

China

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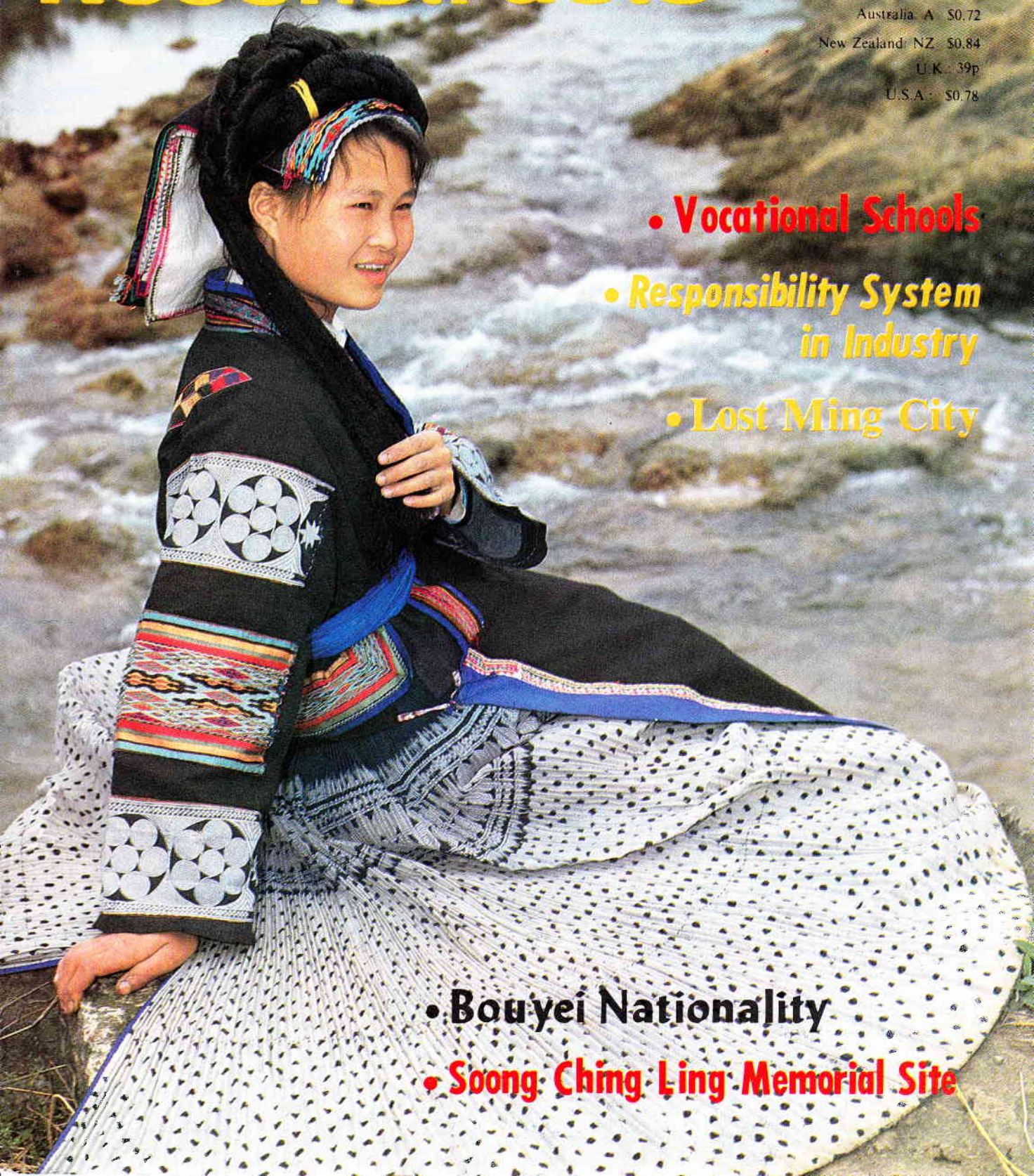
• Vocational Schools

• Responsibility System
in Industry

• Lost Ming City

• Bouyei Nationality

• Soong Ching Ling Memorial Site





Children play on the lawn of Soong Ching Ling's former Beijing residence, now dedicated as a national memorial site. *Zhou Youma*

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Front Cover:

Bouyei girl in batik clothing she made herself,
Zhou Youma

Articles of the Month

Vocational Schooling p. 7

New emphasis on vocational secondary schools. Strengthening this branch of education to meet the needs of China's developing economy is a major current task.



Responsibility System in Industry p. 19

How the new economic policies have significantly benefited individual, collective and state interests in Shanghai and how they are being refined and adjusted.



Soong Ching Ling's Home Open to Public p. 31

Her former residence in Beijing, preserved as it was, now also houses an exhibition chronicling her life and achievements. Photo highlights from it.

Lost City p. 56

Zhongdu in Anhui province was never completed, never lived in, and now lies in ruins, but it served as the prototype for the magnificent Ming dynasty capital which formed the basis of today's Beijing.



Bouyei Nationality p. 48

A journalist of Bouyei nationality reports on economic progress in his home region (a mountainous area in southwest China) and the famed Bouyei batik-dyed fabrics.

China's Open Door to the World

THERE has been much talk of late about how China has opened her door to the world. At times, too, worries crop up abroad that she might close it.

In fact, the policy of growing international exchanges on the basis of equality and mutual benefit is an established one and not subject to change. Our new Draft Constitution, now being discussed nationwide, specifies in its preamble that China "develops diplomatic, economic and cultural relations with foreign countries" and in Article 12 that: "The People's Republic of China permits foreign enterprises, other foreign economic organizations or foreign individuals to invest in China or to undertake various forms of economic cooperation with Chinese enterprises or other Chinese economic organizations; all such investments or joint undertakings in China must accord with provisions of the laws of the People's Republic of China." In practice, the last few years have seen great expansion in contacts—in trade, technical and economic cooperation, opportunities for investment including special zones set up for the purpose, and the academic and cultural fields.

Does this mean that China's door is open indiscriminately and to everything? No, like every independent nation she exercises the right to limit imports that may impair her own economy; and she excludes those harmful to public health and morals (drugs, pornography and the like) or to her socialist system. This should worry no one. The list of what China requires for modernization will take a long time to fill; what she buys from abroad in imports is limited not by her needs but by what she can sell there as exports—in other words, by how widely other countries open *their* doors. So far as international credit is concerned, she is happy to use it but not to go deeply into debt which would benefit no one.

In short, China is the hospitable but prudent master of her own house—in sharp contrast to her plight for more than a century before the liberation of 1949, when she was nothing of the kind.

A GAINST this historical background it is inaccurate to make parallels, as some people do, between China's present openness to the world and what was rosily called "the opening of China to trade" after the 1840s, in the colonial encroachments that began with the Opium War. Nor is there similarity with the "open door policy" of the 1900s, which was simply an arrangement between the encroaching foreign powers not to exclude each other's trade from their

respective spheres of control. These things had nothing to do with China's opening her own door. They were more like breaking and entering. They involved assault and battery against China.

It may be recalled, too, that for nearly three decades after 1949, trade with China, especially in the goods she most needed to modernize, was shut off from the outside—at first by one, then by both of the superpowers. China's stress on self-reliance at that time was right, and the successes that resulted were basic and memorable (she turned into a country with a many-sided industry instead of a dependent one, and became not only a producer but an exporter of some of the embargoed goods—including oil). However, it is true too that some people in China began to regard the isolation then enforced on her as something good in itself, which was wrong.

TODAY China's advance and new place in the world has largely put an end to the embargoes which sought to destabilize her. And internally autarchic ideas have been discarded. Self-reliance remains basic, but equal mutual exchange is sought. That China can now embark on this course is precisely a measure of the independence and equality of status she has achieved. So is the fact that when unfavorable practices and influences seep in, she imposes checks.

China opens and will continue to open her door to those who come in peace, with respect for their host, and with something of common benefit to offer. To anyone who tries to smuggle in the unwanted or unneeded, or to tell her what to do in her own land, or remake her in their own image, she may present a colder face.

This should be easy to understand. Every householder does it in his own home. □





Promoting Peaceful Relations

Your February 1982 issue was interesting and informative. Our main purpose is to promote peace in the relations between countries, especially neighboring countries. We hold China in great respect and feel it is a bastion of balanced relations in international affairs. So, on a smaller scale, your article "Solving Neighborhood Disputes" was very interesting.

S. ZEENAT SHAHNAZ
Islamabad, Pakistan

Education and Modernization

As I go over your magazine I am impressed by the development you have achieved as a people since the dawn of another revolution in your country — the industrial revolution. You preserve your ancient culture and blend it with modern trends, assuring your people of their past.

How about educational aspects of your development?

YOLANDA JAVIER
Manila, Philippines

See "Educational Reform: More Vocational Schools" in this issue.

— Ed.

The 'Elastic' River

Your March 1982 issue indicates that the Huanghe (Yellow) River is 5,464 kilometers long, but your February 1981 issue says it is 5,400 kilometers. The No. 48, 1981 issue of *Beijing Review* described it as 4,845 kilometers.

One French book says 4,845 kilometers, another 4,370 kilometers. Nagel's guidebook *China* has it as more than 5,000 kilometers.

Is it possible to let me know the accurate length?

MAURICE LEBRET
Paris, France

According to the latest surveys, the accurate figure is 5,464.

— Ed.

Great Improvement

Your publication pleases me and, after years of reading it, I notice high improvement. Your English version, grammatically, is 99.99% faultless. A reader feels he is really within the boundaries of your nation sharing the lives of average, and sometimes well-known, Chinese people.

HELEN M. MULLER
Lausanne, Switzerland

More on Iron and Steel

I am a first-class machinist in the iron ore industry at Goldsworthy in the Pilbara region of Western Australia, and for a number of years have read *China Reconstructs*.

Where I work there are a number of people of Chinese descent who came here from Christmas Island in the Indian Ocean. When I finish reading CR, I pass it on to them.

Could you write more on China's iron and steel industry?

DENIS DAY
Goldsworthy, Australia

Communication

I was happy to know from your magazine (December 1981) that China has mail and telecommunication to all parts of the world except some few countries, and that there is now a 480-channel submarine cable connecting China and Japan.

I sincerely hope China will have such close communication with my country, Ghana, in years to come.

ABUDULAI ABU MUSHAH
Wa, Ghana

April Issue the Best

I am convinced that CR is improving with each successive issue and April 1982 was the best yet. The color photographs, the diversity of topics and the graphic aids (e.g., maps which show the detailed features of an area and insets which pinpoint the location within China) all contribute to the stimulation and edification of the reader. Articles I especially enjoyed were "Understanding about Pigs" and "Probing the Mystery Lake: Lop Nur."

DAVID R. OLSON
San Francisco, U.S.A.

Link to the Motherland

I am a student in a Melbourne university and read *China Reconstructs* in the university's library. I find it most informative and unbiased.

Like many Chinese born overseas, I really miss our mother country. We want to find out more about her and happenings there.

RICHARD NG
Bundoora, Australia

Please — More Depth, Human Interest

The article "Probing the Mystery Lake: Lop Nur" (April 1982) was excellent! A modern mystery story about a very interesting area. The best I've read in two years of subscribing! Marco Polo interviews also very good — good human angle.

Your articles on minority nationalities are always interesting but could be better if they stressed the unique features of that culture, and gave deeper interviews with people. How does it feel to move centuries in a few years? What are their feelings, besides their obvious material progress? Marriage and courting customs are one of the biggest changes. A mother-daughter conversation on old ways/new ways might be a good angle.

"Understanding about Pigs" was very human, and told much more than about pigs.

Industry . . . production . . . these stereotypical articles seem shallow and boring. Keep stressing your uniqueness, your humanness, the depth of your changing society.

J. R. LANE
Hawaii, U.S.A.

Wiping Out Leprosy

About five or six years ago I wrote to *China Reconstructs* asking for information about leprosy in China and approaches to solving this problem.

I'm very pleased that in the June issue Dr. Ma Haide fulfilled my wish, and am really astonished to know that China is making such progress.

I'm an old doctor with personal experience in public health and I know how difficult this is, particularly in tropical countries and in the face of the peculiar attitudes of people about Hansen's disease. My deep admiration to all Chinese health workers and to Dr. Ma Haide.

GIAN LUIGI GUERRINI
Genoa, Italy

From Down Under

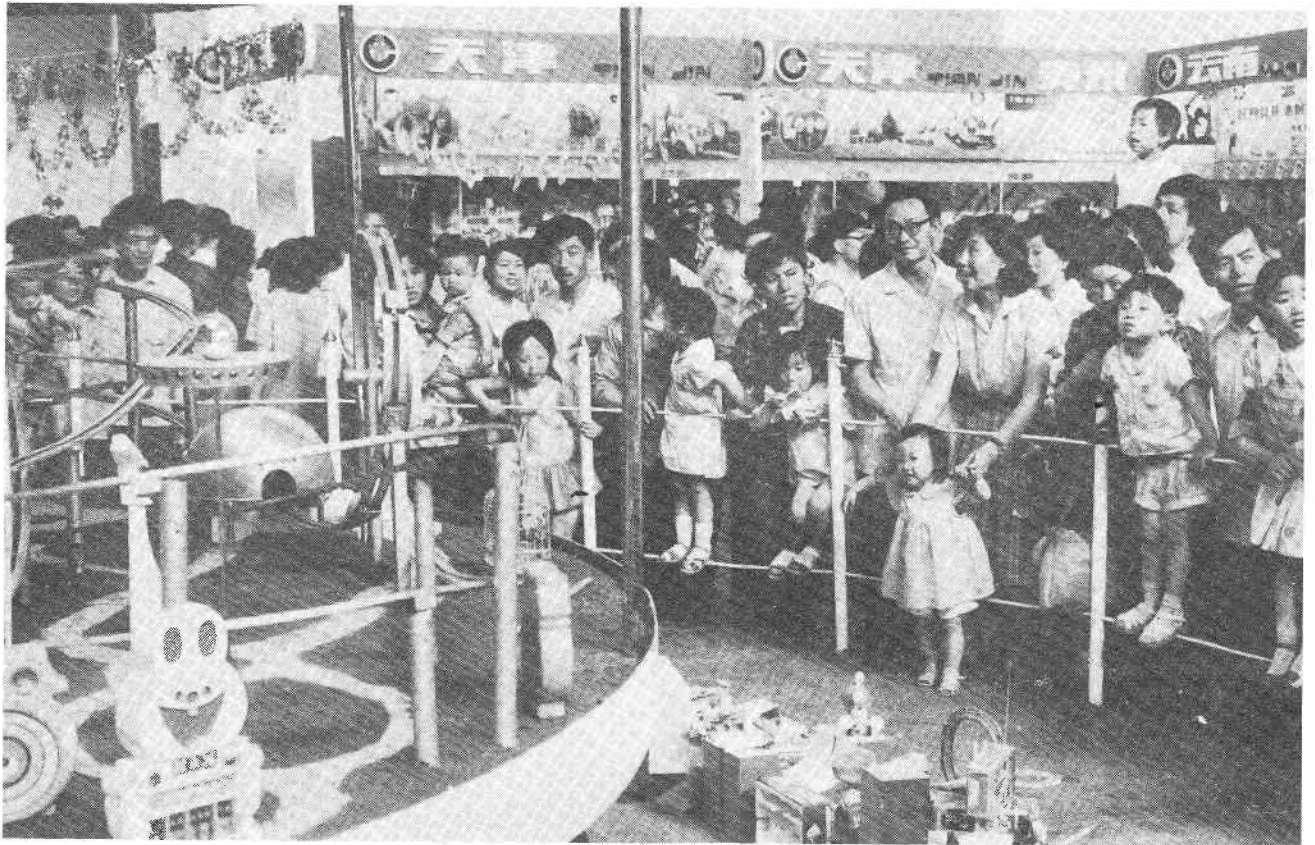
I have just received my first two copies of CR and am delighted. Away down here in the South Pacific, there is so little contact with your great country, that this introduction will give my family a first-hand look at the China we have been waiting for since the end of World War II.

GEOFFREY T.P. SOUTHALL
Kawrrau, New Zealand

Debate

I disagree with the comments raised by T.W. Chang (Postbag, May 1982). It is refreshing to read English translations of Chinese nomenclature. Translations such as "Garden of Harmonious Old Age," "Avenue of Everlasting Peace," "Square of Heavenly Peace," "Palace of Accumulated Elegance," etc., evoke a sense of serene calmness and poetic thought.

SIMON DAVIES
London, England



Visitors to the exhibition of commodities for children.

What's New for the Kids?

WEN WEN

A marked effort to produce more things especially for children has been made in the past two years, during which China's whole economy has laid greater stress on light industry and consumer goods. Provincial and municipal authorities are setting up more factories making children's clothing, toys and special foods. Even with the birthrate declining through family planning, there is a vast market; China has 300 million citizens below the age of 15. Moreover, when a young couple can have only one child—as is the national population plan for the immediate future—they want to see that it grows up strong and healthy. They

WEN WEN is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.

also want—and indeed with only one extra mouth to feed, have the means for—something more than the basic necessities. The fruits of this effort for children, brought together at a national exhibition in Beijing in June, reflect these changes.

Baby Foods

In the 1950s the only supplemental foods for babies, along with powdered soybean milk and lotus root, were a couple of starchy powders to be cooked into a paste. Today, in addition to powdered milk—now being made in many parts of China—in a random sampling of products I found small cans of calcium-fortified

meat paste, of applesauce sweetened with honey, and of the high vitamin C content "monkey" peach (*Actinidia chinensis*) whose sweet-tart taste lends itself well to juice, jams and powdered flavoring for drinks (it is available in all these forms*). I doubt that canned baby foods will ever become the main form of baby feeding in China, but these are good to know about for emergencies or when the market, which is seasonal, does not provide much to feed a small child.

Mid-Morning Snacks

Surveys have found that a large number of Chinese children go to

*An article on this fruit appeared in the February 1978 issue of China Reconstructs.

school without an adequate breakfast. To offset this, eight primary schools in the cities of Shanghai and Wuhan are experimentally feeding their pupils a mid-morning snack. Each gets a sealed plastic bag with 50 grams of protein and vitamin-fortified cookies, buns or egg rolls. It has been found that pupils taking these are in better health and more attentive for the rest of the morning.

Numerous kinds of cookies are being made in many cities containing calcium, phosphorus, protein, vitamins, amino acids and other nutritional supplements in varying amounts. Kindergartens which provide a mid-morning and afternoon snack will be among their biggest users. The seven prize-winners at the exhibition included "eyesight protection" cookies. Attention to child nutrition is still not far advanced, but clearly there is consciousness of the need and work being done on it. In a country like China with its impoverished feudal background, this in itself is a big step forward.

Other products include a dark-brown vegetable extract which can be spread on bread or dissolved in hot water like beef tea, containing protein, iron, calcium and so on. This is due to be widely promoted throughout the country. For mothers who have just given birth, turtle soup, traditionally considered a very good food for this time, is now conveniently available in tins.

For ailing children, new products include calcium-iron cookies, canned liver-spinach paste, and a toffee containing iron, and candy like cough drops (considered an improvement on the medicinal throat tablets formerly available) containing two Chinese medicinal herbs soothing to the throat.

Toys and Play Equipment

It's hard to believe when you look back at it, but during the gang of four days many toy factories went out of business or changed to other products. Providing toys for children was attacked as making them into "little lords of the bourgeoisie," and only a few kinds of mechanical toys made for export were available.

Now the toy designers are back at work and toys are being made again. They include the traditional types, many of brightly-painted clay. Of these, I liked best the well-known ones from Huishan near Wuxi in Jiangsu province. Placed on a level surface, their heads jiggle at the slightest vibration, but more playable are the large blow-up animals and figures fashioned of plastic sheeting, which are inexpensive and easy to keep clean. Among these are large figures of spacemen and of Atomo, a superboy-type character in a Japanese television serial that has been very popular in China.

There are large baby dolls of molded plastic, an improvement on



Electronic organ for kindergarten singing.



A small battery-powered motorbike was a great delight at the exhibition.



More nutrition-enriched foods are being produced.

Large-size equipment for kindergartens and amusement parks is a relatively new thing.

the sawdust-filled ones of the past, and a whole series of "very special" dolls beautifully dressed in the authentic costumes of China's many nationalities. A peg hammer-bench and some small wooden toys are being made with non-poisonous paint by factories in Shanghai and other places.

There is a particularly Chinese version of the Rubik cube entitled "Capture and Release Cao Cao" (the latter is a much-maligned statesman of the third century A.D. Three Kingdoms period), a twelve-block puzzle that can be made into over a thousand patterns, and an inexpensive bag of notched flat plastic pieces with which the child can build a great many models of buildings and vehicles furnished him and an infinite number more that he can make up.

Play equipment for kindergartens was prominent at the exhibition. It included huge blocks for collective building efforts, "jungle gym" climbing equipment, a swing set and a large wading pool with a slide, all more or less new for China. There was also equipment for children's amusement parks, of which there will be more in China's future, including merry-go-rounds, an automatic-stop airplane-go-round, Ferris wheels, and a lifelike bouncing horse.

Toy designers are trying to incorporate modern technology in their products. There are pandas that blow soap bubbles, toy electric stoves with lights under the burners, mechanical hens that lay eggs, pigeons that fly 12 meters and a gun that shoots a beam of light at a target, which reacts when accurately hit. A number of toys are remote-controlled by light, sound, electronics or magnetism. One is a radio-controlled "UFO." Another version of the bouncing horse responds to the rider's voice, starting when he says "Go!" and stopping at the appropriate command. But after seeing the exhibition, some people felt that greater effort should be put into designing inexpensive toys and educational ones which teach the child to do things himself. □

Do You Know?

Common Courtesies in China

Forms of Address: In mainland China, calling someone "master," "madam," "miss" or "young master" (as was common in the old society) is obsolete. The friendly address "comrade" (*tongzhi*) for men or women has replaced the older forms. Young people express respect and affection for older people (even non-relatives) by addressing them as "auntie," "uncle," "granny," and so on. Older people may call unmarried young men or women the equivalent of "young fellow" and "girl."

First names are not freely used except among family members (and here they are always among people of the same generation or from an older to a younger person) or very close friends. Friends or colleagues often use "Young ..." or "Old ..." (*Xiao ...* or *Lao ...*) before the surname, depending on the age of the person addressed.

As in many other languages, there are formal and familiar pronouns. *Ni* and *nin* both mean "you," but the latter is the more formal and polite. However, the rules about usage are not as strict as in some languages, and a fairly new acquaintance will not be offended if you address him as *ni*.

Gestures: In the old China, the kowtow (kneeling and touching one's head to the floor) and deep bows with hands clasped palms together at the breast were common. Today they are unknown. Shaking hands is the common gesture of greeting or farewell, sometimes accompanied by a slight bow.

Kissing in public is considered bad taste, even casual "cheek" kisses between husband and wife, though it is more common now to see couples walking arm in arm or holding hands.

As in many other countries, giving up one's seat on a bus or place in line to an old or disabled person or a pregnant woman is considered minimal good behavior; allowing other people in general to go through a door first or take the

only seat is also traditional. On this point manners deteriorated somewhat during the "cultural revolution," but are now improving.

In the new China, giving service people a tip is considered insulting; saying "thank you" is enough.

Verbal Formulas: The most common form of greeting, used at any time of day, is *Ni hao!*—meaning more or less "You're well?" It doesn't require a literal answer, nor do such other traditional greetings as ("Have you eaten?") or "Where have you been?" The Chinese word *wei* (usually translated "hello") is only used in answering a telephone.

"Please," "May I trouble you to ..." or "May I ask ..." are used in asking questions or favors. Expressions of gratitude include "thanks," "thanks very much" and "sorry to have put you to such trouble"; the proper replies are "it doesn't matter" or "it's nothing."

It's considered impolite to mention certain subjects directly, rather one alludes to them indirectly (for instance, someone's death is referred to as "passing on" or "passing away.") In talking to Chinese, the foreigner need not worry too much about taboo topics, since the Chinese understand that customs are different.

Hospitality: The rules for entertaining guests were once very formal and elaborate, and involved different sorts of behavior depending on the relative ranks of guest and host. There is less formality now, but still great emphasis on courtesy and consideration. Even an uninvited guest is quickly welcomed, and served tea or other refreshments. Other occasions call for a full meal, with the best food the host can afford (it's also good form for the host to say how poor the meal and the accommodations are). A departing guest is escorted not just to the door but down to the street or to the front gate. □

Educational Reform: More Vocational Schools

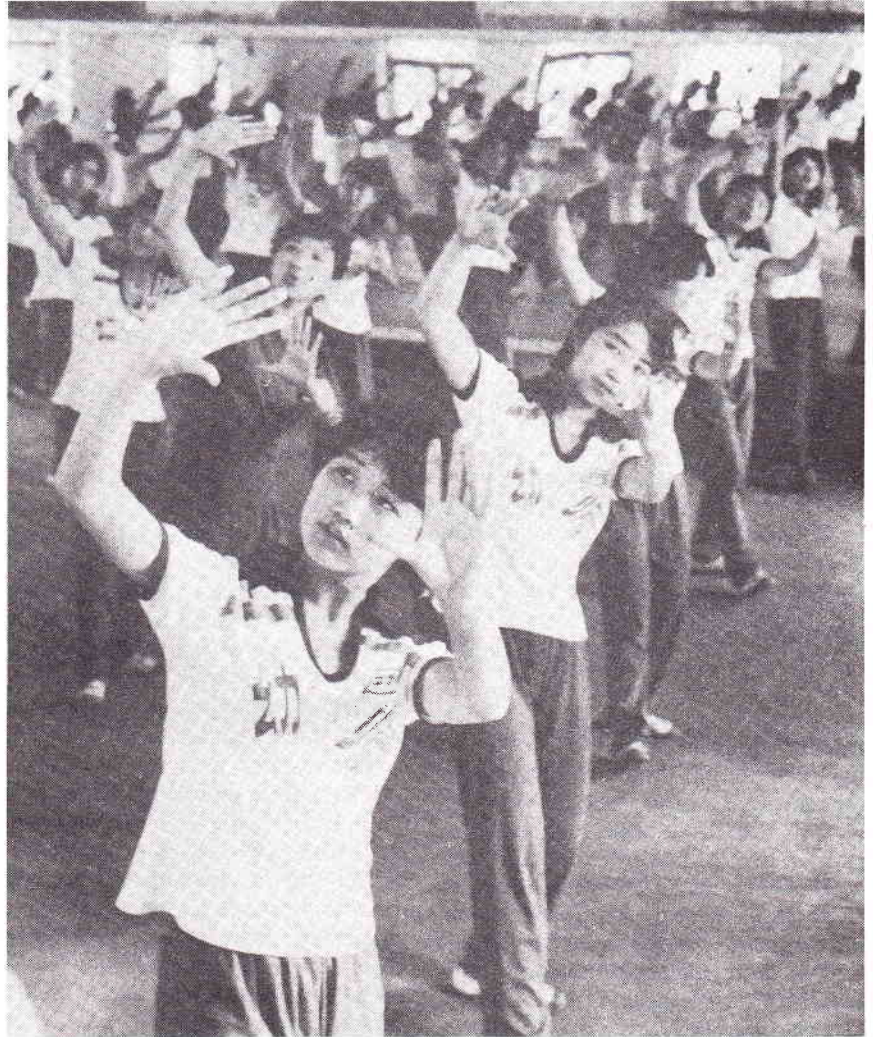
WANG YONGYAO

WITH increasing modernization, China needs more than ever before not only top-flight scientists and managers but also large numbers of skilled people at all levels. A nationwide emphasis over the past several years on secondary-level vocational schools is part of an overall restructuring of the educational system — made necessary not only by the damage wrought by the “cultural revolution,” but also by the country’s social and economic needs now and for some time to come.

New Skills for a New Era

All over China, many regular senior middle schools have either converted to vocational schools or added vocational courses. New technical schools have been started by local labor assignment bureaus and by factories, communes and other enterprises. In rural areas many schools conduct a variety of courses in agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry and fishery (see “A Brigade’s Fishery School,” March 1982 *China Reconstructs*). This helps to satisfy the peasants’ eager desire for more scientific knowledge. Popular everywhere are courses geared to fields where there are shortages of personnel — tailoring, electrical and mechanical work, commerce, printing, and arts and crafts.

Some places have made particularly rapid progress. In Jinzhou, Liaoning province, only about 7 percent of senior middle school students were enrolled in vocational courses in 1978; today the proportion is 43 percent. After a two-year trial period, the proportion in Qingdao, Shandong province, has risen above 30 percent. In Beijing 70 of the city’s 712 senior



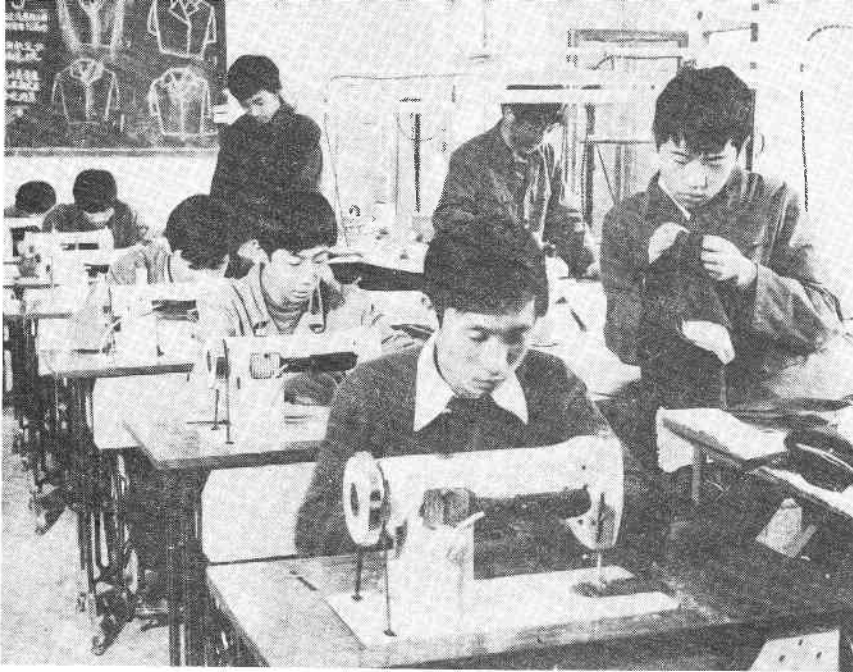
These future kindergarten teachers will soon be teaching such dances to their young charges.

middle schools have started vocational programs since 1980, and 5,900 students will enter such programs this year — a 40 percent increase over last year.

One such program is run jointly by the Xinjiekou Middle School and Beijing’s Travel Service Bureau. Its graduates will work in tourism, where there is a serious lack of trained people. This summer 240 graduates of the two-year

course held a special demonstration. Young cooks prepared dishes and arranged plates of hors d’oeuvres that were as good to look at as to eat. Future clerks and bookkeepers showed off their skills with the abacus, while other young people made beds, arranged hotel rooms and greeted “foreign guests” in English. The manager of the Great Wall Hotel announced on the spot that he had jobs for the cooks.

WANG YONGYAO is a staff reporter for *China Reconstructs*.



A tailoring class at Beijing's Middle School No. 132.

Photos by Xie Jun

The need for educational reform, particularly at the secondary level, is well illustrated by the history of Beijing's No. 136 Senior Middle School in the southern part of the city. Started as a junior middle school in 1963, it was one of the better ones in the city, with well-equipped laboratories and music facilities. Seventy percent of the 68 teachers were college graduates.

Setbacks and Recovery

But in 1966 it got caught up in the turmoil of the "cultural revolution." For three years classes were suspended and students went out to "rebel." By 1969 students were being enrolled again, but they spent much time in factories or farmwork, and the academic side was seriously neglected. Then, in 1974, city authorities announced a policy of sending all students to senior middle school. Yet junior middle school education in the city, and even primary education in the suburbs, was not universal. Instead of a gradual strengthening at all levels, young people of the appropriate age were all enrolled in senior middle schools without regard to their academic background.

So this junior middle school was turned into a senior middle school. The academic level was low; even many who actually had finished junior middle school had had their

education disrupted again and again in the preceding turmoil and were only up to the level of primary school children. In a class of 40 students, only four or five sometimes understood the course. Some couldn't write out a simple application or solve a simple equation. Most could not recognize chemical symbols. Even with special help, young people could not make up all their lost time in a few short years of senior middle school.

With the downfall of the gang of four in 1976, many irrational policies were reversed, and in 1977 the school again instituted entrance exams. Still, learning levels were so diverse that "slow" and "fast" classes were started, and even the more advanced students needed remedial help. By the end of 1978 things were better, and 35 of the school's 95 graduates passed the college entrance exam.

The following year a new policy allowed city students to choose their own middle school (before that time, schools drew from their own neighborhoods). Many of the brightest transferred to better schools, and the number going on to college from No. 136 dropped to five in 1979 and none in 1980-81. The remaining students began to feel they had no hope of entering college and that what they were learning had little to do with any

jobs they might be assigned. Many stopped making any efforts and waited idly and impatiently for graduation.

The school's staff realized they would have to change its orientations, and with support from the Ministry of Education they organized two vocational classes, in radio/TV assembly and maintenance, in addition to regular school subjects. Teachers worked enthusiastically, convinced that they were contributing to national economic development. The students' morale soared as they began to see a purpose in their studies. Better marks were achieved in Chinese language and math classes as well as the technical courses.

With variations, many middle schools have had the same experiences as Beijing's No. 136. Vocational programs around the country have gained strong support from teachers, students and parents. Experts in various fields, realizing the importance of the programs, have volunteered to teach special courses.

Vocational and Higher Education

In the old China, only a tiny proportion of the people received any education, and that was scholastic rather than practical. Some progressive educators founded vocational schools in the late 19th century and the first half of the 20th, but made little headway because of the country's social and economic backwardness. After liberation education became a national priority, with particular emphasis on vocational and technical subjects. By 1965 there were 61,000 secondary vocational schools with 4,430,000 students and 1,265 secondary technical schools with 540,000 students.

The "cultural revolution" seriously damaged all types of education. Colleges and universities were closed for several years, and even when reopened did not operate at full capacity. The number of college students dropped from 670,000 in 1965 to 48,000 in 1970 and 560,000 in 1976.

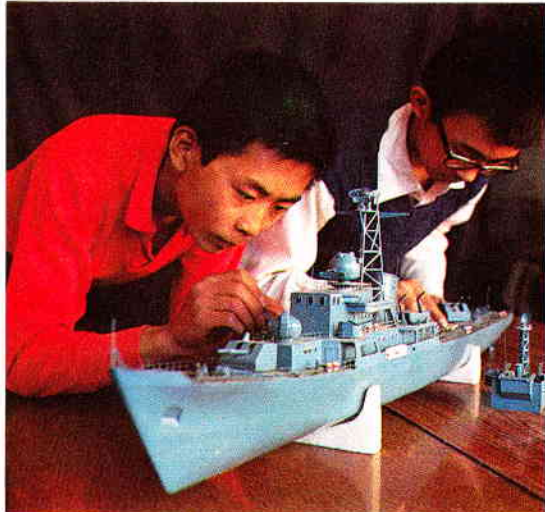
The gang of four shut down vocational schools. Their conversion of all secondary schools to senior



English class at Beijing's No. 4 Middle School.

Fun — and educational too.

Members of the model airplane group at Beijing's No. 4 Middle School.





As part of sports and physical training programs, middle school students regularly visit public swimming pools.



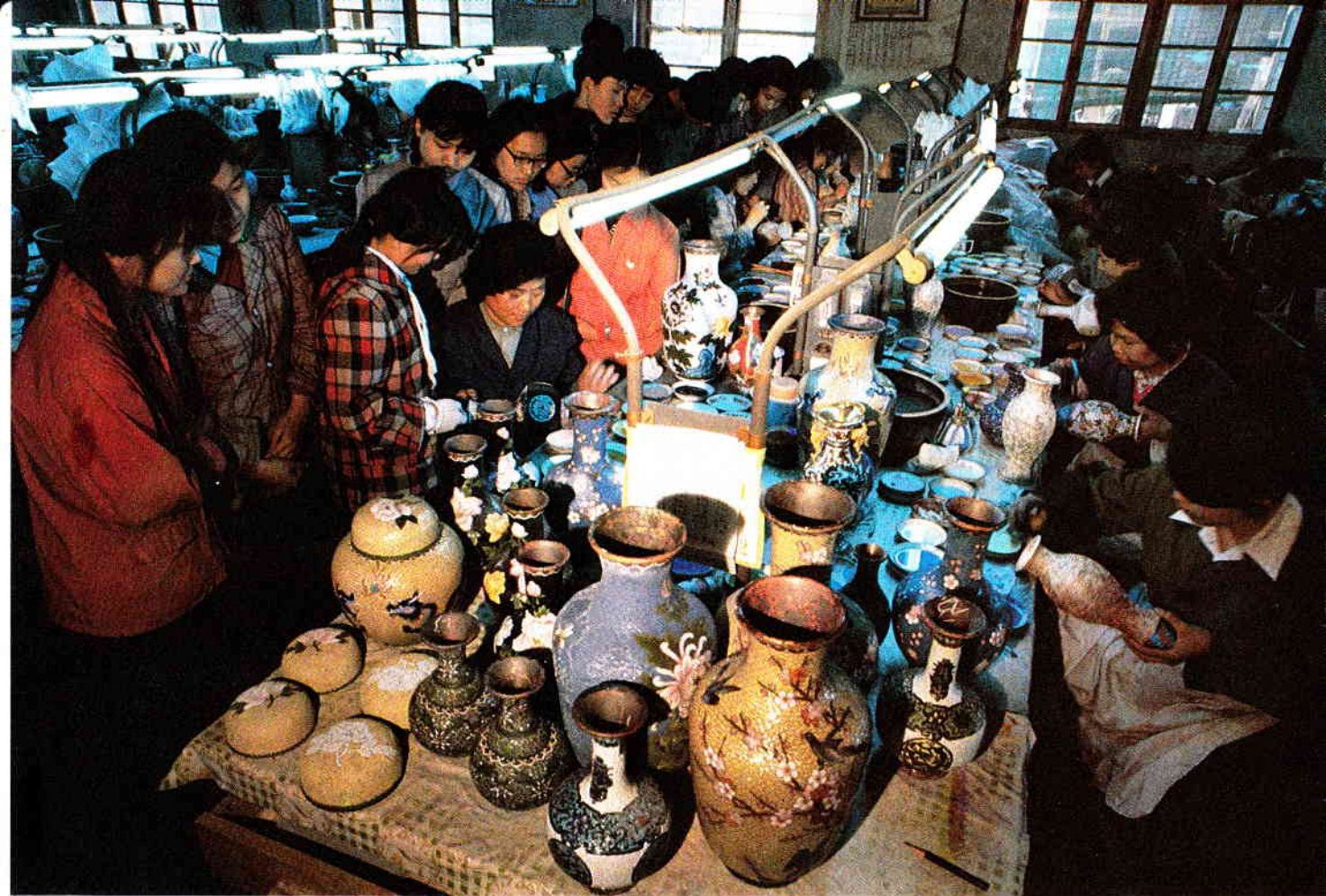
Vocational school arts and crafts students take their sketchbooks to a park.



Tailoring and sewing skills are in great demand.

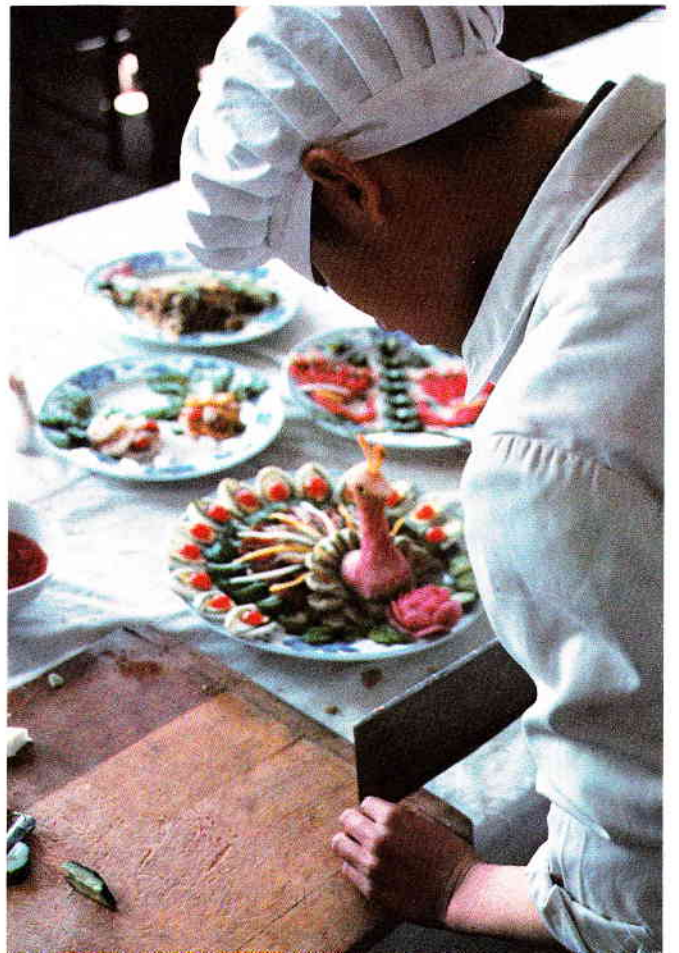
Design class for students specializing in lacquerware at the Beijing Arts and Crafts Vocational School.





Young people studying cloisonné enamel work visit a traditional crafts factory.

Student cooks at Xinjiekou Tourism Vocational School.



Sampling their own cooking.

Photos by Xie Jun



level created a serious shortage of teachers for the higher classes, and junior middle school teachers, even primary school teachers, were used to fill the gaps. Thus the whole structure was weakened and the quality of instruction deteriorated.

The task of reform after the ten years of turmoil involved more than just increasing the number of schools and classrooms, improving quality and eliminating irrationalities. Education is intimately connected with the level of economic development and employment. Planning has had to take into account both the difficulties caused by mistakes of the past and the demands of today's modernization drive. Inherited economic backwardness, large increases in population and damage to the educational system itself have created a great need for educated people, but these same conditions also make it more difficult to allocate sufficient funds for education. Restructuring to promote vocational education is an important part of the comprehensive effort to solve the problem of "job-waiting" youth.

In the past five years the number of colleges and universities in China has increased from 392 to 704. In 1980 280,000 students were admitted by colleges, 75 percent more than 1965, but the number of middle school graduates grew to over 6 million in 1980, 16 times the number in 1965. Only a small proportion can follow what people call "the narrow path" to college admission. Many, afraid that they will have to wait some time for employment, take the narrow path even though their chances are not very good — thus increasing the already fierce competition for college places.

Vocational education opens up a much broader road for these young people and at the same time provides the trained personnel demanded by a growing economy. Not long ago a Beijing middle school started a course for training kindergarten teachers. Even before graduation, 50 of the 72 girls in the first class have been offered positions. □

Crochet-Craft in Hai'an County

GAO YUAN

EVERYWHERE one turns in Hai'an county there are people of all ages engaged in traditional crochet work, their hooks speeding through intricate stitches almost faster than the eye can follow. So many of the county's people practice this handicraft that young children (mostly girls, but boys as well) pick it up almost without effort by watching their elders.

Hai'an, in Jiangsu province on China's east coast, has been famous for the delicacy, fine materials and bright colors of its crocheted clothing since the Tang dynasty (A.D. 618-907). Records show that at an even earlier period, women of the area used crocheted hairnets.

Today crocheting is an important sideline industry among many of the county's commune members — one that requires no special machinery or workshop. People can do it anywhere with two hands, a hook and some yarn. Of the estimated 160,000 women in the county who crochet, 50,000 do it professionally. Even more people do it for extra earnings during slack farming seasons. At Yankou commune, workers in six small factories —

formerly often idle for lack of raw materials or equipment — have greatly improved their income by crocheting in the off times. A skilled craftswoman can earn 3-400 yuan annually.

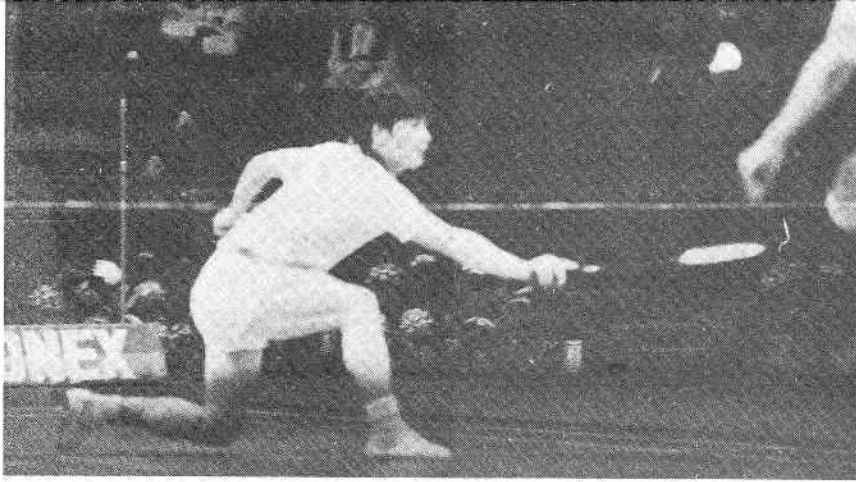
THE county's Arts and Handicrafts Company has preserved old styles and introduced many new ones — sweaters and blouses, jackets, pants, caps, socks, gloves and handbags. Cotton blouses crocheted from high-quality mercerized yarn are soft and colorfast. Silk in beautiful colors is used for light summer articles. Heavier items in wool and artificial fibers have become more popular over the past several years. Some elaborate patterns have a beautiful sculptured effect.

Not long ago a Japanese visitor challenged the company's staff to a test of skill. With their permission, he dropped a blob of ink on a white crocheted blouse. Several women set to work, cutting off the stained places and replacing them with duplicate stitches. In ten minutes no one could distinguish the repaired spot from the rest of the blouse. □

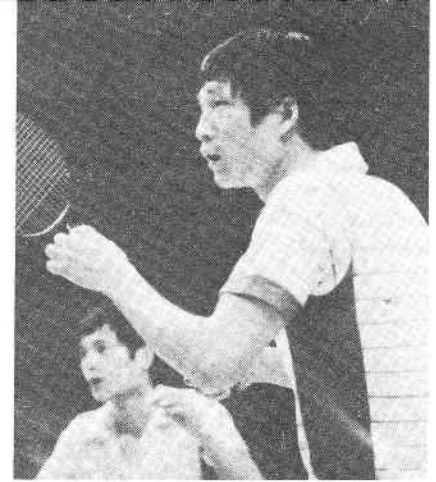
In Hai'an county whole families practice the art of crocheting.

Photos by Yang Yiqiu





In the match with Liem Swie King, Han Jian returns one of Liem's steep-angle shots.



Luan Jin in action.

Badminton World Champions

RAO FENGQI

LAST May in London, China captured the world title at the Thomas Cup Men's International Badminton Tournament. The finals saw China battling it out with Indonesia, winner of seven out of the last eight Thomas Cups.

Of the epic encounter between these two top teams, the English team captain remarked: "There hasn't been such exciting, high-level play at the tournament in 40 years. Nobody can remember a team going on to win four matches in succession after trailing 3-1." Though this is China's first participation in the tournament since she was admitted to the International Badminton Federation last year, many who follow the sport had picked her team as a strong contender for the title.

In preparing for the matches, both teams studied one another's style of play and worked to develop countermeasures. Rudy Hartono, winner of a record eight All-England singles titles, rejoined Indonesia's team, and Liem Swie King and Christian Hadinata (both undefeated in last year's Thomas Cup games) were paired as a doubles team. Many practice sessions were devoted to ways of dealing with China's "floating" service.

China's team is young, but has a reputation for quick and flexible

play. Knowing they would be up against veterans, the players worked on improving their speed and accuracy and honed their tactical skills.

Coming from Behind

In the first four matches, the veterans looked well on their way to nailing down another world championship. They had won one singles and two doubles matches, while China had only a lone singles victory. Back in their living quarters, Chinese players summed up the situation and the coming games. The situation was critical, but there were five matches to go. One player said, "In yesterday's contests we were very defensive and tried hard to control our opponents; we didn't really exercise all our skills. It's time we took the initiative." By the time they'd finished talking, the team was in better spirits.

On the second day of the final a capacity crowd watched China's 23-year-old Luan Jin go up against Indonesian star Rudy Hartono. Luan's record did not begin to match Hartono's, though he had won the national Boys' Singles Championship in 1974 and the English Masters in 1981. The Chinese team has become known for its speed, vigor, accuracy and flexibility, and Luan's playing typifies that style. His quick,

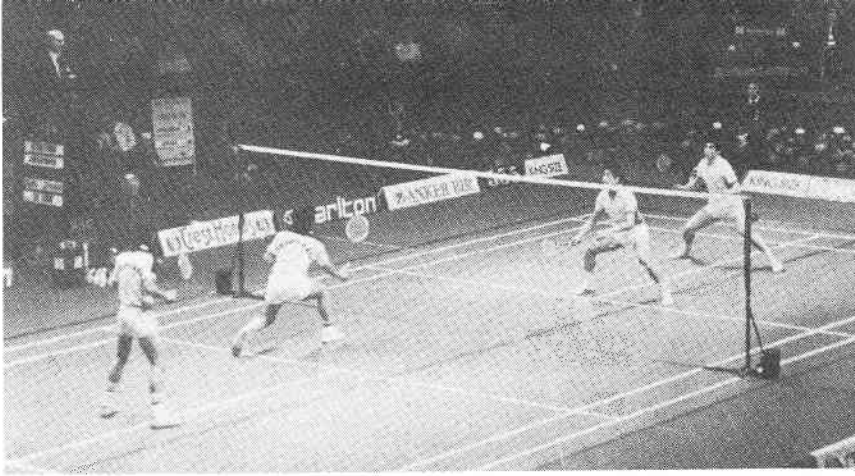
smashing service is beautiful to watch. He had prepared himself mentally to take on Hartono: "No matter how strong or famous you are, I'm going to fight every inch of the way." In the first two games of the match, Luan's lightning serves and crosscourt smashes held Hartono to a tie score. Then the younger player changed his tactics, searching out his opponent's weak points and keeping him on the run. The final score: 2-1 in Luan's favor.

'Sticky Candy' Defense

Luan Jin's victory raised the morale of the Chinese team. But how would 26-year-old Han Jian make out against Liem Swie King, sometimes known as the "king of badminton"? Han is only 1.7 meters tall and has always felt that his size and strength prevent him from using the powerful attack style of most Chinese players. Instead, with his coach's encouragement, he has developed a defense-oriented style which depends on returning every shot and tricky placement of the shuttlecock. Some Chinese have had their doubts about this style. But Han's quick thinking, flexible footwork and great endurance have made him a formidable opponent — like sticky candy, some have said, he just won't let go.

Over the past year Han had repeatedly watched videotapes of the

RAO FENGQI, a staff writer for China Reconstructs, specializes in sports.



Sun and Yao (right) against Kartono and Heryanto in a doubles match.

Indonesians in action, including Liem Swie King, and this study paid off. One of Liem's most effective tactics is a straight downward smash cunningly placed out of an opponent's reach. During the match, the crowd cheered again and again as Han's speed enabled him to scoop up these shots just before they reached the ground and lob them back over the net.

Han reasoned that Liem's record and reputation might actually work in his opponent's favor. If Liem found himself hard-pressed, the thought of losing to a newcomer might make him nervous. Han also had a weakness of his own to overcome—a tendency to be off his form in the first few minutes of a game. In this match, however, he got into his stride immediately and never let down. Liem couldn't break through the younger player's firm defense. He found himself chasing all over the court to return Han's well-placed shots, and soon began to tire. Later

he recalled thinking that the Chinese players were no longer afraid of him. Han won the match 3-0; the teams were tied, with three matches apiece.

China's winning streak continued. In the final singles match of the tournament, 23-year-old Chen Changjie defeated Luis Pongoh. Teamed in a doubles match, Sun Zhi'an and Yao Ximing took two games out of three from Kartono and Rudy Heryanto. Indonesia came back to win one more doubles match, but by that time China's lead was secure. By five matches to four the younger, less experienced team had captured the Thomas Cup.

Indonesian team captain Eddy Yusuf was generous in praise of the Chinese players: "We are disappointed, but we lost to a better team."

Coaching for Victory

The closely fought matches caused great excitement among the

spectators. Chief coach Wang Wenjiao, outwardly cool and collected on the players' bench, might have been watching a practice session. He had supervised the long weeks of training before the tournament, and with assistant coach Hou Jiachang had worked out a lineup which they thought might beat the Indonesian team. Though between matches he issues commands like a general, he also knows that at this stage it is really up to the players.

Nearly 50, Coach Wang is cheerful and jocular, though strict on the training field. Ironically enough, he was born in Djakarta, Indonesia, of overseas Chinese parents. His father is still a respected industrialist there, and from the age of 18 he himself represented Indonesia in international play. He won several important victories in the Thomas Cup, and could have built a solid career in his country of birth. Instead, he came in 1954 to help in building the new China.

Wanting to make a contribution to the motherland's sports efforts, Wang helped form the country's first badminton team. Through the 1950s he and other Chinese players made a good showing in international tournaments. In 1960 he became a coach and turned his attention to training the younger generation. He worked toward the day when China's name would be inscribed on the Thomas Cup.

For Coach Wang, for the team and for Chinese fans everywhere, that day came last May. □

World champs—Wang Wenjiao receives the Thomas Cup on behalf of the team.



Between matches, Assistant Coach Hou Jiachang offers some tactical advice.

Photos by Xinhua





**Minister
of Water
and Power**

**Veteran of
Many
Battles**

DENG SHULIN

At the Grand Canal in northern Jiangsu province in 1946 when she was 23.

LIKE the Huanghe (Yellow) River, the Huaihe River in Anhui province was an ancient menace in old China. In 1943, during the war of resistance against Japan, it devastated many areas along its banks. In 1944, a division of the Communist-led New Fourth Army, stationed along its north bank, and the Liberated Area Administration there decided to repair the neglected dikes by mobilizing the people. Qian Zhengying, then a 21-year-old woman, a civil engineering student who had gone to the Anhui liberated area from Shanghai, was asked to supervise. Conditions did not favor success. The south bank was occupied by Japanese invaders whose gunboats patrolled the river. To the west were Kuomintang troops. The New Fourth Army had to safeguard the work by day, and to maneuver at night to evade surprise attack. Yet, the project was completed before the flood season.

Thirty-seven years later in 1982, the same woman Qian Zhengying, as Minister of Water Conservancy and Power of the People's Republic of China, led work on and announced the successful closure of

the giant Gezhouba Dam on the Changjiang (Yangtze) River.

At Gezhouba Dam Site

The Changjiang is the longest river in China and the third longest in the world. The Gezhouba Dam, China's biggest multi-purpose water conservancy project so far, is situated at Yichang on its middle reaches. Here two islets — Gezhouba and Xiba — divide the river into the main channel and two subsidiary ones. The latter are very shallow; water flows through them only in the flood season.

As planned, the huge dam was to be completed in the winter and spring of 1980-81, after the first stage of the whole project — a power station, two shiplocks and a 27-gate spillway — had been built. To stem and redirect the river was truly difficult. And it would be a disaster if any one of the first stage projects failed to work well even with a dam. The State Council finally decided that all these items should be commissioned, and the dam finished before the 1981 flood season.

At the head of an array of technical experts, Minister Qian Zhengying did on-the-spot surveys and scientific studies and spent days

and nights to plan the damming of the turbulent river. She went with several deputy ministers to the sites, heard reports from the construction headquarters, observed the water level and estimated the weather changes that might take place at the close of 1980. In a report to the State Council, she said, "I will take the responsibility for the failures, but not the credit if it succeeds." Later she and Xie Beiyi, deputy director of the State Construction Commission wrote another confident report. They suggested that the State Council delegate its power of deciding when the building should start to the construction headquarters at the worksite.

The headquarters gave the go-ahead at 7:30 a.m., on January 3, 1981. The site became a beehive of activity. Hundreds of trucks carrying stones shuttled back and forth. Three or four truckloads were dumped into the river each second. When the converging dam extended 100 meters on each side, it was found that the intervening No. 2 channel had not been dug deep enough for the rushing current. To dredge it quickly was the key to success. Qian Zhengying rushed over to inspect the site with the

DENG SHULIN is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.

deputy ministers and chief engineers. They concluded that the channel could be deepened in time. At 10 that night a heated discussion took place in the headquarters as to whether all efforts should be made at once to close the gap, or work should suspend while another dam was reinforced. Summing up the views of experts and workers, Qian decided on filling the gap. By January 4, at 7:53 p.m., the job was done. For the first time, the water of the Changjiang flowed east through a giant spillway.

News reporters who came to the scene as Qian Zhengying declared the success noticed tears in her eyes. When asked the reason, she said the victory reminded her of the late Premier Zhou Enlai and the late Zhang Tixue (former governor of Hubei province and leader of the Gezhouba dam project). How sad that they could not see the triumph with their own eyes.

Joining the Revolution

Qian Zhengying is always in high spirits. When speaking, she is clear cut and likes to make her points with jokes that draw hearty laughs. Always plainly dressed she has no official airs. A stranger would never guess her rank.

She was born in a scholar family in Zhejiang province. Her father, with a master's degree from Cor-

nell University in the U.S.A., became a noted civil engineer, and expected her to follow suit. "I chose to become a revolutionary," she remarks, "something my parents never expected."

It was at college that she came into contact with forward-looking ideas. After the war against Japan started, she began to read progressive books and take part in politically-active groups' activities in their spirit. She joined the Chinese Communist Party in September 1941. Soon the Pacific war broke out and the Japanese occupied Shanghai's former "international settlement" where she had been studying. The Party decided to send her and four other members to the liberated area in northern Anhui province. She and Huang Xinbai, a young man, posed as cousins to divert attention while they passed through the enemy lines. In the winter of 1942 they took a train and finally reached the headquarters of the Fourth Division of the New Fourth Army in the liberated area. Years later, after the liberation, they were married.

Soon after the young people arrived the Japanese invaders began a 33-day mopping-up operation. During the days Qian followed the New Fourth Army into battle. At night she marched with them over muddy ridges between paddy fields

with a grain sack and blanket roll on her back. For a time she taught in a liberated area middle school. When the repair of the Huaihe dikes began, she finally began to function as an engineer as her father had wished.

In 1947, after the victory over Japan and at the height of the new civil war, the Kuomintang closed the breach of the Huanghe at Huayuankou where ten years earlier Chiang Kai-shek had ordered the dikes to be dynamited to obstruct the Japanese advance. (In fact the desperate action had not



At the Gezhouba dam site in 1981.

stopped them but brought huge losses to the people.) The 1947 closing pushed the Huanghe back toward its old course which had been dry for a decade. A new disaster — flood — threatened the Shandong liberated area, as Chiang Kai-shek, then engaged in civil war against it, no doubt intended. Qian Zhengying, who was engaged in building railways and bridges for the field army led by Commander Chen Yi advancing on the Shandong front, was transferred to flood control work.

In early 1948, the lower Huanghe in Shandong province was still frozen while its upper waters had already melted. The ice in the Shandong stretch piled up into a wall; the only hope for avoiding a flood was to dynamite it immediately. But this was not easy, especially with local technical conditions at the time. Qian Zhengying, then vice-director of Huang-

The late Premier Zhou Enlai chats with Qian Zhengying while taking part in physical labor at the Ming Tombs Reservoir in 1958.





With her husband Huang Xinbai at home.

Zhang Jingde



Qian Zhengying swimming.

Zhang Jingde

he Administration of the Shandong Liberated Area, decided that holes should be dug in the ice and the explosives put into them. Not until the fuses were ignited did she leave the spot. The measure succeeded.

In the following spring it was decided to strengthen the dikes. But there was a shortage of stones. Qian and her colleagues rallied the local people to find as many as possible. Peasant women even brought in stones they had used to close chicken coops at night. In September 1949 the river rose. Thanks to the consolidation of the previous year, the dikes held. Thus Shandong province greeted the founding of the new China with a celebration of its success in preventing a flood.

"Young Girl" Minister

By early 1950 Qian Zhengying had already been in revolutionary work for nine years. She was still only 27. Some veterans called her "that slip of a girl". Even so she was appointed vice-director of the water conservancy department under the East China Military and Political Commission and charged with leading the work of bringing the Huaihe River under control. With comparatively modern technology and equipment now available, it was the first major water conservancy project after the founding of the new China.

In 1952, Qian Zhengying, at 29, was appointed a Vice-Minister of Water Conservancy. Since then she has served successively as Minister of Water Conservancy and Minister of Water Conservancy and Power. Over the past 30 years she has participated in planning some major water and power pro-

jects and in solving many knotty technical problems on the sites. In August 1959, Beijing had extra-heavy rains. The Miyun reservoir, then the city's largest, had not been completed, and it was feared that the earth dam might collapse. If it had, a vast stretch of land around Beijing would have been inundated. The late Premier Zhou Enlai, attending an important meeting outside the city, telephoned often each day to inquire into the situation. After close on-the-spot study, Qian Zhengying and the engineers decided to build a new spillway. This saved the day.

Far to the west, in Gansu province, the Liujiaxia hydropower station is a giant installation on the upper reaches of the Huanghe River. At the last stage of its construction in 1968, the sluice gate of a diversion tunnel could not be lifted or lowered because it was out of alignment. The tunnel below the gate grew larger and larger as water rushed out. It was the time of the gang of four. Qian, who had been called by them a "capitalist roader", was not building dams but sweeping office floors. When Premier Zhou heard this, he gave orders to restore her to her proper work. Soon she and Du Xingyuan, then a Vice-Minister and now Secretary-General of the State Council, were sent to deal with the crisis at Liujiaxia. A "dam" was built in the tunnel with 2,000 cubic meters of concrete blocks, after which it was closed by directional blasting.

Despite her minister's rank, Qian makes a point of going to listen to the opinions not only of engineers and technicians but ordinary workers. They, in turn, un-

hesitatingly give her their views and suggestions. Some young workers speak of her fondly as "Mother-in-Law Qian". When the Gezhouba dam project was in progress, four times she spent Spring Festival—the biggest traditional holiday in China—with workers at the site.

With Her Family

Qian Zhengying has for years lived in an old Beijing courtyard house near Xidan in the western part of the capital, shared with another family. The walls and ceilings of her house are yellow from lack of repainting: once a piece of the ceiling fell and almost smashed her TV set. One of her three children had to sleep on a folding bed in the living-room at night. But when offered a new apartment, Qian has always refused. "Considering the present housing shortage in Beijing," she says, "we have quite enough space."

The members of Qian's family usually get together on Sundays. Her husband, Huang Xinbai, is a Vice-Minister of Education. Her eldest daughter works in an army hospital in Wuhan and her son is in a government office in Beijing while the youngest daughter is still in school. Her mother-in-law and a long-time housekeeper, now elderly, live with the family. Qian's favorite pastime is swimming. No wonder, people joke, since she is so concerned with the country's water. She swims four or five times a week. On Sundays, sometimes the whole family goes. All of them have a deep-water swimming certificate except her husband. "But in other sports," she says, "he's better than us." □

Developing a Responsibility System in Industry

ZHOU YONGKANG

LAST spring Mei Shoucun, vice-director of Shanghai Bureau of Textile Industries, was in high spirits at a meeting discussing the economic results achieved by the city's industries. Mei had some impressive statistics to report: His bureau's 1981 total profits

were 3 billion yuan, an 8.6 percent increase over 1980. Over a three-year period, they had grown by 850 million. These funds were being used to renovate the industry's plants and equipment and to alleviate the chronic shortage of housing for workers. Others at

the meeting also had good news to report.

Mei says frankly that just a few years ago—before the introduction of the responsibility system in industry at the end of 1978—such a meeting would have been marked not by rejoicing, but by gloomy discussion of problems. Industrial managers then were frustrated by their inability to improve either production or workers' welfare.

With factories keeping a percentage of their profits, they have both means and incentive to raise production by installing new equipment such as the computer-monitored shuttles on these looms.

Yu Xinbao



A Case in Point

In the past, every enterprise handed over all its profits to the state. Funds for new equipment or repairs—or for housing and other facilities for workers—had to be requested from the state. So factory incomes had no direct relation to management efficiency, or workers' benefits to how well they worked. Initiative at all levels was stifled.

Shanghai's textile industry has 480,000 workers and staff. Its output value constitutes nearly 20 percent of the total national textile output, and its profits are over a quarter of the total. In the past 30 years Shanghai's textile industry turned in to the state some 50 billion yuan in profits and taxes, but during the same period state investment in them came to only half a billion—because state policies stressed building new enterprises instead of renovating old ones.

The city's industry thus had little money to develop production; often it hadn't enough even to repair dangerous workshops, to say nothing of building living quarters for its personnel. Over half the employees lived in cramped housing with less than four square meters per person.

ZHOU YONGKANG is a reporter with the Shanghai branch of Xinhua News Agency.



Because individual bonuses are based in part on the results of collective effort, main and supplementary units (such as this group which supplies filled bobbins to weaving rooms) now coordinate their work more closely. *Liu Chen*

Early in 1980, in line with the new state economic policies, the city government chose the textile bureau for a new experiment. It was allowed to keep 9.5 percent of all the profits it made, while turning the rest over to the state. Far from reducing state income, the new system actually increased it. Because individual and group rewards were linked to performance, production improved and costs were cut, so overall profits were greater.

The bureau used a considerable share of the funds it retained to repair old workshops in over 100 factories. Treatment facilities for used water were built in 43 of them which together recycle 90,000 tons of it daily. These and other renovations helped increase production and cut out the need for state investment.

Not only was there enough money to increase individual bonuses, but long-awaited housing began to be built — 117,000 square meters by the end of 1981, with another 1,300,000 meters in the planning stage. When this is completed, 60,000 families will move into new homes, with about 5 square meters of living space per person.

Solving Contradictions

The responsibility system helps spur initiative and link returns to factories with the profits they produce. But not all the products that society needs are equally profitable. The Jiafeng Cotton Mill, for example, produces pure cotton fabrics, a low-profit item. The

Cotton Textile Mill No. 28, with about the same size and number of workers, produces cotton-dacron fabrics; its domestic market price is much higher, and the profit larger, even though both factories work at top efficiency. In 1980 Jiafeng got only 7 million yuan in profits, while No. 28 had 33 million yuan.

Wang Yutang is a senior accountant with the cotton textile company in charge of both mills. "In capitalist societies production is regulated purely by profits," he says. "In a socialist society, we can't operate that way. If factories only made what was most profitable, the planned economy would suffer and social needs would not be met. On the other hand, factories and workers producing necessary but less profitable goods should not suffer economically as a result. So the government has to balance things out."

The balancing method that has been worked out is to let a factory producing less profitable goods keep a higher percentage of its profits, while one making high-profit items keeps a lower percentage. Applied to the two cotton mills, this system meant that the No. 28 mill kept 16 million yuan in profits in 1981, while Jiafeng Mill kept 13 million yuan — a far more equitable arrangement than in 1980. Factories thus have an incentive to produce socially needed items, not just to produce or convert to the biggest profit-makers.

Distributing bonuses to individual workers also created some problems that had to be solved. Textile Mill No. 30 originally paid such bonuses on a piece-rate basis which considered both quantity and quality. In the weaving workshop, nine of the ten women operators were very skilled and rarely had a piece rejected. All got bonuses, the highest being 7 yuan a month. But a young new operator received no bonus for months at a time because her reject rate was high.

Group Bonuses

The factory leadership decided to convert the bonuses from a person to a group basis. As factory director Li Dingyi says, "It's good to break away from the over-egalitarian trends of the past, but it's a mistake to concentrate only on achievements by individuals."

In the weaving workshop, this meant that if the reject rate was too high, the whole group would lose bonus money. The nine experienced operators soon helped her improve her skills, and her reject rate came down. Today bonuses average 12 yuan per worker, with the newcomer getting about 10 yuan; both figures are more than even the best worker could get before.

The group bonus system has promoted coordination between individuals and between collectives. In the past coordination was poor between weaving groups and the teams that supplied them with yarn. The whole section's work was affected. Under the new system, the collective output of the operators and supplying teams was considered in figuring individual bonuses. Both sides have worked hard to coordinate their work better. Output has risen, and so have bonuses for both groups.

In the early days of the responsibility system, workers were penalized for not meeting output and quality standards, but administrators collected their bonuses automatically. Later, the leaders, too, began to be judged on the results in their sections or areas of responsibility.

(Continued on p. 26)



Automated inspection line at Television Plant No.1; under the responsibility system, quality is as important as quantity.

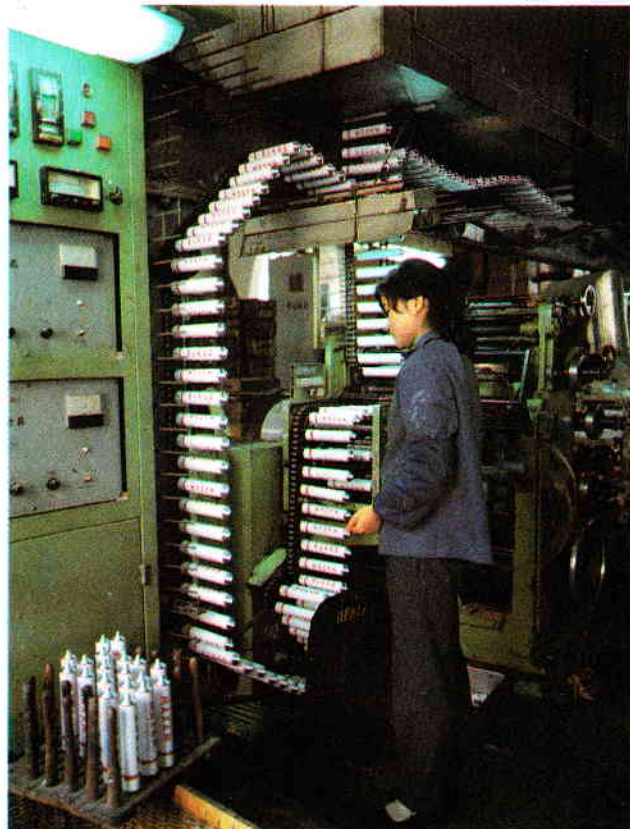
Workers are encouraged to develop technical skills. Here, a recently promoted woman technician trained at Television Plant No. 1.



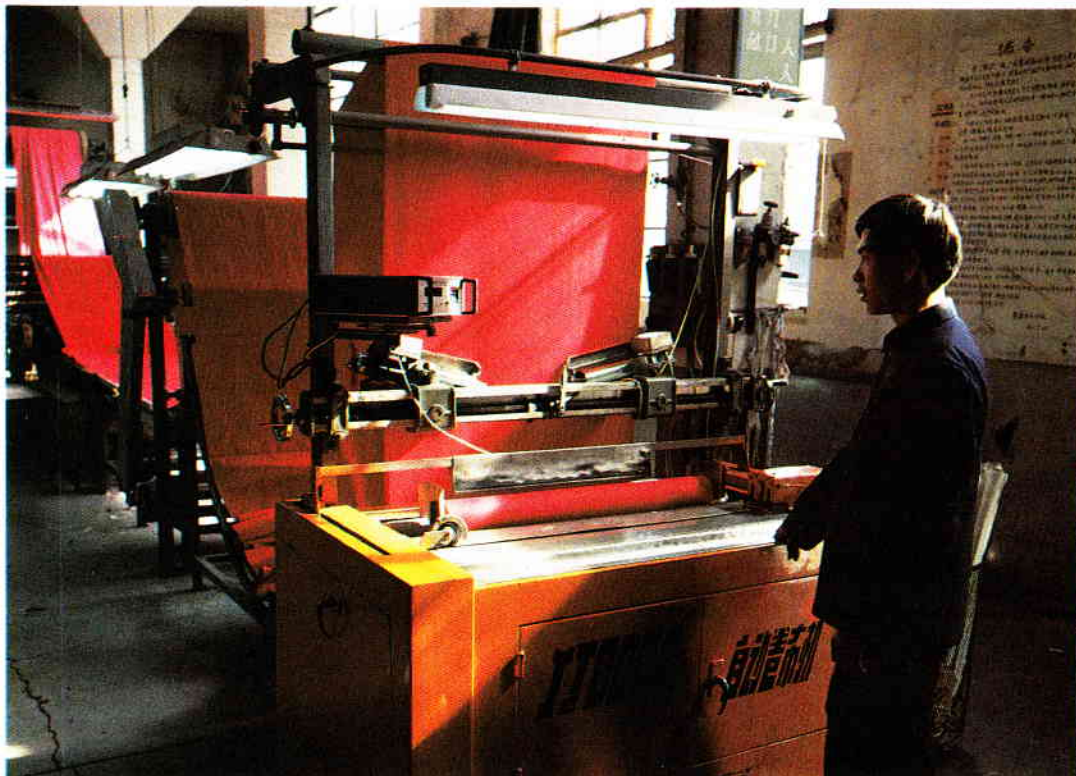
The textile industry, the city's oldest and largest, has grown rapidly under the new system.

Individual and group bonuses have raised morale and spurred production significantly.

Photos by Liu Chen

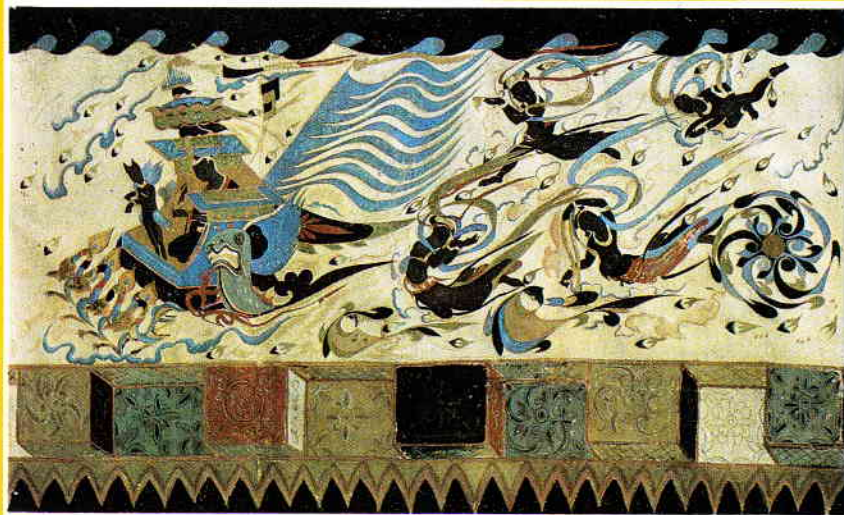


Factories use part of the profits retained under the responsibility system to buy new equipment and renovate old.



A Painter Couple

King of the East from Taoist mythology, a copy by Li Huaaji of a Sui dynasty (581-618) mural in the Dunhuang Grottoes.



Li Huaaji and Quan Zhenghuan, a painter couple, in their studio.

Xie Jun

Portion of a mural based on the legend 'The Cowherd and the Weaving Maid' painted by Li Huaaji for the Chinese Cultural Center in New York City.





Sakyamuni riding to be born again, copied by Li Huaaji from 1,500-year-old mural in the Dunhuang Grottoes.



Tang dynasty Dunhuang Bodhisattvas copied by Quan Zhenghuan.

Quan Zhenghuan used the theme of the mythical bird who tried to fill the sea with pebbles in her mural for the Yanjing Hotel in Beijing.





Li Huaaji and Quan Zhenghuan just after their marriage in 1959 pose before Li's mural 'Li Zicheng Entering the Capital', which is now in the Museum of Chinese History in Beijing.

Husband-and-Wife Muralists

BAO WENQING

THE MURALS on Chinese myths by Li Huaaji and Quan Zhenghuan are already well known. One is the striking "Tale of the White Snake" in the Beijing International Airport. Another — on the mythical bird who tried to fill the sea with pebbles — decorates the lobby of the new Yanjing Hotel in Beijing. One on the tale "Cowherd and Weaving Maid" is in the Chinese Cultural Center in New York City.

They have boldly created their own style based on the study of ancient Chinese murals and incorporating good points from both Chinese and foreign works. Their figures are larger-than-life in every sense of the word and stylized to suit their subject matter.

Their teamwork began years ago when Quan Zhenghuan (now 49), a 21-year-old graduate from the Central Academy of Fine Arts was asked to stay on as a member of the faculty, and Li Huaaji, who had done art work in the People's Liberation Army, came to study in

BAO WENQING, a staff reporter for *China Reconstructs*, often writes on literature and art.

classes taught by her. Both Peking opera lovers, they often went to a friend's house to listen to records, and soon were married.

Oils in National Style

Li Huaaji's graduation work in 1958 was an oil in mural form depicting Li Zicheng, the leader of a peasant uprising in the 17th century marching into the just-captured capital, now Beijing. Its stylization with a strong touch of romanticism won praise from some artists, but others criticized his approach as seeking only beauty of form and not in the true style of oil painting. However, he received encouragement from his teacher the late Dong Xiwen, a noted oil painter who was strong on having his students develop their own style. Dong had done research on the famous Buddhist grotto paintings between the 4th and 14th centuries on the Old Silk Road, hoping to revive this ancient art. Though in poor health, he often went with his students to do wall paintings in country villages. Li Huaaji also

had support for his approach from the well-known oil painter Wu Zuoren. Thus he persisted in trying to create oils in a national style. In 1963, under the guidance of Lo Gongliu, another famous painter, he completed an oil in an even more decorative style "Princess Wen Cheng" (the Han Chinese princess who cemented relations with Tibet).

Today Quan Zhenghuan works with him at every phase, from study of the history of murals and gathering ideas for creation to the actual painting. Yet, for almost 20 years this husband and wife team, though teaching and painting, produced no murals. Not because they did not want to but because conditions did not permit.

China has a 2,000-year tradition of mural painting and many ancient ones are well-preserved in palaces, monasteries, grottoes and underground tombs. Perhaps it is not so strange that there is a correlation between the number of fine murals from a period and the strength of the country during those times. The Western Han (206 B.C.-A.D. 24) and Tang (618-907) dynasties, from which many murals remain, were periods of peace and prosperity. But China in the early 1960s was just recovering from several economically hard years, and not many new public buildings — which would use murals — were being built, nor were they during the ten years of "cultural revolution" which followed.

Now, again, there is ample opportunity for mural painters. Last year Li did one for Yuyuantan Park in Beijing and now he is creating a series featuring highlights of Chinese culture for the new Beijing Library.

'Pilgrimage' to Dunhuang

Painting murals is not like teaching in a spacious classroom or sketching in a comfortable studio. It requires the stamina to work with intense concentration for hours at a time atop a high scaffold. Li and Quan have that. Last summer, one of the hottest, when others were doing what they could to avoid the heat, they pack-

ed their painting gear on their backs and made the long journey to the Mogao Grottoes in Dunhuang in the northwest desert. They wanted to study the ancient murals, which they feel are one of the prime sources for creating a national style. They had planned the trip for many years and for several had saved up the annual allowance Li gets from the school for such cultural travel. The grottoes are a treasure-house of ancient painting. They went with the feelings of pilgrims going to a shrine.

They found the riches even more splendid than have yet been presented by artists. There are more than 400 caves of murals. Li and Quan were amazed at the careful observation of life and individuality of workmanship of these ancient artists. Flying angel-like *apsaras* are painted on the roofs of a dozen caves, but no two are alike. The hundreds of thousands of figures each differs from the other in attitude and dress.

Li and Quan chose murals from 15 grottoes to copy to take back with them for study. Some of the grottoes are very small, affording the copier little room to maneuver, and some are cold and damp. Sometimes Li and Quan had to sit on the floor and paint by flashlight. But they spent a hundred days working from sunrise to sunset in the grottoes. When their energy flagged, they would spur themselves on with the thought of the artists of old crouching on wooden scaffolds to paint these murals without modern illumination.

Juggling Art and Family

The couple live with their two daughters in a faculty apartment at the Central Institute of Arts and Crafts. Both girls showed an early aptitude for art. The elder is in her second year in the institute's Special Art Department and the younger in her last year in the middle school under the Central Academy of Fine Arts. She, too, wants to be an artist.

As is to be expected, family affairs and art sometimes come into conflict. Li spends a lot of his time doing research on art history and studying the development of different schools and modern trends. He has been away for months at a time on trips to Xinjiang and Tibet absorbing the culture of China's minority nationalities in preparation for his works.

Quan Zhenghuan devotes great energy to her teaching, but often has to bear a heavier load of family responsibilities. One winter she was too busy with her teaching to have time to get her daughter's cotton-padded clothing ready. When it suddenly turned cold, she was amused to find the girl wearing six pairs of trousers to keep warm. But the girls grow up in a warm and happy atmosphere surrounded by their parents' continual discussions of what they have learned from work and study, trends in the art world, and ideas for new paintings.

Li says sometimes he feels he hasn't done enough for his family. But maybe the family wouldn't want it any other way. □

RESPONSIBILITY IN INDUSTRY

(Continued from p. 20)

In a Shanghai enamelware factory (like the textile industry, this industry was experimentally implementing a responsibility system) a newly appointed vice-director, Jin Dexin, was made responsible for quality control. The reject rate on first-grade enamel pots for export was very high during the first month the leadership responsibility system went into effect, so Jin lost two-thirds of his bonus. In the second month quality was so bad that he got no bonus at all. The third month, the quality of the pots improved, but that of basins, cups and plates had deteriorated; a third of his bonus was deducted.

At this point many workers suggested that allowances should be made for Jin; after all, he was new at the job and everyone agreed he was a very hard worker. Jin refused: "Now that leaders and workers are all under the same system, we should be treated equally. There shouldn't be exceptions." Instead of sitting in his office he spent a lot more time on the shop floor, where he pinpointed many of the quality problems. These were quickly corrected, and the number of rejects was sharply reduced. Vice-director Jin was soon getting not only the full standard bonus but an extra one.

Expanding the System

The responsibility system as refined in practice has worked so well that it has now been extended to all the city's industrial bureaus and companies. This is bound to have very marked effects. As Vice-Mayor Chen Jinhua points out, Shanghai is one of China's oldest industrial bases, with vast experience in production and technical innovation.

City leaders think this also imposes a special obligation to contribute to the four modernizations by finding the best ways both of increasing production and of improving economic results. Further perfecting the responsibility system will be one of these ways. □

Copying ancient Dunhuang grotto murals, from which they draw much inspiration.

Photos by Li Huaqi



American Schoolchildren Tour China

ZHANG ZHIMEI

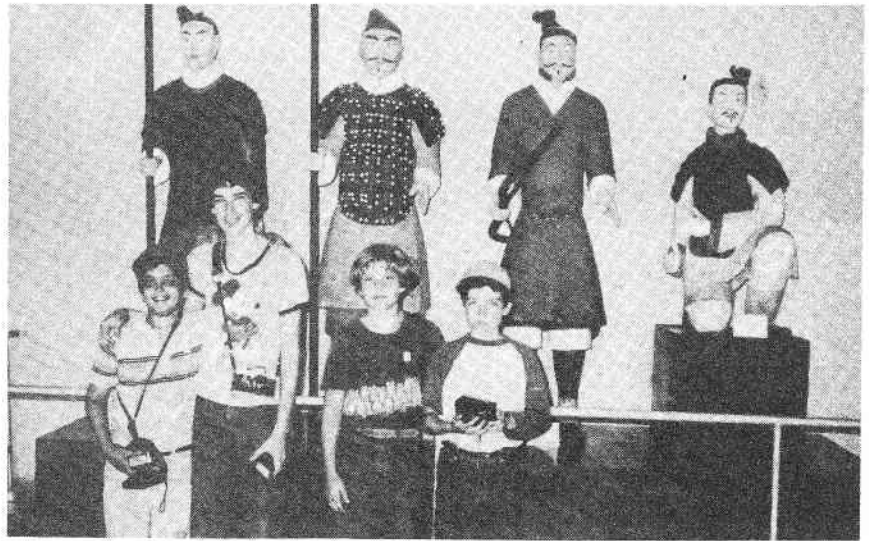
TAKE a dozen American children age 10 to 14 on a tour of China without their parents? A crazy idea, thought some tourists they encountered. The adults in charge of them would have awful problems, and how much could young people that age really understand?

The organizers — Seattle Country Day School and New York City's Special Tours for Special People — felt, on the contrary, that the trip would broaden the young travelers' vision at an early age and form an important part of their education. Aniruddha, Arthur, Bethany, Camille, Chase, Cynthia, Dustin, Jason, Jonathan, Joseph, Kyle and Matthew know that they've had one of the great experiences of their short lives.

The group visited five major cities — Shanghai, Suzhou, Luoyang, Xi'an and Beijing. The itinerary included factories, schools, communes, children's palaces, parks and historical sites. For five months before the trip the children had studied Chinese history and a little of the Chinese language in a course taught by Steve Harrell, professor of anthropology at the University of Washington and one of the moving spirits behind the trip. He, school director Lucile Beckman and teacher Kathleen Hand accompanied the group. To Mrs. Beckman, the tour fits in perfectly with the aims of this private school in the state of Washington — to develop students' intellectual curiosity, creativity and capacity for critical thinking.

People to People

Amazed at first, the children soon got used to finding themselves surrounded by curious and friendly crowds. When their limited Chinese was exhausted in



Four life-size pottery warriors of 2,000 years ago and four 20th century Americans — Ruddha, Joe, Chase and Jon.

such situations, smiles and handshakes helped bridge the language barrier. (As always, the Chinese were delighted that foreigners bothered to learn a little of their language, however imperfectly.) At the Great Wall, Chinese tourists posed for pictures with the group.

The Chinese guides — both those who traveled with the group and those who met them in different cities — worried a little beforehand about the difficulties of traveling with children. Afterwards, however, they all remarked how well-behaved the young people were and how easy to please. At one place they stayed, the weather was very hot and the guest house was not air-conditioned. There were no complaints from the children (such as guides are used to hearing from adult tourists). Also at Xi'an, the group missed a train; a guide blamed himself and felt very badly. Far from protesting, many of the kids wrote him letters thanking him for his many kindnesses and saying the train didn't matter.

The guides and other service people were wonderful with the children and quick to sense their

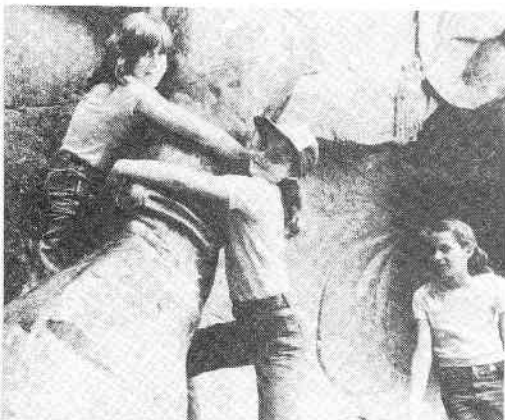
special needs. Diao Shuguo, a woman guide who was with them the whole trip, saw that Beth (who did not know the other children well because she came from a different school) was feeling a little strange at the beginning, so she spent extra time talking to the girl and cheering her up. A Shanghai guide went out of his way to see that the youngsters had candy and other snacks between meals. A Suzhou tourist bus driver retrieved a purse one of the girls had left behind and rushed it to the train station.

The group felt most at home in schools and children's palaces, visiting children their own age and exchanging small gifts and home addresses. Both sides were curious about their counterparts' homes, families and school life, and the Chinese wanted to know about their new friends' plans for the future. The American youngsters found many things familiar in Chinese school routines, and were impressed with the discipline of Chinese students. At one commune school art class, however, the teacher drew a lantern on the

ZHANG ZHIMEI, a staff member of China Reconstructs, accompanied the group on their tour.



Dustin leaves his address with new Chinese friends.



Camille, Beth, and Cindy (left to right) embrace the ankle of a huge statue of Buddha at the Longmen Caves at Luoyang.



Girl talk: Beth with young workers in a Shanghai carpet factory.

blackboard and asked children to copy it exactly. The Americans thought this very mechanical compared to their own classes, where they are encouraged to draw freely and creatively.

Along the route many places arranged small performances for the visitors, and the Americans came fully prepared to entertain their hosts. At Shanghai's Children's Palace Joe and Camille played the piano for young Chinese musicians, and Cynthia demonstrated basic ballet movements for a dance class. At Shanghai, Beijing and Xi'an schools the group pantomimed the story of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs which Professor Harrell narrated in Chinese.

Chase, an amateur magician, happily exchanged trade secrets with a professional from a provincial acrobatic troupe at Xi'an, which gave a special outdoor performance at the hotel for the children and for neighborhood people. But even Chase could not explain one mystery: how the magician on the Whampoa River excursion boat out of Shanghai turned strips of paper into noodles (which were promptly served to the delighted students).

One song the group sang many times had special meaning to them and their hosts, an American song about friendship and understanding: "The More We Get Together." At the Shanghai No. 1 Middle School, Mrs. Beckman said: "We are sure that these children will keep in touch with each other and that the friendship between the younger generation will bring understanding among the peoples of our two countries. This is the aim of our visit."

History Lesson

The trip helped bring to life some of the things they'd learned about Chinese history before they came. Seeing the pottery army of the Qin dynasty (221-207 B.C.) in Xi'an is a unique experience for every visitor, Chinese or foreign. The children were deeply impressed by this army of elaborate life-size figures made over 2,000 years ago, and by the painstaking process of piecing together some of the broken figures. Thanks to the skills of archaeologists and technicians, over 500 human warriors and horses now stand in their original formation in trenches.

As usual, the children wanted to take as many pictures of the pottery warriors as they could. When told this was not allowed, there was some grumbling. Why not, they wanted to know. Joe's sly joke helped dilute the disappointment with laughter: "I know, I know! Because it's a military installation."

The group stayed at Hua Qing Chi, the ancient hot-springs resort complex where, in more modern times, Chiang Kai-shek was held after being kidnapped by two patriotic KMT generals in the 1936 Xi'an Incident, to make him resist Japan's attempt to overrun China at that time. Some of the children traced the route of his fruitless flight up a mountainside. After a little mountain-climbing, they found the hotel's swimming pool very refreshing.

Hot Tubs and Silkworms

Adults may find hot-springs bathing a healthful attraction; these healthy children found it slightly funny. Soon after arrival, Camille came rushing to Mrs. Hand to report that their rooms came equipped with an "elephant-size" tub. Yet even this large, sunken tub was dwarfed by the one used by Yang Guifei, favorite concubine of Emperor Xuan Zong of the Tang dynasty (618-907). "What did she need a tub this big for?" asked Beth in amazement.

The children plan to write reports about different things they've learned. Cindy, daughter of Professor Harrell, wants to write about Tang dynasty empress Wu Zetian after visiting the Longmen Grottoes at Luoyang. Matt will write about Mao Zedong, Wes about the Mongols and Joe about Beijing.

Suzhou is famous for its silks. At one of the city's silk textile mills the group was fascinated by a display on the life cycle of the silkworm. They were able to see for themselves every stage of development from a rather grubby looking worm, to silk fibers, to printed material on bolts. They also enjoyed talking to some young workers who have been learning English in their spare time.

A visit to the city's Silk Research Institute gave the group some appreciation of exquisite silk handicrafts. In one workshop young apprentices were learning to do double-sided embroidery with incredibly fine threads and tiny needles. Realizing how much work went into one piece, the children were not surprised to learn that prices ranged from several hundred to over a thousand yuan.

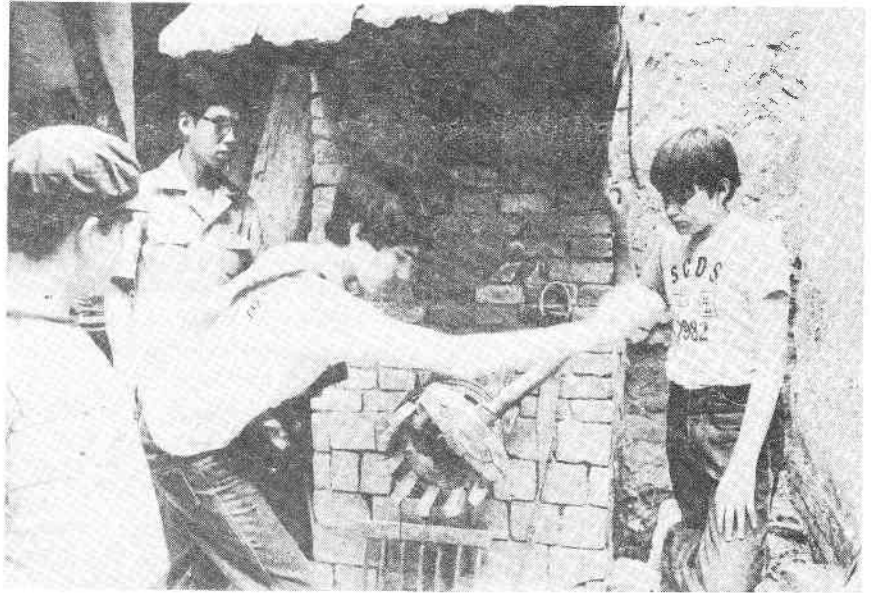
Lifestyles

Service people often worried about how much food the children left at the tables. Were they getting enough to eat? Could they manage chopsticks? In fact, if anything the children were overfed. They had practiced with chopsticks before they came to China, and enjoyed challenging one another whenever something particularly hard to manage came along (such as round, slippery eels). If the eels and a few other foods were not great favorites, there were always plenty of other dishes. Two of their favorite meals were a vegetable dinner at a commune outside of Shanghai and Beijing duck in the capital.

In the mornings they missed having typical American breakfasts and at any time of the day they could have used a handy supply of American soft drinks. They were delighted to find a souvenir shop at Xi'an that carried "real American coke" and some of them promptly consumed three bottles apiece.

Brought up in well-to-do families, the children are used to the modern comforts of a highly industrialized society. They were somewhat shocked to see how simply and frugally people in China live. Despite all the briefings they'd received before they came, they did not really understand the actual living standard here and the historical reasons for it.

Professor Harrell was severe as a father when anyone misbehaved even slightly, caring as a mother when two of the group suffered minor illnesses and an instructive teacher when tour guides missed



Kyle, Joe, and Jason try out a hand-operated pump over a well at a commune in the suburbs of Xi'an.



Eye exercises, a new and curious practice for Jon.

Photos by Zhang Zhimei

something in their interpretation. He, Mrs. Beckman and Mrs. Hand obviously enjoyed relations of warmth and trust with the group and all undoubtedly had a great deal to do with the trip's success.

In a brief letter summing up the trip, Matt wrote, "I'm so happy I had this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. I want to come again." Joe's comment was: "What I'll remember most is the people of

China. They are calm and trusting, and there is this warmth about them that makes me feel comfortable around them."

So the doubts are laid to rest. With proper preparations children this age can not only enjoy touring China but learn something from it, and more such trips should certainly be planned. Let friendship flourish, let our children join hands. □

LINDLEY'S GRAVE FOUND

'Friend of China, Enemy of Oppression'

IN our July 1980 issue we carried the article "An English Fighter in a Chinese Peasant War". It was about Augustus Frederick Lindley, a volunteer in the ranks of the Taiping Revolution (1851-65). In 1866, under the name of Lin-Le, he wrote the two-volume *Ti-Ping-Tien-Kwoh: The History of the Ti-Ping Revolution* which, published in London, attracted much attention at the time and has been used as a reference by students of that movement ever since. Written in easy, almost conversational, style it was a work comparable to Edgar Snow's *Red Star Over China* in our own century. It had the same freshness of first-hand impressions and sympathy with the common people of China in their fight against the imperialist and feudal yoke.

Lindley was not a democrat for an hour. After leaving China, before his death at the age of 33 several years later, he wrote two books (both in 1868) condemning British intervention in Ethiopia,

and *Adamantia, the Truth about the South African Diamond Mines* (published in 1873) in which he showed his deep sympathy for that "plundered territory."

For over a century, even the location of Lindley's grave was not generally known. Then, after a painstaking search by a new British historian of the Taipings, Prof. C. A. Curwen of the School of Oriental and African Studies of London University, it was found in badly deteriorated condition in London's Kensal Green Cemetery. Prof. Curwen made arrangements for its repair, and collected the necessary funds from Chinese historical bodies and British, American and Japanese friends.

In 1981 the grave was restored and newly marked. The stone erected over it is inscribed in English with his full name, the dates of his birth and death, 3 February 1840-28 March 1873, and the words, "Friend of China, Enemy of Oppression." Set into it

is a marble plaque in Chinese reading, "To Lindley, Friend of the Chinese People"—a gift of the Association for Taiping Studies in Beijing.

The grave is now a fitting memorial to an early example of the friendship of the British and Chinese peoples. The photos, received from Prof. Curwen, show it before and after the restoration. □

CORRECTION

In our July 1982 article "Census Time for a Billion People," on page 37, the first sentence of the second paragraph in the third column should read, "A pilot census of 950,000 taken in 1980 in and around the city of Wuxi. . . ."

On page 38, the second last sentence of the second paragraph in the third column should read, "The results, still manually tabulated, found China's population to be 723,070,269, including 28,488,510 Taiwan province residents, Chinese compatriots in Hongkong and Macao, and overseas Chinese"; and the last sentence should read, "A follow-up check on 5.5 percent of the total showed the rate of error in personal topics such as age, sex, nationality, etc., to be only 4.29 per thousand, which indicated that survey was of good quality, better than the first."

Lindley's grave in the Kensal Green Cemetery before being cleaned up.

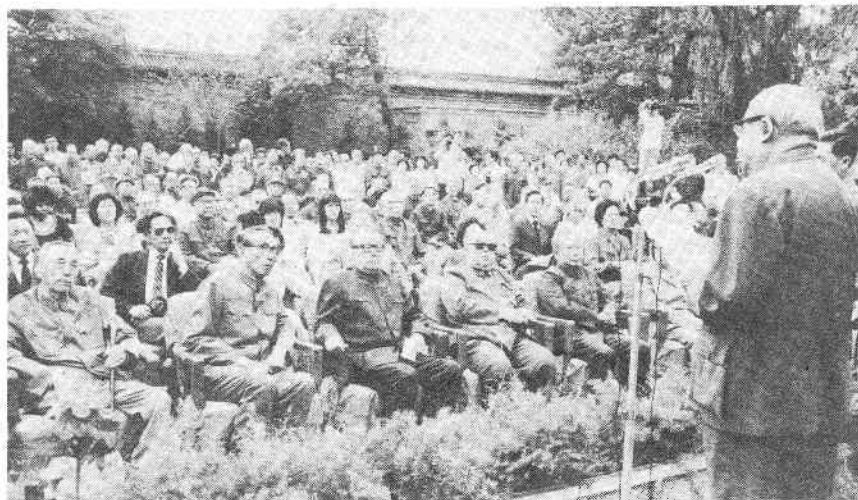


The new marker placed on Lindley's grave in 1981.



Soong Ching Ling Residence a Memorial Site

CHEN RINONG



Liao Chengzhi addresses a meeting held at Soong Ching Ling's residence on May 29 to commemorate the first anniversary of her death.

THE Beijing residence of Soong Ching Ling (Mme. Sun Yat-sen), the great and many-sided Chinese woman who was one of the founders and leaders of the People's Republic of China, is now a national memorial site. Since its opening on May 29, 1982—the first anniversary of her death in her ninetieth year—many thousands of Chinese and foreign visitors have come there.

The house and garden were assigned her in 1963, when she was Vice-Chairman of the People's Republic (at the end of her life she was its Honorary Chairman). In monarchic times it had been part of the palace of Prince Zai Feng, father of China's last emperor, Pu Yi. In a newer two-story building added to the old courtyard-style structures, Soong

Ching Ling lived and worked for 18 years.

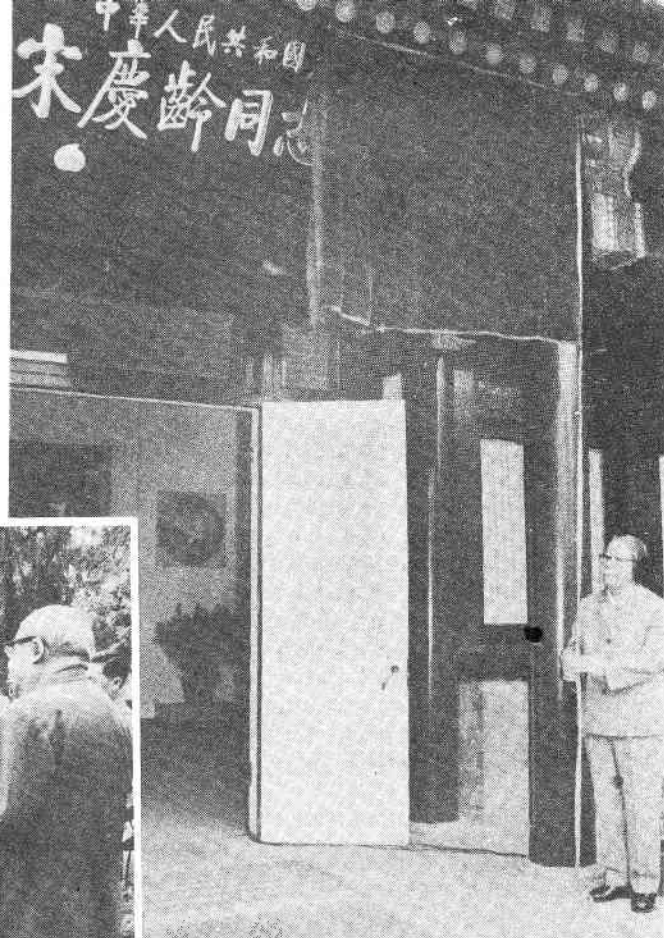
Except for outer rooms which were formerly used mainly for receptions and now house a rich biographical-historical exhibition, with hundreds of photographs and other memorabilia, Soong Ching Ling's residence remains unchanged. In her living quarters, the furniture, books, pictures and objects she treasured are where she placed them. Together with the exhibition, they recreate the lifelong strivings, character and interests of this extraordinary human being and revive memories of the momentous revolutionary events in China of which she was part for some seven decades.

Sun Yat-sen's Wife and Helpmate

The exhibition first takes us from old family photographs in Shanghai, where she was born in 1893,

to Soong Ching Ling's campus days in the Wesleyan College for Women in Macon, Georgia, USA, and her marriage to Dr. Sun Yat-sen. We see her college-journal article, "The Greatest Event in the Twentieth Century," greeting China's anti-monarchic revolution of 1911 led by Dr. Sun—which testifies to the young co-ed's early patriotic and progressive ideas and admiration for that remarkable leader, her parents' friend. In 1915 when new reverses had sent Dr. Sun into exile in Japan, she joined him there as secretary, then as wife. Contemporary photographs reflect the years of effort, peril, hardship and uncertainty they shared together for their ideal, a China equal and free.

Notable is her article, "Escape from Canton," published in June 1922, which recounts vividly how she and Dr. Sun, then president of a revolutionary government for



Deng Yingchao unveils the tablet over the entrance to Soong Ching Ling's residence, now a museum.

CHEN RINONG is a reporter on the staff of China Reconstructs.

all China set up in Guangzhou, survived a reactionary coup by the warlord Chen Jiung-ming. It was at her insistence that Dr. Sun reluctantly withdrew from their mortal danger first, while she stayed to draw enemy fire. Shown here too are small pistols which they both carried in those times, for self-defense.

Mementos of her wedding to Dr. Sun, lovingly kept by Soong Ching Ling through more than half a century after he died in 1925, include the wedding dress and coffee set and embroidered quilt cover that were gifts from her mother. An inscription by her husband in 1921, "Advance Together to World Harmony" (a traditional Chinese term for the ideal society) was kept under glass on her bedside table till the day she died, and is still there.

For Unity and Progress

Politically, Soong Ching Ling remained always faithful to the basic revolutionary bequests of Dr. Sun, among which was cooperation between the Kuomintang, which he founded and led, and the Communist Party. We see her with him in 1924, soon after the start of this cooperation, at the opening of the Huangpu (Whampoa) Military Academy which trained commanders for the revolution, in a group which also included Chiang Kai-shek, its then commander.

Then our attention is drawn to a photograph of her in 1927, after Chiang Kai-shek betrayed the revolutionary cause, with fellow delegates of the third plenary session of the Second National Congress of the Kuomintang held at Wuhan. There she tried to save the two-party cooperation. Along with Kuomintang higher-ups are the Communist Party's Mao Zedong, Dong Biwu and Wu Yuzhang who were simultaneously members of the Kuomintang and its leading bodies. This conformed with the provisions drawn up by Sun Yat-sen; the KMT in 1924-27 was itself a united front against imperialism and its Chinese warlord tools. Soon after this picture, however, the split spread nationwide

through further KMT betrayals.

After ten years of civil war, the two parties began to cooperate again in 1937 in the struggle to save China from national extinction under Japan's attack. Their united front was revived through strong advocacy by the Communist Party and other patriots, outside and within the KMT. To this period belongs a picture of Soong Ching Ling in Chongqing (Chungking) with her sisters Ailing (Mme. H. H. Kung) and Meiling (Mme. Chiang Kai-shek) and with her brother Song Ziwen (T.V. Soong) and Sun Yat-sen's son by an earlier marriage, Sun Ke (Sun Fo), both high KMT officials.

Soong Ching Ling hoped till the end of her life for a third period of Communist-KMT cooperation for the present-day aim of reunifying the country. We read words she wrote in 1979: "I warmly hope that our compatriots in Taiwan will work together with us to further develop and strengthen the revolutionary patriotic united front and make contributions to the early return of Taiwan to the motherland and, together, to building China into a modern state."

Other letters and statements show that at all times whether of unity or strife, Soong Ching Ling was a revolutionary, incorruptible and fearless. In 1927, after both Chiang Kai-shek in Shanghai and Nanjing and Wang Jingwei (Wang Ching-wei) in Wuhan had betrayed the Chinese people's cause, they wrote her letters (exhibited) to cover up their betrayal, to which she replied by public exposure and denunciation. In 1929, Chiang sent his close accomplice Dai Jitao (Tai Chi-tao) to win her over by flattery, and when she refused, to ask her to at least stop making statements of opposition. Soong Ching Ling replied (and the minutes of the conversation are there to see), "The only way to stop me talking is to shoot me or put me in prison."

Also recorded in words and pictures is her valiant work on behalf of unjustly imprisoned patriots and revolutionaries. We see her with colleagues of the China

League for Civil Rights which she organized in 1932. Exemplified, too, is the "go to prison to save the nation" campaign she headed in 1937, to protest Chiang Kai-shek's arrest of seven leaders of the movement for resistance to Japanese aggression. If patriotism was a crime, she declared, she herself and other Chinese who loved their country were ready for jail, too.

Later exhibits picture how, when the war against Japan actually broke out she launched and led the China Defense League, which worked for almost eight years in Hongkong and Chongqing to rally worldwide medical and other support for the wounded and for war refugees and orphans—especially in the guerrilla bases which were fighting the hardest. A chart traces the routes by which supplies were sent there. And we see a major actual item, a fluoroscope shipped at great peril through the Kuomintang's blockade to the Central Hospital in Yan'an. Sturdy as an old soldier, it remained in use until it was brought here in April 1982. Receipts for supplies, issued by various Liberated Areas, testify to Soong Ching Ling's continuing support for them—after victory over Japan—when they fought back against the all-out reactionary civil war launched by Chiang Kai-shek and finally won.

Little wonder that, when nationwide liberation was near in 1949, Soong Ching Ling, respected and admired by all progressive patriots, was invited by Mao Zedong and Zhou Enlai to participate in the setting up of the People's Republic of China in Beijing.

Their cable reads: "The arduous Chinese people's revolution has now culminated in the initial realization of Sun Yat-sen's unfulfilled will. We earnestly hope you will come north to join in this great task in our people's history, and give us your advice on how to build the new China." Chairman Mao's separate letter reads, "Now that nationwide victory for the revolution is close, vital matters in national construction urgently need to be discussed and planned. I am sending Comrade Deng Ying-



Soong Ching Ling as a student.



The Soong sisters (left to right) Ching Ling, Ailing (later Mme. H.H. Kung) and Meiling (later Mme. Chiang Kai-shek), who all studied at Wesleyan College for Women in Macon, Georgia, U.S.A.

September 1917: Elected Grand Marshal of the naval and land forces to oppose the Northern Warlords, Dr. Sun Yat-sen poses with his wife at their official residence.



May 1922: At Shaoguan in Guangdong province in the south, Dr. Sun and Soong Ching Ling started to organize a military expedition against warlords who had seized power in northern China.

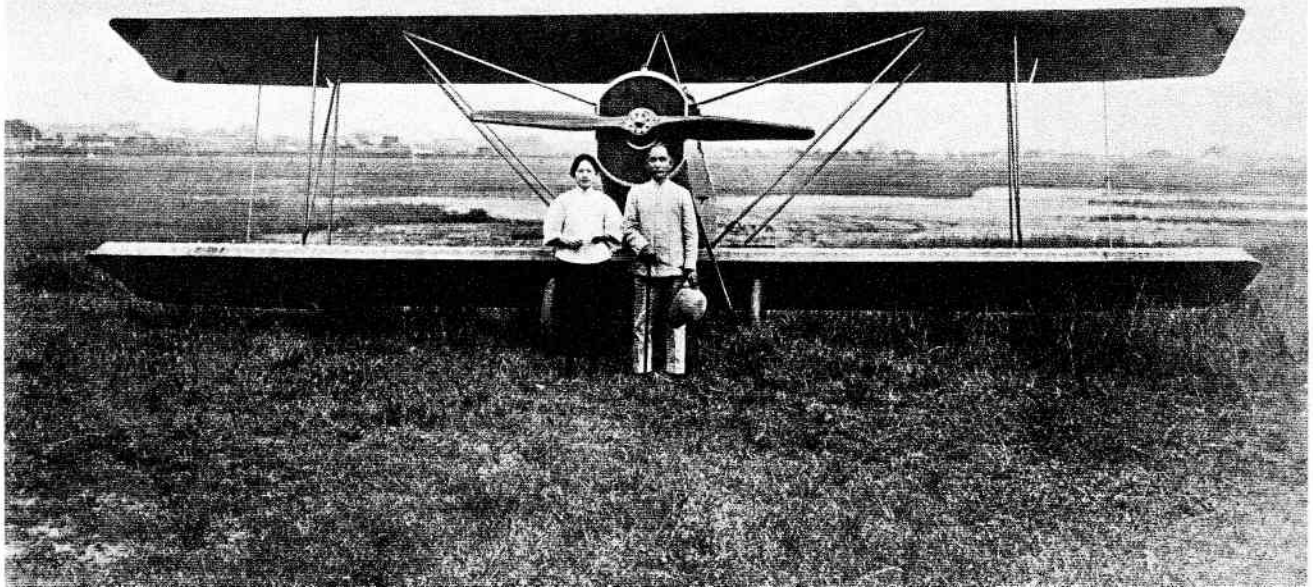


1927, Wuhan: As a member of the National Government Council and of the Central Political Committee of the Kuomintang, Soong Ching Ling fought to maintain Sun Yat-sen's new Three People's Principles and developed close relations with Communist Party leaders in common struggle.

1923: Touring an airfield at Guangzhou, Soong Ching Ling and Dr. Sun pose with the first plane ever assembled in China.

*This is the first airplane built in China. Designed May 1923.
Flown July 1923.*

*"The Normandie" named in honor of
Mr. Sun Yat-sen*





In February 1927 in Wuhan Soong Ching Ling founded a women's political training institute and was photographed with trainees at the opening day ceremony. Fifth right, front row, is Communist leader Dong Biwu.

1932: With famous writer Lu Xun (left) and journalist Hu Yuzhi (second left), both members of the China League for Civil Rights.



Photo taken during 1927 visit to Soviet Union, where she reaffirmed Sun Yat-sen's Three Major Policies of alliance with Soviet Russia, cooperation with the Chinese Communist Party and assistance to the peasants and workers.



1938: With the Central Committee of the China Defense League in Hongkong. Right to left, Liao Chengzhi, Norman France, Hilda Selwyn-Clarke, Soong Ching Ling, Liao Mengxing, M.C. Tang and Israel Epstein.





Bringing gifts to army men during the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression.



September 1945: Arriving for a meeting with Mao Zedong at Chongqing (Chungking) during the post-war negotiations between the Kuomintang and Communist parties.

At a children's welfare station literacy class sponsored by the China Welfare Fund.



October 1, 1949: Chairman Mao Zedong and vice-chairmen Zhu De and Soong Ching Ling ascending the rostrum at Tian An Men Gate to proclaim the founding of the Chinese People's Republic.



1956: Hosting a dinner in her Shanghai home for Kliment Y. Voroshilov, President of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. At left, Liu Shaoqi.



April 16, 1959: At an enlarged session of the Supreme State Conference convened by Chairman Mao Zedong.





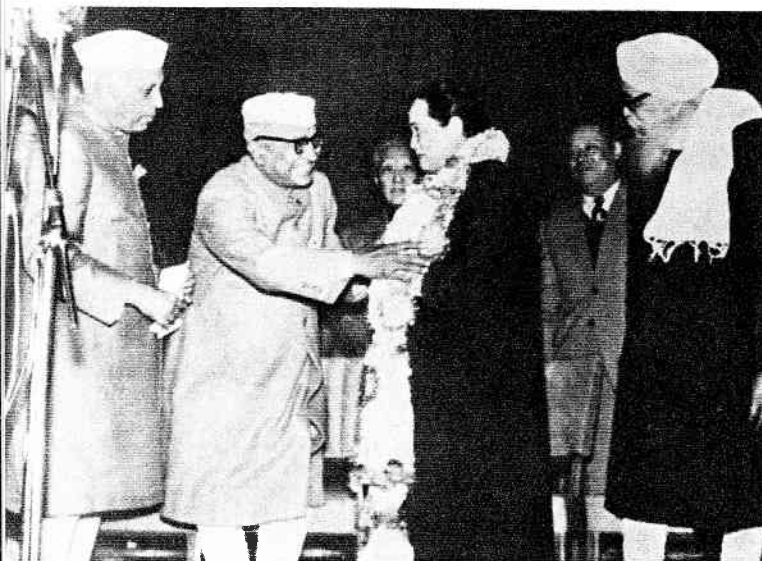
Arriving at Djakarta airport for an official visit to Indonesia, August 1956.



1956: At Burma's Shwe Dagon Pagoda she writes in the visitors' book: "May the friendship between China and Burma increase with each passing day and Asian and world peace be constantly strengthened."



1956: In Pakistan, she is made an honorary citizen of Karachi and presented with a key to the city by its mayor.



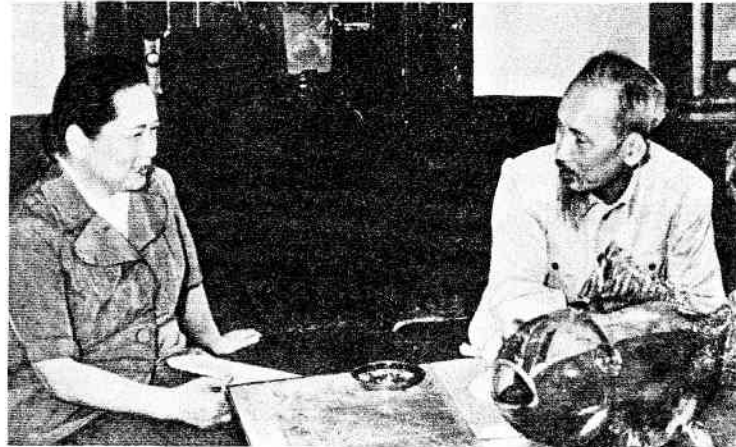
1955: Greeted by Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru on a visit to India.



Soong Ching Ling, Zhou Enlai and Chen Yi get a warm reception in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka), February 1964.



With Chilean poet Pablo Neruda (both received a Stalin Peace Prize for 1950).



With President Ho Chi Minh of Vietnam at her Beijing residence, summer 1955.



With Uinita Blackwell, Chairman of the U.S.-China Peoples Friendship Association, 1980.



1966: Chatting with Japanese friends Semin Mayazaki and Kinkazu Saionji.



1978: Meeting with American centenarian Mrs. Welthy Honsinger Fisher. At left, Rewi Alley; right, Talitha Gerlach.



Talking with peasants during a visit to a people's commune.



Children visiting her residence are introduced to her pet doves.



Young Pioneers before Soong Ching Ling's desk.



Huang Zhicheng, former Taiwan air force pilot and now vice-commander of a People's Liberation Army flying academy, visits Soong Ching Ling's residence.

chao with my greetings and welcome you to come north." We see how, in the new People's Republic, Soong Ching Ling worked as its vice-chairman (and later as Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of its People's Congress), and how she traveled to farms, factories and army units on widespread tours of inspection.

Peace and Children

Besides her wide contacts in China, Soong Ching Ling remained, from her youth to her death, in close touch with people the world over. This characteristic is amply reflected. Known and loved abroad, as early as 1927-29 she was elected honorary chairman of two conferences of the Anti-Imperialist League held respectively in Belgium and Germany. In 1933, she called the Far Eastern Conference of the World Committee Against Imperialist War in Shanghai, where it had to be held clandestinely. In 1950, after the founding of the People's Republic, she was elected to the Executive Bureau of the World Peace Council, and in 1952 led the Chinese delegations to the Peace Conference for the Asian and Pacific Regions held in Beijing and the World Peace Congress in Vienna.

In her home, she warmly welcomed a constant stream of guests, both leaders and rank-and-file from all parts of the world. From it, she traveled as an official emissary of the Chinese people to many countries. Scenes and mementos of those journeys are shown — as is leadership of *China Reconstructs*,

which she founded and for which she wrote for many years.

Always looking to the future, Soong Ching Ling loved children, and was unceasingly active on their behalf. A striking 1947 photograph shows her in a unit of the China Welfare Fund (now China Welfare Institute) helping a boy learn to read and write. Now this boy, Wu Fang, is in his 40's and an engineer. Thousands like him grew up, under her direct concern and care, to become good builders of the country. Two weeks before her death she wrote to a Beijing meeting to celebrate International Children's Day: "I will not be able to attend but my heart beats together with yours in concern and love for our children." In her garden are swings for visiting children.

Great Yet Simple

"You are a poem in yourself, beautiful and stirring," runs a verse written in her honor by the noted woman writer Ding Ling. This, indeed, is the feeling one gets from the exhibition and living quarters. In the latter, the bedroom is simple, the furniture plain and not belonging to one set, the desk utilitarian, the typewriter on it old, the bookcase enormous — it is as if she worked and studied here up to yesterday.

At this desk, under the window, she sat reading and signing documents of state, writing articles and letters, sending out copies of *China Reconstructs* to her friends abroad which she always addressed in her own handwriting. From the vine in her garden, she picked ripe

grapes to divide among her friends in Beijing. Fish from her pond were her caring gift for Premier Zhou Enlai when he lay ill. For some guests, she cooked herself.

Despite her high position, she lived frugally — her meals a soup and two small dishes in the Chinese style. She liked to wear a padded vest pieced together by Li Yan'e, her long-time attendant. When Li Yan'e died, she was buried, at Soong Ching Ling's insistence, in the Soong family grave plot in Shanghai where her own ashes were later laid.

At noon or in the evenings, music would float from the window of her bedroom as she played pieces she loved, especially Beethoven, on the old black Strauss piano there.

In a dovecote in the garden, she fed scores of pigeons, because Sun Yat-sen had loved these birds, and because they symbolize peace. Coming at her call, they would alight on her shoulders. Many flowers we still see were planted and watered by her. Here too she painted water-colors, work that occupied her particularly during the decade of turmoil, presenting some as mementos to house staff.

Children form the majority of visitors here, and many teachers and writers for children come too. They feel especially close to Soong Ching Ling because, like her, they live for the future of the country and people. □

(The accompanying picture pages bring to our readers for the first time photographs from the exhibition which were previously unpublished or little known.)



County Roads Take You There

CHEN SEN

A new highway snakes its way through the mountains from the city of Zunyi in Guizhou province to Maotai near the Sichuan border.

Long Qiyun

ALL China's some 2,000 county towns except two (one each in Tibet and Sichuan) are now accessible by highway. Under the counties, ninety-two percent of the commune centers and 80 percent of

their production brigades can be reached by bus. This includes places in some of the most remote, once inaccessible mountain areas. Some 600,000 kilometers of county highways have been constructed since liberation in 1949. Comprising two thirds of China's total highways, these roads are making a big contribution to economic and cultural advancement in the countryside.

Above the counties, larger national and provincial highways are built by these authorities. Each county government is responsible for construction of highways linking points within it. Communes and their brigades build the network of lesser roads within their own bounds. Every county has an overall plan, based on investigation and study of its particular characteristics and in line with its plans for economic development and mechanization.

Avoiding Farmland

A basic premise is that rural roads should avoid as much as possible encroaching on farmland. Main highways must in some cases cut through agricultural land, but subsidiary roads must follow the boundaries of the fields. When farmland has to be taken up by roads, attempts are made to keep it from affecting total farm output by opening up new land and using more fertilizer to increase yields. Where this is not possible industries and sidelines are developed to make up for the loss of income from the land which has gone out of production.

Road building has been combined with tree planting and construction of irrigation works. In

CHEN SEN is a senior engineer with the Ministry of Communications.



Middle school students in Xinjiang being trained by commune technicians to help with surveying for highways and tree belts. *Xinhua*

some areas the roads run alongside canals, or the earth dug out of the canals is used to build broad dikes with the road running along the top. Roadsides are lined with trees or used for planting shelter belts.

Highway planning must be done in conjunction with planning of tractor roads between the fields. The width and spacing of the latter must be suitable for the farm machinery used in the area. Width is generally 3.5 meters in the mountains and 7 meters on the plains or hilly land.

Self-Reliance

Funds, labor, equipment and materials are generally arranged

by the localities themselves. The central government gives some assistance where needed mainly by paying the wages of technical personnel and the cost of materials purchased outside the locality. It also helps with short-term technical training courses at the worksite; by sending technicians to provincial designing institutes or large-scale projects for help with difficult problems; and with technical advisory groups to go to the worksites for on-the-spot help. Help is also given in providing data and checking up on designs, technical processes and the quality of work done. Now, with such help, most counties have set up special surveying, designing and construction groups.

Since county roads are used mainly for short hauls and the volume of traffic is not large, they can be built by stages. Generally a road of dirt or gravel comes first, and is asphalted at some later date. Work is most often done in the off-farming seasons when labor is more easily available.

Every commune has a maintenance crew responsible for care of any county trunk highways running through it. Secondary roads are looked after by the brigades where they are located. Some 20 kinds of simple road maintenance equipment using tractor power, many of them designed by the counties themselves, are now in use as an initial step to mechanization in road maintenance. □

Better Transport Livens Up a Mountain Area

ZHANG HAIQING



THE dense forests and deep ravines of the Taihang Mountains once made southeastern Shanxi province one of China's more backward areas in transportation. Today highways wind up the mountains and bridges soar above the rapids of the rivers. Buses now reach mountain villages where it was hard even for a wheelbarrow to go before. The city of Changzhi, center of the prefecture of that name has become a hub of the local highway network and the junction of north-south and east-west rail lines serving the area.

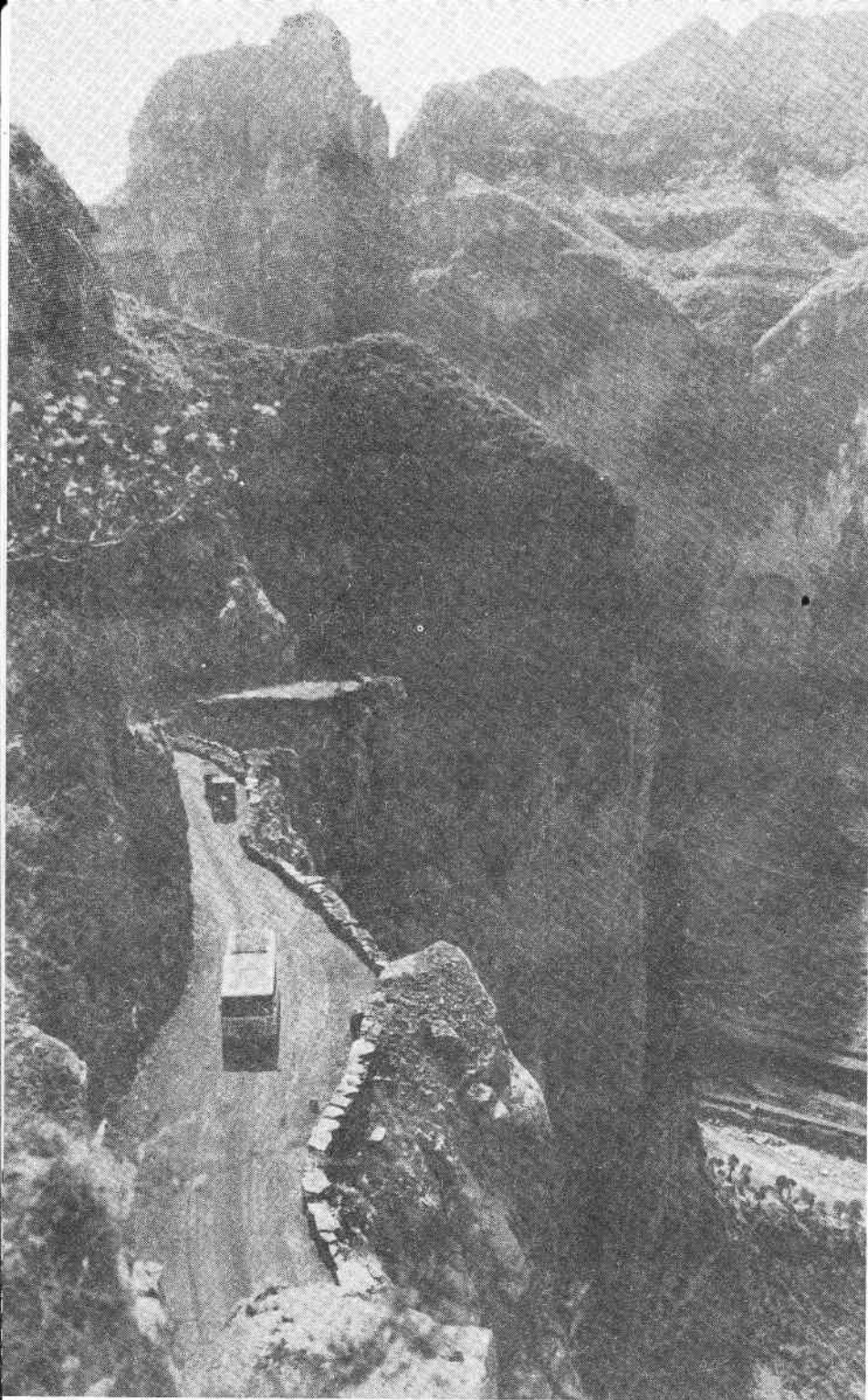
This area is rich in mineral resources and natural products. It sells 100,000 tons of fruits and other local products, including codonopsis (a rare medicinal herb), haws, walnuts, persimmons and apples. Not very far beneath the surface lie coal reserves estimated at one-fifth of all in the province and one-fifteenth of the country's. It is one of the few fields of anthracite.

It used to be hard to get these products out. A large portion of the transport was done by animal or carried by porters. A commune in Huguan county once went in for collecting mountain products such as fruit and medicinal herbs, in the hope that they could be got out, but because of insufficient trans-

port a thousand tons of them rotted one year. Because of the transportation bottleneck, the output of coal had to be limited to 10 million tons a year though more could have been mined, and even then several million tons piled up and some was lost through fire and flood.

And for residents of the area, products from outside like kerosene and salt were always in short supply. As for cultural life — well, once a mountain village decided to bring in a theatrical troupe to give a performance. It sent a hundred people and twenty donkeys to meet the troupe and help carry their properties and costumes. The trip to the village took four days, and

ZHANG HAIQING works in the southeastern Shanxi Communications Bureau.



The 15-kilometer highway winding up the mountains in Pingshun county represents five years of effort.

one donkey fell over a cliff and was killed.

Mass Movement

Some work had been done on roads before the "cultural revolu-

tion" began, but during that period people's energies were concentrated on improving farmland and road building was neglected. A new effort was begun in the winter of 1976, and it was given further im-



The campaign produced many local road-building experts like Cheng Bangquan. *Han Kuanchen*

petus by an August 1981 visit from Hu Yaobang, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, who was making a tour to investigate local conditions. He pointed out the economic benefits that could come from a transport network. The prefecture government worked out an overall plan and a mass movement for road building began. The plan had originally called for building or reconstructing 10 routes totaling 408 kilometers. But because of the good response, in only eight months 73 were built, totaling 1,400 kilometers, and with 17 large and medium-sized bridges. Originally 15,000 peasant laborers were called for but 100,000 signed up. All levels — the prefecture, counties, communes and brigades — responded with funds and grain for the laborers. The latter were so enthusiastic to speed up the project that they made their own extra tools, and themselves baked lime and made explosives.

Xiangyuan county, the prefecture's biggest, which had built only 13 kilometers in that number of years constructed 28 roads (275 kilometers) in one year. Last February the second bridge built by the commune brigades themselves — a stone arch bridge 100



An old woman in Yuxiaguan commune watches the first bus to pass her home.

Han Kuanchen

meters long and 9 meters wide — was opened to traffic with a big celebration. There were fireworks, colored flags fluttering and peasants came from miles around in their best clothes.

The 439 kilometers of mountain roads built in Pingshun county brought 20 communes within the reach of vehicles. Now 72 percent of its brigades have transport service. One commune in the county whose terrain consists of many sheer precipices and overhanging rocks hewed seven tunnels through the mountains to allow them to exchange products with Linxian county in neighboring Henan province.

New Prosperity

The new roads have enabled southeastern Shanxi to make a quick change. Last year it shipped

out eight million tons of coal. Faster shipment of farm and mountain products means greater peasant income. One example comes from a formerly poor commune production brigade in Pingshun county. Last autumn, by selling 350 tons of potatoes, 10 tons of haws and four tons of the herb codonopsis, they received 60,000 yuan, which meant an average per capita income of 60 yuan per month from this source alone — the equivalent of the monthly salary of a technician.

Last winter a production brigade in Huguan county sold 150 tons of fruit in a few days to buyers from other provinces. This transaction alone brought in 100 yuan per worker. Many members have new houses, clothes, and wristwatches, sewing machines and furniture.

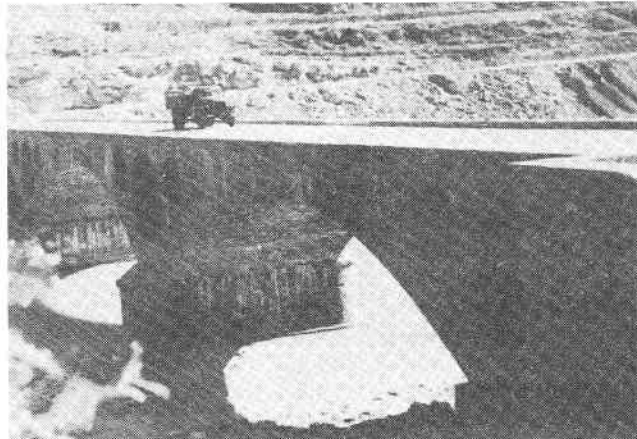
“Girls did not want to marry young men from our village be-

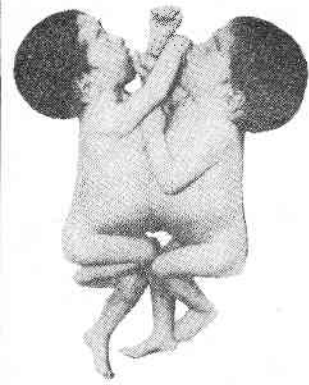
cause we had no roads,” said one commune member in one village. “Women didn’t want to come to live where life was so hard. But since the roads were built our young men have no trouble about that.” And — a young man can now earn between 300 and 500 yuan a year, which helps in finding a wife. This year three have brought brides to the village and six others are engaged to be married.

Rural prosperity has brought prosperity to the towns and helped bring town and country closer together. At this year’s Lantern Festival (15th of the 1st lunar month) 10 to 20 thousand country people came to the county towns in the region to watch the lantern parades. The number of restaurants in only one county town has risen from 20 to a hundred. □

This cableway crossing was the only way over the Zhanghe River in Xiangyuan county at the foot of Taihang Mountains until the highway-building campaign produced this bridge.

Liu Haiyin





The newborn twins, joined at the abdomen and sharing a common liver.

Xinhua Hospital



Still full of tubes and sutures immediately after surgery, but separated at last.

Zhou Xianduo



Thirty-eight days after the operation, and with the prospect of a full and normal life before them.

Zhou Xianduo

Medical News

Rare Surgery Separates Siamese Twins

XU JUFEN

SIAMESE twins sharing a common liver have been separated in a delicate surgical procedure—the first successful one of its kind in China, and rare anywhere in the world.

The two baby girls, weighing together only 4.6 kilograms, were born to a 25-year-old peasant woman from the outskirts of Shanghai on March 2. The infants were under careful medical supervision at Shanghai's Xinhua Hospital for six weeks before the operation on April 14. By that time their combined weight had increased to 7 kilograms and doctors knew that they shared a larger-than-normal single liver rather than two livers joined by a bridge (as is usual in most cases of twins joined at the abdomen).

Before the operation, special intravenous tubes were inserted in their tiny veins to keep the blood supply stable. The incision extended from the base of the sternum to the navel. The most difficult part, of course, was the bisection of the liver. This was accomplished with an electrothermal cauterizing scalpel, which allow a surgeon to do extremely precise work in delicate areas. Clamping off all the minuscule veins and arteries was another critical part of the process.

THE entire surgery took four hours. During that time the babies' heartbeats quickened, blood pressure dropped and they turned purplish-blue in color, but timely action by the surgical team pulled them through. Placed in incubators immediately after the operation, the infants regained consciousness half an hour later.

Over the next weeks the twins, now named Xu Jinglian and Xu Jinghua, were constantly monitored and fed every three hours on special formulas. So that the babies would not cry and strain the surgical sutures, nurses held them in their arms for most of their waking hours. Little Xu Jing-

lian, it was discovered, suffers from a slight congenital heart defect (such defects, often very serious ones, are found in many Siamese babies).

By the end of May each weighed about 5 kilograms and they had become the darlings of the medical staff. On June 1 little Jinghua went home to her happy parents, while Jinglian was kept a while longer for observation. Both are now doing well.

JINGLIAN and Jinghua are identical twins, as are all babies born in this condition—they are, in other words, from a single fertilized egg which divides into twins. Normally, the separation is complete, but in the case of Siamese twins development is abnormal. For some reason, most such twins are girls. Before modern surgical procedures were invented, few could be successfully separated and lead normal lives. □

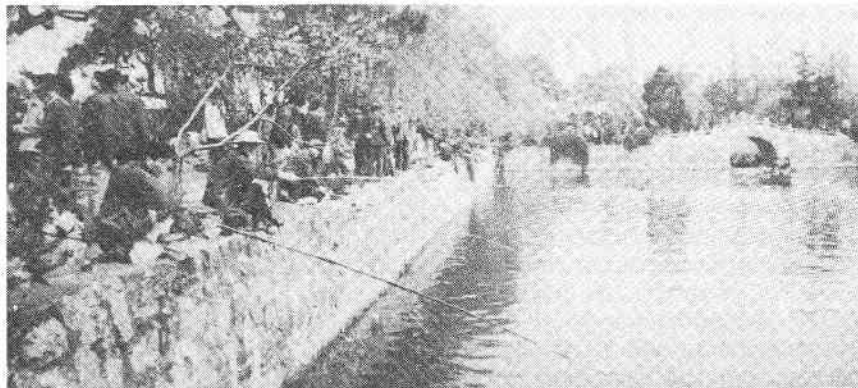
The doctors who performed the surgery have a last word with the parents as they take the first twin home.

Liu Zhongyang



Anglers Club Fishing Contest

YU YOUCAI



Contestants let out their lines along the banks of Lake Taihu.

THE Wuxi Anglers Club, first of its kind in China, was founded in December 1980. The city of Wuxi, on the shore of beautiful Lake Taihu in Jiangsu province on China's east coast, has thousands of fishing enthusiasts. The club now boasts 850 members, including over 100 "corresponding" members from other parts of China.

Seven citywide club-sponsored fishing contests have been held, and a special members-only match took place last May. Participants included 28 local people and 10 from Beijing, Shanghai and nearby provinces. Early in the morning of May 2 the contestants and a large number of spectators gathered at the fishing grounds at Liyuan Gardens.

With judges looking on, the anglers headed for their assigned sections, baited their hooks, made their casts and waited hopefully for the first bite. Many had used part of their May Day holiday to test out the contest area, and each had his own idea about the best spots and appropriate bait and tactics.

The object of the contest was silver carp. At first, as if deliberately to frustrate the fishermen, almost every fish but silver carp took the bait. Though these didn't count, the spectators applauded every catch. Soon the first silver carp took the hook, and more and more fishermen began to score.

At the end of the four-hour match, two local men emerged as winners. The biggest fish was caught by Yu Maoshan, a middle-

school physical education teacher, the most fish by Gu Shougen, a textile mill staff worker. First prizes were certificates declaring them "first-grade" anglers; runners-up won small items like fishing tackle or citations.

BESIDES running a fishing tackle shop at the lakeshore, the club promotes exchanges about fishing, both through its newsletter *Angling* and through personal visits. One contest participant was Qi Zuozhou, a retired cadre from Dalian in the northeast and a corresponding member of the club. He has invented a kind of tackle which helps insure that a fish is hooked as soon as it bites into the bait, and after the contest local people crowded around him for a demonstration.

Qi, who has fished for 40 years in rivers, reservoirs, the sea and through the ice in winter, was happy to pass on his knowledge. Young Cheng Shengsheng, a worker in the Xinanjiang Electronic Tube Plant in Zhejiang province, was one who felt he had learned a lot from club veterans. He was eager to share it with fellow anglers back home.

The club also gladly welcomes foreign fishing enthusiasts. Matsuda Toshio, a reporter for a Japanese sports newspaper, once caught the largest fish in his life here in the company of club members—a mackerel 1.03 meters long and weighing 10.75 kilograms. Caught with an 8-pound nylon line and spin tackle, the fish took 40 minutes to land and was mounted by colleagues as a souvenir. □

Weigh-up time.

Yu Youcai



YU YOUCAI is on the staff of Wuxi city's Sports Commission.

The Bouyei Nationality

LU XINGLUN

ON the Yunnan-Guizhou plateau in southwest China there is a beautiful stretch of mountains which remind people of a carrying pole, the middle part long and narrow and the two ends jutting into the sky. People naturally named them the Carrying Pole Mountains.

In the small valleys crisscrossed by streams one can spot the terraced fields of the Bouyei nationality people. Forty-eight Bouyei villages are scattered about the area, usually deep in the shade of tall bamboos or other trees. According to Bouyei tradition, the art of batik dyeing for which its people are famous originated here.

Legend says a beautiful girl of Stone Village had learned to dye cloth red, green or blue by using different plants. One day before she started work a bee landed on her white cloth and left some wax. When she had dyed the cloth, there was a small white spot on it, and she hit on the technique of making designs with wax on cloth before it was dyed so that those areas remained white.

Batik dyeing soon spread to other villages and has been handed down for many generations. Stone Village's designs are still considered the best—which may have given rise to the legend of the beautiful inventor—and its 200 families produce about 20,000 meters of dyed cloth every year. Bouyei women are also skilled weavers and embroiderers, and their clothes are works of art with many layers combined in subtle harmony.

Today batik work is no longer just a home handicraft. Guizhou province now has three large batik factories, the first one set up in 1958 with craftswomen from Stone Village. The factory at Anshun

near the Carrying Pole Mountains now produces several hundred thousand meters of batik prints yearly, multi-color as well as single color; its designs have increased from several dozen to a thousand. Much of the fabric is now exported, for it is greatly valued by customers abroad.

'Roads to Happiness'

The Bouyei, with a current population of about 2 million, live in compact communities mainly in the Bouyei/Miao and Miao/Dong prefectures in south and southwest Guizhou province. This rough, remote region locked in by mountains has jestingly been described as having less than three feet of flat land.

Since the 1949 liberation 9,300 kilometers of highways and 500 kilometers of rail lines have been built in the area. Besides providing access to the outside world, this transport network links together the two prefectures' 20 counties and towns and 80 percent of the local communes. So important have these roads been to peoples' lives that they affectionately call them their "roads to happiness."

The Liuma area of the Zhenning Bouyei/Miao autonomous county is rich in tung, kapok and orange trees and medicinal herbs. Its tung oil is highly regarded in the international market. But in the past local products had to be carried out of the region on horses or on people's backs, and things the locality needed brought in the same way. Transportation was so difficult that thousands of tons of crops rotted every year, polluting the environment and attracting hordes of flies and mosquitos. Malaria and smallpox epidemics were common.

While people sometimes ate wild plants to allay hunger, rare medicinal herbs were burned as firewood. One ounce of salt from out-

side exchanged for 50 kilograms of tung oil. Those 50 kilograms were about a day's production at that time, and local people said they shed more tears than that every day.

Today Liuma has paved roads, electricity and a large tung-oil processing plant which had an output of 500 tons of oil in 1981, 25 times what it was in the early post-liberation days.

Nongpao brigade is in one of Liuma's most remote spots. All its 100 or so families grow tung-oil trees, and in 1981 their income from 80 hectares was 123,000 yuan, or 1,138 per household. With improvement in people's livelihood, the old thatched cottages are quickly being replaced by brick houses with tile roofs. Last year eight houses were destroyed by fire; within eight months all but one of the families had built new homes, and the remaining one is just starting construction. Some 20 percent of the families own radios.

Recently all of Liuma was made a special tung-oil economic zone. The people can thus concentrate on growing this important cash crop and do not have to hand in 700 tons of grain to the state each year as they formerly did. It's estimated that tung-oil production will triple in three years.

New Industrial City

Duyun, capital of the Bouyei/Miao autonomous prefecture, has grown from a small town with 5,000 people and a few iron workshops to a city of 120,000 with a mine and 115 factories turning out processed foodstuffs, metallurgical, electronic and chemical products, building materials and machine parts. With the development of industry, many Bouyei, Miao, Shui and other minority nationality people have become workers.

LU XINGLUN, of Bouyei nationality, is a reporter with the Guizhou branch of Xinhua News Agency.

What would a festive occasion be without the sound of gongs?



Traditional Bouyei house, with stables for livestock below the living quarters.

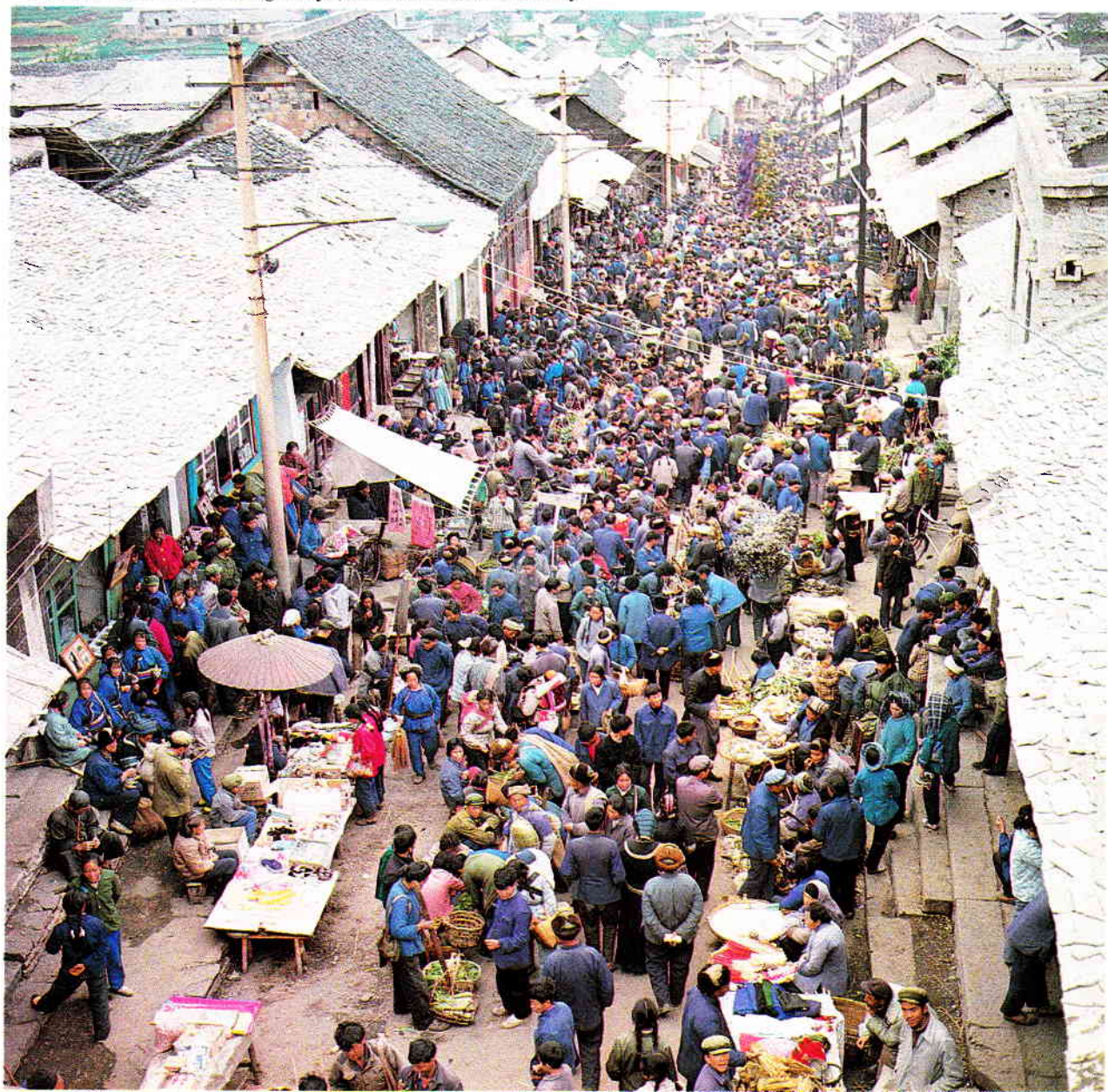


Hitching a ride on mama's back.



Bouyei women work on batik-patterned cloth. Old looms produce marvelously intricate designs in cotton cloth.

Market time in the Zhenning Bouyei/Miao Autonomous County.





Stages of courtship: (1) Promenading at the fair, young people look over potential partners; (2) With the boy's sister acting as go-between, tentative agreements are reached and the girls lead the boys off for a walk in the fields; (3) Singing to each other in antiphonal style; (4) Paired!





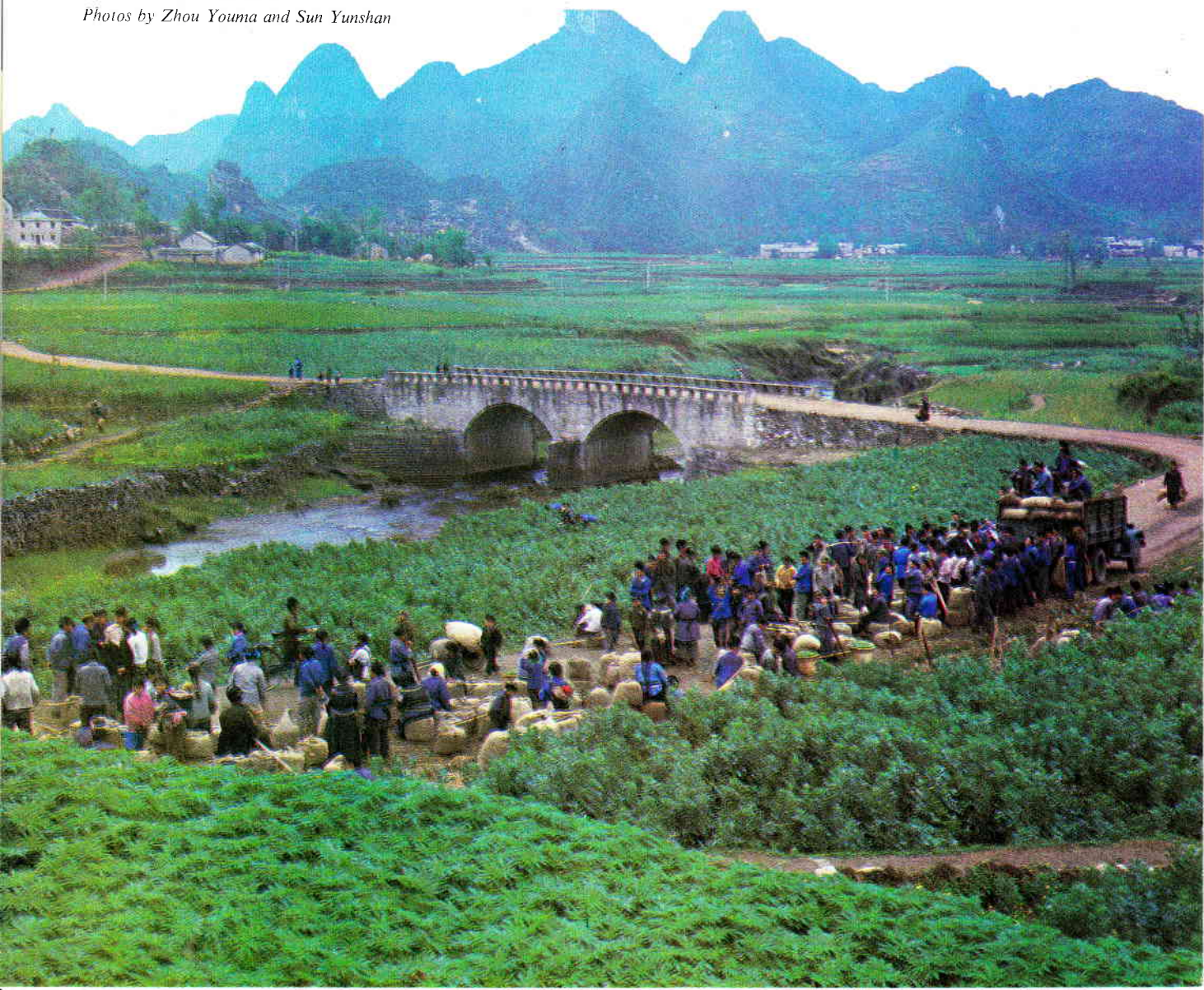
County medical workers tour mountain villages to organize prevention and control of epidemic diseases.



Ox-drawn plows are still used in the mountain areas.

New highways carry local products to distant markets.

Photos by Zhou Youma and Sun Yunshan



The Duyun Textile Mill was built in 1958, two years before the autonomous prefecture was set up. Since then, its workspace has doubled and the number of workers has increased to 2,000. Its annual output is now two million meters of cotton and linen prints and 510 tons of nylon yarn. The output value is 12 times what it was in 1964. The mill supplies the local people and ships some of its goods to other parts of China.

With changes in economic and social life, education is developing rapidly. Every county in the two autonomous prefectures has one or more middle schools and every brigade has a primary school. A number of minority young people from the region now attend provincial colleges, including the Minority Nationalities Institute in Guiyang, the provincial capital.

Bouyei Leaders

Wang Bingyun, a deputy governor of Guizhou province for the past two years, is of Bouyei nationality. He can still remember how enraged he was forty years ago as a student in a Yunnan normal school to read about the sign on a park gate in Shanghai that said: "Chinese and dogs keep out." His experiences in those years taught him that not only the Bouyei, but also the Han and every Chinese nationality, were oppressed and exploited by the foreign imperialists and their Chinese lackeys.

To win equality and national liberation, he felt, all the nationalities had to unite against their common enemy. He joined the Communist Party underground while he was still in school. In 1947 he led the peasants in Anlong in an armed uprising against the Kuomintang reactionaries. After liberation he became in turn a district head, county magistrate, prefectural Party secretary and chief of the provincial education department.

Meng Sufen, chairperson of the Guizhou Women's Federation, is a Bouyei woman. In connection with her work she has traveled to many different provinces and even spent

some time studying abroad. Most Bouyei women still lead much more traditional lives than Meng's, but the fact that she and some others hold such responsible positions at all is evidence of how far social customs have changed.

The two autonomous prefectures now have almost 20,000 minority nationality officials of all levels. In the Bouyei/Miao prefecture the number is 6 times what it was in 1960, the year of its founding. Bouyei professionals—scientists and engineers, doctors, teachers and judges, artists and writers—play important roles in the economic and social life of the area.

Courtship Old and New

Unlike the Han people, who are usually shy about publicly expressing affection for the opposite sex, the Bouyei people "sing out" their love for everyone to hear. The public aspects of courtship take place after market fairs: The young women (usually with bright kerchiefs on their heads) gather on one side of a street or square and the young men on the other side.

A boy who's interested in a girl sends a go-between (usually his sister) to her with a gift of indigo dye. The go-between sings something like, "I've come to convey my brother's affection for you. He sends you this gift and looks forward to seeing the beautiful cloth you dye with it." If the girl doesn't want the boy, she sings a graceful refusal. If she agrees, she simply smiles. The process is called *langshao* (in Bouyei, it means "meeting friends"). As couples are paired off, they leave the crowd and go for a walk in the fields or up into the mountains.

Some established couples, even married people, join in the *langshao* to express their affection for one another and show off their singing voices. (In the past, the Bouyei people had no written language as they have today, and oral skills, particularly singing, were highly valued talents. The young person who could not sing well in antiphonal style was considered disgraced and might have

trouble finding a lover. Today reading, writing and many other skills are prized as well.)

The forms of *langshao* have endured for a long time, but their meanings are different. In the past parents arranged marriages for their children, usually when the girl was 11 or 12. Later, if the young people were satisfied with the arrangement, *langshao* gave them a chance to formally confirm it and display their singing.

If one or both were not happy with the partners chosen, *langshao* was their opportunity to "sing out" their real feelings and try to get someone they really loved. Some



A Bouyei movie projectionist sets up his equipment in a remote mountain village.
Ma Nan

unhappy married people would steal away from the crowd with another partner not just for a walk in the mountains but to distant places where they could start a new life. Those lovers afraid or unable to break the shackles of feudalism sometimes committed suicide together.

Today the Bouyei people are free of these feudal shackles, as they are free of so many evils of the past—their isolation and poverty, disease, ignorance and oppression. Like other Chinese nationalities, they are finding new "roads to happiness." □

The Collective Is Alive and Well at Wanyu Commune

PENG XIANCHU

MANY questions have been raised about the production responsibility system adopted in China's rural areas. Under it, individuals, households or small groups assume clear-cut production responsibilities, and earnings are linked to fulfillment of those tasks. The system has certainly done away with the ultra-Left egalitarianism — "everyone eating from the same big pot" — which cramped initiative because people's livelihood bore little relation to how much or how well they worked.

But is it a threat to the collective economy or to collective projects such as water works, as some have feared? Will population growth get out of control because families want more "breadwinners"? What about households who are handicapped through lack of labor power? Who is taking care of old or disabled people? Are children dropping out of school to work?

Such problems have indeed appeared in some places, and mistakes have been made. But they are not a necessary consequence of the system. Some collectives — Wanyu commune in south central China's Hunan province is one — have avoided these effects by strong political leadership, intelligent planning, and democratic participation.

The commune has 40,000 people and 52,000 *mu* (3,466 hectares) of farmland; its economic position is now slightly better than average. As was noted in the first report on Wanyu in last month's *China Reconstructs*, all land and major means of production are still collectively owned — this is the pri-

mary factor not only at Wanyu but throughout China. At Wanyu this reporter found that the number of collectively owned farm machines has increased significantly over the past four years. Production and collective income have also grown rapidly.

Collective Projects

What about collective capital construction work? In Wanyu it has actually increased, not shrunk, under the responsibility system. From 1949 to 1977 the average annual amount of earth moved on such construction was 754,000 cubic meters. The yearly figure is now over 990,000 cubic meters.

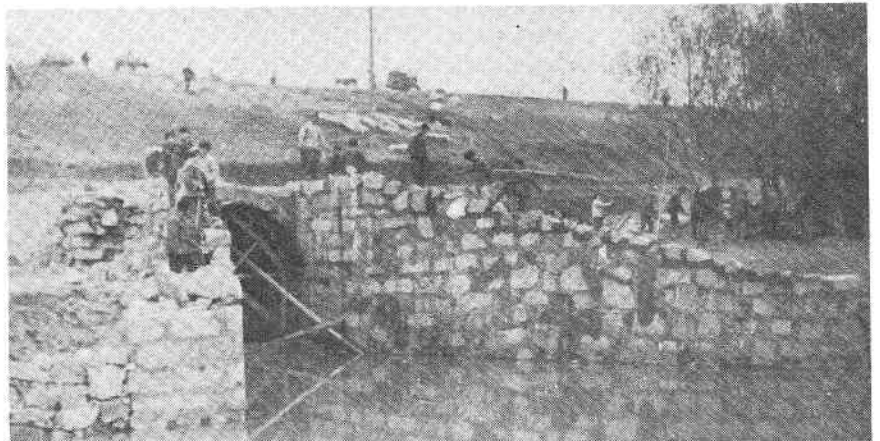
Near commune headquarters is the Wanyu Dike along a tributary of the Changjiang (Yangtze) River. Built 30 years ago, the dike has developed leaks in flood season and it is not as efficient as it might be in irrigation and drainage. The county, after allocating 55,000 yuan for equipment and materials to rehabilitate the dike, assigned the work to Wanyu commune — whose members are most affected by the dike's operation. The com-

mune in turn allotted the work to two of its brigades, and repairs are proceeding rapidly.

Another county project, completed last year, was the building of a power pump drainage station to improve drainage for Wanyu and three other communes. Wanyu's share of the work was to dig a 500-meter canal. The task was divided among the four brigades that would benefit most, according to how much affected farmland each one has. They, in turn, allotted parts of the work to different production teams. Finally, through democratic discussion among the team members, responsibilities were assigned to different households on the basis of their labor power and contracted land.

Collective construction is carried out in slack farming seasons, and under the new system individuals cannot be asked to work more than 25 days annually on such projects. (In the past, people were sometimes arbitrarily called away in busy seasons and some projects dragged on unnecessarily for long periods.) Wanyu has also worked out an ingenious method of using

A new sluice gate — one example of the increased collective capital construction under the responsibility system. *Peng Xianchu*



PENG XIANCHU is a staff reporter for *China Reconstructs*. Part 1 of his report on Wanyu appeared in the August 1982 *China Reconstructs*.

economic incentives without dipping into scarce collective funds. At the end of the year, when cash incomes from collective work are distributed and contracts drawn up for the following year, future construction tasks are also discussed and contracted for.

If a team member agrees to work ten days on a dam or canal, for example, a sum equivalent to ten days' work is temporarily withheld from his last year's income. When construction begins, he can collect part of that money at the end of each workday (the daily rate is usually one to three yuan). Those who don't fulfill their contracts don't get paid for missed days or work not done, and others can fill in and get extra money for themselves. A day's tasks are fixed ahead of time, so that those who work faster can go home early and attend to their own affairs.

Greater Efficiency

Organizing the work in this way has raised morale, and projects are completed more efficiently than in the old days. It was estimated that the 500-meter canal would take 30 days to complete with 1,400 people; actual construction took only 12 days.

Using much the same system, many teams have started their own small projects. Taxihu brigade's team No. 6 had no irrigation canal—only a shallow drainage ditch that did not work very well. Some team members suggested changes and improvements, and Team Leader Li called a meeting attended by a representative of each household to discuss the proposal. Together the peasants decided to construct a canal behind the village, where the ground was higher, and to enlarge the ditch so it could also be used to raise fish. The project was completed ahead of schedule and everyone did his or her share.

Handicapped Households

About 15 percent of the commune's 8,500 households are relatively poor because they lack labor power or technical skills. Brigades

and teams are responsible for seeing that these families are given assistance. One such household includes a man in his 50s and in poor health, his old mother and his 10-year-old daughter. Because his wife died young, he has had many domestic responsibilities and he is not very skillful at farmwork. Leaders of his production team regularly come to give him a hand and encourage his near neighbors to help too—mostly for only a day or two at rice-transplanting and harvest times.

The new system has not impaired collective care for infirm old people with no children to support them. Such cases are known as "five guaranteed" households because they are guaranteed food, clothing, medical care, housing and burial expenses. Commune rules specify that annual food-grain allotments for these households must be no lower than the average for the team. And pocket money must be provided every month from the collective welfare fund (every responsibility contract spells out how much the working individual or family must contribute to this fund).

Fuqiang brigade has 12 such assisted households. It has set up a retirement home for old people and assigned a woman brigade member to cook and do other chores. Each old person living there is given 400 kilograms of food grain and 18 yuan for clothing annually, and 12 yuan to spend every month. Only three have moved in so far; some prefer to live alone in their old homes surrounded by familiar neighbors. These receive the same grain and clothes supplements and six yuan monthly for pocket money.

In other brigades in the commune, production teams (not the entire brigade) are responsible for "five guaranteed" individuals. The latter receive 350 kilograms of food grain annually, firewood and coal in winter, three yuan in cash every month and an extra 10 yuan at Spring Festival time. Zhou Peide and his wife are both in their 60s and childless. He is still healthy and wants to work, so the team has assigned him the light task of



Frequent visits by barefoot doctors and other guarantees of good medical care make rural parents more willing to risk having only one child.

Wang Xinmin



These children, who herd cattle after school, get some extra help from their teacher.

Wang Xinmin

overseeing a small tree nursery, for which he is paid nine yuan monthly. With this and the food and cash supplements, the couple lives quite comfortably.

Population Control

Birth rates, it is true, have jumped in some rural areas over the past several years because, where contracts are signed with households, parents tend to see having more children as a guarantee of future labor power. At Wanyu commune, however, this has been avoided, and birth rates have declined by almost 50 percent since 1978:

(Continued on p. 59)

'Lost' Ming City Was Model for Beijing

WANG JIANYING

ONLY a few dozen centimeters beneath the earth, on the Huaihe River in the eastern China province of Anhui, lies a virtually unknown 14th-century capital city. It was never finished and never lived in, but was the prototype for the later construction of a capital at Nanjing (Nanking) and of historic Beijing as it still stands today.

The virtue of these ruins is that they were a complete city made from the ground up on a new spot, and not constructed on top of an earlier city. Nor was a later city built on top of them. This makes it much easier to learn how it was planned.

In 1969 during the "cultural revolution" I went to a cadre school in Anhui province's Fengyang county and was amazed to find nearby the ruins of this imperial capital. In my spare time I studied the fragmentary references to it in historical writings, and began to trace its outlines. Several years of research in a number of places and interviews with many local residents, particularly the old people, helped me to get some picture of what the city was like.

Builder of this city was Zhu Yuanzhang, who reigned as first emperor of the Ming dynasty (1368-1644) under the name Ming Tai Zu. An orphan boy from a tenant family, he had joined a section of the Red Turban peasant forces which were staging widespread uprisings against the oppressive Mongol rulers of the Yuan dynasty (1271-1368). His armies soon won much of south China. In 1368 he proclaimed himself emperor with Nanjing on the Changjiang (Yangtze) River as his capital, and then sent troops north

to take the Yuan capital Dadu (now Beijing).

In 1369 he began building a new capital at his hometown of Linhao, an important city on the Huaihe River northwest of Nanjing. It was named Zhongdu (Central Capital). The new palace was to be on the south side of Phoenix Hill, 10 kilometers southwest of Linhao prefectural center (today's Linhuai); and the prefecture was renamed Fengyang — south of Phoenix Hill.

Ancient chronicles tell us that before construction began a great deal of research was done on the capitals of previous dynasties. Huge timbers, marble blocks and glazed tiles were transported from great distances. The Altar of Land and Grain, as symbol of the earth of China, was to be made from soils from all over the realm, so more than 1,300 cities were ordered to provide 50 kilograms each of earth from the sunny sides of famous local mountains. A labor force of one million was conscripted from the entire country including 90,000 skilled artisans, 70,000 soldiers as the main work force, prisoners, and peasants from the Huaihe River valley.

The Layout

The walls of Zhongdu outline three rectangles, one within the other, with the Imperial City or Palace City, once of magnificent, solidly-built halls at the heart. It was surrounded by a 15-meter wall 3.5 km. around with a tower at each corner and four gates. This wall was still intact at the time the "cultural revolution" began in 1966, but then, as remains of something old and feudal, it suffered badly.

The Imperial City, its wall and its moat were surrounded at some



Glazed pottery roof ornament.

distance by a second "Forbidden Wall" of stone and brick seven meters high and nearly seven kilometers around. Its purpose, as the name indicates, was to prohibit access to the Imperial City.

This inner core was surrounded by the Outer City which was enclosed by a third wall, a thick one of earth. The original plan called for this outer wall to be in the shape of a square 27 kilometers around, with 12 city gates and embracing all the local scenic spots. Later it was extended 1.5 km. eastward to include the strategic Dushan Hill. The earth structure was completed, but only the northern and eastern sides were surfaced with bricks before the project was stopped.

From east to west inside the north wall runs a string of small hills, including Phoenix Hill and Longevity Hill, which was the commanding height of the city. The Forbidden City (if that is what we can call the area within the Forbidden Wall) and the imperial orchard backed up against the latter and the northern part of the wall, of huge stone blocks, ran across the hill.

In the two southern quarters of the Outer City stood the Drum Tower and Bell Tower. From the former, a drum was beaten to mark the hours of the day, and from the latter a bell sounded the hours at night. These three-tiered towers stood above the city on high ter-

WANG JIANYING is a member of the history section of the People's Educational Publishing House in Beijing.

ances like city gates with arches running through them.

As had been the tradition since China's imperial age began, the capital was laid out on a north-south central axis along which ran the Imperial Way leading to the palace in the north. Along it stood the buildings of the highest government offices. Parallel to this road on either side were north-south roads running through the Bell and Drum towers. A wider three-kilometer-long main east-west street, the Yunji Thoroughfare, ran past the two towers. Other streets were straight, and for the most part symmetrically ar-

ranged, as were the various temples and public buildings.

On the summit of Dushan Hill the great bronze instruments of the observatory of the Imperial Board of Astronomy rose above the pines and cypresses planted on the hills. The Imperial College was on the eastern portion of the Yunji Thoroughfare. There were granaries for storing a million hectoliters of grain and army barracks with 40,000 rooms. In the area surrounding the city were erected mansions for the dukes and marquises. Today villages built on their sites still bear the names of these houses.

Places for the sacrifices and ceremonies which emperors had performed since ancient times included the Circular Mound outside the city wall to the southeast for the Altar of Heaven, the Square Mound for the Altar of Earth northwest of the palace, and altars of the sun and moon on the east and west respectively. On the southwest, in symmetry with the Circular Mound was a terrace for sacrifice to famous mountains and rivers. South of the city the emperor, regretting that he had been unable to give his parents a proper burial in his youth, built a large tomb complex for them, for

Map of Zhongdu from a Ming dynasty book.

1. Imperial City 2. Meridian Gate 3. Altar of Land and Grain 4. Imperial Ancestral Temple 5. Forbidden Wall 6. Longevity Hill 7. Phoenix Hill 8. Square Mound 9. Dushan Hill (observatory) 10. Longxing Temple 11. Drum Tower 12. Bell Tower 13. Altar of Sun 14. Altar of Moon 15. Circular Mound 16. Imperial Family Tombs 17. Huaihe River 18. Jinshui River



his brother and other members of his family.

Construction Halted

In 1375 when, after six years of construction, the project was nearing completion, the emperor came to visit it and to offer the builders a bounty to hasten the work. To his surprise, the artisans held a demonstration and climbed up on the roof of the hall where he was staying. The pace had already been too fast, the pressure too great, and they rebelled. At the suggestion of Prime Minister Li Shanchang, the troops attacked them and killed a large number. The builders' struggle had won wide sympathy and the people were infuriated. The emperor wrote a prayer and went to the Circular Mound to admit his guilt before Heaven and Earth. Then, feeling he was losing support in the area, he decided it was not safe to have his capital there, and he halted construction.

Zhongdu became a place for his princes to train their troops on a drill ground in front of Dushan Hill. Twenty-three thousand horses and mules were kept there for this purpose. Officials passing through would pay homage at the imperial family tombs, but the palace buildings and offices went unused. However, years later in 1383 Ming Tai Zu constructed within the city the Longxing Temple, a grander copy of the nearby Huangjue Temple where he had been a monk for a time in his youth, using some materials from Zhongdu structures.

In 1382, after he decided to construct a similar new capital northeast of the old city of Nan-



Base terrace of Meridian Gate.

jing, he had ordered some Zhongdu buildings dismantled for the materials. Some, like the Temple of Imperial Ancestors, the Circular Mound, the Altar of Land and Grain, and the Bell Tower fell apart from lack of maintenance. The Square Mound and the tombs of Ming Tai Zu's uncle's family on the north were destroyed by floods. Towards the end of the Ming dynasty a peasant army seized Fengyang and burned down the Longxing Temple, the Drum Tower, a large number of residences and the sacrificial halls of the imperial family tombs. The rest of these tomb buildings were demolished after the Qing dynasty superseded the Ming.

The planning for Zhongdu, however, was to have widespread influence not only on construction of Nanjing and Beijing, but of other cities, too. General Tang He, who had been in charge for the

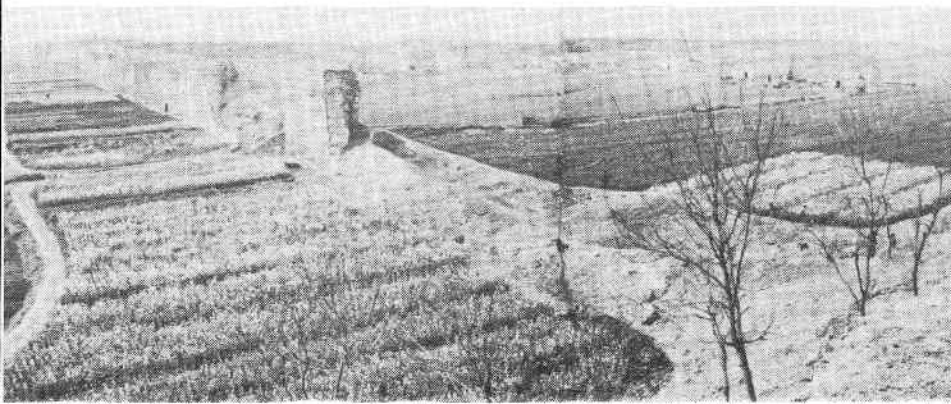
construction of Zhongdu was sent in his late years by Emperor Tai Zu to build 59 cities along the coast in Zhejiang province, including Zhapu and Haimen, more or less in the style of Zhongdu.

The Ruins Today

Some initial exploration of the ruins has been done, but no actual excavation. In March 1982 Zhongdu was placed on the list of cultural sites to be protected. The ruins cover an area of some 76 square kilometers. The palace buildings have been reduced to ruins, the city gates become earth mounds, the city walls have been turned into roads. A portion of a main Anhui highway from the city of Huainan to Fengyang runs along the route of the old Yunji Thoroughfare. Only the terrace of the Drum Tower and the high mounds of earth that were the walls at Dushan Hill and the north gate still stand.

Beneath the earth are the foundations of halls and bridges and a section of a street paved with white marble. To the east of the Drum Tower is a section of a vaulted sewerage system 2.5 meters wide and three meters high. Other than this, what provisions the city included for the life of its ordinary citizens, such as markets, are not yet known, either because they have not been uncovered or because construction did not get that

Ruins of the Imperial City.



far. The shape of the Circular Mound can still be traced from its pillar bases beneath the earth. One major hall had pillar bases 1.9 meters in diameter carved with a coiling dragon.

All over around the Imperial City are pieces of glazed tiles and fine stone carvings: a stone ramp from the center of steps on the Imperial Way carved with a dragon, phoenix and cloud design; lifelike reliefs of lions, tigers, deer and elephants executed in the bold style of the folk art of the Chang-jiang-Huaihe river region; and exquisite relief designs of flying dragons and phoenixes, *qilins* (a mythical Chinese animal), running deer, peonies and lotuses from the sloping base of Meridian Gate.

Before he decided to construct Zhongdu Zhu Yuanzhang had erected some palace buildings at Nanjing. After work on Zhongdu stopped, he had the Nanjing structures pulled down and new ones rebuilt on the models of those in Zhongdu, sometimes with materials from the latter. On the same plan,

a complete new capital complex was built northeast of the old city of Nanjing.

Model for Beijing

In 1421 the Ming dynasty moved its capital north to Beijing. The Ming throne had been seized in 1402 from Tai Zu's chosen successor, his grandson, by Tai Zu's fourth son, the Prince of Yan, best known in history as the Yong Le emperor. He wanted the capital to be at Beijing, seat of his power. In 1417 Yong Le began rebuilding what was left of Dadu, the former Yuan dynasty capital at Beijing, into a new Ming capital. Its palaces and towers, essentially those we see in Beijing today, were made on the pattern of those in Nanjing and Zhongdu.

Another Longevity Hill (now Jingshan Park) was piled up behind the palace using earth from the moats. That part of the moat in front of the palace was named the Jinshui after the river that

flowed through Zhongdu, spanned by the Jinshui Bridge, both still there today. On either side of the massive Meridian Gate, the main palace entrance, were, as in Zhongdu, a temple for sacrifice to the imperial ancestors (now the Working People's Palace of Culture) and the Altar of Land and Grain (now Zhongshan Park). A broad thoroughfare (Chang'an Avenue) was built from east to west, but not through the Bell Tower and Drum Tower, which in Beijing are instead located on the central axis north of the palace.

Outside the southern gate were built, as in Zhongdu, the Altar to Mountains and Rivers (now partly occupied by Xiannongtan Stadium) on the west, and on the east the Great Sacrificial Altar (the Hall of Prayer for Good Harvests in Temple of Heaven Park now occupies the site). In 1530 next to it were built the Circular Mound (Tian Tan, the Temple of Heaven), and altars to the sun, earth and moon as in Zhongdu, during the reign of the 12th Ming emperor. □

AT WANYU COMMUNE

(Continued from p. 55)

Year	Birth Rate*	Population	
		Rate*	Growth Rate*
1978	22.2	14.3	
1979	20.8	13.2	
1980	12.15	5.2	
1981	11.85	4.68	

Family planning is well organized. In accordance with the state population plan, a figure is set for how many babies can be born in the commune each year, and that number is divided up among the brigades and production teams. After discussion among team members, family planning contracts are signed with individual women. If a woman not on the list has a baby that year, she is subject to a fine of 200-300 yuan.

Intra-uterine devices, tubal ligations and abortions are available free of charge. In Red Flag brigade, 49 couples who already have children have opted for tubal ligations. The same brigade offers a bonus to any mother who has

the operation after only one child — 300 yuan plus another 45 yuan for special nourishment, 100 kilograms of glutinous rice, and 45 days' paid holiday from work.

Good publicity work and leadership have been far more effective in controlling birth rates than bonuses or fines. Since 1979, people have been educated about the relationship between family planning and the economy. Figures on land-to-people ratios have been presented, together with examples of how lower birth rates in the long run mean greater prosperity.

At Taxihu brigade, one of the women with two children was Zeng Dezhen, daughter of the brigade Party secretary. He patiently convinced his daughter and son-in-law to have no more children, and she had a tubal ligation. Six other women soon followed her example.

Education

Under the responsibility system, the more work a family does the more it earns; in some places this

has tempted people to let children drop out of school and go to work. At Wanyu commune education has actually been strengthened, and primary education has become almost universal:

Year	Percentage
1978	93%
1979	95.4%
1980	97.8%
1981	98.1%
1982	98.15%

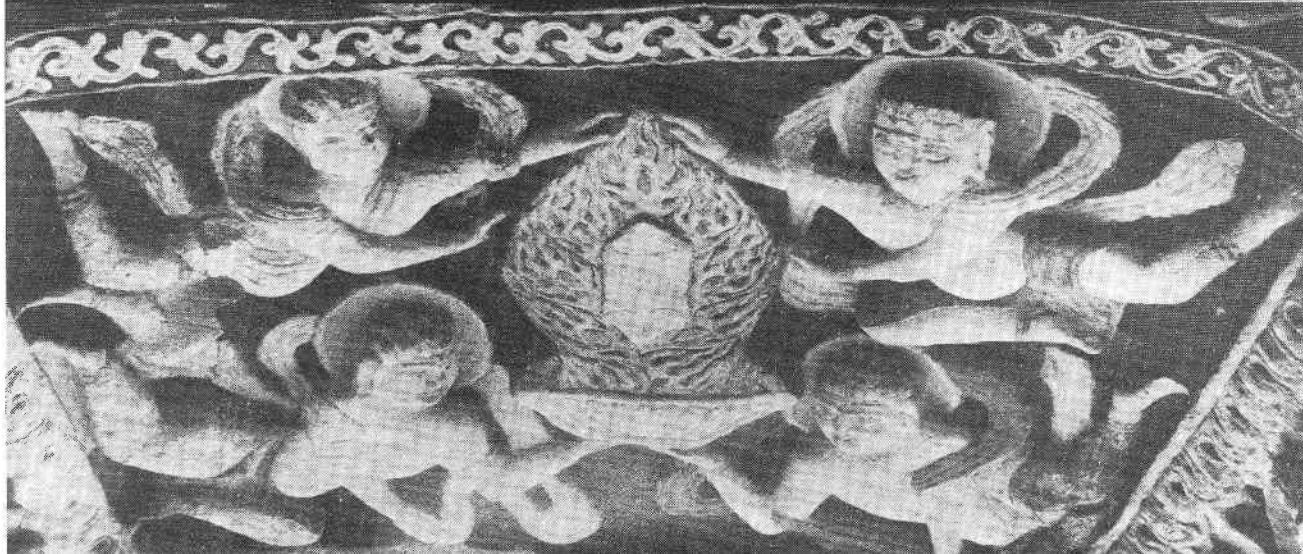
Parents have been convinced of the importance of schooling for their offspring. Without reading and writing, how can one understand a contract or an article about scientific farming? Without math skills, how can one do all the calculating necessary in modern production work?

At this point, few of Wanyu's children go on to middle school, but as its economy develops and modernizes the demand for higher education will also increase. □

* Both per 1,000 population.

Buddhist Sculptures at Yungang

WEN TIANSHEN



Angel-like apsaras in Grotto 9.

Xie Jun

I stood bending my head backwards in awe to see to the top of the giant carved stone seated Buddha which towered 17 meters above me in Grotto 5 of the Yungang Grottoes. His foot was 4.6

meters long, his middle finger 2.3 m., taller than most men. Though far from being the largest Buddha figure in China, it is the biggest in an impressive treasure-house of early Buddhist sculpture

in a grotto complex carved out of a kilometer-long sandstone cliff 16 kilometers west of the city of Datong in Shanxi province.

They were begun in A.D. 460 on the order of the Emperor Wen Cheng Di, who was trying to make amends for earlier destruction of Buddhist monasteries and its art by his father, first emperor of the Northern Wei dynasty. The Northern Wei emperors were of the Toba nationality, nomads from western Inner Mongolia, who ruled most of north China between 385 and 534. Wen Cheng Di, the second Toba emperor, and his successors began a policy of assimilation with the majority Han Chinese people, embraced Buddhism and began the carving of the grottoes near his capital Datong (then known as Pingshan). Such activity of course was also a form of public relations for the Toba dynasty. Historical records say that the features of the biggest Buddha in Grotto 5, though they are in the Buddhist image style, were made to resemble those of Emperor Wen Cheng Di.

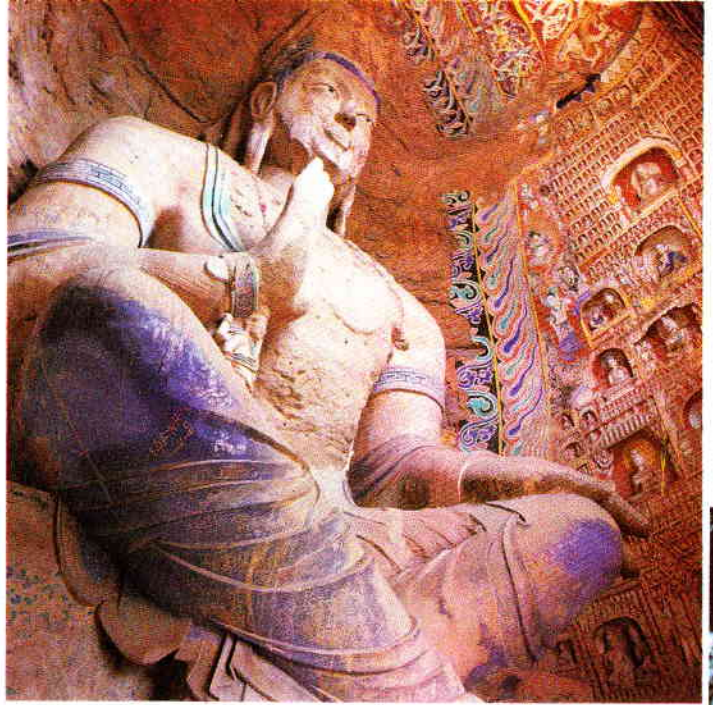
Repairing a stone Buddha.

Xinhua

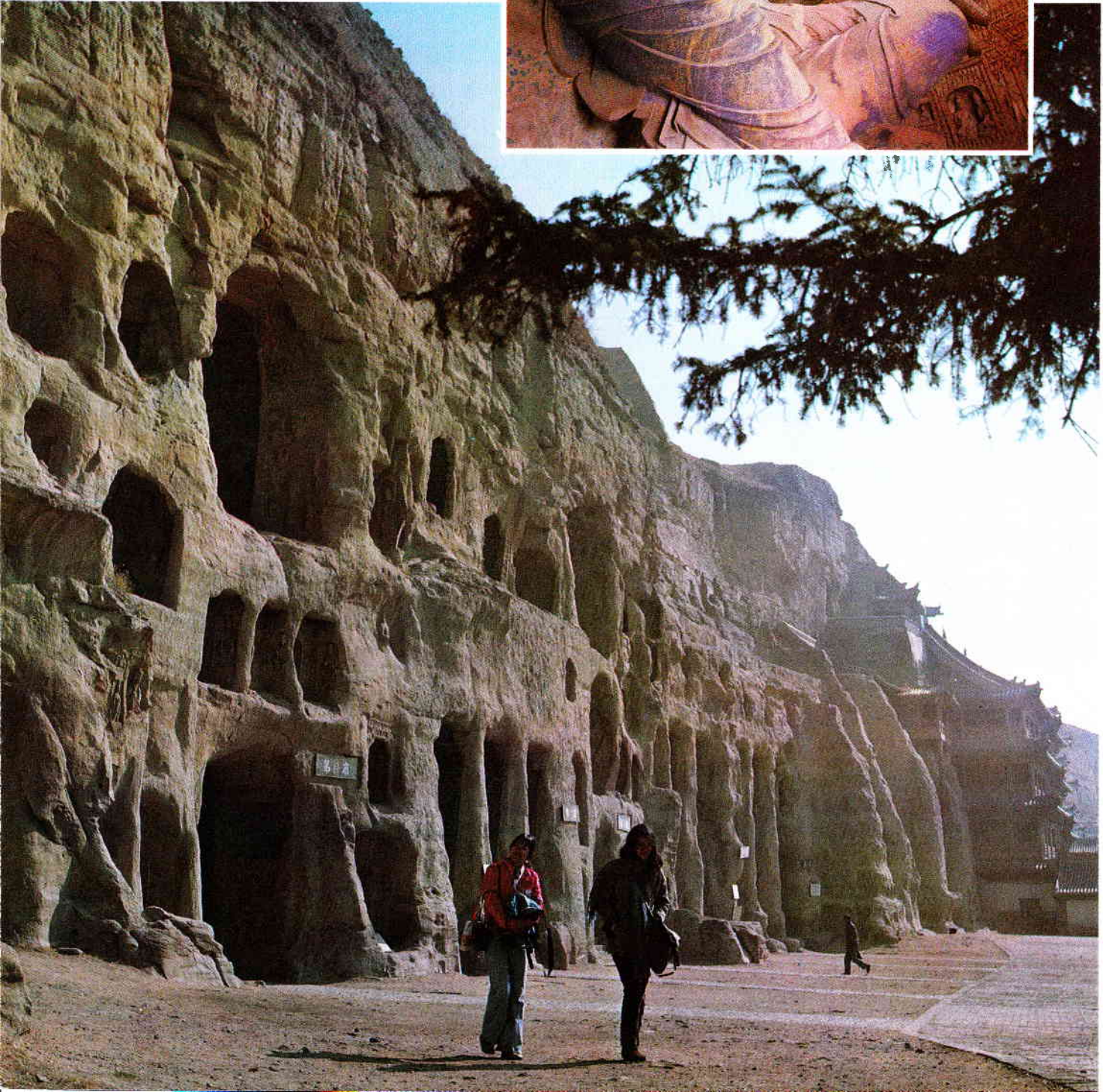


WEN TIANSHEN is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.

Buddha Maitreya, 13 m. high in Grotto 13, early period.



Grottoes large and small honey-comb the cliff for a kilometer.

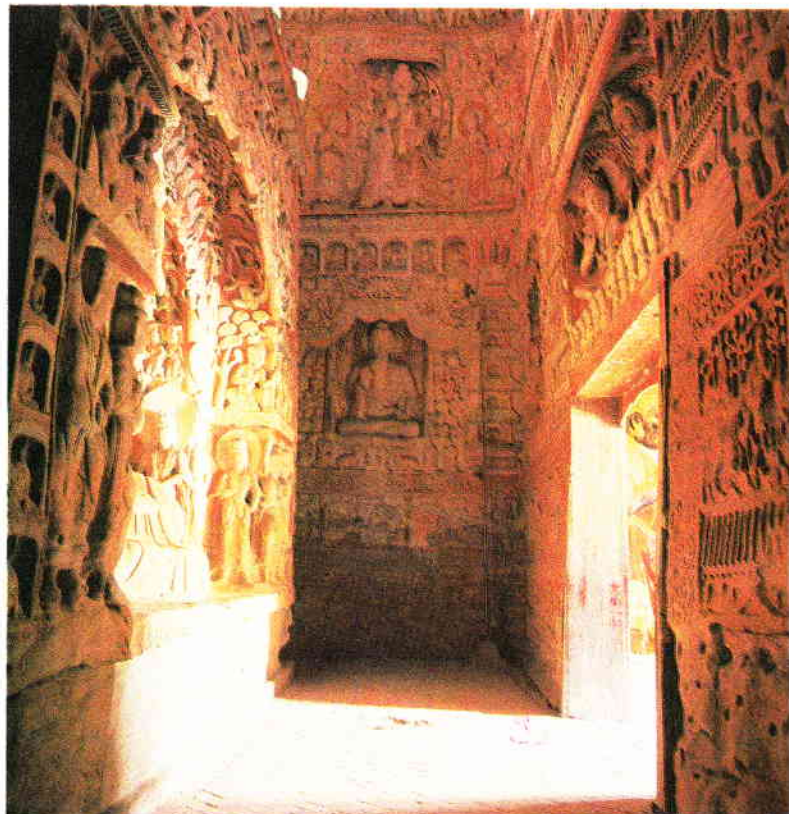




The oldest at Yungang and in the earlier full-faced style, the 13.7 m. high Buddha in Grotto 20 has stood in the open air since its surrounding cave collapsed centuries ago.



Five-headed, six-armed guardian god of Buddhist mythology rides a peacock.



Two ranks of murals on episodes in the life of Sakyamuni fill the walls of Grotto 6.



Animal-design wooden pillar in partition dividing Grottoes 5 and 6 recalls a pre-Buddhist tradition.



Column in shape of 5-story pagoda in Grotto 51 remains as a record of early wood pagoda construction in China.

Stone pillars in Grotto 12 contain many small figures.



Commissioning such grottoes began as a good work for salvation in India and passed to Central Asia. Earlier ones had already made an appearance, most famous of which are the Mogao Grottoes begun in A.D. 366 at Dunhuang on the Old Silk Road. Buddhism had been introduced into China in the first century A.D. and was by Northern Wei times rapidly gaining followers. When this dynasty moved its capital farther south to Luoyang near the Huanghe (Yellow) River in 494, another set was begun there, the Longmen Grottoes, largest of many such in China.

Yungang has 53 main grottoes with some 51,000 large and small figures, Buddhas, bodhisattvas, devotees, angel-like *apsaras* and persons in Buddhist tales. They range in size from the giant in Grotto 5 to figures only 2 centimeters high. There are said to be a thousand small Buddhas on the robe of one big Buddha. Twenty-one of the largest grottoes date from Northern Wei, and there was a brief resurgence of grotto-making while Datong was capital of the Liao dynasty in the 8th to 9th centuries when Buddhism was at its height.

Chinese Style Develops

In the Yungang images one can trace the development of a more distinctively Chinese style from the earlier style which was closer to the Indian originals and influenced by Hellenistic art from Greece through Gandharva (in present-day Afghanistan, where Alexander's legions had established a kingdom). As time went on, naturalistic drapery and rounded body contours gave way to a more formal linear quality in the figure, with the drapery in flat, stylized folds. The round, full face became leaner, the shoulders narrower, gowns extended to the feet and the figure assumed a generally slimmer, more refined mien. On secular figures a shawl-like garment of silk worn by Han Chinese women at the time began to appear. It hung from the shoulders to cross before the legs and then loop up to float freely from the elbows.

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After the Tobas captured Dunhuang in 439 they had forced 30,000 of its families to move east to their capital at Datong. Among the hundreds of thousands of craftsmen who worked on the grottoes must have been artisans who brought with them the earlier style, which is shown in the first Yungang grottoes.

Murals of Sakyamuni

High point of the grottoes is No. 6. Its 16-m.-high walls are filled with two ranks of reliefs with a multitude of figures picturing stories from the life of the Sakyamuni Buddha. We see him as a young prince, in scenes of court life, leaving his home town on horseback to become a monk, and more.

Also in this grotto are graceful flying *apsaras* and other delightful figures, including celestial musicians playing bamboo flutes and stringed instruments. These latter are valuable for knowing what Chinese musical instruments were like at that time. Indeed the whole sculpture complex is a gold mine of material for studying ancient life and religious customs as well as architecture. Pillars and roofs carved in stone duplicate

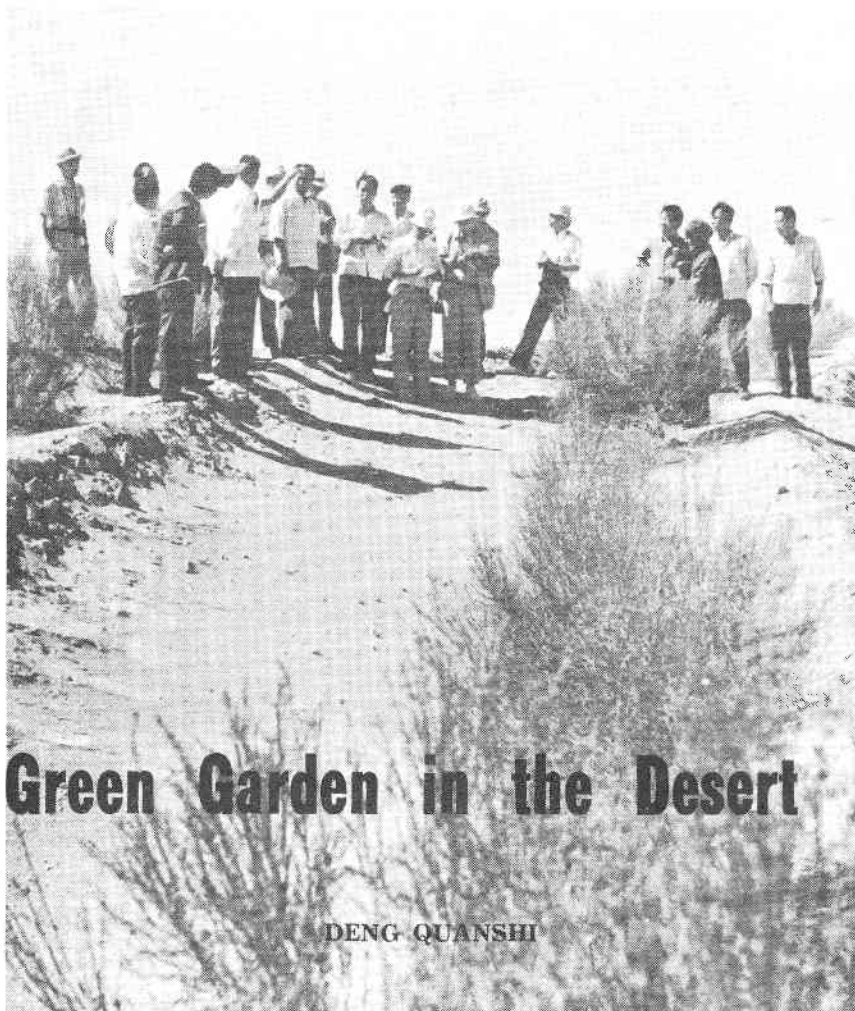
styles of wooden buildings no longer extant.

Preservation-Restoration

The statues have weathered over the centuries so that not all features are distinct, but much greater damage was done by thieves, who, often with the connivance of corrupt officials before liberation, cut out whole faces, or entire statues and sold them to collectors abroad. A survey found that 1,400 heads are missing.

In 1974 the late Premier Zhou Enlai visited Yungang with French President Pompidou. Concerned about the state of the grottoes, he urged greater efforts at restoration and preservation. Now the stone figures have been reinforced and the sandstone treated chemically to retard further weathering. Ways have been found to fill in cracks, re-attach some of the broken-off pieces and in some cases make replacements. The staff has gone about as far as it can with restoration of this type with the information available.

Datong is an important coal mining district and coal beds extend beneath the grottoes, but no mines are allowed in this area, lest blasting affect these stone treasures. □



Green Garden in the Desert

DENG QUANSHI

A Japanese forestry delegation inspects rows of saesaul newly planted on sand dunes.

Zhao Jianping

MINQIN county in the northwestern province of Gansu lies on the rim of the Badain Jaran and Tengger deserts, but its 67-hectare botanical garden for desert plants is a world of lush green vegetation.

Rows of poplar saplings from different parts of the world thrive in the garden's nurseries. Underground water from power-driven wells gurgles through ditches edged with fresh grass. Flowers grow beside the paths. In the reception room visitors are served an assortment of sweet melons grown locally. The many fruits raised here have a sugar content as high as 17 percent due to the wide night-and-day temperature variation and long hours of sun-

DENG QUANSHI is with the Gansu branch of Xinhua News Agency.

shine — a hint of the rich specialized agriculture that may some day be developed here.

Construction of China's first botanical garden for sand-growing plants began in 1974. Its core was a desert-control experimental station in Minqin county. Completed in 1981, the complex's basic task is to develop technology for transforming and utilizing desert land through collecting, introducing and domesticating those economically useful plants that can grow on sandy or arid land, including sand-binding plants and dune-fixing trees and shrubs.

Pushing Back the Desert

Guo Pu, one of the founders of the botanical garden and now vice-director of Gansu province's Desert-Control Institute, likes to

show visitors the view from a ten-meter high earthen platform at the northwestern corner of the garden. This is the ruin of one of the beacon towers of the Great Wall. Looking northwest from the top of the tower, one sees a vast sea of yellow sand dunes surrounding the narrow protective belt of poplars planted by the botanical garden.

In the Ming dynasty (1368-1644) this region was still covered with woodland and pastures, and was described in the county records as "suitable for farming and animal husbandry." Since then, indiscriminate land reclamation, tree felling and overgrazing have gradually denuded the area. County records also show that in the hundred years before the 1949 liberation, more than 6,000 villages and 17,000 hectares of land were swallowed up by encroaching sand. A local folksong of those times went:

*Green fields in the morning
Become sand dunes by nightfall.
What has become of my home?*

But Guo Pu is confident: "We are going to push back the sands where they have forced people to retreat." Before the original sand-control station was set up in 1959, all that existed here were shifting sand dunes that threatened to engulf the belongings of the first prospectors and the strong winds that sometimes blew away their tents. After years of hard work, scientists and technicians managed to plant a large stretch of trees and build dormitories, specimen rooms and laboratories.

They have developed methods of fixing sand by building rows of sand barriers out of local clay, and planting on them hardy plants that can survive sand, wind and alkaline soil. The botanical garden has successfully field-cultivated 270 kinds of plants, of which a hundred or more varieties are able to grow on arid and sandy soil. Among these are types of large-fruited hodgeonia from Lebanon, sumac from North America, nightshade from India and the beautiful cosmos. They have also cultivated more than a million saplings, contributing much to the

extensive afforestation programs in and outside the province.

In the last few years the botanical garden has played host to teachers and students from forestry institutes and schools as well as experts and scholars attending specialized meetings—some 2,000 persons in all. In 1981, Otto L. Lange, professor of plant ecophysiology at Würzburg University in the German Federal Republic wrote in a letter: "That visit to your research institute and botanical garden, which I had the good fortune to make, was an important part of my sojourn in China. I was deeply moved by your successes in fixing shifting sand dunes and by the research done at your botanical garden." Scholars in China and abroad are attaching increasing importance to this tiny green oasis on the fringe of the desert.

Adapted to the Desert

The plants here come in many strange shapes and forms, evolved in the course of eons of natural selection in a desert environment. Some have fleshy leaves covered with a long silky floss (fuzz) that protects the plant from scorching sun and reduces evaporation. In some, the leaves have degenerated into spiny twigs. Others have seeds with diaphanous wings. Still others propagate by means of roots more pervasive and thrusting than those of the bamboo.

Sacsaoul (*Holoxylon ammodendron*) is a large sand-growing bush naturally distributed over China's northwestern desert regions. Its leaves have evolved into tiny scales thinly coated with a waxy substance that cuts down moisture loss. Since 1959 scientists have experimentally cultivated this plant, and the Minqin desert region now has 120,000 hectares of it.

Sacsaoul is one of the best of the 1,000 or more sand-fixing plants collected in China's deserts to date. It now holds in check six million hectares of desert sand.

Other sand-growing trees, bushes and grasses grown here include *populus diversifolia* (a kind of poplar), *Eleagnus oxycarpa*, *Tamarix ramosissima* (a kind of

tamarisk), *Poacynum hendersonii*, as well as *Nitraria tangutorum*, called "desert cherries" by the local population. Many of these have been collected from other desert regions in northeast and northwest China.

Tough as Their Plants

Like the plants they cultivate, these experts on desert control are a hardy, indomitable lot.

Typical of them is Shi Jiren, another founder of the botanical garden and deputy director of the Desert-Control Institute of Gansu Province, a man of medium stature with a lean face and high cheekbones. Originally from southern China, he has been so exposed to wind, sand and sun since he came here in 1959 that he resembles a desert-dweller of the north. He has left his footprints along thousands of miles of desert front, seeking advice on sand control from peasants and herdsmen, investigating sand-binding vegetation and helping the local population build shelter belts.

Shi Jiren suffers from high blood pressure and a number of other

ailments, but he works with such drive and concentration that he often forgets his meals. His wife once bought him an alarm clock to alert him to eat at regular hours. But it did no good—he never remembered to wind it. His papers and reports have been of great value to domestic and foreign experts.

What force is it that keeps dedicated scientists like these toiling for dozens of years at a stretch in these harsh desert conditions? Guo Pu and Shi Jiren both gave the same answer in different words: China has 127 million hectares of desert, placing her third in the world in this respect, after Australia and Saudi Arabia. With little enough land already for her large population, she cannot afford to allow the desert to engulf any more farmland. Efforts over the past 30 years to control it and even reclaim it are only a tiny beginning. Like soldiers on a far frontier, these researchers hold the line against a deadly enemy and seek ways toward eventual victory. □

Shi Jiren (front left) and associates conduct a desert survey. Zhang Shenggui





Visitors to the Shanghai science and technology fair.



Technicians seem absorbed by some of the exhibits.

Gu Liangchun

Shanghai's Science-Technology Fair

LU GUOYUAN

SHANGHAI is boosting its economic development by promoting cooperation and exchange between research and production units in the city.

A science and technology exhibition held at the Shanghai Exhibition Building in March displayed 2,600 pieces of equipment, instruments and other results of the latest scientific research and technical innovation. At the same time, production units sought advice and assistance on more than 1,200 technical problems, technical personnel were exchanged, banks extended credit loans, and technical consultancy and testing services were provided. In fact, it was more a science and technology fair than a simple exhibition.

New Technologies Promoted

Every research institute attending the exhibition had people on the spot to explain to visitors their new inventions — how these func-

tioned and what economic benefits they produced.

At one stand, the Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry displayed a new electroplating technique, which works quickly and selectively. Dispensing with the traditional vat, it only needs a source of direct current, an electroplating brush made of graphite and metal, and some plating solution. The work is done in the same way as paint is applied with a brush, simply and less expensively than the ordinary method. The technique can be used for objects too large to go into a vat, and to repair worn-out parts. A shipyard under the Shanghai Navigation Conservancy Bureau once bought a dredger shaft for US \$180,000. It had become worn out in spots and was now useless. The new electroplating technique was used to repair it, at a cost of only 100 yuan. This account triggered the interest of many visitors to the exhibition. About 100 factories asked for the technique, which had lain unnoticed since it was developed.

More than 400 research results were taken by various producing units during the fair, and another 1,600 items were earmarked for further negotiation. There were, of course, some that attracted little attention as they were technically immature or of little practical value.

Problems To Be Solved

Some 600 factories and enterprises asked for assistance on 1,200 technical problems. Yu Fuxi, director of the Shanghai Institute of Optical Precision Machinery, told members of his staff attending the fair, "We should look at their difficulties as our own and do what we can to help them." By the end of the exhibition the institute had set up ties of technical exchange and cooperation with 77 factories and signed contracts with 21 producing units. During the fair 250 of the problems were solved on the spot, and 600 were listed for joint study by research institutes and the factories immediately after the

LU GUOYUAN is a China Reconstructs correspondent in Shanghai.

fair. A number of problems were shelved for the time being because they called for technologies as yet unavailable.

Shanghai's sewing machines enjoy high prestige at home and abroad, but their designs were becoming obsolescent. The Shanghai No. 1 Sewing Machine Plant developed and attractive electric sewing machine capable of several functions and which sold very well in the market. But its aluminium alloy shell is pressure cast on a mould which has to withstand high temperatures and heavy impact. The first moulds were not durable enough — a 120,000-yuan mould would wear out after two or three thousand castings. The expense made mass production of the new machine difficult. The Shanghai Institute of Materials Science offered to develop a stronger alloy for the mould and, at the fair, exhibited several of their new materials. Using these they would produce an alloy that would enable the new sewing machines to come on the market cheaply and in large quantities.

Socialist Spirit

Research departments helped production units solve technical problems for little or no remuneration. Some even used their own funds to help enterprises and factories raise production. The charge for research results was very low, no more than the cost of development. Some technologies were given out free of charge. The Shanghai No. 2 Smeltery, for instance, used to be fined 180,000 yuan every year for the acid water it discharged. After six years of hard work it succeeded in developing a set of techniques which thoroughly eliminated the hazard. At the fair, technicians from the smeltery explained the techniques to other factories afflicted with the same problem and distributed 250 manuals on the subject — all gratis.

Exchange and Training

One hall of the exhibition building was set aside for arranging exchanges of personnel. During the

fair, 340 units put forward requests for assistance in terms of specialists on various subjects. Through the good offices of liaison people in the hall, 110 units found what they wanted. Some of the specialists were formally transferred, others went on temporary loan or agreed to help in their spare time. Assistance was also provided in the form of consultancy services.

Help from All Sides

Although many units failed to obtain the technicians they needed, their problems were solved in other ways. Electricians trained by the Shanghai Administration Bureau of County, Commune and Brigade Run Enterprises could not handle complex technical work and

the People's Bank and Construction Bank offered to do their bit for the development of production and technology. They received 20 applications for credit loans during the fair and endorsed three on the spot.

Sponsored by the Shanghai People's Government, the fair had not extended invitations to units outside the city, but technicians, scientists and factory managers from 600 units in 26 provinces and cities came and were warmly received. They went back with more than 100 of the technologies displayed. The Haimen Pharmaceutical Factory in Zhejiang province had been thinking of embarking on a new line of products. They saw a blood plasma substitute that effectively prevents shock from loss



Huang Yuezeng, a famous chemist and vice-director of the Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry, explains a new electroplating technique developed by his institute.

Wang Zijin

the bureau was unable to set up an advanced training class for lack of instructors. The Shanghai School of Metallurgy, although short of teaching staff itself, signed an agreement with the bureau to train their electricians.

Units unrelated to industry or science also pressed for a place at the fair. Arguing that they had funds which the producing units needed, the Shanghai branches of

of blood exhibited by the Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry and offered to manufacture it. The institute agreed and, furthermore, helped the factory with experimental production. The plasma is due to be marketed this year.

The results gained by the fair have justified the opening-day hopes of Mayor Wang Daohan of Shanghai, that it would "blossom and bear rich fruit." □

The Loyalty of a Brother and Sister

WEI TANG

ONE DAY in the year 397 B.C. the prime minister of the State of Han was tending to his official duties when a man rushed into the hall waving his arms and shouting, "I have an urgent message for the prime minister!" Before the guard could stop him he had reached the minister and stabbed him in the heart.

Then the assassin took the dagger, disfigured his own face, gouged out his eyes and slit his throat.

The Duke of Han offered a large reward to anyone who could tell who the assassin was. The corpse was publicly displayed, but after seven days no one had recognized it or could suggest any motive for the killing.

The news spread quickly to neighboring states. In the State of Wei, when a woman named Nie Ying heard it, she broke into tears. "That must be my brother Nie Zheng," she said to her husband. She bound her head with white silk in mourning and set out for Han. Arriving there the next day, she threw herself on the corpse and wailed. She was immediately arrested and questioned about the dead man. She had this tale to tell:

NIE ZHENG, her brother, had gone to the State of Qi and earned a living as a butcher. There he was befriended by a man named Yan Zhongzi, who helped him get his business started, assisted him in supporting his mother, and provided a handsome dowry for Nie Ying when she married. Both brother and sister felt they owed Yan a lot.

Now it happened that in his younger days Yan Zhongzi had also befriended another man, the very Xia Lei who had become prime minister of Han. Yan had given him a thousand ounces of

gold to help him get a start in his career. Xia Lei had gradually won favor in Han, but after becoming prime minister he turned against his benefactor, slandered him and had him sent into exile. Xia Lei was widely known for this ungrateful act.

The patriotic people of the State of Han had another reason for hating Xia Lei. This was the period of the Warring States. The State of Qin to the west was in its ascendancy, having already annexed several small states, and was now trying to seize the other large states, including Han, Qi, and Nie Zheng's own State of Wei. The other states were trying to unite against Qin, but Xia Lei did all he could to sabotage this alliance and appease Qin.

Nie Zheng was shocked at the way the prime minister had treated Yan Zhongzi. He decided to avenge his friend. So as not to bring trouble to his mother, Nie Zheng waited until after she died, and then went to assassinate Xia Lei.

"My brother and I are twins and look very much alike," said Nie Ying. "He was afraid that someone would recognize him and

I would suffer. That was why he disfigured his face. But how can I let him, who performed such a heroic deed, lie unburied? I want the whole world to know of his devotion to his friend." After denouncing the prime minister she dashed her head against a stone pillar and killed herself.

THE STORY of Nie Ying and her brother spread far and wide throughout Han and the neighboring states. People sympathized with them. The Duke of Han, too, was impressed by her bravery and ordered that she and her brother be given a proper burial together. Their story was later recorded in several ancient books, the historian Sima Qian's *Historical Records*, the *Strategy of the Warring States*, and *Tales of Assassins*.

Thousands of years later, in the 1940s — during a time when outspoken political plays calling for unity against Japanese aggression would have been banned by the Kuomintang government, which was following a policy of appeasement — the famous poet and playwright Guo Moruo took this story as the theme for a play. He emphasized the patriotic and political aspects over the personal story. He named it *The Tangdi Flower* (Chinese cherry). In the *Book of Songs*, China's earliest collection of poetry, this was a symbol for brothers' and sisters' devotion to each other. □



Drawn by Wu Di

Lesson 21

HUANG WENYAN

New-Year Pictures

丽娜: 你这几张画儿真
Lina: Nǐ zhè jǐ zhāng huàr zhēn
Lina: you(r) these several sheets pictures really

好看, 新买的?
hǎokàn, xīn mǎi de?
good-looking, new bought?

王平: 嗯。哪张最好?
Wáng Píng: Ng. Nǎ zhāng zuì hǎo?
Wang Ping: Yes. Which sheet best?

丽娜: 都不错。我最喜欢这张
Lina: Dōu búcuò. Wǒ zuì xǐhuān zhè zhāng
Lina: All not bad. I most like this sheet

《渔家乐》和胖
“Yújiā lè” hé pàng
“Fishing Family's Happy” and (that with) fatty

娃娃骑着一条大鲤鱼的,
wáwa qízhè yì tiáo dà lǐyú de,
baby riding a big carp,

多有意思!
duō yǒu yìsi!
much have interest!

王平: 我最喜欢这张 《农家忙》
Wáng Píng: Wǒ zuì xǐhuān zhè zhāng “Nóngjiā Máng”
Wang Ping: I most like this sheet “Farm Family Busy”

的, 表现了大丰收的景象。
de, biǎoxiǎnle dà fēngshōu de jǐngxiàng.
showing big bumper harvest scene.

丽娜: 这叫什么画儿?
Lina: Zhè jiào shénme huàr?
Lina: This called what picture?

王平: 年画儿。
Wáng Píng: Niánhuàr.
Wang Ping: New-year picture.

丽娜: 为什么叫年画儿?
Lina: Wèi shénme jiào niánhuàr?
Lina: Why called new-year picture?

王平: 因为是过年的时候贴
Wáng Píng: Yīnwèi shì guò nián de shíhòu tiē
Wang Ping: Because is spend new year's time put up,

的, 表示欢乐吉庆的
de, biǎoshì huānlè jíqìng de
(and) show (the) joyful, lucky celebration

画儿, 所以叫年画儿。
huàr, suǒyǐ jiào niánhuàr.
picture, so call new-year picture.

丽娜: 年画儿是民间的传统
Lina: Niánhuàr shì mǐnjiān de chuántǒng
Lina: New-year picture is folk traditional

艺术吗?
yìshù ma?
art?

王平: 对。它不但反映了社会
Wáng Píng: Duì. Tā búdàn fǎnyǐngle shèhuì
Wang Ping: Right. It not only reflects social

生活的很多方面, 而且
shēnghuó de hěn duō fāngmiàn, érqiě
life's very many aspects, but also

比其它画种普及。
bǐ qítā huàzhǒng pǔjí.
compare (with) other picture types widespread.

丽娜: 年画儿还有什么样的?
Lina: Niánhuàr hái yǒu shénme yàng de?
Lina: New-year picture also have what varieties?

王平: 还有风景、仕女、
Wáng Píng: Hái yǒu fēngjǐng, shìnǚ,
Wang Ping: Also have (those with) landscapes, beauties,

花鸟的等等。当然
huāniǎo de děngděng. Dāngrán
flowers (and) birds and so on. Of course

过去也有一些是反映封建
guòqù yě yǒu yìxiē shì fǎnyǐng fēngjiàn
past also have some is reflect feudal

道德或迷信的。解放以后
dàodé huò míxìn de. Jiěfàng yǐhòu
morality or superstition. Liberation after

增添了許多新内容, 都
zēngtiānle xǔduō xīn nèiróng, dōu
added many new content, all

具有民族特点和生
jùyǒu mǐnzhú tèdiǎn hé shēnghuó
have national characteristics and life

气息。
qìxi.
atmosphere.

丽娜: 这些年画儿既有鲜明的
Lina: Zhè xiē niánhuàr jì yǒu xiǎnmíng de
Lina: These new-year pictures both have bright

色彩和热闹的场面, 又有
sècǎi hé rènao de chǎngmiàn, yòu yǒu
color and bustling scene, also have

深刻、有趣的内容。是在
shēnkè, yǒuqù de nèiróng. Shì zài
deep, interesting content. Are at

哪儿买的?
nǎr mǎi de?
where bought?

王平: 我 是 在 画 店 买 的。

Wáng Píng: Wǒ shì zài huàdiàn mǎi de.

Wang Ping: I at (a) picture store bought.

Translation

Lina: These pictures are really beautiful. Did you just buy them?

Wang Ping: Yes. Which do you like best?

Lina: All are quite good. I like best this "Fishing Family's Happiness" and that one with a plump baby riding on a big carp. Very interesting!

Wang Ping: I like best this "Busy Time on the Farm" — showing a bumper harvest scene.

Lina: What are these pictures called?

Wang Ping: New-year pictures.

Lina: Why are they called new-year pictures?

Wang Ping: Because they are pictures that are put up at the new year and express the joyful and lucky celebration. Therefore they are called new-year pictures.

Lina: The new-year pictures are a traditional folk art?

Wang Ping: Right. They not only reflect many aspects of social life but are more widespread than other types of pictures.

Lina: What other varieties of new-year pictures are there?

Wang Ping: There are also those with landscapes, beauties, flowers and birds, and so on. Of course, in the past some pictures reflect feudal morality and superstition. Since liberation many new subjects have been added with national characteristics and a feeling of life.

Lina: These new-year pictures have both bright colors and bustling scenes, and also deep interesting content. Where did you buy them?

Wang Ping: I bought them at a picture store.

Notes

1. Cause and effect.

This is shown by the form *yīnwèi...suǒyǐ...* 因为...所以... *Yīnwèi jīntiān xiàyǔ, suǒyǐ tā méiyǒu lái* 因为今天下雨, 所以他没有来 (Because it is raining today, he did not come). *Yīnwèi zhè zhǒng huà shì guònián de shíhòu tiē de, suǒyǐ jiào niánhuà* 因为这种画是过年的时候贴的, 所以叫年画儿 (Because these pictures are put up at the new year, they are called new-year pictures).

2. Not only... but also...

The form here is *búdàn...érqiě...* 不但...而且... *Tā búdàn huì shuō Zhōngwén, érqiě shuō de fēicháng liúlì* 他不但会说中文, 而且说得非常流利 (He not only can speak Chinese but speaks very fluently). *Niánhuà búdàn fǎnyìngle shèhuì shēnghuó de hěn duō fāngmiàn, érqiě bǐ qítā huàzhǒng pǔjí* 年画儿不仅反映了社会生活的很多方面, 而且比其它画种普及 (New-year pictures not only reflect many aspects of social life but are also more

widespread than other types of pictures).

3. Jì...yòu... 既...又...: both... and...

Zhèlǐ jì ānjìng, yòu yōuměi 这里既安静, 又优美 (This place is both quiet and beautiful). *Zhèxiē niánhuàr jì yǒu xiānmíng de sècǎi hé rènnào de chǎngmiàn, yòu yǒu shēnkè, yǒuqù de nèiróng...* 这些年画儿既有鲜明的色彩和热闹的场面, 又有深刻、有趣的内容 (These new-year pictures have both bright colors and bustling scenes and also deep interesting content).

4. Yí...jiù... 一...就...: as soon as...

Tā yí kànjiàn wǒ, jiù hé wǒ wò shǒu 他一看见我, 就和我握手 (As soon as he saw me, he shook hands with me). *Zhè zhǒng niánhuàr yí dào chūnjié, jiù nǎr dōu yǒu mài de* 这种年画儿一到春节, 就哪儿都有卖的 (As soon as the Spring Festival comes, new-year pictures are sold everywhere).

Everyday Expressions

1. 贴 *tiē* to put up, paste or glue
贴画儿 *tiē huàr* put up picture
贴标语 *tiē biāoyǔ* put up slogan
贴邮票 *tiē yóupiào* stick on a stamp
2. 气息 *qìxī* breath, atmosphere
气息奄奄 *qìxī yǎnyǎn* breathing the last breath
生活气息 *shēnghuó qìxī* atmosphere of life
3. 形式 *xíngshì* form
艺术形式 *yìshù xíngshì* artistic form
组织形式 *zǔzhī xíngshì* organization form
形式多样 *xíngshì duōyàng* various forms

Exercises

1. Answer the following questions in Chinese.
(1) How do you ask why these pictures are called new-year pictures?
(2) How do you ask where to buy something?
2. Finish the following sentences by writing the Chinese characters for the pinyin.
(1) 因为今天特别冷, *suǒyǐ wǒ bù xiǎng chūqu.*
(2) 老师一进教室, *jiù kāishǐ shàngkè.*
(3) 这种糖不但好吃, *érqiě piányi.*
(4) 这个故事既简单, *yòu yǒu yìsi.*



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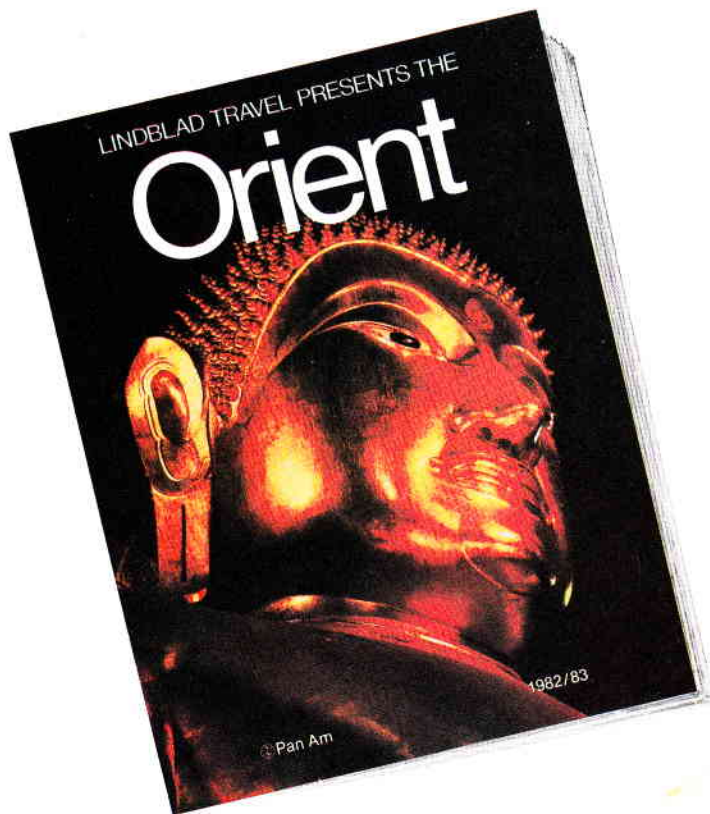


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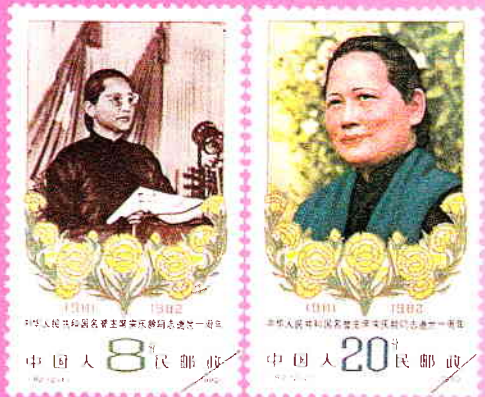
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Comrade Soong Ching Ling

Medicinal Herbs (2nd series)



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Comrade Soong Ching Ling

A set of commemorative stamps marking the first anniversary of the death of Comrade Soong Ching Ling, Honorary President of the People's Republic of China, was issued on May 29, 1982.

Stamp 1, Soong Ching Ling speaking at the first plenary session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference in 1949, 8 *fen*.

Stamp 2, Portrait of Soong Ching Ling, 20 *fen*.

Both stamps measure 31 × 52 mm. *Perf.* 11.5. Color photogravured. Serial numbers: J. 82 (2-1) to (2-2).

Medicinal Herbs (2nd series)

A second set of six specials picturing medicinal herbs was issued on May 20, 1982.

Stamp 1, *Hemerocallis flava* L. *Hemerocallis fulva* L., 4 *fen*.

Stamp 2, *Fritillaria unibracteata* Hsiao et K.C. Hsia, 8 *fen*.

Stamp 3, *Aconitum carmichaeli* Debx., 8 *fen*.

Stamp 4, *Lilium brownii* F.E. Brown var. *colehesteri* Wils., 10 *fen*.

Stamp 5, *Arisaema consanguineum* Schott, 20 *fen*.

Stamp 6, *Paeonia Lactiflora* Pall., 70 *fen*.

All stamps measure 30 × 40 mm. *Perf.* 11.5 × 11. Color photogravured. Serial numbers: T. 72 (6-1) to (6-6).

A souvenir sheet "Iris tectorum Maxim., Iris SPP" with a face value of 2 yuan was issued at the same time, measuring 40 × 90 mm., color photogravured.

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