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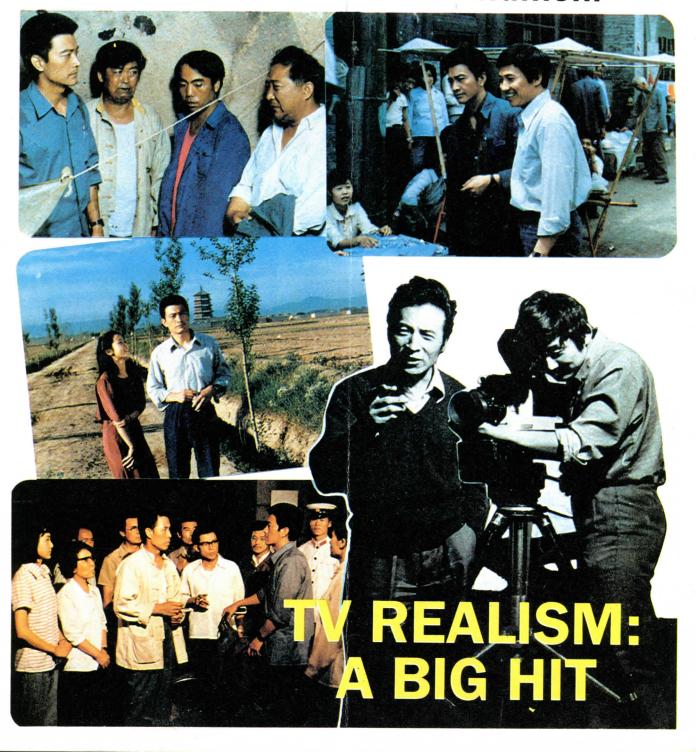
March 24, 1986

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A CHINESE WEEKLY OF NEWS AND VIEWS

Beijing

Premier Zhao on Disarmament



Zhujiang Delta Advances Amidst Reform

Hard at work in the Shekou Television Plant, run by the Hongkong Lu Industrial Company.





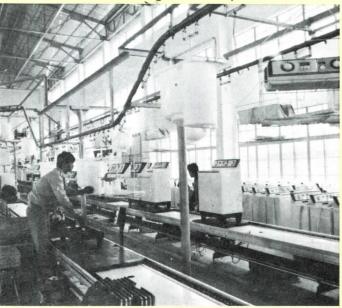
Farmers in suburban Guangzhou will establish the Jiangnan Hotel at their own expense.



A young leading cadre at a township enterprise.

Photos by Li Jilu

With the production line imported from Japan, a factory in Zhongshan city produces 200,000 double-tub washing machines a year.



Beijing Review



VOL. 29, NO. 12 MARCH 24, 1986

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COVER: scenes from "New Star."

Liu Yaowen

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Major Policy Statement on Disarmament

■ In an address to a Beijing peace rally to mark the International Year of Peace, Premier Zhao Ziyang outlines China's basic stand on disarmament. He also stresses China's dedication to world peace (p. 14).

Proposal for Political Solution to Kampuchea

■ The Coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea after a cabinet meeting in Beijing issues a new proposal for the political settlement of the Kampuchean issue (p. 10).

Minister of Culture on Cultural Exchanges

■ In an exclusive interview with *Beijing Review*, Minister of Culture Zhu Muzhi outlines the development of China's cultural exchanges with other countries. The interflow, Zhu says, has promoted understanding and friendship between the Chinese and people around the world, while foreign culture and arts have enriched China's own cultural life (p. 16).

Priorities for China's New Plan

The Seventh Five-Year Plan (1986-90), which will be discussed at the upcoming Fourth Session of the Sixth National People's Congress, sets forth three major tasks for the nation's economy (p. 4).

Strengthening Legal System Stressed

A recent national conference on democracy and law stresses the further development of socialist democracy and the legal system. All public procurators are called on to persist in prosecuting law-breakers, even if they were high-ranking officials or their children, or other public figures (p. 5).

Realism Emphasized in New TV Dramas

■ In recent weeks a number of serialized TV dramas have been broadcast which have won praise for their realistic portrayal of life in China today. These TV productions augur well for the excellent quality of the rest of the 1986 TV season (p. 19).

Canada..... Can. \$21.00

NOTES FROM THE EDITORS

A Bright Outlook for Seventh Five-Year Plan

by Geng Yuxin

Participants at the forthcoming Fourth Session of the Sixth National People's Congress will discuss the Seventh Five-Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development (1986-90). It is expected that the new development programme will be adopted and the tasks it sets forth will have a tremendous impact on achieving the goals set for the year 2000.

The new blueprint was drawn up on the basis of the comprehensive overfulfilment of the targets of the Sixth Five-Year Plan (1981-85). During that period, the nation's economic reforms and its open policy were successful in the countryside and cities. As a result of this success. the national economy rid itself of its stagnant agricultural sector, a scarcity of commodities, a vast number of people awaiting employment and a fairly large financial deficit. In so doing, the nation embarked on a track of sustained, steady and balanced development. Some of China's major products such as grain, cotton, meat, coal, steel, oil and electricity are now in the front ranks of the world in terms of output. The average annual rate of economic growth reached 10 percent in the last five-year plan period, approximately the same as the record rate achieved during the First Five-Year Plan period (1953-57). When price hikes are factored in, the average annual per-capita consumption level grew at a rate of. 8 percent; state revenue and expenditure were balanced and deficits eliminated: and, remarkable progress was made in science, technology and education. All these provided a solid foundation for launching the Seventh Five-Year Plan.

Mapped out on the proposal advanced by the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party last September, the new plan sets forth the following three major tasks for the next five years:

First, giving priority to reform so as to lay a foundation for a new economic structure:

Second, stepping up the construction of key projects, the technological transformation of existing enterprises and the development of intellectual resources, so as to prepare necessary material strength for continued economic development in the 1990s.

Third, further improving living standards.

Turning an ossified economic structure into a vigorous socialist economic structure with Chinese characteristics is an arduous and complex job. Fulfilment of this task is of strategic importance to economic and social development in the next decade and even through the 21st century. The projects, started in 1979, experienced major breakthroughs first in the countryside and have logged initial results since its focus was shifted to the cities in October 1984.

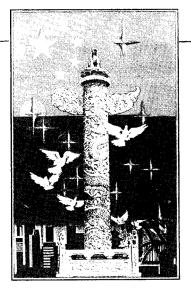
During the new plan period, in order to meet the requirements for the development of a planned commodity economy based on public ownership, China will devote its efforts in establishing a new economic structure mainly to the following three fields: Further invigorating enterprises so that will become relatively independent socialist commodity producers and management centres, further unclogging the channels of commodity circulation, and perfecting the market system; gradually relaxing the present forms of direct state control over enterprises and establishing a new system under which this control will be exindirectly through ercised economic, legal and limited but necessary administrative means. The combination of the factors in

the above three fields will constitute the cornerstone of the new economic structure.

With regard to the efforts at gaining the strength needed to back the continued economic development during the 1990s, it is expected that the overall scale of investment in fixed assets will be put under strict control and priority will be given to exthe industries panding energy, communications and telecommunications as well as in the production capacity of raw and semi-finished materials, and to updating the old enterprises. At the same time, attention will be paid to the development of science, technology and education. To achieve all this, it is necessary to tighten controls over finance, credit, materials and foreign exchanges, so as to strike a balance between society's total demand and total supply.

It is expected that during the new plan period, the annual rate of economic growth will be 7 percent. According to specialists, such a growth rate is appropriate and thus can be realized or even overfulfilled. This rate is, however, lower than the 10 percent achieved during the previous plan period. The realization of such a growth rate will help to create a relaxed socio-economic environment for the smooth progress of the economic reforms. It will also facilitate a change from pursuing only quantity as the goal of industrial development to improving both the quality of products and economic efficiency.

It is also expected that during the new plan period, the per-capita consumption level (with price hikes deducted) will rise at an annual rate of between 4 percent and 5 percent, which is lower than the 8 percent gain during the previous plan period. This target rate of growth was set because



consumption rose considerably during the last five years as a kind of payment of the bills due, since payment of the bills due, since improvements in the people's livelihood had been long neglected. Thus, for the Seventh Five-Year Plan period China will lower this rate of growth accordingly. By giving consideration to economic construction as well as to people's livelihood, to long-term as well as short-term interests, it is hoped the tendency towards an "excessive distribution" of the national income will be overcome.

China will further implement the policy of opening to the world during the new plan period. It is expected that in an effort to expand economic and technological exchanges between countries, China will also adopt some new steps and measures to develop exports, increase its ability to earn foreign exchange and maintain a balance of payments.

During the new plan period. China will persist in its policy of simultaneously developing socialist culture and ethics and socialist material construction. Efforts will be made to combat the corrosive influence of capitalism, feudalism and other decadent ideologies, punish criminal activities according to the law, conduct ongoing ideological education among all Chinese people on the cultivation of lofty ideals, moral integrity, cultural accomplishments and discipline. Such efforts will ensure the healthy development economics and society.

EVENTS/TRENDS

Law to Be Strictly Applied

Ranking officials may expect no preferential treatment as drive mounts to make China a land of law.

Chinese officials and their families should also be held accountable to the nation's legal system, not just the rank-and-file, said Ren Baiyao, a farmer from Liaoning Province, in a letter earlier this month to *China Legal News*, a national newspaper that publishes three times a week.

"Judges, public prosecutors and defence lawyers should adhere to the principle of 'All people are equal before the law' in handling criminal cases, regardless of who a defendent might be," Ren wrote.

Characteristic of the mounting concern for strengthening China's legal system, the Central Political Science and Legal Committee sponsored a 12-day conference on democracy and law from February 21 to March 4. During the conference, delegates called on all public procurators to persist unhesitantly in prosecuting lawbreakers even if they are highranking officials or their children, or other well-known people.

Participants in the conference stressed the further development of the socialist democratic and legal system and adherence to the people's democratic rule. They held that a sound socialist democracy and a socialist legal system is of great significance in perfecting the socialist system as a whole, ensuring economic, scientific and technical, and educational reforms, and in maintaining longterm stability and order in China. The development of the legal system also conforms to the needs of the ongoing modernization drive, they noted.

"Without the existence of a powerful socialist legal system, it would be impossible to check economic crimes effectively, or to guarantee the smooth implementation of the policy of opening to the outside world and invigorating the domestic economy along the path of socialism," one participant said.

These views echo a recent remark of Deng Xiaoping, chairman of the Central Advisory Commission. "It is necessary for us to make a two-pronged advance in the modernization programme," he said. "This means we must promote construction and also build up the legal system, merely concentrating on either of the two is not enough."

The conference called on Party government leaders support the judiciary in their jurisdictions. Interference with the independent procuratorate or courts would be punishable by law, they said. In the same tone, China's Constitution provides that no social organization or individual is allowed to interfere in judicial affairs, and all activities should be carried out within the prescribed by scope Constitution.

Participants agreed that the current crackdown on economic crimes, which increased sharply during the past year, should be intensified and severe punishment should be meted out. However, as economic crimes are usually quite complicated, they stressed. people's courts all over China should strictly follow the principle of basing every case on facts, with the law as the criterion. Consciendown-to-earth investigations, aimed at collecting solid evidence, are required to distinguish the guilty from the innocent.

The crackdown on crime, especially among corrupt Party and government officials, has brought the crime rate down. In a report distributed at the conference, Ren Jianxin, vice-president of the Supreme People's Court,

China Backs Kampuchean Peace Plan

China supports the proposal for a political solution to the Kampuchea question made by the coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea, Chinese Communist Party General Secretary Hu Yaobang said on March 18 in Beijing.

Hu made these remarks at a meeting with Prince Norodom Sihanouk, president of Democratic Kampuchea, and Madame Sihanouk, as well as Son Sann, prime minister of the coalition government, and Khieu Samphan, vice-president of Democratic Kampuchea in charge of foreign affairs.

Hu said that the proposal for a political solution to the Kampuchea question, which was historically significant and reasonable, showed the sincerity of the coalition government.

He said the proposal was not only in the interest of the entire Kampuchean people, but was also a far-sighted principle for eliminating "hot spots" of war in Southeast Asia so as to win peace and stability there.

This proposal, which also took into full consideration the interests of the Vietnamese people, was a generous one, he added.

Hu said that neither Democratic Kampuchea nor China had evil

designs on Viet Nam.

Since Viet Nam dispatched its troops to Kampuchea, Hu said, China had been warning Hanoi that such an action would lead it into a quagmire, expressing the hope that it would withdraw its troops from Kampuchea and correct its mistake.

However, "Viet Nam turned a deaf ear to our well-meaning advice," Hu said.

Hu said that China had stated repeatedly that the traditional Sino-Vietnamese friendship would be restored if Viet Nam withdrew its troops from Kampuchea, but Viet Nam had spread rumours continuously, trying to sow discord among China and countries in Southeast Asia, between the peoples of China and Viet Nam, and among the three parties of Democratic Kampuchea.

Hu reiterated that China stood firmly on the side of the three patriotic forces of Democratic Kampuchea and fully supported their struggle for national salvation through to its final victory.

Hu pointed out that the Kampuchean people's struggle was not an affair which concerned only them, but also had a bearing on peace in Southeast Asia and the world as a whole.

He said that the international community would extend more powerful support to the Kampuchean people in their struggle, following the announcement of the latest proposal.

He congratulated the Democratic Kampuchean leaders on the new victories scored by the patriotic forces and people of Kampuchea in their struggle against the Vietnamese invaders during the eighth dry season.

"These victories show that Viet Nam's propaganda about its war achievements last year was nothing but lies," he said.

He also congratulated them on the strengthened unity among the three parties of Democratic Kampuchea and the successful meeting the Council of Ministers of the Coalition Government held in Beijing.

Sihanouk thanked China for its firm and consistent support for the Kampuchean people in their just struggle. He agreed with Hu's views on the Kampuchea question.

He said that the proposal made by the three parties of Democratic Kampuchea for a political solution to the Kampuchea question was aimed at letting the world know they were not hostile to Viet Nam and the Han Samrin regime,

said judicial and public security departments at various levels handled more than 1.5 million cases in 1985. Of these, 846,000 were civil cases, 246,000 were first offense criminal cases, 226,000 were economic cases, and 223,000 involved second offense crimes.

"The national crime rate has fallen 35.9 percent since the crackdown began two years ago. Public order and social conduct have taken a turn for the better and people feel more secure in their daily lives," Ren said.

While criminal cases handled in 1985 dropped markedly compared with the previous year, the number of civil and economic cases administered by courts increased, Ren said.

"The rise of civil and economic cases, which have grown 30 percent since 1984, was quite normal considering the development of the national economy and the development of the commodity economy in particular," he said, adding that it is good news more people are seeking legal help

in resolving disputes.

The vice-president called for strengthening the work of people's tribunals at grass-roots levels in order to make it easier for judges to handle civil and economic cases, and minor criminal offenses on the spot.

China now has more than 13,000 people's tribunals established at the township level in addition to more than 3,000 higher and intermediate people's courts at and above the county level.

but wished for an independent and unified Kampuchea and for broader world sympathy and support.

He believed that the proposal would draw international atten-

tion.

Zhao: No Slackening In Reform

There is no reason for China slacken its efforts in revamping its urban economic structure because that reform has brought about great changes, Premier Zhao Ziyang said at a meeting with visiting US Secretary of Energy John Herrington in Beijing on March 14.

Zhao said during the Seventh Five-Year Plan period, China would continue to give top priority to its economic structural reform. "This year our main task is to consolidate, digest, supplement and improve the existing reform measures," Zhao said. "We will make preparations for greater reform in the next two vears so our reform will be carried out gradually and systematically," Zhao said. "The aim of correcting unhealthy tendencies and striking at economic crimes," he said, "is not to hamper the reform, but to create better conditions for it.'

During the meeting, Herrington delivered the Chinese Premier a letter from US President Ronald Reagan in which the president said the US Government attached great importance to developing its relations with China.

Both the host and guest exchanged views on the construction of nuclear power stations and a hydroelectric power station on the Three Gorges of the Changiang (Yangtze) River. Referring to China's nuclear power stations, Zhao said that the recent foreign newspaper allegation that China's policy on nuclear power development had changed was "groundless."

Zhao said China's plan to develop its nuclear power stations

this century remained unchanged and that it would co-operate with foreign enterprises in various ways.

President Li Visits Bangladesh, Sri Lanka

Strengthening unity and cooperation with other third world countries, including Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, is a cornerstone in China's foreign policy, Chinese President Li Xiannian reiterated recently.

During his six-day stay in Bangladesh and Sri Lanka of the first two legs of his five-nation tour, Li stressed the importance of promoting friendship and cooperation among the developing countries, including Bangladesh and Sri Lanka and China itself. The President said China wished to promote "South-South" cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual benefit and contribute its share to the economic growth and prosperity of the other third world countries.

Touching on the establishment of the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC), Li said China hopes these countries, guided by the organization's charter, will live in harmony, engage in friendly co-operation and strive for common progress.

Li said China would pay greater attention to co-operation, especially in the economic field, with Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. As a good-faith gesture, a pact on economic and technological co-operation between China and Bangladesh was signed in Dhaka on March 10. Under the agreement China will provide substantial loans to Bangladesh for its economic development programmes.

China has helped Bangladesh develop a number of projects, including the construction of a

China & the World

■ Aquino Seeks Closer Relations With China. President Corazon Aquino said on March 11 that better relations between China and the Philippines could benefit both nations. She made the comment while receiving visiting Chinese Minister of Culture Zhu Muzhi at her presidential palace in Manila.

Zhu told Aquino that Chinese President Li Xiannian and Premier Zhao Ziyang had asked him to convey their personal congratulations to her and Vice-President Salvador Laurel.

■ Sino-Soviet Talks Off to A Good Start. The first meeting of the Sino-Soviet Commission on Economic, Trade, Scientific and Technological Co-operation began in Beijing on March 16. Li Peng, Chinese vice-premier and co-chairman of the Sino-Soviet Commission, and Ivan Vasilyevich Arkhipov, first vice-chairman of the Soviet Union's council of Ministers and co-chairman of the Sino-Soviet Commission, co-chaired the first round of talks.

Informed sources said the two sides reviewed bilateral trade in 1985 and exchanged views on further development of the trade. Trade volume between the two countries was 60 percent higher last year than in 1984.

tries. China to Aid 67 Countries. China will grant aids to 253 projects in 67 countries this year. These will include 106 construction projects and 101 projects of technical co-operation and management.

In 1985, construction started in a number of countries on 29 projects with Chinese aid and 35 of them have been completed.

News in Brief

A total of 350 winners of a national "I Love the Forest" quiz game were honoured in Beijing on March 12. More than 3,000 primary and middle-school students across the country took part in the contest. An official of the contest, jointly sponsored by the Ministry of Forestry and the monthly journal Science Picorial for Youngsters, said it had helped youngsters learn something about the forest and develop a love for nature.

People in Beijing can now dial direct to Lhasa, capital of the Tibet Autonomous Region, via satellite. It takes only one minute to get a call through between the two cities by means of a semi-automatic telephone network, and the sound is clear, according to the Tibet regional posts and telecommunications administration.

A similar telephone service will be opened soon between Lhasa and Shanghai, Wuhan, capital of Hubei Province, and Chengdu, capital of Sichuan Province.

China this year will introduce a scholarship system in a number of selected universities to replace the former system, under which students who cannot afford the tuition and book fees are granted financial aid. By awarding scholarships only to stuwith excellent academic records, the new system is expected to stimulate students' enthusiasm for study.



Bangaldesh President Hussain Muhammad Ershad accompanies President Li Xiannian on a river cruise in Dhaka on March 10.

medium-sized chemical fertilizer plant and a textile mill. The China-Bangladesh Joint Commission, set up in 1983, decided last January to widen co-operation in coal-mining, chemical and light industries, science and technology. Last year the two countries increased their volume of trade to US\$ 120 million, more than 40 times the amount registered in 1976, the year after the two countries established diplomatic relations.

Li began his Sri Lanka visit on March 11. Two days later, he attended in Colombo a ceremony marking the signing of three cooperation agreements, including one to promote and protect investment in both countries.

Li was the first Chinese head of state to visit Colombo since the two countries established diplomatic relations in 1957. He visited Bangladesh in 1978 as vice premier.

Before he left Colombo, Li met former Sri Lanka Prime Minister Sirimavo Bandaranaike, and conveyed to her greetings from Deng Yingchao and other Chinese leaders. Mrs. Banaranaike visited China in 1962 and 1972 as prime minister.

Agenda Set for Six NPC Session

The Sixth National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee opened its 15th session in Beijing's Great Hall of the People on March 11. During the session members decided on the agenda for the Sixth NPC's Fourth Session and examined a number of draft laws to be submitted to the upcoming NPC session.

The Fourth Session of the Sixth NPC, to be convened on March 25, will discuss and endorse the Seventh Five-Year Plan (1986-90) for the country's economic and social development and will also enact a number of laws.

All the drafts of the laws were carefully discussed and examined at the Sixth NPC Standing Committee's 15th meeting. They include a law governing mineral resources, the general principles of the civil code, a law on compulsory education and another on foreign-owned enterprises in China.

■ Law on Mineral Resources. The law was drafted to change the situation in which the absence of a law and subsequent mismanagement have hamstrung the nation's effort to prospect for and develop its rich mineral resources. The draft law establishes the leading position of state-run mines in the country's mining industry and introduces strict regulations designed to tighten control over collective and individual mines in a way that will not limit their role supplementing big mines, speeding the development of the mining industry and helping local people achieve prosperity.

■ General Principles of Civil Code. According to Wang Han Bin, secretary general of the NPC Standing Committee and director of the committee's Legislative Affairs Commission, a revised draft provides that the civil code will provide the general guidelines for protecting the civil rights and interests of citizens and legal entities and adjusting civil relations to meet the demands of the country's socialist modernization.

The civil code adjusts the relationship, both personal and in property, between citizens, between legal entities, and between citizens and legal entities as equal subjects.

The code does not concern itself with the state's control of the economy, the economic relations between the state and enterprises, or between enterprises themselves. These are the domain of economic laws.

■ Compulsory Education. The draft law establishes compulsory education as the foundation of education in China. The law is designed to facilitate the popularization of compulsory education and ensure the right of all school-age children to compulsory education as a measure to promote the material and cultural development and socialist ethics. The aim is to improve the intellectual development of the nation and train socialist builders imbued with lofty ideals, morality, culture and discipline. The law also specified the standards of the teachers, ruling that in due course, all primary school teachers should be normal school graduates and all junior middle schools should be staffed by graduates of normal universities or colleges.

Revised Law on Foreign Investment. In a report on the revised draft law, the NPC Legislative Affairs Committee said the original draft law has summed up China's experience in using foreign investment in the past few years and has drawn on the experience of foreign countries, but suggested adding the stipulation that in accordance with China's tax regulation enterprises foreign-invested should pay taxes and may apply for preferential treatment on tax reduction and tax exemption.

The revised draft law stipulates that foreign-invested enterprises should be responsible for imbalances in foreign currency payments. If the products of the foreign-invested enterprises are sold in China with the permission of proper authorities, and lead to imbalances in foreign currency, the authorities that gave the permission will be responsible for solving the problem.

According to the draft, foreigninvested enterprises should submit their production and management plans to the proper authorities for the records. There should be no interventions in the operations and management activities of the enterprises that comply with the approved rules.

The 15th session of the Sixth NPC Standing Committee in progress.



Kampuchean Settlement Proposed by Coalition

The coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea, following a cabinet meeting in Beljing, issues a proposal for the political solution to the Kampuchean problem.

The Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK) delivered a proposal in Beijing on March 17 for a political solution to the problem of Kampuchea.

The proposal was read by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Democratic Kampuchea, after a cabinet meeting of the coalition government.

The meeting, presided over by President Sihanouk, was attended by Son Sann, prime minister of the CGDK, and Khieu Samphan, vice-president in charge of foreign affairs, and other CGDK ministers.

The proposal is based on United Nations resolutions adopted in the past seven consecutive years and the International Conference on Kampuchea Declaration in 1981, Sihanouk added.

The 8-point proposal says that the tripartite coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea calls on Viet Nam to enter into negotiations with it in order to discuss the process of the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea. "We do not demand Viet Nam withdraw all its forces from Kampuchea at once. We accept the withdrawal of the Vietnamese forces from Kampuchea in two phases within a definite period of time," it says.

"Other countries may take part in the negotiations according to their judgment in order to help bring about a political solution to the problem of Kampuchea.

"After the agreement on the process of withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea, there will be a cease-fire so as to allow Viet Nam to withdraw its forces according to the said agreement.

"Both the withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops and the cease-

fire must be supervised directly by a UN observer group.

"After the first phase of the Vietnamese troop withdrawal. Heng Samrin and his faction should enter into negotiations with the tripartite CGDK in order to set up a quadripartite coalition government of Kampuchea with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as president and his excellency Son Sann as prime minister in conformity with the spirit of the great national union and national reconciliation so that each of the four parties has the same rights as political forces in the national community.

"The quadripartite coalition government of Kampuchea will hold free elections under the supervision of a UN observer group.

"Kampuchea will be restored as

an independent nation, united in her own territorial integrity, having a liberal democratic regime,—a peaceful, neutral and non-aligned country without any foreign troops on her soil. Kampuchea's neutrality will be guaranteed by the UN with the presence of its observer group for the first two or three years.

"Kampuchea welcomes all countries from the West as well as from the East and neutral and non-aligned countries to help rebuild the country.

"As for Viet Nam, Kampuchea independent, united in her territorial integrity, peaceful, neutral and non-aligned, is willing to sign with it a non-aggression and peaceful coexistence treaty and to establish economic and trade relations between the two countries for ever," the proposal concludes.

NEW ZEALAND

Devoted to Peace and Friendship

New Zealand has come to the forefront of anti-nuclear activities as Prime Minister David Lange keeps his Labour Party promise to oppose the nuclear arms race and firm up his country's image as a stable, independent force in the Asia-Pacific region.

New Zealand's Prime Minister David Lange declared in July 1984, when he was the opposition party leader, that the country's foreign policy must be formulated by and for New Zealanders and focus on the country's needs. And since he came to power, the activities of his Labour government have fulfilled his promise.

Lange's government stands actively for disarmament and the banning of nuclear weapons. It is opposed to nuclear tests by foreign countries in the South Pacific and

advocates the establishment of a nuclear-free zone in the region. The New Zealand government forbids the entry of US nucleararmed ships into its ports. Last December the government presented Parliament with an act declaring New Zealand a nuclearfree zone in an effort to legitimize its policy against nuclear weapons. These anti-nuclear principles have been carried out in the face of powerful opposition and at the of tense Wellington-Washington relations. Yet, New

Zealand insists that it seeks improved relationships with the United States and maintenance of the ANZUS security treaty.

Last July, the Greenpeace flagship Rainbow Warrior arrived at the Auckland port, ready to sail to the South Pacific in protest of France's continued nuclear testing on Mururoa atoll. But the ship was bombed and sunk by two French agents, who planted time bombs on orders from the French government to prevent its journey. One man aboard died in the incident. To safeguard its national sovereignty, the infuriated New Zealand government arrested the French agents and sentenced them to 10 years' imprisonment. France has agreed to compensate for the loss of the Rainbow Warrior.

These anti-nuclear efforts to maintain national sovereignty have been greeted with approval and support at home and abroad. The international community bestowed its praise on New Zealand last October when Lange, as a representative of the world's small nations, addressed the General Assembly in honour of UN's 40 anniversary. Lange was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984.

Chinese Party General Secretary Hu Yaobang has described New Zealand as a crucial factor in maintaining stability in the Asia-Pacific area through its support for peace and opposition to war. The Oceania country opposes hegemony in the South Pacific and is highly concerned with Soviet expansion in the Asia-Pacific area. Despite the change to a Labour government, New Zealand's opposition to Soviet aggression of Afghanistan and the Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea has remained firmly in place. Together with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), it supports the legitimate seat of the Democratic Kampuchea in the United Nations, providing the war-torn country with material aid.

Since being in power for more

than one year, the Labour Party has worked hard to cultivate good relations with developing nations, well as maintaining its traditional friendship with the Western countries. It began diplomatic relations with Zimbabwe, Zambia, the United Arab Emirates and Algeria. Last April Lange became the first New Zealand prime minister to set foot on the African continent and the first New Zealand embassy in Africa is scheduled to open in Zimbabwe.

In recent years more New Zealanders have come to realize the importance of the Asia-Pacific

area, and the Labour government now devotes more attention to developing closer ties with China, Japan, India and the ASEAN countries. New Zealand shares many similar views on important international issues with China, one of its largest export markets. With new enthusiasm sparked by Lange government for Wellington-Beijing friendship, the two countries have been growing closer. The coming visit by Prime Minister Lange at the end of March is expected to result in further co-operation and friendship between the two nations.

by Chen Peng

SPAIN

Cloud Over NATO Membership Lifted

Just in time for elections next fall, the Socialists get their way as a majority of the Spaniards pass a referendum confirming Spain's member-ship in NATO.

Spain's choice on March 12 to remain in NATO will help to consolidate the political unity and economic co-operation of Western Europe, as well as the position of the ruling Socialist Workers' Party in the coming general elections.

An official announcement said that 52.55 percent of the voters in referendum March 12 favoured the country's position in North Atlantic Organization (NATO), on the condition that Spain stay out of NATO's military structure, reduce American troops stationed in the country and keep nuclear weapons out of its territory. About 39.8 percent voted against continued NATO membership.

The pacifist movement, involving the Spanish Communist Party and several other parties, stands strong in the country and it had wanted Spain to remain neutral in the contest between the two superpowers, quit NATO and dismantle all US bases.

The referendum results in Spain, which became NATO's

16th member in 1982, will contribute to the political construction and integration of Western Europe. If Spain had voted to quit and if Greece and Portugal followed suit, the political unity of Western Europe would have been seriously threatened.

While the Spanish government continues to advocate Western Europe as the pillar of NATO's strength, its continued membership will help West European countries enhance their positions in the organization.

During the 1960s and early '70s, when Spain was under the thumb of dictator Francisco Franco, the country was isolated from the other West European countries and it relied heavily on the United States for defence. After the restoration of democracy in the country, the United States continued to be Spain's major military partner.

With Spain's choice confirmed by the referendum, it will disassociate its defence from the United States, reduce US troops stationed in the country and thus strengthen Spanish defence cooperation with its European neighbours.

According to pro-NATO Spaniards, the decision will also enable the country to reap political and economical benefits from its strong ties with its allies. As the concern of its allies have been washed away, Spain will be able to develop an active economic relationship with its allies and absorb modern know-how, including advanced military technologies. Furthermore, some progress in Anglo-Spanish negotiations on the issue of Gibraltar seems to be on the horizon.

The issue of Spain's continued membership had been the most nagging concern of the ruling Socialist Workers' Party. It came to power in 1982 on an anti-NATO platform but, once in office, favoured the country's stay in NATO. With the issue settled, the confidence of the socialists will certainly be boosted, just in time to fight for the elections next fall.

The results of the referendum disappointed the anti-NATO opposition parties as previous opinion polls had forecast a defeat for the government's pro-NATO stand. But the opposition vowed to continue campaigns to pull Spain out of NATO and the debate over the country's NATO membership will continue.

The referendum is expected to have a great psychological impact on other West European countries. During his visit to Spain early this year, NATO's secretarygeneral Lord Carrington warned that Spain's withdrawal would seriously sap NATO. He also warned of a chain reaction in allied countries. Anti-war sentiments are strong in Western Europe, giving rise to peace movements in most member countries. During the run-up to the referendum, noted pacifists from Britain, Italy, and Portugal travelled to Spain in a show of solidarity with the anti-NATO forces.

by Yu Guangsheng

SOUTH AFRICA

Emergency Gone, Repression Mounts

Although the South African authorities have lifted the state of emergency, the struggle against racial discrimination will continue as more subtle repression mounts.

The South African authorities lifted an internationally condemned emergency law on March 7 and released more than 300 people who had been detained without trial under the law. This tactical move, however, will not curb the popular campaign against apartheid. The real mainstays of racial discrimination have been left intact.

In a letter to United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha said his government intended to introduce legislation to cope with the present unrest without a state of emergency.

But South African parliament member, Helen Suzman, of the white opposition Progressive Federal Party, said Botha's comment "confirms my fears that the new legislation will only create a permanent state of emergency in South Africa."

Black leaders contend the decision to end the state of emergency was simply a move designed to win political points with Pretoria's Western allies, which have been shocked by its brutal repression of the blacks protesting the emergency.

Even though the emergency law has been lifted, other laws that permit indefinite detention without trial and place a ban on public political meetings remain in force.

A number of people freed on March 7 immediately renewed their demands for an end to apartheid and political opporession. Ismail Momoniat, a spokesman for 74 freed detainees, said the lifting of the state of emergency "does not resolve the fundamental problems of our country." Jabu Ngwenya, organizer of a consumer boycott in Soweto said, "We've been released to a sick society. We won't rest until our country is freed from political bondage."

Reacting to South African President P.W. Botha's announcement on March 4 that the emergency law would be lifted, the largest alliance against apartheid, the United Democratic Front (UDF), declared violence would end only when blacks were given full political rights.

In his speech Botha said "existing legislation will be reviewed and amended to provide the authorities with the statutory powers required to protect lives and property effectively." The UDF called the announcement a victory for the anti-apartheid campaign, but feared that "the government will broaden the already draconian provisions of the internal security act. The effect of this is that a de facto state of emergency will exist throughout our country."

The unrest sweeping across South Africa broke out in August 1984 when Pretoria began to implement a new constitution adopted in 1983 granting other races, Asian and coloreds, limited rights for the first time to organize their own parliaments to deal with their administrative affairs such as pensions, housing, health care and education, leaving the final say on finance, defence and diplomacy still in the hands of whites.

The new constitution continued to exclude the black majority from a say in state affairs. The move



Demonstrators in Johannesburg confronted by police, and young people showing solidarity against apartheid in South Africa.

immediately prompted an angry black reaction. Many coloreds and Asians were also opposed to the new constitution. During the elections for the new parliaments, hundreds of thousands of people took to the streets to demonstrate and protest rallies against the new constitution were staged throughout the country.

As the waves of protest gained momentum in September, black township authorities decided to increase rents. The decision added fuel to the fire and anti-apartheid activities intensified.

In a vain attempt to clamp down on the racial turmoil, South African authorities imposed the emergency law in 36 districts last July. Under this law the South African police can detain anyone without warrant and hold them indefinitely without ministerial declare They approval. can curfews and restrain the activities of the press, and are immune from legal action for their behavious. The law was later extended to eight districts, including Cape Town and the largest black township, Soweto.

Since last July more than 7,800 people, mostly blacks, have been arrested and about 780 blacks have been killed.

However, the emergency law failed to stifle black struggle.

Protesting young blacks hurled stones and gasoline bombs at police and their vehicles and houses, and killed black policemen and other black officials who were seen as traitors or collaborators. Hundreds of black policemen and local officials have resigned or fled to white areas with their family members. Many black township councils, installed by the government, have been paralyzed and rendered ineffectual.

According to Law and Order Minister Louis Le Grange, caused to damage property amounts to more than US\$43 million, and a total of 920 schools were either destroyed or extensively damaged as well as 33 churches, 17 clinics and 639 shops. Black students have been boycotting classes almost non-stop in the past two years. Students demand the scrapping of separate education and the right to elect their own student representative councils, and are calling for the end of inferior education conditions for blacks. The continuing school boycotts have almost paralyzed black education.

White businesspeople in South Africa are becoming more and more critical of apartheid. They have called for a speeding up of reforms and dialogue between government and black leaders. The recent political uncertainty has weakened foreign business confidence in South Africa. Foreign banks are increasingly reluctant to extend loans or make new investment in South Africa. They have cut off lines of credit, withdrawn much of their capital and rejected requests for rollover of debts.

The emergency law prompted worldwide condemnation. Demonstrators held mass rallies in Paris, Bonn, London and Washington, calling on their governments to impose sanctions against South Africa. In some Western countries, dockers have refused to load and unload goods to or from South Africa, postal workers have refused to handle South African mail, and many stores have refused to sell South African goods. More than 20 countries have now imposed sanctions against South Africa.

These economic sanctions have so far greatly hindered the South African economy. The rand has lost much of its value and the protests still continue.

The emergency law, which was designed to quell racial unrest, has clearly failed. Its lifting, to be replaced with more subtle but nonetheless repressive measures, will not stop black protest.

by Wang Nengbiao

China's Basic Position on Disarmament

To mark the United Nations' International Year of Peace, a rally for world peace was held in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on March 21. Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang made an important speech at this rally. The full text is as follows.

oday's rally is held by the Chinese people in response to the United Nations' call for marking the International Year of Peace. It reflects the profound desire for peace on the part of the Chinese people of all nationalities and their determination to strengthen unity with the people of other countries in maintaining peace. I wish this programme initiated by the United Nations complete success throughout the world.

During the first half of this century, mankind went through two world wars with untold sufferings. Inspite of the absence of a new world war in the past four decades since the end of World War II, the turbulent international situation indicates that the danger of war is yet to be removed. It is therefore a matter of common concern to the people of all countries whether peace will reign for the rest of this century and whether there will be continued peace in the next.

China needs peace; the Chinese people love peace. In peace lies the fundamental interests of the Chinese people. As a developing socialist country, China can achieve prosperity only through peaceful development. It requires sustained efforts of several generations for a country like ours to achieve socialist modernization and to approach or catch up with the developed countries economically. We need peace not only in this century, but also in the next. As China is a big country in the

East with a population accounting for nearly one quarter of the world's total, its position on the question of world peace and its efforts towards this end have a major worldwide impact now as well as in the future. Aware of this important mission entrusted by history, China is ready to make its due efforts and contributions for the sake of world peace and stability.

In peace lies the fundamental interests of the Chinese people. As a developing socialist country, China can achieve prosperity only through peaceful development.

The Chinese Government pursues an independent foreign policy of peace. The basic objective of our foreign policy is to oppose hegemonism and maintain world peace. Firmly standing by the third world, we will steadily strengthen and increase our solidarity and co-operation with other third world countries. We are actively seeking to establish and develop normal relations and friendly co-operation with various countries in the world on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful

Coexistence. We will never enter into alliance or establish strategic relations with any superpower. We are opposed to interference and aggression against any country and the use or threat of force in international relations. We are in favour of the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means and on a fair and reasonable basis. No matter how the world situation may evolve, we will steadfastly implement these foreign policies, which have been proved correct through practice.

At present, the ever-intensifying arms race between the superpowers has caused concern among the people of various countries. Although numerous disarmament proposals have been put forward, they have not brought people any sense of security, because disarmament can only be achieved through deeds, not words.

China opposes arms race and will never take part in such race. The level of our military expenditure and armament is far lower than that of other big powers, and yet we have taken repeated measures on our own to reduce our military forces and cut our defence expenditure. China's limited nuclear force is for the sole purpose of defence. From the very first day China possessed nuclear weapons, we explicitly undertook not to be the first to use them under any circumstances. China has not conducted nuclear tests in the atmosphere for many years and will no longer conduct

atmospheric nuclear tests in the future.

Disarmament is now a question of universal concern. I would like to take this opportunity to outline the Chinese government's basic position and views on this queston.

1. Nuclear arms race constitutes a grave threat to world peace and security. The ultimate goal of nuclear disarmament should be the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear

weapons.

- 2. The United States and the Soviet Union which possess the largest nuclear arsenals should take the lead in halting the test, production and deployment of all types of nuclear weapons and drastically reduce all types of nuclear weapons they have deployed anywhere inside and outside their countries and destroy them on the spot. This will make it possible to create favourable conditions for the convocation of a broadly representative international conference on nuclear disarmament with the participation of all the nuclear weapon states to discuss measures for further nuclear disarmament and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons.
- 3. In order to prevent the outbreak of a nuclear war, all nuclear weapon states should undertake not to be the first to use nuclear weapons in any circumstances and not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapon states or nuclear weapon-free zones. On this basis, an international convention should be concluded with the participation of all nuclear weapon states, ensuring the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons.

4. There should be a simultaneous and balanced reduction and on-the-spot destruction of the medium-range nuclear missiles deployed in Europe and Asia by the Soviet Union and the United

5. Along with nuclear arms

reduction there should be a drastic reduction of conventional arms. The conventional arms of all countries should be used only for self-defence, and not to threaten the security of other countries.

6. The outer space should be used exclusively for peaceful purposes for the benefit of all mankind. No country should develop, test or deploy space weapons in any form. An international agreement on the complete prohibition of space weapons should be concluded through negotiations as soon as possible.

7. An international convention on the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of chemical weapons should be concluded at an early date. Pending this, all countries capable of manufacturing chemical weapons should pledge never to use chemical weapons and to stop the test, production, transfer and deployment of such weapons.

8. To effect the implementation of arms reduction, it is essential for disarmament agreements to provide for the necessary and effective measures of verification.

9. As the question of disarmament concerns the security of all countries, it should not be monopolized by a few big powers. The disarmament agreement between them must not jeopardize the interests of other countries. All countries, big or small, militarily strong or weak, should enjoy equal rights to participate in the discussions and settlement of problems related to disarmament.

The above position and views of the Chineset government on the question of disarmament has taken into account the desire of all the peoples in the world and the viewpoints of all the interested parties. We support all proposals truly conducive to disarmament and are ready to continue our efforts to promote genuine progress on disarmament together with other countries.

Of course, the question of disarmament is not the only issue affecting world peace and security. World peace and national security are closely inter-related. In this sense, encroaching upon nation's independence and sovereignty means jeopardizing world peace. The Chinese government wishes to reiterate that in order to relax tension and eliminate regional conflicts, it is imperative to observe strictly the principle of equality among all countries, big or small, international relations and to refrain from interfering in the internal affairs or encroaching upon the sovereignty of other countries in any form. Only thus will it be possible to contribute to the maintenance of world peace.

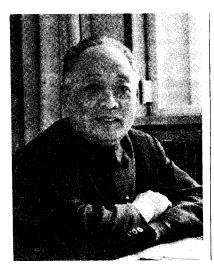
The maintenance of world peace is the dedicated goal and sacred duty of the people of all countries. Human destiny must be held in the hands of mankind itself. The factors making for peace are growing faster than those making for war. So long as the people of the world keep up their unremitting efforts, they will certainly win peace.

China opposes arms race and will never take part in such race. The level of our military expenditure and armament is far lower than that of other big powers, and yet we have taken repeated measures on our own to reduce our military forces and cut our defence expenditure.

Zhu Muzhi On Sino-Foreign Cultural Exchanges

China has carried out various forms of cultural exchanges with more than 130 countries and regions throughout the world and has established relations with more than 2,000 of the world's cultural organizations. Such interflow has promoted mutual understanding and friendship between Chinese people and people around the world. Culture and art from foreign countries have also enriched the Chinese people's cultural lives and have added to China's culture and art.

Zhu Muzhi, minister of culture, recently answered our correspondent's questions concerning Sino-foreign cultural exchanges. The full text of the interview follows:



BR: Would you please outline and explain the development of China's cultural exchanges with other countries? Some foreign journalists have said a "cultural chill" has appeared in China's exchange work. Do you care to comment on this statement?

Zhu: China's cultural exchange work has entered a new stage of vigorous development, embracing multi-channel, multi-layer and diversified exchange activities. Today, in every corner of the world one can find the footprints of our cultural envoys who have shared with other nations both ancient and contemporary

Chinese national culture and art. In return, artists from other countries have entertained Chinese audiences and have displayed their traditional and modern art treasures in our exhibition halls. The everincreasing cultural exchanges have become a bridge of friendship between the people of China and the rest of the world.

Ours is a country with an ancient civilization, and its cultural exchanges with other countries can be traced back to the Western Han Dynasty (206 BC-24 AD). In creating their brilliant civilization, the Chinese people

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have constantly absorbed the best of foreign cultures in order to enrich their own.

We regard cultural exchanges as an important way to promote understanding and friendship between people from different countries. Since China opened to the outside world in 1978, its culture and art departments, adhering to the guideline of seeking friendship and knowledge, have actively promoted the cultural exchange work.

Whereas, from 1949 to 1965. China signed only 30 cultural agreements with other countries, it signed 73 such agreements, as well as 131 annual cultural exchange plans between 1978 and 1985. These involved culture, art, sports, education, medicine, publishing, antiques, film, religion, youth, broadcasting, television books. Up to now, China has carried out various forms of cultural exchange activities with more than 130 countries and regions throughout the world and has established different forms of relations with more than 2,000 cultural organizations.

Prior to the "cultural revolution," China sent abroad and hosted an average of less than 200 cultural groups a year, with the participation of only 400 to 500 people. In recent years, however, the number of exchange groups topped 600 every year, and the people involved rose to 3.000 to 4,000. In 1985, the number of cultural exchange programmes sponsored by the Ministry of Culture was close to 700, and more than 4,000 people have been involved. These figures do not include exchange activities sponsored by other departments and various localities.

In the past, most of the art delegations we sent abroad were Beijing opera, song and dance, acrobatic, national music and puppet show troupes. Moreover, the Beijing opera performances staged abroad were limited to acrobatic fights, which led many foreign audiences to believe that Beijing opera is China's only traditional opera and that pan-

tomime and acrobatic fights are all there is to this opera, such as what they found in At the Crossroads and Picking Up the Jade Bracelet.

Recently, we have diversified our programmes. The new entries include *Kunqu*, an ancient opera popular in many parts of China, and some local operas from Sichuan, Guangdong, Fujian and Taiwan, and the Hainan Island Qiong opera, the Huangmei opera from Anhui Province and the flower-drum opera from Hunan Province. The repertoire of Beijing operas staged abroad now is more varied and include both singing and acting performances.

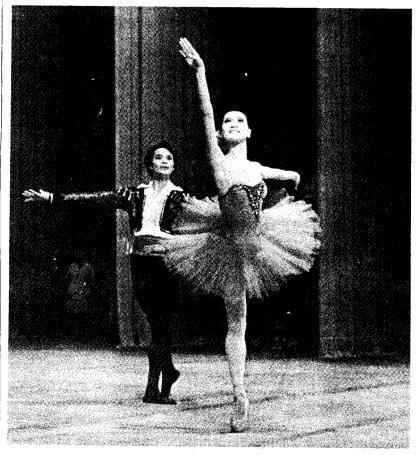
A Sichuan opera troupe, popular in southwest China, attended the third horizontal international art festival held in West Berlin last year and was highly acclaimed for its strong ethnic appeal and unique

performances. After the festival, the troupe successfully toured the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland and Italy.

The art exhibits we show abroad today not only include antiques and relics but also folk arts, traditional Chinese paintings, calligraphy, water colours, sculpture, ceramics and photographs. They have demonstrated the splendour of China's age-old culture and the vatality of its newer developments.

In recent years, the performances presented by foreign artists in China cover a wide range of fields—from ballet, opera, symphony, chamber music to folk songs and dances, pantomime, modern drama, puppet shows, magic shows and modern dance. Noted musicians Herbert von Karajan, Yehudi Menuhin, Seiji

Chinese dancers performing a "pas de deux" from "Don Quixote" at the Fifth Moscow International Ballet Competition in June 1985.



Ozawa and Tean Perisson have also performed in China. The visits of these artists were enlightening and educational for China's artists as well audiences.

Dozens of foreign art exhibits are now held each year. These



A Japanese folk song presented by artists of the Oriental Song and Dance Ensemble. ZHANG GUIYU

included French paintings spanning the last 250 years, Italian paintings from the Renaissance and modern Soviet works. The art of French and Italian masters have long been admired by Chinese art lovers. Exhibitions of such works have satisfied the wishes of many to see the originals and have also promoted the development of China's own fine arts

All this shows that the scale and scope of China's cultural exchanges with other countries since 1978 have expanded considerably, growing in both breadth and depth and becoming more colourful and varied.

BR: There is a great interest in China's cultural exchanges with other third world countries, can you say something about it?

Zhu: In the last few years China has been actively pursuing its cultural exchanges with other third world countries. A developing country, socialist China is also part of the third world. Because of

their common history China and these countries have supported and helped each other in their prolonged struggle against imperialism and colonialism and have forged close ties of friendship. Today, China and these nations are confronted with the same tasks of building their countries and developing their economies and cultures. In major international issues and in the struggle to safeguard world peace, China and the rest of the third world share goals and demands.

Today, there exists a great potential for the development of cultural co-operation and exchanges among third world countries, since this represents their common desire. In the past China's cultural years, exchange programmes with the third world accounted for 50 percent of its total exchanges, and the number of cultural agreements signed between them has also increased annually. In 1984, and 1985. China signed 14 cultural

Mexican artists performing a folk dance during their visit to China in March 1984.

agreements with other countries. Of these, 12 were with third world countries, including seven African countries. In the past two years, China has drafted 40 annual cultural exchange plans with other countries, and 27 of them involved third world countries. In addition, China sent seven governmental cultural delegations to visit more than 30 countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America. These countries reciprocated by sending cultural delegations to China. The number of third world performing troupes and art exhibits hosted by China has continued increasing. Third world performances and exhibitions have been popular with Chinese audiences, while Chinese cultural envoys have in the past few years toured many third world countries and received been warmly have everywhere they have gone. These exchange visits have provided an opportunity for all concerned to learn from each other's cultural traditions for the development of their own national cultures. And they have also course strengthened understanding and friendship between China and the rest of the third world.

BR: Could you elaborate on the positive effects of Sino-foreign cultural exchanges?

Zhu: I have already said that generally speaking, Sino-foreign cultural exchanges have helped people of other countries understand China, and have promoted friendly relations between China and countries all over the world. I want to point out such exchanges

have also promoted the development of socialist ethics and cultural development in China. On the one hand, through these exchanges, we show the world our rich and colourful culture and art. In recent years, there has been an intense interest abroad in Sichuan opera, Chinese acrobatics, Beijing opera and Chinese modern drama. Some Western art colleges have established courses on Chinese traditional opera departments, and some foreign enthusiasts of Beijing opera have begun to perform the opera themselves. On the other hand, many excellent aspects of foreign culture and art have entered China and have enriched our stage and the people's cultural lives.

Another gratifying result has been the increasing number of Chinese artists winning prizes at international competitions recent years. The prize winning programmes have included traditional acrobatics and painting, as well as voice and instrumental performances and ballet, which has attracted the attention of international cultural circles. At the Ninth Monaco-ville Interational Circus and Acrobatic Competition in 1983, the 16-yearold Chinese acrobat Li Liping won the Gold Buffoon Prize—the highest award of the competition. After the Chinese suprano Hu Xiaoping won first prize at the Budapest International Vocal Music Competition in 1982, Fu Haijing, Liang Ning, Dilber, Wang Yanyan and other Chinese singers also won prizes international vocal competitions. Since such superlative performances, a number of Western music critics have stressed that China's musical achievements should be re-evaluated. With the constant expansion of China's cultural exchanges with other countries. more and more foreign audience come to know and appreciate Chinese culture and art.

Chinese writers and artists have also learnt a great deal from the outstanding culture and art of other countries. The Oriental Song and Dance Ensemble,

founded at the suggestion of the late Premier Zhou Enlai, stresses education and performances in Asian, African and Latin American songs and dances. Since its founding in 1962, the ensemble has learnt more than 200 songs, dances and instrumental performances from more than countries. Their repertoire now includes, for example, Thailand's Peacock Dance, Burma's Box Dance, Bangladesh's Foot Bell Dance and many African and Latin American songs and dances. Many have become the favourites of both Chinese and foreign audiences. These performances have helped bring about an interflow of ideas and feelings among the people of third world countries. Such advancements indicate that cultural exchanges have played an active role in promoting friendship and advancing China's cultural development as well.

BR: Are there any criteria which China follows in its selection of foreign culture during such exchanges? If there are, what are they?

Zhu: Every country has its own criteria in conducting cultural exchanges, and the criteria are set in accordance with that country's social system, moral standards and traditions and customs. China is no exception. Although the Chinese people's interests are varied, they do favour those cultural pieces with distinctive national flavour and great ideals, those that are close to life, bring out the best in people, enrich their knowledge and provide them with aesthetic enjoyment. With the rise in the Chinese people's economic and cultural levels and improvement in the living standards, the public will have a broader horizon, and their interests will become more varied. They will not only be concerned with the development of China's traditional culture and art, but will also have an increased desire to keep themselves abreast of culture developments around the world. Thus, there exist broad prospects for China's cultural exchanges.

BR: Could you please brief us on the plans for cultural exchanges in 1986?

Zhu: Troughout the Seventh Five-Year Plan period, China will continue to carry out its open policy and independent and peaceful foreign policy. Side by side, with the constant growth of international interests in China, we should also learn more about the developments of foreign cultures so as to draw the best from them to stimulate our own development. During the Seventh Five-Year Plan period, this work will surely grow apace.

As for the exchanges in 1986, the Ministry of Culture plans to arrange 700 programmes for the year, with the participation of 4,000 to 5,000 people. Other departments and various localities will arrange additional programmes according to their own needs and capabilities. exchanges will involve 100 art troupes and 100 art exhibitions. In addition, we will send a number of outstanding artists to attend international competitions. There will also be exchanges between film makers and other cultural workers and professionals.





"New Star" actor Zhou Lijing (3rd R) at a public interview.

Real Life TV Dramas Cheered

Since the beginning of the year, Chinese television studios, whose programmes enjoy the largest audience in the world, have come out with a great many excellent productions which have made many formerly vehement critics of TV programming in China change their views. The obvious improvements in the quality of television dramas have been especially praised by audiences and critics alike; several new TV dramas, which were recently aired, even caused a nationwide sensation.

by Our Correspondent Wei Liming

Among recent serialized TV dramas, *New Star*, filmed by Taiyuan Television Studios, attracted the most notice. After the series was shown, the station was flooded with letters from viewers requesting that it be broadcast again. Everyone seemed to be talking about it, and everywhere—in offices, on buses and even in bathhouses—one could hear words of praise for the drama.

The hero of *New Star*, Li Xiangnan, is the newly appointed Party committee secretary of a small, isolated county. Determined to institute some badly needed reforms, Li adopts a number of daring measures which, however, involve him in a bitter struggle against the vested interests of entrenched bureaucrats. His dauntless efforts in the face of vicious attacks against him to expose corruption and bring about wide-reaching reforms earn

him, in the end, the status of popular hero.

Letters to China Central Television station (CCTV) were almost universal in expressing praise for the drama. One viewer, a teacher from Henan Province, wrote, "In New Star I saw China's hope for the future." A cadre in a pharmaceuticals factory described how workers and cadres in his

factory made special schedule arrangements so that they could watch the TV serial and discuss it. Very moved by its drama, the cadre wrote: "We felt indignant at the misfortunes suffered by the 'new star,' Li Xiangnan, and applauded his courageous behaviour, insightful leadership and moral determination. We hope this kind of 'new star' will

Scene from "New Star": Li Xiangnan (R) appoints a capable man a cadre.



emerge more in real life."

TV dramas which present Party officials in a positive light seldom have been able to elicit an enthusiastic response from audiences. The success of *New Star* lies in that it reflects popular concern about reforms and the national destiny.

Serialized in 12 parts, New Star is based on a book of the same name by the young writer Ke Yunlu. As a youth during the "cultural revolution," Ke was sent from his native Beijing to the Shanxi countryside. There he accumulated much "human interest" experience that he would later draw on in his writings. In 1980 he wrote 30 Million, a short story which was based on current industrial reforms. The work won that year's national prize for best short story.

New Star's plot is a complex and dramatic one. The first action of Li Xiangnan, the new Party secretary in Guling County, was to carry out wide-ranging social investigations and boldly resolve a whole series of long-undealt-with problems. Li was soon given the title "Upright Magistrate Li" by the people.

However, his actions aroused the fierce opposition of a clique of bureaucrats headed by deputy Party secretary and county magistrate Gu Rong. The former director of the general office of the county Party committee, Hu Xiaoguang, when egged on by Gu, publicly opposed Li, who had ordered him transferred from his post. Li's former girlfriend, Lin Hong, was also attacked viciously in retaliation for once having exposed the illegal deeds of Gu's son and a gang of other cadres' sons. Under Gu's orders, a commune secretary stirred up the masses over a dispute about the use of water. These and other nefarious deeds committed by Gu and his clique caused Li untold hardships.

Planning to devise a course of action for clearing up Guling's problems, Li led cadres to the rural areas for an on-the-spot investigation; just then, a primary

school classroom building, which had long been in need of repairs, collapsed, and many teachers and students were injured. Li ordered the commune Party secretary to immediately give up his office space for the use of a temporary classroom. In the process of clearing up an incident involving the checking of a brigade member's indiscriminate felling of trees, the unnecessary death of an old man who was responsible for guarding the trees had a powerful re-educating influence on the cadres. Li removed the Party branch secretary who had entirely lost public trust.

the masses as their leader. Li, the political "new star," achieved a temporary victory.

Talking about his process of creating the story, author Ke Yunlu explained that the character of Li Xiangnan was not based merely on a single character-type model. Rather, it was based on many outstanding individuals like Li who have made their positive influence felt in countless small, remote provincial county towns and districts across the country.

Speaking about characters in the story like Gu Rong, a typical representative of the conservative forces, Ke noted that Gu is a prime

Li Xiangnan meets his former girlfriend, Lin Hong.



Because of Gu's scheming playing of politics, Li was plunged into a fierce political struggle. It was just at this time that the prefectural Party secretary came to Guling. Believing Gu's slanderous talk, he was most displeased with Li's work, and the struggle, which had been brewing so long in private, suddenly came out in public at a meeting of the county Party committee. The question of whether Li Xiangnan could continue his work as Guling's Party secretary became something over which cadres and common people alike were most concerned.

At the most critical moment of the struggle, Li was given strong support by the provincial Party secretary and was supported by

example of many of the cadres one sees in everyday life. In the antiprogressive behaviour of such officials one can see aspects of the darker side of society since the establishment of New China, as well as the effects of China's several-thousand-year-old culture. In other words, Gu's negative behaviour and psychology are both a product of contemporary political life and a result of the influence traditional culture.

Described as the most daring political film ever made on the current situation in China, particularly its countryside, *New Star* made a vivid impression at all layers of Chinese society when it was first shown in early February.

A soldier commented that it accurately and penetratingly exposes the evils of traditional bureaucracy while depicting the hardships of a reformer who must fight against it. A doctor noted that the series has heartened besieged reformers everywhere, and that every citizen of China should ponder deeply its lessons. A cadre in Hebei Province praised the protagonist's altruistic reformist spirit and forthright approach to resolving problems.

Greatly inspired by the series, many of the audience wrote in to express their feelings. One letter even went so far as to suggest that all cadres in China should be organized to see the TV drama in order to accelerate thorough reforms nationally. The letter said, "Let every conscientious person—especially cadres—search their souls while sitting in front of the TV set!"

The actor who played the part of Li Xiangnan, Zhou Lijing, is an outstanding actor in today's Chinese film circles. In *New Star* his portrayal is natural and convincing, and not the least bit affected.

Directed by Li Xin, New Star vividly recaptures the social life and political struggle of the original book. Especially worthy of praise is the director's aesthetic judgment. In everything from the selection of actors and costume design to the final editing of camera shots, Li adheres strictly to the demands of realism, and yet avoids the perception of being affectedly unconventional. The film represents the director's determined effort to accurately depict the situation of the Chinese rural areas in the midst of reforms.

"A Lost World Regained"

Also receiving widespread praise was the 12-part TV drama *A Lost World Regained*, which deals with the reform of juvenile delinquents.

The series was based on a novel of the same name written by woman writer Ke Yan. Modeling the story on happenings at a reformatory in Beijing, the author

portrays a group of outstanding teachers who have devoted themselves to re-educating misguided youths. Yu Qianqian, a naive but kind young woman teacher, applies to work as an instructor at the reform achool. However, due to her limited experience, she comes up against numerous difficulties in the course of her work. She finds she is unable to control the recalcitrant boy students, and powerless to stop the girl students from fighting among themselves. But, having such a kind heart, she finally is able to win the students' trust and respect, and find pleasure in her work.

Just when Yu is getting successful in her work, her emotional life suffers a setback. Having accepted a job in the reform school out in the suburbs, she is forced to leave behind the cozy amenities of city life. Then, her boyfriend leaves her in her absence. The false young man first goes and marries someone else, then seduces one of Yu's girl students. Suddenly finding out about all this, Yu suffers a barrage of emotional shocks, yet eventually matures in the process and triumphs over her ego. Having regained her self-confidence, she successfully resolves her personal affairs.

At the conclusion of the series, the satisfaction Yu feels upon observing the "graduation" of a group of reformed delinquents leads her to realize that in offering

herself totally to her work, she has already made up her personal loss.

The old reform school principal, Xu Wen, is a character painstakingly modeled, who is rich in experience and strong in a sense of justice. As principal, he manages to both maintain authority and win the respect and popular support of teachers and students. Although his work was obstructed by ultra-leftists, whose malicious slander caused him to be dismissed from his post, he doesn't waver in the least in his commitment to his ideals; in the end he receives support from higher levels.

In the middle of the 1950s, Ke herself was involved in on-thescene learning and observing at a reform school. Ever since then, she has been concerned about teachers who work on the juvenile delinquent re-education front. "If there were nobody to give publicity to them," she notes, self-sacrificing efforts their would go on unrecognized and unappreciated by society at large." Over the past 30 years, Ke has always preserved a close relationship with reform schools, and finally finished her novel.

Standing opposite to the reform school teachers in the TV series are a host of vividly portrayed delinquent youths, all with differing personalities. One of them, Xie Yue, with the nickname "Count," had become involved in the chaos of the "cultural revolution," when

Scene from "Lost World": Xie Yue (R) angrily confronts another student.



he personally witnessed his father being tortured to death by rebels. At that moment, he decided to follow the example of his hero in Alexandre Dumas' Count of Monte Cristo and avenge his father's death when he became 18. After investigation, however, teachers at the reform school discover that he had been mistakenly arrested; moreover, they discover he is a telented student. Under their guidance and help, Xie Yue at last abandons his narrow-minded plan for personal vengance.

Girl thief Xiang Xiu'er feigns madness and acts like an idiot at the school; she seizes every opportunity she can to bully the new teacher Yu Qianqian. Although later her teachers realize she is only playing the fool, they

never show her up. Finally the girl discovers her conscience, and admits to her mistakes.

Girl hoodlum Song Xiaoli has no sense of right or wrong. She brazenly ridicules Yu Qianqian for not understanding the ways of women. Just when Song starts on the path of self-reform, she is seduced again and becomes pregnant. Nevertheless, the reform school teachers never look down on her. When Song despairs, they again console her and assist her.

The director of Lost World, Xu Lei, used heretofore unknown actors who were surprisingly successful in portraying their roles. Xu exploited to the full the rhythm of serialized TV dramas, and made sure that each episode had a climax and each segment usually had a suspenseful ending.

Lost World's success in synthesizing both lyricism and narration may have something to do with the fact that author and script-writer Ke Yan is also a famous poet. Her lyric poem mourning the death of Premier Zhou Enlai, Where Are You, Premier Zhou?, at one time was well-known in China. Director Xu was able to master the note of lyricism in the original work and imbue the TV drama with the intense emotion of a poem.

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Lost World was especially appealing to younger audiences. CCTV audience investigation group member Chen Ruoyu estimated that 60 percent of the letters which were received in response to the showing of the series were from primary and middle school students. One such group of students in Beijing wrote

1986: A Year to Improve Quality

"In 1986 China will stress the production of 100 key TV dramas," said Ruan Ruolin, a deputy director of CCTV.

Last year was the most productive one in the history of Chinese TV dramas. With the rising standard of living and the ever-increasing pace of life, TV dramas have become the fastest developing, broadest form of art to reach mass audiences. In 1985 China produced more than 500 TV dramas which were broadcast in 1,300 instalments. One of the more successful of these was a series based on the book Four Generations Under One Roof by the famous Chinese author Lao She.

"But," Ruan adds, "there still exists in TV drama production an over-emphasis on quantity to the neglect of quality." In 1985 over 200 performing arts groups turned to making TV dramas—this compared to the less than 50 arts organizations who did so in 1984. Among most of these organizations the attitude towards artistic creation has been relatively serious, but there have also been those whose productions have tended towards commercialization. This has had a negative influence on the quality of TV dramas.

Many TV dramas have been influenced by social trends, and capitalize on the inclusion of such audience pleasers as thrilling fights and detective mysteries. In filming, some of these dramas have mechanically imitated foreign techniques of expression, which, however, have only given audiences an impression of artificiality.

According to Ruan, the main goal of the TV industry in 1986 is to raise quality, especially with the major productions, so that audiences can at least enjoy better shows on weekends and during holidays.

CCTV plans two nationally broadcast TV drama "festivals" this year. The first will be in May, featuring short pieces; the second will be around National Day (October 1) featuring comedies.

"Reforms and the four modernizations ought to be the focus of realistic themes," said Ai Zhisheng, Minister of Radio, Film and Television, at a recent conference. Of the TV dramas planned for 1986, 70 percent reflect the theme of real life, 20 percent are docu-dramas or adaptations from classical works and historical legends, and 5 percent are children's programmes.

Ruan revealed that the popular new short story, Bus Aria, by Liu Xinwu will be made into a TV series by China TV Drama Production Centre. A 28-part drama based on the famous classical novel, A Dream of Red Mansions, and a 25-part historical drama, Last Emperor, are already in production and are slated to be shown this year.

Farmers Blow Their Own Horn

Since adopted China economic reform policies, dramatic changes have taken place in the countryside, especially in farming communities. Music Band. fascinating new film released in time for China's Spring Festival, (Chinese New Year), presents audiences with an inspiring story that has captured critics and audiences alike. "Fascinating Music Band attracts me," remarked Ding Qiao

who is in charge of films in the Ministry of Radio, Film and Television, representing the opinion of many other audiences.

The picture was based on a true story, and the audience finds it difficult to distinguish between the five professional actors and the real-life farmers as band members who appear togather on screen.

The film's director, Wang Haowei, said she became curious one day when she read an article

about a Western orchestra band established in a small village of Jinxian County in northeast China. Wang herself had been there 10 years earlier and remembered how deeply impressed she was by the poor farmers there who worked day and night just for three meals a day. Farmers at that time could never afford musical instruments, even the better-off families only played the *souna* horn, an oboe-

Many of the students at reform schools who saw *Lost World* cried emotionally. In a letter, some of them wrote: "We also want to reform ourselves, but society's cold-shouldering, and the beatings and verbal abuse we get from our



Jeering new students at the reform school.

parents have made us despair. After seeing Lost World we feel we have a future now — something to strive for. We hope you will rebroadcast the series to let all reform school students know their own worth."

Yu Qianqian (L) patiently encourages Xiang Xiu'er.

that they had begun looking at their teachers with new respect and appreciation after viewing the series.

A public security officer wrote to say: "It's a good thing that juvenile delinquents are given special treatment in society. In most cases they are quite different from hardened criminals who commit heinous crimes. Society must be mobilized to look after children more so that they won't get started on the path to crime. The admirable example of the reform school teachers in the series should be a source of strength to all of us."



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like woodwind instrument, flutes and other traditional Chinese musical instruments. Furthermore, the limited cultural background at that time would have made it impossible for farmers to desire or request Western musical instruments. Inspired by the drastic changes in living standards in the village, the female director, along with some of her colleagues,

by studying music scores and playing techniques. The director was even more fascinated by the fact that the farmers' band, together with the local honour guard, has performed before foreign visitors, including Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu and Korean President Kim II Sung. The band has also given performances in rural and urban areas, which



First try at a new trumpet.

went to the village to investigate. It was at this point she made up her mind to put the story on the screen.

Wang recalled that when they arrived in the Jinxian village the farmers immediately left the fields to come out and play music for them. The boys were wearing Western suits, while the girls had on fashionable clothes and curled hair and make-up. They apparently put out some beautiful melodies with their trumpet, tuba, French horn, saxophone and other instruments. "I was taken surprised and began to cry," said Wang, upon hearing a medley of patriotic Chinese tones played to the contemporary strains of the

The visitors were told how the farmers had spent a bundle of money on a complete set of musical instruments and how the farmers who knew nothing about music bagan teaching themselves

ranged from the merry Strains of Welcome March, to the powerful Cavalry March and to the fresh and popular songs such as On the Hopeful Land.

The film-makers devoted much time and effort to making the best choices from a vast selection of materials and anecdotes gathered in the village for the film.

The film begins with a rustic young farmer picking out instruments from a music store in town. The shop assistant and the manager are skeptical, while onlookers are stunned to see a complete set of musical instruments loaded into a truck. The story then takes its audiences through the organization of the band, which captivates all sorts of young people in the village. One of the most humorous scenes in the movie is when the villagers attempt to learn how to play the instruments. In fact, the band leader himself, who bought the instruments, knows nothing about music. The young man, however, is determined and encourages others to persevere. Through hard-won efforts, he goes from being an enthusiastic organizer to a competent conductor. One night, the conductor and his musicians go to a concert in town. But instead of just sitting back to listen to the music, they gather around the orchestra pit to pick up as much skill as possible from the professional musicians.

The story is interwoven with the friction between players and their family members, presenting the audiences with melodramatic

Practice makes perfect.



plots concerning love; generational differences, marital squabbles and, perhaps most importantly, a contemporary view of China's farmer today. With its light and comic style and simple flow from scene to scene, the film provides the audiences a nice twist on reality in the countryside.

Several films concerning the dramatic changes in rural China have sprung up in the last few years. In-Laws, which came out in 1981, depicts the conflict in a farmer's family and the role of morals. This popular film has been played in cinemas throughout China for more than 600 million audiences. Our Niu baisui tells the story of Niu Baisui, the prominent Party secretary who leads a village in their elimination of the "iron rice bowl" system by adopting the Communist Party's rural reform policies. It came out as number one in the nationwide Hundred Flowers Poll in 1983. The



The conductor gets them through the first rehearsal.

Set in a remote mountain village, *The Wild Mount* tells of second marriages of two brothers and portrays the simple, honest characters of Chinese farmers and the changes in moral conventions

young man out of his hometown and praises the flexible policies that bring light to his future.

This onslaught of rural oriented films have provided Chinese audience more insight into today's life in the country, where more than 80 percent of the Chinese population reside. Thus building respect for China's farmers and their old, yet changing traditions.

"Since I have been with the farmers," noted He Wei, the leading actor in Fascinating Music Band, "I have found unbelievable changes in their mind. The big and rough hands, which used to wield hoes, now can produce inspiring music. I feel proud to act the part of a farmer."



The farmers' band plays at a sports meet.

Shanghai Film Studio's Our Retired Soldier, released recently, is the third rural work of famous director Zhao Huanzhang, in which the lives of seven farming families are portrayed. The film depicts the diversified image of today's farmer and eulogizes the significant role of retired soldiers in modernizing China.

brought by the economic reform. Yet another film, Xiangsi Inn, depicts a young manager of an inn, who is confronted with many obstacles as she tries to update her business and unveils the spoils of privilege, bureaucracy and feudalism. The Outcast and the Swan criticizes the "left" road that drives a gifted and promising



Communique on the Statistics of 1985 Economic and Social Development

Issued on February 28, 1986, by the State Statistical Bureau

ed by the Chinese Communist Party and the people's government, in 1985 the Chinese people implemented the policy of invigorating the domestic economy and opening the country to the world and continued to advance the reform of the economic structure. As a result, the national economy developed rapidly. The total product of society¹ came to 1,624.2 billion yuan, 16.2 percent higher than in 1984. Of this sum, the total output value of industry and agriculture was 1,326.9 billion yuan, 16.4 percent more than the previous year. National income reached 676.5 billion yuan, up 12.3 percent from 1984. Along with the sustained growth of production, the domestic market was also brisk, state revenue and expenditure were balanced, and urban and rural residents' income increased.

According to preliminary estimates, the gross domestic product (GDP)² for 1985 was 778 billion yuan, up 12.5 percent from 1984.

In 1985 the major problems in national economic development were society's total demand outstripping society's total supply, which was evidenced by excessive investment in fixed assets, society's purchasing power exceeding commodity supply, the intemperate increase in imports and substantial price hikes for some goods.

1. Agriculture

In 1985 China's countryside took a major step towards reforming the system of fixed state purchases of farm produce and readjusting the economic structure, both of which sparked continued and comprehensive rural economic development.

The total product of society in the countryside³ was 619.5 billion yuan in 1985, a 15.6 percent increase over 1984. Of this the total output value of industry, construction and transportation industries, and commerce grew 37.4 percent. Together their proportion to total product of society in the countryside rose from 36.5 percent in 1984 to 42.3 percent in 1985.

The total output value of agriculture was 451 billion yuan (including that from rural industries),

up 13 percent from the previous year and far exceeding the planned target of 6 percent growth. Of this, the proportion of forestry, animal husbandry, fishery and sideline production rose from 42.1 percent in 1984 to 49.9 percent in 1985. After deducting the industrial output value produced by rural enterprises from this sum, the total output value of agriculture is then 357.5 billion yuan, a 3 percent increase over 1984.

Crop cultivation structure underwent major readjustment. The area cultivated with grain crops was 4.4 million hectares less than in the previous year and, as a result of natural disasters and reduced efforts in grain production, the total output of grain was 378.98 million tons, or 28.33 million tons less than in 1984. Except for cotton, whose output decreased because of a reduction in its cultivated area, the output of all other major cash crops registered a fairly big increase.

The output of major farm products was as follows.

1985	Increase over 1984 (%)
378,980,000 tons	-7.0
4,150,000 tons	-33.7
15,780,000 tons	32.5
51,470,000 tons	30.2
8,910,000 tons	7.6
3.400.000 tons	128.1
2,080,000 tons	, . 1.5
370,000 tons	4.8
440,000 tons	6.0
	378,980,000 tons 4,150,000 tons 15,780,000 tons 51,470,000 tons 8,910,000 tons 3,400,000 tons 2,080,000 tons 370,000 tons

The further implementation of the policies for forestry sparked the masses' enthusiasm for planting trees, and managing and protecting forests. The output of tea-oil seeds, tung-oil seeds and other forestry products increased: the output of rubber basically stayed at the same level as the previous year's.

Further progress was made in animal husbandry. The output of pork, beef, mutton, milk, poultry and

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eggs increased rapidly; the number of large animals (horses, cattle, mules, donkeys, etc. — Tr.) and pigs in stock at year end continued to increase, but the number of sheep in stock dropped slightly.

The output of major animal by-products and head of livestock are as follows:

	1985	Increase over 1984 (%)
Pork, beef and mu	tton	
products	17,550,000 tons	13.9
Milk	250,000 tons	14.2
Sheep wool	180,000 tons	- 3.3
Hogs slaughtered	238,950,000 head	8.4
Large animals at		
year end	113,820,000 head	5.0
Pigs at year end	331,480,000 head	8.0
Sheep and goats		
at year end	156,160,000 head	-1.4

Fish production also grew measurably. The output of aquatic products was 6.97 million tons, up 12.5 percent from 1984. The total catch of freshwater products increased by 25.1 percent, while marine products rose by 5.3 percent.

Farm machinery and electricity consumption in the rural areas both increased. At the end of 1985, the aggregate power capacity of farm machines reached 284 million horsepower, a 7.1 percent increase over 1984. The number of large and medium-sized tractors was 864,000, an increase of 1.2 percent over 1984; small capacity and walking tractors, 3.81 million, an increase of 15.4 percent; trucks, 427,000, an increase of 22.3 percent; and irrigation and drainage equipment, 78.5 million horsepower, equalling the 1984 figure. A total of 17.76 million tons of chemical fertilizers were applied during the year, a 2.1 percent increase over the previous year. The total consumption of electricity in rural areas was 51.2 billion kwh, an increase of 10.3 percent over 1984.

The nation's meteorologists improved their weather forecasting, making timely and accurate forecasts in some areas threatened by natural disasters and thus reducing losses caused by calamities and improving social and economic efficiency.

2. Industry

In 1985 the reforms of the industrial system progressed steadily, the vigour of enterprises was further increased and industrial production experienced a sustained and balanced development. The total industrial output value for 1985 was 875.9 billion yuan, an increase of 18 percent over 1984, exceeding the planned growth target of 8 percent.

When added to the output value of rural industry, the total figure would be 969.4 billion yuan, a 21.4 percent rise over 1984. Of the total, the output value of state-owned industry increased 12.9 percent over the previous year, collectively owned industry grew by 30.9 percent, individually run industry went up by 150 percent and industry of other kinds of ownership rose 39.5 percent. The output of 82 of the 100 major industrial products met or topped state plans. Eighteen industrial products, including phosphate fertilizers, sulphuric acid, sulfurous iron ore, chemical insecticides and computers, failed to meet their 1985 targets. Most of these were products where supply had exceeded demand.

The total output value of light industry in 1985 was 408.9 billion yuan, an 18.1 percent increase over 1984. The designs and varieties of light industrial products also expanded, while the output of high-and medium-grade products jumped considerably. Some products that had been in short supply, however, still failed to keep up with demands.

The output of major light industrial products was as follows:

	1985	Increase over 1984 (%)
Cotton yarn	3,510,000 tons	9.1
Cloth	14.3 billion metres	4.2
Woollen piece	11.5 omnon metres	1.2
goods	210 million metres	16.8
Machine-made		
paper and		
paper board	8,260,000 tons	9.3
Sugar	4,450,000 tons	17.1
Cigarettes	23,510,000 cartons	10.3
Chemical		
pharmaceuticals	57,000 tons	9.6
Bicycles	32,350,000	13.0
Sewing machines	9,860,000	9.8
Wrist-watches	41,730,000	9.6
TV sets	16,220,000	61.6
Of which		
Colour sets	4,100,000	206.0
Cassette		
recorders	12,710,000	63.7
Cameras	1,800,000	42.4
Household wash-		
ing machines	8,830,000	52.8
Household		
refrigerators	1,390,000	154.0

The 1985 heavy industrial output value was 467 billion yuan, up 17.9 percent from 1984. Primary energy output was equivalent to 839 million tons of standard coal, an increase of 7.8 percent over the previous year. But the supply of electric power and some raw and semi-finished materials still fell short of the needs of national economic development.

The output of major heavy industrial products was as follows:

	1985	Increase over 1984 (%)
		, ,
Coal	850,000,000 tons	7.7
Crude oil	125,000,000 tons	8.9
Electricity	407.3 billion kwh	8.0
Including Hydro-		
electricity	91.0 billion kwh	4.8
Steel	46,660,000 tons	7.3
Rolled steel	36,790,000 tons	9.1
Timber	63,100,000 cubic	
	metres	-1.2
Cement	142,460,000 tons	15.8
Sulphuric acid	6,690,000 tons	-18.2
Soda ash	2,000,000 tons	6.5
Chemical		
fertilizers	13,350,000 tons	-8.6
Chemical		
insecticides	205,000 tons	-31.3
Power generating		
equipment	5,610,000 kw	20.1
Machine tools	155,000	15.7
Motor vehicles	439,000	38.7
Tractors (above		
20 hp each)	44,600	12.3
Locomotives	746	13.4
Steel ships for		
civilian use	1,660,000	0.6

Industrial economic efficiency improved. In 1985 the nation saved energy resources equivalent to more than 30 million tons of standard coal, with its energy-saving rate reaching 4.7 percent. Per-capita productivity in state-owned industrial enterprises was 15,349 yuan, a 9.4 percent increase over 1984. The turnover period for working funds was shortened from 102 days in 1984 to 100 days in 1985. Profits and product sales taxes of budgeted state-owned industrial enterprises amounted to 118.2 billion yuan, up 14.3 percent from the previous year. The quality of some products went down, however, and consumption rose while the amount of losses suffered by a handful of departments and regions increased.

State-owned industrial enterprises gradually established various forms of economic responsibility and 81 percent of the nation's businesses adopted the system of substituting tax payments for profits delivery in 1985.

3. Transportation, Posts and Telecommunications

By pushing through reforms and tapping potential, the transportation industry continually raised its shipping capacity. In 1985 transportation departments handled 1,666.8 billion ton-kilometres (a ton-kilometre means one ton carried over a distance of one kilometre) of goods, up 14.9 percent from 1984. Of this, the railways handled 812.5 billion ton-kilometres, a 12.1 percent increase; trucks handled 35.5 billion ton-kilometres, up 0.3

percent; ships and boats handled 757.2 billion ton-kilometres, up 19.5 percent; planes handled 415 million ton-kilometres, up 33.4 percent; oil and gas pipelines handled 61.2 billion ton-kilometres, up 7 percent. The volume of cargo handled at major seaports was 311 million tons, an increase of 13 percent.

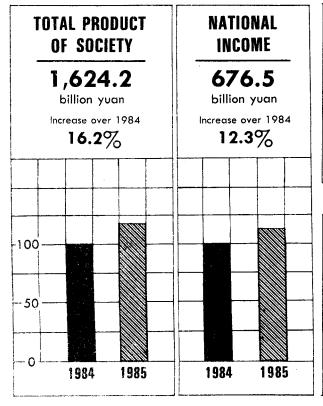
The volume of passenger transportation was 424.8 billion person-kilometres, a 17.3 percent increase over 1984. Of this, the railways carried 241.6 billion person-kilometres, up 18.1 percent. The volume of road passenger transportation was 154.3 billion person-kilometres, an increase of 15.4 percent. The volume of waterway passenger transportation was 17.2 billion person-kilometres, up 11.7 percent, and the volume of air passenger transportation was 11.7 billion person-kilometres, up 41 percent.

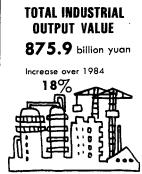
China's posts and telecommunications underwent a fairly big development last year. Transactions throughout China last year amounted to 2.94 billion yuan, up 17.4 percent from 1984. The number of letters handled went up 17.7 percent; newspapers and magazines distributed rose 2.2 percent; the number of telegrams rose 25.9 percent; long-distance telephone calls grew 22 percent. The year-end number of telephone subscribers in urban areas totalled 2.19 million, up 14.4 percent from the end of 1984.

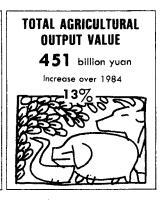
Economic results continued to improve in the transportation and posts and telecommunications departments. Per-capita productivity for railway transportation increased 9.8 percent over the previous year. The average productivity of each locomotive rose 4 percent a day over 1984, and profits in 1985 rose 12.3 percent. The average annual output of local inland tugboats per horsepower increased 7 percent over the preceding year. Profits earned by posts and telecommunications enterprises rose 43 percent. The average length of time foreign cargoships had to dock at China's ports, however, was extended from 8.7 days in 1984 to 11.1 days in 1985. Overall, the nation's transportation and communications infrastructure was still strained.

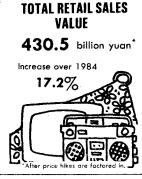
4. Investment in Fixed Assets

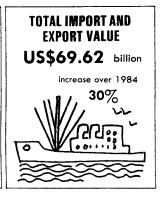
The construction of key projects and the updating and revamping of old enterprises were stepped up in 1985, and the management system underwent further reform. Total investment in fixed assets throughout the country came to 247.5 billion yuan, which was 64.2 billion yuan, or 35 percent, more than the preceding year. Of the total, 165.2 billion yuan was in state-owned interprises; 32.7 billion yuan was in urban and rural collectively owned enterprises and 49.6 billion yuan was from











urban and rural individual investment. Of the investment in fixed assets for state-owned enterprises. 106.1 billion yuan went into capital construction, which was 31.8 billion yuan, or 42.8 percent, more than the previous year. Of this, 88.2 billion yuan was investment directly called for by the state plan, accounting for 99.3 percent of the state's adjusted plan.

Of the investment in capital construction, 20.1 billion yuan went into energy projects, a 20.6percent increase over the previous year; and 17.6 billion yuan was channelled into transportation and posts and telecommunications, up 51.5 percent. An investment of 22.7 billion yuan, or 101 percent of the planned target, was put into 169 key construction projects organized by the state. Construction of the first phase of Baoshan Iron and Steel Complex in Shanghai was completed and the complex began trial operation. Key projects which were completed and put into operation included coal mines, oil wells and power stations, the electrification of the Beijing-Qinhuangdao Railway, the construction of the Yanzhou-Shijiusuo Railway, the Shijiu port in Shandong, the Beijing-Hankou-Guangzhou medium-sized concentric communications cable and other engineering works. The four special economic zones of Shenzhen, Zhuhai, Shantou and Xiamen used 4 billion vuan of investment in capital consturction, 82 percent more than in the previous year. The 14 coastal open cities used 16.2 billion yuan of investment, up 39.7 percent over 1984.

A total of 97 large and medium-sized projects and 134 single items attached to large and medium-sized projects were completed and put into operation in 1985. The new production capacities of these projects include: 5.66 million kw of power generating capacity, 15.13 million tons of coal a year, 17.37 million tons of crude oil annually (including capacities added through oilfield transformation or due to other investments), 359 km of new railways already in operation, 231 km of double-track railways already in use, 1,103 km of electrified railways, 53.62 million tons of port cargo handling capacity, 280,000 tons of sugar a year, 440,000 cubic metres of timber a year, and 1.34 million tons of cement a year. Of these, the added generating capacity, crude oil mining capacity, the mileage of electrified railways and port cargo handling capacity are at the highest since the founding of the People's Republic.

Headway was made in the technical transformation of existing enterprises. State-owned enterprises in 1985 made use of a total investment of 59.1 billion yuan in equipment replacement, technical updating and other purposes involving 14.9 billion yuan, or 33.7 percent, more than the previous year. Of this amount, 43.1 billion yuan was invested in equipment replacement and technical updating, surpassing the planned target by 119.7

percent. Investment used in updating equipment in the machinery, electronics, light and textile industries surpassed that in capital construction in 1985. Of the investment used in equipment replacement and technical transformation, 21.1 billion yuan was used to increase product variety and output, a 61.2 percent increase over the previous year; 4.4 billion yuan was used in saving energy and raw and semi-finished energy materials and improving the quality of products, accounting for a 19.2-percent rise. Of the 74,000 projects undergoing technical updating and equipment replacement, 40,000 were completed, which played an important role in bringing about technical progress of the enterprises.

Further advances were made in the reform of the administrative systems of the building industry and capital construction. Of the 140,000 state-owned construction projects, more than 110,000 introduced various forms of an investment contract system. About half of the large and medium-sized capital construction projects now under way have introduced the investment contract system. Some engineering design projects were also opened for bidding. Total output value of state-owned construction enterprises in 1985 rose 25.4 percent over the preceding year and per-capita labour productivity was 22.3 percent higher than in 1984, while profits in construction and installation enterprises increased 8.5 percent over 1984.

Geological survey work registered remarkable achievements in 1985. The targets for recently discovered reserves of 15 major minerals all surpassed the state targets. New coal reserves amounted to 34.2 billion tons, and iron ore deposits to 580 million tons. A group of oil/gas fields and more than 200 metal and non-metal ore mines were discovered and verified. Tunnelling footage completed in 1985 totalled 9.79 million metres.

5. Domestic Trade and Supply and Marketing of Materials

Urban and rural markets thrived in 1985. The nation's 1985 retail sales reached 430.5 billion yuan, a 27.5-percent increase over the previous year (17.2 percent if price increases are factored in). Of total retail sales, consumer goods grew 30.7 percent and farming materials and equipment increased 7.9 percent. Retail sales of most principal consumer goods increased over 1984. Increases included grain, 5.1 percent; vegetable oils, 13.9 percent; pork, 7.6 percent; eggs, 20 percent; sugar, 15 percent; pure cotton cloth, 11.8 percent; cotton blends, 5.3 percent; knitware, 9 percent; woollen piece goods, 16.2 percent; silks and satins, 19.1 percent; wool yarn, 26 percent; wristwatches, 28.8 percent; bicycles, 8.1 percent; electric fans, 100 percent;

television sets, 59.9 percent; cassette recorders, 58.4 percent; cameras, 55.6 percent; washing machines, 69.9 percent and refrigerators, 150 percent.

The commercial structural reform developed significantly, and the circulation of commodities quickened. By the end of 1985, the state had decontrolled 513 second-level industrial goods wholesale centres, accounting for 86.2 percent of those that are to be decontrolled; a total of 64,671 small state-owned enterprises in the retail business, the catering trade and other service trades were delegated to collectives, or turned over to collective ownership or leased to individuals. These accounted for 75.4 percent of all small enterprises. The number of both urban and rural commodity fairs increased from 56,000 in 1984 to 61,000 in 1985. Trade value in 1985 amounted to 70.5 billion yuan, a 50-percent gain over the preceding year. Retail sales in all economic sectors increased considerably. The total amount of retail sales in the state-owned sector grew 13.6 percent, while retail sales in the collective sector rose 18 percent. Sales in the individual sector went up 110 percent. Sales in other economic sectors climbed 84.2 percent, while retail sales by farmers to non-agricultural residents went up 70.6 percent.

The smooth take-off of the price reform in 1985 accelerated the development of the commodity economy. But market prices rose considerably. The general price indices for state purchases of farm and sideline products rose an average of 8.6 percent over the previous year. The general retail price index in 1985 increased 8.8 percent over 1984. Of these, the general retail price level, being influenced by the readjustment and decontrol of commodity retail prices for some farm and sideline products, rose 5.4 percent. The general retail price level, influenced by other factors, also went up by 3.4 percent. The general retail price index in the cities rose an average of 12.2 percent and 7 percent in the countryside. The price of fresh vegetables rose 34.5 percent; meat, poultry and eggs, 22 percent; aquatic products, 34.3 percent; fruit, 35.9 percent; grain, 10.9 percent; books, newspapers and magazines, 32.5 percent; and fuel, 4 percent. Retail prices for consumer goods such as garments, cultural and recreational goods increased slightly as well. The cost of living index for workers and staff went up 11.9 percent on the average over the previous year.

Sales of major means of production in 1985 all rose over the previous year. Coal sales increased 5.3 percent; rolled steel, 23.1 percent; and cement, 13.7 percent. With the gradual development in the reform of the material circulation system and with the expanding scope of market regulation, the number of capital goods trade centres increased from 96 in 1984 to 644 in 1985, and their business volume reached 10.5 billion yuan in 1985. The time for the turnover of fixed-quota circulating funds of the material supply departments was 64 days, four

days less than in 1984. But some contracts for capital goods supply were not fulfilled.

6. Foreign Trade and Tourism.

In 1985 China's import and export trade also expanded. According to customs statistics, the nation's 1985 total import and export value amounted to US\$69.62 billion, a 30 percent rise over 1984. Exports totalled US\$27.36 billion, 4.7 percent more than in the previous year; imports totalled US\$42.26 billion, up 54.2 percent.

A favourable balance was maintained in non-trade foreign exchange income and expenditure. In 1985 the nation's non-trade foreign exchange income stood at US\$5.1 billion; expenditure, at US\$1.61 billion; foreign exchange earnings were US\$3.49 billion greater than foreign exchange outlays.

More foreign capital was used in 1985. Last year the nation used US\$4.3 billion of foreign funds, 59.3 percent more than in 1984. This included US\$2.43 billion in loans, 88.4 percent more than in 1984; and US\$ 1.87 billion in direct foreign investment and commodity credit, a 31.7 percent increase.

Further advances were made in economic and technical co-operation with foreign countries. In 1985 China signed 794 contracts for overseas projects and labour service, altogether worth US\$1.19 billion. In the same year China also fulfilled contracts worth US\$890 million, a 43.5 percent increase over 1984.

The tourist industry also made great progress and in 1985 China attracted 17.83 million visitors from 164 countries and regions, 38.8 percent more than in 1984. Foreign exchange earned through tourism during the year amounted to US\$1.25 billion, up 10.5 percent over 1984.

7. Science, Education and Culture

Science and technology advanced amid reform, making fresh contributions to economic development in 1985. The nation's 40 key technological popularization projects yielded improved economic results. Most of the key research projects were fulfilled according to the requirements of the contracts. A total of 3,896 projects attained either all or a portion of their expected results. Of these, 3,165 projects also contributed to economic construction. Altogether 10,414 scientific and technological research results won prizes from State Council departments and local governments. Prize winners included 185 inventions and discoveries approved by the state.

The ranks of scientists and technicians also continued to swell. In 1985, 8.1 million natural science professionals and technicians were employed in state-owned enterprises, 630,000 more than in 1984. There were also 4.2 million people working in the social sciences, 410,000 more than in the previous year.

Education also benefited from structural reforms. Institutions of higher learning enrolled 47,000 postgraduates in 1985, 23,000 more than in the previous year. There were 87,000 postgraduates studying across the country, 30,000 more than in 1984, and 17,000 postgraduates completed their degrees. Universities and colleges enrolled 619,000 students in 1985, 144,000 more than in 1984, and had a total student body of 1.73 million, 370,000 more than in the previous year. Last year 316,000 students graduated from these institutions. Adult higher education institutions enrolled 788,000 students, 314,000 more than the year before. The number of students studying in these institutions totalled 1.725 million, 432,000 more than in 1984. Graduates from these schools totalled 347,000 last vear.

Secondary education structure underwent preliminary readjustments. Secondary schools had an enrolment of 51.683 million students, 2.441 million more than in 1984. Vocational and technical schools (equivalent to senior middle schools) had 4.165 million students, their proportion to the total number of senior middle school students increased from 32.3 percent in 1984 to 36 percent in 1985. There were 1.348 million students studying at adult secondary technical schools and 4.123 million at adult middle schools.

Progress was made in popularizing primary school education. In 1985 there were 133.7 million pupils in primary schools, and the attendance rate of pre-school children increased from 95 percent in 1984 to 95.9 percent in 1985. Considerable headway was made in pre-school education and programmes for the blind, deaf, mute and mentally retarded.

Cultural units and the media made significant contributions to developing socialist culture and ethics. Last year China produced 127 feature films, 17 fewer than the previous year; and 179 new fulllength films were released, two fewer than in 1984. The country had 182,000 cinemas and film projection teams, 3,319 performing art troupes, 3,029 cultural clubs, 2,356 public libraries, 719 museums and 3,006 archives. In addition, there were 215 broadcasting stations, 575 radio transmitting and relay stations; 204 television stations, and 507 television transmitting and relay stations each with a capacity of more than 1,000 watts. Some 18.69 billion copies of national and provincial newspapers, 2.5 billion copies of magazines and 6.65 billion books and picture books were published last year.

8. Public Health and Sports

Medical and health conditions steadily improved. The number of hospital beds in China reached 2.233 million at the end of 1985, an increase of 3.1 percent over the year before. Professional health workers numbered 3.413 million, up 2.1 percent from 1984. The total included 1.49 million doctors, of whom 725,000 were physicians practising traditional Chinese and Western medicine, a 2-percent increase; and 635,000 were nurses, up 3.1 percent.

Sports made new breakthroughs. China's athletes won 46 championships in world tournaments and world cup competitions in 1985, making it a record year. The athletes also broke nine, and topped five world records; they also broke 203 national records on 118 occasions. Last year 113 athletes won the title of world master athlete and sports became more popular all over the country.

9. Living Standards

Living standards in both the cities and the countryside improved in 1985. A sample survey showed an average annual per-capita net income of 397 yuan (including 355 yuan from productive activities and 42 yuan from cash and articles remitted or brought back by family members working away from home, and relief funds issued by the state), 42 yuan, or 11.8 percent, more than in the preceding year. If price hikes are factored in, real income increased 8.4 percent. A small number of low-income farmers, however, still led fairly difficult lives.

A sample survey of worker and staff families in cities and small towns showed an average annual per-capita income of 690 yuan for expenses; the average annual per-capita income of city dwellers was 752 yuan, a 23.8 percent increase over 1984. When price hikes are considered, the real per-capita income rose 10.6 percent.

In 1985 3.6 million people found jobs in urban areas. The nation had 122.96 million workers and staff members by the end of the year, 4.06 million more than at the end of 1984. Self-employed workers in the cities and towns totalled 4.52 million, 1.13 million more than at the end of the previous year. The annual wages of workers and staff⁴ in 1985 totalled 137 billion yuan, up 20.9 percent from 1984. The average annual cash wage for workers and staff was 1,142 yuan, 17.2-percent increase over the preceding year. The actual increase in the workers' wages stood at 4.7 percent when cost of living increases are factored in. However, owing to

considerable price increases, the actual income of a small number of workers dropped slightly.

Urban and rural savings deposits increased by a wide margin. By the end of 1985, individual bank savings amounted to 162.3 billion yuan, 33.6 percent more than the 1984 year-end figure.

Housing for both urban and rural dwellers improved. Houses completed by state-run and collective enterprises in cities and towns in 1985 totalled 130 million square metres in floor space; those built by farmers in the countryside totalled 700 million square metres.

Social welfare services continued to improve. In 1985 there were 28,000 social welfare institutes, providing for 380,000 people throughout the country. Urban and rural collectives provided for 2.25 million elderly, disabled and orphans who had no other means of support. Some of those people requiring government assistance managed to find other sources of income.

10. Population

According to a sample survey of 413 counties and cities in 29 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities, China's birth rate in 1985 was 17.8 per thousand, the mortality rate was 6.57 per thousand, and the natural growth rate stood at 11.23 per thousand. Sample surveys indicated that by the end of 1985 China had 1,046,390,000 people, 11,640,000 more than the 1984 year-end figure.

Note: All figures given in this communique are preliminary statistics and do not include Taiwan. The total output value, national income and gross domestic product listed here are calculated in terms of 1985 prices, and the rate of growth over the previous year is calculated from comparable prices.

Note I. Total product of society is the sum of the total output value of agriculture, industry, the building industry, communications and transportation, and commerce, including the supply and marketing of materials and equipment and the catering trade. National income is the sum of the net output value of the above-mentioned five material producing departments.

Note 2. Gross domestic product refers to the value of products and labour service used by society and supplied by material productive departments and non-material productive departments, not including the value of products and labour service consumed by intermediate units.

Note 3. Total rural product of society includes the gross output value of agriculture and the gross output value registered by collective and individually run rural industries, the building industry, transportation service and commerce.

Note 4. The total wages of workers and staff include price subsidies issued to workers and staff members.

Youths Are Vital to Reforms

"LIAO WANG"

(Outlook Weekly)

They are called the most unfortunate group of people in China: Born in the early 60s, when the country's economy suffered from natural and political calamities, they grew up during a period of political upheaval in the 70s and they are now going through a period of great change and adjustment in the 80s.

But in a sense, they are the fortunate ones, who may not only witness but participate in this decisive moment in history. What they are doing and are going to do will eventually shape the nation's future.

China's Communist Youth League last year conducted a series of surveys covering about 3,000 young people in 10 cities and provinces. Among those surveyed, 40 percent were factory workers and 33 percent college or middle school students. The central theme of the surveys was attitude towards the reforms going on across the nation.

In choosing answers to the question "What do the reforms mean to you?" about 34 percent of those surveyed in Shanghai selected the answer: "They have brought our country greater prosperity and the people higher living standards." Another 29 percent said the reforms meant "greater opportunities to realize our grand goals," while about 13 percent said the reforms meant "more income."

In Sichuan Province, 90.3 percent of the youths surveyed favoured the state policy of allowing some people to become prosperous first, and they also expressed their approval of ending the system whereby security was not linked to personal effort. Only 2.2 percent thought reforms were aimed at widening the gap

between comparatively rich and poor families. A final 4.4 percent selected the answer, "I do not care much for the reforms."

According to the surveys, most Chinese youths are steadfast in their opinions, although young people often are known to change their minds. China's young generation of the 80s are much more concerned with the country's reforms and the open policy than with fashions and dancing.

Past political instability has left deep wounds in the minds of millions of Chinese youths, who became disillusioned in the "cultural revolution." Because of this, the present revival of enthusiasm in politics and patriotism is a hopeful sign.

We interviewed three groups of young people from differing social backgrounds: college students, factory workers and private business owners.

College students are the most eager to get involved in the reforms. What they are concerned with is not whether China should open its doors to the outside world, but how. At Beijing University, a group of students majoring in economics felt that the most significant success in rural areas was that past mistakes and malpractices had been redressed. To a certain extent, they felt, the rural reforms had only just got started.

On the issue of China's pricing system, they said that it was no good having two figures—a planned price and a market price—operating together in the national economy. What is urgently needed is to set up a unified price market to allow all enterprises to compete on an equal basis.

Though their ideas and suggestions may seem naive to some, their eagerness to participate in the reforms shows they will be the backbone of China's modernization drive in the near future.

Factory workers said the reforms had encouraged them to acquire more knowledge and more technical know-how. Several young workers at the Beijing Iron and Steel Complex said they were most interested in social and work changes more than anything else. Above all, questions of the responsibility contract system and the price system were their main concern.

Across the nation, the desire to learn more is gaining momentum among young people. Workers are no exception; they spend most of their spare time reading, doing research or taking courses.

In spite of their misfortunes during the "cultural revolution," when most of this younger generation were denied any chance of furthering their education, today's youth are making up for the loss now by private study. As one survey of Shanghai youths indicated, further education topped the list of most young people's wishes, even before more housing and wage increases.

In Shanxi Province, about 59 percent of the young people surveyed said that they spent most of their spare time learning technical skills or raising their educational level.

The group most closely linked with the present reforms are private business owners. A 20-year-old beauty salon manager in Beijing said that he was most interested in changing hairstyles. Others said that they enjoyed working in private businesses and were happy with the challenges and opportunities that jobs like theirs could offer them. The only thing that might disturb them would be policy changes.

Xu Ting, a private tailor, who once worked as a costume designer with the China Dance and Opera Troupe, said: "What we are engaged in is beneficial to society, and we get what we deserve. Don't say we are moneyworshippers. What we are doing is contributing to the progress of the country, like the rest of you. We

Park Herein

also belong to this hopeful younger generation."

The general outlook of today's youth is optimistic. They have come to realize that the country's reforms are not short-lived, that they cannot be completed within a couple of years. They are, in fact, a part of the course of human progress and will leave their indelible mark on Chinese history.

To this end, many young people are making great progress, becoming factory directors and

managers, researchers, leaders and strategists. But a small proportion of them are still onlookers, waiting and hesitant, going their own way, taking nonchalant attitude towards the reforms.

For them, more reading and developing a stronger sense of responsibility is necessary. For the others, their interest will help to ensure the nation's modernization programme.

and the Shanghai Municipal Academy of Social Sciences, video films, and lectures on the diverse physiological and psychological changes of adolescence. According to a recent survey, 95 percent of the Shanghai students like the sex education programme, and 90 percent of the students' parents support such courses.

The decision to begin sex education was made after a survey among teenagers at reform schools found most of the girls ignored moral sex codes, in addition to their criminal offenses.

Having attended the sex education courses, students said they no longer found puberty mysterious or worrisome, and that they felt more enthusiastic and calmer about themselves.

Poor Areas Need Flexible Policies

"JINGJI RIBAO"

(Economic Daily)

ore drastic measures should be taken to lift China's poor rural areas out of poverty.

China's more destitute regions are its former revolutionary bases and the mountainous regions inhabited by minority ethnic groups.

The poorest areas where people are still short of food need particular attention. Development programmes should be worked out and funds allocated to such regions to help people gradually develop their available resources and improve their living standards. In the less dire areas, the government should enliven regional economies by supporting the development of forestry, animal husbandry, mining and local manufacturing.

Local authorities should also

arrange for the proper use of funds provided by the state for development. Technical knowhow and personnel should be supplied along with money. The money, including relief funds, should aim to enhance the vitality of the economy, a step necessary for the growth of production.

Government policies should be more flexible in the poor areas than elsewhere, and irrational restrictions should be removed. Provided the public ownership of land is maintained, businesses suited to local needs should be permitted. Forests, grasslands, water and other natural resources that the state is incapable of utilizing should be leased to local people. The private sale of local products should be allowed unless otherwise stipulated. Urban and more developed rural areas should also provide assistance to the poor regions.

Ranks of Female Students Low

"XINXI RIBAO" (Information Daily)

China has more than 3.5 million truant school-age girls, who claim a variety of reasons for staying out of school.

In 1984 the enrolments of boys and girls were 97 percent and 93 percent respectively. Female enrolment was particularly low in remote mountainous, the poverty-stricken regions and among the minority nationalities. About 2 million school-age girls in China's northwest and southwest regions, in Inner Mongolia and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region did not attend school.

The State Commission of Education has called on the education departments and the whole society to encourage girls to attend classes and to adopt strict measures to protect their rights to an education. The commission also suggested establishing education law that would outline punishments for people preventing girls from attending school.

Classes Unravel Mystery of Puberty

"ZHONGGUO FUNU BAO"

(Chinese Women News)

Boys in a Shanghai secondary school have stopped booing when girl students ask to skip physical education class involving difficult exercises because they are menstruating. Girls at the Baoshan No. 2 Secondary School no longer laugh at the cracking voices of adolescent boys.

These changes are the result of a sex education programme inaugurated at about 100 Shanghai secondary schools. The programme, which was launched in September 1985 in order to help students tackle "puberty problems," has since sponsored a book entitled *Puberty Education for Middle School Students* which was co-authored by the Shanghai Municipal Educational Bureau

World Bank Aids Modernization

During the 1986 fiscal year, the World Bank will issue loans of up to US\$1.2 billion to help fund 10 projects sponsored by China's railway, petroleum, hydropower, public health and agricultural departments. This amount will be an increase of US\$50 million over last year. The greater part of the loans, US\$750 million, bear the interest at 8.5 percent, while the remaining US\$450 million are "soft" loans that charge no interest except for small service charges. David Pearce, the World Bank's deputy representative to China, told Beijing Review earlier this month that two of the 10 projects had already been approved by his board of directors, and that the other eight were still under negotiation with the Chinese government.

The World Bank established ties with China in 1980. It set up a representative office in Beijing in October 1985. During China's Sixth Five-Year Plan period (1981-85), it provided US\$3 billion to 30 projects in agriculture, energy, education, public health, transport and science and technology in China. The World Bank loans had the most favourable terms of any loans China received from international organizations.

Pearce said the Chinese government had repeatedly expressed its wish to have even more loans from the World Bank during the Seventh Five-Year Plan period, and that the World Bank shared the desire. It currently releases to all countries loans of around US\$11 billion every year. The loans given to China in the next five years will double or triple the amount of loans given in the last five years.

Officials at China's Finance Ministry consider the World Bank loans more favourable than loans from other commercial banks at the 8.5 percent interest rate and with a repayment period of 20-50

years. At the same time, the recipient country receives a so-called "soft" loan from the International Development Association, to be paid back in 50 years with a grace period of 20 years.

In addition, the World Bank will make feasibility studies prior to its approval of a project, and furnish advice and proposals. An evaluation also will be given at the completion of a project. This kind of free technical assistance, not available from other commercial banks, is essential to China for making good use of its foreign loans.

Pearce said he was fully confident in China's ability to return the loans. Since 1980, China has been accepting more and more foreign loans, he said. However, the amount is still too small for such a large country, one that has earned a good reputation internationally for prompt repayment of its loans.

Imports and Exports Decline

According to Customs' statistics, China's foreign trade in January 1986 amounted to US\$4.14 billion, representing a drop of 5.6 percent against the corresponding period of 1985. Exports during the month came to US\$1.85 billion, or 0.8 percent less, and imports were US\$2.29 billion, 9.1 percent less.

China registered US\$1.19 billion in trade with Japan in January, marking a loss of 13.6 percent; with Hongkong and Macao, US\$850 million, up 0.9 percent; with the European Economic Community, US\$530 million, a gain of 16.3 percent; and with the United States, US\$470 million, an increase of 1.8 percent. Trade with the six ASEAN countries, the Soviet Union. Canada and Australia fell, while that with the five East European Brazil rose and countries considerably.

Among the major commodities, exports of corn, cotton, cotton cloth, cashmere and garments increased, while that of tea, canned food, petroleum products and carpets dropped.

Imports of synthetic fibre filament, cotton yarn, wool, iron ore, paper and cardboard, rolled steel aluminum and aluminum alloy, and machine tools increased. Those of wheat, timber, synthetic fibre for the textile industry, TV sets, tape and video recorders and automobiles decreased.

Textile Exhibit Held in Beijing

The international textile exhibition held in Beijing from March 13 to 19 was participated in by 300 firms from Hongkong and 13 countries, including the Federal Germany, Italy, Japan, Britain, Spain, Belgium, Austria, the States and France. United Occupying 22,000 square metres, the exhibition was the largest ever held in New China. In it were displayed 500 pieces of equipment for producing cotton cloth, chemical fibres, knitwear, embroidery and garments, as well as for printing, dyeing and testing instruments and dyeing agents.

The representatives also attended symposia conducted by Chinese and foreign textile specialists during the exhibition.

Though the Chinese textile industry has a long history, many aspects of its technology lag far behind world levels. Since the imported China has 1960s. machinery worth US\$3 billion for spinning, printing and dyeing, and weaving. Its 1985 outputs of cotton cloth, which came to 14.3 billion metres, and cotton yarn, 3.51 million tons, were the highest in the world. However, China's annual per capita fibre consumption is as low as 4.1 kg., and its textile varieties are limited, while quality is not guaranteed.

During the Seventh Five-Year Plan period (1986-90). China will rely on its own equipment to develop its textile industry, while importing a limited number of advanced technologies. At present, negotiations are under way between China and Czechoslovakia, the Federal Germany and Japan on technical cooperation and import of production equipment. A number of contracts have already been signed. More than 20 textile enterprises run jointly by Chinese and foreign businesses have already been commissioned.

The recent exhibition was helpful for Chinese engineers and technicians in learning about advanced technologies that may be applied in updating Chinese enterprises.

Chinese Oil Workers In Iraq

Though of smaller build and height, the Chinese are good workers." This comment was bestowed on the Chinese drill team of the China Petroleum Engineering Construction Corp.

by officials of the southern Iraq oilfields.

The 56 Chinese arrived in Iraq in March 1985. As of February, they had completed four oil wells. The obtained drilling speed doubled that of the other teams in the oilfields. After checking the wells, a Romanian expert said that the Chinese wells were the best in the area.

China is among the 10 largest oil nations in terms of deposits and output. Development of foreign markets is now on the agenda of the oilfield construction departments. They will begin with Southeast Asia. Chen Qingwang, CPECC vice manager, told Beijing Review that his company has already contacted Indian departments concerned about contracts for petroleum engineering projects.

News in Brief

■ The China National Textiles Import and Export Corp. sponsored a Chinese costume exhibition from March 18-26 in Tokyo and Osaka, Japan. Designed and produced in nine of China's provinces and municipalities, the 300 exhibits showed both the traditional Chinese and contemporary garments.

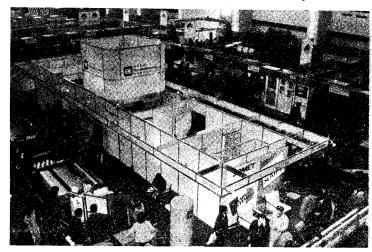
About 130 dresses were displayed at the fashion shows given during the exhibition.

• On March 6, China ordered 1,002 refrigerator cars worth 300 million Swiss francs from the German Democratic Republic, in accordance with the 1986-1990 trade agreement signed between the two countries. The GDR will also transfer to China the technical knowhow for producing refrigerator cars and systems.

The Chinese government hopes that this agreement, which is the largest credit transaction under the Sino-German trade agreement, will boost rail transportation in China significantly.

A protocol for educational cooperation between China and the Yemen Arab Republic from 1986 to 1990 was signed in Sanaa on February 23. Under the agreement China will provide the country with 1 million yuan (over US\$300,000) worth of teaching equipment for its technical secondary schools.

A view of the textile exhibition; visitors study an embroidery machine.





TV DOCUMENTARY

'One World' Series Open New Vistas

We admire your interviewing style. It is not only natural but packed with emotion. You have opened a window through which we can see and understand many facets of life outside our country." This is what two students from Beijing University told Yue-Sai Kan about their impressions of One World. It was early March, and they had just watched the series' first item—New York.

For the first time in her six months of hard work, Yue-Sai Kan felt relaxed. She went to see the doctor and then had a press conference in her room in Jianguo Hotel. She told me how happy she was to find that the Chinese audience appreciate her documentaries.

"China has been closed to the world for so long that people want to know about everything outside, history, traditions, trends, fashions, what not," Kan said.

Yue-Sai Kan, 37-year-old Chinese-born but a naturalized American, is the first outsider to produce a television series for China, as well as the first foreigner to appear on screen as host. Her programme *One World* began on February 23, targeted to an audience of approximately 300 million.

TV programmes produced outside of China are often translated and re-edited on the CCTV since they were not originally produced for the Chinese—with their interests, tastes and needs in mind.

One World, a bi-weekly 15-minute compendium of facts and sights from across the globe, is a series aired twice each Sunday, first in English, the second time in Chinese, for an entire year.

"Miss Kan speaks Chinese so beautifully that I don't believe she is an American," an old woman

exclaimed when watching the programme.

The show features on a wide range of subjects from all over the world—politics, business, art, music, customs, lifestyles, scenic spots and interesting people—aimed at informing and entertaining the Chinese people.

One World has been filmed in Egypt, Greece, France, Italy, Singapore, Thailand, Hongkong and various places in the United States. And Kan is planning to go to Malaysia, Venezuela, Brazil, Argentina, Austria and England in the near future.

"I am sure the Chinese audience will find *One World* informative. Thanks to China's open policy, I can succeed," Kan pointed out, "I'd like to take a sentence from you at the *Beijing Review*: I am lucky for I am part of the better times of China. By this I mean things are going well in China. I am very proud as an overseas Chinese."

Kan was born in China's Guilin city in 1949. Her family moved to Hongkong in the same year, later to the United States. After completing her education at Brigham Young University, at the Hawaii campus, she started an import-export business, Caijin Inc. Afterwards she entered the broadcasting field as an anchorinterviewer for a friend's Chinese cable station. In 1980, with the profits from Caijin and her new video skills, she launched her own Looking East. a TV show panorama for American audiences, broadcast in English, of the sights and cultures of Asia with the producer herself acting as anchorwoman on the air.

"Money is not everything. I wish I could contribute a bit to the society, and find my position in



the world," Kan explained why she changed course.

In 1984, when Miss Kan visited China as the executive producer and host of the American TV series Looking East, which gave her international fame, Hu Qili, a member of the Political Bureau of Central Committee of CPC, granted her an interview and suggested she include China as part of Looking East.

In 1985 Kan led her working team to China again to film more than 10 programmes on the country, including the Longhua Hospital in Shanghai, the traditional courtyards in Beijing, Beijing University and the former residence of Chairman Mao in Zhongnanhai.

When she came to China once again, Hu Qili met her with three ministers, Zhu Houze, minister of Propaganda of the CPC Central Committee, Ai Zhisheng, minister of radio, film and television, and Han Kehua, director of the State Bureau of Tourism. They watched her programmes with great interest.

There followed the contract for *One World* with CCTV.

"Some Western journalists asked me whether *One World* has been revised and abridged by the Chinese Government," Kan said,

"I said 'No.' In fact, I did whatever I like. Nothing has been rejected or forbidden. This is China today!"

By now, Kan has produced two TV series, one about the East, the other West. What she wants is to build a bridge between the two.

by Zhang Wei

Hong Kong Band Warmly Received

When the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra completed its concerts last February in Beijing, the audiences stood as one and gave them a thundering ovation. Not until they had responded with four encores—a rare number in Beijing—were they released from the stage.

Kenneth Schermerhorn, the 56year-old conductor of orchestra, said he and other musicians were extremely im-

pressed by the warm reception. "It shows real enthusiasm for Western music," he said.

First on the Hong Kong orchestra's programme, was the Overture by Richard Tsang. The work successfully combines contemporary Western technique and traditional Chinese spirit. Through the consummate playing of the orchestra, one could easily feel the agitating, and somewhat melancholy flow of the music.

Schermerhorn maintains tight control over his troupe and can bring all sections into full play. His charisma may have been best exemplified in his approach to Brahms' Second Symphony and

Tchaikovsky's Fifth. The warmth. pastoral beauty, humour and cheerfulness in the former and the breath-taking intensity in the latter were very impressive.

Li Jian, the Shanghai-born pianist, played Beethoven's Third Concerto with simple, crystal-like clarity and spontaneity. He kept the tempo under reins even in the fast parts.

Violinist Stephanie Chase's playing of the Symphonie Espagnole by Lalo was firm and reassuring with its rhythmic verve. The orchestra's accompaniment was crisp. Her phrasing was clean and sweet and her attack in the last rondo was brilliant.







Fu Zuguang, a Golden Phoenix Prize winner, of Tujia nationality; Tibetan singer Zongyong Zhouma, a Golden Phoenix Prize winner: Lan Tingju of Miao nationality also wins a Golden Phoenix Prize.

Minority Nationality Vocal Competition

A vocal music competition of young minority singers, the first of its kind, was held last December in Beijing.

Most of China's 55 national minorities love to sing, and it has become a part of their everyday

with every nationality, are always enchanting. Many sing while they are farming, herding cattle, or even when they are choosing their spouses.

Most of the singers, especially the prize-winners, have gone through rigorous training in music conservatories and while retaining the special features of their own nationality, they also have adopted singing techniques. Even those lives. Their songs, which differ who have not attended music school or had formal training capture their audiences with their natural and simple renditions.

A tenor and a soprano prize winners are from Tujia nationality of Hunan and Hubei provinces. Thirty-four-year-old Fu Zuguang. a Golden Phoenix Prize winner took the highest point of 94 by the judging committee for his tenor talents. Soprano Yang Shuguang is the winner of the Skylark Prize.

Efforts to Boost Booters Abilities

After China's national football team lost to Hongkong last May in the World Cup preliminaries, China's football fans began to wonder whether the team would ever amount to anything. People want to know why China's football lags so far behind its volleyball, table tennis, basketball and badminton, all of which have held their own, or as in the case of volleyball, and table tennis have reached international fame.

China's football experts gathered last November in Nanjing, the capital of Jiangsu Province, to study the reasons for Chinese football's shortcomings and to devise a plan for its development.

One of the major reasons for the inferiority of China's football, the experts said, was the lack of football fields across the country. Although the government has earmarked considerable funds over the past 35 years for building dozens of football fields for provincial- and municipal-level adult teams, there are still too few fields available to young people. For example, football fields are found only in a few of the country's capital Beijing's more than 300 middle schools. The inadequacy of the facilities provides fewer chances youngsters to nurture their interests in football and to develop good skills in this field. Therefore, when the national team goes scouting for new players, they often find none.

The lack of competent coaches to cope with the ever-changing world football trend has also contributed to the poor performance of China's football teams and their slow improvement. Today only 300 football coaches are among the top three grades, a system set by the state. Furthermore, more than 95 percent of

these coaches are weak in theoretical training, though they are for the most part experienced and enterprising.

Another reason is the lack of consensus among the coaches on strategy and approaches to the game. One group holds that Chinese football players should follow the European lead in emphasizing strength. The other prefers the Latin American tactic of "technique," since Chinese players are smaller than the Europeans, and their characteristics more or less similar to the Brazilians. This no doubt poses difficulty to the forming of the style of Chinese teams.

And finally, the experts said, the lack of training also contributes to the mediocrity of football in China. Only 20 of China's 200 provincial- or municipal-level

teams are today guaranteed 280 days a year for training or tournament play. If more teams can be given the time for training and the quality of training be raised, some experts predicted that there will be eye-catching improvement in the level of Chinese football playing.

The seminar participants outlined a number of measures that have been taken in order to boost the level of play in China. Great attention, they said, has been given to young players and to improving the training of national, provincial and municipal teams. Today more than 100 teams of teenagers have been started across the country, they said, and regular nation-wide tournaments have been arranged for them to play in. There are 400 non-professional teenager teams from China's 20 "football cities,"

China's youth soccer team finished the first in the Beijing competition area during the U-16 Kodak Cup World Championship last year.





LILI ZHENDLIC

Members of China's national soccer team, Lu Hongxiang (left) and Wei Kexing in training.

which include Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjin, Guangzhou, Dalian and Qingdao. In addition, soccer classes have been opened in sparetime physical culture schools in many cities. In Beijing, Guangzhou, Qingdao and Dalian, even soccer secondary vocational schools and soccer kindergartens have been opened.

Thanks to the efforts devoted to the younger players, China's youth football team finished among the top eight teams by defeating the Bolivian, American and Guinean teams in the First International Football Association U-16 Kodak Cup World Tournament held in China last August. In September 1985, China's youth team also squeezed into the top eight by beating England's and Paraguayan teams in the World Youth Soccer Tournament.

The economic reform has also had a positive effect on China's football. With control of some of their financies, a large number of factories and enterprises are now economically strong enough to

sponsor or donate to football teams. In the past year, 15 of China's 16 A-grade teams signed contracts with businesses for several millions of yuan each year—this figure is much higher than the amount provided yearly by the state for such teams. Many entrepreneurs also now sponsor large-scale domestic and international tournaments, providing China's teams with necessary experience and chances to swap experiences with other players and at the same time alleviating the state of some of the economic burden.

Sending coaches and teams abroad is another measure adopted to improve football in China, as the world's football movement has grown at a rather quick pace. The tactics of and strategy in playing are being perfected by the amalgamation of the Latin American type and the European way of playing. The tactic of both attacking and defence has evolved to be the main trend to replace the purely defensive way of handling. To

cater to this trend, China will send several teams abroad to compete in Latin America and Europe. Dalian, Liaoning Province, will send its first teenager team to the Federal Republic of Germany for long-term training. Also, through the International Football Association, China has invited several first-rate coaches from Brazil, Argentina and Poland to conduct classes for Chinese coaches. A head coach responsibility system is also in the workings and is intended to contribute to improve the quality of coaching.

The China State Physical Culture and Sports Commission declared in February 1986 that two national teams will be set up. One will be called the red team and be staffed with the original national team which is being coached by the deputy director of the Training Bureau of the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission. The other will be known as the yellow team and will be composed largely of the twotime national champion Liaoning team. It is hoped that the twoteam system will sharpen the competitive skills. In the future only the outstanding players from these two teams will be picked to participate in world tournaments.



MARCH 24, 1986

Chinese Cultural Series Published

The Shanghai People's Publishing House recently announced that the first of the 100 volumes of the *Chinese Cultural History Series* (in Chinese) are now being printed and will be available in bookstores in China soon. The publisher also announced plans for English versions of parts of the series.

To compile the series, an editorial board of scholars and specialists was formed under the direction of Zhou Gucheng, a distinguished Chinese historian. Pang Pu, a member of the Chinese editing committee for *The Anthropology and the History of Cultural Development* published by the UNESCO, serves as the board's executive liaison and Professor Frederic Wakeman from the University of California, USA, was invited as its consulting editor for the English version of the series.

China's rich and diverse culture has contributed a great deal to human civilization. The publication of this series not only serves to illuminate the study of Chinese culture, but is also a boost to comparative studies of Chinese and Western cultures.

Employing the academic techniques in this field learned since the founding of New China in 1949, the series sums up the developments of Chinese culture and the cultural exchanges between China and other countries. The series gives a comprehensive portrait of Chinese culture through its inclusion of descriptions of local culture, minority culture, cultural relics and archaeological finds, ancient scientific research and handicrafts, all of which are described with their various thoughts and doctrines, languages, arts and literature, sports and martial arts.

So far three books of the series

— The History of Chinese and
Western Cultural Exchanges by

Shen Fuwei, The Study of Inscriptions on Tortoise Shells by Wu Haokun and Pan You, and The Art of Chinese Painted Pottery by Zheng Wei - have been published. All were recently acclaimed at the First International Symposium on Chinese Culture held in Beijing. Ten other books of the series, including Zen and Chinese Culture by Ge Zhaoguang and The History of China's Weaving and Dyeing Industry by Tian Zibing, will be published in 1986. The publication of the series is planned to be completed in 10 years.

Ming Yuan

The Land Inhabited by the Dai People

This is a pictorial in English and Japanese about Xishuangbanna on the southwestern border of China, an area renowned for its lush landscape, mild climate and its hospitable residents, the Dais. With 193 colour pictures and captions, the pictorial, which was published at the beginning of this year, portrays the life of the Dai people, their bamboo houses, their food, the Water-Sprinkling Festival, the local marriage customs, religious beliefs and beautiful environment.

Mail order: P.O. Box 399 Beijing, China.

China Handbook: Literature and Art

Published in early 1986 by the Foreign Languages Press, *Literature and Art* (in German) is one of the books in *The China Handbook* series, and provides detailed material about recent prizewinning novels and short stories and their authors. With statistics

and abundant background material, the book also describes the history and development of China's dramas, movies, arts and crafts, music, dance, acrobatics and local operas.

Literature and Art would be a useful reference tool for those interested in understanding China's cultural progress.

Selected Works of Lu Xun (Vol.III)

As a thinker and political commentator, Lu Xun used his pen as a weapon against reactionary forces. His essays, of which those compiled here date from 1928 to 1933, were an important component of his work. In them Lu Xun attacks the Kuomintang suppression of patriots and democrats in the 1930s. With his skillful writing method, Lu also exposes and criticizes the backwardness of the society.

Volume III, which was published in late 1985, has also been translated into French.

Collected Works of Zhang Tianyi

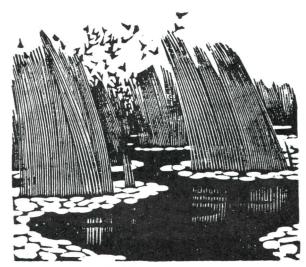
Zhang Tianyi was born in Nanjing in 1906 into a Hunan family and began to write in the twenties. He produced almost 100 stories and 12 collections of fiction between 1928 and 1938 and was praised by Lu Xun, Mao Dun and Qu Qiubai.

The present Collected Works of Zhang Tianyi, published by Shanghai New Literature and Art Publishing House, has four volumes of short stories, two of novels, two of fables and two of criticism and miscellanea.





Hills.



A Deserted Pond.



A Small Railway Station.



Fishing Boats.

ART PAGE

Woodcuts By Xu Bing

Xu Bing, born in 1955 in Chongqing, Sichuan Province, is a postgraduate in the graphic art department of the Central Academy of Fine Arts.

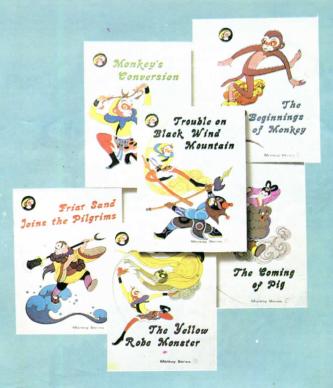


A Mountain Area.

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