

# BEIJING REVIEW

A CHINESE WEEKLY OF  
NEWS AND VIEWS

- Major Change in  
People's Commune System
- Chinese-Style Tourism



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

### Major Change in People's Commune System

The people's communes, set up in 1958, will be retained as collective economic organizations but will not function as an organ of administrative power. This is a change made in the draft of the revised Constitution. Why this proposed change? An explanation is given by two members of the NPC Standing Committee's Commission for Legal Affairs (p. 15).

### Chinese-Style Tourism

Director Han Kehua explains what is meant by taking the Chinese road in developing tourism and what it embodies (pp. 20-22).

Also in this special feature are three reports on picturesque Wuxi near Shanghai, a national minority prefecture in

southwest China and a newly opened tourist area in northeast China (pp. 23-28).

### Kampuchean Coalition Government Founded

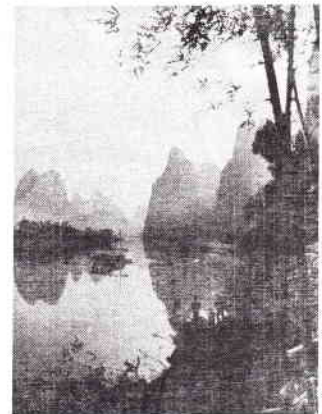
Samdech Norodom Sihanouk proclaimed in Kampuchea on July 9 the founding of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea and the main composition of the government (p. 12).

### Sino-US Relations

Conservative diehards in the United States are stirring up an anti-China current and trying to sabotage Sino-US relations fostered through long years of efforts by the people and governments of both countries. But they have few supporters among the American people who treasure Sino-American friendship (p. 9).

### Partial Troop Withdrawal — A Vietnamese Trick

Hanoi's announcement of a partial withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea is only a trick to deceive the people. A spokesman of the Chinese Foreign Ministry denounced it as a fraud (p. 11).



The Lijiang River in Guangxi, with green hills and uniquely shaped crags of peerless beauty on both banks, has attracted tourists from all over the world.

Photo by Fang Fang

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## Sino-Soviet Relations

**Soviet athletes participated in a track and field tournament not long ago in Beijing. Can this be interpreted as a sign of rapprochement between China and the Soviet Union?**

China and the Soviet Union maintain diplomatic and trade relations and there are also a few exchanges of visits.

Soviet athletes came to Beijing recently to take part in an international track and field invitational meet, but major differences in principle still exist between the two countries. China's principled stand of opposing Soviet hegemonism and expansionism is well known. On the other hand, China has always held that relations between the two countries should be maintained and developed on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence and that outstanding issues between them should be

settled through negotiations. There are many obstacles to the improvement of Sino-Soviet relations, the most serious being the Soviet Union's hegemonist foreign policies.

Soviet leaders sometimes also talk about improving their relations with China. As a Chinese saying goes, "Judge a man by his deeds, and not his words." We want action from the Soviet Union. By action we do not merely mean a change in Soviet behaviour regarding the Sino-Soviet border issue and the huge Soviet military force stationed along the Sino-Soviet border, but also the Afghanistan and Kampuchean issues. So far, there is no indication in any regard that the Soviet Union sincerely wants to improve its relations with China.

— *International Editor*  
Mu Youlin

## Economic Co-operation Among Third World Countries

**China advocates South-South co-operation. Is it of practical significance to strengthen economic co-operation among the developing countries?**

For developing countries to expand their economic co-operation is, I think, not only necessary politically but is possible and of practical significance economically.

All third world countries greatly desire the development of their economies. A great deal of money will be required for this purpose. Of course, the funds must come mainly

from internal accumulation. At the same time, however, foreign funds need to be introduced. For a long time, they have depended mainly on investments by the developed countries. Now, however, the developed countries have cut their economic aid, while many third world countries have greatly developed their own economies. This makes it necessary as well as possible for the latter to invest in each other's country. For instance, with the increased financial strength of the oil producing and exporting countries in recent years, the aid they give to

the other third world countries occupies a far greater proportion of their own GNP as compared with the aid given by the developed countries. Moreover, their conditions for loans are more favourable.

Some other third world countries have developed their national economy quickly and their capacity to accumulate funds has been enhanced continuously, enabling them to export part of such funds. If third world countries strengthen their co-operation and make joint efforts to pool their funds, they will be able to undertake construction projects that are beyond the capacity of a single country.

In order to accelerate economic development, third world countries still need to import advanced technology. Facts have proved that the developed countries often ask high prices for exported technology. Furthermore, most of them are not willing to transfer really advanced technology to the developing countries.

However, many developing countries today have developed fairly advanced technology of their own in some fields, some of which have caught up with the advanced world levels. Because conditions in the developing countries are approximately the same, it is much easier for a developing country to master the technology introduced from another developing nation. Furthermore, the prices for these technological innovations are more reasonable. This suggests broad opportunities for exchanges and co-operation.

At present, the national industries of third world countries are confronted with com-

# LETTERS

## Disarmament

"China's Position on Disarmament" (issue No. 25) is an interesting article. I am convinced of China's sincerity but I want to point out one contradiction. The article demands the two superpowers pledge not to use nuclear weapons and also describes them as ambitious. It is of no use to ask the wolf not to devour the lamb. Therefore, I think this is empty. This problem can be overcome by people who have lofty ideals and I believe the Chinese Government is on the right side.

Yotaro Saito  
Sakura, Japan

## Report From Kampuchea

The "Report From Kampuchean Battlefields" (issues No. 19-21) is fascinating. Since the invasion of Kampuchea by the Vietnamese troops in 1979, I have followed closely the situation in Indochina but deceit and ferocity of the Vietnamese authorities revealed in your reports still caught me unawares. This type of coverage is lacking in the Western press. The West's propaganda media talk about the erroneous policies of Democratic Kampuchea, but ignore

Viet Nam's attempt to annihilate the Kampuchean nation and expand in Southeast Asia. Some go so far as to praise and support the Vietnamese authorities and their atrocities.

"Report From Kampuchean Battlefields" counters the misreports of Western journalists, sides with the Kampuchean people, exposes the atrocious acts of the Vietnamese authorities and covers the accomplishments of the soldiers of Democratic Kampuchea.

It is encouraging that in the midst of war the Government of Democratic Kampuchea has been able to correct its mistakes and put forward the new policy of the Patriotic and Democratic Front of the Great National Union of Kampuchea. This policy has won the support of members of the royal family, intellectuals, peasants and other patriots, including some soldiers in the puppet regime's army. This policy has taken root among the Kampuchean people because it reflects the actual needs of the people and is the basis for the Kampuchean people and the Government of Democratic Kampuchea to defeat the Vietnamese invaders. I hope your magazine will continue to report about Kampuchea.

Hiroshi Sakaguchi  
Tokyo, Japan

## Domestic News and Readers' Letters

Generally speaking, I enjoy reading *Beijing Review*. I particularly like your domestic coverage. Although the situation has improved, West Germans still have few sources for extensive reading about your country.

I am interested in reading letters of criticism from your readers, and appreciate cartoons which satirize shortcomings because they provoke thought.

Holger Michael  
Hamm, W. Germany

I have noticed that great changes have taken place in *Beijing Review* in the past six years, both in content and in the form. In the last two years the articles have become more lively and the subjects have become more diversified.

What I value are the long articles on China's domestic policies and official documents. I think *Beijing Review* can balance these "basic" articles, which are hard for readers who lack background, with interesting pieces, which everyone can understand.

The "Letters" column plays a unique role: it allows us to hear from *Beijing Review's* readers throughout the world.

Fernando Pastrano  
Madrid, Spain

petition from powerful transnational companies. If steps are not taken to combat such competition, their survival will be threatened and development will be out of the question. As protectionism gains ground in the West and the developed countries attempt to shift their economic crises on to others, it is all the more necessary for the third world countries to protect their national industries, strengthen co-operation, maintain the prices for their exported goods and develop trade among themselves. In fact, the growth rate of trade between the developing countries themselves has surpassed that between them and the developed countries. This is inspiring.

The superpowers are the beneficiaries and apologists of the current international order. They consistently oppose and obstruct proposals from the third world countries to establish a new international economic order. While demanding changes in the old international economic order, the third world countries must, on the one hand, rely on their collective efforts to push forward global negotiations with the developed countries and, on the other, strengthen economic co-operation among themselves. This kind of co-operation, based on equality and mutual benefit and development of collective self-reliance, is itself a way to change international economic relations.

China is a developing socialist country and belongs to the third world. It always attaches importance to South-South co-operation. Since China has adopted an open policy towards foreign countries, it has continued to base much of its economic and technical exchanges with foreign countries on co-operation with the developing countries. At present, readjustments are still being made in the national economy. The steady development of China's economy will provide a solid foundation and bright prospects for such co-operation.

— International Editor  
Mu Youlin

## ECONOMIC

**Building More Hydropower Stations**

Twenty large and medium-sized hydropower stations with a total designed capacity of 10 million kw are being built on the rivers that crisscross China.

These hydropower stations are located in the provinces of Jilin, Liaoning, Shaanxi, Qinghai, Zhejiang, Jiangxi, Hubei, Hunan, Sichuan, Guizhou and Yunnan and the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

In addition to the Gezhouba hydropower station on the middle reaches of the Changjiang (Yangtze) River, the key projects now being constructed include the Longyang Gorge hydropower station<sup>1</sup> (see map) with a generating capacity of 1.28 million kw on the upper reaches of the Huanghe (Yellow) River which has the richest hydropower resources in China. Others include the Tianshengqiao<sup>2</sup> and Dahua<sup>3</sup> hydropower stations on the Honghe River, second to the Huanghe

River in hydropower resources; the Jinshuitan hydropower station<sup>4</sup> in Zhejiang and the Dongjiang hydropower station<sup>5</sup> in Hunan, each equipped with a concrete double-curvature arch dam. The Ankang hydropower station<sup>6</sup> being constructed in Shaanxi will have a generating capacity of 800,000 kw and the Lubuge hydropower station<sup>7</sup> in Yunnan a capacity of 600,000 kw.

Those that will be completed and go into operation next year include the Baishan<sup>8</sup> and Dahua hydropower stations. A dam is being built at the Longyang Gorge hydropower station which will be completed and put into operation in 1985. The other projects will be completed before 1990.

When they are all completed, 50,000 million kwh can be generated every year. This will save 20 million tons of coal annually. In addition, the dams built will have the function of flood-prevention, irrigation and fish breeding.

The Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region has drawn up

a long-term plan for exploiting the water resources of the Honghe River. In addition to the two hydropower stations now being built, another eight large ones are being planned. With a total designed capacity of 10.82 million kw, they will between them produce 60,000 million kwh a year. Total investment for these stations is estimated to be 12,000 million yuan.

China's hydropower resources rank first in the world, with a total reserves of 680 million kw. Some 370 million kw can be exploited and utilized to generate 1,900,000 million kwh of electricity a year. But so far only 3 per cent of this has been exploited, and some of the country's main rivers are still untapped.

Over the last few years, the government has paid greater attention to building hydropower stations. Investment in hydropower projects keeps rising within the limits imposed by the general scaling down of capital construction required by the readjustment of the national economy. This year's investments are 20 per cent more than in 1981.

**Farmland Protection**

The State Council recently promulgated the "Regulations Concerning the Requisition of Land for Construction Purposes." It is aimed at rationalizing the use of land, ensuring the needs of the country's construction and making proper arrangements for the work and lives of the people living on the requisitioned land.

The regulations are directed against the unlawful purchase and rental of land by some government organizations, en-





terprises, schools, people's communes and production brigades.

Chinese law states that land in urban areas is owned by the state. In the rural areas and city suburbs, with the exception of plots owned by the state according to particular provisions of law, land is owned by the collectives, and no unit or individual is allowed to seize, purchase or rent it.

It is reported that since 1979, three districts in the suburbs of Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province, have illegally bought or sold, rented out or seized more than 366 hectares of farmland, including land the state planned to requisition.

Last year, some communes in the suburbs of Beijing illegally put up buildings with floor spaces of 310,000 square metres on 266 hectares of farmland. They later rented out or sold the buildings to some government organizations, thus disrupting the overall planning of city construction.

Such unlawful dealings between city enterprises or government organizations and rural communes also occurred in other places, because some units were only concerned with their immediate interests in defiance of state policies and laws.

These unlawful acts are being investigated and dealt with by departments concerned.

To curb the illegal purchase of land, the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fishery is planning to set up an agency to oversee unified land management.

China's farmland covered 111.33 million hectares in 1957, but it dropped to 99.33 hectares in 1977. However, this figure includes 17 million hectares of farmland reclaimed from wasteland during this period.

so the country actually lost 29 million hectares of farmland during those 20 years, an area equal to the total area of farmland of Shandong, Hebei, Henan and Heilongjiang Provinces in 1979. The nation's farmland continued to dwindle in the last few years, and per-capita farmland has dropped from 0.18 hectare in the 1950s to 0.1 hectare in the 1980s. The constant population growth coupled with the gradual reduction of farmland is now receiving careful attention from the Chinese authorities.

At the beginning of this year, the "Summary of the National Conference on Rural Work" released by the Party Central Committee pointed out: "Our country has a vast population but not enough arable land. To control population growth and protect farmland is a major state policy. The occupation of farmland by government organizations, enterprises, public institutions, army units, schools and rural people's communes and production brigades should be strictly controlled."

## **Improve Urban and Rural Commodity Circulation**

A major change will be made in China's method of circulating commodities, the State Council decided recently. The separate administration of rural and urban sales will cease and commodities will be distributed through unified state management.

This important reform in the commercial system is aimed at expanding the interflow of goods between the cities and the countryside.

The present system has been in operation since the 1950s. Under it, the management of industrial commodities at the county level or above is a func-

tion of state-owned commercial enterprises, while in the small towns and villages the responsibility lies with the supply and marketing co-operatives at the grass-roots level. This method which separates the urban and rural market impedes commodity circulation and causes unnecessary contradictions between the state-owned commercial departments and the grass-roots supply and marketing co-operatives in the distribution of commodities.

Reforming this system is conducive to resolving such contradictions and increasing the flow of industrial goods to the countryside, an important aspect of facilitating overall commodity circulation.

The State Council decision stressed:

— While the new system is being instituted, the country will continue to observe the principle of giving priority to the cities in the supply of non-staple foods which are needed by both the cities and the villages, while in the supply of industrial products, priority will be given to the rural areas.

— Sales quotas of major commodities listed in the state plan will be set separately for the urban and rural areas. No units or individuals will be allowed to divert commodities designated for the rural areas for any other purposes. The special companies that supply manufactured goods for general rural use should make public their stock and reduce wholesale prices for shops at the grass-roots level to choose and purchase.

After the decision was announced, the Ministry of Commerce decided to set separate supply quotas on 15 commodities that are important to the livelihood of the rural people. These include bicycles, sew-

ing machines, wrist-watches, matches, soap, cotton cloth, woollen threads and sugar.

## POLITICAL

### Former Kuomintang Personnel Released

All the lower-level Kuomintang officials who were still in Chinese prisons were released by the end of June, in compliance with a March decision by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress.

Those released included the Kuomintang party, government, military and intelligence personnel at or below the county or regimental level. Captured Kuomintang members with higher ranks were all released in 1975.

Certificates of release were issued at mass meetings attended by the prisoners and local people held by people's court and prison authorities across the country over the last two months. Release certificates also were delivered to the 1,700-odd former Kuomintang prisoners already furloughed for medical treatment.

All the released were provided with quilts, clothing, shoes and hats as well as 100 yuan of pocket money. Since their release, some have enrolled in classes, others have gone on tours around the country. Prison authorities in Beijing organized visits to the Great Hall of the People and to the Chairman Mao Memorial Hall for the released prisoners.

Arrangements are being made to help them get settled. Due consideration will be given to

those who are homeless, aged, physically weak or disabled.

## FOREIGN RELATIONS

### Israel's Invasion of Lebanon Condemned

Premier Zhao Ziyang reiterated on July 8 in a reply letter to Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Yasser Arafat that "the Chinese Government and people will, as always, support the just struggle waged by the Palestinian and other Arab people against Israeli expansionism."

Zhao Ziyang pointed out that with the connivance and blessing of the United States, the Begin authorities of Israel did not hesitate to use Israeli youth as cannon-fodder to launch an inhuman war of aggression in disregard of the principles of international law. The Chinese Government and people are greatly incensed at and strongly condemn Israel's savage aggression and express deep admiration for the bravery shown by the Palestinian guerrillas and people in their resistance against the aggressors under the leadership of the PLO.

Zhao Ziyang said in the letter: "You are not isolated in the struggle and the cause you are fighting for is just. You have made tremendous sacrifice. However, we are fully confident that so long as you uphold principles, persist in the struggle, strengthen unity, pursue correct military and political policies and tactics and win the sympathy and support of the

people all over the world, you will surely overcome difficulties, defeat the ferocious enemy and finally obtain the sacred rights of the Palestinian people."

Premier Zhao stressed: "The Chinese Government has always held that an all-round and just solution to the Middle East issue can be achieved only on the basis of restoring the Palestinian national rights and respecting the state sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Arab countries. It will make unremitting efforts in accordance with its consistent principled stand and together with governments upholding justice and cherishing peace to check the Israeli aggression and support the Palestinian and other Arab people in their just struggle."

In a letter to the Chinese Premier, Arafat gave an account of the grave situation arising from the Israeli invasion and the besieging of Beirut and thanked the Chinese Communist Party, Government and people for their vigorous support for the resistance to the Israeli aggression put up by the Palestinian army and people.

### Developing Friendly Relations With African Countries

During his meeting with Guinean Foreign Minister Abdoulaye Toure on July 11, Premier Zhao Ziyang said that China attaches great importance to its relations with the African countries and is working persistently to enhance solidarity and friendship with them. The Premier reaffirmed China's support for the just struggle of the

## Protesting "Two Chinas" Plot

### Deng Xiaoping on International Situation

VICE-CHAIRMAN Deng Xiaoping spoke about the current international situation when he met with Guinean Foreign Minister Abdoulaye Toure on July 12:

- The Israeli invasion of Lebanon and its attack against Beirut is a flagrant act of aggression aimed at smashing the just cause of the Palestinian people, exercising control over Lebanon and sabotaging the unity of the Arab nations. The lesson is that the Arab world should strengthen solidarity and never pin any hope on the superpowers.

- History shows that the third world countries must rely on their own efforts and strength and develop their own countries in order to win the respect of others. The third world countries must strengthen their ties and solidarity and promote South-South co-operation which is an important form of strengthening unity and development among the third world countries. China attaches great importance to South-South co-operation.

- China hopes that African countries will strengthen their unity and co-operation in line with the spirit of the Charter of the Organization of African Unity and guard against activities by imperialism, colonialism or hegemonism to split the ranks of the third world countries.

third world countries against imperialism, colonialism, hegemonism and racial discrimination. He added that China will do its utmost to strengthen its economic and technical co-operation with the third world countries.

The Guinean Foreign Minister arrived in Beijing on July 9 for a friendly visit to China.

State Councillor and Foreign Minister Huang Hua and Foreign Minister Abdoulaye Toure exchanged views on the current international situation, African questions and Sino-Guinean relations. Both sides spoke highly of the friendly relations and co-operation between the two countries and expressed the desire to increase the exchange of views on issues of common concern and probe for new fields of co-operation.

Huang Hua said that the hegemonists have intensified their contention and conducted expansion and aggression in various parts of the world, thus

seriously threatening the security of the third world countries. He stressed the need for the third world countries to increase the exchange of views, strengthen their co-operation and co-ordinate their action in order to oppose hegemonist expansion and aggression, safeguard world peace and establish a new international economic order.

Foreign Minister Toure said that unequal economic relations and war and tension still existed in the world, posing a serious threat to peace and stability in the world. Guinea has unswervingly made efforts to strive for a fair and reasonable economic relationship, for the peaceful solution of all disputes, for independence and national sovereignty for the people of all countries and for a world of peace, stability and common progress. He noted that Guinea and China have always stood side by side on all these issues of principle.

Through painstaking scheming by some leaders of the International Softball Federation (ISF) and certain people in China's Taipei, the opening ceremony of the 5th World Women's Softball Championship in Taipei on July 3 was turned into a political farce of openly creating "two Chinas." According to reports, the championship closed on July 11.

A responsible member of the Chinese Softball Association issued a statement on July 13 expressing indignation and protest against Don Porter, Secretary-General of the ISF, and others for engineering a "two Chinas" plot at the tournament.

The responsible member said that the Chinese Softball Association had pointed out time and again that, according to the resolutions of the ISF and the International Olympic Committee (IOC) on the question of China's Taipei, Taiwan's so-called "national flag" and "national anthem" must not be used in any form at the 5th World Women's Softball Championship. However, Porter and certain other people refused all along to make any definite written commitment in this regard. The championship had come to a close, and reports coming from Taipei showed that there were reckless efforts to take advantage of the occasion to create "two Chinas." The Chinese people and sportsmen cannot but express strong indignation at this.

The responsible member of the Chinese Softball Association strongly protested against the acts of Don Porter and others for scuttling the IOC and ISF resolutions in their plot to create "two Chinas."



## Washington's Anti-China Current

THE representatives of 28 US conservative organizations issued a joint statement on US-China relations on July 8 at a Washington press conference. The joint statement and speeches made by some of the representatives at the press conference openly preached their "two Chinas" policy. They also opposed "renunciation" and "selling out" the so-called Republic of China (Taiwan). They asked the US Government to stick to the "Taiwan Relations Act" and to continue selling sophisticated weapons to Taiwan. The statement also attacked the People's Republic of China.

### Undermining Sino-US Relations

This anti-China current is not surprising. Recently, particularly since the resignation of US Secretary of State Alexander Haig, a number of ultra-conservatives in the United States have been attempting to destroy the foundation of Sino-US relations. The actions of these forces include Senator Barry Goldwater's visit to Taiwan, the voiced demand of 41 US Senators headed by S. I. Hayakawa that the US Government sell F-5E fighters to Taiwan immediately, a message to President Ronald Reagan sent by 14 conservative organizations urging him not to abandon his "old friends" and demanding resolute implementation of the "Taiwan Relations Act."

Few and limited in influence, these people represent neither the great majority of the American people nor the mainstreams of the Republican and Democratic Parties, but they are stirring up trouble. Their minds

crammed with the prejudices of the 1950s, they are devoid of elementary knowledge about international affairs. Forgetting the fact that the "Cairo Declaration" signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt stipulates unequivocally that Taiwan and the Penghu Islands should be returned to China, they have gone so far as to declare that the circumstances attending China and its Taiwan Province are just like those attending Korea or Germany. They have clung desperately to their "old friends" in Taiwan to the extent of abandoning their grand old President Roosevelt.

It is easily seen that the long-term and fundamental goal of these conservative diehards is to create "two Chinas" and keep Taiwan under the control and aegis of the United States in a vain attempt to continue the division of China indefinitely. To achieve this goal, they have no reservations about destroying Sino-American relations fostered through long years of efforts by the people and governments of the two countries. They have totally repudiated the China policy unanimously followed by four administrations under the Republican or Democratic Parties since President Nixon took office. They are trying to tear to shreds the "Shanghai Communique" and the Joint Communique on the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations Between China and the United States, so as to change the Sino-American relationship back to one of hostility as in the 1950s.

Their immediate goal is to get the American Government to continue selling Taiwan arms

which, they say, would be "a deterrent to China." In the meantime, they want to undermine the talks now being held between China and the United States on the question of US arms sales to Taiwan. In a word, they seem to be unhappy with anything less than ending Sino-American relations.

However, their viewpoints not only run counter to the fundamental interests of the American people, but also are harmful to the interests of peace and security in the world, the United States included. For all the uproar and clamour they have made to demonstrate their existence, they have few supporters among the American people. Those who treasure Sino-American relations should be on guard.

### Refusing to Face Reality

Following the collapse of a dynasty, there are always a number of survivors, old and young, of the bygone dynasty who dreamt of a comeback. Douglas MacArthur's idea of an "unsinkable aircraft-carrier" and the Dulles doctrine of non-recognition of China have long been repudiated by history, but a number of people in the United States are still haunted by their ideas and are bent on trying to turn back the wheel of history. They are dreaming of the overlordship which the United States enjoyed in China more than 30 years ago when it provided Chiang Kai-shek with money and arms to fight a civil war. However, such dreams have long been dashed to pieces by the Chinese people. The People's Republic of China has stood like a giant in the East for 33 years. It is simply preposter-

ous that these Americans refuse to open their eyes to the reality of the world and still cherish the dream of carving up China.

We advise these old-liners to wake up and face reality.

—“*Renmin Ribao*” *Commentary* (July 12)

## Unsuccessful Session of the UN General Assembly on Disarmament

**T**HE Second Special Session of the UN General Assembly on Disarmament drew to an end on July 10 without adopting a draft comprehensive programme for disarmament.

The draft comprehensive programme for disarmament, which stipulated the principles, objects and keys of the disarmament, was supported by the majority of the representatives but it failed to obtain approval because of the two superpowers' opposition and obstruction.

### The Concluding Document

A watered-down concluding document was adopted by consensus at the closing meeting of the five-week session. It points out that “since the adoption of the final document in 1978, there has been no significant progress in the field of arms limitation and disarmament and the seriousness of the situation has increased.”

“The past four years have witnessed increasing recourse to the use or threat of use of force against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of states, military intervention, occupation, annexation and interference in the internal affairs of states and denial of the inalienable right to self-determination and independence of peoples under colonial or foreign domination,” thus increasing tensions and impeding disarmament.

“The vastly increased military budgets since 1978 and the development, production and

deployment especially by the states possessing the largest military arsenals of new types of weapon systems represent a huge and growing diversion of human and material resources.” “Such waste greatly compounds the problems confronting developing countries in achieving economic and social development.”

The document concludes, “Member states have affirmed their determination to continue to work for the urgent conclusion of negotiations on and the adoption of the comprehensive programme of disarmament.”

Regrets over the failure of the current Special Session on Disarmament, especially the behaviour of the two superpowers, were expressed by many delegates.

President of this session Ismat Kittani said, “We must admit that the session has not been a success. Our hopes and aspirations, together with those of countless millions, remain far from fulfilment.” “But we must not despair. And, even more important, we must not give up.”

### China's Critical Remarks

Kang Maozhao, deputy leader of the Chinese Government Delegation to the Second Special Session of the UN General Assembly on Disarmament, expressed his disappointment in a speech at the closing meeting. He accused the states possessing the largest arsenals of raising irrelevant points to block the

obtaining of an agreement on disarmament.

He declared, “A clear trend has emerged in the course of the general debate and extensive consultations in the working groups during the current session. An increasing number of countries have emphasized that states possessing the largest military arsenals bear a special responsibility for disarmament and should assume an obligation to take the lead in substantially reducing their armaments. Contrary to this, however, one has seen that these states have resorted to various means in and outside the conference to dodge their responsibility and have raised extraneous issues to obstruct the reaching of a necessary common agreement.”

“Some people are clearly engaged in an arms race of unprecedented proportions. Yet they try to convince us that this is necessary and justified. Some people are extremely sensitive to words like aggression, intervention and occupation, and would not like any reference to them in the document, notwithstanding their inability to deny their actual deeds. In order to cover up their misdeeds, they have even tried hard to omit certain points and phrases in the document which they had accepted in previous documents. This, therefore, is the underlying cause why disarmament could make no headway and the current session has failed to achieve any substantive result.”

“The outcome of the current session has once again proved that disarmament and international security are inseparable. Since the First Special Session on Disarmament, the arms race has been intensified, the international situation has deteriorated and the danger of a nuclear war has increased. Several

wars of aggression by conventional arms have taken place. This change in the international situation certainly has an impact on and creates resistance to disarmament. In the past few years, we often heard debate as to whether disarmament enhances international security or international security promotes disarmament, much like the debate of whether the chicken or the egg came first. It should be clear that progress can hardly be achieved in disarmament when international security is constantly breached, and the hegemonists and aggressors refuse to renounce their designs."

"We are a nuclear state but we declared as far back as 18 years ago that China will never

be the first to use nuclear weapons and will not use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear states under any circumstances. We hold that the states possessing the biggest nuclear arsenals should take the lead in reducing their nuclear weapons. We are ready to assume appropriate obligations together with other nuclear states through negotiations."

"China's intention and position regarding disarmament are consistent, irrespective of the results of the international disarmament conferences. Although the task of disarmament is an arduous one, we are willing to work unceasingly towards this end with other countries and people of the world."

## Hanoi's "Partial Troop Withdrawal" Fraud

THE sixth conference of foreign ministers of Viet Nam, Laos and the puppet regime of Phnom Penh was held on July 6 and 7 in Ho Chi Minh City. A communique issued at the end of the conference announced

that Viet Nam will withdraw a number of its troops from Kampuchea beginning this month. This is a fraud by Hanoi.

The "partial troop withdrawal" is nothing new. At the 35th session of the UN General Assembly in 1980, the Vietnamese also said they intended to "withdraw some Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea." Their trick to deny the UN resolution on a Vietnamese troop withdrawal from Kampuchea was soon exposed by the international community.

At present, the Vietnamese-launched fourth dry-season offensive against the Democratic Kampuchean National Army and guerrillas

## Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesman Exposes Hanoi's Proposal

SPeAKING of Viet Nam's "partial troop withdrawal" from Kampuchea, a spokesman from the Information Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China said on July 9 that it is "a deceptive trick played by the Vietnamese authorities at a time when the Kampuchean people's struggle against Vietnamese aggression has made new progress."

He said that "in so doing, their (the Vietnamese authorities') purpose is to bypass the implementation of the relevant UN General Assembly resolutions, keep Kampuchea under their continued occupation, maintain their control over Indochina and further expand into Southeast Asia." The spokesman also said, "By wantonly attacking China and Thailand and raising various unreasonable demands, the Vietnamese authorities are merely seeking an excuse for their pursuance of regional hegemonism."

He added: "If the Vietnamese authorities really have any sincere desire to resolve the Kampuchean question, they should withdraw from Kampuchea all their aggressor troops immediately and unconditionally in compliance with the relevant UN General Assembly resolutions."

has been foiled. Meanwhile three patriotic Kampuchean forces have formed a Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea. At the forthcoming 37th UN General Assembly, the majority of the UN member countries will surely denounce Viet Nam for refusing to implement the UN's resolutions on Vietnamese troop withdrawal from Kampuchea. These are the circumstances which prompted the Vietnamese to say they are planning a "partial withdrawal" of their troops from Kampuchea.





## Proclamation on the Formation Of the Democratic Kampuchean Coalition Government

*The following excerpt was taken from the proclamation issued by His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, President of Democratic Kampuchea, on July 9, from a site inside Kampuchea.*

**T**ODAY, at this historic site, I have the distinguished honour to proclaim the formation of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea which is constituted in conformity with the declaration I signed in Kuala Lumpur on June 22, 1982, with his Excellency Mr. Son Sann, and His Excellency Mr. Khieu Samphan.

The composition of this Coalition Government (Inner Cabinet) is already known, namely:

His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, President of Democratic Kampuchea;

His Excellency Mr. Khieu Samphan, Vice-President of Democratic Kampuchea in charge of foreign affairs;

His Excellency Mr. Son Sann, Prime Minister.

The four Co-ordination Committees subordinate to the Inner Cabinet have just been constituted with the following composition:

1. Co-ordination Committee for Finance and Economy

Mr. Ieng Sary  
Mr. Buor Hell  
Mr. Boun Say

2. Co-ordination Committee for Defence

Mr. In Tam  
Mr. Im Chhoodeth  
Mr. Son Sen

3. Co-ordination Committee for Culture and Education

Mr. Chhoy Vy  
Mr. Chak Saroeun  
Mr. Thuch Rinn

4. Co-ordination Committee for Health and Social Affairs

Dr. Thiounn Thoeun  
Dr. Bou Kheng  
Prince Norodom Chakrapong.

Soon after the withdrawal of Vietnamese occupation armed forces from Kampuchea, the entire people of Kampuchea shall be able to exercise fully their rights to self-determination through general and free elections and secret ballots under the supervision of the United Nations organization.

In my capacity as President of Democratic Kampuchea, I solemnly declare that our duty imposes upon us to fulfil with dignity and with determination the missions assigned to us in our national liberation struggle.

I launch an urgent and patriotic appeal to all our compatriots, wherever they are, inside the country or abroad, to join us in the struggle against the foreign occupiers.

I launch an appeal to all friendly countries and governments to bring us aid and support for the sacred cause which we defend, for the restoration of peace in Kampuchea, and for the equilibrium, the stability, and the security of this part of the world.

I express my gratitude to the Royal Government of Thailand and to the governments of other ASEAN countries which have constantly supported and aided us in our struggle for national liberation. All my gratitude is equally extended to all our friends the world over who have granted us aid and support in our heavy and noble task.

### Primary Aim

The primary aim of the Vietnamese troop withdrawal is to end its isolation in the United Nations and thereby permit it to continue to ignore the UN's resolutions demanding that Viet Nam immediately and unconditionally withdraw its troops from Kampuchea. The withdrawal is also designed to offset the influence of the formation of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea and maintain the Vietnamese military occupation of Kampuchea.

While claiming a desire to "reconcile" with ASEAN, Viet Nam is attempting to get ASEAN to carry out "regional

dialogue," give up its support of the Kampuchean patriotic forces and accept the fait accompli of Viet Nam's occupation of Kampuchea.

The Vietnamese authorities are also using the withdrawal as a plot to gain economic aid from Western countries to meet their pressing needs.

### A Change in Tactics

Some observers may believe that Viet Nam's "partial troop withdrawal" is indicative of a softened and flexible attitude. Those who think this way are falling into Viet Nam's trap. The Fifth Conference of the Vietnamese Communist Party

held last March indicated no willingness on the part of the Vietnamese authorities to abandon their ambition to occupy Kampuchea, control the whole of Indochina and lord it over the Southeast Asian region. If there is any change, it is only in tactics.

In a word, Viet Nam's "partial troop withdrawal" can in no way change the reality of its military occupation of Kampuchea. Under such circumstance, any impartial solution to the Kampuchean problem is out of the question. Moreover, the Vietnamese authorities may pull out some troops for show while clandestinely bringing in

more troops. The Soviet Union has played a similar trick in Afghanistan.

### Lulling World Opinion

As soon as Viet Nam's "partial troop withdrawal" was announced, the ASEAN countries and Democratic Kampuchea exposed and condemned it. This shows that the people of these countries have seen through the Vietnamese proposal.

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk pointed out in his speeches at

Phnom Melai Mountain that there is no significance about this partial withdrawal. It is just to deceive the world and propaganda without any good consequence towards the Kampuchean people and the future of Kampuchea.

"Viet Nam's so-called new proposal is also aimed at legalizing its long-term occupation of our country and the puppet regime of Heng Samrin," said Khieu Samphan.

— Ren Zhong

## Israeli People Are Awakening

THE Begin government's invasion of Lebanon and brutal massacre of the Palestinian people has evoked condemnation from the world's people and many Israelis.

More than 80,000 Israeli people held a demonstration in Tel Aviv on July 3 to protest the invasion of Lebanon. They called for the resignations of Defence Minister Ariel Sharon and Prime Minister Menachem Begin.

A leader of Israel's "Peace Now Movement" went to West Beirut on the same day and met with the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization. He expressed unity with the Palestinian people and support for the establishment of a Palestinian state.

One of Israel's well-known public figures met with the leader of the PLO while the latter was being pressured to surrender in a fierce battle, and issued a statement with him directly criticizing Israeli government. These are unprecedented actions which suggest that an increasing number of Israelis are

rejecting the discrimination, bias and hatred concocted by their expansionist government against the Palestinian people. They are independently thinking of and dealing with the major issues which concern their life and death.

These developments also indicate that the Palestinians are not isolated. The Begin government is rampaging in Lebanon at the moment, but resistance is building in Israel.

The Israeli authorities have repeatedly invaded their neighbours during the past 30 years. They have started four Middle East wars. This time, as a pretext for the "peace of Galilee," they invaded Lebanon, slaughtered peaceful civilians at will, destroyed cities and villages and raided Beirut. They are also trying to force the PLO forces to lay down their arms and evacuate Lebanon.

Nonetheless, the Israeli people clearly see that the expansionist policies of the Tel Aviv ruling clique are not only producing great tragedy for the Arabs but also for Israelis. They are beginning to realize that the Arab people are not their enemies and that the source of their problems is Israel's ruling clique.

More and more Israelis understand that although the Palestinian issue is complicated, it can be solved justly and reasonably. Arabs and Israelis should unite, struggle together and force the Begin authorities to change their aggressive and expansionist policy. Only then



Israeli people demonstrate on July 3 against the Begin government's invasion of Lebanon.

will the Middle East question be solved.

The Israeli people are awakening, a development

which the Begin authorities could not have foreseen.

— Ren Yan

of Iraq's population, whether they will welcome Iranian troops into their country and support the establishment of a pro-Iranian Islamic government is open to question.

## After Iraq's Withdrawal

**I**RAQ'S military authorities announced on June 29 the complete withdrawal of their forces from all captured Iranian territories.

Iran, however, deemed this a fraud, saying it has provided an opportunity for President Saddam Hussein to maintain his political rule and created conditions for the convocation of the summit conference of the non-aligned countries in Baghdad. On June 2, a spokesman from the Iranian Foreign Ministry said that Iraq has not withdrawn its troops from all Iranian territories. Iran declared that it will continue fighting Iraq until all its conditions for the termination of the war are satisfied. At present, both sides are still engaged in shelling and air attacks.

### Iran's Conditions

Iran initially put forward three conditions with regard to ending the war:

1. The withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Iranian territory;
2. Compensation from Iraq for its war-related losses;
3. An international mediator to determine responsibility for the war.

Since its recent battlefield victories, Iran has made some notable changes in its initial three conditions for ending the war:

1. The removal from office of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

2. Compensation for war losses. An international mediator revealed that Iran initially put the figure at 50 billion US dollars. But in a recent speech Iranian President Khamenei demanded 150 billion US dollars.

3. The export of revolution. It is clear that Iran intends to exploit its military victories to support the establishment of a pro-Iranian Islamic government in Iraq. The war has caused Iran enormous financial losses, but Iranians say that they will not demand a penny if Saddam steps down and an Islamic power is established in Iraq.

The Iranian authorities know that they will have to militarily invade Iraq in order to get Saddam to resign.

### Problems if Crossing the Border

However, pushing the war into Iraq will confront Iran with a series of new problems.

First, the main force of Iraq's troops have not been put to rout. During the two battles since the end of last March, Iraq's principal losses have reportedly only consisted of paramilitary units and frontier guards. Therefore, Iraqi troops will certainly engage in stubborn resistance if Iranian troops cross their border. An Iraqi military bulletin has already declared that should Iranian troops cross the border, Iraqi military forces will give them a "most serious lesson."

Second, though Shiites account for only a small majority

Third, if Iran's troops move into Iraq, they will present Arab countries with the spectre of Persians invading Arab territory. How the Arabs might react is unclear. Syria and Libya support Iran in the Gulf war. Nevertheless, some say that if Iranian troops move into Iraq, they will change their attitude.

Fourth, the superpowers have begun exerting influence. Fearing that future developments will alter the balance of power in the region, they are openly discussing the possibility of intervening in the situation.

On July 6, Iranian Defence Minister Salimi said: "A push into Iraqi territory has become inevitable under the present situation." On the same day, an Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister said that Iranian troops pushing into Iraq is not improper. It is, he declared, the basic and sole method to attack (Iraqi President) Saddam. Iran seems to be threatening to cross the border in order to increase its pressure on Iraqi authorities and to ascertain the reaction of various sides.

There is no rancour in the world that cannot be solved. The war will eventually come to an end. It seems that most of the countries in the world do not like to see a change in the balance of power in the Gulf region and the Middle East. They also hope to see stability in the strategically important region. This is a crucial moment for such aspirations.

— Shuai Peng



# Important Change in the System Of People's Communes

by Song Dahan and Zhang Chunsheng

*In the "Notes From the Editors" column in issue No. 13, 1982, we examined the possibility of changing the present system of rural people's communes, which combine government administration with commune management. Here two members of the Commission for Legal Affairs of the NPC Standing Committee further explain the reasons for the change and the steps involved. — Ed.*

**T**HE Draft of the Revised Constitution of the People's Republic of China stipulates the re-establishment of township governments and retains the people's communes as collective economic organizations which no longer function as a level of political power. The suggestion for the changes was made after summing up long years of experience with the commune system. It answers the needs of boosting the rural collective economy and strengthening political power at the grass-roots level in the new period of socialist construction.

The people's commune system was founded in 1958. Later, adjustments were made as to its scale and management powers. This led to the institution of the system of "three-level ownership by the commune, production brigade and production team, with the production team as the basic accounting unit." At the same time the communes function as a level of political power. This has remained intact until today.

At present, a medium-sized people's commune is roughly the size of a township of earlier years. It governs the work and lives of more than 10,000 persons in some 2,000 peasant families. A commune is divided into production brigades and a production brigade is sub-divided into production teams. Usually a production team embraces 20-30 peasant households having more than 100 people.

Since the second half of last year, the Commission for

Legal Affairs of the NPC Standing Committee has sent investigators to several provinces to study the rural economy.

Based on the opinions of commune members, local cadres and economists, the investigators unanimously agreed that the communes have played a positive role in organizing large-scale farmland capital construction and the construction of water conservancy projects and in running rural sideline occupations by pooling labour power and capital. These improved agricultural production conditions and boosted the development of the rural economy in some areas.

However, some insurmountable contradictions exist because the economic organizations and the organs of political power are identical. Therefore changes should be made step by step.

## Advantages of Separation

The advantages of separating government administration from commune management, that is, the establishment of a township level of political power while retaining the people's communes as collective economic organizations, are:

The Xiangyang township government at Guanghan County in Sichuan Province.



(1) It is conducive to maintaining the independent management of the rural collective economic organizations.

One of the important aspects of China's current economic restructuring in both urban and rural areas is the expansion of the decision-making rights of economic organizations under the guidance of a unified state plan. Rural collective economic organizations have independent material interests and should have more decision-making rights in management than state-owned enterprises. Only thus can the enthusiasm of labourers be mobilized to improve business management and economic effects.

Under the present system of combining government administration with commune management, too much administrative interference makes independent business accounting difficult. For instance, before the system has changed, government-imposed unpaid labour required from the Xiangyang People's Commune in Sichuan Province averaged 10 per cent of its total amount of labour every year. Furthermore, the commune itself also used the labour power and funds of the production teams without remuneration, thus interfering with team production and distribution.

Since the Party's policies for accelerating the growth of agriculture were formulated in 1978 at the Third Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee, the localities have made great efforts to expand the decision-making rights of the production teams. Successes have already been achieved in this field. But encroachments upon the rights and interests of

the teams continue to occur. Thus, without changing the present system, independent management in collective economic organizations cannot be guaranteed legally or institutionally.

(2) It is conducive to the development of a socialized and specialized rural economy.

In recent years, the rural areas have expanded from single grain crop economies to all-round development of numerous undertakings. Division of work according to specialities has gradually become the norm in agricultural production. The ratio of commodities in farm output has been raised. Rural economic activities that cross administrative divisions, such as business transactions with city factories, have been increasing. Trans-team, trans-commune and trans-regional economic joint enterprises, such as agricultural-industrial-commercial complexes and other companies dealing with seeds, plant protection, agrotechnology and farm machinery have emerged.

The divergence between the original administrative regions and the scope of present economic activities has become clear. An agricultural-industrial-commercial complex may embrace several communes, or even factories and other enterprises in the urban area. Therefore, maintaining a common government administration and commune management is obviously not beneficial to the growth of production.

(3) It is conducive to scientific management.

Under the present system of combining government administration with commune management, the administrative centre of a commune is quite large. Commune cadres often hold too many posts and cannot concentrate their efforts on economic affairs. Because most of these cadres are paid by the government regardless of the success or failure of the collective economy, it is hard to evoke in them a sense of economic responsibility and enthusiasm. In addition, because they are simultaneously government administrators and economic managers, the cadres must attend to every aspect of the work and lives of the peasants. It is hard to establish a strict responsibility system

Rapeseed harvest in Xindu County, Sichuan.



in their work. The separation of the two will enable the local government to supervise and give guidance to the grass-roots level through planning, finances, taxation, bank loans and commodity pricing. It will free grass-roots rural economic organizations to manage their own production and business affairs.

(4) It is conducive to strengthening political power at the grass roots.

Since 1979, the production responsibility system has been popularized throughout the country. The material interests of individual peasants are now recognized and protected. This mobilizes the peasants' initiative for production. As a result, the tasks of mediating disputes, maintaining public security, tax collection, village construction and providing welfare facilities have become heavier. They require stronger local political organizations.

However, under the present system, when the busy farming seasons come, commune leaders have to devote all their energy to production. Their work as political leaders cannot but be weakened. The separation of the two will lead to the establishment of township governments and villagers committees that can devote all their time to political power building and administration. This will contribute to peace and stability in the rural areas.

### Step-by-Step Change

The separation of government administration from commune management is a big issue which involves the political and economic life of the 800 million Chinese peasants. It will have a great impact on the development of China's countryside. The state will institute the reforms cautiously in order to ensure the smooth progress of production and other work.

If the people of the whole country agree to separate government administration from commune management after their discussion of the draft of the revised Constitution, then once the Constitution has been formally adopted by the National People's Congress, the government will conduct experiments on a larger scale than the current trials done in several counties. Experiences will be summed up and on this basis, concrete laws and policies will be formulated. It will take several years to complete this reform step by step in the light of local situations.

The draft of the revised Constitution states clearly that the people's communes will continue



The Sichuan Provincial Academy of Agricultural Sciences signed contracts to provide technical guidance to some 100 production teams. An agrotechnician (second from left) is explaining a method of nursing rice seedlings to the peasants.

to be a form of collective economic organizations in the rural areas after their function as a level of government administration has been removed. The separation of government administration from commune management will not change the ownership of the communes, production brigades and teams with regard to their enterprises and other collective property. The name of the commune may still be used, or the communes may be reorganized into other suitable economic organizations. During the experiment in Sichuan Province, some communes have changed into agricultural-industrial-commercial complexes and some production teams into agricultural producers' co-operatives.

The successful experiment in three counties in Sichuan, which divided the work and responsibility of the rural Party organizations, political power organs and economic organizations, resulted in much more clearly defined responsibilities after the separation. The over-concentration of power in the hands of a few people in the political, economic and cultural fields was eliminated. This was conducive to giving play to democracy and to effecting democratic management within economic organizations. As a result, the rural economy grew and the peasants' income increased by a big margin. Work improved in every field. □



## Inter-Regional Seminar

# China's Primary Health Care

by Our Staff Writer Tao Zhenni



**T**HE health of any nation is measured at its grass roots—in its people's nutrition and life expectancy, in local sanitation and susceptibility to disease.

Many countries must substantially improve such primary health care if they are to achieve the World Health Organization's goal of "health for all by the year 2000," health experts agree.

"In many ways, China has achieved this goal," according to Dr. E. Tejada-de-Rivero, Assistant Director-General of WHO at the two-week inter-regional seminar on primary health care held last month in Yexian County, Shandong Province.

"What is more, China, with its very limited economic resources, has used its most important resources, namely its people. Without people's participation, primary health care will never be achieved," he said.

### Barefoot Doctors

Reliance on the people's participation begins at the basic unit of social organization in the countryside, the brigade. Brigade health stations are key to the three-level (brigade, commune and county) interlocking network of professional and para-professional services that is designed to maximize rural health care resources.

China's 1.39 million para-professionals known as "barefoot doctors" "are the nucleus of the . . . primary health care at the brigade level," according to a document prepared for the Yexian seminar organized by WHO, the United Nations Development Project, UNICEF and the World Bank, and supported by the Chinese Ministry of Public Health.

In most cases barefoot doctors receive an initial training of one year, then after two years of service they receive another year of training, seminar participants learnt. Some eventually pass examinations to become "county doctors."

Barefoot doctors are responsible for clinical, anti-epidemic, maternal and child health care, as well as drugs and financial management at brigade health stations under the supervision of station directors.

The name "barefoot doctor" derives from the fact that in addition to their health care activities, some brigade health station workers participate in farm work, including rice transplanting which is done without shoes. Many also collect, plant and process traditional herbal medicines.

The seminar participants—health administrators from 15 countries—"tested" barefoot doctors as part of an investigation of Yexian County, one of three areas in China that WHO has designated for special study. Yexian has 2,122 such doctors in some 1,000 brigade clinics.

The international health specialists spent a portion of the seminar visiting a number of villages throughout the county where they observed primary health services first hand.

"What are the four periods and what are the protections?" one expert asked of Niu Shumin, the Cailing Production Brigade barefoot doctor in charge of obstetrics and pediatrics.

Her prompt response was that during the menstruation period women should not do waterlogged farmwork; during pregnancy they should be given light work; during the nursing period they should work near their homes; and during post-natal recovery they should have a two-month maternity leave. Niu is one of 1,000 women who serve as barefoot doctors in the county, and greatly impressed her "examiners."

While stopping at a rural clinic at Xujia Commune, Thai Health Minister, Dr. Sem Pringpaunggeo asked a barefoot doctor who had passed the exam to become a county doctor how he felt about his promotion. The Chinese doctor responded that he was looking forward to the opportunity to improve his skills, but also planned to continue his practice in the countryside.

The 72-year-old Thai minister himself returned to his native village upon graduation from medical school and has continued to deliver primary health care in rural areas throughout his professional career. He commended the Chinese doctor's desire to serve the most needy.

Overall, the health specialists agreed that their observations in Yexian validated the contention that the three-level health system is an effective method of delivering primary health care.

### **Yexian County Typical**

Yexian's experience is fairly typical of the health delivery nationwide, Vice-Minister of Public Health Guo Ziheng told the seminar. Although the county is slightly better off than an average county, its basic approaches to care-giving epitomize the national efforts.

Rural health work stresses establishing grass-roots public health organizations; dividing the financial burdens between the state and the collective; training large numbers of barefoot doctors; and drawing on urban support for the rural areas, he said.

Each area, furthermore, tailors its system to meet local needs in response to the working and living conditions of the people.

In Yexian, a co-operative medical system was first initiated in 1958 and has since been developed to cover all villages, according to the director of the county public health bureau, Liu Zhiying.

Today it has 31 hospitals with 1,000 beds and 1,500 professional medical personnel, in addition to the more than 1,000 clinics in the production brigades. In 1981, an average of 76 per cent of the patients were treated at the village clinics and 20 per cent at the commune hospitals. Only 4 per cent—the most difficult cases—required county-level attention.

Prevention is key to public health, Liu said. Thorough popular health education convinced the people that the elimination of flies and mosquitos was crucial and must start with water purification, sewage disposal and control of animal excrement. Water ditches were dredged, pigsties cleaned and 90 per cent of the families built water pipes for drinking water. Night soil was gathered regularly and composted for fertilizer.

Furthermore, better public health has contributed to a cycle of general prosperity in the



**A hand-pumped well built by peasants in Yexian County, Shandong Province. Water and environmental sanitation in the county is highly valued.**

area, according to Yexian county head Wang Zhengxiu. A healthier environment contributes to production, which in turn creates more funds for public projects such as expanded health care.

Yexian on the Shandong peninsula has 88,698 hectares of arable land and a population of 833,800 people. Its successfully developing industry and agriculture give peasants an average per-capita annual income of 196 yuan from the collective.

Peasants pay an average of 3 to 5 yuan (\$1.63-\$2.70 US) in annual medical expenses. Some richer production brigades are able to provide free medical care and others pay two-thirds of the expenses.

Yexian County was chosen by WHO in 1980 as one of the three primary medical collaborating centres in China because of its well-organized medical health network.

The purpose of the inter-regional seminar was to allow representatives of developing countries to examine self-reliant methods of delivering primary health care.

### **Rapid Progress**

Yexian's successes, representative of the state of health care nationwide, are even more striking in contrast to the situation in China before liberation. Before 1949, life expectancy

*(Continued on p. 28.)*

# Chinese-Style Tourism

*"Beijing Review" published in its special feature column "China's Growing Tourist Industry" in issue No. 27, 1980, giving the basic facts about this trade. The proposal that we take the Chinese road in developing tourism was put forward in 1981. Some foreign tourists and readers interested in China want to know what this embodies. In this special feature, we will provide details and background which should facilitate understanding of this principle. — Ed.*

## Take Our Own Road in Developing Tourism

Written for "Beijing Review" by Han Kehua, Director of the State General Administration for Travel and Tourism



CHINA'S tourism has developed rapidly during the past three or four years. Last year, it received 685,000 foreign tourists, three times the 1978 figure of 229,000. Nonetheless, the number was only three-thousandths of the world's total number of tourists.

In order to develop China's tourism, we must evaluate our previous experience and formulate a plan consistent with the country's conditions.

### Reflection of Socialist Civilization

China is a socialist country. Therefore, taking the Chinese

road in developing tourism will require us to give expression to socialist civilization in our tourist work. Specifically speaking, it requires us to do a good job in regard to the following:

First, we see tourism as an economic undertaking as well as a means for expanding China's exchanges with other countries, making additional friends and promoting mutual understanding and friendship between the people of China and other countries. We are convinced that as a channel for promoting friendship, international tourism will contribute to the maintenance of world peace.

Second, we should provide tourists with activities conducive to their physical and mental health. We have no desire to attract tourists by opening gambling houses, brothels and nightclubs. In order to enrich tourists' recreational life, tourist departments and hotels should provide them with every possible convenience for watching Chinese operas, films, art performances, Chinese boxing, acrobatics and select for them interesting repertoires representing Chinese traditions.

Third, we must constantly educate our tourist workers to



The chef displays his cooking skill.



Tourists in the Yingze Guest House.

carry forward the Chinese people's fine tradition of hospitality and politeness when receiving tourists. At the same time, we must provide good services. When briefing tourists on China's history and present conditions, we should give them objective and factual information.

We admit that our services need to be improved and since the beginning of this year we have adopted measures to improve the skills of our interpreters and guides, upgrade services in our hotels and travel departments and provide sanitized surroundings, especially sanitized toilet facilities in scenic spots.

Fourth, we should implement the policy of fixing prices according to quality and charge tourists reasonable prices.

### Make Full Use of Our Tourist Resources

Taking the Chinese road to develop tourism requires us to emphasize our strong points.

China has a vast territory with many picturesque spots. The three magnificent gorges on the Changjiang (Yangtze) River, the stone forest near Kunming, the scenes along the Lijiang River are world-famous. Some other landmarks such as the Huangshan and Emei Mountains, the peaks of Taishan, Huashan and Qianshan and Dongting and Taihu Lakes are known to only a few foreign visitors.

Ours is an ancient civilized country with a history of more than 5,000 years. Splendid culture and countless scenic spots of historic interest provide China with unique tourist resources. The Great Wall and the Museum of Qin Shi Huang's Buried Sculpture Legion in Xian, for instance, are particu-



"Xiaoxitian"—a tourist attraction in Nixian County, Shanxi.

larly attractive to tourists. Most foreign tourists would like to climb the Great Wall and have a look with their own eyes at this magnificent 2,000-year-old structure. Because the Badaling section of the Great Wall is so crowded, Beijing has started to open another section north of the city. Work is being done to open up new tourist spots in other localities.

Scenic spots of historic interest are legion in China. There are, for example, the Dunhuang, Yungang and Longmen Grottoes, all known as art treasures of ancient sculptures; the temple, residence and mausoleum of Confucius in Shan-

dong; the more than 2,000-year-old water conservancy project of Dujiangyan; the 1,790-kilometre-long man-made Grand Canal, which is the oldest and longest of its kind in the world; the 71-metre-high Buddhist statue in Leshan. All these scenic spots are attracting an increasing number of foreign tourists.

Almost all of China's scenic spots have cultural relics and historical remains. Picturesque Hangzhou not only has fascinating mountains and lakes but also countless cultural relics and ancient buildings, each with an interesting legend.



## SPECIAL FEATURE/TOURISM

China also has time-honoured and exquisite arts. Its architecture, horticulture, dances, operas, elegant handicraft products and cuisine are world-famous.

We should make full use of all these resources in order to enable tourists to become familiar with our splendid culture.

### Diversification of Activity

In light of our resources, we should diversify activities in order to satisfy tourist interests and demands.

**Special Line Sightseeing.** We have opened special lines for steamboat sightseeing tours of the three gorges and the ancient Grand Canal in Jiangsu Province and of the Dunhuang art treasures along the ancient Silk Road. We are planning to open more tourist lines in order to serve the increasing demand.

**Special Events.** Prospects are outstanding for this particular kind of tourism. We now have the ice-lantern show in Harbin, fishing on Taihu Lake and sampling various Chinese re-

gional dishes. National minorities' festivals (for instance, the Dai nationality's water-sprinkling festival) are also well received by tourists.

We receive and organize specialists' visits to our country by sponsoring events such as international conferences, sports meets and mountain-climbing.

**Sightseeing for Young People.** Arrangements for this kind of tourism are also being made. We are planning to develop special routes and facilities, including some camping sites, for foreign young people.

### Tourist Facilities With National Characteristics

In keeping with our commitment to take the Chinese road, we are making our hotels, restaurants, scenic spots and other tourist facilities reflect as much as possible our own style and characteristics.

Each new tourist facility will be designed along Chinese architectural lines, have its own unique style and embody socialist material and spiritual civilization.

We will build some high-rise hotels and introduce advanced designs and good building materials from other countries, but we also intend to build more hotels with Chinese style and local flavour. For instance, we prefer hotels with the quadrangle design common in the north, cave-typed hotels in the northwest, hotels similar to the bamboo structures common in the south and hotels similar to the yurts of Inner Mongolia. Of course, each type will include modern sanitary facilities. Even high-rise hotels in big cities will feature Chinese characteristics and designs in their interior decoration, furniture and auxiliary buildings.

Such dimensions are what we refer to when we say that we are taking the Chinese road in developing tourism.

Taking the Chinese road doesn't mean rejecting the experiences of other countries because we realize we must learn from them. However, learning from others' experience must be combined with our country's reality. Only thus can our tourist trade become vigorous and successful.



The famous Yungang Grottoes in Shanxi.



On the train from Datong to Taiyuan.

# Scenic Beauty and Special Flavour

## — Trip in Wuxi

by Our Correspondent Zhou Jianping

**W**UXI, 128 kilometres away from Shanghai, is an ancient city. Located on the north bank of Taihu Lake, it sits astride the Grand Canal. With its beautiful landscape and cultural relics, it is one of the most famous health resorts in China. It was also one of the first tourist areas opened to foreign tourists.

### Touring the Ancient Canal

Xihui Park on the western outskirts of Wuxi encompasses the neighbouring Huishan Hills, including "Xishan Hill." It includes Huishan Temple, built during the Southern and Northern Dynasties (420-589 A.D.); Erquan Pool, dug during the Tang Dynasty (618-907); and the Jichang Garden, built during the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). The Meiyuan, Yuantou-zhu and Liyuan Gardens are situated near Taihu Lake, each known for its unique beauty and history.

The Grand Canal cuts through the centre of Wuxi as it meanders 1,790 kilometres from Beijing to Hangzhou. Dug 1,300 years ago, the canal enjoys fame almost equal to that of the Great Wall. Its banks are crisscrossed by ditches and dotted by ponds and it links many important tourist spots, including West Lake in Hangzhou, Suzhou's gardens, Taihu Lake in Wuxi and Jinshan, Jiaoshan and Beigu Hills in Zhenjiang.

Since it was opened to foreign tourists in 1980, a total of 370 foreign groups consisting of nearly 10,000 people have taken steamboat sightseeing tours of the ancient canal,



which offers unique opportunities to witness the customs and daily habits of the people who reside south of the Changjiang River.

When an American musician saw an old man feeding a pair of pretty red-billed leiothrix in a cage hung under the eaves of a riverside house, he said to his guide: "The life of the Chinese people is indeed admirably peaceful and poetic."

Many foreign tourists say that "the charming scenery of the Grand Canal of Wuxi rivals Venice's." Some even call it the "Oriental Venice." "It embodies ancient Chinese civilization," say some tourists. Others say that "those who visit the Great Wall but not also the Grand Canal will regret it."

### Rich Tourist Life

Wuxi's International Travel Service has recently adopted various ways to enrich the experiences of tourists.

**Fishing.** Wuxi has numerous freshwater fish and it is an

ideal fishing spot. The local travel agency provides tourists with boats, fishing gear and bait. Mandarin fish and white-fish are caught occasionally, cooked and eaten by visiting anglers.

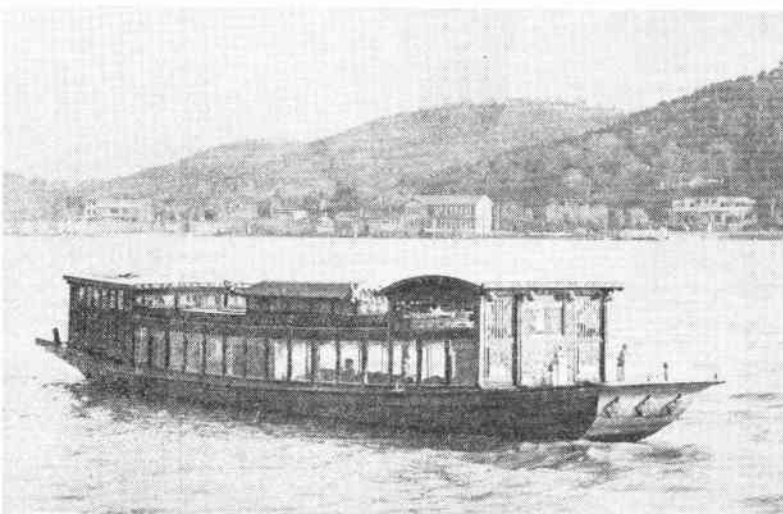
**Sanatoriums.** There are two well-equipped sanatoriums located on islands near Wuxi. They primarily use traditional Chinese acupuncture, moxibustion and massage to treat people suffering from arthritis, neuralgia and other chronic diseases. Most treatments last about 20 days. Sakamoto Keishiro, President of

the Japan-China Warm Moxibustion Popularization Association, had been to Wuxi for recuperation many times. He has written a pamphlet about his experience in one of the sanatoriums. He has also praised the local travel agency and the good service of the doctors and attendants. Recently, the number of people going to Wuxi for recuperation and treatment has increased.

There are also experienced coaches to teach *taijiquan* (Shadow Boxing).

**Traditional Chinese Medical Art.** A hospital of traditional Chinese medicine runs 10-day training classes for foreigners who want to learn traditional Chinese acupuncture and massage. The classes are taught by experienced doctors. Trainees attend lectures in the afternoons and work in the hospitals in the mornings. At the end of the courses, they are given certificates by the hospital.

**Cooking.** Foreign tourists particularly appreciate the



Sightseeing in a Dragon Boat on the Grand Canal.

cooking exhibitions given by famous Chinese chefs in the guest house. They are taught to cook two dishes within half a day.

**Honeymoon.** The guest house provides special rooms for newlyweds. These include colourful decorations, antique candlesticks, coloured candles, lanterns and incense-burners. Service is very good and honeymooners usually savour their special treatment.

**Boating on Taihu Lake.** Taihu Lake is one of the five major freshwater lakes in China. Covering an area of 2,250 square kilometres, it connects

Jiangsu and Zhejiang Provinces. The lake has 48 islands. With its fishing boats and barges, the lake is both beautiful and inspirational.

Tourist areas have been expanded since 1981. The trip from Wuxi to Huzhou in Zhejiang Province takes about five hours. Hangzhou is only a two-hour bus ride away. The boats are air-conditioned and well-equipped. To add zest to the trip, local aquatic products, including carp, eels, soft-shelled turtles, whitebait, crabs and shrimp, are served. Savouring the delicious food while enjoying the fantastic beauty of the scenery is quite a treat.

subtropical area on the southwestern Chinese border by the Yunnan provincial tourist bureau. This land of unsurpassed charm and rich natural resources is inhabited by a dozen minority nationalities, including the Dais, Hanis, Bulangs, Lahus and Jinuos. Its dense forests are the native habitat of half of China's plants and animals.

### Water-Sprinkling Festival

Yikuko Kinoshita and other members of this group arrived in Yunjinghong, the seat of the prefecture, just in time for the water-sprinkling festival—the traditional New Year of the Dais. The local people were in a joyful mood and all the streets and villages were decorated with lanterns and coloured streamers. Because the arrival of guests from afar on this occasion is regarded as a sign of good luck and happiness, the tourist group was given a rousing welcome and put up in a hotel in a banana tree grove beside the picturesque Lancang River.

The next morning the tourists were awakened by the incessant thumpings of gongs and drums coming from the riverside where a dragon boat race was being

## It's Fun to Travel in Yunnan

by Guest Reporter Liu Jingyue

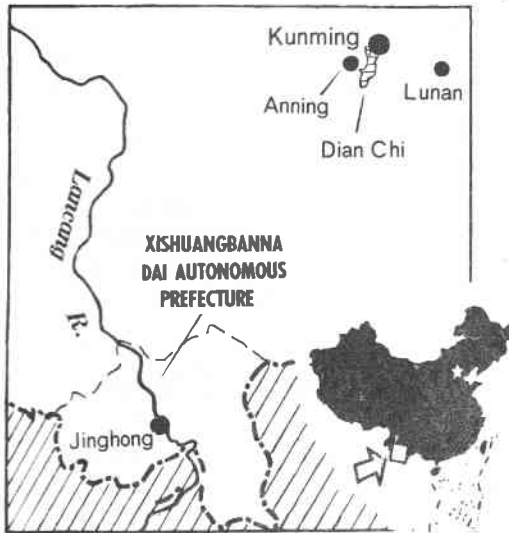
**Y**IKUKO Kinoshita, a member of the Japanese Folklore Society, was thrilled by her one-day stay in a piled bamboo hut in the Xishuangbanna Dai Autonomous Prefecture, Yunnan Province.

Sitting beside her Dai hostess, she relished her first taste of a typical Dai meal: fish barbecued in a special way, served

with sour bamboo shoots and glutinous rice.

"Oh, I've never felt so happy," she purred.

Her words conveyed the feelings of fellow tourists from the United States, Japan, West Germany, Sweden, Xianggang (Hongkong) and Aomen (Macao) who were recently provided with a unique tour of this



held as part of the festivities. Not wanting to miss this rare sight, they soon found themselves among the onlookers. Thirty robust rowers wearing the same national costume sat two abreast in the one-metre-wide and 12-metre-long boats. When the race began, it was as if dragons were cleaving the blue waves of the river. The rowers, with their orderly strokes, moved their boats quickly through the sparkling water. The roaring crowd was studded with bright-coloured umbrellas held by Dai girls wearing equally colourful skirts. Boys and girls performing the "peacock dance" to the beats of gongs and drums contributed to the gaiety. Totally enchanted, some of the tourists jumped into the water to photograph the scene. Later, they took a boat excursion during which they savoured the tranquil and intriguing beauty of the Lancang River.

The most memorable experience for members of the group was perhaps receiving water-splashing greetings from the Dais. Everyone, men and women alike, splashed water on others during the festival as a form of blessing. Young Dai

women dashed basins of water on their foreign guests and sincerely wished them a bon voyage. The tourists did the same, albeit clumsily. Everyone joined in the merry-making, dancing amidst the rain of splattering water to the vibrant beats of gongs and drums.

Manabu Kanematsu, Chairman of the Japanese Tourist Society, initially thought

he was too old to join in the activity. But, finding it an entertainment to celebrate the festival with the local people, he and his wife later also danced with the others until they were drenched. Asked what they felt about this, they said: "Terrific! Terrific!"

Shortly after they changed their wet clothes, the tourists were treated to a dance drama performed by the prefectural song and dance ensemble. The drama, entitled *Zhaoshu Village*, is fashioned around an ancient Dai love story. "We rarely saw

a brilliant performance so rich with local style as this," said several Americans. Their West German friends expressed similar thoughts.

### A Day in Manjing Village

The tourists were particularly pleased by their opportunity to spend a day with Dai families. When they arrived at the Manjing Village, they were greeted by dancing and singing children. After taking a stroll through the village, they divided up in groups and ascended into the pile-supported bamboo houses. Just like the Dais, they shed their shoes before entering the houses. Sitting on bamboo mattresses, they talked freely with their hosts while sipping tea and eating bananas and sugar cane. When meal time came, they sat around rattan tables and were treated to rice wine, rice heated in bamboo tubes and dishes most of them had never heard of: Fried moss, sour bamboo shoots, barbecued fish and nameless wild vegetables.

"We found that the customs and habits of the Dais are quite the same as ours," said one of the Japanese. "That is why we totally feel at home here."



The water-splinking festival.



## SPECIAL FEATURE/TOURISM

Yikuko Kinoshita, having her share of *haoluosuo* (sweetened food made of glutinous rice served only during festivals), said: "I'm so happy! I'll never forget this day."

### Boating on Dianchi Lake

For tourists who come to evergreen, flower-filled Yunnan for a few idyllic days, there are numerous scenic spots to be enjoyed. Kunming, the provincial capital, has 10. Boating on sparkling Dianchi Lake to the accompaniment of delightful singing by fishermen returning from a day's work is a most relaxing experience. The Sleeping Beauty is a perfect combination of mythology with the beautiful landscape of the Western Hills. The 500 life-size clay Arhats in the Qiongzhu Monastery seem to step out anytime at one's call. Researchers consider them valuable relics for the study of Buddhism. The imposing Gold Palace is a sight to behold — the whole structure, including doors, beams, tiles, figurines and incense burners, was made from 200 tons of copper 300 years ago. Then there is the "No. 1 Hot Spring on Earth," the Anning Hot Spring. The Dagan Tower is famous for its longest couplets and the renowned Yuantong Temple is a sacred place for Buddhist pilgrims.

The Stone Forest, which is located 100 kilometres from Kunming, is called a "Wonder Second to None on Earth." There, hidden among numerous stone columns, each with a different shape, are mysterious caves and a labyrinth of narrow trails. All these places of natural beauty, coupled with the unique folkways of the local people, are enough to make most guests regret having to return home.

The hotels in Yunnan are staffed with attendants and tourist guides trained from among local minority people. The hotels also feature local cuisine. When night falls, tourists can attend variety shows given by the Dais, Jinuos, Hanis and Yis.

No tourist would like to miss traditional minority festivals in Yunnan: The Dais' water-sprinkling festival in April, the torch festival of the Yis in July, the street activities of the Bais in March. . . . Special tours are arranged on these occasions. All those who visit Yunnan consider the days spent there rewarding.

## Magnificent Northern Scene

— Visiting the newly opened Jilin tourist area

by Our Correspondent Zhang Zeyu

**J**ILIN Province in northeast China is becoming an important scenic spot for tourists.

The newly opened Jilin tourist area in northeast China, which includes the cities of Changchun and Jilin and the Changbai Mountains, is attracting an increasing number of Chinese and foreign tourists because of its magnificent scenery.

### The Marvellous Changbai Mountains

There are numerous scenic spots in the province, but the Changbai Mountains are the most spectacular. The highest peak, 2,700 metres above sea

level, is located in the south of Antu County of the Yanbian Korean Nationality Autonomous Prefecture. The undulating mountains cover an area of 3,000 sq. kilometres. The snow-covered peaks glitter with silver light and the vast forests are filled with deer and tigers.

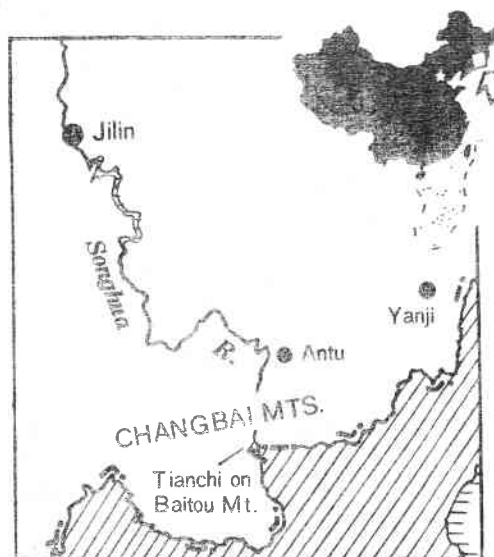
The Changbai Mountains have the following spectacular scenes:

**Vertical View.** Four tree-covered vegetation areas constitute a rare botanical garden.

The area between 700 and 1,000 metres above sea level is a mixed forest belt composed of coniferous and broadleaf trees.

Here the terrain slopes gently, the climate is temperate, the soil is fertile and the forest is dense. It includes more than 80 kinds of valuable trees, the Korean pine being the most famous.

The area between 1,000 and 1,800 metres above sea level is moist and cloudy year-round. It is suitable for the growth of cold-resistant coniferous





A frozen Changbai Mountain lake.

trees such as dragon spruce and fir.

The *Betula Ermanii* forest belt, located between 1,800 and 2,000 metres above sea level, is the peak of the forested Changbai Mountains.

The area which rises 2,000 metres above the sea without any tall trees has piercing winds all the year round. It has an alpine-tundra quality and volatile weather. According to a preliminary survey, there are nearly 170 kinds of tundra plants in the area, one-third of which are typical Arctic plants.

**Tianchi.** Formed by a volcano crater in the shape of a funnel, Tianchi Lake, its water surface being 2,194 metres above sea level, is surrounded by the Baiyun Peak and 15 others.

Tianchi is the deepest alpine lake in China. Under the summer sun, images of precipices are reflected in the clear water of the lake. Some people say: "One has not really reached the Changbai Mountains unless he visits Tianchi."

There are also lakes smaller than Tianchi on the sloping plateau at the foot of the Changbai Mountains, including a small pond filled with crystal water. It was surrounded by trees and the view was inspiring. The

pond was filled with salamanders.

**Waterfall.** Tianchi's water flows down mountain slopes and then forms a thundering 68-metres waterfall which appears like a silver line hanging over the sky. This is the fountain-head of the Songhua, one of China's most famous rivers.

**The Changbai Natural Protective Area.** The area totals 200,000 hectares. The protective area has 18,000 kinds of animal and plant resources, including 50 species of wild animals, 300 kinds of birds, nearly 10 kinds of reptiles and more than 10 kinds of fish. The area has rare tigers, sikas, sables and bears.

The ecological system is well-preserved. The International Co-ordinating Council of Programme on Man and Biosphere, with China's approval, decided in 1980 to include the Changbai Natural Protective Area as a component of the international biosphere conservation network. The Chinese Academy of Sciences has set up a fixed-position station of the Changbai forest ecological system.

**Primeval Forest.** There are towering old trees in the protective area and many of them are valuable. There are also

## SPECIAL FEATURE/TOURISM

many valuable medicinal materials, oil crops, dyestuffs and other valuable plant resources. Among the delicious mushrooms which grow in the area, the hedgehog hydnum is the most famous.

It takes one about an hour to walk from the primeval forest through sponge bryophytes, rotten trees and meandering streams to the long valley formed by a recession in the earth's crust. The valley is 25-30 metres deep. It is a must spot for tourists.

**Hot Spring.** North of the waterfall is a cluster of hot springs stretching over 1,000 sq. metres. The hottest springs are 82°C and they fill the air with steam. Baths in the hot springs are good for eliminating fatigue.

Because of limited facilities, the Changbai Mountains scenic spot can only accommodate a small number of tourists. As Jilin's tourist capacity expands,



Winter in Jilin.

## SPECIAL FEATURE/TOURISM

more people will be able to visit the area.

### Icicles on the Songhua Banks

During winter, the Songhua's banks in Jilin city constitute a rare and beautiful scene.

The 20-plus-kilometre-long stretch from the city to the Fengman Hydroelectric Station presents a view of shimmering ice: Pine leaves look like white chrysanthemums, willow twigs resemble jade belts. Some trees resemble crystal coral

and others look like blossoming pear flowers. They provide a sense of purity, cleanness and beauty. During the 10-odd days around this year's Spring Festival (January 25), approximately 3,000 tourists from Japan, Xianggang (Hongkong) and Aomen (Macao) visited Jilin to enjoy the icicles.

There are icicles in other northern Chinese cities, but they are not as beautiful as those in Jilin city. This is because it has a set of unique natural conditions. The Songhua River which

flows through the city is quite wide. The water in the Songhua Lake is unusually warm and does not freeze even at 20°C below zero in winter. Therefore, mist from the water's surface drifts with the breeze to the banks and forms crystal icicles in nearby trees.

The skiing slope located approximately 20 kilometres from Jilin city, is an ideal place for training and skiing competitions. It also attracts tourists in winter. □

*(Continued from p. 19.)*

averaged a mere 35 years. Today it is 68 nationally and higher in some areas, according to newly appointed Public Health Minister Cui Yueli.

Many acute communicable diseases were eliminated in the first decade after the founding of the People's Republic, while the incidence rates of fatal diseases like schistosomiasis ("snail fever") have been greatly reduced.

Infant mortality in the rural areas dropped 90 per cent (to the present 20-30 per thousand).

Since liberation, the number of professional medical personnel has increased five-fold (1.57 million today compared with 328,000 before 1949). The professionals are assisted by 2.59 million midwives and health aides as well as the barefoot doctors.

Medical training has been crucial, the Minister said. Since 1981 China has had 112 medical colleges, and it has produced 415,000 graduates since 1949. The country also has 948,000 graduates from its 556 secondary medical schools. Perhaps even more essential is the in-service training for rural medical workers and the travelling teams of professionals who visit the countryside for short-term training sessions.

The Minister, who is also Chairman of the National Society of Traditional Chinese Doctors, said that in addition to standard Western medical knowledge, rural medical personnel should be taught traditional Chinese medicine, which is both popular and economical in rural areas.

### International Health Uneven

While praising China's rapid progress in health work, some seminar participants said China should pay more attention to patients in remote areas who are out of reach of timely medical treatment because of transportation problems.

Dr. Tejada-de-Rivero said, "There is always room for improvement," such as improving professional competency and strengthening health information.

He said that in some countries 90 per cent of health resources are allocated to large teaching hospitals which serve no more than 5 or 10 per cent of the population.

"At this moment, health is not for all in the world," he said.

"In a majority of countries, large segments of the population have no access to medical care and their health level is very low indeed. Hence WHO's new doctrine, 'health for all by the year 2000,'" he said.

Dr. H. Nakajima, WHO's Western Pacific Regional Director, said at the closing ceremony that he was impressed by the wealth of experience the participants had shared with each other.

Attending the seminar were ministers of health and planning and senior health administrators from Barbados, Democratic Yemen, Gambia, Jamaica, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Sudan, Tanzania, Thailand, Vanuatu, Yugoslavia, Zimbabwe and China, as well as representatives from a number of international organizations. □

## MEDICINE

### China's First Eyebank

To facilitate cornea transplants, China's first eyebank has been set up at the ophthalmic hospital of the Zhongshan Medical College in Guangzhou.

Over 2 million Chinese have lost their sight because of corneal ailments, and it is estimated that half of them could recover their vision if they receive cornea transplants.

Chinese research on cornea transplantation has gradually developed over the last 32 years. In 1954 the Zhongshan Medical College began performing cornea transplants and it established the ophthalmic hospital in 1965. The hospital has become better equipped in recent years and now has reflectors to examine the endothelial cell in cornea and other modern apparatus.

Over the past 28 years the Zhongshan Medical College has performed more than 2,000 cornea transplants with good result, including cases of active inflammation, eyeball piercing, chemical burns and explosion wounds. For example, a British citizen of Chinese descent was blind in the left eye because of corneal ailment and had been treated in vain abroad. After an operation at the hospital the patient's vision was repaired to 20/100.

Hospitals in Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjin and other cities also perform this operation.

Due to the shortage of eye tissue, the operation has been limited. Now with the new eyebank the prospects for new sight for more blind people

is improved. Many doctors, teachers, cadres, workers, PLA men and students have voluntarily pledged their eyes after death.

## MUSIC

### Ancient Tunes Reborn

For the first time in 1,000 years the Dunhuang melodies of the Tang Dynasty (618-907) have been heard again in China.

Some of the 25 melodies were performed last May at the "Shanghai Spring Festival" by a recreated Tang orchestra composed of teachers and students of the folk music faculty of the Shanghai Conservatory of Music. The melodies, some lively and others lyric, compiled a well-rounded programme, the result of 17 years of work by Ye Dong, a lecturer at the conservatory.

Poetry, paintings and music attained a high level in the Tang Dynasty, a golden age in China's literature and art, but the music long lay silent. These melodies were discovered in 1900 by a Taoist priest in a cave for storing Buddhist scriptures in the Mogao grottoes at Dunhuang in Gansu Province. This drew the attention of scholars worldwide but Ye Dong is the first to decipher and translate these melodies into modern music scores.

Ye Dong, a graduate of the composition faculty of the conservatory in the early 60s and a lecturer on folk music composition since 1963, was fascinated by the silent Dunhuang melodies.

Starting in 1964, Ye Dong reviewed others' research, combed the literature on folk and classic music, and undertook a 2-year field investigation crossing several provinces. Modestly talking with local folk artists, attending concerts and making recordings, he familiarized himself with the styles and forms of Chinese folk music and its rules of composition.

Between 1964 and 1981, Ye Dong deciphered the 2,700 music scores of the 25 Dunhuang melodies and translated them into modern music scores. He concluded that the colourful tunes with their variable rhythms were played on a 4-stringed *pipa*.

Ye Dong wrote a paper entitled "Studies of Dunhuang Music Scores" which was printed in the journal *Music Art*, issue No.



Ye Dong (right) interprets the Dunhuang melodies for a "pipa" player.



1, 1982 of the conservatory. He plans to publish other papers on his research and the complete music scores of the 25 Dunhuang melodies in future issues of the journal.

## OPTICS

### Laser Technology

Laser research is a developing field in China's technology.

Chinese scientists have used for the first time the laser pulse transfer technology to determine miniscule time differences of atomic clocks in separate places.

Scientists of the Shanghai Observatory of the Chinese Academy of Sciences used a ruby dye laser device and two photoelectrical reception systems to conduct this experiment on two rubidium clocks, one in Xujiahui and the other in She-shan 25.2 kilometres away. Previously these "temporal" differences were measured by microwaves, television or the transportation of the clocks. The results are only preliminary and further work is to be done to perfect the technique.

Scientists at the observatory have also utilized a first-generation ruby laser system to conduct satellite ranging. A second-generation system is to be installed in Shanghai this autumn for the 1983-84 international project to monitor the earth's rotation and possibly to conduct an inter-continental laser temporal synchronous comparison experiment.

Scientists of the Institute of Geology of the State Seismological Bureau applied "plane holographic photoelasticity" to carry out experiments on models of the Heze, Haicheng and Tangshan earthquakes. The results of these experiments



Testing the function of optical fibre transfer.

corresponded with the macroscopic observation of the earthquake areas.

In addition, Chinese scientists have also applied laser technology to optical fibre research, electrophoresis, the analysis of three dimensional stress, the detection of the frequency spectrum of germ-carrying cells and the finding of micro gas flows.

At the Sixth National Symposium on Laser Science held recently in Anhui, 130 papers were read.

### Testing Cultural Relics

A non-destructive testing method is being used with good results to detect cracks — some not externally visible — in pottery, porcelain, bronze and other cultural relics by the Anhui Provincial Museum.

This process uses "holographic interferometry" to produce a three dimensional image of an object that reveals cracks and defects. It is effective in locating and evaluating flaws as well as repairs. This method

provides precise detailed data for scientific preservation of cultural relics as well as a reliable basis for restoration.

This testing method has been applied at the Anhui Provincial Museum with the co-operation of the Physics Department of the Chinese University of Science and Technology.

Because of the peculiarity of the cultural relics, this holographic testing technique is different from the testing methods used on industrial products. It took the scientists over two years to develop this process.

The museum has successfully examined more than 10 rare pieces in its collection with holographic testing, including a *zun* (wine vessel) with double dragon-shaped ears of the Western Zhou Dynasty (c. 11th-771 B.C.), bronze chime bells found at Marquis Cai's tomb of the Spring and Autumn Period (770-476 B.C.), pottery figurines of the Han Dynasty (206 B.C.-220 A.D.) and bronze mirrors of the Song Dynasty (960-1279 A.D.).

## *Shi Lu's Traditional Chinese Paintings*

Born in Renshou County in Sichuan Province in 1919, Shi Lu was a graphic artist in the 40s in northern Shaanxi. In the 50s, he took up traditional Chinese painting. He is now chairman of the Xian branch of the Chinese Artists' Association.

While inheriting traditions from the old painting style, he introduced new themes by going deep into people's lives. Wielding his brush with great flexibility, he creates work that is bold, unrestrained and unique.



**Cats Fighting.**

**Lotus After a Summer Shower.**



**Dawn at Chairman Mao's Cave-Dwelling in Yanan.**



# Artificial Flowers



The Beijing Silk Flower Mill, one of the world's best artificial flower factories, manufactures silk, "magic," paper and plastic flowers. It also produces coloured lanterns. They are suitable for hall, courtyard, drawing room and shop window decorations. They are also nice presents for relatives and friends.

The factory's silk flowers won first prize in the national contest. China began producing silk and paper flowers several hundred years ago. About 20 million distinctive flowers are now exported to more than 50 countries and regions annually.

The factory began from June 1 to directly handle exports. Our vocational work also includes raw materials imports, orders for processing with customer's materials and compensatory trade.

Our products are of superior quality and include more than 7,000 designs and specifications.

Contracts are abided by and business inquiries are welcomed.



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