

China Reconstructs

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• Beijing's
Lama Temple

• Position
of Women
Hotels & Inns



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Sichuan village Painting in traditional style by Li Huasheng

VOL. XXXI

MARCH 1982

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Front: Statue of Tsongkhapa, founder of the Yellow Sect of Tibetan Buddhism, at Yonghe Gong, Lama temple in Beijing. <i>Huo Jianying</i>	
Back: Scene along the Keshi River on the western slopes of the Tianshan Mountains in Xinjiang. <i>He Chongyun</i>	

Articles of the Month

China's Economy in 1981 P. 29

Based on Premier Zhao Ziyang's report on government work, this article briefly reviews China's economic situation and principles for future development.



Long Road Upward — the Wa Nationality P. 10

The Wa people of Yunnan province, once mired in poverty and backwardness, have experienced great progress — and serious setbacks — since 1949. Policy changes and a resurgent economy have made the past three years a 'second liberation.'



Where They Stay in Beijing P. 4

A vivid look at the capital's hotels and other accommodations which serve visitors, and some new facilities under construction.



Yonghe Gong, Beijing's Lama Temple P. 58

The 18th century Yonghe Gong, Beijing's largest lama temple, was once the scene of palace intrigues. Sacked by foreign troops and suffering a close call during the "cultural revolution," it is now open and functioning again.

Equal Opportunities for Women P. 22

Is there any discrimination in jobs or education? What's "women's work"? A look at Chinese women's continuing struggle, with government support, for equal opportunities.



About Our Reporting

OUR magazine has nearly forty staff reporters, half of them grouped in three general sections—economic, social-political and cultural—and the rest attached to particular language editions. Every one of these men and women, besides working in Beijing, travels to other parts of the country to write or arrange for articles on the spot. During 1981 and the first quarter of this year, they and our seven staff photographers ranged over 24 of China's 30 administrative divisions. Where they worked is shown on the accompanying map.

To keep you abreast of new developments in Chinese agriculture, we sent teams to the provinces of Sichuan in the west, and Anhui and Shandong in the east. Their in-depth investigations focussed on recent key shifts in rural policies and on their effect.

To cover the construction of capital projects, reporters with pen and camera went twice (at two stages in its building) to the giant Gezhouba Dam and its attendant hydro-electric and navigation projects in the middle reaches of China's mightiest river, the Chang-jiang (Yangtze) and once to the remote Qinghai plateau where a new railway is edging toward Tibet.

Reporting on other industries, they traveled, among other places, to the shipyard of Dalian, now building modern vessels not only for China but for export, and to Liaoyang's new petrochemical complex. Both are in northeast China.

WRITERS' and photographers' journeys to China's national minority regions ranged from Xinjiang, in the far northwest rimmed by snowy mountains, to the semi-tropical areas of Yunnan, Guangxi and Hainan Island.

They also criss-crossed the provinces of Guangdong and Fujian, home areas of most of the millions of people of Chinese ancestry living in foreign countries.

Many places were also visited to get stories on the youth, education, employment, culture, sports, scenic spots and religious life.

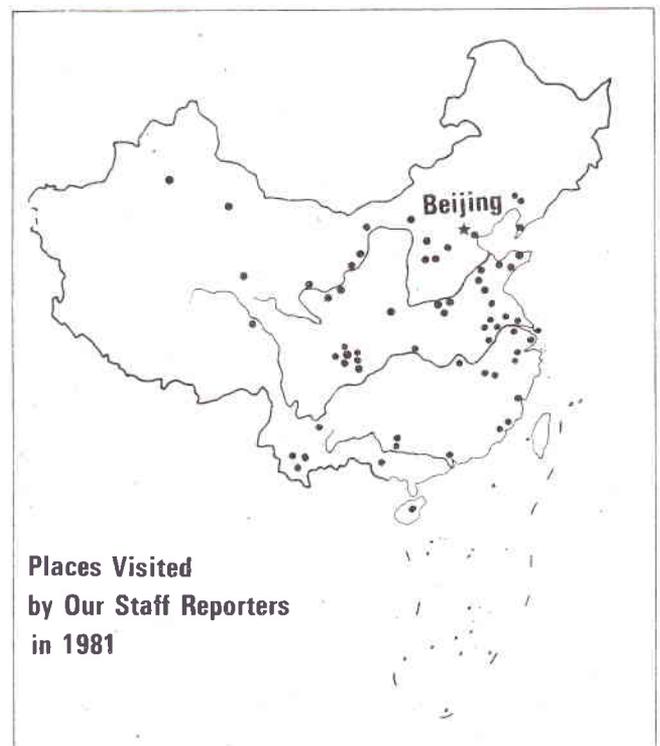
In short, the panorama of China we present to our readers is a wide-ranging, up-to-date and first-hand one.

NOT a few of our editorial staff, translators included, have traveled internationally during the same period—to Thailand, the Philippines, West Germany, Britain, the U.S.A., to Arab and African countries including Egypt and Madagascar, and to Latin American nations including Argentina, Peru, Colombia and Venezuela. Some went on writing assignments or as members of press and publishing tours, others on temporary loan to other organizations, a few as family visitors.

In addition, we have sent several young people to study abroad for periods ranging from several months to two years, in France, the U.S.A., Mexico and Portugal.

BBETTER acquaintance with our readers, their languages and the countries in which they live will certainly result from all this.

We trust that it will show in constantly improved performance by our magazine of its task of promoting friendship and understanding between the people of China and those of other lands. □





Congratulations

On the 30th anniversary of the founding of *China Reconstructs*, we extend to all of you our sincere congratulations and best wishes. Your efforts are well appreciated on the small island of the Republic of Malta.

World friendship and better understanding through correspondence is one of the aims of our organization and we would like to extend an invitation to your readers who would like to have friends from Malta, to write: Albert V. Rutter, Director, International Correspondence Club, 5 Duke of York Street, Hamrun, Malta.

ALBERT V. RUTTER

Hamrun, Malta

In Memory of Soong Ching Ling

I was deeply touched to read of the passing of Soong Ching Ling, who participated fully in publishing the magazine. My family, myself and the many readers to whom I have passed the July 1981 special memorial supplement send our deep condolences.

China Reconstructs interests me as a reader to understand not only China's achievements over past years, present and future plans but also its great desire to help developing nations.

Please if possible try to be short and concise, perhaps by continuing some topics in succeeding issues.

PAOLO ILLELIT

Soroti, Uganda

China's Reunification

I am a professor of economics and I do remember the Shanghai Communiqué of 1972. Almost ten years has elapsed and it is most timely to call for the reunification of China for economic feasibility. In the spirit of the Shanghai Communiqué, Taiwan is a part of China.

I was so impressed by Chairman Ye Jianying's elaborations on policy concerning return of Taiwan to the motherland, especially the statement that when the country is reunified, Taiwan can enjoy a high degree of autonomy as a special administrative region and retain its armed forces.

I was also delighted to learn that Taiwan's current socio-economic system will remain unchanged and that people in authority in Taiwan may take up posts of leadership in the affairs of the one and only China. It is so true that the reunification of the motherland is in the interest of all Chinese, wherever we are.

We must work energetically and continuously from 1982 and beyond until this objective is realized.

FRANCIS SHIEH

Upper Marlboro, Maryland, U.S.A.

Only One China

Please give me more information about Communist and Nationalist China.

JOSEPH KWAO DE-SOUZA
Kumasi, Ghana

There is only one China—the People's Republic of China. Taiwan is an inseparable part of our country and the government of the People's Republic of China is its sole legitimate government and its sole representative in the United Nations. This is recognized by most countries and peoples of the world, and is a precondition of relations with China.

With the victory of the Chinese people's revolution in 1949, the reactionary rule of the Kuomintang was overthrown. The island province of Taiwan is the only place still remaining under Kuomintang control, and is thus temporarily separated from the mainland. It is a province of China and not a "country". When China is reunified, the Taiwan administration will be one of its local governments.

For this reason, the terms "Communist China" and "Nationalist China" are inappropriate and do not tally with the facts. Detrimental to the sovereignty and dignity of the Chinese people, they originated with a handful of people who have long schemed to create "two Chinas."

For proposed ways of peaceful reunification, see "To Our Readers" in the February 1981 issue of China Reconstructs.

— Ed.

Taiwan Magazine a Propaganda Blurb

I subscribe to *China Reconstructs* and I am very impressed with the scope of your articles. And I am particularly pleased to see articles which show that there is some unemployment and other problems. To the Western mind there is something very wrong with a society with nothing wrong to say of itself. By contrast I also mistakenly subscribed to a Taiwan magazine and although technically it is very well printed and presented it is a continuing propaganda blurb and tells me nothing of the island and its way of life. I consider it a waste of money.

DEREK H. ROUT
Christchurch, New Zealand

Mount Gongga

The article on Mount Gongga in the July 1981 issue brought back memories from my childhood in Switzerland. In

the 1930s my father bought a book describing the expedition of a Swiss geological team into the Mount Gongga area, exploring in 1930-31 a region that few had heard about or seen. Besides detailed descriptions of the geography, people and plants of the area, and some of the hardships that faced the expedition, the book contained many photographs.

I have just re-read the Swiss account, and in comparing it with the article in *China Reconstructs*, I have the impression that the area is still a wonderland of nature. I hope you will be able to keep it that way, for Mount Gongga undoubtedly must be one of the world's most majestic mountains.

HANS WAELTI

Victoria, Canada

Articles Too Detailed

It seems to me that your topics are wildly dilated upon and take more time to read before one goes on to another topic. Therefore to save time, try to summarize and illustrate with pictures to make the reading more lively.

BABA ZUMAH

Kwahu Prasu, Ghana

On Advertising — and Theory

You say that advertising is a good thing. I agree as long as the advertising presents facts and information about the products on sale. But when you see, for example, women and happy youngsters on billboards I think you use the same salesmanship as the capitalists of the West and that is a really bad way.

You also criticize Mao's theory of continuing the revolution. I think he was right: you must continue to fight bourgeois and feudal ideology where and when it's uncovered. On the other hand of course you mustn't widen the scope of the struggle, so that contradictions among the people are treated like contradictions between the people and their enemies. I think the last failure was caused by a wrong understanding of the theory of the continued revolution.

HANS C. PETERSEN

Brabrand, Denmark

More about Modernization

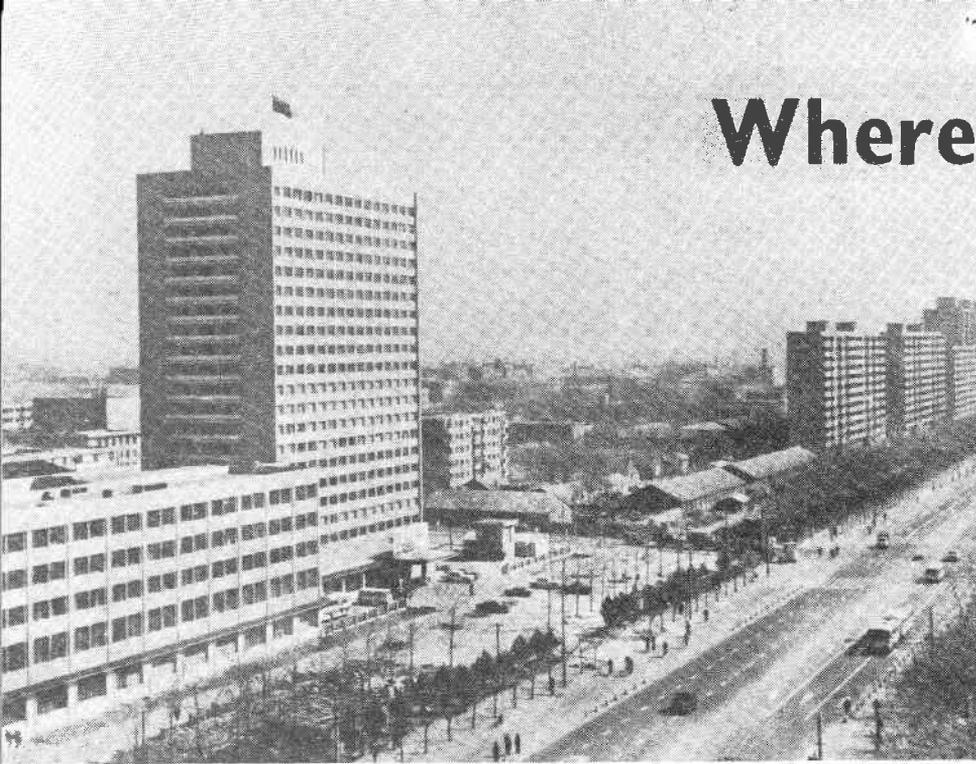
One thing I would like to see more of is how China is tackling problems in her efforts towards the four modernizations. So few of us over here know what they are. Perhaps you can explain to us what the four modernizations are and what achievements have been made. Also would like more on how China is developing her natural resources and the Chinese railway system.

ROBERT K. GBAJU

Freetown, Sierra Leone

Where They Stay in Beijing

LI CHUANG



The Yanjing is one of Beijing's newest hotels.

Zhang Shuyuan

The rate of occupancy of rooms is between 96 and 113 percent, so that every day about 10,000 people must sleep in temporary beds set up in hotel corridors, passageways and offices. Even the narrow wooden cots for the customers of public bathhouses (which close at eight in the evening) are pressed into service.

Beijing's hotels and inns are classified as large, medium and small. Of the 24 large hotels managed by the Beijing Tourist Bureau and the Municipal Committee, all but two are multi-story buildings. The two exceptions are one-story affairs in Chinese-style courtyards. The large hotels cater to foreigners, overseas Chinese and guests of China. Of the small and medium-sized hotels and inns, 109 belong to the Beijing Hotels and Inns Company, and the remaining 227 are run by district service bureaus or as collectively owned

HOW many people pass through the airports, railway and bus stations into Beijing every day? How many hotels are there for them? What about the shortage of accommodations for foreign tourists? How many new hotels have been built?

I decided to find out. But some things look easy until you dig into them.

There is no unified administration for transportation and hotel services, and I tramped in and out of some 30 offices — including the Beijing Tourist Bureau, the service bureaus of the Beijing Municipality committee, and the Beijing Hotels and Inns Company — before I managed to collect the following facts and figures:

Statistics compiled in October 1981 showed that 150,000 people arrive in Beijing every day by air or land, one-fourth of them to visit relatives and friends and put up in private homes. Entering the city every day are some one thousand foreigners, overseas Chinese, and Chinese from Hongkong and Macao. A large number of these come on official business, for medi-

cal care, are in transit or on tourist trips. All of them need hotel accommodations.

Beijing today has 365 hotels and inns (if we include those in the outskirts for bus passengers, cart drivers and their animals). There are also some 100 hostels run by government departments and army units stationed in Beijing. Altogether there are about 100,000 available beds.

Zhuoxian county's tourist hotel, a gem of traditional architecture combined with modern conveniences, features guest rooms situated around a quiet and lovely courtyard.

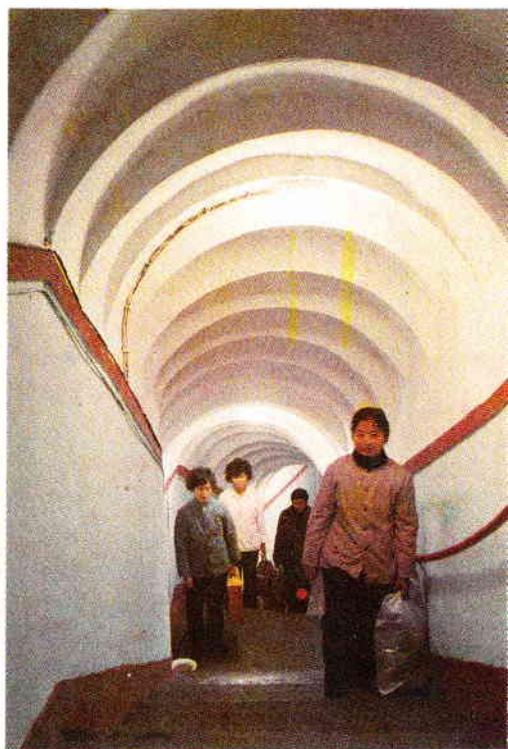


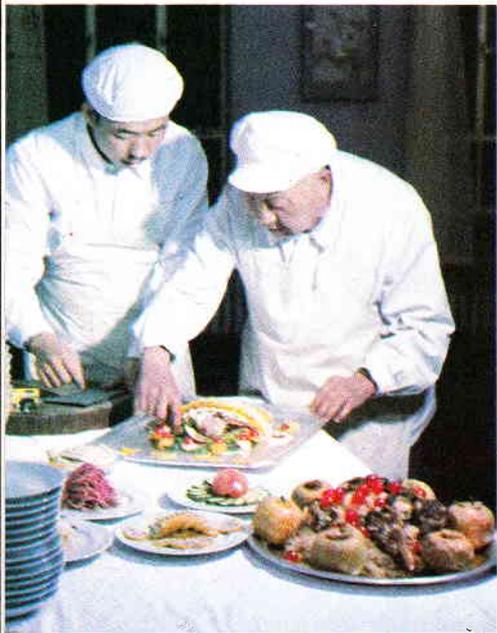
LI CHUANG is a reporter on the staff of China Reconstructs.



One of the oldest inns in Beijing.

An underground inn in Beijing's air defence system and the passageway leading into the inn.





Well-known chefs garnish dishes for hotel guests.



Reception room in a luxury suite at the Nationalities Hotel.

The Xiangshan Hotel, now under construction, was designed by the famous Chinese-American architect, I. M. Pei.

Photos by Zhou Youma, Wang Xinmin and Huo Jianying



enterprises by neighborhoods. Domestic Chinese patronize those.

Rates (in Renminbi, which exchanges at approximately 1.70 yuan to the U.S. dollar) are: 50 to 500 yuan for a suite and 20 to 40 yuan for an ordinary room in large hotels; 2 to 4 yuan in medium-sized hotels; about one yuan in a small hotel or inn; and 50 to 80 *fen* per day for a temporary bed in hotels or a cot in bathhouses. No tips are accepted in any hotel or inn.

Accommodation arrangements for tourists from abroad are made by the relevant tourist agency. Chinese tourists and visitors first register at a hotel accommodations agency which finds them a place. There are four in Beijing: two in front of the main Beijing Railway Station, one at the Yongdingmen Railway Station in the southern part of the city, and one on Qianmen Street in the center. Thirteen hotels have an arrangement with the railways so that travelers can reserve hotel accommodations while on trains coming to Beijing.

Hotels that Chinese Frequent

Since I had never been in one of the smaller hotels, I decided to look at them first. At seven in the morning I went to one of the accommodations agencies in front of the Beijing Railway Station. It had just opened and about 400 people stood in line at the door. Asking around, I learned that some had come off the train at four in the morning and had been waiting for three hours.

I found the head of the agency, Liu Erqian, a stocky middle-aged man, who told me many of the people were in transit, staying in the city only a day or two. They wanted to be put up near the station but the nearest hotel was a kilometer away. "It's like this in many large cities in China," he said. "We need a few big hotels built next to the Beijing Railway Station as soon as possible."

At about eight o'clock I left the agency with a young honeymooning couple for the Xiheyuan No. 5 Hostel off Qianmen Street, two and half kilometers away. The newlyweds were from the Foodstuffs

and Service Company in the city of Xuancheng in Anhui province. The man, 29, was called Zhu Youzhao, and his wife, 24, Huang Xiaoling. The room they were given at the hostel had a double bed, wooden chairs, a table with two drawers, a wash stand, a thermos flask, teapot and cups. The charge was 3.20 yuan per day. Zhu Youzhao was satisfied. "Simple," he said, "but neat, bright and cheerful."

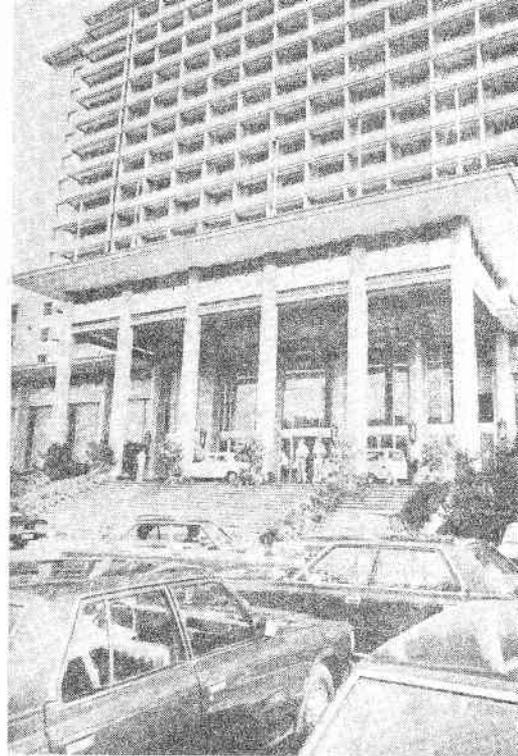
This hostel is located in a typical Beijing courtyard. The brick yard is surrounded by one-story buildings containing 14 rooms and 57 beds. The washrooms are in a separate building. Heating in the winter depends on coal stoves. Girl attendant Sui Xueyan remarked that the best thing about this type of hostel was the quiet atmosphere. "We're one of the smaller ones under the Beijing Hotels and Inns Company," she said, "and one of the more recent."

On the next street was the Tieshuxiejie No. 5 Hostel, the oldest in Beijing. Inside its red-lacquered gate was a double, paved courtyard with potted flowers and morning glories climbing to the roofs. The bright contrasting colors give a touch of freshness to the 200-year-old inn. There are 30 guest rooms with 140 beds.

About two-thirds of the hotels and inns run by the Beijing Hotels and Inns Company are near Qianmen. The reason is that before liberation in 1949 this used to be, and still is one of Beijing's largest commercial centers. The old Beijing Railway Station was located here until it was moved eastward to its present location in 1959. As Beijing expanded, new business centers grew and the population increased, the municipal government expanded existing hotels and inns here and built new ones, including 18 medium-sized ones in the last two years, each four to seven stories high and with a total of 3,560 beds.

Inns Underground

The new inns that interested me most were the 'underground'. Since 1979, 60 of them with 6,000 beds have been opened underground in



The Beijing Hotel, one of the capital's oldest and largest, has had some new wings added over the years and caters to travelers from all over the world.

Wang Guomin

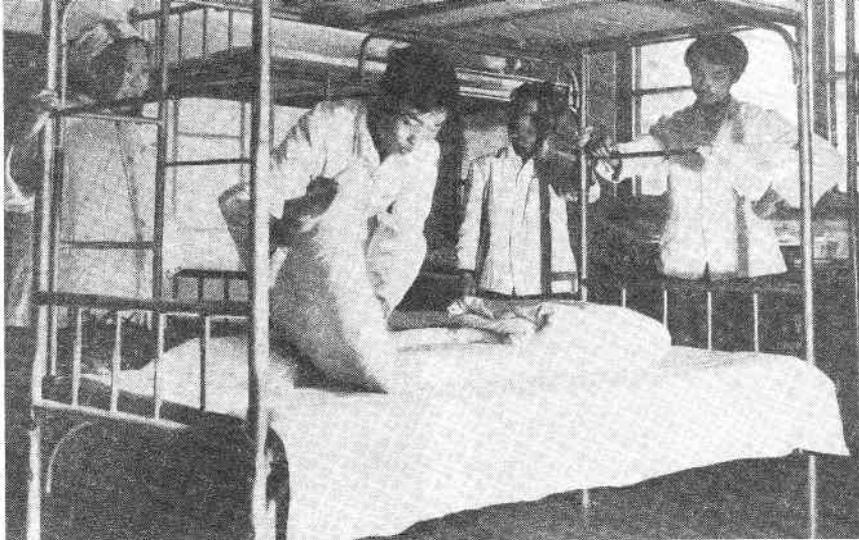
Beijing's people's air defence system.

I went to see one started by 30 unemployed young people on Fusuijing Street in the western part of the city. It occupied two levels, had a floor space of 1,000 square meters and 148 beds. Manager Yu Junzhi led me down a spiral staircase into a spacious underground corridor flanked by guest rooms, washrooms and a checkroom. All of these were brightly lit, neat and clean. The air was fresh. A special bus brings guests here from the railway station — 6,400 per month.

I had thought it might be uncomfortable to live underground but my doubts were dispelled after I saw the inn. It was equipped with air conditioners and moisture removers. The temperature remained between 22 to 24 degrees Centigrade the year round and the bedding was clean and dry.

Modern Hotels

On the capital's main boulevard at the southern end of Wangfujing Street, one of the biggest shopping centers, stands a modern 23-story



New attendants at the Chongwenmen No. 2 Hostel near Beijing's main railway station learn to make beds properly. Xinhua

building, connected on its western side to two older 7-story buildings. These three buildings, different in height, color and style, reveal the history of Beijing Hotel.

It began in 1901 as a Chinese style courtyard inn. In the front courtyard was a bar and a restaurant. In a courtyard behind were twenty rooms for guests,

furnished in a mixture of western and Chinese styles and lighted at night with kerosene lamps. The first 7-story building went up in 1917. It contained 21 rooms on each floor, electric lights, elevators, and central heating. In 1955 another seven-story building rose west of the older building, adding 240 rooms. It also contained air con-

ditioning and a banquet hall for 2,000 walled with carved wooden panels. Today's new 23-story building, with modern facilities, was completed in June 1974.

In 1949 Beijing had only three first-class hotels such as the old Beijing Hotel. By the end of the 50s there were 14. Another five were constructed in the 70s. Some progress has been made in the last two years in combining modern facilities with traditional architectural styles. The Zhuyuan (Bamboo Garden) Hotel in the city's outskirts was constructed on the basis of a 19th century prince's residence. It has 22 guest rooms around an exquisite little garden. The tourist hotel in Zhuoxian county, 60 kilometers from Beijing, consists of two courtyards with 30 guest rooms. Its main service center contains a spacious lounge and bar. A Japanese guest among the first group of clients to put at this hotel remarked that it was much more interesting than high-rise hotels.

Notes on the History of Chinese Inns

CHINA'S first biographical history, *Historical Records* (*Shi Ji*), contains this story: In 356 B.C. Shang Yang became prime minister of the State of Qin. He instituted reforms to make Qin prosperous and strong, but was accused by the aristocracy of plotting rebellion and had to flee. Once he tried to put up at an inn, but the innkeeper, not knowing who he was, told him: "Prime Minister Shang Yang has made a law that the innkeeper who provides lodgings to a traveler without identification papers will be punished." Shang Yang had to leave, and was later caught and killed by Qin soldiers.

This story tells us that inns existed more than 2,000 years ago in China, and that the State of Qin had regulations about them. Actually, material in the ancient *Book of Rites* indicates that both private and government-run inns

existed even prior to the Spring and Autumn period (770-476 B.C.), when the book was compiled.

In the Wei-Jin period (220-420) Emperor Wu Di of Wei took a personal hand in reforming old hostelries and setting up new ones for traveling merchants. The improved facilities included "warm rooms in winter, cool and shady places in summer, abundant fodder for animals and a variety of utensils for the use of lodgers."

During the Tang dynasty (618-907) a thriving economy and flourishing foreign trade necessitated the construction of many different kinds of inns in the capital Chang'an. Apart from ordinary ones run by private individuals and the government, there were special ones for foreign merchants and for minority nationalities from China's border regions, as well as those

for cart drivers and their animals and for sick people. Along all the main highways were special posts where government couriers and officials could change horses and rest, and hostels for civilians.

By the Yuan dynasty (1279-1368), with the approval and protection of the government, even monasteries were running inns. *Notes on the History of the Yuan Dynasty* records that one monastery in the capital Dadu (near Beijing) operated 100 or more inns and taverns. There were 1,490 government-run courier posts in the country, some with as many as 400 horses. After the Yuan dynasty, innkeeping flourished as one of the most lucrative trades.

Courier stations disappeared in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, as railways and modern postal facilities came into existence. Meanwhile, the number of inns in cities and towns increased, and multi-story hotels with modern facilities and 100 or more guest rooms began to appear. □

In March 1981 another first-class hotel, the Yanjing, opened in Beijing. Its 24 stories, four of them underground, contain 513 rooms, making it one of the finest in the capital.

Hotels Going Up

Ten new hotels are being built. The Xiangshan (Fragrant Hills) Hotel was the most interesting to me, for two reasons. First, it is located in beautiful Xiangshan Park northwest of the city (I had lived there for two years in the 60s), and second, it was designed by I.M. Pei, the famous Chinese-American architect.

When I went to Xiangshan, the one-story buildings of the old hotel had been replaced by five Chinese style courtyards. Seen from the distance, they are arranged in the form of a Greek cross, each group of buildings linked by corridors winding among gardens and a man-made lake. In the center is a four-story building with a roof-top lounge. The 325 rooms have modern fixtures and each looks

out over the park's scenery. Elegant and graceful, the hotel is a combination of the best of Chinese and Western architecture. The builders are now busy on interior decoration and the aim is to get the hotel open by October this year.

The Jianguo Hotel, on which work started almost simultaneously with the Xiangshan Hotel, is located near the diplomatic quarter in the eastern part of Beijing. A cluster of buildings, including a restaurant and swimming pool, it was designed by Clement Chen & Associates, architects of San Francisco. It will have a floor space of 30,000 square meters and 500 rooms.

The Huadu Hotel, now also in the interior decoration stage, is in east Beijing and will cater to overseas Chinese. If things go according to plan, it will open in May. Quite originally designed, it is in the shape of a crab, with a six-story main building and two five-story wings.

Also under construction are the Xiyuan Hotel and the Changcheng

(Great Wall) Hotel. The former is in west Beijing. Its main building will be 27 stories high and will include an octagonal revolving restaurant 32 meters in diameter at the top from where diners will be able to look over the whole city. The Changcheng Hotel in eastern Beijing will have three wings 22 stories high and a floor space of 80,000 square meters.

Other hotels under construction or planned for this year are the 250-room Zhaolong Hotel, the 1,300-room International Hotel, the 2,000-room Lidu Hotel, the 600-room Jianhua Hotel, and the 300-room Yanchun Hotel. In addition, 100 rooms are now being added to the Minzu (Nationalities) Hotel near Xidan in the central part of Beijing.

All the hotels now under construction or in planning will have a total floor space of 550,000 square meters and provide Beijing's tourists with 7,600 more rooms. The shortage of accommodations is slowly changing for the better. □

HUMOR

A Criticism Backfires

A student can't read the teacher's comments on his homework, and asks him to explain them. The teacher studies the characters for a long time before realizing that the words he'd written were: "Your handwriting is too messy and unreadable."



Buying a Watch

A young couple go to buy a wristwatch. She wants a small women's watch.

Man: "It's too small — your eyesight's not that good."

Woman: "It doesn't matter as long as other people can see it on my wrist!"



Whose Fault

Son: Father, how come my teacher doesn't even know what a horse is?

Father: What?

Son: Yesterday I handed in my painting of a horse and teacher wanted to know what I'd painted.

by Ding Cong

A Long Road Upward for the Wa Nationality

FANG DONG

A "barren and savage land" is what they called the ancient Wa homeland, the Awa Mountain district, in the days before liberation. A steep and rugged area sandwiched between the Lancang and Nujiang rivers in southwestern Yunnan province near the Burmese border, the terrain contributed to its image as a wild place, but so did many aspects of social life.

The region was poor and backward. A form of slavery still existed. Bandits roamed the area, and blood feuds among villagers resulted in the heads of enemies displayed on poles by the roadside. Opium poppies were a local cash crop, and the small town of Mengka served as a trading post where

and people began to work their way out of poverty. But the ultra-Left tendencies which reached their height during the "cultural revolution" — and which had particularly harsh effects on minority and border areas seriously disrupted the economic progress that had been made, especially in outlying parts of the region. In the last few years policy changes have quickened the pace of development once more, and life has become better for the region's 260,000 Was and several hundred thousand people of other nationalities.

Mountainside Town

The Ximeng Wa Autonomous County around Mt. Ximeng is one of two local autonomous counties established in the 1960s where the Wa live in compact communities. Over 72 percent of the county population of more than 60,000 are Was, the remainder being Lahus, Dais, Hanis, Lisus and Hans. The main street of Ximeng, the county town, winds steeply upward from the middle of the mountain to near the top (in the whole county, it's said, there isn't a single piece of level land large enough to build a 100-meter race track).

Ximeng is completely modern in appearance. Lining the main street, which is wide enough to accommodate three cars driving abreast, are a movie theater, hotel, bookstore, county bank and a foreign trade company. The piped water supply draws on a small reservoir near the top of the mountain. It's difficult to believe that this peaceful little town is not far from the old site of Mengka, the former opium trading post. The opium trade — along with opium cultivation — was abolished shortly after liberation, and bandits later burned Mengka to the ground. Slightly over half of the town's total floor space was constructed just in the last two to three years, a reflection of the recent spurt in local prosperity.

On my first day in Ximeng I met an old friend, a man of Li nationality who had joined the revolution in Lancang county over 30 years ago. In the early 1950s, when he was very young, he had been one of a group sent here to help establish the new state power. Another member of the group was Sui Jia, a Wa who is presently head of the county government.

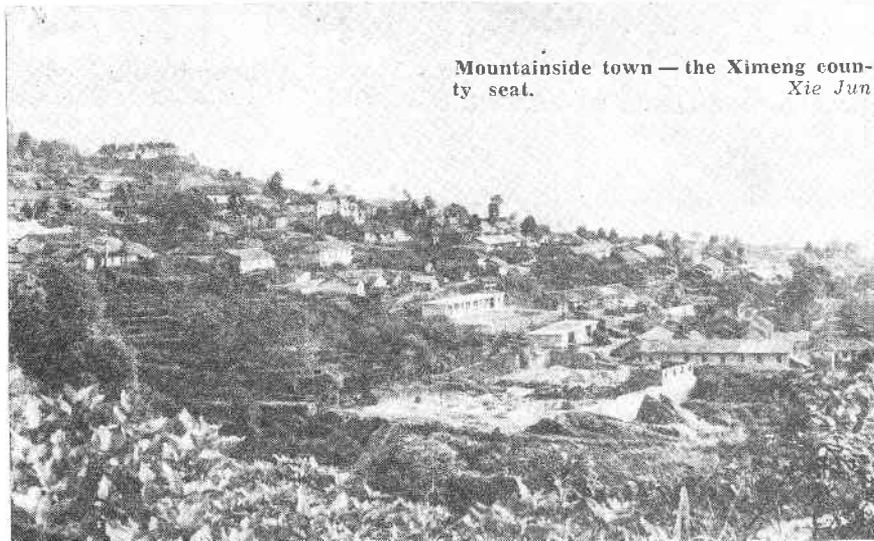


County head Sui Jia (left) is never too busy to talk with the many people who visit his home.

merchants from China's interior regions came to barter for opium.

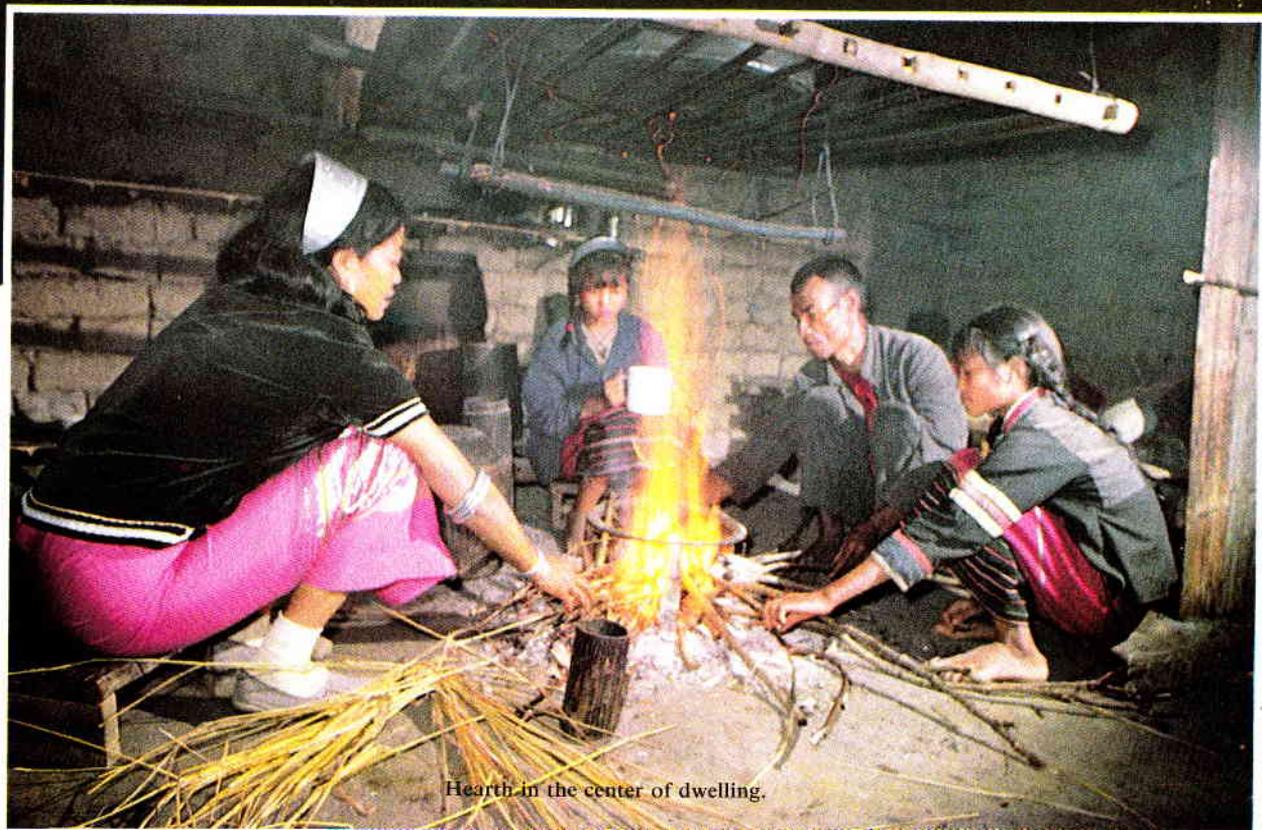
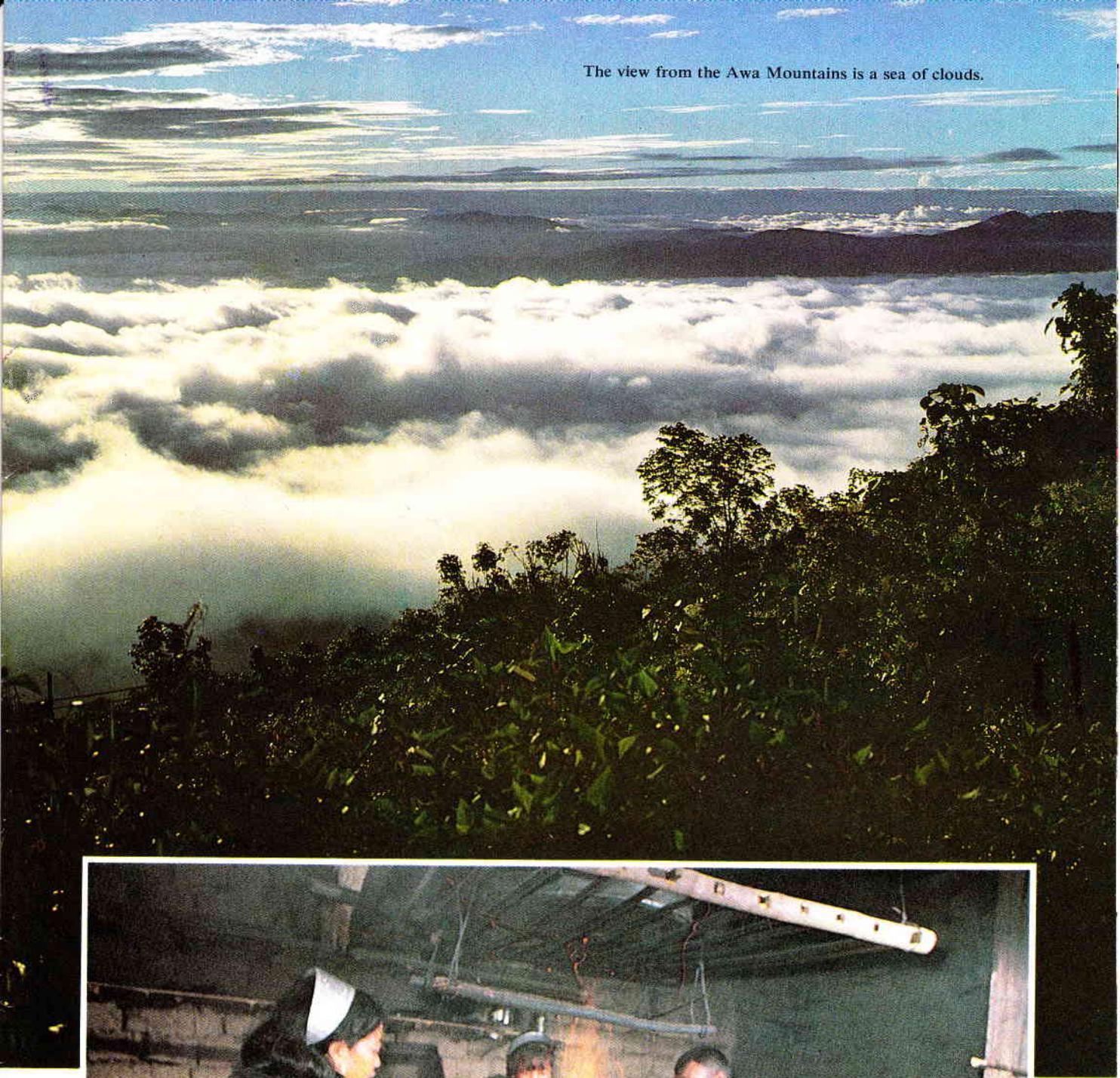
The 1949 liberation brought enormous changes to the social, economic and cultural life of the Wa, as it did to all other nationalities in China. Unfortunate social practices of the past disappeared,

FANG DONG is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.



Mountainside town — the Ximeng county seat.
Xie Jun

The view from the Awa Mountains is a sea of clouds.



Hearth in the center of dwelling.



A Wa village.



Brick houses are becoming more common in the Awa Mountains.

Wa girls at a market fair.





A member of the Yunnan Provincial Song and Dance Ensemble coaches a local group with dancers of Wa and other nationalities.



Wa girl.



Crushing rice with mortar and pestle.

Water is fetched from a nearby stream in long bamboo tubes.



Weaving.





Tractors belonging to a production brigade.



Burning the vegetation on a mountain slope before planting it with crops.



Winnowing.
Photos by Xie Jun

Taken by my friend to visit Sui Jia's home, I found him in ordinary Wa garb — a black suit topped by a red turban. His wife, also a Wa and employed by the county bureau of industry and commerce, served us the customary treat for guests, a home-made rice wine. We protested that we were not drinkers, but were assured that the wine was very light. It was indeed light, tart and refreshing.

During the 1950s, Sui Jia had risen to be vice-head of Ximeng county. Hanging in his home is a picture from that period of Chairman Mao Zedong receiving him and other members of a Ximeng delegation in Beijing. But during the "cultural revolution" Sui was removed from his post and sent off to do physical labor at the grass-roots level. There he accomplished a great deal of down-to-earth work in production and construction, and gained a reputation as a man of action. In December 1980 he was elected county head by the local people's congress. A popular saying around the county is that if you want to find the governor, you still have to go look in the grassroots units or among the masses.

Rich Resources, Slow Development

Despite the mountainous terrain, Ximeng county is rich in resources. Mineral wealth includes silver, gold, iron, tin, asbestos mica and lead. The area's extensive forests include valuable tree species and medicinal herbs. Fertile soil, a mild climate and plentiful rainfall favor the cultivation of several kinds of grain, potatoes, cotton, hemp, tobacco, sugar cane, tea, and other subtropical crops.

But this richly endowed region is still quite poor. Before liberation it might better have been described as destitute. Many local resources had never really been tapped. The area's major cash crop was opium. Considerable progress in economic development was made in the 1950s. All-time record grain harvests were achieved. Education, health care and electric power —



Planting dryland millet on a slope.
Zou Liancong

all virtually unknown in the county before liberation — made great strides.

But the ultra-Left policies of later years caused great harm. These policies were so divorced from reality that they ignored regional differences in climate, terrain, level of economic development, history and social customs, and demanded that every region conform to the same political and economic pattern.

The Wa, like many of China's minority nationalities, live in a border region where climate and terrain are significantly different from those of central China, so insistence on a standard agricultural pattern distorted the local economy. The emphasis on moving rapidly to higher levels of collective management suited neither the economic base nor social conditions. Progress in promoting minority cadres to positions of responsibility was retarded.

But today the situation in the Wa homeland has improved so much that local people talk of the past few years as their "second liberation."

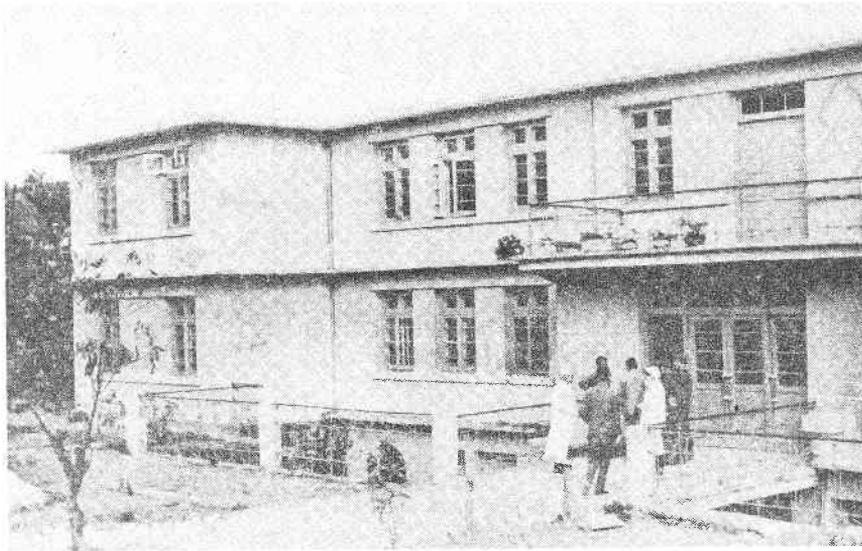
Yuesong Commune

I was taken to visit Yuesong, now as in the past Ximeng county's poorest commune. My guide and interpreter was a Wa woman named Nagei, who as a child in the old society had lost her father and became a slave in a village

chief's household. Nagei escorted me to the home of Yan Lai, a stocky and sunburnt ex-armyman of about 30 who is now leader of the commune's Yuesong brigade. His report on the brigade's history was quite revealing.

The brigade's population of just over 1,600 cultivates some 600 hectares of land, mostly planted to dryland rice, beans, winter buckwheat, red rice and corn. In the early post-liberation years, production had increased dramatically, their 1950s record harvest being 450,000 kilograms of grain. But under the influence of ultra-Left policies, output slipped to between 150-250,000 kg. annually, and later declined even further. The worst years were 1969 and 1970, when the allocation of grain per person dropped to an average of 3-4 kg., and everyone had to make trips into the mountains to dig up edible roots to eat.

For years the brigade had subsisted on tens of thousands of kg. of relief grain from the state; in one particularly bad year, the amount rose to 45,000 kg. Starting in 1980, however, the government stopped levying grain tax for three years running to encourage people to farm more land and to give them a chance to build up their economy. These and other policy reforms showed quick results. By the end of 1980 only 5,000 kg. of relief grain was needed, and the following year none at all, since the brigade itself grew enough to give each family 2-3,000 kg. The



The county hospital. Killer diseases such as smallpox and cholera, common among the Wa before liberation, have now been completely eliminated, and modern medical care is now available. *Qing Xianyou*

1981 grain crop was still being harvested, but Yan estimated the final total would surpass the 450,000 kg. record set in the early 1950s.

Between 1966 and 1975 the brigade's annual per capita cash income ranged between 10 *fen* and one yuan—severe poverty by Chinese agricultural standards. By 1980 average per capita income had risen to 20 yuan, and many brigade members had happily opened bank savings accounts for the first time.

In 1969 the average family had no more than eight or nine yuan's worth of household belongings, including clothes, cooking utensils and bedding. In Yan Lai's smoke-blackened bamboo house today are two wooden beds with felt mattresses. Almost luxurious by former standards, these are now the rule rather than the exception in most households. On the beams under his thatched roof lay half a dozen of the 3-4 meter long bamboo tubes which the Wa use to store grain. In considerable contrast to former years, the village granary was filled to capacity and there was still some left for each family to store its own supply.

I asked Yan hesitantly about some ancient Wa customs I'd heard about. One was the blood feuds, and the display of enemies' heads on posts to propitiate the gods. Another was a religious ceremony

roadside. Yan assured me that such practices had been abolished for a long time. But he also told me of a happier custom that was being revived. People are once again carving the huge traditional Wa wooden drums. Once beaten to appease gods and demons, they now help celebrate the new prosperity. County head Sui Jia is one of the best drummers and dancers in the region.

Diversification

Yuesong commune as a whole, though fairly well off in terms of land, labor power and weather conditions, had followed the same pattern of rapid development in the 1950s and then a period of stagnation during which it was dependent on loans for production, relief for living expenses and state-sold grain for food. Now the food problem has basically been solved, and the next step is to raise living standards by developing various cash crops—something that had been relatively neglected after the banning of the major pre-liberation cash crop, opium poppies.

To promote diversified sideline production, the government has recently instituted a system of rewards. At Yuesong, for instance, a payment of 30 yuan is given the first year for every *mu* of land opened up for tea cultivation, 15 yuan the second year for planting, and another 15 the third year for management expenses. For every



The new generation: growing up healthy, strong and literate. *Wu Dong*

in which cattle were wastefully hacked and sliced to death, their horns and tails hung up by the

A group of Wa people before the 1949 liberation.

Cultural Center, Lancang Lahu Autonomous County



mango tree planted that survives. 50 *fen* is awarded to the person in charge (1,000 have now been planted at Yuesong). Every new surviving tung-oil tree brings a reward of 20 *fen*.

Lisuo commune, with 50 tractors and bulldozers, is fairly well off and has a high degree of mechanization for this part of the province. Thriving sidelines and a large pig-raising industry contribute to the relatively high local living standards. By 1980 per capita food grain at Lisuo brigade had reached an average of 400-450 kg. One young man told me that his share had come to 500 kg. — more than he could really use. His family had obtained a government loan of 3,150 yuan to buy a hand tractor which would also allow them to take up transport work as a sideline occupation.

The brigade has a winery and a tea factory; the local tea is of excellent quality, and most is exported. The tea-processing factory earned a profit of 12,000 yuan in 1980, each household's share ranging between 200-500 yuan. Per capita income for 1980 averaged nearly 40 yuan.

Xinchang commune's Amo brigade, once notorious as an opium-producing center, is now famous for its forestry work. After the destruction of the opium poppy fields following liberation, the mountain slopes where they once grew lay barren and denuded for years. But now they are covered with terraces of paddy rice, tea gardens and large stands of fir and pine.

Public Welfare

At the time of liberation, modern medical care and education simply didn't exist in the area that is now Ximeng county. Post-liberation achievements in these fields are now being consolidated and expanded.

Local people once recorded events by cutting notches in wood or tying knots in cords, but now the county has 99 primary schools (including one especially for minority nationality children) and two middle schools, and more are being built. Some 67 percent of all

DO YOU KNOW?

About Radio and Television in China

THE Central People's Broadcasting Station (CPBS), China's domestic service, transmits nationwide. There are also 106 local stations in the provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions transmitting on 130 channels. The International Broadcasting Station is the country's overseas service, whose call sign is Radio Peking.

The CPBS broadcasts about 95 hours daily on six channels. Two are in *putonghua* (standard Chinese), the third is beamed to Taiwan province in *putonghua* and the southern Fujian and Hakka dialects, the fourth is transmitted to the national minority regions in Mongolian, Tibetan, Uygur, Kazak and Korean, the fifth to overseas Chinese in *putonghua*, Cantonese, Hakka, Chaozhou (southeastern Guangdong) and Xiamen (southern Fujian) dialects, and the sixth is devoted to light entertainment items.

Programs include news, excerpts from newspaper articles and features like "World Events"; "Across the Land" and "Around the World" (15%); special subjects including study courses, sports, features on

hygiene and science, regular programs for workers, peasants, young people and school children, and broadcasts for Taiwan province (20%); and light entertainment (60%). Other items such as advance program announcements and setting-up exercises to music make up 5%.

Radio Peking broadcasts worldwide a total of 136 hours a day in 38 foreign languages, *putonghua* and four local dialects.

CHINA Central Television (CCTV) transmits to every part of the country. All provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions have their own stations, 38 in all. There are 246 relay and transmitting stations, each with more than 1,000-watt capacity.

CCTV transmits in color on two channels. The first, beamed to the entire country, broadcasts every evening for about five hours, and also on Sunday mornings and afternoons. The second channel transmits only to the Beijing area.

CCTV exchanges film programs with television networks in some 20 countries. □

school-age children attend primary school — a relatively low proportion by general Chinese standards, but a big advance over the past.

For some time no new cases of diseases which once were rampant — bubonic plague, cholera, smallpox, rabies, diphtheria, scarlet fever — have been reported, and malaria and meningitis are basically under control. Medical institutions have been set up at every level, and the county hospital, built in 1963 with 200 square meters of floor space, is now being expanded to 1,600 square meters. The medical staff of 138 includes four doctors of the Wa nationality.

Fourteen of the county's 33 production brigades now get electricity from hydropower stations they themselves constructed, and some 300 kilometers of highways reach

20 of the brigades. The state recently allocated 600,000 yuan in construction funds to the county.

The ranks of minority nationality cadres at Ximeng are growing steadily. Top cadres of all administrative organizations are now members of national minorities, most of them Wa, including the county head, vice-head, secretary of the county Party committee, head of the county people's congress, and more. County departments of agriculture, hydropower, machinery and transportation are for the most part staffed by minority people. They are still relatively low proportionately in the education, health and commercial departments, and county officials see this as a weakness that must be corrected by upgrading local educational levels. □



Assembly line for the East Wind 140 truck.

Liu Chen

Creative Thinking at 'Motor City'

TU ZHENGMING

JUST 13 years ago, Shiyan in central China's Hubei province was a small mountain town of only a few dozen households. Today it is a busy city of 300,000 people, most of them involved in one way or another with Shiyan's major industry — the production of motor vehicles.

The No. 2 Motor Vehicle Plant, with 27 branch plants, specializes in 5-ton trucks, 2½-ton heavy-duty vehicles for rough terrain and variations on the two basic designs. In the eleven years since it was built, the plant has boosted production to 80,000 vehicles a year and is fast closing in on the target production capacity of 100,000 yearly. The plant's vehicles are popular on the domestic market and abroad for their relatively high speeds and low gas consumption.

With 20,000 machine tools, 500 assembly lines and 117 automatic assembly lines, all the plant's major production processes have been basically automated — something

relatively rare in China. The growth and development of the No. 2 Plant is due to the ingenuity, dedication and hard work of its technical staff and workers. Its story helps explain the rapid growth of Shiyan, but it is also a signpost showing the way forward on China's road to modernization.

New Technology

At first sight, the plant's giant electronically controlled milling machine for processing cylinder bodies, with its almost 1,800 arms, looks like a "1,000-hand Buddha" found in an old temple. Actually it is a triumph of modern Chinese technology, the brain-child of 48-year-old plant chief engineer Chen Zutao and his technical team.

Chen had seen a similar U.S.-made machine in an Italian factory on a 1966 inspection tour organized by the No. 2 Plant. Could China design such an advanced machine? Chen had only his notes and an advertising photo to work from. The technical team he organized took the mechanical principles of simpler ma-

chines as their basis, and started experimenting. After much effort, a basic design and a prototype were produced and refined. Finally the first Chinese-made machine of this type went into operation. It replaced ten large milling machines and seven over-head cranes, combined ten separate processes into one and raised work efficiency tenfold. It now takes only 1½ minutes for the six faces of a cylinder body form to be milled.

China's first automated, electronically controlled die-casting assembly line was designed mainly by Rao Jiemin, a middle-aged engineer at the No. 2 Plant. He had researched both Chinese and foreign automated assembly lines for years, and thought he had a way to improve the basic design. He and electrical engineer Wang Huaxiang divided the whole line into six sections, each with a sectional operation desk which could control either the whole line or a single section. In this way a single section's malfunction could not stop the whole line — a common problem in many automated lines.

The whole high-speed automated control system, including its monitoring screens, was manufactured with Chinese-made parts. Rao and his colleagues completed the whole line in just a little over a year. Capable of casting 60 rear axles per minute, the system is running well after three years of continuous operation. At a 1980 conference on foundry work, Rao read a paper on the new system to enthusiastic applause.

Adapting Foreign Machinery

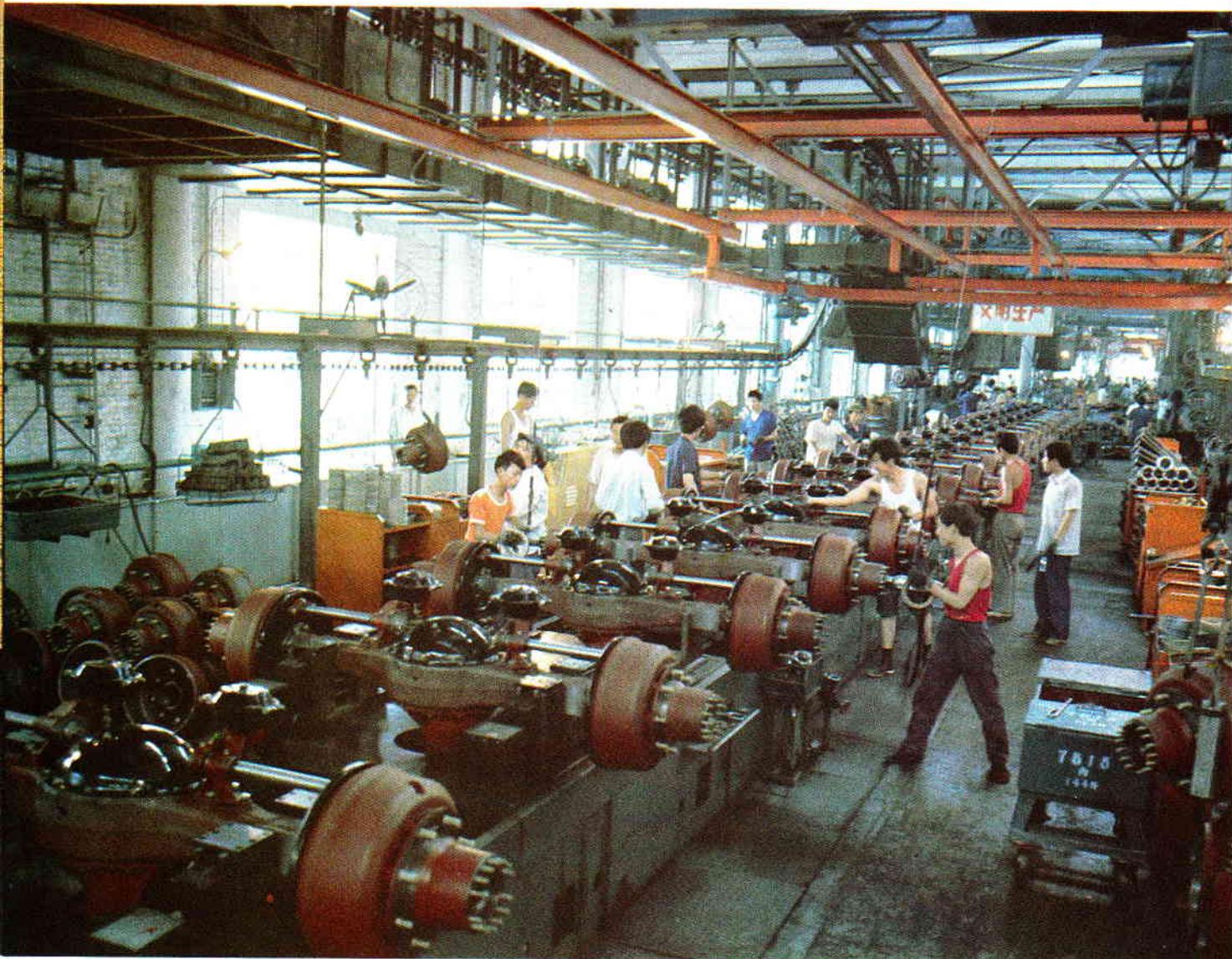
Besides building its own new machinery, the No. 2 Plant has selectively imported some key equipment from abroad — amounting to about 1 percent of the plant's total equipment. But even in this area the creative ingenuity of the staff has been exercised.

A 12,000-ton forge press from West Germany had greatly improved the plant's efficiency. But one day its giant mechanical manipulator went out of control. The machine operators and young

TU ZHENGMING is on the staff of the No. 2 Motor Vehicle Plant.



Control room for a foundry shop.



Inside a bearing workshop.



Grinder at work.



In every factory you will find workers with their noses into machines seeking to improve them, like these workers with the truck's diesel engine.

East Wind trucks ready to leave their plant.

Photos by Liu Chen and Li Fen



electrical engineer Feng Youren traced the problem to a damaged angle coding part. They had to replace it with the only spare part. But the incident made Feng think. The part was composed of 2,000 electronic elements and cost over 30,000 Deutschmarks to replace. What if it broke again?

Feng started to consider the possibility of substituting domestically produced electronic elements. Plant leaders strongly supported the idea, and Feng worked on, checking data and drafting preliminary designs. Six electricians willingly submitted their individual designs, so that the final could be based on the best elements in each. After much testing and revising, a Chinese-made angle coding part was produced which is simpler, cheaper and easier to maintain than the imported one. Even the German engineers from the plant where the forge press was made were impressed.

'Brain Trust'

An automotive research center is now being set up at Shiyan which includes design and technology research institutes, a technological library of 200,000 volumes and a modern laboratory. The center boasts more than 3,200 technical experts, some 600 of them scientists at a level higher than engineer. Many have advanced degrees from domestic or foreign universities and 30 or 40 years' experience in the automotive industry. Their work is basic research and development, product design, and innovations in technology and materials use. But they are also on-the-spot consultants when production problems arise, and are regarded as "senior staff" by individual plant directors.

Deputy general engineer Zhi Deyu, a graduate of England's Manchester University Engineering Institute in the 1940s and holder of a master's degree, specializes in automotive materials. Under his leadership, the three major metallic components have basically been replaced by new-generation materials: boron

steel is used in more than half of all structural parts; more than half of the other steel used is a new high-strength type; and over half the cast iron used is nodular (cast iron with graphite added). These materials rely on domestic resources, and some 90 percent of them are produced in China.

Deputy general engineer Yu Yunhan, a 1947 graduate of Shanghai's Jiaotong University, is in charge of production. It is not unusual for him to drive to branch plants in the middle of the night to solve production problems. When the 2½-ton heavy-duty vehicle assembly line was under construction, he supervised the work of improving the quality of 104 production items. He also personally designed and oversaw the installation of more than 2,000 sets of assembly-line equipment—a job he completed in less than a year.

Yu has special expertise in forging processes. When the No. 2 Plant's 5-ton truck body was redesigned, he took charge of the design and production of 197 sets of new punching patterns. This task too was completed in under a year. Such high efficiency is rare in China.

The center is now equipped with over 200 different kinds of domestic and imported ap-



Chief engineer Meng Shaonong seems to be encouraging his young granddaughter to take an interest in the subject dearest to his heart.

Weng Songlin

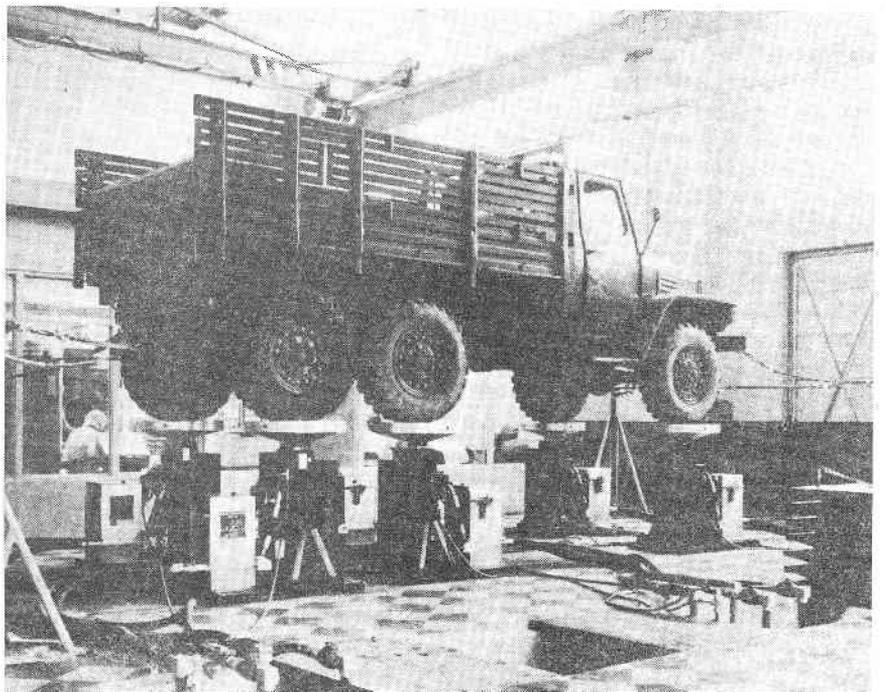
paratus which make it possible to test new products efficiently and develop reliable data on which planning and production is based.

A new road-simulating testing device developed at the center itself recently underwent a test. A vehicle was attached to the device which had already been trial-driven some 130,000 kilometers under all kinds of conditions—from Hailar at more than 49° north latitude to Hainan Island at below 20° north latitude, from the fiery Turpan Basin in Xinjiang to the "roof of the world" on the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau. The testing device was able to reproduce all these conditions and yield similar

(Continued on p. 28)

A machine which simulates rough roads tests a truck's ability to stand up to punishing conditions.

Liu Chen



Equal Opportunities for Women: Many Gains, Some Problems

TAN MANNI

AMONG the Chinese nowadays, calling a woman "Mrs. so-and-so," or identifying her as a "housewife" is very likely to be taken as impolite, if not a humiliating insult. Evolving sex roles in China have changed formality. In the old China most women had to submit to their breadwinner husbands at home and contend with having neither personal identity nor role in society—they were known only as their husbands' wives.

Times have changed. Most Chinese women now work outside and are no longer homemakers but contributing providers for their families. Many of them have made outstanding contributions in their work and have thus gained social prestige. So painful is their memory of the past that they do not like to be called by their husbands' names anymore.

Half of the three hundred million peasant workers in the countryside are women earning their own living. In the cities 24 million women (30.8 percent of all government workers) work for government organizations and state-owned factories. In the collectively owned enterprises they are an even larger percentage of the work force. Among the 20 million hired by these enterprises in 1980 more than half are women.

Today when one drops in at homes on the city lanes, one often finds only aged or retired housekeeping grandmothers instead of housewives. Apart from the weak and disabled, or young women studying for a university examination, women of working age hold permanent or temporary jobs outside their homes.

That mothers can leave home for a job was made possible only after the government provided state-subsidized nurseries and kindergartens. In some cities these look after 70-80 percent of all the small children of working mothers who need such care. After all, sharing household work and parent responsibility is popular among working parents today.

Job Discrimination

More than one hundred million people were born in the period between the 50s and early 60s. Reaching working age, they are now swelling the urban work force at a rate of some three million every year and wait for government labor departments to allocate them jobs.

In most cases, the man has the primacy in getting a job. What causes this discrimination is the erroneous attitude toward the working woman's extra burden at home. After work she shoulders

more of the housework and child-rearing responsibility. Especially when the child is sick, it is often the mother who has to ask for leave.

Moreover, the labor protection benefits for women workers sometimes push them into unfavorable situations. For example, women workers are entitled to paid absences during pregnancy, 56 days of paid maternity leave and nursing hours afterward. Some factories grant mothers who plan to have only one child a half-year paid maternity leave as a measure to promote the one-child policy. This causes some hospitals and factories to reject women workers assigned to them on the grounds that they would have difficulties when a number of nurses or other working women take maternity leaves at the same time. Although the government and the women's federation work hard to make the people see that child-rearing is a special contribution of women to

Women members of the Science Council of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.



TAN MANNI is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.

society, and that any work suitable for women should be given to them, recruiting units still tend to favor men.

When, for example, the People's Bank in a county in Guangdong province tested applicants for a clerk's job, women were required to have 30 points more to compete with men, writes a reader to the magazine *Women of China*. "Other local factories even rejected women by returning three women to the labor department for one man," she adds. A man in the Beijing Labor Bureau remarks wryly, "Most of our employment work seems to be to crack down on job discrimination against women and get enterprises to accept the women we send them."

Generally, in Beijing a proportion between men and women is negotiated between the labor departments and the recruiting enterprises. In 1980, 180,000 out of 220,000; and in 1981, 130,000 out of 220,000 applicants for jobs were employed. Women were more than half. Last year their proportion among newly accepted workers in Beijing in the following fields is this: 90 percent in the textile industry, 80 percent in the medical departments, 70 percent in commerce and business, 60 percent in light industry and handicrafts and 50 percent in the electrical and electronic instruments industry.

As for those who are not yet placed in jobs, the neighborhood committees and parents organizations are responsible for seeing that they obtain temporary work or professional training. Young men and women are treated alike. This is not only in consideration of their livelihood but also to get rid of the potential undermining factor to a stable city life.

'Women Return Home'?

In recent years, as job problems became serious, some people suggested replacing women workers who have heavy family burdens with unemployed unmarried women. Some husbands added, "Send our wives home and subsidize us with their wages. When we are freed of household chores,



Shi Ruoyi, a captain in training on the ship Dongfanghong No. 13 on the Changjiang (Yangtze) River.

we can do better at our jobs." Trying to juggle home duties and work, some working mothers echoed this: "I think I should give up my own career for the sake of my husband's and of my child's future."

Strongly opposing these views, the All-China National Women's Federation wrote to the Chinese Communist Party's Central Committee: "Women workers have become an indispensable part of the work force. Sending them home will only weaken the drive to modernize China and the cause of women's emancipation. The solution to the job problem is to expand production to create new jobs."

This view was supported by the Party. In 1980 Vice-Premier Wan Li told the National Placement Conference, "We must stick to the principle of equality between men and women, and to equal work for equal pay. We must place women

in jobs suitable to their physical conditions, in which they can bring their abilities to full play. Moreover, labor protection for working women should not be neglected."

The cry "Women return home" roused an uproar among the women. Chen Lunfeng, 33-year-old team leader of the Beijing No. 3 Radio Equipment Plant and mother of a three-year-old child, argued, "Why is it that we really count for something at home now? Because we are earning as much as our men! On top of that, we are also doing the bulk of the housework." Old women who left home to work after liberation reminded others that "once you have no earnings of your own anymore, you'll know what it's like to have to ask your husband for money." A career woman pointed out typically, that "our society doesn't ask the women to return home. It is wasteful for a woman to care for her home and family



Ding Aiju and Ding Ailian, twin sisters from a Henan village, both passed college entrance exams and are now studying at Qinghua University.

at the expense of her own career. If she does, when her child-rearing days are over, she will feel a lack of accomplishment and find herself just a non-person in society!"

"Women's work" is a stereotype typical of the old society. They were usually hired in traditional "women's jobs" such as clerks, nurses, teachers, shop assistants and textile workers—all relatively low paying jobs. Today, Chinese women have made substantial inroads into nearly every occupation.

Since China practices a unified wage system in different trades, and pay differences between different industries and crafts vary only slightly. No woman-dominated fields pay less than the fields in which men predominate.

Break Down Barriers

Women have also entered areas formerly monopolized by men. A notable example is in the field of medicine. Women doctors and students so dominate in hospitals and medical schools that last year entry into medical schools was made easier for men in order to meet the need for male doctors. Women have also broken into other formerly tabooed trades and posts. Women bus drivers are a common sight in the cities. More and more women pilot planes and captain coastal and inland ships. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs

has appointed two women ambassadors, and thirteen minister-counsellors and counsellors. There are also many women commercial and cultural attachés in Chinese embassies abroad.

Now, more emphasis is being put on the professional training of women workers. They constitute 42 percent of the 680,000 trainees in technical schools. Half of the country's enterprises have set up technical schools and training courses available to both sexes. Young workers reaching high school level are urged to take spare-time courses with paid leave during work hours. One-third of the nine million spare-time college and spare-time technical school students are women workers. Many enterprises carry on professional training classes during work hours so that working women with household burdens can get the training necessary for better work and advancement.

Promotion

Many women shop assistants in commerce have worked their way from the counter to the ranks of management, simply based on their good service to customers and their outstanding ability. One of these is Wei Xiuying of Sandu county in Guizhou province. She has sold goods worth several million yuan without making a single error. Her honest and considerate

service to the local people not only won her the familiar name "Sister Wei" but also the post of manager of the local Nationality Trade Company. Last year she was also elected vice-head of the county. Zhang Shizhen, a national model saleswoman in Tianjin, is now assistant manager of the municipal vegetable company. She was elected a member of the National People's Congress in 1978.

A fair number of women have also been elected to this highest organ of state power. There are 741 of them or 21.1 percent of the delegates. There are 38 in the standing committee, 19.4 percent of its members. In addition to the late honorary chairman Soong Ching Ling, two other women have reached high government office, Deng Yingchao and Shi Liang, both vice-chairmen of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress. Women officers in the State Council include a vice-premier, two ministers (water conservation and textiles) and 43 vice-ministers and vice-bureau directors. There are 39 women vice-governors of provinces, autonomous regions and vice-mayors of municipalities.

The growing stature of women is obvious in science and technology, 1.67 million women accounting for one-third of China's scientists, engineers and technicians. Eighty thousand are doing research work in the academies of natural sciences. The Chinese Academy of Sciences has 272 women research fellows and associate researchers, and 4,874 women assistant researchers. Fifteen outstanding women scientists are members of the Academy's committees of physics, mathematics, chemistry, biology, geology and basic sciences.

Women in Science Training

Generally speaking, China is still backward in its economy. This affects the balance of the development of science and technology. Of the few advanced scientists in China, some are women. Because women were long neglected in education, the

government now attaches great importance to training more women scientists in the universities.

Qinghua, the best science university in China, has 1,287 women students, 16.5 percent of the total. Most of them major in architecture, chemical engineering, mathematics, physics and chemistry, accounting for one-fourth of the students in these departments. In the departments of automation (its director is a woman), economic management, computer engineering, radioelectronics, applied mathematics, precision instruments (woman deputy-director), engineering mechanics, and civil and environment engineering, women students are 15 to 20 percent of the total.

The small proportion of women in Qinghua is not only due to its high entrance standards but to the fact that a sense of inferiority prevents many good women students from applying. Zhao Yanqin, an outstanding woman graduate of Qinghua's machine tool department in 1964, said when talking about this problem, "All the women students here have set very high demands on themselves. They are among the best students in the professions of computer and radio information, and in other departments they have also achieved very good records."

Famous Women Scientists

Training on an equal basis with men, women scientists have had great success, possibly because they work very hard to achieve their goals. Wang Shiren, 54, was one of the engine designers for China's first satellite launched in 1970. She learned to read and write during the anti-illiteracy campaign in the liberated areas led by the Communist Party. In the war against Japan (1937-1945) when she worked at an Eighth Route Army munitions factory, she learned chemistry, and mathematics by herself and was then sent to study in an industrial school. In 1948, after finishing all the senior-middle school courses in one and a half years, she was admitted to the aviation depart-

ment of the North China Industrial College.

After liberation, Wang Shiren was sent to major in rocket engines in the Moscow Aeronautical Engineering Institute, graduating after seven years with good records. She returned to China to work in a rocket engine research institute together with her men schoolmates. She was neither daunted by the difficulties caused by the withdrawal of the Soviet experts in the early 1960s nor disappointed by the countless failures in her research. In 1970 she participated in the launching of China's first satellite.

Today more and more women scientists in astronavigation have been trained in China. Many of them joined in the launching of a carrier rocket in 1980. Some of them led in this work.

Zhang Min, an assistant researcher in the Shanghai Metallurgy Institute, is another successful woman scientist. Her work on integrated circuits has helped narrow the gap between China and world levels in this field. Four-fifths of the scientists working on integrated memory circuits under her leadership are women.

Xu Qian, a woman graduate of Qinghua University in the early 50s, was one of China's first to major in oil refining. Today she is deputy manager and chief engineer of the Shandong Petrochemical Works, China's second largest, staffed by 6,000 workers. Dong Xinju, who graduated in geology at Qinghua the same year as Xu Qian, located iron ore for the Wuhan Iron and Steel Company. Now deputy-head of the Beijing Geology Bureau and its assistant chief engineer, she has done many surveys in the city and knows the geological structure under Beijing like the back of her hand.

Inspiring Victory

The Chinese women's volleyball team is another testimony to the improvement of women's role in China. Their hard-working spirit and success in capturing the world cup last year has not only inspired all the Chinese people but set a



Chen Lunfen leads a work section in Beijing's No. 3 Radio Appliance Factory.



Ding Xuesong, former ambassador, was the first Chinese woman to hold such a position.



Young women in the newspaper delivery service of one of Shanghai's neighborhood committees start off on their rounds. Photos by Xinhua

good example for China's women in their drive for equal opportunities. □

Three Women Lawyers

CHEN MAODI

HAN Xuezhong, 69 year-old vice-head of the Shanghai Association of Lawyers, attracted attention during the trial of the gang of four as the only woman attorney acting as defense counsel. Foreign lawyers observing court procedures in China have often been surprised by the number of determined and incisive women lawyers. In talks with their Chinese counter-parts it is often the experienced women lawyers who speak out with self-assurance. When U.S. Supreme Court Justice Warren Burger visited China recently he praised the active participation of women in the legal profession.

China has 6,000 lawyers, some 700 of them women. Their number would be larger if the judicial system had not traveled such a tortuous course over the last thirty years. In old China, women in law were almost unthinkable, even for those who were admitted to universities. Few gained entrance into law schools and even fewer became prominent attorneys.

After 1949 the doors of law schools were opened to women. The proportion of women law students promptly increased, and in some schools the number of women almost attained parity with men. In 1956, when the Ministry of Justice began to register lawyers, there were 19 lawyers' associations and committees, 810 legal consultancy offices and not quite 3,000 lawyers. Only part of these were post-1949 graduates.

Lawyers were welcomed by the people, but in the late 1950s "Left" ideas damaged the legal system. Defense lawyers were labeled as "camouflaging crimes" and barred. It was not until the National People's Congress adopted the Provisional Regulations for Lawyers in August 1980 that the system was restored. At that time most wom-

en who had received legal training returned to the profession. Attorney Han Xuezhong was one of these.

Fighter on the Legal Front

Han Xuezhong was born the second daughter to a couple with no sons. Boys were considered precious and girls worthless in old China and she was unwanted. As a result she developed a strong personality and a hatred of social inequality. In middle school she was a "radical element". In 1931 when public sentiments were aroused because the Kuomintang adopted a passive attitude toward Japan's invasion of the three northern provinces, she was one of seven middle school students who bravely led 3,000 Shanghai middle school students to Nanjing to demand that the government regain control of the lost territory.

Explaining why she studied law, Han Xuezhong said, "From the time I was born I was treated unequally. I saw my own grandmother, my mother and other women forced to endure the anger of their husbands and discrimination by society. I dreamed that someday I would be a lawyer who could protect women's rights and their struggle for equality." In 1934 Han Xuezhong entered the Shanghai Institute of Political Science and Law. While studying law, she became more active in the women's movement and was selected as a council member of the Shanghai branch of the Women's Committee to Save China. Her colleagues of that period still remember how Han Xuezhong led the chants when they organized demonstrations. In a benefit performance to help establish a night school for women workers, Han Xuezhong starred in Ibsen's *Nora*. Cherishing the role of this woman who resisted the male dominated society, today she still keeps a photograph of herself as *Nora*.

In 1939, after her graduation Han hung out her sign as an attorney. But because she was an unknown lawyer, without backing, there were few clients. After the war in the Pacific broke out, lawyers in the British and French concessions had to register with the Japanese authorities. Han Xuezhong refused, took down her sign and didn't resume her practice until after Japan surrendered in 1945.



At the trial of the gang of four, Attorney Han Xuezhong presents the defense argument for Yao Wenyuan.
Sun Yifu

Han Xuezhong became legal advisor for the Shanghai *Associated Evening News*. But due to pressure from the Kuomintang authorities, the business which had leased the office and printing plant to the paper broke the lease. Publication stopped during the dispute. Han Xuezhong courageously argued before the court on three occasions and sharply struggled with the Kuomintang. Though her tenacity made the judges uneasy, they ruled against the *Associated Evening News*. The case made Han Xuezhong known as "democracy's advocate".

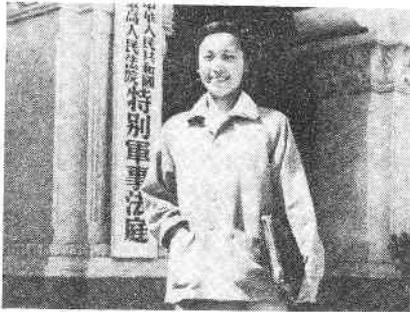
Han Xuezhong's long-cherished desire to be a protector of women's rights was only realized after the establishment of new China when she became a presiding judge of courts handling civil and marriage cases of the higher people's court in Shanghai. Here she handled thousands of cases brought under the Marriage Law of 1950. She helped many women whom the old society had forced into marriage to gain divorces from hus-

CHEN MAODI is a reporter with Xinhua News Agency's Shanghai branch.

bands who treated them harshly. She also passed a death sentence on a gang notorious for attacking women.

"The most unforgettable event in my life," Han Xuezhong said, "was when the special people's court appointed me defense counsel for Yao Wenyuan, one of the gang of four. At first I could not reconcile my emotions with my assignment." Han's feelings stemmed from the unprecedented harm the gang of four had done. Both she and her husband, Professor Gu Weixiong at the International Politics Department of Fudan University, had suffered from their actions. "But being a lawyer," she continued, "I have the responsibility to defend people on the basis of truth and law."

Han Xuezhong and her associate defense attorney investigated the files for four months, talked with Yao Wenyuan many times, heard the case brought against him by



Ni Binbin at the time of her first court case, a trial of Japanese war criminals.

the court, checked numerous affidavits and reviewed the material evidence before concluding that the accusation that Yao Wenyuan was a principal culprit in the counter-revolutionary group as defined in the indictment was established beyond doubt and should not be contested. But she believed that the evidence was not sufficient to prove he had participated in the planning of an armed rebellion in Shanghai and therefore his guilt on this charge should not be conceded. As his defense counsel, she tried to establish the limits to his criminal responsibility. Her well-reasoned arguments based on the law im-

pressed professionals and lay people alike, and Yao was acquitted on the second charge.

New Generation

Ni Binbin, 50, was among the first lawyers trained after 1949. She graduated from Shanghai's East China Institute of Political Science and Law in 1955 and went to work as a notarization lawyer for the municipal judicial department. She had never had a private law practice or experienced the indifference of the courts as Han Xuezhong had. At the beginning of her second year of practice she was appointed defense counsel for some Japanese war criminals in a special military court trial.

Attorney Ni is now head of the lawyers in the No. 1 Legal Consultancy Office in Shanghai. Her Office phone rings constantly and she has many visitors. Those being represented often come to talk matters over with her while others just want to discuss legal affairs.

Ni Binbin often takes cases involving marriage, family and inheritance disputes. Today, though legally women have achieved equality in the family and society, in fact inequalities still exist. Ni Binbin explained, "Our responsibility is based on reality and on using the law as a standard to protect the legal interests and equal status of women. We persist in an uncompromising struggle with the feudal view of women's in-



Xiang Li (left) and Zhao Gui (second left) consult with a client.

Xia Daoling

feriority and with incorrect practices."

Last year Attorney Ni represented Zhang Yinyun, a woman member of Shanghai's Science

Association, in a divorce litigation. Zhang Yinyun's husband, Zhang Jie, was a middle level leader in a Shandong coal mine, and now works for the Shanghai Residence Building Company. Their relationship after their marriage in 1954 was good. But later, illness made Zhang Yinyun weak and aged beyond her years. Her husband began ignoring her. Zhang Jie, arguing that no love was left in their relationship, asked for a divorce. After attempts at reconciliation failed, the case went to court.

Ni Binbin, representing Zhang Yinyun, sharply denounced Zhang Jie's behavior as not in accordance with socialist morality. Her accusations embarrassed him to the point that he could not hold up his head. Since Zhang Yinyun could clearly see the essence of her husband's character, she did not contest the divorce.

Another divorce case concerned a woman scientific researcher and an engineer. After the couple's marriage in 1970 their relationship was good and they both adored their son. But in 1980 the wife discovered that her husband was involved with another woman. Thereafter they argued at the slightest provocation. When the wife reached the end of her patience, she demanded a divorce. The husband did not consent but was also unwilling to admit to his wife that he had made a mistake. Finally the wife asked Ni Binbin to represent her. Attorney Ni made a careful investigation and concluded that the couple's emotional bonds had not been totally broken. In a sisterly manner, she talked to both of them separately, emphasizing the preciousness of the couple's relationship and urging them to consider the welfare of their child. She criticized the husband and tried to make him see the unacceptability of extra-marital affairs in socialist China. She brought morality and justice to bear on him until he agreed to break off his affair and work to restore good relations with his wife.

Ni Binbin said, "When we handle this type of case we must

keep in mind China's conditions and protect the stability of marriage and family life. This is in the interest of both women and children and in accordance with the law.

Younger Lawyers

In Shanghai there are many young lawyers who are university graduates. There are also many who have passed the bar examination through self-study. Xiang Li, a 33-year-old woman and former worker, is one of the latter. Her husband worked in a court and with his encouragement she became determined to contribute her efforts to establishing a legal system in China. She started by auditing philosophy classes at East China Normal University after work. Last year she took an examination to be a teacher at that school. Because of her high score the school recommended that she be transferred to a legal consultancy office in the city. Her new unit made arrangements to help her train as a lawyer. Single-mindedly she studied materials

from the Institute of Political Science and Law and the Institute of Jurisprudence, familiarizing herself with government policies, laws and decrees.

By this time she was already the mother of a three-year-old child. Her mother-in-law helped watch the child so she could concentrate on her studies. While her husband did most of the housework, she studied from dawn to dusk.

The Shanghai Lawyers Association assigned an experienced woman attorney, Zhao Gui, to tutor her. Before each case, Xiang Li and Zhao Gui reviewed the file together and visited the accused or his representative. Xiang Li studied and analyzed all of her tutor's arguments. The legal consultancy office allowed those young lawyers who had passed the bar examination to handle cases with the guidance of their tutors. This practice helped them learn. In less than a year Xiang Li was handling ten cases on her own.

Her first assignment was to represent a worker accused of at-

tempting to murder his wife so he could marry another woman. He had tried to electrocute her while she was asleep but she woke up. Suddenly feeling guilty, he stopped to beg her for mercy. When Xiang Li met the defendant, he had decided to deny this crime. Xiang Li carefully explained that according to China's criminal code, in an attempted homicide one must take full responsibility for the intended result even though it was not realized. Educated by Xiang Li, he confessed his crime. She carefully read the file, talked to the defendant and presented his case in a factual manner. She pointed out that while he could have persisted in his action after his wife had awakened, he had stopped. Her arguments convinced the court to give him a relatively light sentence of seven years.

Xiang Li's tutor was pleased with her pupil. She said, "To see these maturing young women lawyers with their enterprising spirit, sharp intellect and sense of justice is to see China's legal contingent expanding." □

'MOTOR CITY'

(Continued from p. 21.)

data. This means that testing of vehicles can be done in a few days under controlled conditions instead of the months or even years that such tests once required.

A plant once presented the research center with a problem — crank shafts were cracking under stress. The center's experts used a high-frequency fatigue-testing machine. They programmed 24 twisting and vibrating shock-absorber designs by computer. Finally they produced an optimum design and tempering method which solved the problem.

Breakthrough in Exports

Meng Shaonong, who is both vice-director and general engineer of the No. 2 Motor Vehicle Plant, was in 1981 elected a member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences' Scientific Council. He is a respected veteran of the Chinese automotive industry. A 1930s

graduate of Qinghua University's Mechanics Department, he went on to study automotive engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the U. S. In the 1940s he was an engineer at Ford Motor Co. and other American firms.

Returning to China, he helped lead the technological work at the Changchun No. 1 Automobile Plant, the Shaanxi Automobile Plant, and finally at the No. 2 Motor Vehicle Plant. He once regretted that "foreign-made automobiles run on China's soil, but one never sees the tracks of Chinese automobiles abroad," and he resolved to do something about that situation.

Under his leadership the No. 2 Plant began to explore ways of developing export markets. The efforts paid off in the winter of 1981, with the signing of a contract with France's Renault Automobile Corporation for the export of Chinese vehicles. The plant has

also contracted with customers in the U.S., Japan, Britain, France, West Germany, Canada, Romania, Hongkong and Macao for more than US\$ 5 million worth of automotive parts.

The 66-year-old Meng, not content with past achievements, is busy with ambitious plans for the future. His three major aspirations at present: to outfit East Wind vehicles with a kind of high-efficiency engine; to design an advanced diesel engine for the same line of cars; and to establish a technical and educational center to train talented young people.

The preliminary stages of this last goal have already been realized. An educational center with a worker's university section, a polytechnical school, a technical section, and a worker continuing-education section has now been inaugurated. Meng himself is president of the worker university, which in its initial stages is training more than 1,000 young people as automotive technicians. □

China's Economy in 1981

— and Principles for Its Future

Our Staff Reporters

CHINA did much to put her economic development on a more solid basis in 1981. A pivotal report by Premier Zhao Ziyang, approved by the National People's Congress in December, outlined the gains made, pointed out the tasks for 1982 and announced ten long-term principles for the development of the national economy. The report was seen as realistic and confident, neither setting exaggerated goals nor underestimating China's capacity for steady economic growth.

Growth Amid Readjustment

The main concern during the year was readjustment of the national economy as regards the ratio between accumulation and consumption, between agriculture and industry, and between light and heavy industries.

That the readjustment was proceeding effectively and steadily was shown by the basic balance between state budget revenues and expenditures, and between credit receipts and expenditures, achieved in 1981. The budget deficit, which had been 17 billion yuan in 1979 and 12.7 billion in 1980, dropped to only 2.7 billion last year. Such a lessening of a national deficit in so short a time has seldom been seen in any country.

Production in this time of adjustment, despite the retrenchment, was also satisfactory. The total output of industry and agriculture (by value) was up 3 percent as compared with the previous year. (The projected rise for 1982 will be 4 percent.)

Agriculture, upon whose growth the development of China's national economy essentially depends, was plagued by extreme drought and flood conditions in many provinces. Nevertheless it yielded the second highest grain crop since

the founding of the People's Republic (the peak harvest was in 1979). A new breakthrough in cotton production followed the all-time record of 1980. Oil-bearing crops grew by 17 percent, after successive big increases in the three previous years. Forestry, animal husbandry and fishery made progress. Enterprises run by rural communes and production teams grew; household sideline occupations moved ahead even faster.

The output of industry (by value) as compared with the same periods of the previous year, fell by 0.2 percent in the first quarter of 1981, but rose by 1.7 percent and 3 percent respectively in the second and third quarters, and at a faster rate in the fourth.

Light industry production, including textiles, did 12 percent better than in the previous year. Cotton yarn and cloth, chemical fibres, sugar, etc., were up to plan. Particularly large were the increases in the output of consumer durables, such as wrist-watches, bicycles, sewing machines, TV sets, washing machines and electric fans. They ran into double-digit percentages, or even more for some items. There were improvements in design, quality and variety.

Heavy industry did much to change its service orientation and

product mix. Formerly it supplied mainly the needs of capital construction and of heavy industry itself. Now it is doing more to equip light industry and agriculture. The manufacture of products in over-supply has been cut back. That of items most needed for consumption and export has been increased. With this revamping, heavy industry began to pick up again in the fourth quarter of 1981.

Construction, Research, Trade

The previous over-extension of capital construction was being overcome. With investments used more rationally, the major stresses in 1981 were on: 1. Projects for textile and other light industries bearing directly on the people's livelihood. 2. Those concerned with energy, the production of building materials, transport and communications. The proportions going to education, science, culture, public health and urban utilities were raised. Over 90 percent of the capital construction projects scheduled for completion in 1981 were finished according to plan — a rate unknown for many years.

Scientific research, guided by the principle of close integration with economic construction, played

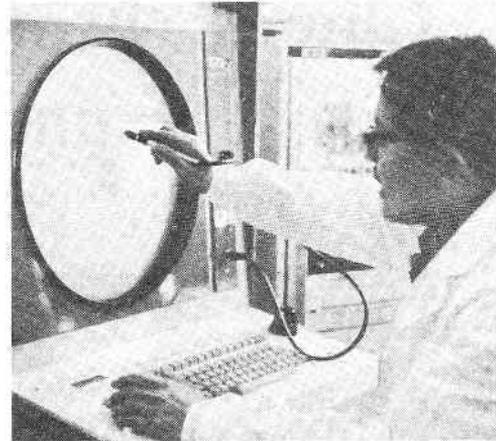
NOTE TO READERS

The full text of Premier Zhao Ziyang's exhaustive report is available in the 106-page pamphlet, **China's Economy and Development Principles** which also contains a report on state finances, delivered to the Congress by Finance Minister Wang Bingqian.

Available in English, French, Spanish and Japanese translations the pamphlet can be ordered from China Publications Center (Guoji Shudian), P.O. Box 399, Beijing, China or from bookstores handling Chinese publications abroad. Price: \$1.30 in the U.S.A., and 65 p. in Britain.

Consumer goods such as textiles are now being produced in larger quantities, better quality and greater variety.

Liu Zhiwei



Electronic device developed jointly by the Tianjin Radio Plant and the Chinese Academy of Sciences. Scientific research is now more closely integrated with the needs of the growing economy.

Yang Wumin

an important role. In 1980, more than 2,600 major research projects yielded good results, followed by more in 1981. About 50 percent of the findings are already being applied to production. In agriculture, the large-area popularization of such improved crop strains as hybrid paddy rice and Lu Mian No. 1 (see story on page 36) cotton seed has contributed substantially to the increased output of grain and cotton. In space projects, the successful launching of three satellites with a single carrier rocket marked a new triumph for China's science and technology.

Domestic and foreign trade expanded. More commodities were supplied to the home market and consumer demand was met fairly well. Retail sales for 1981 exceeded by 9 percent those for 1980. Imports and exports both grew considerably.

People's Income and Well-Being

With the overall increase in agricultural production, the peasant incomes moved up. In 1979, there were 1,622 production brigades whose members each received an average of over 300 yuan from the distribution of collective income. In 1980 there were 5,569 such

brigades and 1981 saw a further increase.

More housing was built in the rural areas; incomplete returns showed that about 900 million square meters of floor space were added in the past three years. In cities and towns, 80 million square meters of new, residential space were completed by the end of 1981.

As regards employment in cities and towns, 4.77 million people got jobs between January and September 1981, and the figure approached 8 million by the end of the year.

Bank savings in the urban and rural areas rose to 49.4 billion yuan in the first ten months of 1981, an increase of 9.5 billion yuan, showing the people's confidence in China's economic prospects and in the currency.

Rural Readjustments

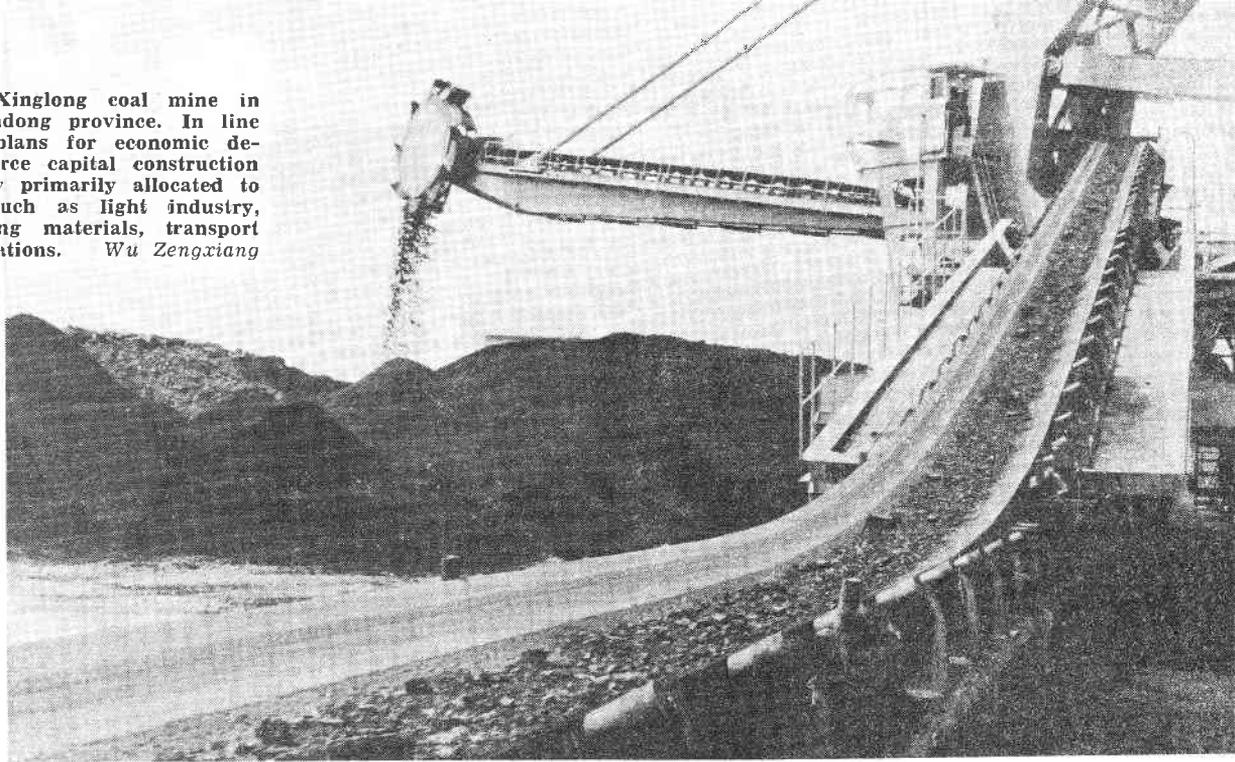
The good results achieved in economic work owe their success to the principle of readjustment, restructuring, consolidation and improvement — with readjustment as the key present task and a basis for others.

In rural policies, the readjustments began in 1979, ensuring the production teams' power of deci-

sion and instituting many different forms of the system of responsibility for production. Their general feature is the shifting from payment according to the working hours to payment based on substantial results. Peasants who used to work together on larger aggregations are now often grouped in specialized teams, or production tasks are set for families or individuals. The people's government has taken a firm grip on two important links: the establishment and perfecting of the responsibility systems and the diversification of farming and other rural undertakings. At the same time, it has significantly raised its prices paid to producers for farm and sideline products, and decided to import a certain quantity of food grains every year. All this has been of help to the readjustment of crop patterns, the diversification of the rural economy in accordance with local conditions, and the overall rehabilitation of the rural areas.

In industry, the emphasis is on readjusting the proportions between its different branches, coupled with the necessary restructuring. These factors have led to the sustained increase in the

Newly built Xinglong coal mine in Yanzhou, Shandong province. In line with overall plans for economic development, scarce capital construction funds are now primarily allocated to key sectors such as light industry, energy, building materials, transport and communications. Wu Zengxiang



proportion of light industry in the total industrial output (by value), and the reorientation of bigger sections of heavy industry to give direct service to light industry and agriculture, as already mentioned.

In the past three years the government has gradually enhanced the power of decision of industrial enterprises, introduced the system of economic responsibility, carried out the principle of distribution according to work, and striven to give fuller play to the supplementary role of regulation through the market under the guidance of the state plan. All these initial reforms have helped to invigorate China's industrial enterprises, to overcome the formerly widespread phenomenon of equalization of wages and bonuses regardless of the quantity and quality of work done, and to stimulate the initiative of enterprises and of their workers and staff.

Long and Short-Term Problems

Although the successes of the past year are striking, the basic balance achieved between revenues and expenditure last year

cannot yet be regarded as stable because it was based more on curtailed expenditure than on the overall growth of the economy. Thus, even with the greater stability of prices, those of some consumer goods are still rising. Effective counter-measures are being urgently considered.

"In continuing to readjust the national economy," Premier Zhao Ziyang said, "besides balance and stabilization the country should strive for speedy advance and sound growth of the economy. For this purpose, it is necessary to thoroughly change the methods evolved over the years under the influence of 'Left' ideology and, proceeding from the actual conditions in China, blaze a new trail characterized by a fairly steady tempo and better economic results, and more substantial benefits to the people."

He pointed out both the achievements and shortcomings of past socialist construction. Between 1952, when China rehabilitated her war-ravaged economy and started on her planned economy, and the year 1980, the total output of her industry and agriculture increased 9.1 times, national income went up 5.2 times, and industrial fixed as-

sets (factories, machines, etc.) 27 times. But consumption per capita only doubled. National income, therefore, had increased more slowly than production, while the people's standard of living lagged behind national income; its improvement was not commensurate with the labor they contributed.

Blazing a New Trail

The report proposed that China should blaze a new and practical trail for attainment of better economic results and getting more benefits for the Chinese people, consisting of ten principles:

1. Accelerate the development of agriculture by relying on correct policies and on science.

The peasants, he stated, want to stick to socialist agriculture, but not to the concentration of power, enforced equalitarianism and other "Left" errors. Hence the introduction of the new rural policies. As regards agricultural science, China, with a vast population but not enough land, should treasure every inch of soil and use it in the best possible way.

2. Give prominence to the development of consumer goods industries and further adjust the

Another rich soybean harvest at Xinli commune, Heilongjiang province. Output of oil-bearing crops nationwide has risen substantially in each of the past three years. *Hu Wei*

The 1981 total grain output approached the record 1979 level — which was the highest since the founding of the People's Republic. *Yuan Zhaoyi*



service orientation of heavy industry.

“Under present conditions,” Premier Zhao Ziyang said, “faster growth of the production of consumer goods will promote the expansion of heavy industry and definitely not hinder it. The growth of the former will set more and higher demands on the latter.”

3. Raise the energy utilization ratio and promote the building of the energy industry and transport.

These are weak links at present. In energy, there must be not only new capacity but, in particular, savings. There is a tremendous potential for the latter; though China stands fourth in the world in energy output, waste is very great. Henceforth, China's oil should be used mainly for petrochemicals and export; for fuel, her abundant coal will be employed — but its full use requires great expansion of transport. Oil economies do not mean that China's oil reserves are in question, as some people abroad have said; new discoveries, the premier revealed, evoking loud applause, ensure that China will definitely not switch from being an exporter of oil to an importer.

4. Carry out technical transformation step by step in key units and make the maximum use of existing enterprises.

The machine-building industry is to be transformed and reorganized early. With its help, beginning with key enterprises, outdated equipment will be replaced over a fairly long period of time.

5. Carry out all-round consolidation and necessary restructuring of industries by groups.

Under an industrial economic responsibility system, enterprises and their workers and staff alike will gain or lose economically according to the amount and economic results of their work. Administration will be simplified and leading bodies become younger in their composition. Enterprises will be consolidated, group by group, over a number of years. Those whose products are redundant or poor, which are wasteful in use of energy and raw materials, and which have constantly incurred losses or created serious pollution will be shut down, suspended, amalgamated with others, or shifted to other products as required. Workers of such enterprises will have arrangements

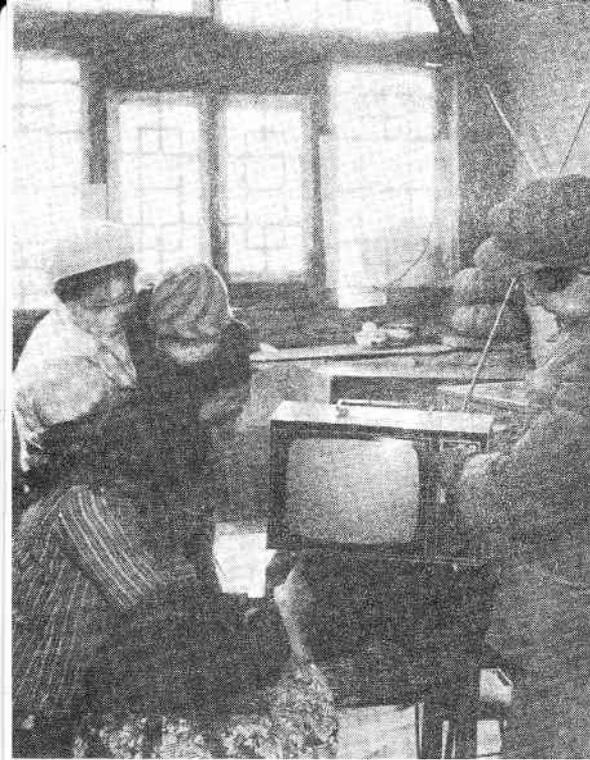
made for their employment and for study to upgrade their knowledge and skills.

6. Raise more construction funds and use them thriftily through improved methods of acquisition, accumulation and spending.

The main funds will come from increased and improved production. Loopholes through which funds are wasted or misused are to be closed. Bank deposits by local authorities, enterprises and individuals will supplement nationally budgeted funds in the financing of construction.

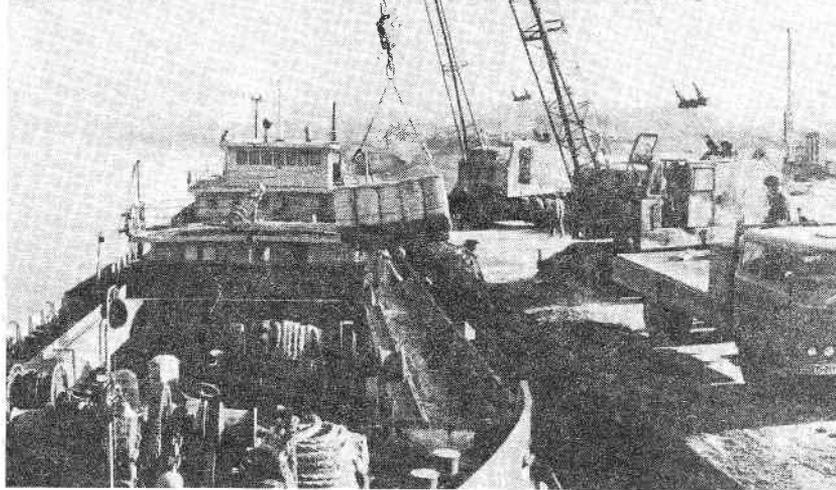
7. Persist in an open-door policy and enhance China's capacity for self-reliant action.

“By linking our country with the world market, expanding foreign trade, importing advanced technology, utilizing foreign capital and entering into different forms of international economic and technological cooperation,” said Premier Zhao, “we can use our strong points to make up for our weak points. . . . Far from impairing our capacity for self-reliant action, this will only serve to enhance it.” Greater exports are the key to expanding foreign trade. Putting her products to the



Commune members' incomes have grown significantly in the last few years, increasing demand in the countryside for bicycles, sewing machines, radios and TV sets. Yao Zongyi

Yingkou port, Liaoning province, fulfilled its 1981 cargo-handling goals 40 days ahead of schedule. Upgrading of transport facilities of all kinds is an important factor in developing the national economy and promoting domestic and foreign trade. Xiao Ye



test of international competition will help China improve quality, variety and management. Imports of technology will be of the most advanced equipment and processes that she cannot provide at home; not of entire plants which include many things that can be made at home. China, being a sovereign socialist state, needs and will welcome foreign investment beneficial to her modernization, subject to the principle of equality and mutual benefit. Work in special economic zones (with much foreign investment) will adhere to the characteristics of socialism, and socialist morality will be promoted there.

8. Actively and steadily reform the economic system and realize the initiative of all concerned to the full.

The key problem is the correct understanding and handling of the relations between planned economy on the one hand and regulation by the market on the other. The state and the collective economy are the basic forms in China. The individual economy of the working people, operating within certain prescribed limits, is a necessary complement.

9. Raise the scientific and cultural level of all working people, and organize strong forces to tackle key scientific research projects.

Education in China continues to aim at producing workers with both socialist consciousness and culture, and integrating mental with manual labor and intellectuals with workers and peasants. Instruction at all stages should serve the modernization program. Vocational middle schools will be increased. In higher education, universities and colleges are supplemented by spare-time TV courses and by correspondence. On-the-job general and specialized education classes for workers and peasants are increasing. Scientific research tasks should be geared to key problems in the national economy.

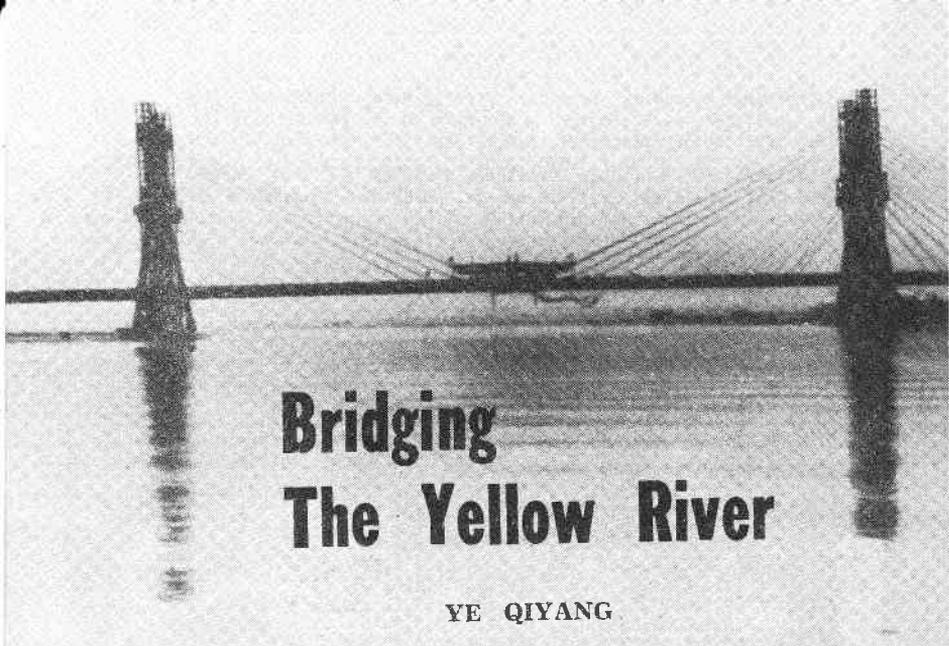
10. Proceed from the concept of everything for the people and make overall arrangements for production, construction and the people's livelihood.

The purpose of socialist revolution and construction is to raise the productive forces in order to meet the growing material and cultural needs of the people. Formerly in China, capital con-

struction, especially of heavy industry, was over-stressed at the expense of consumer goods, housing and urban facilities. Now it is possible and necessary to change this. However, the change must be gradual as standards of living cannot run ahead of the growth of production and the productivity of labor. One essential for better livelihood is population control — as otherwise the increase in people will offset production growth.

Some Projections

The report went on to some projections. China's 6th Five-Year Plan (1981-85) is primarily one of readjustment, with the aim of achieving a fundamental improvement in her economy and finance. The rise in national income should equal or approach that of the industrial and agricultural output. During this time, rapid economic growth cannot be expected. But in the 7th Five-Year Plan (1986-90) with a good foundation laid, all indices should accelerate, and by 2000, after the 8th and 9th plans, the total industrial and agricultural output, and per capita national income, should be four times what they are now — which is not slow growth. □



Bridging The Yellow River

YE QIYANG

LONGEST river in China after the Changjiang (Yangtze), the Huanghe (Yellow) River originates in the highlands of the Qinghai-Tibet plateau, winds its roaring way for 5,464 kilometers through nine provinces until, itself as broad as a mighty sea, it empties into the ocean on the coast of Shandong province. It is a difficult river to bridge, its currents long defying China's past level of technology. The first bridge was built over it in 1905 and two more followed before 1912 at Zhengzhou (Henan), Lanzhou (Gansu) and Jinan (Shandong). And then there were no more until after China was liberated in 1949. Today the river is spanned by a total of 54 bridges of various types.

The two bridges farthest upstream — at 4,000 meters surrounded by cloud-shrouded, snow-capped peaks — are the highest bridges in China. The river as it approaches them from the height seems to be flowing out of the sky. The uppermost of these bridges is at Lake Ngoring. This 80-meter-long four-meter-wide wooden span across the Huanghe has made possible mechanized transportation of salt from the Hejiang salt field to

the south. The other, at Madoi 40 kilometers east, serves the Qinghai-Sichuan highway. This 70-meter structure built in the 1950s was the first reinforced concrete bridge on the Huanghe.

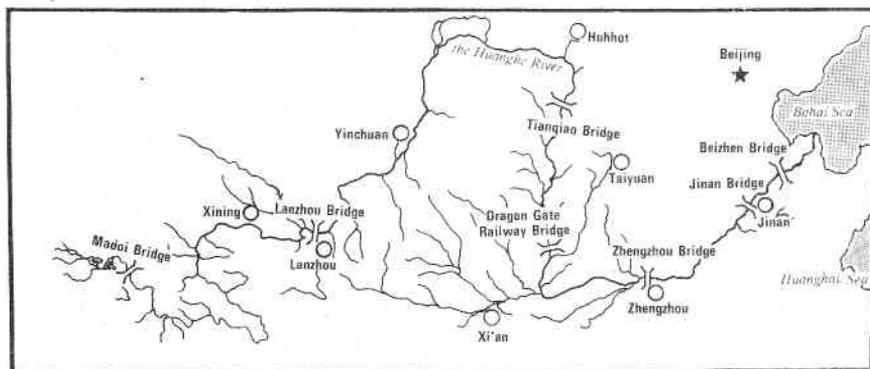
Southeastward from Madoi, close to the southern border of Qinghai province, is Jimai near the town of Doalag, an important ferry spot between Qinghai and Sichuan provinces. By now the mountain stream that was the Huanghe has grown into a sizeable river whose annual flow (3.7 billion cubic meters) is seven times that at Madoi. Once the only way of crossing here was by a raft made from an inflated ox-skin. Before the hide was inflated, travellers placed their luggage inside it to keep it steady, then, after inflation, lay prone on top of it for

the dangerous trip. Now they can cross on the Jimai bridge, 150 meters long and eight meters wide, with a loading capacity of ten tons.

Many at Lanzhou

Turning north and then flowing eastward again, the river enters Lanzhou, capital of Gansu province. Lanzhou stands at the crossroads of ancient routes linking the western part of China with the rest of the country through the Gansu Corridor, and linking up Qinghai, Ningxia and Xinjiang. It is also the geographical center of China. In 1372 a Ming dynasty general ordered a pontoon bridge built near Lanzhou in preparation for a battle in the Gansu Corridor. In 1385 this bridge was moved by a local military official to the foot of Baita (White Pagoda) Hill north of the city. The bridge consisted of 24 boats fastened to four cast-iron posts on the banks. The only bridge leading to the western regions, it was called the First Huanghe Bridge Under Heaven.

The name notwithstanding, it was not very safe. It was often broken apart by the high waters of summer and autumn, and the boats were smashed by ice floes in winter and spring. In 1907 the Qing dynasty government contracted with a German firm to build an iron bridge at the cost of 360,000 taels of silver. It was famed in pre-liberation geography books as one of the three iron bridges over the Huanghe (the other two were in Henan and Shandong provinces), but, not well maintained, it became unusable. Reinforcement after liberation



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enabled it to serve up till the present.

In 1979 the new 5-lane Lanzhou Highway Bridge was completed. It measures 304 m. long and 21 m. wide and has a loading capacity of 200 tons. Three rail bridges have also been built at Lanzhou since liberation on lines leading to Xinjiang, Baotou and Qinghai.

Replace Dangerous Ferries

The 650-km. stretch of the Huanghe in Gansu province is now crossed by 17 bridges. One is a cable-suspension type built in Gaolan county by three production brigades of a people's commune with help from the state. It is 259 m. long and 6 m. wide.

Then the river goes northward through Ningxia to begin its big loop in Inner Mongolia and then turns south to rush for 700 kilometers through the valley between Shanxi and Shaanxi provinces. The two are now linked by seven bridges.

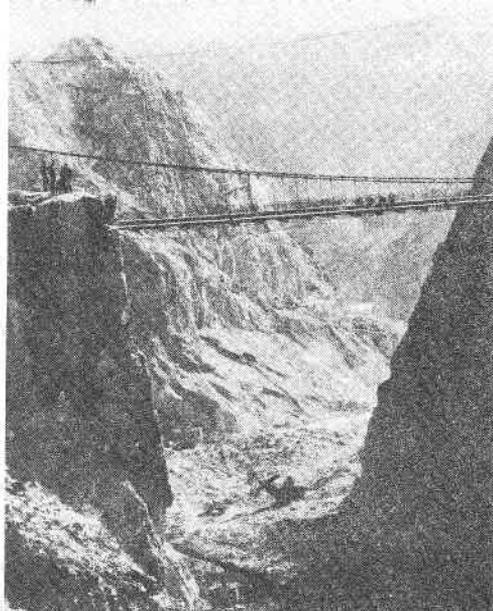
One of the most dangerous sections in this valley is the portion between Baode in Shanxi and Fugu in Shaanxi, known as Wu-milang — Misty Waves. The roaring flow is forced between high cliffs and dashed against huge boulders in the center of the river, throwing up huge waves and spray. No one knows how many lives have been claimed by the torrent here in boat crossings since ancient times. In 1977 the river was blocked with a 750-meter long dam for hydropower supply, which also serves as a bridge for crossing. After its completion a second highway bridge the Tianqiao (Heavenly Highway Bridge) was built eight kilometers to the south.

A place as dangerous as Misty Waves is the Dragon's Gate at the southern end of the valley, another ancient ferry. It is also called the Gate of Yu, for legend has it that this opening in the river was made by Yu the Great, first king of the Xia dynasty (21st-16th centuries B.C.), famed for controlling a flood.

Bridges have been constructed at three ancient ferry spots

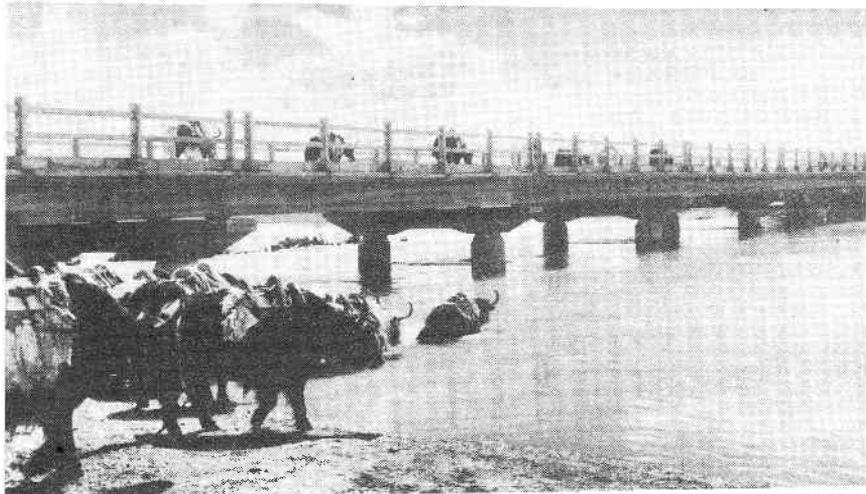
nearby. The first, built by the People's Liberation Army in 1949 when it was marching south to liberate the country, consisted of ten iron chains with boards laid across them. In 1973 this was replaced by a cable suspension bridge. There is now also a Dragon's Gate railroad bridge.

Blocked by towering Mt. Hua-shan, the river turns sharply eastward at Tongguan, which is the communications juncture of Shaanxi, Shanxi and Henan provinces. In the past passengers on the Xi'an-Taiyuan rail line had to get out of the train, be ferried across the river, and resume their journey in train on the other side. This ended in 1970 when the Tongguan railroad bridge was completed. The river is spanned by two more bridges farther east

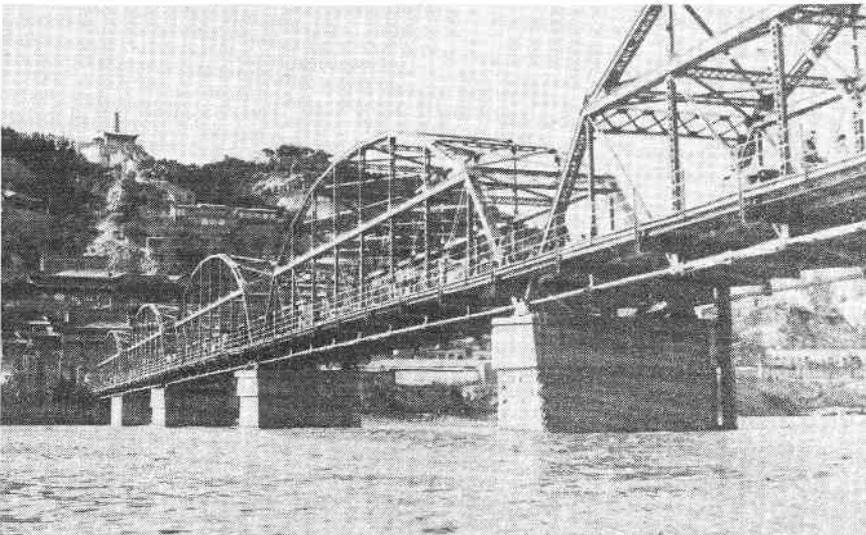


All kinds of bridges cross the river. Above, a suspension foot bridge across the Longyang valley, Qinghai province, in the upper reaches. *Li Jiefan*

Madoi highway bridge, the first reinforced concrete bridge built on the Huanghe, dates from the 1950s. *Pan Hanqing*



Zhongshan Bridge, famous 1907 iron structure at the site of the "First Bridge under Heaven," still serves Lanzhou in the northwestern province of Gansu, though the city now also has a newer and better one. *Han Sandang*



near Luoyang, one of China's ancient capitals.

From Luoyang on, as it crosses the north China plain, the river slows down—and drops the silt it has been carrying. Thus the bed of the river has risen as much as three feet, and in some places ten feet, above the fields around it. The local people call it “elevated river”. From a width of two to five kilometers, the river has now widened to 20 kilometers in Henan province, creating problems for bridge builders. Dikes have been built on both sides four or five meters higher than the surface of the water, and the bridge must go above them, making it at least ten meters above the bank.

The first rail bridge in this area was built in 1905 at Zhengzhou for the north-south Beijing-Hankou line by a French firm. For a long time the 2,950 m. 100-arch structure was the only bridge passage between north and south. Its foundation was not very deep and flood and war took their toll, so it frequently broke down. A flood in July 1958 destroyed an arch, and communications were severed until it could be repaired.

In 1960 a new rail bridge was built 300 m. from the old one. It is 2,900 m. long, with 71 arches, and piers that extend 30 m. into the riverbed. The old rail bridge has been surfaced for road traffic.

In Shandong province, where the Huanghe empties into the sea, there are two rail bridges. The one at Luokou was built in 1912 by Germans. Its northern end was destroyed in the 1958 flood and communications were severed for some time. A new double-track rail bridge was opened to traffic 20 km. upstream in July 1981. This 13th rail bridge built across the Huanghe since liberation, is the longest, totaling 5,700 m. in length, with its biggest arch spanning 120 m. A 2,022.8-m.-long highway bridge was opened last December four km. down from the old bridge. □



How Shandong's Cotton Output Grew

CHEN BIJIANG

SHANDONG has for years ranked first in cotton output among China's provinces. But severe droughts and an early frost in 1981 might have been expected to decrease production considerably. In fact, however, the 1981 yield of 600 million kilograms was 10 percent higher than the figure for 1980—itself a year of record harvests.

The major reasons behind Shandong's two years of bumper crops are some important changes in China's overall agricultural policies and the introduction of a new strain of cotton, Lu Mian No. 1 (“Lu” is another name for Shandong province, and “mian” means cotton).

New Cotton Seed

Lu Mian No. 1 bears more cotton bolls earlier than other varieties, and more flowers before frost sets in. It is strongly resistant to plant diseases and adaptable to widely different environments. Under the same water, fertilizer and soil conditions, it produces as much as

225 kilograms more per hectare than other strains.

The new variety was developed by Pang Jujin and a team of technicians at Shandong province's Cotton Research Institute. After years of crossbreeding beginning in 1961, a superior seed was obtained and then subjected to radiation to produce a still stronger strain. Lu Mian No. 1, as it was named in 1976, was the first Chinese strain produced by this method of irradiating seeds to go into extensive production. In 1981 China's State Council awarded the breeders a first prize for scientific invention.

Between 1977 and 1981 the area sown with the new seed, which quickly became very popular with Shandong province cotton growers, rose to 860,000 hectares, or 93 percent of the province's cotton land.

Policy Changes

In the past, national farm policies overemphasized grain production. Most agricultural areas were expected to be self-sufficient in grain—even if local conditions were more suited to other crops. For Shandong province cotton growers, the necessity of devoting

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CHINA RECONSTRUCTS

some of their land to grain naturally limited cotton production. The insistence on self-sufficiency in this respect has now been lifted, and the state encourages cotton growing by linking sales of grain at the low state-set price to cotton production.

It works this way: If a production team sells as much as 5 kg. of ginned cotton per team member to the state, it can buy 183 kg. of grain per head at the special price. For 10 kg. of ginned cotton per person, the figure goes up to 190 kg. For still higher sales, two additional kg. of grain can be bought for every 0.5 kg. of cotton. As a result of the new policy, the cotton-growing area of the whole province had expanded by 1981 to 930,000 hectares—some 200,000 hectares more than in 1980.

The responsibility system in agriculture, under which incomes are linked with the fulfillment of assigned responsibilities, has also had a substantial impact on cotton production. This could readily be seen during the 1981 drought, when individuals and work teams all over Shandong took the initiative in preserving their crops by drilling new wells and fetching water by whatever means possible.

Jumps in Income

The increases in cotton production have translated into big boosts in individual incomes, especially in the northwestern parts of the province, where many cotton-producing villages were formerly poor and backward.

Before 1979, per capita annual income in these areas was only around 40 yuan (about U.S. \$23), and more than half of the production teams could not manage any cash distribution at all. In addition to the food supplies distributed by the teams, many villagers depended on state subsidies.

Now the cash income of many of the people in these areas has, just in 1980-81, risen abruptly to around 150 yuan (about U.S. \$88). This figure is somewhat above average among Chinese commune members, and provides a comfortable if still far from wealthy standard of living. □



Popularizing the new cotton strain at a market in Chiping county, Shandong province. (Left) "Lu Mian No. 1" and its breeder Pang Juqin. *Xinhua*

Bales of ginned cotton being loaded in northwestern Shandong. *Xinhua*



Digging Up an Ancient Copper Mine

XIA NAI and YIN WEIZHANG

ANCIENT Chinese societies of 2-3,000 years ago shaped bronze into tools and weapons, beautiful works of art of all kinds, even musical instruments. At times bronze was so plentiful that it was lavished on the tombs of the important dead — one Hubei province nobleman who died in 433 B.C. was buried with ten tons of bronze objects. The recent discovery of an ancient copper mine and smelting works (bronze is an alloy of copper and tin) has added a whole new dimension to our knowledge not just of the technology behind this age of bronze but of the daily working life of miners who lived almost 3,000 years ago.

The mine was discovered in 1974 at Tonglushan (Copper Green Hill)

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YIN WEIZHANG, a young research fellow of the Institute, presided over the excavation at Tonglushan.

near Huangshi in southeast Hubei province, which is still an important copper mining center. The old mine stretches over an area of about two square kilometers. Excavations, which began in 1979, also disclosed nearby ancient smelting furnaces which had been covered by slag and so preserved over the centuries.

First estimates on the age of the mine, based on soil samples and artifacts, indicated that the earliest pits were dug at the outset of the Spring and Autumn period (770-476 B.C.), with additional pits being opened late in the Warring States period (475-221 B.C.).

Carbon-14 tests confirmed the general estimate, but dated the first pits somewhat earlier than 770 B.C. and the latest to the beginning of the Western Han dynasty (106 B.C.-A.D. 24). The copper for the bronzes in that ancient nobleman's tomb may well have come from Tonglushan.

Shafts and Tunnels

The mine structure consists of vertical shafts 40 to 50 meters deep, horizontal tunnels branching off them at the levels where ore veins are found, and the additional vertical shafts which descend from many tunnels, called "blind wells" because they are not open to the air.

Some "blind wells" were obviously designed to hold water, for the tunnels have a relatively sophisticated drainage system, others to link two or more tunnels. Still others may have been exploratory shafts dug in search of new pockets of ore. We also found the remains of wooden frame structures inside tunnels and shafts which kept the walls from collapsing.

The overall structure is quite elaborate. One pit consists of three vertical shafts connected by seven tunnels, each equipped with

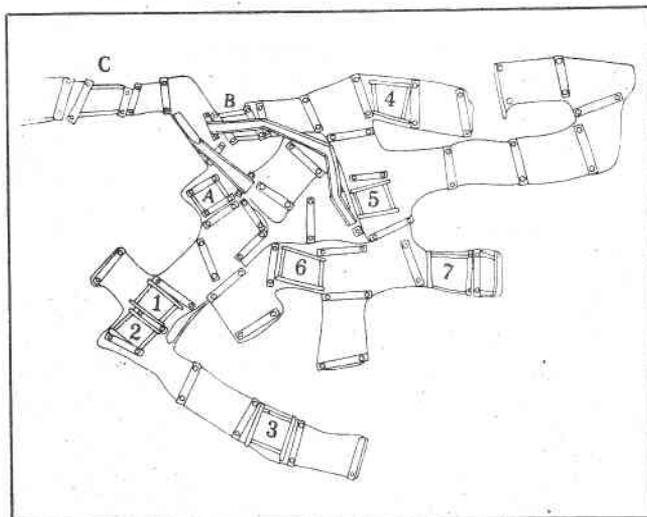
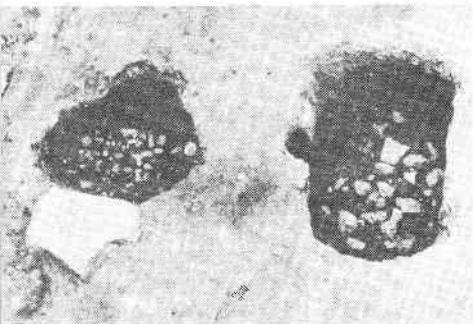


Diagram of one section of the ancient copper mine. A through C are vertical shafts, 1 through 7 mark the location of blind wells.

Entrance of a vertical shaft.

a "blind well." A single tunnel may have several branches. The ore pockets worked by the ancient miners, concentrated in belts surrounded by marble and volcanic rock, contained an average of 5-20 percent pure copper, the rest being made up of magnetite malachite, and cuprite. The ore-bearing rocks are rather loose and fragmented, so that mining them must have been relatively easy.

The quality of ore samples and the amount of slag (some 400,000 tons) left around the mine allow us to estimate roughly the quantity of



Stone hammer and shallow holes filled with crushed ore found near the remains of a smelting furnace.

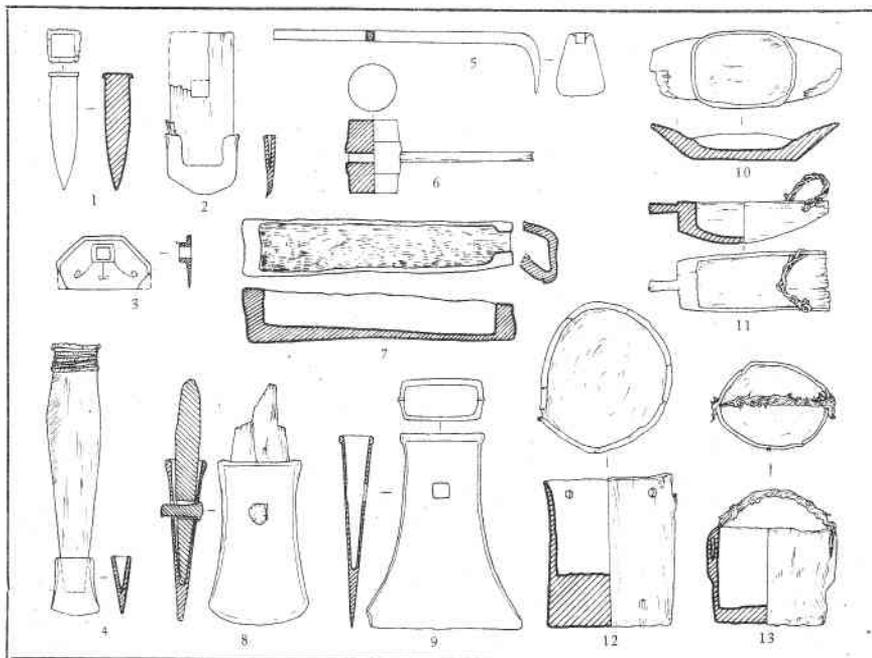
copper taken from the mine during its lifetime — some 40,000 tons.

Mining Tools

Tools and equipment left in the pits tell us a great deal about the mining technology of the period. In the earlier ones we found bronze chisels and other instruments, while in the shafts and tunnels of later dates we discovered hammers, chisels and hoes of iron.

One iron chisel has four bamboo hoops fastened around its wooden handle to prevent it from splitting. Spades of iron and bronze have very thin blades, and were probably used to scoop up flakes of ore or discarded rock fragments.

Fragments of rattan or bamboo baskets found in the mine, some still containing malachite or other materials, indicate how ore and waste brought to the surface. The miners used metal spades (or wooden or bamboo shovels, also found in the pits) to load the bas-



Mining tools recovered: 1. Iron chisel; 2. Concave iron hoe; 3. Iron hoe; 4. Iron axe; 5. Iron rake; 6. Iron hammer; 7. Wooden troughs; 8., 9. Axe-shaped chisels; 10. Boat-shaped pan; 11. Wooden ladle; 12., 13. Wooden buckets.

kets, which were then raised to higher levels by a system of ropes and pulleys. We found segments of rope and wooden hooks, with shallow grooves carved on them to accommodate ropes, embedded in the walls of shafts.

Among the most important finds were two wooden axles, which were used as windlasses, found near the mine entrances. The best preserved is 250 cm. in length, and its ends are whittled down so that it fits into the two support posts at the entrance of the mine shaft.

By means of ropes attached to the windlasses, baskets of ore and waste materials could with little effort be brought to the surface and tools and supplies lowered easily to various levels of the mine. We constructed a duplicate of the windlass mechanism, supplying some parts that were missing, and found that it worked quite efficiently.

Along the edges of some tunnels were found the remains of wooden water troughs, part of the mine's drainage system. The troughs empty into the "blind wells" descending from the tunnels. The dozens of handled wooden buckets

and ladles found were almost certainly used to scoop up water, which could either be emptied into the troughs or lifted to the surface by means of the windlass mechanism. Some of the smaller tunnels were apparently built especially for drainage.

Short bamboo slips burned at one end and found inside the tunnels were probably used as lights. Small boat-shaped wooden pans, some still filled with ore, may have been used to wash ore to test its quality — the high-quality heavier ore would sink to the bottom, while other materials would tend to float. Combined with visual observation, this testing of ore samples on the spot would help miners decide whether an ore pocket was worth excavating and in which direction to dig.

A quantity of what are believed to be the miners' "lunch-boxes" were also found — small bamboo baskets finely woven of very thin splints. A number of other articles of common daily use — wooden winged cups, gourd ladles, bamboo baskets and pottery fragments — makes us feel very close to the hard-working miners who used

them so many centuries ago. And all the more eager to discover the miners' residential quarters, which must have been nearby but which have not yet been found.

The Smelting Site

Near the entrance to Pit No. 6 we found the remains of smelting furnaces buried under heaps of slag and dating from the Spring and Autumn period. The seven furnaces recovered consist of a base laid half underground, a smelting chamber, and a top. Beneath each furnace is a ventilation passage that can be opened or closed, useful both for adjusting the temperature of the furnace chamber and for keeping water out of the furnace.

One furnace, better preserved than the others, is elliptical in shape (some of the others are rectangular) 70 cm. long and 40 cm. wide. There is an outlet for the molten copper and one of what was probably a pair of tuyères (nozzles through which blasts of air would be delivered to the chamber at intervals throughout the smelting process). The number of mended spots on the furnace indicate that it was rather easily repaired and had a long length of service.

In addition to the furnaces themselves we found stone hammers and balls which were probably used to crush ore, shallow holes filled with crushed ore of uniform size, pottery vessels, bronze adzes, copper ingots, slag, iron ore dust and kaolin.

Building an 'Ancient' Furnace

We constructed a furnace of our own based on all of the data from the Tonglushan furnaces to help us understand the smelting process and test whether our assumptions about furnace structure were correct. Careful attention was paid to duplicating the original materials and construction process, and the smelting experiment used the same fuels and grades of ore available to the ancient smelters.

Our second experimental furnace was 1.5 meters high, with a blast tuyère on either side of the furnace chamber. A small motor used to blow air through the tuyères was the sole concession to modernity, and did not affect the validity of the experiment.

For about 10 hours, ore and fuel were fed continuously to the furnace and slag was discharged at regular intervals (14 times in all). At the end of the experiment we had over 50 kilograms of 95.5 per-

cent pure raw copper and a quantity of slag containing a residue of 1.83 percent copper. Both figures correspond fairly closely to that of the ingots and slag remains found at Tonglushan. In two separate smeltings, we had used up 1,300 kilograms of ore and 600 of charcoal.

The results obtained convinced us that we had basically duplicated the smelting furnaces of the Spring and Autumn period, and discovered a great deal about how they operated. The experiment showed, for instance, that the furnaces must have had only one outlet for discharging both molten copper and slag.

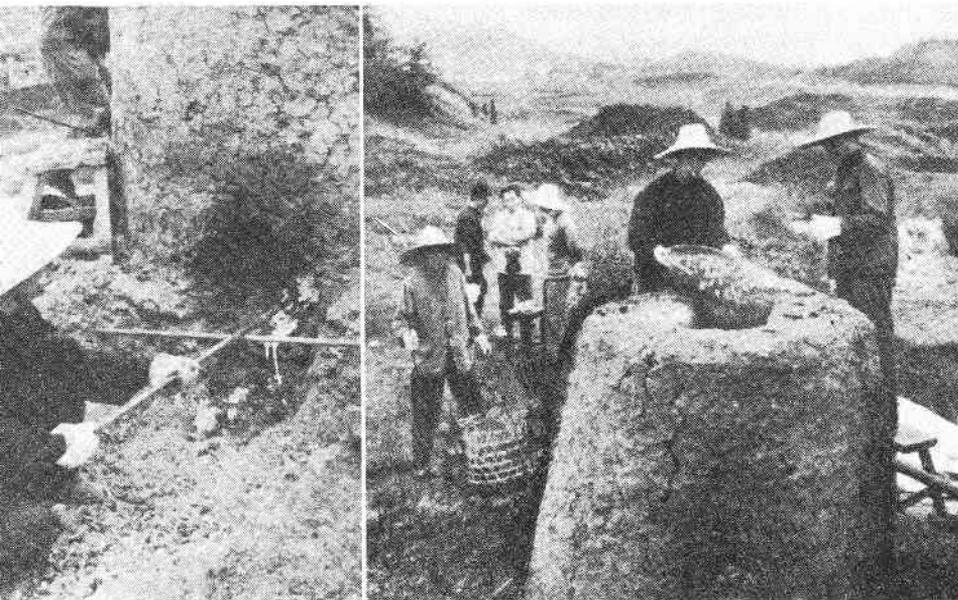
What We've Learned

Tonglushan is located on the shore of Lake Daye, which in turn connects with the Changjiang (Yangtze) River. A collection of 1.5 kilogram copper ingots found at the bottom of the hill suggests that smelted copper may have been transported over considerable distances before being made into bronze objects. Bronze-casting sites of the same period as the mine have been found not too far from Tonglushan, and it is not difficult to imagine ingots being loaded onto boats and carried easily over the lake and the river to wherever they were needed.

The discoveries so far have given us many insights into ancient production methods. It is now clear that mining, smelting and bronze-casting were each very specialized processes and showed considerable technical sophistication at a very early date. This division of labor undoubtedly enhanced production. It is also a sign that the civilization which supported such activities was quite advanced both in technology and in social organization.

Many archaeologists have had the satisfaction of discovering beautiful bronzes which testify to the artistry of ancient times. We take particular pride in the evidence we uncovered of the craft and ingenuity of ordinary workers — miners and smelters — who contributed their part to the making of those bronzes. □

Reconstructing a working model of an ancient smelter increased the archaeologists' knowledge of old metallurgical techniques.



Dance Sketches

BY YE QIANYU



Garland.



Happiness.

Dance performed by the Uday Shankar Dance Group.



Mongolian Lamp Dance.



Bhrata Natyum, Indian dance.



On the Bank of Ruili River, (Dai nationality)

YE QIANYU, a famous Chinese painter, is vice-chairman of the Chinese Association of Artists, and director of the Department of Traditional Chinese Paintings of the Central Academy of Fine Arts.

Tibetan Traditional Medicine

CAI JINGFENG

THE distinctive body of medical theory and practice developed over the centuries on the Tibetan plateau is today a precious medical heritage of the Tibetan people and an important part of Chinese traditional medicine as a whole.

When a patient goes to a Tibetan doctor, the latter usually first questions him about various symptoms and how they began and developed. Then he will place three fingers on the patient's wrist and carefully observe his pulse, not merely the rate, but many other manifestations. He looks at the patient's tongue, and examines the color, smell and sedimentation of the urine. Finally, on the basis of his diagnosis he will prescribe some medicine, most likely in the form of black pills the size of a pea.

The method of diagnosis from the pulse is quite similar to that used in the traditional medicine of the Han Chinese elsewhere in China, and Tibetan medicine has a close kinship with it in other ways as well. It is believed that this method of diagnosis was introduced into Tibet from central China in the seventh century, and later traveled from there to India. Two Han princesses who went to marry Tibetan kings during that century took with them a large number of medical practitioners as well as medical books. Thus the stage was set for the development of Tibetan medicine — by taking the best of Chinese medicine, combining it with ancient medical knowledge

learned from India, and adding experience in treatment gained over the centuries in Tibet itself.

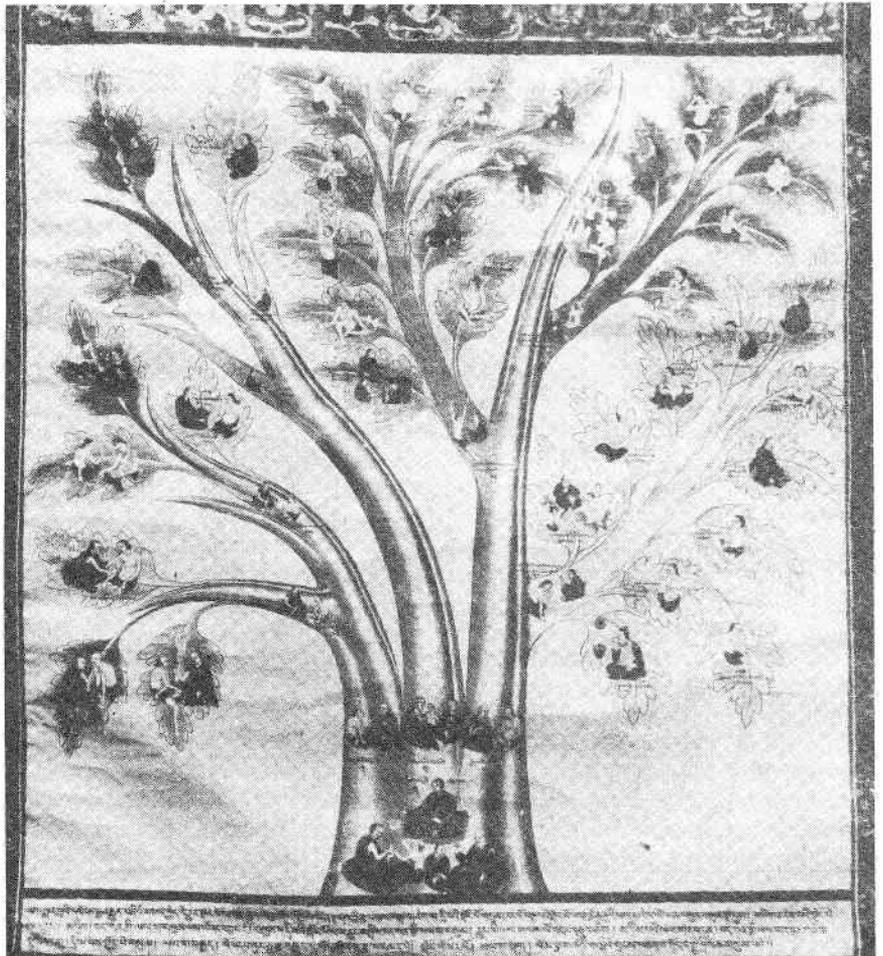
Serving as the theoretical background for Tibetan medicine is the idea similar to the concept in traditional Indian medicine that the human body is composed of three elements — *Rlung* (which could roughly be described as vital energy), *Mkhris* (bile), and *Badkan* (phlegm). Sickness is caused by an imbalance of these three. In a person in good health the three are in harmony.

The human body has two systems called "pulses", the "black" and the "white". The former is the blood circulatory system and the latter, "unbeating", the nervous system.

The ancient religious custom practiced by ancient Central Asian peoples of partially dissecting a dead body and exposing it to birds of prey in an open place may have contributed to an early and rather detailed knowledge of anatomy and pathology among the Tibetans.

Tibetan medicine was in advance of other ancient medical systems in its theory of embryology. Its view was that the human embryo is formed by a combination of the semen of the father and the blood of the mother, and that the embryo passes through three stages of development, assuming first the form of a fish, then a turtle and then a pig — a theory which shows marked similarity to modern scientific knowledge that during its growth

Two ancient charts illustrating traditional Tibetan diagnostic techniques and medical instruments.



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the human fetus reproduces the various stages of the evolution of mankind.

Pharmacology

Medicines used in traditional Tibetan treatment are made mainly from plants, animal life and minerals found on the Qinghai-Tibet plateau. Among the most common are *Saussurea laniceps*, hawk gizzards and a type of *gentian*.

Since the boiling point on the plateau is less than 100°C, the method of boiling the ingredients to make broth is not widely used. Instead, the ingredients are ground up and made into pills. They are also soaked in wine, and made into pastes, ointments, and liquors.

Tibetan medicines have proven effective for some illnesses common on the high plateau, including ulcers, rheumatoid arthritis, high



Lecturing to trainees at the Hospital of Tibetan Medicine.

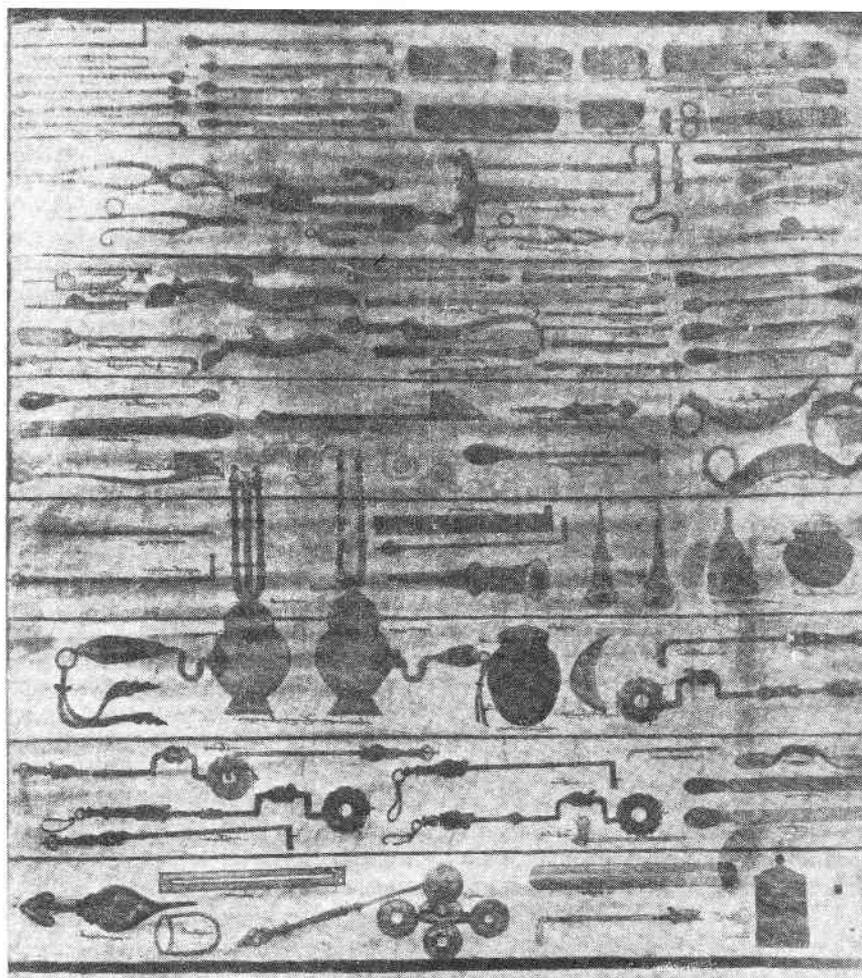
Zhai

blood pressure, epilepsy, and an excess of red corpuscles. A single pill may include 30 to 80 different ingredients. Seventy are contained in the Margarita pill, which is used in China and exported abroad for treatment of paralysis and the

aftereffects of cerebrovascular diseases.

Early Medical Books

The present script for the Tibetan language is said to have been created during the early and middle seventh century, and the earliest medical literature dates from that period. The most famous work is *The Four Tantras* compiled under the Tibetan medical master gYu-thog Yontan Gonpo in the late eighth century. As does the well-known early work on traditional Chinese medicine the *Huangdi Neijing* (The Yellow Emperor's Canon of Internal Medicine) dating from the latter half of the eighth century, it contains material on physiology, anatomy, pathogeny, pathology, therapy, prevention, pharmacology, and principles of clinical practice. *The Four Tantras* laid the foundation for the further development of Tibetan medicine and has been reissued many times with revisions, supplements and annotations. Translated into Mongolian, English, French and other languages, it has been of considerable influence both in China and abroad. A Chinese edition will be published in 1982. The classical work of Tibetan pharmacology is *The Brilliant Pearl* completed in the 15th century. It lists over a thousand plant, mineral and animal ingredients found on the high plateau. A set of drawings was also developed for illustrating





A veteran Tibetan doctor (second right) makes house calls at widely scattered herdsmen's tents in the pastoral area.
Chang Hongen



Measuring the pulse beats of the circulatory and other bodily systems is an important part of traditional Tibetan medical diagnosis.
Zhaxi

concepts of traditional Tibetan medicine.

Tibetan medicine has been given considerable attention by the people's government since liberation in 1949. Some of the classical works have been re-edited and a number of new works have been written, including *A New Tibetan Medicine*, *Textual Research on the Four Tantras*, *Treatment of*

Medicines once made by hand in the pharmaceutical factory of the Lhasa Hospital of Tibetan Medicine are now made by machine.
Zhaxi



Ophthalmological Diseases in Tibetan Medicine and books on the treatment of common diseases. To facilitate the use of Tibetan treatments, *The Standard Tibetan Pharmacology* has been published by medical departments of six provinces where Tibetan medicine is used.

Training Doctors

There was a Department of Public Health and Meteorology in the Tibetan local government before liberation, and it trained a few doctors who served the upper class; poor serfs could not afford doctors. Seven was the greatest number of students it ever had. Tibetan medicine was on the verge of dying out and was riddled with fraud, for the doctors often cheated their clients. In 1959 this department was transformed into a hospital where peasants and herdsmen as well as others in Tibet are treated in the bright and spacious wards and outpatient department. Equipment for laboratory tests and modern apparatus for use in diagnosis were added such as X-ray and electrocardiographs. The hospital's five department heads and 28 other physicians, along with additional staff members, treat some 800 outpatients daily. They have improved on traditional Tibetan medicine by introducing many concepts from

western medicine. Medical care, including hospitalization, is given without charge in Tibet.

The hospital also sends out more than 40 doctors in rotation in mobile medical teams. They visit nearly a hundred home-ward patients in farming and herding areas.

The hospital's pharmaceutical factory, with semi-automatic equipment, produces about 500 kilograms of pills a year, a 140-fold increase over 1959. The factory supplies traditional Tibetan medicines to the Tibetan Autonomous Region and the nearby provinces of Qinghai, Sichuan, Yunnan and Gansu and the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region. Some are exported to Nepal, Sikkim and India.

The hospital trains medical personnel in elementary and advanced courses in Tibetan medicine and pharmacology, and students get further education through doing clinical practice under the supervision of experienced doctors.

The Tibetan Autonomous Region set up a medical college in 1978 which has departments of medicine, pharmacology, Tibetan medicine and public health, and a graduate school. Another middle-level medical school also located in Lhasa teaches courses in Tibetan medicine in addition to its regular modern medicine course. □

Ginseng

AN YICHAO

THE ginseng root enjoys world-wide renown for its medicinal properties. In China its reputation goes back thousands of years. The Han dynasty (206 B.C.-A.D. 220) text *Canon of Materia Medica* gives a minute description of its properties and effects, and ever since it has been a staple of Chinese traditional medicine.

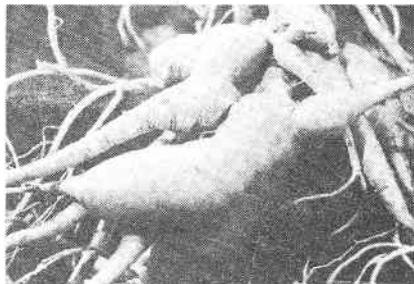
Modern chemical analysis shows that the root contains panaxin, panax acid, essential oils, and various B-complex vitamins. It is a diuretic and can lower blood sugar. Enthusiasts claim that ginseng tonic stimulates the central nervous system, strengthens the heart and calms the mind, and that regular use leads to long life span.

Ginseng requires special growing conditions, including indirect sunlight, water and cold temperatures. In China its natural habitat is the vast virgin forests of Jilin province in the Changbai Mountain region of northeast China. There the soil is rich with humus, damp but not waterlogged, and the trees are spaced widely enough to allow just enough sunlight to shine through their branches.

A variety of "baby ginseng" is found in smaller forests, but it is valueless. For centuries ginseng collectors have had to venture deep into the mountainous virgin forests to find the root. Today's collectors occasionally find the skeletons of those who lost their way and paid for it with their lives.

A Legend

Because ginseng is so often found growing next to tall Korean pines, a legend has grown up among the people of the mountains. Long,



Giant ginseng root discovered in the virgin forest of Fusong county.

long ago, they say, a ginseng root became the wife of a Korean pine. They lived happily in the Yimeng Mountains south of the Bohai Sea in Shandong province. But then a rich man started to fell all the Korean pines in the area to rebuild his manor. The young couple decided to flee to the Changbai Mountains. But it was a long, arduous journey, and the ginseng worried that she could not adjust to this strange place far from home. So the Korean pine pledged to remain always by her side to protect her—and that is why they are found together to this day.

Domestic Cultivation

Because wild mountain ginseng is so difficult to find, many attempts have been made to grow it commercially—the first experiments dating back over a thousand years ago. The plant's growing conditions are so special that most early attempts failed. Modern cultivation involves such methods as using soil rich in humus from the virgin forests and protecting the plants from direct sunlight with north-south angled sheds.

As early as 1957, Jilin province's Research Institute for Local Products set up a research section mainly concerned with ginseng production. Local agricultural departments and Jilin Agricultural University's Department of Local Products have trained many specialists and advise communes in the area about the latest scientific methods.

In the last few years, growing and processing ginseng has become an increasingly important sideline industry for communes in Jilin.

The province's Fusong county has become China's major ginseng producing area. Not counting the state farms, more than 95 percent of the county's production teams cultivate the plant. The annual output of fresh ginseng is almost 2,165 tons, 35 times the amount produced in 1949 and more than half of China's total output.

Ginseng plants are slow to mature. A one-year plant is as small as a match, while after two years they begin to sprout tiny umbrella-shaped leaves. Seedlings are transplanted after the third year, and they begin to grow more rapidly, finally bearing crystal-clear red berries. Cultivated plants reach maturity after six or seven years—a rate ten or more times faster than their wild counterparts. After they are harvested, Red, White and other varieties of ginseng must be put through a number of processing steps such as cleaning, steaming, air-curing, stove-curing, and so on.

Research on the plant's medicinal properties continues. A recent discovery is that ginseng stimulates blood circulation in the skin, so ginseng cream, perfumed soap and toothpaste have been developed. Scientists have also found that a pinch of red ginseng powder added to a culture medium can stimulate the growth of various kinds of seedlings. Some researchers are even exploring ginseng's potential in the treatment of certain kinds of cancer. □

Workers at the No. 1 Ginseng Farm in Jilin's Fusong county arrange the roots in drying frames.

Photos by Yuan Zhaoyi



AN YICHAO is a staff reporter for Xinhua News Agency's Jilin branch.



Lin Ping and her father Lin Yuan, in 1981, read the October 1959 issue of *China Reconstructs*.
Zhang Jingde

Growing and Changing with the New China

LIN PING

The October 1959 *China Reconstructs* carried the article "Ten Years Old" about the 10-year-old girl Lin Ping and one of her classmates. Born in the same year as the new China, these young people were growing up healthy and strong and getting a good education. They were being taught a sense of social responsibility—to live not just for themselves, but to be concerned for others' welfare. Recently we asked Lin Ping, now a fledgling writer, to describe her life in the years after 1959.

THINKING about the article from *China Reconstructs*, which was written by my father, took me back to that time over 22 years ago when our third-grade study group met at my home. In our typical Beijing-style courtyard house we did our homework and many other things together. In spring we planted beans and squash in the courtyard. In autumn we picked dates or pears. When winter came mother took us inside and told us stories around the stove.

In the years since then events in China have taken many twists and turns, and the lives of all of us were closely linked with the fate of our country. The "cultural revolution" had already begun

when I graduated from junior middle school. Its turbulence battered every family, and mine was no exception.

My schoolteacher mother was cruelly beaten, and she and my journalist father were both for a time kept in solitary confinement. Of course I was terribly anxious about them, and every day took them food and fresh clothes in a basket. My life at that time was like something I had once only seen in unhappy films about the past.

In the Countryside

In 1969 I graduated from senior middle school. Father was still under interrogation, so of course I

had no chance to go to college. Instead I was sent as a farm worker to remote Liujiawan village, south of the Changjiang (Yangtze) River. I left in February, when north China was still covered with snow, but at Liujiawan the plants had already turned green. Rice paddy fields stretched in every direction. Tender young plants of many kinds and red flowers flourished in the sunlight. My new home was beautiful.

I lived with a poor peasant family. Duo Duo, my host's daughter, was just two years older than I, and she became my "elder sister." She was reticent by nature, but the shy smile rarely left her face. She was good at every kind of farmwork. The pigs she fed were fat, the vegetables she planted, sturdy. Duo Duo patiently taught me everything she knew—how to chop firewood, build a fire, cut grass.

During my second year in the village, our commune was stricken by a severe flood as Luhu Lake overflowed vast stretches of paddy fields. As soon as the weather cleared, villagers rushed to the fields to see what could be salvaged. Heavy ears of ripening rice swung loosely in the water.

Following the team leader's example, people quickly fetched wooden basins and other containers to hold the rice plants. At first the girls were reluctant to jump into the waist-deep water, but then Duo Duo took the lead and one after another followed suit. That year, despite the flood, we managed to recover 60 percent of the rice crop.

I can remember very clearly Duo Duo helping me exchange my wet clothes for dry ones, and then sitting down to my supper rice. It seemed to me then that no food had ever smelled better or tasted as good. I was learning that each grain of rice we eat is the fruit of very hard work.

Man-Made Disasters

During those years when ultra-Left ideology held sway, production teams were pressured to deliver to the state not just the usual quotas, but sizable additional

amounts as a sign of their "loyalty". This caused great hardships to team members, who didn't have enough rice to eat.

One year we had to travel several dozen kilometers to dig wild lotus roots to feed ourselves. Despite the cold water, we took off our padded shoes and rolled up the bottoms of our trousers. Duo Duo taught me how to remove the top layer of mud with a spade and how to use my toes to search out the roots in the ice-cold mud.

When I dug out my first lotus root, I was as happy as a fisherman who had caught a big fish. But even before I announced my triumph, Duo Duo handed me a piece of clean-washed root to try. It was fresher and sweeter than any vegetable I had eaten in Beijing.

At the end of the day, our hands were as red as turnips from the cold, but we were happy. Each of us had gathered about 40 kilograms of lotus roots. So, by one means and another, we tided ourselves over that hard winter. Even today I cannot taste lotus root without thinking of those days and of my beloved elder sister Duo Duo.

The Textile Mill

After two years in the countryside, I was transferred to a cotton mill in Wuhan, Hubei province. Here I found the work was just as hard as in the village. Although our workshop floor measured only a few dozen square meters, I had to walk more than ten kilometers a day around the machine I tended. However, through doing this routine but pressure-filled job, I learned to respect my fellow workers, simple and honest, hard-working and indomitable.

During the "cultural revolution" labor discipline was very lax. Nobody dared to talk about production or efficient management. Even if someone slept during work hours, nothing would be done. But most of us went silently about our jobs, refusing to give in to this bad trend. My teacher Xu, a master worker, had varicose veins which made walking difficult and painful, but she never stopped her

steady pace around that machine, tying broken ends and changing spindles with clockwork precision. At noon, while others rested, she swept the floor or worked at cleaning the machines.

One day Xu fainted on the job and was taken to the hospital. There doctors discovered a tumor in her abdomen. One of them wondered, "How could she have kept on working with that pain?" When she returned, she worked as hard as ever. No matter how many times I urged her to rest, she would refuse with a warm smile and a shake of her head. In so many ways she reminded me of Duo Duo.

Hungry for Knowledge

After the fall of the gang of four in 1976, my parents went back to work. The system of college entrance examinations was restored, a new door opened for those of us who had longed for more education. I studied day and night, was fortunate enough to pass, and was admitted to Beijing Teachers' College, where I majored in Chinese. So after nine years absence, I returned to my home in Beijing.

I was among the first students admitted to college after the "cultural revolution." My classmates included herdsmen from Inner Mongolia, farm workers of production and construction corps and factory workers, and many who had been sent to live and work in the countryside. Our ages ranged from 18 to over 30. Our experiences were very different, but all of us treasured the opportunity to learn, which had not come easily to us.

We were often up and studying before the sun rose, and still at it up to midnight, long after the stars and moon had come out. We were like hungry sheep let loose in a mountain pasture, eating greedily to make up for lost time. It seemed we wanted to gain back all at once what had been lost over ten years.

In 1980 I read the novel *Xu Mao and His Daughters*, and was particularly impressed with one character, the fourth daughter Xu Xiuyun. She reminded me of Duo

Duo and so many other women I had known. I began to write down my thoughts, and soon had an article. I submitted it to a magazine, and was overwhelmed when I learned it would be published. This was my first harvest, and I knew that the ground had been plowed and the seeds planted during those ten chaotic years.

Often I am all too conscious of my own shortcomings before I start to write, and lose all confidence when I have finished a manuscript. But then I remember my dear friend Duo Duo digging out lotus roots with frostbitten hands, or my teacher Xu walking on despite her aching legs, and I begin to feel strong again.

In just a month I am going to leave school to take up a teaching job, another turning point in my life. No matter where I go I am determined to overcome any setbacks along the way, and I am determined to use my pen to give life to the simple, honest workers and peasants who have nurtured me, to the people of my generation who have been tempered by hardships, and to the new prospects of our socialist China, which is the same age as I am. □

1959: Lin Ping and classmate Guo Hui in Beijing's Beihai Park at the time the original article was published.





Liu Zhicheng

Income Tax on Foreign Enterprises

China's Foreign Enterprise Income Tax Law went into effect January 1. A China Reconstructs staff reporter recently interviewed LIU ZHICHENG, head of General Taxation Bureau of the Ministry of Finance. Here are his answers to questions.

Question: What is the purpose of the new income tax law?

Answer: Since China is carrying out a more open economic policy, an increasing number of foreign enterprises are setting up establishments in China as independent operations, joint business ventures or cooperative production with Chinese enterprises. The new tax law is intended to safeguard the interests of China, takes into account the fact that foreign investors must make economic feasibility analyses for their enterprises in China, and allows foreign investments to be profitable. The law was based on China's taxation practice over many years and the widely solicited opinions of international taxation lawyers.

Question: What is the range of taxation?

Answer: The range of taxation includes (1) Foreign companies, enterprises and other economic organizations engaged in independent business operations in China; (2) Those engaged in cooperative production or joint business operations with Chinese enterprises; (3) Those which have no establishments in China but derive income from China through investment, technology, service or other activities.

Question: How do the rates compare with other countries in the world?

Answer: Tax rates affect the immediate and vital interests of enterprises. Thus our first consideration was their ability to pay. Some large foreign enterprises in China are heavily invested and make high profits, others are medium-sized or small and make lower profits. The principle "more profit, more tax" is being applied, taxable income being assessed at

progressive tax rates on excess earnings. There are five grades. The lowest is 20 percent on annual income below 250,000 yuan. The highest is 40 percent on annual income above 1,000,000 yuan. The tax is computed and paid in Renminbi (RMB).

To this tax is added a 10 percent local income tax. Thus, the highest rate is less than 50 percent, lower than the tax (including Central Tax, or Federal Tax, and local tax) in developed countries, as well as in many developing countries. This especially encourages foreign enterprises in joint business operation with Chinese enterprises, particularly those involving large-scale operations such as the exploitation of natural gas and off-shore oil.

Question: What is the function of this tax law in developing economic cooperation between China and other countries?

Answer: How to levy an income tax is very important in encouraging foreign investment and developing economic cooperation with other countries. The new law not only provides that tax on foreign enterprises shall be assessed at progressive tax rates on excess earnings but that "the taxable income of a foreign enterprise shall be the net income in a tax year after deduction of costs, expenses and losses in that year (Article 2)." Losses incurred by a foreign enterprise in a tax year may be carried over into the next year and made up with a matching amount drawn from that year's income. For example, a foreign enterprise incurs a loss of 1,000,000 yuan. The next year it makes a profit of 2,000,000 yuan. It can then make up the 1,000,000 yuan loss, leaving

a total taxable income of only 1,000,000 yuan. This is an encouraging measure for foreign investors and is unprecedented for domestic enterprises.

Question: What other encouraging measures are being taken in taxation?

Answer: The new tax law provides special exemptions and reductions. For instance, if a foreign enterprise schedules operations for ten years or more in farming, forestry, animal husbandry or other low-profit occupations, it may apply for an exemption from income tax in the first profit-making year and be given a 50 percent reduction in the second and third year. With the approval of the Ministry of Finance, it may also be given a 15 to 30 percent reduction in income tax for a period of 10 years following these first exemptions and reductions.

Another example is that income from interest on loans given to the Chinese government or state banks by international finance organizations are exempt from income tax. This also applies to income from interest on loans given at a preferential rate by foreign banks to China's state banks.

Question: What is done about dual taxation?

Answer: Income tax on foreign enterprises having no establishments in China whose profits come from China is generally called withholding tax, a tax internationally acknowledged and levied according to the principle of tax jurisdiction. Some countries, such as France and Holland, credit enterprises which pay income tax in foreign countries from such a tax. In addition, tax rates can be reduced through bilateral treaties or agreements.

Question: Do foreign enterprises in the special economic zones in Fujian and Guangdong pay income tax according to this law?

Answer: The foreign companies, enterprises and other economic organizations in the special economic zones of Guangdong's Shenzhen, Zhuhai and Shantou and Fujian's Xiamen pay tax according to the regulations of these special economic zones. □

A Postwoman's Day

This article in letter form was written by Zhao Shuang, a girl in junior middle school in Xinjiang. It won first gold prize in the Children's Writing Contest sponsored by the International Postal Union. This was the first time China had taken part in the event. As the organizer, the Chinese Children's Journal received 25,000 entries from children of every nationality in the country.

May 2, 1981

Dear Cousin,

When your letter arrived, I had just come back from making my deliveries. Now I imagine a myriad lights are twinkling in your city. What should I talk about first? Let me tell you what I did today.

Awul is a small, out-of-the-way mountain village, ten kilometers from our post office. To get to it, I have to cross several mountains. When dawn breaks, I begin to climb with a bulky bag and a water bottle by my side. On the top of the mountains is a dense forest of pine trees. Through the thick, luxuriant leaves, the sunlight casts shadows on to the path. I often feel afraid walking here alone. To boost my courage, I usually hum a Kazak song I learned from the local folk. Out of the forest and across another mountain, I can see



Zhao Shuang, the author.

flocks of sheep belonging to Awul Village.

The old shepherd Jiangbur, seeing me, called, "Aha, my wild goose comes here again!" I went over to him and sat on a rock rubbing my hands along one of the sheep's backs, which relieved my fatigue a lot. Then, pointing at my perspiring face he added, "You must be tired, lass. Only after many flights can an eagle's wings become strong. A girl like you from the city has to get used to your daily work. By the way, today's my wife's birthday. After your work, come and have lunch with us, will you?"

Uncle Jiangbur's words encouraged me. I delivered letters along the tree-lined street. A group of children caught sight of me calling, "Auntie's coming!" They wanted to drag me to their home to drink milk. I made a promise before going to Aunt Paxiahan's.

She asked me to read her a letter and write a reply for her, then, pouring me a cup of milk, commented, "Yakexi!"*

After delivering another few letters, I realized there were some boiled corn cobs in my bag. I never knew who put them there.

When I looked at my watch, I knew it was time for me to go and give a lesson to the children in the village school. They wanted to have a Han language teacher, but they couldn't find one. So I, a high-school graduate, promised the schoolmaster that I would teach them one class every letter-delivering time. After class and a discussion with some of the pupils, I found my bag even weightier than before, when I picked it up. Apart from their homework, it contained some cheese, dried apricots and apples. There was nothing I could do about it. They must have been slipped in there on the sly by those little rascals.

When I finished my delivery, smoke from the village's kitchen chimneys hovered in the air. It was time for lunch. At the entrance to the village, I saw uncle Jiangbur driving his sheep homeward. "Sorry, uncle," I stopped him, "I'll go and see auntie tomorrow. OK?" "Tomorrow? Tomorrow isn't my wife's birthday." Before I could say anything, he had dragged me to his home. While eating, I glanced from time to time at my watch. Auntie said to me gleefully, "Don't worry, lass. My old man'll take you back." As I was about to say no, he whispered, "Don't. Otherwise she'll blame me." She pretended to be angry, scolding, "Hum, you must be saying something bad about me..." "Oh no!" retorted the old man waving his hands quickly. "Would I dare do that? Especially on your birthday." His wife burst out laughing. So did I.

Just after he brought me home and the clatter of his horse's hoofs had faded away, I wrote you this letter. I feel I will never be able to tear myself away from this place. I'd like to know what you think.

With all best wishes,

Your cousin, Shuang

First prize gold medal won by Zhao Shuang in the Children's Writing Contest sponsored by the International Postal Union.

Shao Yan



*"Wonderful" in the Uygur language.

Meeting People's Consumer Needs

LIU HONGFA

A RECENT small commodities exhibition in Henan province held in the city of Zhengzhou attracted thousands of visitors with an endless array of consumer goods of high craftsmanship, including small items such as candies, cakes and preserved vegetables and articles for daily use such as needles, buttons, ropes, nails, locks and handles. There were children's garments, hats and shoes, knit goods made of cotton or silk, gloves, purses and backpacks made of plastic or leather. Overall there were 7,600 varieties in the exhibition.

The cheapest items were needles and pins; customers could buy three or four for only one *fen*. Among the most expensive were pressure cookers and backpacks of synthetic leather costing some twenty yuan. From morning to night, the four large exhibition halls were crowded with people negotiating and placing orders.

Getting the Masses' Opinions

It is only in the past two years that small commodity production in Henan province has been restored. Before this, undue emphasis was put on the development of heavy industry at the expense of light industry. In developing light industry, too much emphasis was placed on production value and speed of increase instead of the production of small commodities where value was low and profits small. As a result, the variety of small commodities became fewer and output dropped sharply. A few traditionally famous brand products of fine workmanship handed down from past generations were on the verge of being lost. The shortage of small commodities on the market forced people to travel dozens of kilometers visiting stores for small items costing only a few *fen*, often

without success. At one time even pans, bowls and needles could not be found.

A department store saleswoman in the city of Xuchang reported this situation to her leaders. Her opinion reached Yan Jiming, vice-governor of Henan province. Yan called a provincial small commodities production conference to study the problem. "The purpose of socialist production," he said, "is to meet the needs of the people. How can we sit doing nothing while the masses have trouble getting even a needle or a bowl? We must develop light industry and textiles, but at the same time it is imperative to increase the production of small commodities."

The provincial government decided that small and medium-sized enterprises must take small commodity production as a key task. It helped promote this by relaxing restrictions, reducing taxes, issuing loans, insuring the supply of raw materials and setting correct prices. As a result, small com-

modity production in Henan began a rapid growth.

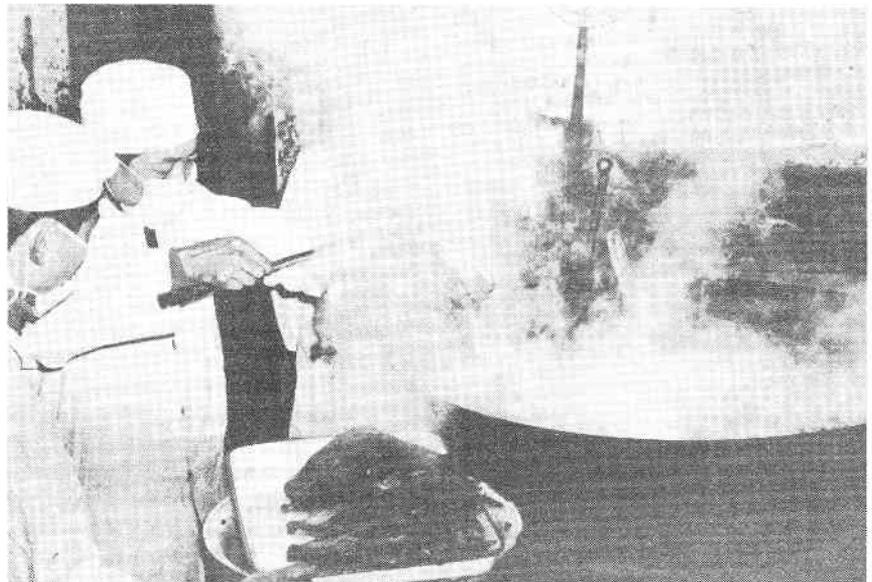
Famous Brands Come Back

Three obvious characteristics have now appeared in Henan's small commodity production. First, taking advantage of the fact that the province is predominantly agricultural, great efforts are being made to restore traditionally famous brand small foodstuffs. Second, considering the large number of small cities and towns in the province, the production of children's garments and everyday domestic articles is being emphasized. Third, the manufacture of products of ordinary quality indispensable to the everyday life of the people is being expanded.

Henan is famous for its foodstuffs. For example, for a hundred years Yuxian county 250 kilometers west of Zhengzhou was known for the high quality of its dried bean-curd. It was fine-grained and tough, and a four-centimeter square piece could be drawn out

Daokou roast chicken is a famous local dish of that town, in Henan province.

Yan Shichang



LIU HONGFA is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.

as long as six centimeters or wound around the finger twice without a break. Containing special ingredients and processed with superb skill, it could be stored a week even on hot days without going bad. Canned beancurd retained its good taste for three years. Formerly offered as a tribute to emperors, today Yuxian county's beancurd is still the best in the province.

Mung bean cakes, manufactured in Yuxian county and made with a special technique, were known in the cities of neighboring provinces before liberation under the brand "Xing Ho Shun." Hexagonal in shape, jade-green, small and containing the finest quality mung beans and sesame seed oil, they had a delicate fragrance and taste. A few years ago, the only person still alive who could make them was Yang Daorong. He was invited to work as an adviser in the old bakery. The moment the cakes made according to his recipe and directions were put on the market, they were quickly sold out. Mung bean cakes then became one of the best-sellers at an All-China Commodities Fair. Today a great number of students have learned Yang's skills. The output of mung bean cakes has increased over ten times.

Colorful children's clothes — a consumer item always in great demand — are turned out by the Machine-Embroidered Children's Garment Factory in Xuchang, Henan.

Yan Shichang



Another example is from Yongcheng county, 80 kilometers southeast of Yuxian county in eastern Henan. This area grows cayenne pepper and dates. The pepper is noted for its large size, thick pulp and hot taste. The dates are famous for their size and sweetness. The local people used to make the pepper into bricks and dry the dates. The bricks were crumbled, mixed with sesame seed powder and baked with flour. Dried dates were used in dumplings or chewed. When the government recently began paying higher prices for these products, the peasants worked hard to increase their output. Today cayenne pepper bricks and dried dates not only satisfy the domestic market but are exported to countries of southeast Asia.

Better Children's Clothes

Among the small commodities of Henan province, children's clothes manufactured in the city of Xuchang are today sold in a wide range of sizes and current styles. They can be found in department stores in major cities such as Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjin, Wuhan and Guangzhou.

Three factories making children's garments organized an investigation in the large cities. They found



Plastic hand-cranked noodle-making machines produced by the No. 3 Plastic Plant in Xinxiang, Henan. *Xinhua*

that people wanted prettier clothes for their children and could afford them. They then formed three groups specializing in design, technology and technical innovations.

The hat factory started a campaign, asking every worker and staff member to design a new model, make a constructive suggestion or devise a technological innovation. The resulting new hats for boys and girls in all sizes and styles brought purchasing agents from many distant cities. In 1981, domestic orders were 900,000 and foreign concerns bought 34,700 — the total quota of the factory.

The investigation by the factory making children's garments found the market full of dull goods and many items out of stock across the country. Besides, people did not like the usual medium-quality garments. Therefore, it began designing new and better types, more than 90 varieties for children in different sizes and styles. Two hundred and forty thousand of them were sold in one year.

The shoe factory, after a similar inquiry, began turning out a full range of varieties in all types and sizes, ranging from size 12 for one-month-old babies to size 27 for men and women. Five million pairs

(Continued on p. 69)

A Brigade's Fishery School

ZHANG JINGMING

ONE autumn night in 1981 the prawn beds of Gushan commune's Shuichan fishery brigade at Weihai, Shandong province on China's east coast were brightly lit and bustling with activity. A new class of the brigade's secondary-level fishery school was trying out a technique never used locally before — catching prawns by luring them with lamps. Under the guidance of teachers and fishery veterans, the youngsters demonstrated that they had mastered the method. The brigade members who had turned out to watch the operation greeted their success with cheers and applause. It was another small triumph for the fishery school.

All over China, in the countryside and in the cities as well, great efforts are underway to upgrade general educational levels and in particular to strengthen basic technical education. Such efforts are a vital part of the drive to modernize the national economy. If the Shuichan brigade is something of a pioneer in this area — its school has been operating for 15 years — it is due to the foresight of its leaders and the enthusiastic support of students and brigade members over the years.

Sailboats to Mechanization

Fifteen years ago the brigade's ocean-fishing operations depended on several dozen wooden sailboats. With the development of collective production, some motorboats had been added to the fleet, but many of the fishermen were still illiterate and others without technical training, so they were unable to operate or repair the boats, which stayed on the beach. During the 1966 spring fishing season, two of the fleet's sailboats were lost in a storm. This made brigade Party Secretary Zou Lijin more determined than ever to carry out an idea he had conceived — to start a secondary technical school that

would specialize in every aspect of fishery.

Zou's proposal won immediate support from brigade members, and the school opened in September 1966. The first class of 40 junior middle school graduates was selected by Zou, who became and still is school principal. Classes were held in three small rooms almost bare of equipment. Students and teachers caught jellyfish (processed for food in China) or cut edible seaweed in their spare time to earn some 800 yuan for desks, books and equipment.

In the 15 years since, profound changes have taken place in the brigade. The old sailboats have been replaced by a fleet of specialized motor craft equipped with such advanced equipment as position-finders and fish-detectors. In 1965 the brigade's yearly income was less than 800,000 yuan and per capita income less than 600 yuan. Brigade income is now 3.5 million yuan and per capita income about 1,000 with some individuals earning as much as 1,500.

Zou Lijin, now nearly 60 and with the weatherbeaten face of a fisherman, is quick to point out

Zou Lijin, founder and principal of the fishery school, with some of the current crop of students.

Photos by Zhang Jingming and Zhou Youma



Fishery school students learn to use nautical charts.

the central role played by the fishery school in the brigade's development: "But for the young people educated in it, the brigade would have found it almost impossible to mechanize production." Of the brigade's current fishery work force of 740, more than half are fishery school graduates. Apart from some who have gone on to college or into the army, all now work in the brigade's aquatic products farm, shipyard or fishing fleet, many of them as captains, engineers, directors or technicians.

Book Learning, Field Work

Every year 30 to 40 of the commune's junior middle school graduates are enrolled in the fishery school after examination of their academic level, moral qualities and physical fitness. The length of schooling is one to two years. Each student is required to take three courses of study in fishing, navigation and aquatic products breeding, as well as three general courses in mathematics, Chinese language and political theory.

During the spring fishing season, students learn not just from books but by going out to sea with the fishing fleet. In early winter they learn to raise kelp and mussels. When motor craft are being repaired, students are taken to the shipyard so that they can apply what they have learned about engine structure, maintenance and repair.

The school's teachers spend much of their spare time either in pre-

ZHANG JINGMING is a staff reporter for **China Reconstructs**.

CHINA RECONSTRUCTS

Teacher Yu Chunqin giving a lecture at the water products farm.



Students and fishermen making a good catch of the prawns they have bred themselves.



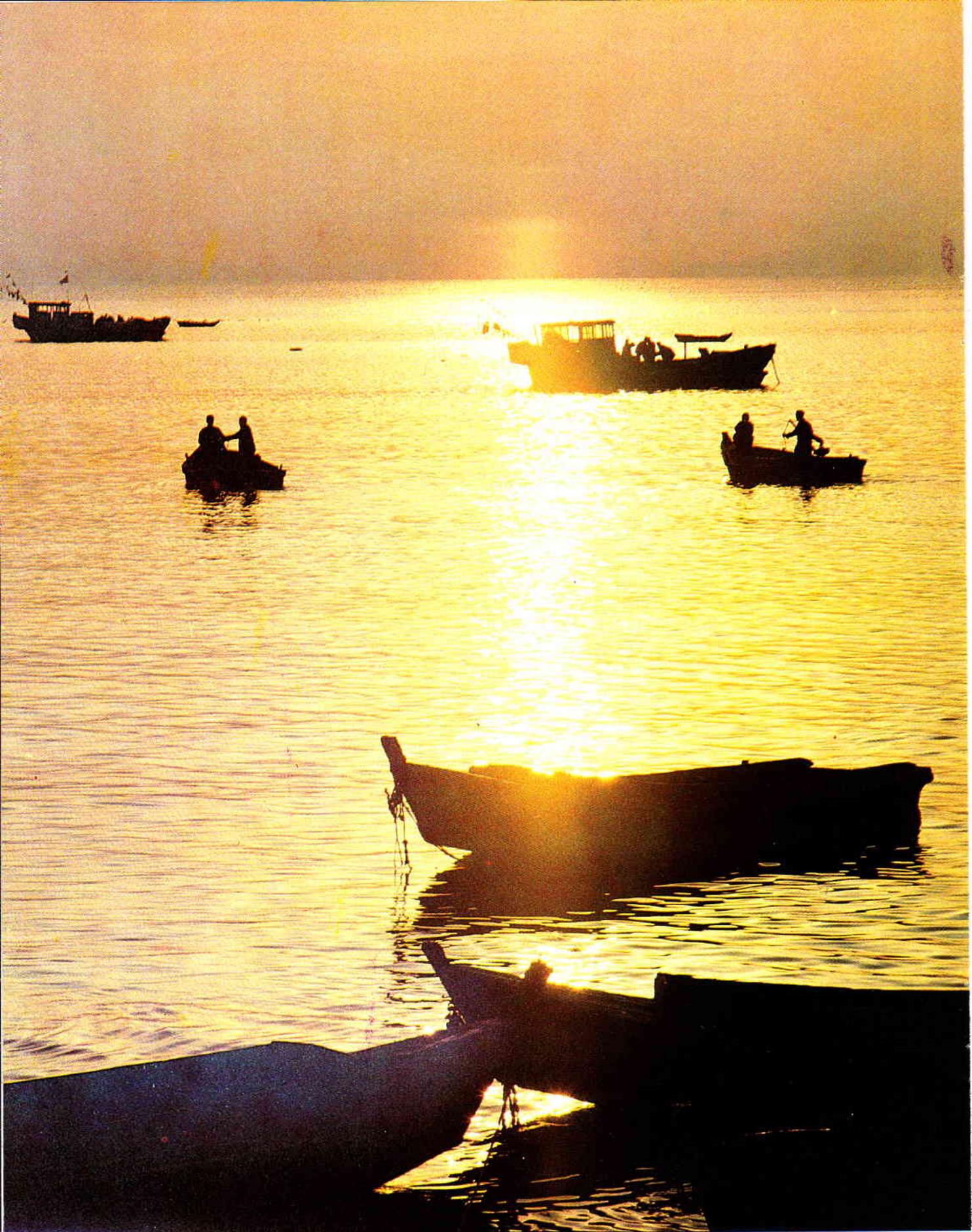
Captain Zhou Yuehua, a graduate of the school.



Han Minghua, another graduate, works as a technician at the brigade's shipyard.

Qu Yankai became a diver after graduation.





Fishery school students going out to sea early in the morning. Photos by Zhou Youma

paring lessons or in upgrading their own knowledge. Yu Chunqin, who teaches aquatic products breeding, came from a fisherman's family. He frequently visits a neighboring fish farm 5 kilometers away to exchange ideas. Cong Peizhang teaches navigation and fishing techniques. A 1960s graduate of a Shandong merchant marine institute, he often goes out to sea with the local fishermen to learn from their practical experience.

In 1981 both men spent their summer vacation visiting fishery colleges and research institutes in Yantai and Qingdao, also in Shandong province. The two have compiled hundreds of pages of teaching texts about different aspects of fishery.

Practical Research

Some time after its establishment, the school was asked by the brigade to find a better way to breed edible kelp in Renshen Bay. The old frame beds in the bay were not working. Strong gales blew the plants out of the beds and onto the beach, and harvests were extremely sparse.

Students and teachers delved into the written research materials and consulted veteran fishery workers. They made on-the-spot observations, particularly on windy and rainy days. After many experiments, they determined the most suitable depth for the kelp beds and devised a better planting frame. The area of the brigade's kelp farm has now expanded from 3 to 40 hectares and per-hectare output is up from 15 to 30 tons.

The students' practice in production and scientific research over the years has consolidated what they have learned in the classroom and produced graduates equipped to deal flexibly with fishing problems. This approach has also enriched the brigade and made the school self-supporting. In the past 15 years, without a penny of state investment, it has managed to build a schoolhouse, pay administration expenses, buy books and equipment, and provide medical care and board for the students. □



Labor of love: older women from an army unit's neighborhood took on the job of washing and resewing the soldiers' quilts.

Army and People — Helping One Another

QI SUMIN and WANG CHENGSONG

THE People's Liberation Army's reputation for close ties with the people was formed during the War of Resistance Against Japan and the liberation struggles both before and after it. The imperial, warlord and KMT armies had been instruments of oppression and persecution. The PLA was something new in people's experience — it fought their oppressors and protected their interests, and therefore they gave it their wholehearted support. Without the close cooperation between the army and the Chinese masses, the revolu-

tionary struggle could never have been won.

In peacetime the PLA has maintained its fine tradition of selfless service. Countless stories could be told about the PLA's part in construction projects and economic development, its heroism in times of flood or other emergencies, and its day-by-day efforts, large and small, to serve the people. The following are just a few examples from the records of the army units regularly stationed in the city of Xuzhou, Jiangsu province, in the eastern coastal area.

At the foot of Yunlong Mountain in the southern suburbs of Xuzhou lies 5.7-square-kilometer Lake Yunlong. In summer local people flock to the tree-lined lake to swim or go boating, or just to enjoy the beautiful scenery. But this same stretch of peaceful water was once a menace rather than a pleasure for the inhabitants of Xuzhou.

Harnessing Lake Yunlong

The lake is situated in low-lying marshy ground. In the old days, when torrents of water rushed down the mountain, the lake overflowed and flooded surrounding areas. In the early 1960s, as a first step towards controlling the waters, Xuzhou people and local PLA units joined forces to construct a 4,100-meter dike along the northern bank of the lake. The army's contributions were so significant that it was named the "August 1" dike, after the anniversary of the PLA's founding.

But even with the dike, the situation remained somewhat dangerous for over a decade. The lake had no outlet, and its bottom was higher than the center of the city. In 1976 construction began on a 620-meter spillway tunnel directly through the mountain along with a smaller channel to link the spillway to the river that runs through the city. Army units stationed at Xuzhou cooperated with local construction teams from the beginning. Ma Chaocheng, leader of the army builders, set the example by living on the worksite and digging and

hauling rocks alongside his men.

During the construction process — which was made more difficult because of the complex topography and rock faults — the army consistently shouldered the hardest and dirtiest tasks. And Xuzhou residents responded. At one point, when the builders were working around the clock to complete the spillway before the height of the rainy season, civilians of all ages pitched in to carry tea and drinking water up a steep and slippery slope to the men.

Toward the end of the project, soldiers were dredging the river of accumulated silt, working waist-deep in the cold, filthy water despite a piercing March wind. Again and again concerned people along the riverbanks prepared hot meals and insisted that the hard-working troops stop long enough to eat them. Xuzhou people have never forgotten the army's contributions to their safety and welfare.

Serving the Children

In 1980 one group of soldiers completed their term of service and were demobilized. Among those who saw them off were the students and teachers of the Guangming Primary School. Children clung to their army "uncles" as if they would never let go. On every side was heard "Don't forget to write!"

The Guangming School was very near the army base, and PLA units had adopted it as their special responsibility. The soldiers had constructed cement walkways

for the school, whitewashed classrooms, repaired sewers, leveled the playground, and constructed extra benches and desks when they were needed. Students and teachers were invited to films, operas and other recreational activities sponsored by the army.

Two PLA soldiers, Xu Shengen and Wang Shulong, gave up their spare time to be after-school counselors. They told stories, taught the children to sing and helped them rehearse performances. They were always ready to discuss schoolwork, recommend outside reading, or just to listen to students' problems.

One fourth grader became Xu's particular concern. The boy was a cut-up, frequently absent from school and behind in his lessons. Xu didn't scold, but treated him as a younger brother who had some problems. He worked with the boy's teacher and parents to try to arouse his interest in learning. After long efforts, the boy began to pay more attention to his studies, and soon he was earning respectable marks in every subject.

When the army held a celebration to honor its own outstanding units and individuals, Guangming School's honorary uncles made arrangements for the school's best teachers to be honored as well. As much as any PLA soldier, these teachers were "fighters" who deserved recognition.

Serving the Elderly

Yin Yanliang, a retired worker, lives with his family on Donghua

Army medical workers tour rural production brigades.



Officers and soldiers tackle snow and garbage removal for Xuzhou city.





PLA units help out at harvest time.



In gratitude for all his services to their school, children present Xu Shengen with the red scarf of the Young Pioneers.

Photos by Li Chenglin

Street in the northern section of the city. His wife is partially paralyzed, he has a teen-age son who is mentally retarded, and he himself suffers from high blood pressure. Although they have no real economic difficulties since Yin's pension is adequate, managing daily chores used to be a serious problem.

But Yin's home is close to an army company's headquarters, and when the soldiers heard about his problems they began to help out. They took turns doing various chores. When the household needed grain or coal, the soldiers fetched them. For three years Lu Shoufang carried water, washed clothes and did some of the house cleaning. When Yin fell ill, it was Lu who took him to the hospital, brought him fruit and cakes, and then cared for him when he came home.

Once, during a very heavy rain, members of the company showed up to patch Yin's roof. Deciding that simple repairs were not enough, they moved the family to an army barracks. As soon as the rain stopped they devoted their spare time to tearing down the old house and building a new one.

When Yin saw his new house for the first time, he started to cry. The soldiers could not know it, but the house had special significance for him. In the years before liberation Yin and his wife had fled the countryside to try to make a living in Xuzhou. Yin eked out a precarious existence as a rickshaw puller or common la-

borer. They lived in a rickety shed which provided little protection from wind, rain and cold.

But trouble pursued them. KMT soldiers, claiming that the shed was in the way of some new defense works, tore it to the ground. Yin knew better than to protest such actions, but they beat him anyway. For a long time afterward the couple lived in the streets, seeking shelter under the eaves of other people's houses.

What was taken from him by the KMT soldiers had been more than restored by the PLA. Yin went around telling his story again and again—the story of two different armies, two very different societies.

'Cherish the Army'

Some time before the 1981 Spring Festival, a group of Xuzhou people decided it was time to show their appreciation of the PLA in a concrete way. A 90-member cherish-the-army service team was formed. It included people from students to grandmothers, doctors to barbers, shop assistants to neighborhood committee leaders. Just before the festival they set out for the army barracks with basins, brooms, sewing machines and small daily necessities. Descending on the surprised soldiers, the barbers offered free haircuts and the doctors medical check-ups. Young people pitched in to clean the barracks and older women washed and mended clothes and quilts. The soldiers were overwhelmed.

But that was not the end. Before every major festival, or when

the soldiers came back from a period of training, team members would come around to the barracks to help out. It got so that the soldiers would hide their laundry when they saw the team coming, but the laughing civilians would invariably find it. The soldiers kept planning dinner parties for their new friends after the work was done, but team members kept slipping away individually so that the soldiers would not be put to the trouble.

Some 45 households in the city's Huancheng district are the families of armymen in active service or killed in the line of duty. Just as the army had adopted Yin Yanliang's family, the team adopted these families as their special responsibility. Neighboring members of the team helped with household chores, errands, and any other tasks that needed doing.

Wang Mutang and his wife, both in their seventies, came under the care of Sun Guirong and Sun Yulan. Besides numerous chores and errands, the two team members saw that the old couple never lacked for company, even bringing a group of young children to perform for them. Their daughter, on active service with the army, came home to visit with the intention of taking them back with her so she could care for them. Wang happily turned down the offer. "With all our friends and neighbors, we have all the care we need. We're never lonely. We're going to stay right here!" □

Yonghe Gong, Lama Temple in Beijing

ZOU TING

IN the northeast corner of Beijing's city proper, just south of the new round-the-city express highway, rises a vast complex of ancient vermilion buildings with curving yellow-tiled roofs. This is Yonghe Gong, one of the important temples of the Tibetan Buddhist (sometimes called Lamaist) faith, housing many fine examples of historical relics and religious art, and now visited by worshipers and tourists alike. The earliest of this group of ancient structures date from 1694 when it was the residence of the Manchu prince who later ruled as Yong Zheng (r. 1723-1736). At that time the complex was stated to cover 99.7 *mu* because the residence of a prince was not supposed to be over 100 *mu* (6.7 hectares), but it actually exceeds that amount.

The present name, Yonghe Gong, bestowed much later, means Palace of Harmony, but at that time the scene there was anything but harmonious. In the closing years of his reign, Emperor Kang Xi had disinherited his eldest son by the empress as being unfit to succeed him, opening the way for intense rivalry among his other sons. Yong Zheng, the fourth son, gathered together a group of Buddhist monks, soldiers and men of ability into an organization which operated out of this house. It was known by an innocuous name which would be roughly the equivalent of today's Rod and Gun Club implying it was devoted to the princely pastimes of bird-catching and fishing. With the group Yong Zheng plotted one conspiracy after another to eliminate his rivals, and stopped at nothing, even torture, to elicit information.

Appointed successor by Kang Xi on his deathbed, Yong Zheng became emperor, framed and executed two of his brothers, and made his organization the basis of a secret service which kept watch on officials and ferreted out dissidents. In the third year of his reign he declared his old house one of the royal traveling residences forbidden to commoners, renamed it Palace of Harmony and began to have the green tiles of the roof changed for imperial yellow ones as befitted a monarch's home. That is how today among temples, which have green tile roofs, Yonghe Gong with its golden ones is an exception. Yong Zheng later turned it over for use of the lamas, and in 1744, after his death, it was formally made into a temple.



The statue of Maitreya carved from a 26-meter-long tree trunk.

The temple, approached from the south through three beautiful archways, consists of five main buildings on a north-south axis and contains many splendid halls, including the Great Hall, Yongyou (Hall of Eternal Blessing), and Falun (Hall of the Wheel of Life). An outstanding one is Wanfolou (Pavilion of Ten Thousand Buddhas), a three-story tower which houses an 18-meter-high carved sandalwood Buddha made from a single tree trunk. Lamas

ZOU TING is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.



The signboard above the door proclaims that this is the Palace of Harmony in (left to right) Mongolian, Tibetan, Han and Manchu.

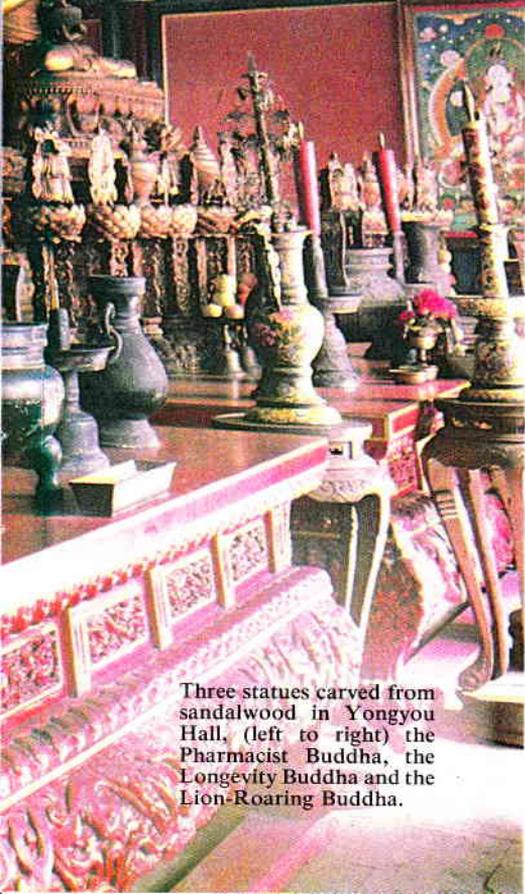


Archway before the Yonghe Gong.





Lamas at Yonghe Gong.



Three statues carved from sandalwood in Yongyou Hall, (left to right) the Pharmacist Buddha, the Longevity Buddha and the Lion-Roaring Buddha.

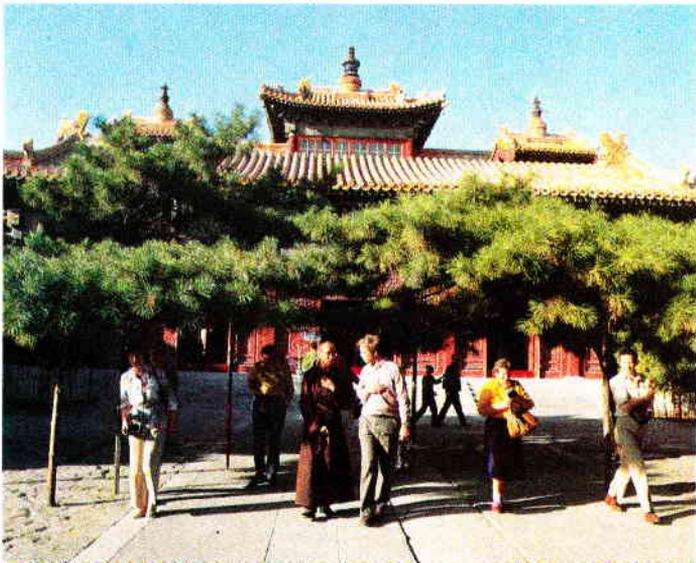
(Left) The White Avalokitesvara, according to Tibetan Buddhism, an incarnation of Guanyin, the Goddess of Mercy. (Right) Sumeru Mountain, a bronze sculpture of the Ming dynasty Wan Li period (1573-1619), a representation of Buddhism's world outlook. At the bottom is the sea; the top, the mountain where Sakyamuni lived; on the slopes are the dwellings of the four heavenly kings.





The central section of the giant mural depicting the story of Sakyamuni.

The Falun Hall (Hall of the Wheel of Life) is typical of Tibetan architecture.



One of the Bell and Drum Towers. *Photos by Huo Jianying*



from the temple say that the foundation of the figure extends another eight m. underground, giving the trunk an overall length of 26 m.

Yonghe Gong is a temple of the Yellow Sect of Tibetan Buddhism. Four halls on the east and west wings are devoted to the lamas' studies of specialized subjects: Mathematics Hall with its astronomical instruments; Medicine Hall; and Chan (Zen) Hall and Mi Hall for two schools under the Yellow Sect.

Interesting pieces of religious art include a bronze representation of Mount Sumeru, according to Buddhist tradition the center of the universe above which lies paradise; the Mountain of 500 Arhats (those who have achieved enlightenment and are on the road to Buddhahood), who are cast in five metals, gold, silver, copper, iron and tin; and in the Mi Hall many-armed male and female Buddhas engaged in sexual intercourse.

Survived 'Cultural Revolution'

How relics in Yonghe Gong managed to pass unscathed through the "cultural revolution" is a story in itself. In August 1966 a group of more than 100 Red Guards, attacking the "four olds" (old ideas, culture, habits and customs), marched in, bent on destroying this hotbed of feudal superstition and former den of imperial iniquity. The late Premier Zhou Enlai was informed of the situation and sent Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Han Nianlong to talk with the Red Guards. After days of negotiation inspired by the prestige of Premier Zhou, not only did they withdraw their intention of wrecking the place, but left some of their people to guard it. Thus the architecture, the tablets of inscriptions, screens and rolls of sutras were left untouched. Even the sacrificial vessels and other equipment suffered no damage.

Soon after liberation in 1949 the people's government had spent a substantial sum for restoration of the temple, and in 1961 it was listed as a national cultural relic

to be preserved. More recently, after the policies on freedom of religion and protection of historical relics were re-implemented, the government allocated another large sum and assigned to Yonghe Gong the country's only team for repairing ancient architecture. The arches and every hall have been repaired and repainted.

An event at the temple remembered by many old Beijing residents is the masked "devil dance" — to drive out "devils" or evil — a solemn religious ceremony which contains many elements from Tibet's indigenous religion. It was a colorful festival held every January on the lunar calendar until 1956 and attended by many more than were believers in Tibetan Buddhism. In the years that followed, the music for the accompaniment was lost and a lot of the costumes and masks disappeared. Now that the policy on religion is being implemented again, there is a possibility that Beijing residents will have a chance to witness the festival again. Last year from spring to October the temple received 460,000 worshipers and visitors.

Novice Lamas

Twenty-six young men from the grasslands of Inner Mongolia, where Tibetan Buddhism is practiced, were enrolled in the temple in spring 1981 to train as lamas. Chosen with assistance from the department in charge of religious affairs of the people's government, they are the first Yellow Sect lamas actually to be trained at Yonghe Gong. They enrolled with the approval of their parents after passing educational and health tests. The youngest is 15, the eldest, 30; most are under 20. They are now learning the Tibetan language, the religious discipline of the Yellow Sect, the traditional sutras and religious rituals. Half their time is spent in classroom study and the rest in service tasks around the halls. Each student gets a monthly subsidy of 30 yuan from the temple. They follow monastic discipline and are expected to become successors to the

elder lamas staffing the temple at present.

Much of this I learned from the abbot of Yonghe Gong, who at 60 has spent much of his life at the temple since he came there as a young lama. He has seen much happen there both before and after liberation. He recalls how deeply hurt he felt to see officials in the Department of Mongolian and Tibetan Affairs of the Kuomintang government before liberation enriching themselves at the expense of the temple. He is even angrier about an incident that happened before he was born — the merciless looting of the temple by Russian soldiers when the eight-power allied army invaded Beijing in 1900 to "put down" the Boxer Uprising, and Russian troops overran the area around the temple and nearby Beixinqiao. This was part of the looting of the city by foreign soldiers of many nationalities. As they were withdrawing they even took the diamonds and other precious stones set into the stems of flowers on either side of the statue of Tsongkhapa, religious reformer who founded the Yellow Sect.

But, the old abbot said, he has also seen the revival of the country, the gradual implementation of correct policies on religion, the resumption of normal religious activities, and much aid from the government for repair of the temple, so he also has cause for great joy.

Last October 26 by the lunar calendar (November 21), the anniversary of the birth of Tsongkhapa in 1357, was the occasion for a celebration at Yonghe Gong. The lamas burned incense in the morning and said prayers in the morning, at noon and at dusk. The smoke of the incense rising, the light of the altar lamps, the sound of bronze bells and of the drums and traditional musical instruments accompanied by the lamas' solemn chanting of the sutras are all proof that now those who wish to worship are free to do so, as guaranteed by the provisions in the Constitution of the People's Republic of China on freedom of religion. □

Exercises to Prevent Colds

A SET of exercises that seem to help prevent colds has been created by a combined group of doctors and teachers.

First tried out in primary and middle schools in Xinxiang, Henan province, in the winter of 1974, the result was: Of 5,640 participants, only 8.3 percent caught colds. Among 5,843 non-participants, however, incidence of colds was 11.8 percent. In six Henan cities the incidence of colds was only 7.74 percent

among 2,917 exercisers, while among 3,065 who did not exercise the rate was 16.35 percent.

The exercises were introduced to the public by *Sports News* and the China Central Television. They are based on gymnastic movements involving striking and massage of acupuncture points used in treating a stuffy or running nose, and for relieving fever. It is hoped that the exercises will help build up the people's resistance to colds.

Note: Exercises are performed in time to multiples of a basic 8-beat count.
Begin by marching in position for two 8-beat counts.

I. RUBBING HANDS. (two 8 beats)

Starting position: Stand straight with arms at sides. Spread legs to shoulder width.

Movements:

1. Raise arms naturally to front of chest. With palms slightly curved inward, place left hand over right. Rub hands together with rotating motion. First move left hand downward toward you and right hand upward away from you until right hand is over left hand.

2. Move left hand upward away from you and right hand downward toward you until left hand is over right hand again.

3, 5, 7, same as 1.

4, 6, 8 same as 2.

Repeat 8 beats, and return to starting position on last beat.

II. RUBBING FACE. (two 8 beats)

Starting position. Same as I.

Movements:

1. With fingers together, bend elbows upwards until middle fingers touch sides of nostrils. Move hands upwards to hairline, continue outward and downward along hairline with center of palms to the jaws and back up to starting point (see diagram).

Repeat same motion to two 8-beat counts, returning to starting position on last beat.

III. RUBBING NECK. (two 8 beats)

Starting position: Same as I.

Movements:

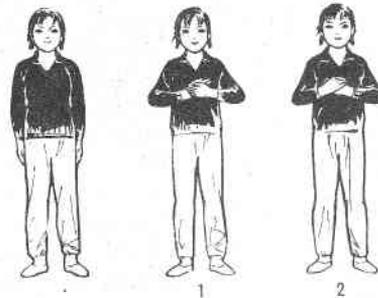
1. With fingers together, bend elbows upwards until hands reach both sides of neck. Rub backward and forward alternately for two 8-beat counts. Return to starting position on last beat.

Requirement: The areas rubbed in the above three exercises should feel warm after rubbing.

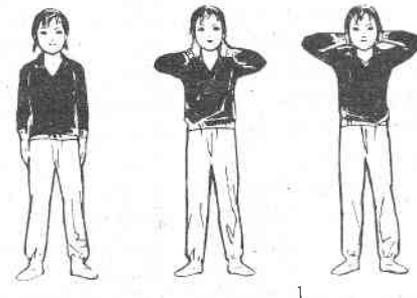
IV. CHEST-EXPANDING EXERCISE. (two 8 beats)

Starting position: Same as I.

Movements:



Face rubbing pattern



1. Make loose fists with palms facing downward. Bend arms horizontally in front of chest and stretch them vigorously sideways and backward.

2. Stretch again.

3. Stretch arms horizontally in front with palms facing upward. Stretch arms vigorously sideways and backward.

4. Stretch again.
- 5 and 6, same as 1 and 2.
- 7 and 8, same as 3 and 4.

Repeat same motions to two 8 beats and return to starting position on last beat.

V. MASSAGING ACUPUNCTURE POINT YING-XIANG. (four 8 beats)

Starting position: Same as I.

Movements:

Make loose fists and press acupuncture point *Yingxiang* on both sides of nostrils (see diagram) with index fingers. Rotate fingers in circle moving outward from and then inward toward nostrils.

Repeat for two 8-beat counts. Return to starting point on last beat.

VI. MASSAGING ACUPUNCTURE POINT FENGCHI. (four 8 beats)

Starting position: Same as I.

Movements:

1. With fingers together, bend elbows and press acupuncture point *Fengchi* on back of neck (see diagram) with index, middle and ring fingers. Rotate fingers in circle going outward and then inward. Repeat for four 8-beat counts, returning to starting position on last beat.

VII. STRIKING ACUPUNCTURE POINT ZUSANLI which is located about four fingers below kneecap — see diagram. (four 8 beats)

Starting position: Stand at attention.

Movements:

1. Move left leg sideways to shoulder width. Raise arms upward to form a "V" position overhead, palms forward. Look straight ahead with chest out.
2. Bend forward and touch ground with finger tips.
3. Again touch ground with finger tips.
4. Make fists. Strike acupuncture point *Zusanli* on left leg with inner side of left fist while swinging right arm sideways diagonally.
5. Repeat movements with right leg and right fist.
6. Same as 4.
7. Same as 5.
8. Return to starting position.

Repeat the above motions for four 8-beat counts.

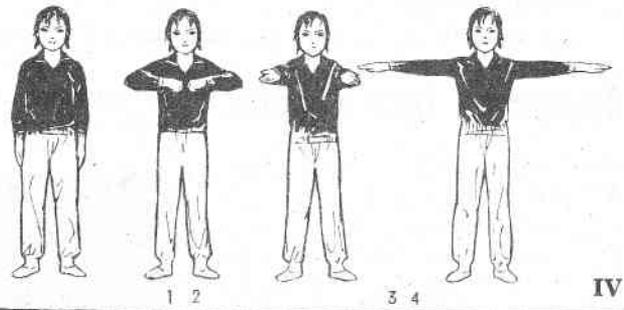
VIII. CONCLUDING MOVEMENTS. (two 8 beats)

Starting position: Stand at attention.

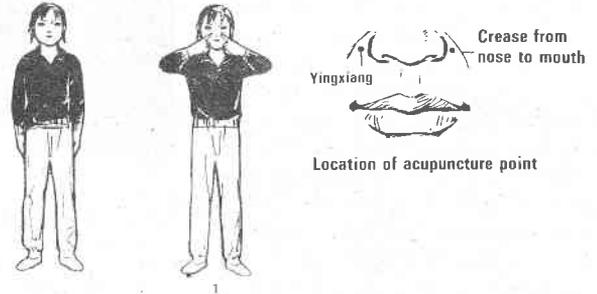
Movements:

1. Make loose fists and raise arms sideways horizontally. At same time raise left leg to 45° with knee bent and shank relaxed.
2. Put down left leg and cross fists in front of abdomen.
3. Same as 1, but raise right leg instead.
4. Same as 2.

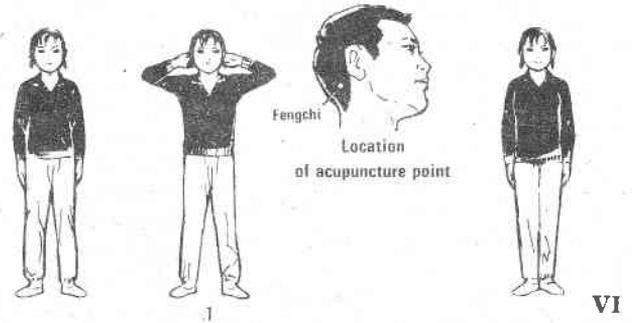
Repeat for two 8-beat counts. In all movements, breathe evenly with muscles relaxed. Return to starting position on last beat. □



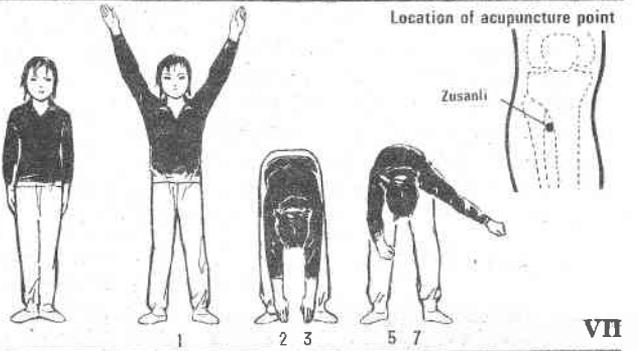
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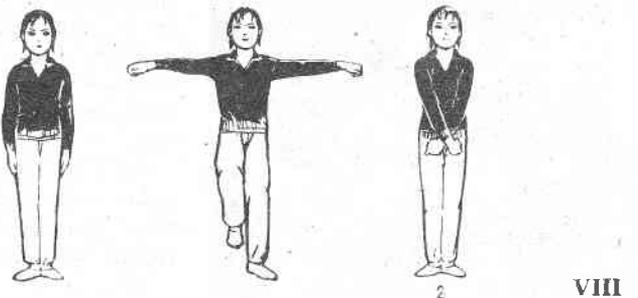
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VI



VII



VIII

Operas on New Themes

TO ENCOURAGE local opera troupes to stage items on contemporary subjects, the Ministry of Culture sponsored a 15-day festival of operas on modern themes last October in Beijing. Troupes from eight provinces took part. Beijing operas, *chuanju*, *huaiju*, *hanju*, *huadeng*, *caicha* and others were performed.

Audiences were impressed with the refreshing content and style. For example, *Smashing a Bowl*, by a *huaiju* troupe from Jiangsu, centered around a peasant family dispute sparked by the daughter-in-law's ill-treatment of her mother-in-law, who was forced to move away. It had already been staged 300 times in the province, arousing great stir and comment.

The actress who played the role of the daughter-in-law had herself been mean to her mother-in-law and driven her away. After the opera's first performance, she went to her mother-in-law's lodging in tears and asked her to come back.

At the festival's closing ceremony, the Ministry of Culture issued the troupes medals and awards. At a later symposium of playwrights and opera singers, Vice-Minister of Culture Wu Xue urged the artists to continue creating modern operas and advised simultaneously developing

A scene from "Smashing a Bowl."

Wang Hui



contemporary, historical and traditional themes.



Famous acrobat Xia Juhua with a young apprentice. Li Fen

Chinese Acrobats

THE first Chinese Acrobats Association was founded last November in Beijing. Xia Juhua, famous woman acrobat, was elected its head at the inaugural meeting. Some 170 acrobat representatives attended.

In old China acrobatics was one of the lowest and most despised occupations. Acrobats wandered from place to place, barely earning a living. When the new China was founded, acrobatics became a true art form and acrobats, like other performers, benefited from the government's concern.

The first acrobatic troupe was organized in 1950 in Beijing. Today China has about 124 professional troupes at county levels with 12,000 performers.

Chinese acrobatic troupes have gone abroad more than other art troupes and are very popular. The Zhonghua Acrobatic Troupe was the first to perform in a foreign country after 1949. Since then, Chinese troupes have given 100 performances on the five continents. In such countries as Tanzania, Egypt and Ghana they have trained many local acrobats, thus strengthening friendship between the Chinese people and the peoples of other countries.

In 1980 the Shanghai Acrobatic Troupe went to the United States. After a performance at the Kennedy Center in Washington, President Carter, having his picture taken with the artists, remarked, "It was a pleasant evening. Your performance helped dispel my worries. You are really good envoys of new China." In 1981 a performing panda called Wei Wei went with the Shanghai troupe to Japan. It so captivated members of the audiences that they struggled to have their photos taken with the panda.

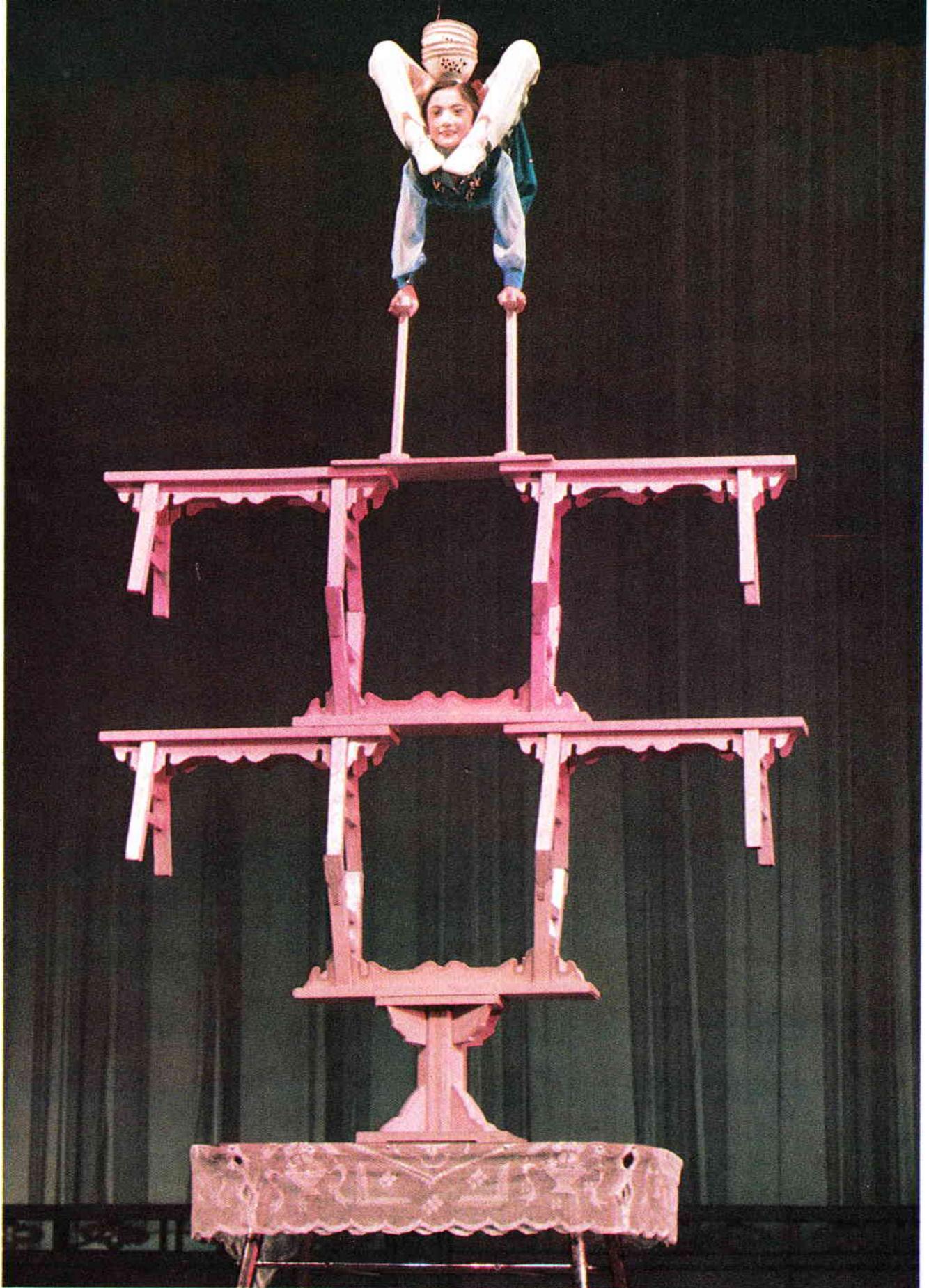
Chinese acrobatics has earned press praise in many countries. Japanese papers noted "the magic prowess" of Chinese acrobats doing the Monkey King. Italian dailies called Chinese acrobatics a marvelous and skilful art. The media in other countries spoke of the acrobats' supernatural skill and beauty.

The founding of the Chinese Acrobatic Association marks more than 2,000 years of Chinese acrobatics history. It will help the art progress and keep up with the new times.

Traditional Painting Institute Founded

LAST November the Chinese Traditional Painting Research Institute was founded in Beijing. It was attended by such master painters as Wu Zuoren, Li Keran, Liu Haisu, Li Kuchan, Ye Qianyu, Jiang Zhaohe and Zhu Qizhao.

Ye Jianying, Chairman of the National People's Congress, offered his congratulations. To Li Keran, Cai Ruohong and Huang Zhou he said, "Research and development of traditional painting are very important. I hope you will carry on the work on a larger scale." Four vice-premiers, Gu Mu, Yao Yilin, Wan Li and Fang Yi, attended the



One way to balance a stack of bowls.

Li Fen



Cutting a woman in two. *Li Fen*

'Dunhuang Statues'.
Li Fen



'Vertical Balance'.



Is it a mirror? No, it's a tight-rope balancing act.

Wang Hongxun



'Flying Lion'. *Wang Hongxun*



inaugural. Gu Mu said, "I hope the institute will play a leading role in the creation and research of traditional painting, which has a history of several thousand years and enjoys high prestige in the field of world painting. The development of Chinese traditional painting will contribute to China's socialist culture and modern civilization."

Li Keran, president of the new institute, said, "As a civilized and confident nation, China should place the highest importance on her national culture. This is not to deny the value of absorbing good foreign things. Art should progress through competition and selection. The task of the institute is to continue the principle of developing and weeding through the old to bring forth the new."

After the founding ceremony, the institute's first exhibition was



Zhu Qizhan and other well-known artists demonstrate their skills at a gathering to mark the founding of the Chinese Academy of Traditional Painting.

Wang Hui

held in the National Art Gallery in Beijing. On display were 300 paintings selected from many parts of China, including Taiwan and Hongkong. The People's Fine Arts

Publishing House marked the event with an album entitled *Chinese Traditional Paintings of Today*, a selection of 100 paintings from the exhibition. □

MEETING CONSUMER NEEDS

(Continued from p. 51)

were sold at an all-China orders-for-goods conference.

New Directions

Huiguo commune in Gongxian county 50 kilometers west of Zhengzhou, known as a "red flag" in the development of enterprises run by communes and brigades, has 155 small factories making items such as metal furniture, electric appliances, children's toys, handicrafts, articles for daily use and various kinds of stationery.

These commune and brigade-run enterprises have had their ups and downs. Experience has taught them, however, to pick up and supplement what the big industries have omitted and take small commodity production as their key task. In 1980 they began to produce those small commodities indispensable to everyday life and thus changed the situation in which there used to be no production plan, no raw materials and no market.

For example, an electrical equipment materials factory turned to making small electric fans, a chemical factory to producing aluminum foil for cigarette packages, others to turning out aluminum tables or pans. Such production by the commune's small enterprises ensures a rapid development because the small factories are able to change their products according to the urgent needs of the market. They also operate on a small scale with less investment, at the same time achieving better results in a very short time.

There is an old saying: "Small as it is, the sesame seed can make more oil." Though commodities may be small, if they sell well, profits can be no less great than for large commodities. In 1980, the industrial production value of the Huiguo commune reached 4.7 million yuan, and net income totaled 2.5 million. By meeting the small commodity needs of the people, the factories of Henan province are finding greater success. □

Letter of Correction

To the Editorial Board of *China Reconstructs*:

The article on Gezhouba Dam carried in your October 1981 issue contains some figures and technical interpretations which are inconsistent with the actual facts, namely:

1. It is stated in the article that the installed capacity and electricity output of the Three Gorges and Gezhouba projects will account for 30 percent of the national total. The fact is that the Three Gorges dam is still in the projective stage and it is hardly appropriate as yet to mention such a figure.

2. The retention capacity of the Gezhouba project is not very large and its function does not include flood control. It is mentioned in the article that the dam will irrigate an area of one million square kilometers. This should be changed to read: It has a rain accumulation area of 1 million square kilometers.

Hong Qingyu

Deputy Chief Engineer of the Changjiang River Valley Planning Office

Lesson 15

HUANG WENYAN

Seeing a Peking Opera

玛丽：今天的京剧是哪一出？

Mǎlì: Jīntiān de jīngjù shì nǎ yì chū?

Mary: Today's Peking opera is which drama?

文华：《白蛇传》。

Wén Huá: «Báishé Zhuàn».

Wen Hua: "White Snake Tale".

玛丽：什么意思？

Mǎlì: Shénme yìsi?

Mary: What meaning?

文华：白蛇是蛇精，她喜欢

Wén Huá: Báishé shì shéjīng, tā xǐhuan

Wen Hua: White Snake is snake spirit, she likes

人间的生活，就变成了

rénjiān de shēnghuó, jiù biànchéng le

human world's life, then changes into

人，跟许仙结了婚。

rén, gēn Xǔ Xiān jiē le hūn.

(a) human, with Xu Xian get married.

为了追求幸福，她进行了

Wèile zhuīqiú xìngfú, tā jìnxíng le

For seek happiness, she carried on

不屈不挠的斗争。你看，

bùqū bùnáo de dòuzhēng. Nǐ kàn,

unyielding struggle. You look,

白蛇出场了。

Báishé chū chǎng le.

White Snake (come) out on stage.

玛丽：那个是谁？

Mǎlì: Nà ge shì shuí?

Mary: That one is who?

文华：她是青蛇，是白蛇的

Wén Huá: Tā shì Qīngshé, shì Báishé de

Wen Hua: She is Green Snake, is White Snake's

女伴。

nǚbàn.

girl companion.

玛丽：她们的打扮不一样？

Mǎlì: Tāmen de dàban bù yíyàng?

Mary: Their makeup not same?

文华：一个是青衣，一个是花旦。

Wén Huá: Yí ge shì qīngyī, yí ge shì huādan.

Wen Hua: One is qingyi, one is huadan.

玛丽：有什么不同呢？

Mǎlì: Yǒu shénme bùtóng ne?

Mary: Have what difference?

文华：青衣多扮演端庄、娴静

Wén Huá: Qīngyī duō bànyǎn duānzhuāng, xiánjìng

Wen Hua: Qingyi mostly play the part of poised refined, quiet,

的中年、青年妇女。花旦

de zhōngnián, qīngnián fùnǚ. Huādan

middle-aged (or) young woman. Huadan

多扮演天真、活泼

duō bànyǎn tiānzhēn, huópo

mostly play the part of innocent (and) lively

或者放荡、泼辣的少妇或

huòzhě fàngdàng, pōlà de shǎofù huò

or loose (or) shrewd young wife or

少女。

shàonǚ.

young maiden.

玛丽：那个男的是许仙吧？

Mǎlì: Nà ge nán de shì Xǔ Xiān ba?

Mary: That man is Xu Xian?

文华：嗯。

Wén Huá: Ng.

Wen Hua: Uh-huh.

玛丽：他是……？

Mǎlì: Tā shì?

Mary: He is...?

文华：是小生。你看他不挂

Wén Huá: Shì xiǎoshēng. Nǐ kàn tā bú guà

Wen Hua: Is xiaosheng. You look he doesn't wear

胡须，这样的青年、少年是

húxū, zhèyàng de qīngnián, shàonián shì

beard, such kind youth, youngsters are

小生。挂胡须的中年、老年

xiǎoshēng. Guà húxū de zhōngnián, lǎonián

xiaosheng. Wear beard middle-aged, old

是老生。

shì lǎoshēng.

are laosheng.

玛丽：还有一种大花脸？

Mǎlì: Hái yǒu yì zhǒng dà huāliǎn?

Mary: Still have a kind big painted face?

文华：大花脸的脸谱很有讲究，

Wén Huá: Dà huāliǎn de liǎnpǔ hěn yǒu jiǎngjiu,

Wen Hua: Big painted face's painting very have significance,

一看脸谱就知道那个

yí kàn liǎnpǔ jiù zhīdao nà ge

one look painting, then know that

人 的 人 品。

rén de rénpǐn.
person's character.

Translation

- Mary: What is the Peking opera today?
Wen Hua: "The Tale of White Snake".
Mary: What is it about?
Wen Hua: White Snake is a snake spirit. As she likes the life in the human world, she has changed into a human being and married Xu Xian. To achieve happiness, she has to carry on an unyielding struggle. Look, the White Snake has come on stage.
Mary: Who is that girl?
Wen Hua: She is Green Snake, White Snake's woman companion.
Mary: Their makeup is different.
Wen Hua: One is a *qingyi* and the other is a *huadan*.
Mary: What's the difference?
Wen Hua: A *qingyi* mainly plays poised, refined and quiet middle-aged or young women. A *huadan* usually plays the part of a young woman or girl who is innocent and lively, or one who is loose and shrewd.
Mary: That man is her husband Xu Xian, isn't he?
Wen Hua: Uh-huh.
Mary: He is a...?
Wen Hua: He is a *xiaosheng*. Look, he has no beard. A young man like that is a *xiaosheng*. A middle-aged or old man with a beard is a *laosheng*.
Mary: Is there also a kind of painted face?
Wen Hua: The painted face types have great significance. With one glance you can tell what kind of character the person is supposed to be.

Notes

1. Peking opera.

In Chinese this is called *jīngjù* 京剧: *jīng* 京 is short for Beijing, and *jù* 剧 for drama. The old spelling of Peking has remained in use in English when referring to the opera because this form of theater became known throughout the world under this name long before the phonetic spelling was adopted.

2. Characters show sentence mood.

A modal (mood) particle at the end of a sentence indicates its mood.

(1) Ba 吧.

a. For expressing a supposition, a probability. *Nàge nán de shì Xǔ Xiān ba?* 那个男的是许仙吧? (That man is Xu Xian, isn't he?)

b. For making a suggestion or to indicate a desire for consultation or agreement. *Wǒmen zǒu ba* 我们走吧 (Let's go). *Wǒmen mǎi yídiǎn dōngxi ba* 我们买一点东西吧 (Let's buy something).

(2) Ne 呢.

This is used at the end of a sentence to form a question, but it is not as definite as *ma* 吗 (see Lesson One, January, 1981). *Qīngyī hé*

huādan yǒu shénme bùtóng ne? 青衣和花旦有什么不同呢? (What is the difference between *qingyi* and *huadan*?)

(3) Le 了 shows action completed.

Le 了 at the end of a sentence shows that the action being talked about has been completed. It can often be translated as the English present perfect tense. *Báishé chū chǎng le* 白蛇出场了 (White Snake has come on stage).

Le 了 is also used to show the appearance of a new situation. *Tā xiànzài shì lǎoshī le* 他现在在老师了 (He is now a teacher).

3. Ng 嗯 means yes.

This monosyllable, like the English "uh-huh" is used only in colloquial conversation, though *嗯* is slightly more formal than the other.

Everyday Expressions

- 结婚 *jiē hūn* marry
结了婚 *jiē le hūn* has got married
跟...结婚 *gēn jiē hūn* married to...
- 追求 *zhuīqiú* seek, pursue
追求幸福 *zhuīqiú xìngfú* seek happiness
追求真理 *zhuīqiú zhēnlǐ* seek truth
追求利润 *zhuīqiú lìrùn* pursue profits
追求安逸 *zhuīqiú ānyì* pursue the easy life
- 进行 *jìnxíng* carry on, engage in
进行工作 *jìnxíng gōngzuò* carry on work
进行教育 *jìnxíng jiàoyù* carry on education
进行试验 *jìnxíng shìyàn* engage in an experiment
- 不屈不挠 *bùqū bùnáo* unyielding
不屈不挠的斗争 *bùqū bùnáo de dòuzhēng* an unyielding struggle
- 出场 *chū chǎng* come on stage, appear on the scene
入场 *rù chǎng* enter a theatre
退场 *tuì chǎng* leave a theatre
- 不同 *bùtóng* difference
有...不同 *yǒu bùtóng* there are differences
没有...不同 *méiyǒu bùtóng* there are no differences
- 扮演 *bànyǎn* play the part of
扮演白蛇 *bànyǎn báishé* play the part of White Snake
- 人品 *rénpǐn* character
人品好 *rénpǐn hǎo* good character

Exercises

- Briefly tell the tale of the White Snake.
- Choose the correct modal particles for the following sentences.

A Kingdom Lost for a Concubine's Smile

WEI TANG

KING You, last ruler of the Western Zhou dynasty (11th century — 771 B.C.) had a penchant for beautiful women. One of the court sycophants, wanting to curry favor with him, suggested, "The women of the court are getting old. It's about time we chose some younger ones from the neighboring states."

It happened that a very small vassal state named Bao, having failed to send in its tribute in time, was under attack from Zhou troops. A compromise was arranged in which Bao provided ten beautiful women instead.

The most dazzling of the ten, whose name was Baosi (or Si of Bao), became the king's favorite. He took her everywhere with him, even on hunting expeditions. Baosi had one strange characteristic. She never smiled. However, she let it be known that she liked to hear the sound of tearing silk, so the king ordered that every day a hundred bolts of silk be torn before her by strong housemaids. Still this did not bring a smile to her face. The king dethroned his queen and her son the prince and placed Baosi and her infant son in their stead, but still she did not smile.

ONE day the king took Baosi on an excursion to the Lishan Mountains east of his capital Haojing (west of today's Xi'an). There she showed interest in a beacon tower which was used to alert nearby vassal states to send troops to the aid of Zhou. Hoping to please Baosi, the king ordered the beacon fire lit. When the vassal troops gathered at the foot of Lishan they found no sign nor sound of battle, but only the music of *lusheng* pipes as King You departed with Baosi. The dukes of the vassal states were extremely angry as they lowered their banners, muffled their drums and led their troops away. Viewing their retreat from the tower, Baosi let out a peal of laughter. King You was so pleased that after that he often took her to Lishan and lit the beacon fire. Soon it became meaningless as an alarm.

In 771 B.C. Zhou rule was under attack from Quanrong in the north. In league with troops inside Zhou under the brother of the dethroned queen, they approached the capital Haojing. King You ordered the beacon fire lighted, but the neighboring dukes ignored it and Quanrong overran Haojing.



Drawing by Yang Yongqing

King You and Baosi were captured. The king was killed at the foot of Lishan Mountains and the latter given to the Quanrong king.

A modern reader might well ask whether Baosi, resenting having been sent to the king, acted as she did for revenge, but ancient historians do not tell us this. In keeping with their anti-female bias, she is blamed for the fall of the dynasty. This tale, however, does reflect certain historical truth: Western Zhou was losing control of its increasingly powerful vassal states and would eventually have crumbled — with or without Baosi. □

- 1) 你知道“亡羊补牢”这个成语_____?
(吧、呢)
- 2) 你喜欢听京剧还是听音乐_____?
(了、呢)
- 3) 小王回家去_____。(了、吧)
- 4) 你近来工作很忙_____?(吧、呢)
- 5) 我送他一件什么礼物_____?(了、呢)
- 6) 他收到我寄给他的像片_____。
(了、呢)

3. Read the following:

白蛇是一个蛇精，青蛇是她的女伴。她们喜欢人间的生活，所以都变成了人。

一天，在道路上，白蛇遇见 (yùjiàn meet) 了许仙。白蛇认为 (rènwéi regard) 许仙的人品好，非

常喜欢他。许仙也很爱 (ài love) 她，所以就结了婚。

他们结婚以后，开 (kāi open) 了一个小药铺 (yàopù pharmacy)，许仙卖药 (yào medicine)，白蛇给人看病，很受人们的爱戴。(àidài esteem).

法海 (Fǎhǎi) 和尚 (héshang monk) 忌妒 (jìdù jealous) 他们，就想办法 (bànfǎ ways and means) 破坏 (pòhuài destroy)。在她生 (shēng give birth to) 了一个男孩儿以后，法海用法术 (fǎshù magic trick) 把她压 (yā press) 在雷峰塔 (Léifēngtǎ Leifeng Pagoda) 下。

很多年以后，青蛇学到了更高的本领 (běnlǐng skill)，救 (jiù save) 出了白蛇，使他们一家重新 (chóngxīn again) 团聚 (tuánjù unite)。



Two-bicycle balancing act.

Wang Hongxun





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