



Chang Yuling demonstrating to her apprentices how to make grapes.

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Noted artist Lou Shibai paints for the young people who organized the Yanjing Calligraphy and Painting Store.

tion: while there were large groups of young people waiting for jobs, there were no people to do the service work.

Beijing people often queued up waiting for a seat in restaurants, to buy furniture, or to have their hair cut. They had nowhere to send their laundry. They had to wait months before their children could be sent to a kindergarten. Visitors to Beijing had difficulties getting help in carrying their luggage. The producers' and service co-ops were set up to solve these problems.

Practice in the last six months shows that these co-ops have the following advantages:

- They help shorten the queues in front of the repair

shops, snack-bars and other service workshops. For example, the newly set up 12 wood-processing and repairing co-ops in the eastern part of Beijing made 2,300 wardrobes, chests of drawers, tables, chairs, sofas, beds, etc. in one month. A newly wed couple is really pleased by their neighbourhood wood-processing co-op which has helped decorate their bedroom.

- They help restore production of traditional handicraft articles, an art which had been lost for many years.

- They promote stability and unity in society. In past years, some of the young people waiting for jobs had nothing to do but wander on the streets. Gradually they picked up bad habits and, worse still, they

made trouble everywhere. Now that most young people have work and income, this helps most of them to become better men or women.

- They help stimulate the initiative of young people waiting for jobs. Many of those who got jobs have shown their enthusiasm for learning technique and management. Groups of promising youngsters have come to the fore.

No "Iron Rice Bowl"

These newly organized co-ops are responsible for their own profits and losses. The amount of income for their members is closely linked with the volume of business they do. There are no fixed wages or guaranteed income — called "the iron rice bowl" in vernacular Chinese—for those who do a shoddy job.

From what I have seen in those co-ops which are being run well, the income of their members is more or less the same as that of those in state-owned enterprises or comparatively large-scale collectives. Wu Dachou, a responsible member of a wood-processing and repairing co-op, told me:

"Our co-op adopts the piece-work wage system. In the first three months after it was set up, the highest monthly wage of some reached 150 yuan and



the lowest 50, as their technical level was high and they had worked hard. However, they quit later. Now all our members are high school graduates as of two years ago. They are not skilled carpenters, so they get less than the former members. The highest monthly income among them is 60 yuan, and the lowest 40, which are equivalent to the wages of the fourth grade and second grade workers respectively in state-owned enterprises."

It seems to me that the vast majority of these co-ops will be kept going permanently. Their members all agree to set apart a certain proportion of the co-ops' income to be the fund used for expanded production or collective welfare. In the co-ops of the Chongwen District which I visited, 80 per cent of their income is paid as wages, and 20 per cent is for collective accumulation.

Support From Various Sides

The Beijing municipal people's government has decided to help these co-ops in marketing their products and supplying them with raw materials. No industry or commerce tax or income tax is collected by the state within the co-ops' first year. ("Income tax" refers to the income of the co-op, for there is no income tax for any individual in China.) Co-op members will come to enjoy the same treatment as those in state enterprises with regard to pay during sick leave, medical expenses, fees for their well-being and articles used for labour insurance.

Apart from these policies, there is also attention from the government offices at various levels and aid from the public. When the snack-bar service centre mentioned at the begin-

ning of this article was set up, it had nothing to boast of. But the Party branch secretary of the neighbourhood committee led several cadres in cleaning an empty room to house the service centre. The committee lent it 4,000 yuan for funds. The residents living nearby lent it their tables, chairs and tea sets. So the girls began to work. They first sold tea and gradually refreshments and daily necessities. The shelves are gifts from the Beijing Duck Restaurant. Retired cooks voluntarily offered their technique in making refreshments.

Shi Yuping, a newly married young woman, became a waitress there last April. One day when she was waiting on customers, she encountered an old friend who said: "It has never occurred to me that you're selling tea on the street!" She could not but blush when she heard this. China having been influenced by feudal ideology,

the concept of looking upon service work as something inferior can be found in every corner of society.

So at that point, she wanted to leave. Her leadership had open-hearted talks with her on several occasions, telling her that co-ops like theirs do have a good future, that they are not something which exist merely for the moment. Selling tea is also serving the people. There is nothing to be ashamed of. Her mind gradually became eased.

When there was news last July that some state-owned factories and mines in Beijing wanted new hands, her husband urged her to have a try. But she declined and brought her husband round. Because she has shown love and enthusiasm for her work, she was recently commended as a "young shock worker" of Beijing.

In the Suburbs

Tapping Potential Resources

A NUMBER of collectively run farming, forestry and fishing centres have been set up over the past decade in the suburbs of Xiangtan in Hunan Province — the native place of the late Chairman Mao Zedong.

The metropolitan area of Xiangtan, an up-and-coming industrial city, has a population of 420,000, with 280,000 residing in the city proper. Up to 1985, an urban work force of 4,800 people can be absorbed every year, but graduates from middle schools will reach 6,800 annually. Therefore, 2,000 young people will not be able to find employment in the city. The

25 farms existing in the suburbs of Xiangtan are seen as a possible solution to this problem. Though they can accommodate 10,000 people, there are only 4,000 presently residing on these farms. The Xiangtan municipal people's government has therefore decided to enlarge 14 of these farms in order to employ more middle school graduates.

Getting Started

These farms were set up one after another beginning in 1963. Middle school graduates from Xiangtan established forestry centres near the mountains, fishing centres by the rivers

Income

The development of production resulted in an income raise for the young people. Each young person engaged in agriculture can earn between one and one and a half yuan a day. Those engaged in industry earn even higher wages. Their incomes, of course, are still lower than those of the workers of a comparable age in the city. But their living costs are also lower. These farms are making an effort to expand their collective welfare programme. They have gradually established a system of free medical care for adults and a half medical coverage for children. Each married couple is given a floor space of 32 square metres free of charge. In addition, tap water, creche fees for families with only one or two children, and tuition fees are also provided. These measures coupled with consistent ideological education have sparked the young people's enthusiasm for building the socialist new countryside. Those who once thought



Wang Xiangge, an educated youth, and his family on Xianfeng Farm.

and tea and fruit centres on the hills.

The Xiangtan municipal government adopted two measures to solve the basic problems related to starting up these farms: 1) Land was acquired by cultivating fallow land. In the suburbs of Xiangtan there were vast stretches of barren hills which they were unable to cultivate, either due to financial or manpower limitations. Most of the farms were set up on these fallow hills; 2) Production brigades assigned parts of their surplus land to the farms and selected some of their farmers to help the young people get started.

Another problem was funds. Though the government made certain allocations to these farms for administrative expenses, the farms primarily had to rely on their own efforts. Xiangtan adopted the method of "comprehensively developing agriculture, industry and commerce." Take Hongqi (red flag) Farm for example. It mainly grew fruit and tea during the early years. But it usually takes four to five years to reap the first fruit or tea harvest.

During this period, the farm was investing funds and manure each year, but obtaining no return. To offset their losses, they set up some piggeries, vegetable gardens, a tea processing plant, a mill for making vermicelli, a starch factory, an ore plant and an electrical machinery factory. Income rapidly increased with the gross output value of industry and agriculture amounting to 4.7 million yuan (540,000 yuan for agriculture) in 1978 and 6 million yuan in 1979.



Tea cultivation on Hongqi Comprehensive Farm.

of returning to the cities now have no misgivings about settling down on the farms.

Prospects

These farms have become major supply centres of agricultural and subsidiary products to the cities. They supply a large quantity of mandarin oranges, tea, pigs, fish, vegetables, water melons, peanuts and soybeans each year. In 1978 the total output value of the small industries run by the farms amounted to 12.37 million yuan, accounting for 33 per cent of the total output value of the commune- and brigade-run enterprises in the suburbs of Xiangtan.

In the Countryside

Diversified Economy Is the Way Out

EVERY year more than 10 million young people in the countryside graduate from middle schools. Only a very few go on to college or join the army. The overwhelming majority go home to work on the land, unlike urban school-leavers who have to await jobs assigned them. However, things are no longer so simple. With increasing rural mechanization there is now an incipient unemployment problem in the countryside. How is this "surplus labour" to be gainfully employed? What role can the middle school graduates play in the countryside?

I have come back from a visit to the Liuzhuang Production Brigade in Xinxiang County, Henan Province, about 600 kilometres south of Beijing.

These farms constitute a foundation for the development of a new type of town. Hongqi (red flag) Farm and Xianfeng (vanguard) Farm, which have progressed rapidly in the past few years, have become small towns which combine industry with agriculture and city with countryside. Initially serving as satellite towns of Xiangtan city, they have cultivated land, orchards, factories and shops as well as cultural and educational facilities, medical services and recreational centres. These small communities are not as convenient as the cities for young people in the short run, but they hold broad prospects for future development.

figures about her brigade. "Our brigade has 127 hectares of land and 1,200 members. There are 580 able-bodied workers, more than half of them are young people. Most of them are middle school graduates as senior middle school education has been universal in the brigade for some years," she said. "Since 1977, 30 students graduate from senior middle school each year. Only three to five of them enter college or join the army. The rest come back to their production teams to work."

Mono-Culture Is a Dead Alley

The Liuzhuang Production Brigade is on the rich grain and cotton north Henan plain. From 1957 to 1970, the average grain increase in Liuzhuang was 209.3 per cent, that is, 9.975 tons per hectare per year; and cotton was 1.53 tons, an average increase of 90.6 per cent. However, input for the same period per hectare also doubled, so peasant incomes did not rise substantially. High grain and cotton yields alone do not bring great prosperity to the rural inhabitants.

Liu Dianmei, 26-year-old branch secretary of the Communist Youth League of the brigade, gave me the facts and

In 1970 the Liuzhuang Production Brigade began to diversify. A number of side-line and small-scale industrial enter-

TABLE 1. INCOME OF THE LIUZHUANG PRODUCTION BRIGADE

Year	Total income unit: yuan	From industries and side-line occupations	From agriculture
1975	546,642	42 %	58 %
1976	710,185	59.6 %	41.4 %
1977	1,160,791	65.2 %	34.8 %
1978	1,264,139	72.5 %	27.5 %



A farm machinery repair shop of the Liuzhuang Production Brigade.

prises were successively set up. These include a flour mill, a food-processing factory and a restaurant, a paper mill using wheat straw and maize stalks as raw materials, a livestock farm raising mostly cows and pigs, a milk powder factory, a machinery workshop geared to promoting agricultural mechanization and producing parts for the large urban industries, a woodworking shop, a brick kiln, a teamsters' group, a repair, maintenance and building team, an orchard and vegetable gardens. All these play a role in building up the local economy and serving the needs of the people in their daily life in the countryside. Since 1975 all these enterprises have undergone relatively substantial developments. This is the road to prosperity and it offers tremendous scope for the young people to bring their abilities into full play.

TABLE 2. CHANGES IN MANPOWER DISTRIBUTION IN LIUZHUANG

Year	Total number of labour force unit: person	Those engaged in industries and side-line occupations		Those engaged in agriculture		Others*	
		Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
1975	580	126	21.73	432	74.28	22	3.79
1976	580	235	40.52	323	55.69	22	3.79
1977	587	265	45.14	300	51.11	22	3.75
1978	585	277	47.35	286	48.89	22	3.76
1979	580	293	50.52	265	45.69	22	3.79

* Others include teachers, paramedics, barbers and service personnel.

In 1978 the brigade's total income came to 1,260,000 yuan, more than triple that in 1975 (see table 1). The average income of each commune member was 298 yuan, an 80.6 per cent increase over 1975. In 1979 personal incomes averaged 350 yuan.

A new village of two-storeyed houses has gone up in Liuzhuang, with an average floor space of 24 square metres for each person. Housing, water and electricity, medical service, primary and middle school education, all vegetables and some meat are provided free. A mem-

TABLE 3. THE DISTRIBUTION OF MANPOWER IN THE LIUZHUANG PRODUCTION BRIGADE

Total number of labour force: 580					
Those engaged in agriculture: 265					
Those engaged in industries and side-line occupations: 293					
Restaurant	8;	orchard	3;	livestock farm and milk powder factory	27;
flour mill	12;	brick kiln	40;	food processing factory	38;
paper mill	46;	teamsters	25;	woodworking shop	21;
machine shop	70;	sewing shop	3;		
Other trades: 22					

ber's income is approximately equivalent to that of an urban worker of the fourth grade.

A diversified economy has also brought about a great

change in the distribution of the labour force in Liuzhuang. Tables 2 and 3 show that over half of the labour force has been switched to industries and side-line occupations.

school graduate in the same village who is now the accountant of the production brigade. They are finding life in the countryside quite ideal.

Liu Shuli, 26, member of the scientific experimental group.

Since graduation from middle school in 1970, he has been engaged in experimenting with

They Are Both Peasants And Workers

I CALLED on some young people in Liuzhuang.



Shi Shiling, 24, head of the machine shop, nicknamed "The Technician."

In 1975 he had been recommended to the Changsha Railway College. As the college was in chaos then like most schools, he was back in the village in less than a month. He began to study the college science course by himself. He studied as he took part in building the various enterprises of the brigade. He was later made the head of the machine shop and he frequently worked a 12-hour day. But he still found time to study science and technology. "Young people with some education can do a lot in the countryside," he said.

Liu Junrong, 25, lathe turner at the machinery shop.

After graduating from the middle school in 1972, she had wanted to find work in the city and marry.

She was not alone in this. The brigade cadres used various methods to educate young people like her, persuading them to see that they were most needed



in the countryside because the rural areas were behind the cities. Who's to help change this if they all left for the cities? Would a socialist new countryside just grow out of nowhere?

She was persuaded to stay and become a lathe turner. She bought and studied science and technical books and gradually learnt how to operate the lathe. As production expanded, life for the peasants also improved and she gradually gave up the idea of going to a city.

On October 1, 1979 she married Zhang Quanfa, a middle



new varieties of cotton. He, too, had once been unhappy with life in the countryside, but has since made up his mind to stay and help change the countryside.

"I have come to see that agricultural research is very important and there is a good future in it," he said. "What's more, people in my village are now earning as much as the workers in the cities. In the busy farm seasons workers have to be sent out from the factories to help. An industrial worker is no different to an agricultural worker. It's merely a division of labour."

In the last five years he has helped breed three new varieties of cotton, one of which is being popularized in Shandong, Hebei and other provinces. In recognition of his achievements, he has been awarded the title of "Young Shock Worker."

Answering Our Readers

Why the Gang of Four's Was an Ultra-Left Line

Mr. Ryozo Kamiya of Japan and Mr. Michael Stewart of Australia have asked us to explain further why the political line pushed by Lin Biao and the gang of four was an ultra-Left line. We have asked Jia Chunfeng, a researcher of philosophy, to answer. We would like to draw readers' attention to the two articles "On the Nature of Lin Biao's and Gang of Four's Political Line" and "A Struggle on Two Fronts: Oppose Rightism and 'Leftism,'" published last year in "Beijing Review," Nos. 15 and 35. — Ed.

THE two counter-revolutionary conspiratorial cliques of Lin Biao and the gang of four had the country in a ferment for ten long years, and it was not until October 1976 that our people, under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and after an extremely difficult struggle, finally defeated them. This decisive victory determined the nation's destiny.

Process of Knowing

History has moved on to a new stage and people are summing up the experience and lessons of the struggle against Lin Biao and the gang of four. But it is not enough merely to realize the tremendous damage they had done to the cause of socialism and the appalling calamities they had afflicted on the state and the people. People must also see that these were careerists and conspirators who had worked out and pushed an ultra-Left line to usurp Party and state leadership.

In regard to Lin Biao and the gang of four—the two counter-revolutionary conspiratorial cliques, the issue of line was intimately mixed with the issue of counter-revolution. But the two are still two separate issues and cannot be dealt with as one issue. The counter-revolu-

tionary crimes they committed have already been fully exposed and criticized. Analysis and repudiation of their ultra-Left line, however, were begun only after the Third Plenary Session of the 11th Central Committee of the Party held in December 1978. This process is still going on.

There had been three definitions of the nature of the line of Lin Biao and the gang of four: "ultra-Right counter-revolutionary revisionist line"; "pseudo-Left but truly Right counter-revolutionary revisionist line"; and "ultra-Left line." All three were put forward during the struggle to expose and criticize Lin Biao and the gang of four.

Today, the first two have given way to the last, the result of the serious and earnest efforts of our Party and people summarizing the line of Lin Biao and the gang of four. It is a manifestation of our more accurate generalization of the nature of their line. This progressively better understanding of their line is not surprising and fully conforms to the law of cognition.

To get a real understanding of a thing inevitably goes through a process, from little to much, from a superficial to a more profound understanding. Many complex factors are involved in the emergence, formation and development of a line. In implementation, its essence is often concealed behind phenomena, real and false. Therefore, judging the nature of a line is rather complicated, requiring not only abundant factual materials but also theoretical analysis and summation.

Further exposure of the essence of a thing in the course of knowing calls for modifications to the existing definition, replacing it with another that is closer to reality. When the moment occurs and this is done without hesitation,

it is the expression of a serious, materialist attitude.

Ultra-Left Manifestations

The three definitions mentioned above on the line of Lin Biao and the gang of four can be reduced to two different appraisals of the line: Was it a "Leftist" line, or a Rightist one? Was it Left opportunism or Right opportunism?

A line is Left or Right opportunist only in relation to a correct Marxist line. They are two manifestations of revisionism. The fundamentals of a correct line consist of subjective things—the programme, the principle, the policy or the measure—that fully accord with the objective reality. A Right opportunist line is characterized by "thinking lagging behind reality" and "thinking failing to advance with changing objective circumstances"; and a Left opportunist line by thinking surpassing "a given stage of development of the objective process" and by people "alienating themselves from the current practice of the majority of the people and from the realities of the day." (Mao Zedong: *On Practice*.)

Zhang Chunqiao had said: "In handling anything, swing Left to several degrees." This is the typical formula determining the thinking and actions of Lin Biao and the gang of four and clearly illustrating the nature of their line. Let the facts speak for themselves. Looking at the actual manifestations of Lin Biao and the gang of four's line in various fields, one can discern that theirs was an extremely Left opportunist line, that is, an ultra-Left line.

In regard to the status of classes and the class struggle in the period of socialism, they denied the objective fact that the exploiting classes no longer exist as integral classes in our country after the land reform, agricultural cooperation and the socialist transformation of capitalist industry and commerce. They did their utmost to magnify class struggle. They concocted the fallacy of "new changes in class relations" and claimed that a bourgeois class had emerged inside the Party. They produced the demagogic formula of old cadres being democrats and democrats being capitalist-roads. Indiscriminately struggled against and criticized leading members of the Party, government and army at all levels and wilfully persecuted a number of people.

They advanced the slogan of exercising "all-round dictatorship," which distorted and tampered with the meaning of dictatorship of

the proletariat. Socialist democracy was grievously wrecked by their wanton actions. Wherever their authority extended, the legal system was abolished, the relations between the people and the enemy were upturned and large numbers of workers, peasants, intellectuals and cadres were falsely charged and persecuted.

They tried to replace the Communist Party leadership with their own factional setup. They called for "making revolution by brushing aside the Party committees," carried out a factional organizational line, permitted factional activities and anarchism inside the Party and gravely impaired the Party organizations and Party discipline.

In regard to the socialist system of ownership, they simply ignored the fact that our productive forces are still at a rather low level and pushed vehemently for a "premature transition to a higher stage of ownership" and "absolute equalitarianism" in the rural people's communes. This meant making the production brigade the basic accounting unit even when the production team (the grass-roots unit and basic accounting unit) is still very weak and poor. Instead of developing production to improve living standards, they subjectively used administrative fiat to level economic differences between poor and rich production teams.

Zhang Chunqiao had said: On the question of transition of ownership, the poor teams should "effect the transition by means of the spirit of being poor," "It cannot be said that the transition is impossible because the conditions are not there." And Wang Hongwen, another member of the gang, said, "If you don't wish to effect a transition when the production level is low, it means you have no wish for revolution and are opposed to a change in the ownership."

In the lexicon of the gang of four, their "change in the ownership" completely ignored the level of development of the productive forces as a decisive factor in determining the relations of production. As a Chinese saying goes, "tugging at a sapling to help it grow." That, of course, kills it and the transition advocated by the gang did bring serious damage to production.

They attacked the socialist principle of "to each according to his work" as "the soil on which capitalism and capitalist class grow" and tossed it aside. With the view to deceiving people, they "idolized" the communist principle of "from each according to his ability, to each according to his needs" and energetically pro-

noted absolute equalitarianism — it was the same whether one worked hard or not, whether one did his job well or not, whether one worked or didn't work at all. This gravely dampened the initiative of the labourers.

They condemned and attacked the four modernizations, dismissing measures to develop production, bring about economic prosperity and improve the masses' material and cultural life as "revisionist" or "capitalist." They also categorically dismissed learning the advanced experience from other countries and importing advanced technology and developing foreign trade as "worshipping foreign things and fawning on foreigners" and "selling out the country."

They did all they could to destroy socialist culture and education. Under the pretext of carrying out a "great cultural revolution," they threw overboard the policy of letting a hundred flowers blossom and a hundred schools of thought contend and unleashed a wave of cultural vandalism. In the name of carrying out a "revolution in education," they struck at intellectuals, claiming that "the more knowledge one has, the more reactionary one is." They wanted schools to offer only one course, "struggle against capitalist-roaders." In the name of carrying out a "revolution in literature and art," they condemned and rejected all the literary and artistic works of the 17 years after liberation. Literary and art workers were hounded and persecuted and the cultural garden was turned into a wasteland, "a garden blasted by a late autumn wind."

These are enough to show that Lin Biao and the gang of four's line was not one of Right

opportunism, but "revisionism from the Left," Leftism to the extreme.

Trotsky's Disciples

Stalin criticized Trotskyism as a form of opportunism cleverly dressed up as "Leftist" and employing the most, most revolutionary phrases. Lin Biao and the gang of four had adopted a "most, most revolutionary" stance and had shouted long and loud for "revolution," "politics" and "struggle." They are eminently qualified to be faithful disciples of Trotsky. They deliberately employed seemingly revolutionary terms to deceive the masses and to cover up their scheme to usurp the leadership of the Party and government.

Experience tells us how crucial it is to find out the nature of a line. During China's democratic revolution, Qu Qiubai's "Left" opportunism was erroneously criticized by Li Lisan as Right deviation, with the result that the "Left" deviation (June to September 1930) grew worse with criticism. Later, the same thing occurred again. This time Li Lisan's "Left" opportunism was criticized by Wang Ming as Right deviation. And the result, of course, was that "Left" deviation grew more and more "Left" with criticism, and the mistakes grew progressively more serious. The series of criticisms mounted against Right deviation brought in their wake a whole series of "Left" and still more "Left" deviations. Between 1927 and 1934, three "Left" lines appeared one after the other in our Party and enormous losses were sustained by the revolution. One can draw some important lessons from this historical experience.

How to Pronounce the Chinese Phonetic Alphabet

Following is part of the Chinese phonetic alphabet showing the pronunciation with approximate English equivalents. Spelling in the Wade system is in brackets for reference.

- "c" (ts), a consonant, as "ts" in its; and
- "e" (e), a vowel, as "er" in her, the "r" being silent; but "ie", a diphthong, as in yes and "ei", a diphthong, as in way;
- "i" (i), a vowel, two pronunciations:
 - 1) as in eat
 - 2) as in sir in syllables beginning with the consonants c, ch, r, s, sh, z and zh;
- "j" (ch), a consonant, as in jeep;
- "q" (ch), a consonant, as "ch" in cheek;

"r" (j), a consonant pronounced as "r" but not rolled, or like "z" in azure;

"u" (u), a vowel, as in too, also as in the French "u" in "tu" or the German unlaute "u" in "Muenchen";

"v" (v), is used only to produce foreign and national minority words, and local dialects;

"w" (w), used as a semi-vowel in syllables beginning with "u" when not preceded by consonants, pronounced as in want;

"x" (hs), a consonant, as "sh" in she;

"y" (y), used as a semi-vowel in syllables beginning with "i" or "u" when not preceded by consonants, pronounced as in yet;

"z" (ts, tz), a consonant, as in zero; and
"zh" (ch), a consonant, as "j" in jump.

MODERN DRAMA

Lao She's "Teahouse"

The first Chinese play to be staged abroad will be *Teahouse* by the famous Chinese playwright Lao She. The Beijing People's Art Theatre will take the play to West Germany and France this September and October. It will attend the 200th anniversary of the Mannheim National Theatre and the 100th anniversary of the Comedie Francais.

The three-act *Teahouse* was written in 1957 and has been performed 300 times since its premiere in 1958.

The play depicts the demise of the old society over a span of 50 years through events set in an ordinary teahouse in Beijing. Lao She skilfully used his rich knowledge of local customs in Beijing to reveal society in three different epochs.

Act I is set in 1898. As the Qing Dynasty was tottering, imperialism was intensifying its aggression, and the people were in misery. In this flourishing teahouse, some intellectuals talk about their hopes for reform while a budding capitalist sees industry as the answer to China's dilemma. A peasant is forced by poverty to sell his daughter to a court eunuch who later comments: The emperor has been known to cut off reformers' heads.

Act II is set during the early warlord period after the death

of Yuan Shikai when various local military despots were constantly battling one another. Proprietor Wang renovates his teahouse in the hope of maintaining his livelihood. But turmoil on a national scale pushes his teahouse to the brink of bankruptcy.

Act III portrays Beijing after the War of Resistance Against Japan. Although China emerged as the victor, the people's conditions failed to improve. The teahouse goes bankrupt as a result of the rampant corruption of the Kuomintang reactionaries. In the last scene, three old friends meet once again at the teahouse: the proprietor, a bankrupt national

and they became the main characters for his novels, plays and folk art pieces. After liberation, he wrote more than ten excellent dramas eulogizing the people's life and struggles. But by far his most successful endeavour was *Teahouse* where he realistically and ruthlessly exposed the darkness and decadence of the old society and its inevitable fate. Unfortunately Lao She died in 1966.

The Beijing People's Art Theatre, one of the major companies in China, has staged more than 100 plays by Chinese and foreign playwrights since it was established in 1952. It also has presented seven of Lao She's plays. Some of the



The last scene from "Teahouse" when the three old friends throw a mock funeral, denouncing their fate.

capitalist and a small trader who came from a bureaucrat family of the Qing court. They mourn their fate by staging a mock funeral and deplore the unfairness of their dying society.

Teahouse's playwright, Lao She was a gifted Beijing writer. He lived with and understood the common people of the city

famous performers in *Teahouse*, such as Yu Shizhi, Zheng Rong and Lan Tianye, know Lao She and are very familiar with his ideas and art style. This enables them to re-present the characters with a powerful versatility which catches the hearts of the audiences and at the same time provides them with great artistic enjoyment.

SPORTS

22 Gold Medals

The Fourth Asian Shooting Championships and the First Asian Skeet and Trap Shooting Championships came to a close on January 29 in Manila after a week of keen competitions.

China won 12 gold, 5 silver and 2 bronze medals in 24 events.

More than 200 athletes from 12 countries and regions took part in these championships. From January 27 to 29, the Chinese team, composed of Mou Luhui, Lin Bo, Jin Dongxiang (f.) and Leng Guiying (f.), won the gold medal in the standard small-bore rifle (50 metres, 3 positions) team event (20 shots



Leng Guiying (centre), Pang Liqin (left) and Wu Xiaoxuan won China's first gold medal in the 80s.

each) with a grand total of 2,280 points, tying the Asian record. Mou Luhui won the gold medal in the individual event with 575 points. In the 25 metres pistol team event (60 shots), the Chinese team made up of Leng Shubin, Li Zhongqi, Liang Changyi and Deng Zening

collected a gold medal with 2,234 points and Leng Shubin won the gold medal in the individual event with 570 points.

In addition, Chinese shooters performed very well in the Second Asian Women and Youth Shooting Championships.

China altogether won 22 gold, 7 silver and 2 bronze medals and broke 13 Asian records in '38 events of these three Asian championships.

REVOLUTIONARY RELIC

An Oath for New Party And League Members

Early in 1929 Comrades Mao Zedong and Zhu De led the Red Army out of Jinggang Mountains to southern Jiangxi and western Fujian to open up new revolutionary base areas. In the great movement to fight local tyrants, redistribute the land and set up Soviet political power, the ranks of the Party expanded rapidly. By the end of that July, six Party branches of workers and five of peasants and a district Party committee

had been established in Longyan alone (a town in western Fujian Province).

Among the items that have been collected by the Fujian Revolutionary Museum is a precious revolutionary relic — an oath written on a piece of red cloth used by a *xiang* (township) Party and League Branch when it admitted new members. Comrade Liu Jinhui, chairman of the *xiang* Soviet government during that period, saved this document. "CCP" (Chinese Communist Party) and "CCY" (Chinese Communist Youth) are written in the middle of the cloth. The verses of the oath are: Keep Party secrets; observe Party discipline; sacrifice personal interests; carry on class struggle; work hard for the revolution and never betray the Party.

This precious document is a testimony to the building up of the Party in the revolutionary base areas. Though similar oaths have been found, none are from such an early period. Also this oath is particularly valuable as it was used both for admitting new Party and League members.



The text of oath taken by new members of the Communist Party and Communist Youth League.

● **Developments in Tourism**

More than 800,000 foreign tourists, overseas Chinese, foreigners of Chinese descent and compatriots from Xianggang (Hongkong) and Aomen (Macao) visited China last year, 30 per cent more than in 1978.

The following improvements were made in tourism last year to facilitate the growing tourist trade:

— **Speeding up facilities.** In addition to a number of newly built hotels already in use in Suzhou, Wuxi, Qingdao, Shijiazhuang and Nanjing, 11 new hotels are now under construction in Beijing, Shanghai, Hangzhou, Guilin and other places. Another four hotels will be started soon. The 15 new hotels will provide 14,000 rooms altogether. The state last year supplied the local tourist departments with 5,000 air conditioning units and ice-making machines and 500 tourist coaches. Most of the scenic spots have been or are being renovated and beautified. Main scenic spots, airports and scenic cities have set up restaurants and centres where souvenirs and arts and crafts are sold.

— **Improving transportation.** Charter flights have been added between Xianggang and Hangzhou, Nanjing, Shanghai and Guilin. The number of flights has been increased for the time being between Xianggang and Nanjing, Wuhan and Xian. Special trains have been added between Beijing and Chengde. A new passenger shipping line from Xianggang to Guangzhou is already in operation while new lines from Shanghai to

Xianggang and from Xiamen to Xianggang have been introduced this year. And a special shipping line was added for tourists to visit cities and scenic spots along the Changjiang River.

— **Training personnel for the tourist industry.** In the past year schools and classes to train personnel for the tourist industry were set up in some big cities, a group of personnel were sent abroad for study and a number of short-term training classes for tourist personnel were conducted. In addition two national tourist colleges will be established and courses specializing in tourism will be offered in some universities.

The main task in the tourist industry this year is to improve services and further enrich the cultural life of tourists.

● **More Camels**

A plan to raise more camels was formulated at a national camel breeding meeting held recently in the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region.

In terms of numbers of camels, China ranks second in the world with 600,000. They produce 2,000 tons of hair annually, about 600 tons for export. Thus, China's camel hair is well-known on international markets.

Called "the boat in the desert," a camel has the ability to go without water for several days in arid regions. Each can transport about 300-500 kilogrammes of goods which need four horses to carry. Camels also have much greater endurance than horses. They provide the best means of transport in the desert as China has not developed comparable mechanized transport.

Camels are also valuable for their hair, fur, meat and milk. Each camel can supply 350 kilogrammes of meat.

A camel, in general, has a life span of 30 years. Last year the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region, the main breeding base of double-hump camels in China, raised 380,000 camels, accounting for more than half the total in China.



Herding young camels in Inner Mongolia.

People in the News



Tongga Losang Chilai, aged 52, a Tibetan scholar who was a Living Buddha in his youth, was recently made an associate professor at the Central Institute for Nationalities in Beijing for his achievements in the research of Tibetan culture.

As a Living Buddha, Tongga studied the Buddhist sutras and propagated the idea that Heaven decides everything.

After the peaceful liberation of Tibet in 1951, he assumed the post of vice-chairman of the Association of Buddhism in the Mainling area.

The armed rebellion in 1959 engineered by Tibet's upper strata educated him. He witnessed how the rebels cruelly injured or killed Tibetan people and the progress made after the rebellion had been quelled.

In 1960, he was invited to Beijing to teach in the Central Institute for Nationalities. He learnt the Han language and read some works by Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin and Chairman Mao's works.

While teaching at the institute, Tongga has written *Grammar of Tibetan Language* and a dozen manuscripts, including "Annotations to 'Documents of Tibetan History'" and "Selected Readings From Famous Religious and Philosophical Works."

The learned scholar received favourable comments from his students for his conscientious and careful teaching.

Because there are vast tracts of deserts and arid regions in China, it is important economically to raise more camels.

● **Virgin Forest in Guangxi**

A 20,000-hectare virgin forest was discovered and verified last year in Miaocer Mountain, 100 kilometres from Guilin in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. It has been named the Miaocer Mountain Virgin Forest.

According to the survey conducted by the region's forestry department, the forest is 400 or 500 years old. More than 1,000 species of trees are found

there, including rare hemlocks, Chinese catalpas and *nanmu*. There are also 30 varieties of birds; 500 kinds of medicinal herbs, such as *Gastrodia elata*, *Ganoderma lucidum*, *Coptis chinensis* and *Paris polyphylla*; and 100 types of animals, including rare south China tigers, leopards, golden cats, black bears, civets and rhesus monkeys, which are listed in the second and third categories of animals under state protection.

● **Braving Wolf Dens**

Wu Song, a hero in the classical Chinese novel *Water Margin*, was much respected because he killed a tiger with his bare fists, riding

people of a grave danger. The legend became very popular and his name was often linked with bravery.

Now Guo Xingtang, a living hero in Qingyang County, Gansu Province, has outmatched Wu Song in wisdom and courage by capturing 98 wolves alive in the last 21 years. Guo was first motivated to go after the savage wolves when he realized how much damage they were causing to the lives and property of folks living on the loess plateau in eastern Gansu. So he organized a team to hunt the wolves in 1957.

Initially the wolves often eluded the team as it lacked experience. But then in the summer of 1958, the only daughter of an old couple was killed by a wolf. The two old people were beside themselves with grief.

Guo made up his mind to take revenge on the beast. With a group of young people, he found the wolf's den and entered it with torches in hand. Soon they saw the blinking eyes of the wolf. Wielding an iron fork, Guo took a sudden stride forward, jumped on the wolf's back, seized it by the throat and captured it alive.

After that Guo frequently braved wolf dens and captured more and more wolves with his simple weapons — an iron fork, an iron halter and some cords of rope. He is now a deputy director of the county bureau of civil affairs.





LETTERS FROM READERS

Against Soviet Invasion

The events that took place in the first few days of the 1980s once more testify to the correctness of your assessment that Soviet hegemonism is the biggest source of war at the present time. I and my whole family fully support the Chinese Government's statement on the Soviet armed aggression against Afghanistan. Soviet armed intervention in that nation in Central Asia again revealed the ferocious features of the "natural ally" of the third world.

The crimes Moscow committed in Afghanistan graphically show that this rabid hegemonist superpower will stop at nothing in its effort to gain strategic superiority and realize its wild ambition of world domination. In the face of the Soviet armed invasion of Afghanistan, anti-hegemonist forces should unite to the broadest possible extent and force the new tsars to withdraw their troops. The gangster action of Moscow also showed up the dangerous nature of the appeasement policy of those who connived at the Brezhnev clique's adventures in Afghanistan.

I would like to see in *Beijing Review* more documents, articles, news and cartoons on the Soviet invasion of this third world country whose people are living in deep misery.

Gerd Wedemeyer
Wiesbaden, W. Germany

Soviet invasion of Afghanistan cannot be tolerated. This is another performance by the Soviet Union in pushing its social-imperialist policy, and is even more serious than its invasion of Czechoslovakia. If this invasion is described as an action in conformity with the "treaty of friendship and good neighbourliness," then it discloses what the Soviet Union

has up its sleeves when it proposes to sign a similar treaty with Japan. The event also shows that it's wrong to have the "illusion" that "the Soviet Union has gradually abandoned revisionism." The sharp reaction of the Japanese people to this event far exceeds the Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea. Those who have not yet seen through the nature of the Soviet Union or still cherish illusions towards it have gradually come to an awakening.

Osamu Nakane
Ehime, Japan

Support for Kampuchea

I always think that the reports in *Beijing Review* are authentic and believable. After reading your article in last year's issue No. 47 on the Stockholm international conference in support of Kampuchea, I admire your accurate and unexaggerated report, for I was present at the conference as a Japanese representative.

Representatives of various countries spoke at the conference, vehemently condemning the Vietnamese aggressors and that string-puller, the Soviet Union. In the light of their own countries' interests, 250 representatives from 35 countries expressed great concern over the Soviet threat of aggression, direct or indirect.

Washichi Inose
Tokyo, Japan

World War II

I am interested in the article "World War II: Topic at Symposium" in No. 41 of 1979. I know that there are two different views on the two stages of the war.

The first stage. Our knowledge was mainly supplied by Western propaganda which attributed the defeat of the fascists to the role played by the chief belligerent Britain and the major arms merchant, the United States.

The second stage. The Soviet Union played up the role of the second front — the Soviet-German battlefield — saying that it played the major and decisive role in World War II. This means people the world over are still alive today because of the part played by the Soviet Union.

However, it is appropriate now to recognize the role played by China which lost nearly 12 million people in the war. It is my view that if Japan was not bogged down in China, it would have attacked the Soviet Union which would then be forced to fight on two fronts. In this way, the fascists might have won the war and mankind would suffer.

M. Mandrara Eric
Antaaha, Madagascar

The Party and Literature And Art

I wish to congratulate you on your articles on literature and art in Nos. 50 and 52 of 1979. They are really interesting articles on the relationship between the Party and literature and art. In particular, I hope you'll tell writer Liu Binyan that his view — literature and art should intervene with life — is correct. This is very important and must not be ignored, because life is the richest source of literary and art works.

Carlos Mario Vasco
Medellin, Colombia

Too Much Freedom in Religious Belief

China is giving too much freedom to religious belief; there is even news that archbishops are being appointed. This is very dangerous, for the influence of religion will certainly spread as in the Soviet Union, instead of diminishing gradually. Karl Marx once said that religion was like opium to the people. If Chairman Mao maintained that there should be freedom of religious belief, it is incorrect and should be rectified.

Basilio Felix Contreras
Lima, Peru

Sports

I like very much the reports in issue No. 42 about China's physical culture and sports and their developments and, in particular, news about the records set in China.

Halles Abdelkader
Blida, Algeria



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