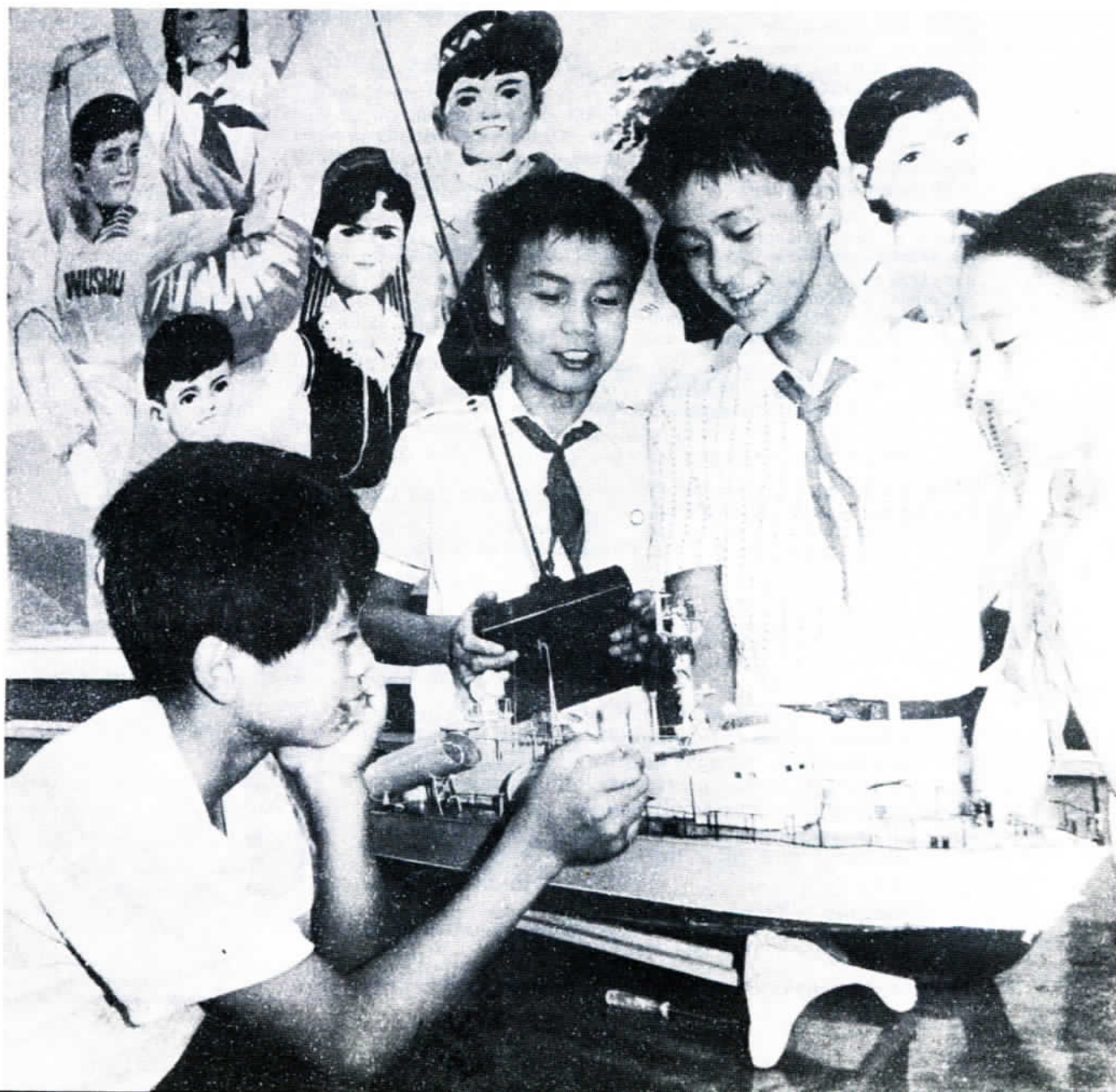


BEIJING REVIEW

北京周報

A CHINESE WEEKLY OF
NEWS AND VIEWS

- Explosion of the De-Maoification Myth
- China's Aid to Foreign Countries
- Scientific Activities for Children



LETTERS

Spiritual Civilization

I especially like the articles covering socialist morals and spiritual civilization, which are very wisely brought forth in your people, as could in the article "Rejuvenating China" reading campaign. I first really learnt about China in Edgar Snow's book *Red Star Over China* and although I was not "rejuvenated," I first learnt about a method of curing delinquency in people! In Xianggang (Hongkong) and capitalist countries even some petty thieves are immediately thrown into jail. In China the policeman would discuss his problem with him and help him understand his problem. Once he could face these, he would be able to serve society better, knowing that the problems of society are results of the defects in people, in a socialist society. Here in the West, it is up to one person to judge another, one who is alienated from his problems, i.e., there is no mutualism.

Finally I was interested in your review of Deng Xiaoping's *Selected Works*. Why don't you have a section called "Lives of China's Socialists" — incorporating weekly biographical sections on Zhou Enlai, Mao Zedong, Deng Xiaoping, etc.?

Richard Muirhead
Xianggang (Hongkong)

International Reports

I am particularly interested in your articles on the international situation, because I find this to be of enormous concern. The

analysis of international affairs is the most interesting and rich part of the magazine. We must not forget the "Documents" column which has been a great help in our studies of your government's documents.

After a brief analysis of *Beijing Review*, it is my opinion that it is a complete magazine. It keeps its readers informed about China's past and present, and on world news. The columns "Humour in China" and "Culture and Science" also are interesting.

I hope to see analytical articles on the conflicts in Central and South American countries and how you appraise the aid given by the Soviet Union to the national-liberation struggle in South Africa.

Razafimanantsoa Ignace
Tananarive, Madagascar

"Documents" Are Useful

It is clear that *Beijing Review* is not a specialized magazine. But the "Documents" section enables those of us who are not working in information agencies or specialized units (diplomatic corps, social and political research institutes, etc.) to see the full text of documents which would otherwise be inaccessible.

Although I am not qualified to evaluate the magazine in an all-round way, I can say that the selected topics are rich and varied and reflect many current themes.

Valentin Gonzalez
Angered, Sweden

Suggestions and Others

Beijing Review would be more appreciated by the readers if it

carried more articles on the history of China and on communal life in various regions.

I suggest you write more and regularly about the developing countries in Africa.

I am very much interested in the article "All Are Concerned for Children" in issue No. 22 this year.

The team of *Beijing Review* does extraordinary work in letting its readers around the world know about the People's Republic of China, its people, its history and its diplomacy, and those of others. Your magazine gives an account of things in a simple and clear way, which is important in trying to gain readership.

Abdallah B. Enoenia
Arzew, Algeria

Reappraisal of Confucius

Thank you for your reappraisal of Confucius ("Appraisal of Confucius: Why? How?") in issue No. 22.

As a philosopher of history I am convinced that Confucius ranks with Socrates, Buddha, Jesus, Mohammed and Hegel as the greatest geniuses mankind has been able to produce. And, in contrast to most of the others, Confucian thought seems as relevant today as it was 2,500 years ago.

Three things affirm the greatness of the Oriental peoples: 1. The ability of the Chinese to develop an advanced civilization at an early date, 2. Their ability to produce a genius of the calibre of Confucius, also at an early date, and 3. Japanese achievements since 1865.

Harold Bell
Okmulgee, OK, USA

Life in China

I am very much interested in the reports on the life of senior citizens and children as well as those on intellectuals and the underground city in Beijing.

The Chinese-Type Modernization series and "Facts and Figures" seem marvellous to me.

I will continue to write to you in the days to come so as to exchange views with you.

Nivia Duque
Montenegro, Colombia

Hibiscus

A Small Town Called Hibiscus is one of the best Chinese novels to have appeared in 1981. Its author Gu Hua was brought up in the Wuling Mountains of south Hunan. He presents the ups and downs of some families in a small mountain town there during the hard years in the early sixties, the "cultural revolution," and after the downfall of the gang of four.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Truth About "De-Maoification"

Our political editor refutes the charges of "de-Maoification" by pointing out that China today continues to be guided by Mao Zedong Thought. While correcting the mistakes made in his later years, the Chinese Communist Party still follows the basic principles formulated by him in the major fields of work (p. 4).

China's Aid to Foreign Countries

An official in charge of foreign economic relations outlines the growth of China's foreign aid since 1950. By the end of 1982 China had extended economic and technical aid to 76 countries. Based on the principle of equality and mutual benefit, these aid programmes have helped develop the economies of the recipient countries and promote friendship between the peoples of China and these countries (p. 14).

Hijackers Must Be Severely Punished

The Seoul district criminal court's sentences on Zhuo Changren and the five other hijackers are not in conformity with the principles confirmed by relevant international conventions. Even under south Korean law, the sentences are clearly too lenient (p. 10).

Children's Science Activities Flourish in China

Many science activities for teenagers are successfully stimulating the intellectual development of China's primary and middle school students (p. 21).

Old Concepts Keep Women in Outdated Roles

Famous sociologist Lei Jieqiong recently posed a series of questions to *China Daily* to show that traditional concepts are impeding the emancipation of women. Lei is scheduled to speak at the 5th National Women's Congress in early September (p. 26).

Prize-Winning Stories

Young writers today do not just portray those personal sufferings and social problems brought about by the gang of four. They try to show the vitality and hope of youth. Their work depicts the real lives of the common people instead of the old stereotypes of perfect heroes (p. 28).



This radio-controlled speedboat model is made by Zhang Ying (second from right) and his classmates.

Photo by Qian Houqi

NOTES FROM THE EDITORS

Myth of de-Maoification shattered

For a time, some China-watchers in the West have been enthusiastically spreading the view that China after Mao is intensifying "de-Maoification." Facts show that this is totally groundless.

Some other people have linked the non-existent "de-Maoification" with Deng Xiaoping. This is even more ridiculous.

It is precisely Deng Xiaoping who, together with other proletarian revolutionary veterans, has consistently affirmed the historical role of Mao Zedong and adhered to and developed Mao Zedong Thought. The recently published *Selected Works of Deng Xiaoping** is another proof which shatters the myth of "de-Maoification."

As early as April 10, 1977, Deng (who had not then resumed his work) wrote a letter to the Party Central Committee suggesting that from generation to generation we must take the accurate and comprehensive Mao Zedong Thought as our guide, so as to push the cause of the Party and socialism forward victoriously.

The resolution on the post-liberation history of the Chinese Communist Party adopted by the Party Central Committee in

*We have already published "Suggestions on the Drafting of the 'Resolution on Certain Questions in the History of Our Party Since the Founding of the People's Republic of China'" (Nos. 30 and 31), "The 'Two-Whatever' Policy Does Not Accord With Marxism" (No. 33) and "An Important Principle for Handling Relations Between Fraternal Parties" (No. 34) — all from *Selected Works of Deng Xiaoping*.

June 1981 made correct appraisals of Mao Zedong's merits and errors as well as of Mao Zedong Thought. During the drafting and revision of the draft resolution, Deng made important suggestions on many occasions which showed his firm attitude.

In one of his talks on March 19, 1980, he noted that the most essential point of the resolution should be to affirm the historical role of Comrade Mao Zedong and adhere to and develop Mao Zedong Thought. He reiterated: "We must hold high the banner of Mao Zedong Thought not only today, but in the future as well."

Later, on October 25, 1980, he said that Mao Zedong Thought, since it has been proved correct in practice, should serve as the guiding thought for our future work and be included in the resolution. If the Party fails to do this, he warned, it will make a grave historic mistake.

As for Mao's mistakes in his later years, Deng suggested they be mentioned and be dealt with properly and realistically. He said repeatedly: "Chairman Mao's merits are primary and his errors secondary."

Deng also stressed that we should understand, master and apply Mao Zedong Thought accurately and comprehensively. He opposed the "two-whatever" policy (referring to the statement "we will resolutely uphold whatever policy decisions Chairman Mao made and unswervingly follow whatever instructions Chairman Mao gave). This is because Mao Zedong

Thought is by no means a collection of all Mao's own remarks, but an ideological system constituted by a series of fundamental principles. It embodies the application and development of Marxism-Leninism in China and is a crystallization of the collective wisdom of Chinese Communists with Mao Zedong as the most outstanding representative. To apply what he said at a particular time and place or under a particular condition to all cases, or to follow his statements even if wrong is not a Marxist attitude.

Some people said that the new policies we have introduced in recent years are the result of "de-Maoification." This is not right either. China has introduced a series of new policies after Mao which are directed against the "Left" policies. Many of them were practised or proposed by Mao himself and, in a sense, are not new. Mao's mistakes in his later years arose from his going against the correct things he himself had proposed.

Since the Third Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee at the end of 1978, a major change that has taken place in China is that class struggle is no longer considered our prime task. The focus of our work has been shifted to socialist construction, which was proposed a long time ago by Mao himself. In 1956, after the socialist transformation of the ownership of the means of production had been basically completed in China, he said that the large-scale and turbulent class struggles of the previous revolutionary periods had, in the main, come to an end. The Eighth

Build China with the spirit of patriotism

Party Congress he presided over that year pointed out that the main task of the Chinese people in the years to come was to concentrate their strength on developing social productive forces, realizing industrialization of the country and gradually meeting the people's increasing demand for material and cultural well-being. Unfortunately, this correct idea was not insisted upon.

We are currently absorbing foreign investments and importing technology on an unprecedented scale. However, on the whole, our principle of giving first place to self-reliance remains unchanged. Mao Zedong proposed that we rely mainly on our own efforts, while making external assistance subsidiary. Because today's international environment is more favourable than ever before, we can now receive more foreign assistance than we could.

Although we have adopted some new policies in recent years, for the most part we have done only the things which Mao Zedong proposed but did not implement. We have also reinstated the policies he incorrectly opposed, and fulfilled those he did not implement well. Of course, the Chinese Communists have developed Mao Zedong Thought and will continue to do so.

Mao Zedong said: "Marxism-Leninism has in no way exhausted truth but ceaselessly opens up roads to the knowledge of truth in the course of practice." This is exactly how the Chinese Communists view Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought.

— Political Editor An Zhiguo

Young people in China are determined to inherit and carry forward the glorious tradition of patriotism and be pioneers in making the Chinese nation prosperous.

These aspirations were expressed by the more than 1,200 committee members and representatives attending the first session of the All-China Youth Federation's Sixth Committee and the opening session of the 20th National Congress of the All-China Students' Federation. Participants included those from all the 56 nationalities in China, as well as compatriots from Taiwan, Xianggang (Hongkong), Aomen (Macao) and overseas Chinese.

Both meetings were held in Beijing from August 17 to 24. They summed up their work of the past four years and discussed how to best carry out work among young people and students in the new historical period. Both also adopted new

constitutions and elected new leaders.

Founded in 1949, the All-China Youth Federation has its constituent members from the Chinese Communist Youth League, the All-China Students' Federation, the YMCA and the YWCA of China.

The All-China Students' Federation, founded in 1919, comprises the students' associations in all institutions of higher learning.

For the past few decades, the All-China Youth Federation and All-China Students' Federation have made positive contributions to the country's socialist construction, the reunification of the motherland, and friendly exchanges between them and youth and student organizations in other countries.

In the future, the two Chinese organizations will begin programmes to further ideological education among the young.



Party and state leaders (sitting in front) have a picture taken together with participants from the two meetings.

show concern for and protect their interests, safeguard the unity of the motherland and expand the exchanges between Chinese young people and students and their counterparts in other countries.

Party and state leaders Hu Yaobang, Zhao Ziyang, Li Xian-nian, Peng Zhen and Deng Yingchao met with all those present at the meetings.

Ulanhu, Vice-President of the People's Republic of China, made a speech at a joint meeting on behalf of the Party Central Committee. He said he hoped the young people would have patriotic feelings, the determination to serve their country, and the knowledge needed to build up China.

Abductors of women sentenced

One man has been sentenced to death, another to life imprisonment and 30 others to terms ranging from less than 10 to 20 years by the provincial courts in Sichuan, Shandong and Henan Provinces on charges of kidnapping, rape and selling women and children.

A related commentary in *Renmin Ribao* on July 15 condemned the crimes, and applauded the severe and prompt punishment of the perpetrators.

The case was uncovered on November 25 last year in Anyang City, Henan Province, when police seized a gang engaged in kidnapping and selling women and children.

Subsequent investigations by police in Sichuan, Henan, Shandong and Gansu Provinces resulted in the arrest of 48 people in Sichuan, 11 in Shandong,

five in Henan and one in Gansu. More than 150 women had been kidnapping victims.

The kidnapers, most of whom had previous criminal records, used Anyang in Henan as the centre for their activities.

Ringleader Hu Guichao, and his cohorts abducted 13 married women, two unmarried women and a girl from a single county in Sichuan. They raped two of the victims before selling them.

Between February 1980 and their arrest in November 1982, the gang took in some 14,000 yuan. Hu's share was 6,000 yuan. All the money has been confiscated and Hu was executed by a firing squad.

The criminals lured some of the women with false promises and money. Two women gang members lured 19-year-old girl away from her rural home village by saying that they were recruiting workers for high paying positions in a textile mill. They sold her to a peasant near Anyang for 900 yuan. When the girl discovered that she had been deceived, she wrote to the public security bureau in her home county asking for help. Six months after her abduction she returned home.

After the two women were arrested they admitted that they had collaborated with five other people to abduct 44 women, and that they had obtained more than 38,300 yuan.

The *Renmin Ribao* commentary noted that the barbarous practice of kidnapping and selling women and children was common in the old society. It was banned after the People's Republic was founded in 1949 but began to reappear during the 1966-76 "cultural revolution" because laws and the judicial system were ignored in that period.

The commentary also called upon local governments to provide public education about the legal system and to widely publicize policies and decrees concerning the protection of women and children. It emphasized the need to help young women establish a correct attitude towards life so they are able to identify and resist those who would lead them astray.

New achievements in rural economy

The peasants' enthusiasm for production is soaring daily with the in-depth development of various reforms in the countryside. The output of summer grain has hit an all-time high this year with 5 million tons more than in 1982.

The new achievements in rural economy are also reflected in the following areas:

First, the contract system, linking remuneration with total output for household, has become the major economic form in China's countryside. By the end of last May, 93 per cent of rural production teams had instituted the system, 14.8 per cent more than at the end of 1982. Now, this system has been expanded from crop cultivation to forestry, animal husbandry, aquatic production, and commune- and brigade-run enterprises, as well as other sideline occupations.

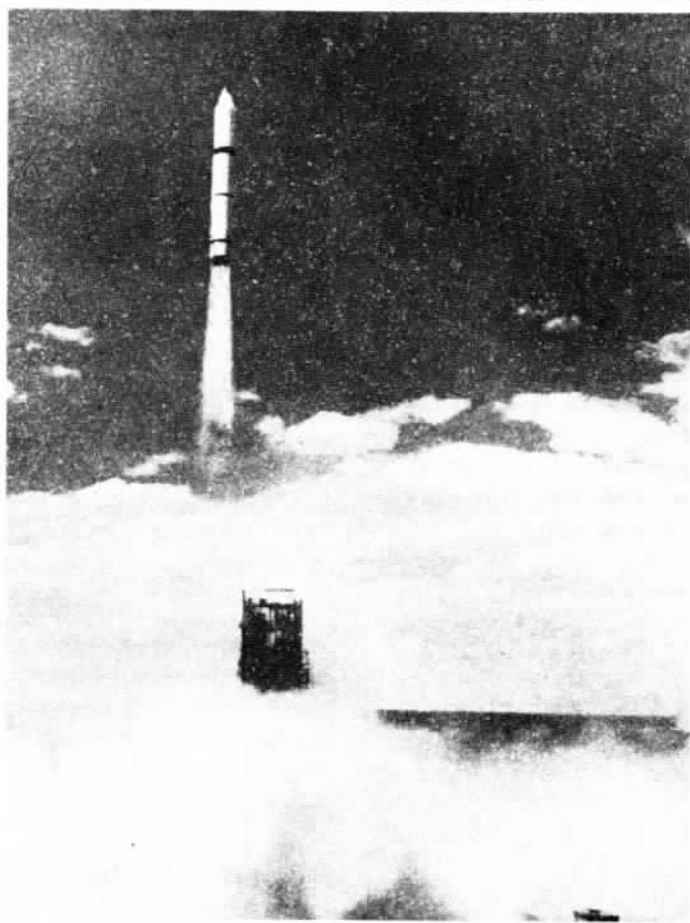
Second, the number of specialized households (meaning households specializing in occupations other than crop growing) and households engaged mainly in sidelines has further increased. According to the latest statistics, the number of these two types of households has reached 15.64 million, ac-

counting for 9.4 per cent of the total of peasant households, and representing a marked increase over the number at the end of 1982. In many places whole villages or communes have become specialized, demonstrating the new prospects for specialized commodity production in the countryside.

Third, the reform of the rural commercial system has been accelerated. The supply and marketing co-operatives in the countryside have gradually returned to their original purpose of co-operative commerce. Fairly rapid development has also been made in collectively and individually owned commerce and service trades. Trade between the various rural areas is unprecedentedly brisk.

Fourth, people are actively making investments in production. This year, the investment made by peasants in developing production has increased by 30 per cent. The largest portion of the investment has gone to crop cultivation, especially grain crops. More and more peasants want to buy farm machinery. According to surveys made by some provinces and municipalities, in 1982, the spending on farm machinery by peasants was twice as much as in 1981. Market forecasts show that the spending this year will again double. In addition, many peasants have pooled their funds for farmland water conservation projects. This past winter and spring, more than 700,000 water conservation projects were undertaken, a considerable number of which were begun with funds raised by the peasants themselves.

Fifth, more attention has been paid to scientific and tech-



China successfully launched another science experiment satellite into space on August 19. The satellite entered orbit accurately, and all meters and instruments functioned normally. The satellite returned to earth on August 24, as scheduled.

nological applications in agriculture. Since the beginning of this year, all rural areas have instituted a technical contract system. According to statistics provided by Sichuan, Henan and 16 other agricultural provinces, a total of 5.33 million hectares of farmland are now covered by the contract system. Formerly, the task was shouldered mainly by state-employed agricultural scientists and technicians. Now, the major responsibility has

fallen upon peasant agrotechnicians.

Greek and Rwandan delegations in China

At the invitation of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC), a delegation from the Greek Parliament led by its president,

Ioannis Alevras, and a delegation from the Rwandan National Development Council led by its president, Ntahobari Maurice, visited China late last month.

President Li Xiannian met with the Greek delegation and expressed his satisfaction with the fine relations between China and Greece. NPC Standing Committee Chairman Peng Zhen also met the Greek visitors.

When meeting with the Rwandan delegation, Chairman Peng Zhen said that relations between China and Rwanda are very good and that the two countries share the same or similar views on many international issues.

Deng talks about Sino-US relations

"The greatest obstacle to Sino-US relations lies in the Taiwan issue. This involves China's sovereignty. And I hope those in power in the US will have a clear understanding of this," said Deng Xiaoping on August 27 to US Senator Henry M. Jackson, who was visiting China at the invitation of the Chinese Institute of Foreign Affairs.

The Chairman of the Central Advisory Commission of the Chinese Communist Party also said that Sino-US relations went through some twists and turns, the cause of which is clear to all. "In the recent period," he said, "there is some improvement in our bilateral relations, and I'm hopeful of that." "Of course, some problems might turn up, but we hope these will be minor problems," he added.

Deng said that President Reagan's letter, which Jackson gave him during the meeting, expressed the US President's good wishes and desire to continue developing Sino-US relations. We welcome this, he added.

Deng asked Jackson to convey his respects and best wishes to President Reagan and Vice-President Bush, who had also sent a message to him through Jackson.

Jackson said that there should be a decrease of US arms sales to Taiwan in quantity and quality. "In my view," he said, "the American people are aware that there is only one China." He promised to act in line with the agreement and understanding reached by the two countries.

Jackson also said that a number of American strategists he knew agree that a strong and independent China is of vital importance to US interests.

Italian CP leader vacations in China

General Secretary of the Italian Communist Party Enrico Berlinguer made a vacation tour of China in August. Hu Yaobang, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party met with him on August 16. The leaders of the two Parties briefed each other on their domestic situation and exchanged views on international issues, especially the situation in Europe. Hu told Berlinguer that "China's economy has developed fairly smoothly" since he last led a delegation of the Italian Communist Party to China in April 1980.

In the political sphere, Hu said, "we'll mainly tackle three things: The first is to strengthen the leading bodies at various levels, which we expect to complete next year; the second is to rectify our Party's style of work, which will take three years; the third is to expand our socialist democracy and improve the legal system, so as to bring about better public order."

On August 27 Berlinguer met with *Beijing Review* and other reporters and answered their questions.

He said that the development of relations between the Italian and Chinese Communist Parties has been very positive in recent years. The exchanges of visits by many delegations have helped enhance mutual understanding of the realities of the two countries and of the basis of Party policies in domestic and international affairs.

He pointed out that these achievements are "the result of adhering strictly to the guiding principles laid down by our two Parties when we officially resumed relations, namely, respecting each other's independence, and openly discussing differences and divergences of opinion. He stressed that the Italian Communist Party follows the same principles in maintaining its relations with other Communist Parties, socialist parties, social-democratic parties and national-liberation movements of various countries as well as with the liberation forces of the third world.

"In our opinion," he said, "only with these principles can a new internationalism be developed among the progressive forces in various countries and continents." He also said that the Italian and Chinese Communist Parties are seeking all possible

common points on the questions of safeguarding world peace, affirming the people's right to independence in various countries, promoting the establishment of a new international economic order and developing the friendly relations between Italy and China.

Speaking of his impressions drawn from his vacation in Beijing, Berlinguer said that his Chinese comrades are making greater achievements in defending world peace and playing a more positive and independent role in international life. He said he was impressed by the reform of the cadre system within the Chinese Communist Party.

In concluding his interview, Berlinguer asked reporters to convey his feelings of friendship for the Chinese people and wished every success for the Chinese people in the future. He said that the development of socialist China not only serves the interests of the Chinese people but is also of vital importance to the future of mankind.

China's policy on developing resources

Premier Zhao Ziyang said that "it is China's established and long-term policy to develop her resources in co-operation with foreign countries in the country's current modernization drive and this policy will not change."

Zhao made the statement on August 24 when he met C.C. Garvin, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Exxon Cor-

poration of the United States, and P. Baxendell, Chairman of the Committee of Managing Directors of the Shell Group of Companies.

"We understand that to realize this policy, we must guarantee the legitimate interests of the investors," Zhao said.

The Premier stressed, "China keeps its word and honours its contracts. The contracts signed with China have legal effect."

"China attaches importance to economic co-operation with the United States, Britain and other developed countries," he said.

Things are improving with regard to low efficiency and poor service in the country, he said, adding, "those who co-operate with China need courage, but will suffer no losses in the end."

Esso-China Limited, an affiliate of the Exxon Corporation, and Shell Exploration have been granted rights to explore, develop and produce oil in the South China Sea in co-operation with China, under two contracts signed on August 23 with the China National Offshore Oil Company (CNOOC).

The contracts' areas, covering 5,120 square kilometres, are the largest so far awarded to a foreign consortium.

Under the contracts, all exploration costs will be covered by the Esso-Shell consortium. The Chinese side will carry no obligation to pay back any of the risk investment borne by the foreign firms if no oilfield is located. If commercial oil discoveries are made, China and the consortium will invest in and develop the oilfield ac-

ording to terms stipulated in the contracts. Any petroleum produced will be shared by both sides as set in the contracts.

The contracts were the third concluded since bidding on joint exploration of China's offshore oil reserves was announced in February 1982. Last May, CNOOC and an international consortium led by British Petroleum signed five contracts. Two more contracts were signed in August by CNOOC and two consortia led by Occidental Petroleum of the United States.

Li Xiannian gives impressions of Tito

Tito's most outstanding characteristic is that he upheld the truth and defied brute force, said President Li Xiannian when he was interviewed by Momcilo Stefanovic of the Yugoslav daily *Politika*. Li Xiannian also characterized Tito as far-sighted, broad-minded, optimistic and ready to seek truth from facts.

Li described Tito as a great Marxist who made outstanding contributions to the communist movement and the national-liberation movement.

"Tito had profound feelings for the Chinese people. Through his visit to China in 1977, relations between the Parties of China and Yugoslavia were resumed, laying a solid foundation for the steady development of relations between the two countries. Tito was a great friend, and will always live in the hearts of the Chinese people," the President said.

South Korea

Hijackers must be duly punished

ON August 18 the Seoul district criminal court handed down sentences ranging from four to six years for Zhuo Changren and the five other criminals who hijacked Chinese CAAC airliner No. 296. The court's verdict does not conform with the principles confirmed by the relevant international conventions, which state that the hijacking of a civilian airliner is a grave criminal act for which the offender should be severely punished.

Both China and the south Korean authorities are signatories to the 1970 Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft (the Hague Convention) and the 1971 Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Civil Aviation (the Montreal Convention). In accordance with the two conventions, China is the state most qualified to exercise jurisdiction over the offence because it is the state where the hijacked plane is registered, the offence was committed within Chinese air space, and the hijackers and most of the victims are Chinese. The south Korean authorities did not agree to extradite those criminals to China, and insisted that they would put them to trial. However, they have not earnestly fulfilled their commitments to the conventions.

There are two noteworthy points in south Korea's handling of the case.

Motives

First, the south Korean prosecutor admitted that the con-

tracting states of the Hague Convention are committed to assure the safety of civil aviation and curb unlawful acts of seizure, and therefore the hijackers must be given severe punishments irrespective of political ideology and their aim and motives. On the other hand, however, he stressed the alleged motive of Zhuo Changren and other hijackers, saying that they are neither ordinary hijackers nor terrorists and therefore there are "points worth thinking over." The prosecutor was trying to alleviate their criminal responsibility on the pretext of their motive, with a view to reducing their penalty.

According to the Hague Convention and the Montreal Convention, all those who engage in hijacking are committing an offence and are obliged, "without exception whatsoever" (which means no matter what their motives are), to submit to severe punishment. The two conventions stipulate that such cases should be dealt with "in the same manner as in the case of any ordinary offence of a serious nature." So by stressing the motives of those hijackers, the south Korean authorities are running counter to the spirit of the conventions.

Second, Article 8 of south Korea's 1974 Air Flight Security Act states that anyone who hijacks an aircraft in flight by force or threat to use force shall be sentenced to life or upwards of seven years imprisonment. Article 9 of the same act states that offenders of Article 8 caus-

ing death or injuries to others shall be sentenced to death or life imprisonment. Hence, even under south Korean law, the sentences passed on Zhuo Changren and five other criminals are obviously too lenient, not to mention the fact that the hijackers opened fire and injured others during their criminal operation. Anyone guilty of causing injuries to others during an airplane hijacking should be given heavy sentences, as provided under Article 9 mentioned above.

"Self-Defence"

Throughout the proceedings, certain south Koreans stressed time and again that the criminals opened fire "in self-defence," "surrendered themselves" after landing, and the Chinese crew members did not suffer fatal injuries. All these allegations can in no way justify the light sentences. In this case, the firing obviously cannot be explained away in terms of "self-defence." The hijackers were the attackers and there could be no "self-defence" in such a situation. According to their theory, any criminal opening fire in resistance to arrest could be considered as acting in "self-defence."

The argument about the degree of injuries is likewise untenable. Article 9 covers cases in which criminals cause death or injuries to others. Hence, the article is equally applicable to cases involving non-fatal injuries.

After the announcement of the sentences by the Seoul district criminal court, foreign news agencies generally believed that the prison terms were quite lenient. But Taiwan quar-

ters termed the sentences "rather heavy." They were busy with manoeuvres to exert pressure on the south Korean authorities to absolve the criminals from guilt through appeal. Reports said that the south Koreans might commute the sentences through a second or third trial or grant the criminals a reprieve and let them proceed to Taiwan. Should the south Korean authorities act in this way, they would gravely violate their international commitments under the Hague Convention and the Montreal Convention.

All plane hijackers are bitterly hated by the international community. Whether the south Korean authorities seriously implement the convention commitments or play legal tricks to cheat the people of the world remains to be seen.

— Chen Tiqiang

France

Strategy towards the Chad conflict

THE French attitude and actions regarding the present Chadian conflict have attracted attention. Although France has announced that it does not intend to intervene militarily, it has increased its military presence in Chad.

Since sending its first group of military personnel to Chad on August 9, the French Government has deployed 2,500 French troops and other military personnel in the country. Six Jaguar tactical support planes and four Mirage F-1 attack jets, accompanied by a KC-135 in-flight refuelling plane, have landed in Ndjamena. A French government-appointed

senior commander has arrived in Chad. At the same time, France has made various attempts to seek a political solution to the Chad conflict.

Although the French Government has sent troops to Chad, it stresses that this accords with the French-Chadian military agreement of 1976, that the presence of French troops is only one of "training and deterrence" to discourage any further advance by Chadian anti-government forces led by former President Goukouni Weddeye, and that French troops would not engage in battle.

Reasons for Prudence

Judging by the French attitude and actions, it is clear that France has adopted a different policy from that of the superpowers. It supports the legal Chadian Government, but maintains, for political and economic reasons, a prudent attitude towards sending troops and military involvement.

Since the French Socialist Party came to power in 1981, it has repeatedly stated that unlike previous French governments, it would not pursue a policy of military intervention in Africa. It advocates a French presence, not interference in Africa. By no longer acting as a policeman of Africa, France hopes to induce the African countries not to rely on the Soviet Union or the United States but to take a third road. Obviously, the French Government's actions in Chad in the last two months have been designed to preserve its image of a Left government and maintain confidence both at home and abroad.

The tribal and regional contradictions in Chad are extremely complex and deep-rooted. The French believe

that they should support the legal government of Chad but avoid involvement in Chad's internal disputes.

The French Government does not wish to jeopardize its relations with Libya once again. Since taking power, the French Socialist Party has successfully made strong efforts to improve its relations with Libya. Libya is one of France's major oil-suppliers and an important market for French military arms and industrial products. France imports 1.3 million tons of crude oil from Libya each year and the trade volume between the two countries is US\$1,000 million. Therefore, the French Government wants to avoid direct military and diplomatic confrontation with Libya over the Chadian conflict.

Stern Test

However, the outcome of the war in Chad will affect France greatly. Chad is a former French colony and, like other former French-African countries, has special relations with France. Some French newspapers have pointed out that if France does nothing while Libyan-backed Chadian anti-government forces move south towards Ndjamena, the capital of Chad, the black African countries will suspect French protection, and those African countries which have signed defence agreements with France will lose confidence in France. This would hurt the special French position and traditional interests in black Africa.

The French Government has provided US\$45 million in emergency aid to Chad and its troops have already been deployed in strategic positions along the eastern and western lines of central Chad. Actually

they are in a position to counterattack in various places. But France hopes that its military presence will contribute to a negotiated settlement of the Chad problem without superpower interference and will thus make it possible to maintain France's special position and traditional interests in Chad and in black Africa as a whole.

On August 23, President Francois Mitterrand decided to send a special envoy to Ethiopia to explain French policy to the Chairman of the Organiza-

tion of African Unity, Mengistu Haile Mariam, and to seek a peaceful solution to the Chad issue with him. At the same time the French envoy to Libya has been in constant contact with the Libyan authorities. This two-prong diplomatic action clearly shows that through OAU mediation and the tacit co-operation of Libya, France hopes to solve the serious Chad conflict. Future developments of the situation in Chad will be a test of the French policy towards Africa.

— *Xin Shufan*

more mobile and less provocative.

Second, the commission recommended that Washington adopt a "flexible" attitude towards the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START). Accepting this recommendation, Reagan put forward a new proposal on June 8, when the US-Soviet arms control talks resumed in Geneva, which would extend the ceiling of the number of ICBMs the two countries possess from 850 to 1,200 plus 400 long-distance bombers. The new figure is a step closer to that proposed by the Soviets.

Third, the Scowcroft Commission proposed that START should shift its focus from the reduction of missiles to the limitation of nuclear warheads. This US proposal was intended to check the Soviet momentum in developing multi-warhead missiles.

The Reagan administration's policy towards the nuclear arms control talks might be summarized as one of "building military strength while negotiating." Its decision to deploy the MX missiles and put forward the new arms reduction proposal was a concrete example of this two-prong policy. By deploying the MX, Washington hopes to increase its military strength and therefore to enhance its bargaining position in the talks, while by putting forward the new proposal — a gesture of "flexibility" — it hopes to induce Moscow to come to some agreement.

This is the American calculation. But the Soviets have declared that they will never yield to US pressure, and have said that they would deploy the same

USA

MX missiles and arms control talks

AFTER many delays and vacillations, the US Congress has recently okayed the Reagan administration's plan to deploy 100 MX missiles in Minuteman missile silos and to start building the first batch of MX missiles next year, thus ending the protracted MX controversy.

The MX, a colossal multi-warhead intercontinental ballistic missile, is designed to fill the gap between US and Soviet land-based missile capabilities. The US Congress has twice turned down the Reagan administration's proposed basing modes for the missile. The first was when the administration proposed to deploy the MX in existing Minuteman silos not long after Reagan entered the White House, and the second was at the end of last year when Reagan proposed the so-called dense-pack system.

Then Reagan made a third try, and succeeded. Early this year

he appointed a Commission on Strategic Forces, headed by Brent Scowcroft, a former national security adviser, to redesign the MX basing mode and study related issues. Last April the presidential panel brought forth its final report, which reflected the Reagan administration's military stance and at the same time accepted some of the Congress' viewpoints. The commission's recommendations were accepted by most House Representatives and Senators.

The Scowcroft Commission report, supported by President Reagan, includes the following three main recommendations:

First, the presidential panel proposed prompt deployment of 100 MX missiles in existing Minuteman silos and, for the long term, the development of a type of smaller single-warhead missile, the so-called Midgetman missile. Compared with the MX, the Midgetman is less costly,

level of weaponry as that of the MX to meet the US challenge. The Kremlin has also cold-shouldered the new US proposal for it regards the Washington-proposed maximum number of 5,000 warheads for each side (half of which would be on land-based missiles) as unfavourable to its interests.

It is true that there has been some easing in both the US and Soviet attitudes towards their

arms reduction talks, and the White House even said that the possibility of the United States and the Soviet Union reaching an agreement on strategic arms reduction before the US presidential elections next year cannot be ruled out. Yet, as their current positions are still poles apart, any substantive breakthrough in their talks can hardly be expected.

—Zhang Dezhen

certain items, to remit profits abroad and to reinvest profits. The group also displayed its strength in negotiations with the United States, compelling it to stop discriminating against Venezuela and Ecuador and to give them preferential tariff status. During the British-Argentine conflict over the Malvinas Islands, the Andean Pact countries expanded their co-operation with Argentina, reflecting the militant unity among the Latin American countries.

Latin America

Andean Pact group closes ranks

THE Andean Pact Organization is demonstrating a new and dynamic spirit of unity and co-operation. Having twice witnessed crises resulting from first Chile's withdrawal from the organization in 1976 and then the border conflict between the two member states Peru and Ecuador, members of the Andean Pact at the organization's summit meeting in Caracas in July, pledged to join efforts to overcome the difficulties the organization is facing, and to take measures to strengthen the subregion's integration process. Furthermore, Panama has indicated that it hopes to join the group.

New Decisions

During their stay in Caracas to mark the bicentenary of the birth of South America's liberator Simon Bolivar, the Presidents of the five pact nations — Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela — signed the Jose Celestino Mutis Agreement negotiated earlier by their agriculture ministers. The agreement is mainly designed to

overcome the urgent food shortage problem by strengthening subregional food production and guaranteeing an adequate grain supply. The five nations also adopted a co-operative programme for scientific research and the training of scientists and technicians to meet the region's long-term integration needs. To resolve legal problems arising from the region's integration, an Andean court has already been established.

Recently the leaders of both Peru and Ecuador have expressed readiness to seek a fair settlement of their boundary dispute by peaceful means.

Since its founding in 1969, the Andean Pact Organization has done much to safeguard the sovereignty and common economic interests of its members. For example, the Common Regime of Treatment of Foreign Capital adopted in 1971 has vigorously promoted the development of the national economies in each country by restricting the rights of foreign monopoly capital to invest in

Difficulties

However, difficulties among the pact members, historical disputes and the uneven economic development have slowed down the organization's integration process. The Western economic crises, in particular, have caused problems for the Latin American nations. Their economic situation has greatly worsened. The Andean Pact nations have suffered inflation, decreasing production and rising foreign debts.

The Latin American leaders have contacted each other frequently to seek solutions to their economic troubles. At the Caracas meeting of the Latin American Economic System last February, the 26 member states proposed co-operation and integration of the region as the key to guaranteeing security and economic independence. The Andean Pact countries also realize that only by expediting the subregional integration process can the conditions for developing their economies and reducing economic dependence on foreign countries be created. In spite of past difficulties and future uncertainties, the idea of regional co-operation has clearly taken root in the hearts of the people of the five Andean Pact nations.

—Liu Xiaolu



China's Aid to Foreign Countries

by Li Ke, Representative of the Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade

BY the end of 1982, China had extended economic and technical aid to 76 countries, undertaking 1,319 projects (1,021 of them already completed) and dispatching 180,000 engineers and technicians and 6,500 medical workers. These aid programmes have not only helped those countries develop their national economies and maintain political independence, but have also promoted friendship between the peoples of China and recipient countries.

For the Good of Recipient Countries

In undertaking projects to aid foreign countries, China gives due consideration to the actual needs and conditions of the recipient countries, so as to achieve maximum economic returns with minimum investment.

This involves complex economic work which calls for meticulous efforts. In choosing a project to be built for a foreign country, the Chinese Government always studies its feasi-

bility in the light of what the recipient country needs to develop its national economy. China will undertake only those projects which can help improve the material and cultural lives of the people it is assisting, and which are within China's abilities. If the recipient country lacks the conditions for building a project it has requested, or if the project is beyond China's abilities, we will suggest that the project be dropped or postponed and explain the reason to the recipient country.

The projects provided by China are mostly medium-sized and small ones designed to suit the levels of the productive forces of the recipient countries.

Once a construction project is decided on, China will send its engineers and technicians to make careful surveys and draw up a design. They will choose the location, search for a practical production plan, decide on the ideal technological processes and prepare the necessary equipment. To make the project economical and practical, they pay close attention

to balancing production, supply and marketing, and to ensuring that there will be ample supplies of energy and good facilities of transportation.

Once construction gets under way, the Chinese engineers and technicians will organize the engineering work and give technical guidance to local workers, strictly according to the requirements of the blueprints and the agreements reached between the two countries. Their aim is to ensure the quality of work done and see to it that construction and equipment installation are completed on schedule. No project will go into



A jubilant scene in once water-poor rural Senegal, after a Chinese engineering team successfully sank a well there.



With the help of Chinese technicians, textile workers in North Yemen learn how to produce terylene cloth on looms which used to produce only cotton cloth.

regular operation before a trial-production is conducted and acceptance tests are made by the recipient country.

After a project is completed, China will send, upon request, technical personnel to give guidance and help in management. It will also supply spare parts needed in maintenance work and take care of the overhaul and replacement of equipment.

Good Results

China has helped other third world countries build a variety of projects, with notable results. They fall into the following categories:

— Helping a number of Asian and African countries construct farms and agro-technical centres, providing them with necessary farm machinery and insecticides and constructing farm implement plants and farm machinery repair factories.

China has undertaken more than 50 agricultural projects in African countries, and helped reclaim 50,000 hectares of land for which it has provided technical guidance. A good example is a farm built in Tanzania. Since its inauguration in 1977, the farm has reaped profits every year and has kept its annual yield of paddy-rice above 7.5 tons per hectare. In 1980, the harvest was 17,500 tons of rice, approximately one-fourth of the country's total market demand.

Another example is Upper Volta, a nation which seldom planted paddy-rice in the past. In 1980, with the help of Chinese agro-technicians, the country planted 1,600 hectares of paddy-rice, which yielded 7,000 tons of rice.

— Helping a number of countries construct with their own resources light industrial and textile factories and processing factories for farm and sideline produce. This has put an end to their dependence on imports. For instance, a match factory built with Chinese aid in Guinea in June 1964 has changed the country's de-

pendence upon foreign countries for the supply of matches. The factory, making a profit every year, was given the honorary title of a "Red Flag" factory by the Guinean Government.

— Helping some African countries solve water supply problems. By the end of 1982, China had sunk 500 wells in various countries, which supplied 26,000 tons of water daily. When a Chinese-aided water supply project was completed in the capital of Mauritania, Chairman Mohamed Khouna Ould Haidalla told the Chinese ambassador, "People in the West often say we are water-poor here, but you Chinese friends have helped us find the water which has made Nouakchott what it is today."

— Helping construct nearly 5,000 kilometres of highways and 2,500 kilometres of railways (including the famous Tanzanian-Zambian Railway), along with many bridges and harbours in a number of Asian and African countries.

— Building gymnasiums, stadiums, international meeting halls, people's palaces, hospitals, health centres and other cultural and welfare facilities. These projects are highly acclaimed by the recipient countries for their graceful designs and superb engineering quality.

The projects assisted by China also include many in power production, machine-building, metallurgical, chemical and building-material industries, post and telecommunication services, broadcasting and geological prospecting.

Medical Teams in Recipient Countries

Since April 1963 China has sent a total of 6,500 doctors to 43 Asian and African countries and regions. At present, 35 Chinese medical teams and a disease prevention group, totalling 1,100 members, are working in 80 medical centres in 35 countries and regions.

These medical teams have treated 70 million patients, some of them suffering from difficult and complicated cases of illness. For example, a patient contracting sciatica, rheumatic spinitis and cervicovertebral disease for many years, was cured by a Chinese medical team in Kuwait after only two sessions of treatment with acupuncture and massage. Previously, he had seen doctors in England, the United States and four other countries with no results.

A Chinese medical team in Algeria successfully rejoined a severed hand for a patient. This was hailed by the local press as a "wonder of Chinese medicine." In a year a Chinese medical team stationed in Sana succeeded in handling 30 cases of mitral dilation. Because of this the Government of the Yemen Arab Republic declared that patients with heart diseases are not allowed to go abroad for treatment without first being diagnosed by the Chinese doctors.

While actively serving the people in countries which receive aid, Chinese doctors also go out of their way to pass on their knowledge

and skills to their local colleagues. Their training classes have prepared 1,000 medical workers at the middle and lower levels in these countries. It is small wonder that the local people call doctors in the Chinese medical teams "most popular people" and "best co-operators."

Ways and Means

In addition to technical assistance, the Chinese provided economic aid for foreign countries either as interest-free loans or outright gifts.

All loans have a grace-period of 5 years, with a 10-year extension if necessary, and they can be repaid in 10 years. If the recipient country is in financial difficulties, it can postpone the repayment through consultations. The Chinese Government never duns repayment from a country in financial difficulties.

The Chinese Government provides aid mainly through bilateral channels. Since China regained its lawful seat in the United Nations, the Chinese Government has donated to the UN Development Programme and the UN Industrial Development Organization. It has also been a partner in some multilateral projects in aid of foreign countries.

The Chinese usually provide aid projects with complete sets of equipment. This is designed to help the recipient countries develop their own national economies, train their own workers and technicians and manage the enterprises by their own efforts.

Eight Principles

China began providing foreign aid in 1950, and has since then gradually developed new programmes with the progress of construction at home and its expanding foreign relations. China assisted 17 countries in the 1950s, 35 in the 1960s and 70 in the 1970s. By the end of 1982 China had provided aid for 76 countries — 19 in Asia, 46 in Africa, eight in Latin America and Oceania and three in Europe.

The Chinese Government always holds that aid is mutual. In helping other third world countries, China is helped by them as well.



Chinese doctors in Zambia.

In the last three decades, despite the erratic world situation in which some people are trying to isolate the Chinese, their third world friends have always stood with them. The international prestige and world influence China enjoys today would be impossible without the support of other third world countries.

On a tour of 14 Asian and African countries at the end of 1963 and the beginning of 1964, Premier Zhou Enlai announced eight principles governing China's economic and technical aid to other countries:

1. The Chinese Government always bases itself on the principle of equality and mutual benefit in providing aid to other countries. It never regards such aid as a kind of unilateral alms but as something mutual.

2. In providing aid to other countries, the Chinese Government strictly respects the sovereignty of the recipient countries and never attaches any conditions or asks for any privileges.

3. The Chinese Government provides economic aid in the form of interest-free or low-interest loans and extends the time limit for the repayment when necessary so as to lighten the burden of the recipient countries as far as possible.

4. In providing aid to other countries, the purpose of the Chinese Government is not to make the recipient countries dependent on China, but to help them embark step by step on the road of self-reliance and independent economic development.

5. The Chinese Government tries its best to help the recipient countries build projects which require less investment while yielding quicker results, so that the recipient governments may increase their income and accumulate capitals.

6. The Chinese Government provides the best-quality equipment and material of its own manufacture at international market prices. If the equipment and material provided by the Chinese Government are not up to the



Chinese watermelon has found a new home in Congo.

agreed specifications and quality, the Chinese Government undertakes to replace them.

7. In giving any particular technical assistance, the Chinese Government will see to it that the personnel of the recipient country fully master such technique.

8. The experts dispatched by the Chinese Government to help in construction in the recipient countries will have the same standard of living as the experts of those countries. The Chinese experts are not allowed to make any special demands or enjoy any special amenities.

These principles have won the praise of the third world. This is because, in sharp contrast with the practice of using aid to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries and seek privileges, they have given expression to China's basic aims for aiding foreign countries. The eight principles fully embody the Chinese people's internationalism.

The eight principles formulated by the late Chinese premier remain China's guidelines for extending foreign aid.

Common Development

During his visit to 11 African countries at the end of 1982 and the beginning of 1983, Premier Zhao Ziyang declared that "equality and mutual benefit, stress on practical results, diversity in form and common progress" are the four principles for China's economic and technological co-operation with foreign countries. These principles are both a summery of China's experience in conducting economic and technical co-operation with African and

other third world countries and a guiding principle for promoting the South-South co-operation.

Since World War II, the third world countries have achieved tremendous progress in developing their own economies. But at their present economic levels, most of them are still poor and need China's help in construction and development. China sincerely supports the South-South co-operation.

The South-South co-operation is a two-way endeavour. On the one hand, the poor countries should, on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, engage in diverse forms of economic and technical co-operation. The emphasis must be on practical results, so as to seek common development. On the other hand, countries with relatively affluent economies should, as far as they can, help poorer countries. China is exerting its efforts in both these ways. The co-operation can be either bilateral or multilateral.

Practice shows that economic co-operation between poor countries cannot be sustained or popularized if it is limited to one-way aid. It

is imperative, therefore, to seek new forms of co-operation which can benefit both partners by enabling them to give full play to their strong points. Only thus can the South-South co-operation enjoy broad prospects and tremendous vitality.

The four principles are aimed at gradually switching the emphasis of China's co-operative economic and technical relations with other third world countries from extending loans to developing co-operation which can benefit both partners. It is only natural for third world countries, suffering poverty to varying degrees, to help each other. A careful analysis reveals the possibility and prospects for the development of such relations.

China is a developing socialist country that belongs to the third world. Considering our country's characteristics and international position, it is no wonder that China feels obligated to help countries poorer than it is. In the days to come, China will continue to provide as much aid as it can to countries in extreme economic difficulties and will also continue to implement the eight principles formulated by Zhou Enlai. □

Foreign Youths Tour China

by Our Correspondent Zhang Zeyu

YOUNG people who visit China from abroad want to do more than observe Chinese life from the comfortable confines of an airconditioned tourist bus. They often want to jump right in and try everything themselves.

To accommodate such travellers, the All-China Youth Federation's Youth Travel Service has designed special opportunities for young people from all over the world to learn such diverse skills as using an abacus, calligraphy, embroidery, Chinese boxing, tea-picking and dumpling-making.

Melinoa Tavares, a recent graduate in computer science from Northern Illinois University in the US commented that many people on her tour had purchased T-shirts decorated with Chinese characters that mean, "It is better to travel ten thousand miles than to read ten thousand books."

"I agree with this. It means that you will not understand a country and its people until you go there and see the country and meet its people," she said.

Since its founding in 1980, the China Youth Travel Service has received a growing number of tourists each year. In 1980 it guided 10,500 people and the number jumped to 24,000 in 1982. In the first half of this year 15,000 foreign visitors, who were given preferential treatment, entered China under its aegis and by the end of the year it expects a total of 25,000.

Mutual Understanding

Most of these youths have come to China for the first time, many with quite inaccurate expectations. Two of the youth service guides described a young man from Louisiana, who

had been told that "communism means terrorism." Although he brought along a movie camera, he was afraid that he would be stopped from using it. His mother had warned him that it was better for him to return home alive than to risk his life for his film. He was pleasantly astonished that no one interfered with his work and became quite eager to finish his film and show it at home.

"I was surprised by the amount of freedom the Chinese people have to travel as they desire, to speak about the government and to live without government intrusion on a daily basis," said Marilyn Hamilton of Salt Lake City, Utah. "I expected a lot of soldiers monitoring the citizens' behaviour on an ongoing basis."

"Before I came to China, all I had known was whatever I'd read or seen on TV, like *Big Bird Goes to China* and other shows. . . . But I did not know what the people were like. I was expecting the people to be very cold and negative," said John C. Williams, 19, a student at the Rochester Institute of Technology in New York.

"But I was very wrong. The people of China are very, very friendly and willing to go out of their way to help us," he said.

Kathleen Callan, 25, a nurse from Pennsauken, New Jersey, described two incidents that she found memorable. In Guangzhou, one member of her tour accidentally dropped an expensive camera lens into a lake. A Chinese man immediately dived into the lake and, after several attempts, recovered the lens.

"We all considered it a wonderful gesture of friendship and goodwill for him to have done such a noble thing," she said.

In Beijing, Callan took a polaroid picture of a small child in a park who befriended tour members and she presented the photograph to the child.

"Then we went to the Friendship Store and half an hour later when we came out, she was waiting with her father to give me a present. It was a small child's handkerchief, which she had been very proud to show us earlier. Her



US students visit the Palace Museum (Forbidden City).

father had ridden her on his bicycle just to see me. That will be my favourite treasure from China!" she said.

Hard at Work

Many young travellers were impressed with the industriousness of Chinese workers. "I was a little surprised that China was not more modernized. Especially in the communes in Guangzhou and some of the rural areas, the lives of the people seemed hard. I was impressed by the fact that they seemed happy nevertheless," said Canadian Francine Perkal, a second-year student at Concordia University in Montreal. "I admire the Chinese people because they work so very hard and they don't seem to complain."

"Most important, I have become very fond of the Chinese people. They could not really speak to us but they have made us feel welcome with their smiles. Those who spoke some English were very kind and helpful," she said.

Mehmet Berker, a business student at the University of San Francisco in California, had another angle on his China tour. He was struck by China's "natural beauty" and he emphasized the importance of third world unity: As a Turk, he said he had great hopes for the good relations signified by the Turkish president's visit to China earlier this year.

He said that after he returns to Turkey next year he hopes he can contribute to furthering cultural and economic relations between his country and China.

Ambassador College of Pasadena in California sent 13 students to study Chinese at Beijing University for six weeks, followed by a

tour of the rest of China. Many of the students said that they had chosen to study the language as a part of strengthening friendship and understanding between nations.

"Everyone who has not been to China thinks it is a monotonous country," said Sherri Means. But, she said, she had found this to be untrue — people's life styles and clothing were varied and they seem to be free to do whatever they please.

Many tourists praised the Chinese people for their spirit of helping others. Roland J. Stemmler, 53, President of the International Student Exchange, who led a trip to China for the first time this year, recounted an event that occurred the day he went to the Great Wall.

He was carrying a large bag, which turned out to be quite a chore in the summer heat, when a Chinese youth approached him saying, "You are wet with sweat. Please let me help you carry your bag."

Marilyn Hamilton said she was impressed by the fact that men and women work side by side in workshops, fields and shops. She was really surprised to see how active fathers are



They enjoy cooking a Chinese meal themselves.

in the care of their children because in the US children are mainly cared for by their mothers.

"I think the major role the fathers appear to play in raising their children is especially important for the healthy psychological development of the children," she said.

Criticisms

Foreign youths also offered some candid criticisms.

The members of the International Student Exchange pointed out that environmental sanitation in China is poor and service is inadequate.

"In summertime, we hardly slept due to the sullen rooms and mosquitoes," students from the Ambassador College of Pasadena, California, complained. Steven Pelfrey said that he didn't find much variety in Chinese clothing or food either.

Numerous youths were shocked by the low level of rural medical care, and other signs of China's plight as a poor developing country. But most expressed confidence that the Chinese people will eventually overcome these ills. □



Young tourists learning traditional Chinese painting.

Teenagers' after-school science activities

China's many primary and middle schools supplement classroom instruction with a variety of extracurricular activities designed to teach basic science and technology. This has substantially improved the students' ability to learn and acquire knowledge by themselves. The following articles discuss this educational approach. — Ed.

Sowing the seeds of science

by Huang Lu

AFTER New China was born in 1949, many middle and primary schools organized students into after-school groups that learnt to assemble radios and airplane models and acquired other basic knowledge of science and technology. Many children's palaces and science centres were established, providing the place and equipment for extracurricular activities.

At the same time, national exhibitions were often held to popularize such activities. In 1955 an exhibition of more than 1,000 works of science and art by children was held in Beijing, sponsored by the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Youth League and the China Association for the Popularization of Science (the predecessor of today's Science and Technical Association). In 1962 an exhibition of amateur radio engineering works was held in Beijing by the China Science and Technical Association together with the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission.

All these activities played a positive role in the intellectual development of China's young-

sters. But they came to an abrupt halt with the "cultural revolution" (1966-76), during which culture and science were scorned and the educated were tarred and feathered at the hands of the gang of four.

After-school science activities were revived after those 10 years of turmoil and have quickly become an indispensable part of Chinese student life.

Teenagers' Science Centres. According to incomplete statistics, China now has 130 teenagers' centres at the city level, 600 at the district level and 7,000 run

by the neighbourhoods. Beijing alone has 15 children's palaces, 40 children's homes, 1,112 children's centres operated by the various neighbourhood committees and five children's science and technology palaces. They provide the necessary facilities for 2 million youngsters engaged in extracurricular activities every year.

In the meantime, many after-school science study groups have been resumed and other new ones set up. Tianjin alone has 2,600 such groups. In many places these groups have developed and become young amateurs' associations in such disciplines as electronics, astronomy, earth sciences and biology. Tutors' associations also have been established at both the national and provincial levels to provide guidance for middle and primary school students.

Exhibitions and Competitions. At a 1979 national exhibition of teenagers' scientific and technical work, 2,700 items were



Students of the Zhixin Middle School of Guangzhou experimenting with a solar energy device. Over 90 per cent of the students in this school take part in extracurricular activities.

The author is Secretary of the Secretariat of the China Science and Technical Association.

displayed and 56 papers read, of which 1,100 items and 40 papers won prizes.

In 1982 Shanghai was the site of the nation's first competition for teenagers' inventions and scientific discussions. Altogether 222 inventions were entered and 71 papers were read; 290 little inventors — one-third of them primary school pupils, the youngest only seven years old — were given a free tour of Shanghai to demonstrate their achievements and participate in discussions and debates. It is planned to hold such activities every other year in the future.

These inventions were entirely the children's own work from the choice of subjects to their designs and construction. One was a raincoat with an inflated lower hem that would spread out to protect the legs from the rain. Another was a dripless candle. Some of the inventions indicated the children's consideration for their teachers, such as the blackboard eraser which, fixed with a vacuum device, was designed to save the teacher from inhaling the chalk dust, the rotating blackboard which makes it easy to hang a map on the board, and long rulers for drawing lines.

"We Love Science Month." In some provinces, cities or counties and schools, a particular month has been chosen every year for scientific symposiums, tours, field work, competitions and experiments. The "We Love Science Month," as it is called, has proved effective in arousing teenagers' enthusiasm for science.

In the 1981-82 school year in Tianjin, the "We Love Science Month" ended with 60 per cent of the students in the 4,000-odd middle and primary schools converted into devoted science

enthusiasts; in the city proper, the figure topped 80 per cent.

Summer Camps. Camping activities geared to the study of science and technology have become popular in the last few years. In the 1982 summer vacation, large numbers of middle and primary school students participated in camps sponsored by nine societies under the China Science and Technical Association, in which they learnt military affairs, telecommunications, forestry, radio engineering, earth sciences, biology, meteorology, solar energy and metallurgy. More than 7,000 teenagers took part in the activities designed to teach the earth sciences.

In 1977, none of the students who passed the college entrance examinations in Beijing opted for geology. But two years later, 800 of those who took the examinations made geology their first choice, because they had become interested in the earth sciences through camping and other activities sponsored by the Geologists' Society.

Benefits

As a component part of middle and primary school education, extracurricular activities can often accomplish what is impossible in classroom teaching. In the Nankai Middle School, for example, 400 students, or 30.7 per cent of the total, have joined 15 groups learning mathematics, physics, chemistry, solar energy and other subjects. Through these activities many students have become more flexible in their thinking and quicker to solve complex questions, and many have increased their ability to do practical work.

Children are characterized by their unfailing energy, strong desire for knowledge and readi-

ness for action. Everything — from butterflies and beetles to floating clouds and drifting snowflakes — arouses their curiosity. To teach them to observe the sprouting of seeds and the growing of tadpoles can help them consciously observe other things around them. Gathering specimens in the forests and on the seashore can become unforgettable experiences for the rest of their lives.

Mao Dengsheng, a pupil at the No. 3 Primary School of Daojiang in Hunan Province's Daoxian County, conducted an experiment to ascertain what gas is contained in bamboo stalks. His paper on this topic was awarded a first-class prize at the 1982 national symposium for teenagers held in Shanghai.

The No. 1 Experimental Primary School of Beijing has run a weather station for three decades, where pupils collect data three times a day, rain or shine. The station has accumulated a wealth of data and, more importantly, fostered a strict and meticulous work style and a sense of responsibility among the children.

A survey conducted by the Beijing Children's Palace shows that many of the former members of its scientific groups have become experts in socialist construction.

This explains why extracurricular activities among school children are gaining increasing attention and support from people of all walks of life. In 1982, a beautiful Beijing garden compound was converted into a children's centre. Its science hall features nearly 1,000 exhibits about optics, acoustics, dynamics, electricity, mathematics, physiology, etc., some of which can be operated by the children themselves.

At present the nation has 50 service centres supplying equipment and materials for teenager extracurricular activities and a dozen science journals for school children. These journals, apart from providing reference materials, also sponsor competitions by correspondence in an effort to promote scientific and technical activities among the young.

A Beijing science centre

by Our Correspondent Wu Naitao

AT four o'clock every afternoon, the Xicheng District Teenagers' Science Centre of Beijing becomes a scene of activity as hundreds of middle and primary school students, satchels slung over their shoulders, arrive to receive after-school training in science.

The Beginning

The centre was set up at the suggestion of Beijing University vice-president Shen Keqi and some other veteran scientists. From their teaching experiences they became aware that many students, though well-versed in theory, were poor in laboratory work. They suggested that something be done to solve this problem.

The education bureau of the Xicheng District set up this teenagers' science centre in January 1981, with a special fund contributed by the China Science and Technical Association. Since then the centre has been operating with appropriations from the association and the municipal bureau of education.

The science centre consists of four laboratories (one for physics, two for chemistry and one for electronics), a scales room and a general-purpose

A national leading group has been set up to co-ordinate and guide scientific activities among school children. The group is composed of leading members of the China Science and Technical Association, the Ministry of Education, the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission, the Communist Youth League Central Committee and the All-China Women's Federation.

classroom large enough for an audience of 200. These facilities have provided the necessary equipment for spare-time science instruction.

Most of the equipment was contributed by research institutes under the Chinese Academy of Sciences and some institutions of higher learning. A Type-21 computer presented by the Mathematics Institute of the Academy has added a touch of modernity to the centre. The benefactors regard their donations to this centre as investments in the intellectual development of the next generation.

Tutoring

Trainees, who come to the science centre once a week on

a regular basis, are divided into three classes according to their educational level (senior middle school, junior middle school and primary school). In 1982, the centre enrolled 300 middle school students and 90 primary school pupils from the Xicheng District.

Only those who meet the following requirements can be recommended for membership. First, they should be "three-good" students (socialist minded, good in health and excellent in study); second, they should have a good record in at least one particular subject; and third, they should be able to spare the time for extracurricular activities. The science centre provides tutelage, laboratory equipment and materials free of charge.

Laboratory work is geared to school curricula and arrangements are made for students whose schools do not have the necessary apparatuses.

The trainees are allowed to conduct their own experiments with the consent of the tutors, on condition that they fulfil the work prescribed in the science centre's training programme. This helps them develop their imagination and opens new horizons for them. It is not uncommon to see a trainee keep

Young trainees doing lab work under the supervision of Teacher Yu.



doggedly at an experiment, refusing to quit until satisfactory results are obtained.

Due consideration is given to the level of the trainees of different age groups, so that theory is emphasized for middle school students, while for primary school pupils teaching is geared to arousing their interest in study and enlarging the scope of their knowledge.

Through the solution-heating-filtering-crystallization process, for example, primary school trainees learn to differentiate the uses of various test tubes. The tutors also teach the kids how to make animal and flower patterns with wires and decorate them with crystallized chemicals to make them into beautiful art objects.

Popularizing Science

Apart from its regular training programmes, the science centre also offers programmes aimed at popularizing science among the teenagers, including inviting famous scientists and professors to give lectures and open short-term classes for young science enthusiasts. Other activities include forums, demonstrations, summer camps, film shows and competitions. In 1982, these activities attracted 20,000 young participants.

The science centre also makes full use of its tutors and equipment to promote extracurricular science activities in the various schools. In addition to inviting students to use its laboratories, it also sponsors systematic lectures on integrated circuits, TV sets, amplifiers and so forth for the students in various schools.

In 1982, the centre held a competition for primary school pupils on assembling tri-transistor radios and another on the assembling of power-driven au-

tomobile models. It also provides gratis equipment and materials to schools for particular projects. Those who excel in these projects are chosen to take part in the district-wide competitions held by the centre.

In the 1981 summer holiday, a visiting group of 200 children of minority nationalities from the border regions spent two exciting days at the centre, where they conducted experiments and assembled motor models and miniature electric fans.

* * *

The centre quickly found that its 400 square metres of floorspace were too cramped for the rapidly growing science activities among the students.

The story of a child inventor

by Our Correspondent Wu Naitao

FAN XIAOHUI, 11, a fourth-grade pupil from the Yumin Primary School of Beijing's Xicheng District, won a first-class prize at the first national competition of teenagers' scientific inventions in Shanghai in mid-August 1982. His two contraptions, which can quickly locate a planet in the universe by correctly gauging its right ascension and declination, attracted the attention of astronomers across the country.

The world today has only one meridian instrument, which is in the Greenwich Observatory. Made of special metals, it is known as the "most precise instrument in world astronomy." Scientists in ancient China invented similar devices, such as the armillary sphere and abridged armilla. Fan Xiaohui's contraptions use the same principles and serve the same purpose, but are much simpler in

It has recently obtained 4 million yuan in government appropriations to construct a new building. This will expand the laboratory floorspace to 3,000 square metres.

The Xicheng District Teenagers' Science Centre is now headed by Liu Deqian, a former middle school physics teacher who has more than three decades of teaching experience. He enjoys his work as an administrator-teacher combined into one, he said. But he also has his worries. "We need more teachers," he said, "particularly those who are good at both lecturing and teaching the students to do things themselves. One-fifth of the staff we now have fall short of these requirements."

structure and are made of bakelite board, photo-printing paper and ordinary lenses. They are small enough to be put in a box of two square feet. Their maximum error now stands at 1.

First Shimmerings

Fan Xiaohui got his first introduction to science from his parents. However, as engineers at the North China Power Designing Institute, they know almost nothing about astronomy. Besides, they are busy and must spend one-third of their time working away from home. But, whenever possible, they always take time out to give their child guidance.

When Fan was a child, he was fascinated by the Chinese legend his mother told him about Chang E flying to the moon. This aroused his curiosity about the universe.

In his second year in a primary school, he began to learn some knowledge of astronomy and joined his classmates in an astronomy group. The telescope brought before him an entirely new world and he began to pester his mother with questions which she found hard to answer.

His mother bought a picture story book, *The ABC of Astronomy*, which became the first reader in her son's quest for knowledge about astronomy. From that time forward, his parents brought him books whenever they returned home from business trips.

With the rudimental knowledge he had learnt, he ventured his way into experiments. The father, to whom his son's hobby is as important as his own work in the laboratory, became his assistant. One day he called, "Dad, will you help me try something out?"

It was dark in the room. The father switched on a flashlight to serve as the sun, while the boy, his hand holding high a ping-pong ball which represent-

ed the moon, turned round his body mimicking the way the earth revolves. The light on the ball waxed and waned, turning it now into a full moon and now into a crescent. The experiment was hardly over when the boy exclaimed: "Now I see! The moon never changes its size, but the angle of the sunlight changes constantly." His father added, "This also shows that the moon itself does not produce the light."

Later, Fan Xiaohui learnt that the location of a planet was marked by its right ascension and declination. "If only I could observe the planets with my own eye without relying on the books!" he mused. Once, studying a celestial globe, he suddenly realized that if he extended the longitude and latitude of the earth, they could serve as right ascension and declination of the universe. He made a design, and soon put together a simple model with wooden sticks.

Benefactors

Fan Xiaohui's parents were certainly not the only people who helped and influenced him. After the boy became a member of the youth inventors' club of the Yumin Primary School, for example, he benefited greatly from the careful tutoring of Chen Lianyu, the school teacher who founded the club. When the boy came up with the miniature instruments, Chen felt he was no longer knowledgeable enough to continue to tutor the youth and made Xiaohui and an equally accomplished classmate, Wang Tao, members of the astronomical group of the Xicheng District Teenagers' Science Centre.

This was the first time the group received members from a primary school; usually, the group was composed entirely of

senior middle school students. He Chenjun, deputy head of the centre and the tutor for astronomy, made the exception without hesitation.

Beginning in January 1982, He Chenjun spent every Saturday afternoon tutoring the two kids. He was so patient, never failing to field their questions, that the two pupils were often reluctant to leave him when night fell.

Partner

In all this process, Xiaohui worked closely with Wang Tao.

When the astronomy class was first opened to second-grade pupils, it became popular with every boy and girl in the class. In the years that followed, however, many pupils switched to other fields of interest. Only Xiaohui, Wang Tao and several others became devoted to astronomy.

Being members of the science centre brought the two boys closer. Xiaohui, a lovable kid full of action and imagination, is long on astronomy but short on handiwork; Wang Tao, quiet and thoughtful, knows less about astronomy but is more nimble-fingered. For Xiaohui, marking out the graduated discs for his instruments was a stupendous task which he failed after several attempts. But Wang Tao, after three hours of work, made a dial that was both attractive and precise.

After repeated revisions and experiments, they finally honed their inventions into reliable instruments.

At 8:15 p.m., March 24, 1982, Fan Xiaohui, using the two devices, discerned the location of the Castor in the zodiacal constellation Gemini: Declination $+32^\circ$. Consulting a Chinese encyclopaedia, he found he was correct. The boy jumped for joy. □

Fan Xiaohui engages in scientific study.



OPINION

Old concepts hinder women's real emancipation



CHINESE women have come a long way but they still don't own half the sky," says Lei Jieqiong, a famous sociologist, who at 78 is still one of China's leading activists in the cause of women.

Lei is borrowing from a metaphor used by Mao Zedong many years ago. Mao said women "hold up half the sky" to stress the importance of the women's movement in the Chinese revolution.

But Lei poses a series of questions to show that traditional concepts are holding back the emancipation of women:

- Why do people assume that the present increase in divorce is a tendency towards the bourgeois way of life?

- Why has free choice in marriage resulted in the extorting of betrothal gifts from families of bridegrooms, a disguised way of selling girls?

- Why do so many literary works advocate that women be satisfied as housewives, setting aside their own careers to fur-

ther those of their husbands?

The increasing rate of divorce is evidence that women are moving towards emancipation from feudal mental fetters. But, despite legal equality, social custom often does not allow women the same right as men to remarry.

While opposing conventional Chinese absolute loyalty to one's family, Lei says both spouses should have a strong loyalty to each other; chastity and loyalty should not be required only of the female.

Sex discrimination and female infanticide are only visible manifestations of the invisible patriarchal partiality that persists despite all the rules and laws written since liberation on political and economic equality, she says.

She notes that a survey show-

ed that 60 per cent of the Sichuan women reported to have been sold or abducted into Anhui Province had actually run away, seeking a better social (not economic) life or the right to marry freely.

Lei also cites some of the gains women have made: There are now 5.35 million women cadres, 13 times as many as in 1951, and 39.35 million urban working women, 60 times more than in 1951.

On the other hand, while women make up 31.6 per cent of scientists and technicians, only 2 per cent have senior ranking. And of the nation's 235.8 million illiterates, 70 per cent are women.

She wants more research done on women's problems. She regrets that the study of sociology, cancelled in 1951 in China, has been restored now only in Nankai University (Tianjin), Zhongshan University (Guangzhou), Beijing University, and a branch of Shanghai's Fudan University.

— *China Daily*

LIFE

The ideal partner — student survey

AN investigation by sampling of over 10 institutions of higher learning in Beijing reveals wide differences in the university students' outlook of love. This poses a problem which demands attention and correct guidance from both school authorities and parents.

The survey shows that 79.5 per cent of the female students would like partners who are also college students while only 28 per cent of the male students would like their partners to be college students. The main problem is the image of a devoted wife and good mother.

Most of the male students demand that their female partners be at least devoted wives and mothers, while girl students demand equality between men and women in professional achievements. The contradiction between success in one's work and the ideal of a devoted wife and mother is keenly felt by 76.5 per cent of the female students, only 21 per cent of whom feel that it cannot be surmounted.

By the time she enters college a female student has fought to create and cultivate the virtues society demands of her, and in the process she has gradually lost the traditional feminine virtues of gentleness and devotion. The female students seek marriages based on love and a rich and refined spiritual life. Meanwhile, however, they have not broken away from the traditional dependence upon the male and they generally demand that the male excel them in every respect. Consequently they feel that there are too few worthy men to choose from.

To the old cliché that "a female without ability is virtuous," 86 per cent of the female students are opposed while 50 per cent of the male students are in favour.

— "Shehui Xue Tongxun"
(Correspondence of
Sociology)

Ten wishes

ZONG DESHENG, an office worker of the Fengxin County (Jiangxi Province) Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, wrote to the bureau of correspondence of the CPC Central Committee general office, expressing the 10 wishes of the peasants of the county.

They want to buy high quality heavy-duty bicycles. The county now has 11,700 bicycles, one for every four families. But the peasants are urgently asking for more.

They want to buy small agricultural machines. Last year individuals or several families collectively bought 459 machines.

They want books on agricultural science written by scientific and technological workers or specialists.

They want to buy fertilizer and insecticides.

They want to buy processing facilities for agricultural products and sideline occupations.

They want better products distribution in the villages, so that the peasants can sell their sideline products more easily.

They want a richer and varied cultural life. They now have

2,700 TV sets, but some peasants say that black and white TV sets are not good enough; they now want colour ones. The county's 15 communes all have cinemas seating 1,000 persons each. They hope the writers will write more about rural life.

They want to buy high-quality ready-made clothes. They hope that more stylish clothes will be made for the peasants.

They want good-quality sweets and pastries.

They want to travel, to see more of the world, and the beautiful scenery of their motherland. A group of peasants who had never been to the county seat went last year to Nanchang, Yichun, Jiujiang and Lushan.

— "Wen Hui Bao" (A
Literary Gazette)

NEWS

China's first environmental protection law

IN December 1975, Chinese archaeologists excavated in Yunmeng County, Hubei Province, 12 ancient tombs from the Warring States (475-221 B.C.) and Qin Dynasty (221-206 B.C.) period. In Grave No. 11 many bamboo inscriptions of the Qin Dynasty were unearthed, some of which contained details of the land laws with the following provisions:

From early spring no one shall enter the mountains to fell trees; no one shall dam the forest streams; no one shall enter the mountains to cut wood or burn grass until summer;

catching younger animals, young birds or taking their nests is prohibited; killing tigers and turtle by poisoning is not allowed; no one shall set up nets or snares for catching birds or animals.

The above prohibitions will not be lifted until late summer.

As a complete law of environmental protection, the land law laid down in the Qin Dynasty 2,000 years ago was the earliest. This is indeed a rare document.

— "Kexue Huabao"
(Science Pictorial)

LITERATURE

Creating images of the new era

China's young writers are putting all their effort into exploring the spirit of the new era's strong trail-blazers.

Following the downfall of the gang of four several years ago, many have tried to expose the evils of this counter-revolutionary clique by writing about their personal sufferings and the troubles of the nation during the time they were in power. These works have been received enthusiastically by a people just emerging from 10 years of turmoil.

Far from being content to portray only the negative past, however, these young writers also seek to show the vitality of youth and the ray of hope which has always been with them despite their trials.

Many of the excellent novelettes and short stories which

received awards from the Chinese Writers' Association in 1982 have successfully created artistic images with these unique characteristics.

This Is a Miraculous Piece of Land, a short story by Liang Xiaosheng, 34, tells the story of some educated youths who are sent to northeastern China to open up new farmland. Without downplaying the deep wounds the ultra-Left ideology of the gang of four has inflicted on these youngsters, Liang shows them as heroic and determined. Their struggle against the merciless natural surroundings and harsh social conditions is bound to deeply move Liang's readers, especially when three of the four main characters give their lives finally to open up the land. They die proudly, as they have learnt the beauty of life and the spirit of self-sacrifice.

The Wreaths at the Foot of the Mountain, a novelette by army writer Li Cunbao, has been acclaimed throughout the country. It is the story of Zhao Mengsheng, a young frontier troop officer, and his struggle

to conquer the darker side of his nature.

At the first sign of battle, Zhao intends to desert his company. However, like an unpolished piece of jade, he finally arrives at the shining nature of his true spirit, and becomes a heroic fighter.

"The character is successfully portrayed under striking contradictions," commented one critic. "It is as vivid as a living person of flesh and blood. It shows the author's profound understanding of the contemporary young heroes."

Other writers have also tried to describe the youth of China from broader angles.

Young author Kong Jiasheng, who has established himself as a literary talent in the past few years, depicts a woman in his new story, *A Common Woman Worker*. An unhappy love affair leaves her with an illegitimate child, and she is the object of scorn in her factory. She sets the education of her child and the improvement of her work as the two pillars of



Left: Li Cunbao (left) and Jiang Zilong, writers of two popular novelettes.
Right: Zhang Guangnian (left), Vice-President of the Chinese Writers' Association, Presents awards to young authors.

her life, and struggles on. In the end, her contribution is finally recognized. Her dreary life takes on new meaning when she is cited as a model worker at her factory, and is promoted to a group leader.

Lu Yao's fiction, *Life*, portrays Gao Jialin, an educated youth from the countryside who is reaching a crossroad in his life. He finds his home village poor and backward, and wants to leave. He abandons the pretty, simple country girl whom he loves in order to seek his own fortune. Although he is critical of rural cadres who abuse their power, he finds himself doing exactly the same thing when the chance falls to him.

Lu's readers are pleased to learn, however, that Gao Jialin finally realizes the historical mission of contemporary rural youths. The author uses this in-depth study of the life of young people in the countryside to express the strong desire of the Chinese to transform the underdeveloped rural areas.

These young authors use common people living in the real world to reflect their ideas, rejecting the old images of giant, ideal, perfect heroes. Their characters bear the scars of the tumultuous past, but are industrious, just, and enterprising.

With varied backgrounds and styles, these authors probe the rich spiritual world of contemporary people. They apply artistic means to create images of complex characters and psychology. Although some critics point out that this new approach will contribute greatly to the deeper exploration of the social contradictions inherent in life, others have taken a more negative view.

In *All Colours of the Rainbow*, Jiang Zilong depicts a group of young people of the

new period. He concentrates on Liu Sijia, a complicated young driver full of contradictions. In daring to challenge the factory's unreasonable administrative systems, Liu uses the ineffective weapons of cynicism and irony. He is clever and capable, but too proud of himself. Though he strives for high ideals, his proud nature often leads him to disappointment.

Although these many contradictions make Liu difficult to understand, they are reflections of the changes of real life in his heart. The opposing factors are natural and realistic.

While it is still too early to properly evaluate the achievements of these young writers, they have been imbued with high expectations. By rooting themselves in real life, they are expected to create more vivid images.

Veteran writer Zhang Guangnian said of them, "They have transformed their unique impressions, deep feelings and clear thoughts into profound and moving images."

FILM

'Story of Wushu Players'

Story of "Wushu" Players, a new colour wushu (traditional Chinese boxing and sword play) film produced by the Beijing Film Studio, is attracting big audiences with its complicated plot and superb fighting.

Wushu is a traditional sport with several hundred years of history. It encompasses two disciplines: one is characterized by energy and vigour, such as *shaolinquan*; the other by its slow and gentle movements, like *tai-*

jiquan. Chinese people enjoy it as exercise for health as well as self-defence.

The hero of the film is skilled in *baguazhang*, which belongs to the latter discipline. Its movements are supple but energetic. This kind of boxing requires a unique training regimen, including piling up three or four standing bricks in a circle then walking on them quickly, and shuttling among a dozen poles placed half a metre apart.

Story of "Wushu" Players is about two *wushu* families in the 20s. Despite their hard life under the semi-feudal and semi-colonial rule, they manage to defeat a Russian man of unusual strength who has insulted the Chinese people.

The film begins with the hero, Dong Fangxu, wandering through Tianjin, trying to scratch a living by performing in the streets. But his performance is interrupted by He Dahai, the head of the Shenzhou *Wushu* School. Dahai engages him in a fight, and Dong pretends to be defeated. All this is seen by Li the Magical Hands, who watches from the sidelines. Later, when Dong injures his right arm in refusing to be the bodyguard of a rich man, his actions win respect from Dahai.

Li the Magical Hands is a famous master of *baguazhang* in Cangzhou city, Hebei Province. He asks Dong's family to lodge with him and teaches Dong *baguazhang* while telling him to be an honest man.

A Russian hercules arrives in Tianjin. He is insulting, and claims he has not been impressed during his 46-country competition tour. Dahai defeats his assistant but is wounded on his way home by a thug. Dong calls on Dahai in the hospital, where Dahai asks him to take his post as head of the school.



Left: Unwilling to be the bodyguard of a rich man, Dong Fangxu injures his own arm. He meets Li, a "baguazhang" boxing master, at a fair.

Right: Dong Fangxu overcomes a Russian man of unusual strength through the use of "baguazhang."



The Russian challenges Dong several times, and finally Dong agrees to sign a life-or-death contract with him. Dong eventually overcomes the Russian with his *baguazhang*, but the Russian's patron tries to murder him. Dahai intervenes, and is killed. Dong runs away with the help of a just police officer.

So these two *wushu* performers, who won honour for the Chinese people in the contest ring, come to tragic ends: one is dead and the other must flee.

The main roles in the film are all played by *wushu* performers. Li Junfeng, who plays Dong Fangxu in the film, is a member of the All-China *Wushu* Association and coach of the Beijing *Wushu* Team. In the film he created the character of an honest *wushu* performer, portraying his firm and reserved personality very well.

Li Deyu, cast as He Dahai, is a sports teacher at the Shenyang Building Materials Technical School and a council member of the Shenyang *Wushu* Association. He is expert in *tongbiquan* and *tanglangquan* and has won several medals in national competitions. He successfully portrays He's forthright and chivalrous characteristics.

The middle-aged screenwriter and director Zhang Huaxun was a graduate of the Beijing Cinema College. Together with

another director, Xie Hong, he traversed half of China and saw more than 40 *wushu* performers in 15 months and consulted a great number of books and other historical material about *wushu* exercises. The shooting took only nine months.

Zhang Huaxun stressed how important it is to understand the difference between *wushu* films and the *gongfu* films produced in Xianggang (Hongkong). *Wushu* is one of China's traditional disciplines and has many schools. It is used in films to illustrate various aspects of the characters and give a deeper meaning to the plot. *Gongfu* films, on the other hand, generally manipulate the plot only to showcase the fighting scenes.

Peasants welcome science films

Films, photos and slide shows that popularize science are circulating throughout the countryside. In 1982 alone, more than 100 popular science and educational films were shown in the rural areas, attracting a total of 4,100 million viewers.

With the implementation of rural production responsibility system in recent years, many peasant households have begun to specialize in producing particular crops or goods. This has

created a growing demand for information about scientific farming. Multimedia presentations have proved to be better teachers than lectures alone.

A training course on raising rabbits, sponsored last year by Hengshan County in Shaanxi Province, used two popular science films offered by the county film distribution company. After watching the two films repeatedly, the peasant-students became well acquainted with rabbit-raising techniques. As a result, the number of rabbits in the county in 1982 increased 4 times over 1981.

An important factor in the growth of farm production last year in rice-rich Sichuan Province was the province-wide showing of popular science films such as *Raising Rice Seedlings Without Soil*, *Hybrid Rice Bear Rich Fruits*, *Trace Element and Application of Fertilizers to the Surface of Leaves*.

In the last quarter of 1982, the Chaoyang Prefecture of Liaoning Province widely publicized the importance of personal hygiene and environmental sanitation by showing popular science films. It showed 51 films including *Prevention of Infantile Paralysis*, *Prevention of Hepatitis*, *Feeding Infants* and *Rural Drinking Water Hygiene*. Its 20,000 film showings were seen by a total audience of 9 million.

Sketches by Gu Shengyue

A pastoral area
used by Tibetan
nationals in southern
Gansu Province



The 56-year-old artist, a native of Putuo in coastal Zhejiang Province, now heads the traditional Chinese painting department in Zhejiang Academy of Fine Arts.



English Language Service

RADIO BEIJING

BROADCAST TIMES & FREQUENCIES

(Beginning April 25, 1983)

	GMT	Local Standard Time	Metre Bands	kHz
NORTH AMERICA (EAST COAST)	00:00-01:00	19:00-20:00 (E.S.T.)	19, 16	15120, 17855
	01:00-02:00	20:00-21:00 (E.S.T.)	19, 16	15120, 17855
	02:00-03:00	21:00-22:00 (E.S.T.)	19	15120
	12:00-13:00	07:00-08:00 (E.S.T.)	19	15520, 15180
NORTH AMERICA (WEST COAST)	03:00-04:00	19:00-20:00 (P.S.T.)	19, 16	15120, 17680, 17855
	04:00-05:00	20:00-21:00 (P.S.T.)	19, 16	15120, 17680
THE SOUTH PACIFIC	08:30-09:30	18:30-19:30 (Aust. E.S.T.)	30, 25, 19	9860, 11600, 15195, 15435
	09:30-10:30	20:30-21:30 (N.Z.S.T.)	30, 25, 19	9860, 11600, 15195, 15435
		19:30-20:30 (Aust. E.S.T.)		
SOUTHEAST ASIA	12:00-13:00	21:30-22:30 (N.Z.S.T.)	25, 19, 16	11600, 15280, 17700
		19:00-20:00 (Western Indonesia, Bangkok)		
		19:30-20:30 (Singapore)		
	13:00-14:00	20:00-21:00 (Ho Chi Minh City, Manila)	25, 19, 16	11600, 15280, 17700
		18:30-19:30 (Rangoon)		
		20:00-21:00 (Western Indonesia, Bangkok)		
14:00-15:00	20:30-21:30 (Singapore)	25, 16	11600, 17700	
	21:00-22:00 (Ho Chi Minh City, Manila)			
	19:30-20:30 (Rangoon)			
SOUTH ASIA	14:00-15:00	19:30-20:30 (Delhi, Colombo)	25, 16	11600, 17700
		19:00-20:00 (Rawalpindi)		
		20:00-21:00 (Dacca)		
	15:00-16:00	19:40-20:40 (Kathmandu)	25, 16	11600, 17700
		20:30-21:30 (Delhi, Colombo)		
EAST AND SOUTH AFRICA	16:00-17:00	20:00-21:00 (Rawalpindi)	19, 16	15165, 17700
		21:00-22:00 (Dacca)		
	17:00-18:00	20:40-21:40 (Kathmandu)	19, 16	15165, 17700
		18:00-19:00 (Cape Town, Salisbury)		
WEST AND NORTH AFRICA	19:30-20:30	19:00-20:00 (Dar-es-Salaam)	31, 26, 25	9440, 11515, 11905
		19:00-20:00 (Cape Town, Salisbury)		
		20:00-21:00 (Dar-es-Salaam)		
	20:30-21:30	18:45-19:45 (Monrovia)	31, 26, 25	9440, 11515, 11905
		19:30-20:30 (Accra, Freetown)		
		20:30-21:30 (Accra, Freetown)		
EUROPE	19:00-20:00	20:30-21:30 (Lagos)	30, 26	9860, 11500
		21:30-22:30 (Cairo)		
	21:00-22:00	22:00-23:00 (London, Stockholm, Paris)	30, 26	9860, 11500