

A CHINESE WEEKLY OF NEWS AND VIEWS

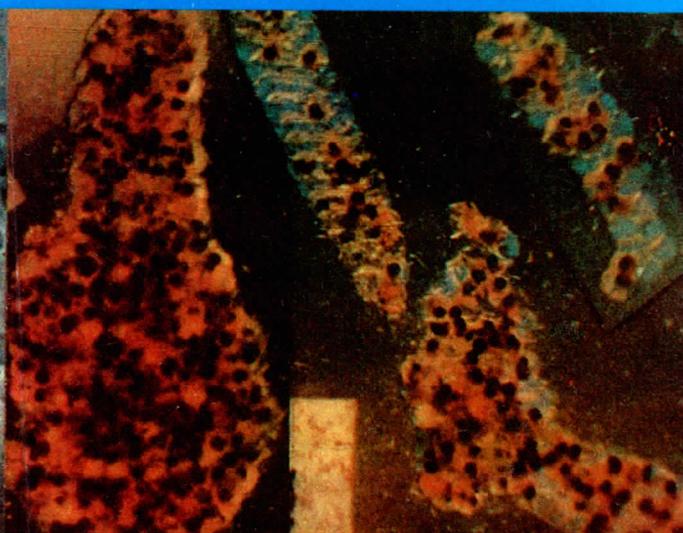
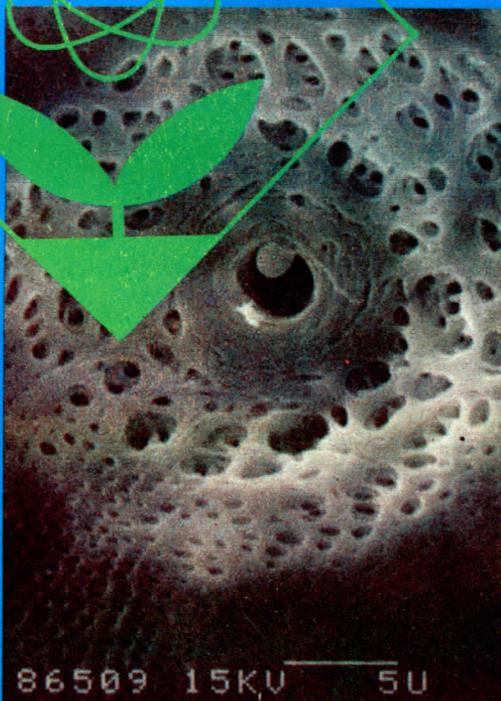
Beijing Review

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All Ready for XI Asian Games



NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY IN AGRICULTURE





A trip to the dragon's native place.

Photo by Liu Jia



Beijing Ready for the Asian Games

□ The Asiad Village, after four years of arduous yet elaborate preparation, now stands ready to welcome athletes from all Asia. Beijing hotels will provide top-notch services. Have the athletes prepared as well for the competition? An analysis of the warm-up exercises by the Asiad member countries provide some hints (p. 10).

Nuclear Technology Boosts Agriculture

□ With the application and comprehensive research of nuclear science for agricultural use, China leads the world in the promotion of such technology to improve crop variety, prevent insect and pest infestation and extend the shelf-life of fresh foods (p. 24).

Chinese and Soviet Foreign Ministers Conclude Talks

□ During the recent Sino-Soviet foreign ministers' talks, the two sides called for a political settlement of the Gulf crisis by peaceful means and stressed that the solution to the Cambodian question is at the decisive stage (p. 8).

The Basis of the Chinese Legal System

□ This article explains how Chinese laws are formulated, the reasons why they are in accordance with the national conditions and the wishes of the people and the ways in which public opinion is gathered during the legislative process (p. 19).

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COVER: China has made a lot of progress in agriculture by using nuclear technology. *Top Left:* the micropylar region of a silver carp egg under SEM observation. *Top Right:* eggs of irradiated corn borers: sterile eggs (left) and semisterile eggs (right). *Bottom Left:* a selected strain of good quality flammulina relutips. *Bottom Right:* an autoradiograph of 3H-DNA in a wheat zygotic cell. The symbol in the left corner stands for the Energetic Applied Research Institute under the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Science.

Photos by Nong Yuansuo

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Jiang Stresses National Unity

The Chinese Communist Party chief Jiang Zemin reiterated the importance of unity among all nationalities and regions, and between the army and local governments during his inspection tour of the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region from August 22 to September 1.

Unity and mutual support should be stressed in the big family of the Chinese Nation, he said. As long as people of all nationalities in China, under the leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC), are united for a common objective and share weal and woe, the China will remain stable, he added.

During the tour, Jiang, together with Yang Baibing, secretary-general of the Central Military Commission of the Party Central Committee, visited a number of factories, rural and pastoral areas, oilfields and

army units.

Jiang said that people in Xinjiang, as well as in other parts of China, hope for stability, unity, development and prosperity of China. With this as a common will, all difficulties will be overcome, he said.

At a discussion session with local leaders, the general secretary stressed the importance of adhering to the Party's leadership. He said, because China has a strong proletarian party the country has weathered all types of difficulties and remains powerful in the East. Only under the leadership of the CPC will China's reform and open policy proceed along the socialist road.

Jiang urged local leaders to persist with the Marxist views on nationality and religion and to promote mutual dependence among all nationalities.

When talking with local farmers and herdsmen, Jiang said

that the household contract responsibility system has greatly stimulated farmers' enthusiasm and energized productivity and consequently should be continued in the future.

However, he said, the system should continuously be developed and improved. Where conditions permit, more intensive farming and socialized services may be introduced so as to solve problems that individual households maybe unable to tackle, Jiang said.

When inspecting army units in the region, Jiang told officers and soldiers there to heighten their political consciousness and to carry forward the fine traditions of the Army. He also urged them to play an active part in supporting and participating in the construction of Xinjiang which will contribute to the prosperity of the region.

Jiang said that Xinjiang should be developed into a production base for cotton, grain, sugar and animal husbandry. Communications, energy, and especially petroleum, natural gas, and the petrochemical industry should be given high priority.

The general secretary called on local governments to attach great importance to the training of ethnic minority leaders and give full scope to their role.

Leading officials at all levels should devote more time to the study of Marxist theory and works of Mao Zedong and Deng Xiaoping, build a clean government and share weal and woe with the masses of the people, Jiang said. ■

Jiang Zemin (in the middle) chitchatting with an old man of the Uygur nationality during his inspection tour of Xinjiang.



Shanghai Maps Out Pudong's Future

Shanghai is ready to substantially begin her next century with the blueprinted ambition of developing the Pudong. The metropolis will soon open a free zone at Waigaoqiao and prepare for a new thoroughfare lined with financial and commercial institutions at Lujiazui facing the Bund across the Huangpu River. Prospective investors and constructors will find their opportunity and fortune in Pudong, protected by a series of concisely specified policies and rules. This message was confirmed at a press conference held in Shanghai on September 10, 1990.

Yang Changji, director of the Pudong Development Office under the municipal government, presided over the conference. About 300 people, including a large group of national and international journalists, leading officials from the city's different authorities concerned and foreign consultants and business representatives in Shanghai, attended the conference at the invitation of the local government.

At the conference, a total of nine documents concerning official policies and legal regulations were announced. The guidelines of these policies encourage investors to begin to invest in the three development zones which were also announced at the conference.

Of the three free zones, Waigaoqiao will very likely be the most attractive target for those who are interested in such tax-free businesses as *entrepot* trade, storage, processing, and packaging. The free zone holds the promise of becoming the first of its kind on China's mainland.

International banks or other

financial institutions, as well as retail dealers, will want to choose the planned new "Waitan" (the Bund) at Lujiazui, where they will be allowed for the first time to establish their China branches. In the future, new high-rise buildings of banks, avenues flanked by large shops and super-markets will shape the skyline of the Lujiazui zone along the Huangpu — Shanghai's translation of the Thames or Seine.

The third zone is a light industrial processing zone located in the Qingningsi-Jinqiao District, one of five major districts to appear on the landscape of Pudong. To date, three development companies have been established under the Pudong Development Office to provide services to the three particular zones.

From May through August, in the name of municipal government and with co-operation from the local and central authorities concerned, Yang Changji's Development Office drafted the nine documents. The central and local authorities have both confirmed and approved these documents.

Huang Ju, vice-mayor of Shanghai, announced the promulgation of six of the nine documents, which were administered by the central government, on the basis of the 10 principal preferential policies governing investment in Pudong. Vice-Mayor Huang interpreted the major purposes of the six legal documents. The detailed rules and policies are designed not only to encourage overseas investment in Pudong with highly-favourable terms, but also to provide a clear-cut investment guide to industries and create an effective legal environment for the establishment and operation of foreign-invested ventures in Pudong.

Several high-ranking officials from Beijing, attended the press

conference — evidence of the central government's concern and confidence in this project. Deputy Director Chen Yuan of the People's Bank of China, announced a package of policies involving the operation of foreign banks in the Pudong zone. Dai Jie, chief of the General Customs Administration of China, explained the regulations pertaining to the customs procedures for the Waigaoqiao Free Zone. Vice-Minister of Finance Xiang Huaicheng announced policies concerning taxation.

In addition, He Chunlin, deputy secretary-general of the State Council, spoke highly of the efforts of the local government to open the Pudong to the outside world and stressed the significance of the epoch-making project. He also pledged support and backing from the central government. Along with the above-mentioned Beijing officials, Mayor Zhu Rongji answered questions from Chinese and foreign journalists.

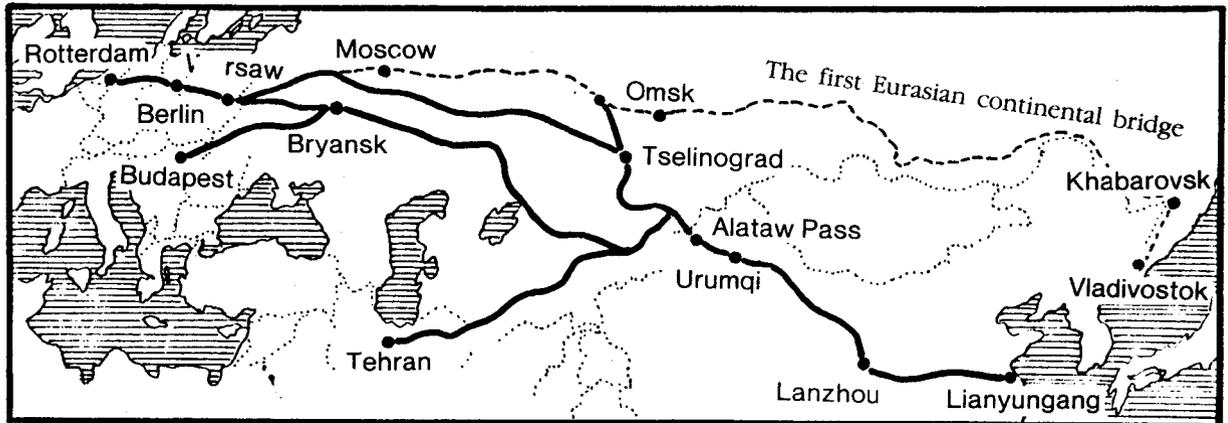
Beijing Review will continue to report on the detailed contents of the documents announced at the press conference, along with the mayor's answers to the questions raised by the journalists, and the latest achievements in developing the Pudong.

by Dai Gang

Asiad Participants: A Record Number

A record number of athletes and officials from 37 countries and regions will attend the 11th Asian Games in Beijing, the Asiad Organizing Committee (BAGOC) announced at a news conference on September 4. The number of entrants hit a total of 6,478 by Au-

Map of the New Eurasian Continental Bridge



gust 22, the final deadline for entry.

Of the 38 member organizations of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) Palestine was the only member that failed to meet the deadline.

"The delay is probably because of normal mail routes being somehow blocked, due to the Gulf crisis," said Wu Zhongyuan, spokesman for the organizing committee. "Palestine normally submits its entries by way of Kuwait," Wu explained.

If the delay is caused by factors "beyond human control," Wu said, the committee will consider Palestine's entrance in accordance with the OCA rules. Palestine entered more than 50 athletes for five medal events last June.

China and Japan will send the two largest delegations, with 838 and 722 members respectively. The two countries will compete in all 27 medal events and two demonstration events.

Wu said to date the names of 5,912 entrants from 31 countries and regions have been fed into the computers. The names of athletes from Kuwait, Yemen, Afghanistan, India, Libanon and Iraq will be fed into the computer network after further investigation of the athletes' ID code numbers and clarification of

some minor points in their paperwork.

He said Kuwait had sent applications via telex from Saudi Arabia and will attend the Games as a sovereign state since it is a member of the OCA.

Wu pointed out that the Gulf crisis will have some influences upon the 11th Asiad, but it will not cause any large-scale problems. ■

New Railway Spans Asia, Europe

Thousands of people in Urumqi, capital of the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, attended a grand ceremony on September 1 marking the opening of the newly-built 460-km railway between the capital city and the Alataw Pass on the Sino-Soviet border.

Party's General Secretary Jiang Zemin, who was on an inspection tour in Xinjiang, cut the opening ceremonial ribbon for the occasion.

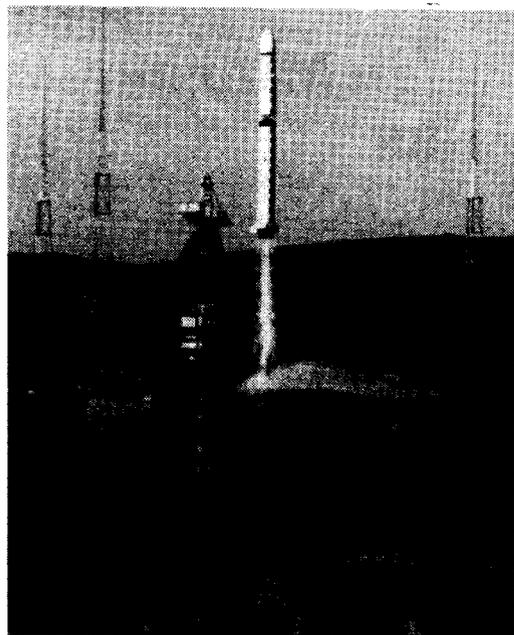
As part of the new Eurasian continental "bridge" (see map), the railway this month will link with a network in the Soviet

Union. Once connected, the "bridge," or the international railway, will stretch from the port city Lianyungang in east China through Jiangsu, Anhui, Henan, Shaanxi, Gansu and Xinjiang to Rotterdam in the Netherlands via the Soviet Union, Poland and East and West Germany. It covers a total distance of about 10,800 km, including the Lanzhou-Lianyungang and the Lanzhou-Urumqi lines, two major railways in China which extend a total of more than 4,100 km.

Construction of the Urumqi-Alataw railway began on May 1, 1985. Over the years, the Chinese government invested several billion yuan into the large-scale renovation and reconstruction of double-track section from Xuzhou to Baoji covering a length of 1,100 km, the electrification project along the line from Zhengzhou to Wuwei and the use of internal combustion engines for the railway section from Wuwei to Urumqi. All these projects have assisted in increasing the railway transportation capability by 50 to 100 percent.

It is reported that the government will continue to invest an additional six billion yuan over the next five years to further increase the railway's capability.

Li Senmao, minister of rail-



The second "Fengyun 1" meteorological satellite, carried by the "Long March 4" rocket, lifts off into space from its launching pad in Taiyuan.

Another Weather Satellite Launched

China successfully launched its second "Fengyun 1" experimental meteorological satellite from a launching pad in Taiyuan in northern China's Shanxi Province at 9:53 hours (Beijing daylight saving time) on September 3.

After the "Long March 4" carrier rocket sent the satellite into the planned sun-synchronous orbit, the Satellite Tracking and Controlling Centre in Xian, capital of Shaanxi Province, began monitoring the satellite. All systems are in perfect working condition.

At 13:14 hours the Satellite Ground Station in Urumqi, capital of northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, received the satellite's first high resolution visual cloud chart. The satellite is capable of transmitting weather and climate data to all countries equipped with ground receiving stations.

Two balloon satellites belonging to the Chinese Academy of Sciences were simultaneously launched into their designated orbits from the same carrier for the purpose of atmospheric exploration. ■

ways, stated in his speech at the opening ceremony that the construction of the Urumqi-Alataw railway is significant to the economic development and the open door policy of northwest China and the entire country. He said that the new Eurasian continental "bridge" will become a convenient international transportation passageway, beneficial to promoting international economy and cultural exchanges.

The prospects of the "bridge" have aroused the interest of many business people from a variety of countries and regions. Beginning this year, Japan, Singapore and others have repeatedly sent representatives to Lianyungang to investigate and inspect the port and the "bridge" in order to judge investments in joint transportation ventures with China. Business people from Italy, the United States and Australia also hope to make use of this "bridge" sometime in future. ■

Li Peng Meets Iraqi Official

China is deeply concerned about the turbulent Gulf situation and sincerely hopes that the Gulf crisis will be justly solved as early as possible within the scope of the Arab nations and on the basis of the United Nations Security Council resolutions, Chinese Premier Li Peng stated in Beijing on September 7.

At a meeting with Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan, Li said China believes negotiations should be conducted within the framework of the UN Security Council resolutions.

Li said China hopes Iraq will respond to the mediation efforts by Arab countries and international appeals, support the mediation by the UN secretary-general, withdraw its troops from Kuwait unconditionally and

solve disputes through negotiations as soon as possible.

During the meeting, Ramadan briefed Li on the current situation in the Gulf and Iraq's stand. Li elaborated on China's position on the Gulf crisis.

Li said the Chinese government always holds that relations among countries should be based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, which state that each country's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity should be fully respected and countries should solve their disputes through peaceful, political ways without the use of force.

The Chinese premier said it was proceeding from the above position and because of its concern for peace in the Gulf that China voted for the UN Security Council resolutions. At the same time, China is opposed to the big powers' military involvement in the area, which further deteriorates and complicates the situation. ■

Chinese and Soviet Foreign Ministers Conclude Talks

Recently, Chinese and Soviet foreign ministers held working talks. The Chinese Foreign Ministry on September 2 issued a comprehensive news release pertaining to the talks. The following are excerpts.—Ed.

Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and his Soviet counterpart Eduard Shevardnadze held talks on September 1, 1990 in the Chinese city of Harbin.

While in Harbin, Shevardnadze met with Shao Qihui, Governor of Heilongjiang Province, and Zhou Wenhua, Vice-Secretary of the Heilongjiang Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of China.

The two ministers' talks were a part of in-depth dialogues between China and the Soviet Union concerning the most important current international issues. The two sides analysed the situation in the Gulf region, exchanged views on the Asia-Pacific region, the Cambodian question, the Afghanistan issue, the situation in the Korean Peninsula and in Europe as well as the issue of German unification, and discussed Sino-Soviet relations.

The two ministers expressed great concern over the Gulf crisis. Agreeing that the crisis not only threatens peace and stability in the region, but also gravely affects the stability of the world situation, the two sides reiterate that Iraqi troops must withdraw from Kuwait immediately, unconditionally and completely. Kuwait's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity should be restored, and the safety and freedom of foreign nationals in Iraq and Kuwait guaranteed.

The two sides stand for a political solution to the Gulf crisis by peaceful means on the basis of strictly and earnestly implementing the United Nations Security Council resolutions. The two sides also support the mediating role played by the UN Secretary General. The two sides exchanged views on the use of the UN Military Staff Committee, believing that this mechanism should play its role in accordance with the Security Council resolutions.

The efforts in solving the disputes made by the Arab countries, including those made within the framework of the Arab League, can make important contributions to easing the explosive situation.

The Chinese and Soviet governments are appealing to all countries to exercise restraint, not using force and taking no moves that may lead to an escalation of the tensions.

The two foreign ministers are aware that as permanent members of the UN Security Council, China and the Soviet Union shoulder a great responsibility in safeguarding world peace. The two sides will continue consultations and co-operation and make efforts for restoring peace and stability in the Gulf as early as possible.

Concerning the situation in the Asia-Pacific region, the two foreign ministers maintained that the role of this region in world politics and economy has greatly

increased. The two sides suggested that countries in the Asia-Pacific region should strengthen their coordination in solving regional problems and increasing political and economic co-operation. Both sides agreed to hold constant consultations about Asia-Pacific regional issues, especially about promoting the settlement of the existing conflicts in Asia.

The two foreign ministers shared the view that the settlement of the Cambodian question is in a decisive phase and they expressed satisfaction with the five important documents on a political settlement of the Cambodian question, which were drafted by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council. They believed that these documents outline the framework for the political settlement of the Cambodian question. They expressed appreciation for the efforts made by the co-chairmen of the International Conference in Paris, the member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and other parties concerned.

The two foreign ministers hoped that the various parties in Cambodia will quickly, on the basis of the documents worked out by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council through consultations, reach agreement on a political settlement, and establish a National Supreme Council (NSC) to include the participation of all par-

ties in Cambodia so as to create conditions leading to a future general election. The two sides will welcome the election of Prince Norodom Sihanouk as Chairman of the NSC.

Both sides reiterated that they will continue to make their own contributions to a comprehensive, just and reasonable solution to the Cambodian question. They suggested that within the framework of a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian question, the various parties in Cambodia cease fire, and China and the Soviet Union stop military aid to the various parties involved in the Cambodian conflicts and called on other countries concerned to take the same measures.

The two sides expressed concern for the relaxation and stability in the situation in the Korean Peninsula. They believed that without a solution to the Korean Peninsular question, it is impossible to achieve genuine security and stability in Northeast Asia. The dialogue between north and south parts of Korea is important in the easing of the tensions. In view of this, both sides hoped the forthcoming meeting of the prime ministers of north and south parts of Korea will achieve positive results.

The two sides discussed the prospects for Afghanistan to secure national reconciliation and peace. They hoped Afghanistan can become an independent, peaceful, neutral and non-aligned country.

The Soviet foreign minister briefed his Chinese counterpart on recent high-level contacts between the Soviet Union and the United States. The two sides briefly discussed the situation in Europe and German unification. The two sides stated that China and the Soviet Union have always understood and supported the aspirations of the German people for realizing their nation-



On September 1, Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and his Soviet counterpart Eduard Shevardnadze held working talks, in the Chinese city of Harbin, to exchange views on issues of common concern.

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al unification. Hope was expressed that the unification of Germany will not only benefit the people of the two Germanies, but also be conducive to peace, stability and development in Europe and the world as a whole.

The two foreign ministers expressed satisfaction with the speedy development of Sino-Soviet relations in various areas. The two sides pledge to continue efforts in the implementation of the agreements reached at the Sino-Soviet summit meeting last year and to enhance the friendly neighbouring relations between the two countries on the basis of the Sino-Soviet Joint Communiqué issued on May 18, 1989.

The two ministers agreed that the border negotiations have made progress and the negotiation process should be accelerated in order to reasonably solve the Sino-Soviet border problem as soon as possible. Both sides decided that the regular meeting of the working groups of the Sino-Soviet border negotiation

delegations will be convened later this October in Beijing.

Decision was also made that the continued talks on the reduction of armed forces in the Sino-Soviet border areas and the strengthening of mutual trust in military field will be held in Moscow on September 10. The two foreign ministers hoped that the talks will make progress. They believed that the talks are of great significance to promoting bilateral relations and enhancing mutual trust between the two countries.

Agreements were also reached on establishing a Chinese general consulate in Chabarovsk and a Soviet general consulate in Shenyang as soon as possible.

The talks proceeded in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Shevardnadze reaffirmed his invitation to Qian Qichen to pay an official visit to the Soviet Union. Qian accepted the invitation with pleasure. The exact date for the visit will be decided through diplomatic channels. ■

An Interview With Asiad Project Leader Zhang Baifa

by Our Staff Reporter Cui Lili

China's success in preparing so well for the 11th Asian Games within such a short time demonstrates the Chinese government's full support and the public's wholehearted co-operation in keeping the work on schedule. It also manifests the Chinese people's wisdom and unity.—Ed.

As the 11th Asian Games draws near, Mr. Zhang Baifa, standing vice-chairman of the Asiad Organizing Committee and deputy mayor of Beijing, gave an interview to *Beijing Review* and related the work the committee had undertaken to make the Games a success.

Since Zhang was appointed commander-in-chief of the Asiad project in 1986, a total of 33 new stadiums and gymnasiums and many other exercising sites have been prepared by

China for the Asian Games. The stylish, high-quality structures have been widely praised at home and abroad. During the extensive preparatory process, Zhang himself became a news-maker.

"Looking back the past four years," Zhang said, "I've had a mixed feeling of the sweet, the sour, the bitter and the pungent, everything. I still remember the sessions of the National People's Congress and the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Confer-

ence in March 1988. At these sessions some people wondered if the gigantic Asiad project, construction for which had just begun, would be completed on time. I told them that if the Asiad project were not completed on time and the Asian Games had to be postponed as a result, I would jump from the highest point of the Jing Guang Centre (the tallest building in Beijing) and make an apology to the world. I did not expect what I said at the meeting soon became a household knowledge," Zhang said with a smile.

"As head of the Asiad project, I had to meet the challenge and take the risks. For example, funding was a big question. When the project was about to start, there was still a shortage of several hundred million yuan. To make matters worse, soon after the project got going, nationwide price readjustment was made. This drove the price of building materials up 30 percent."

Despite all the difficulties, however, the stadiums and gymnasiums of various architectural styles, quite spectacular under a clear blue sky, were completed. The final touches, land-

Zhang Baifa addresses a mass rally towards the landscaping of the Asiad Village.

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scaping with trees, flowers and lawn, are being put in place around each site. Zhang relishes the success, particularly after four years of hard work and a seemingly endless stream of reasons to be frustrated.

"As a matter of fact, it was most unlikely that I would have to jump from a high-rise," he said. "Although there were so many difficulties in the beginning, I was confident because ours is a socialist country. I was fully convinced that we would be able to overcome all these difficulties by relying on the superiority of socialism and mobilizing the entire society."

To support such statements, Zhang recounted a list of facts and statistics, the most important of which was the government's effective command and the support and co-ordination of government departments.

Long before the project started, the central and Beijing governments made it clear that all

matters related to the Asiad project, say, zoning, design and construction, had to be given priority. The project headquarters were manned by more than 100 officials, some dozen of whom were bureau leaders. The director of the Beijing Public Health Bureau, for example, was appointed head of the project's health section while the deputy director of the Beijing Fire Control Bureau was held responsible for fire prevention and control.

The Ministry of Materials and Equipment is the government department with which Zhang had the most contact. Ever since the ground-breaking ceremony, the ministry has supplied the best steel, cement and lumber at the lowest possible prices. It even placed an official on the construction sites to ensure adequate supplies. The Ministry of Railways delivered all the needed materials free of charge while the People's Bank of China and the Financial Bureau of Beijing

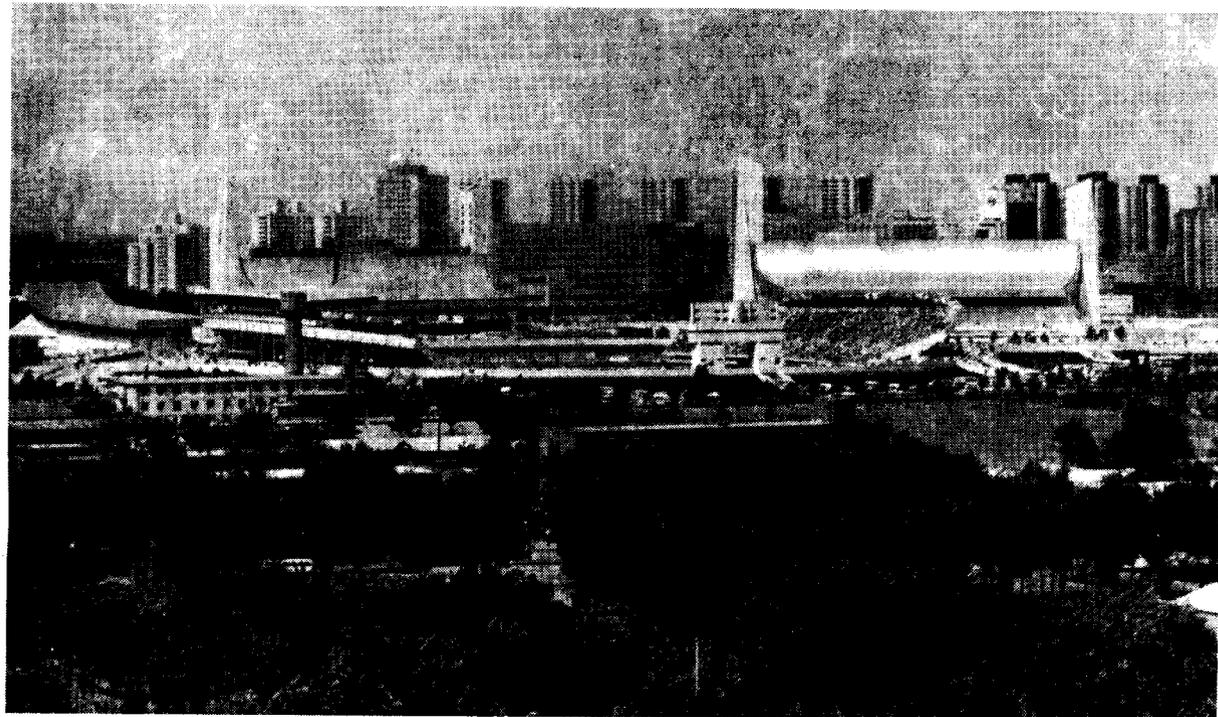
promised to provide any sum, at any time, if needed.

Another important factor behind the successful construction was the wholehearted cooperation of the public. A clear example of this is the requisition of land and the dismantling of some houses for construction. "Altogether 384.7 hectares of land were requisitioned, an area which affected thousands of families and nearly 400 work units. Such a large undertaking, however, went off without a hitch in less than half a year," Zhang recalled.

Among the work units removed, Zhang said, those which were collectively owned volunteered to bear the brunt of the losses. The owner of a private electrical machinery repair shop did not ask for any compensation for his losses of some 100,000 yuan caused by the removal of his shop. When the Dajing Village, Fengtai District, on the northern outskirts of Bei-

The National Olympic Sports Centre.

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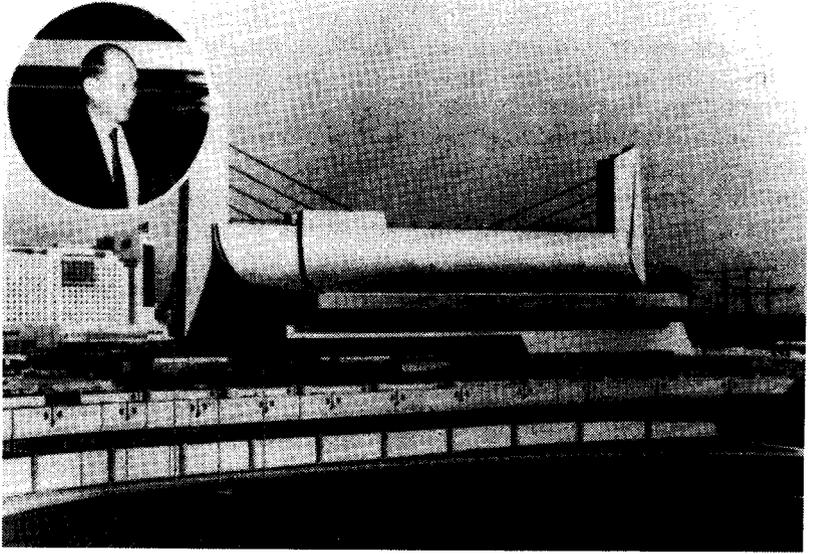


jing, was selected as the site for the Fengtai Sports Centre, every village resident moved away on schedule even though they had lived there for generations.

The raising of funds for the Asiad project has, of course, made the headlines of the national news media for quite some time. "In order to construct the Asiad project," Zhang said, "the state allocated 1.05 billion yuan while the Beijing municipal government ploughed in another 400 million yuan. There was still a shortfall of 600 million yuan in the budget, however, which had to be collected from society."

As a matter of fact, funds were raised from two sources. One was from donations, the other volunteer labour. As to donations, many heart-warming stories were published in the newspapers. For example, an octogenarian grandmother presented the Asiad project 1,000 yuan which her children and grandchildren had saved for her birthday anniversary. A People's Liberation Army soldier travelled a long distance so that he could donate all his savings to the Asiad project. Three Taiwan compatriots contributed US\$240,000 to the project with the only condition that their donation not be publicly acknowledged. Everyday, the Asiad Organizing Committee receives as many as 400 money orders from a wide range of people the world over.

A common method of donation, Zhang said, has been voluntary work. For example, all the work related to site clean-up, afforestation and beautification of the surrounding areas and other parts of the city were done by and paid for by grass-roots units. Zhang added that some people wondered why China budgeted as little as US\$400 million for the 11th Asiad. The amount seemed quite small



The National Olympic Sports Centre Swimming Pool was funded with donations by **Fok Ying Tung (Henry Fok)**, a famous Hong Kong businessman.

when compared with those used by India and South Korea for the 9th and 10th Asian Games. India spent US\$1 billion for the Ninth Asiad and South Korea a total of US\$3.3 billion for two sports meets, the 10th Asiad and the Seoul Olympiad. The answer, however, is quite simple. All spending on the above-mentioned work was not included in the figures. It was the spirit of co-operation between the small collectives and the big collective of socialism that helped, to a great extent, solve the shortage of funds, Zhang said.

"Also, Beijing's construction workers have long been known as a crack force," Zhang said. "This contingent is ideologically advanced, professionally competent and collectively conscious. It also has a sense of honour." Zhang used to be a construction worker in the 1950s. As the leader of one team, Zhang took part in the construction of the Great Hall of the People and seven other well-known architectural projects in Beijing.

"During the 1950s, when Beijing's eight architectural won-

ders were built," Zhang added, "Beijing's construction workers seized every minute, never caring about pay. They worked day and night, sometimes sleeping on the construction sites with their clothes on. It was the workers' strong desire to win honour for the country and to make contributions to the Asiad that guaranteed the speedy completion of the Asiad project. Even during the 1989 turmoil, the construction of facilities, including the most difficult project of the Central TV Tower (405 metres high), was neither suspended nor postponed," Zhang said proudly.

Volunteers from all walks of life constitute another valuable force for the Asiad project. At least several hundred thousand people have volunteered to work for the Asiad project, Zhang said.

Chinese scientists and technicians have also contributed their share. Hoping that the Asiad project will help to demonstrate China's level of technology to the world, they have taken pleasure in their work.

"Take the project's computer system for example," Zhang

said. "Originally, it was planned to have the system designed by the Federal Republic of Germany because of its state-of-the-art technology. This was prohibitively expensive, however, and the project leaders had to ask the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Ministry of Aeronautics and Astronautics Industry to cooperatively design the system. The whole process took them only one month. A South Korean expert, after viewing the computer system, said that it goes the Seoul system one better in at least six areas."

In the past four years, Zhang took time out to visit Japan, South Korea and the United States together with his aides to draw on these countries' experiences in constructing stadiums and gymnasiums of international status.

Some 95 percent of the building materials for the Asiad project were China-made, Zhang said. He cited as an example the trend-setting reticulated composite roof of the two newly built gymnasiums of Chaoyang and Shijingshan and the double-twist reticulated shell-like roof of the boxing hall at the Beijing

Physical Culture Institute, both of top quality. "The newly built speed-skating exercise gymnasium near the Capital Gymnasium which has a 400-metre track and a suspension roof without column support is considered quite sophisticated by international standards. The Health and Amusement Palace at the Asiad Village (a rest and amusement centre for athletes) has 12 beams, 30 metres long each, of wooden patterns glued together with resin. China is one of only a few countries the world over possessing such technology," Zhang said.

Another proud achievement is the giant colour display screen attached to the Beijing Workers' Stadium, the site where the opening and closing ceremonies will be held. The screen is 10 metres wide and 40 metres long. So far, only a handful few foreign countries are capable of manufacturing such a large electronic display system. However, it was designed and produced by a local Chinese company in just over one year. The application of the most advanced international digital processing technology, anti-jam transmission technolo-

gy and the highest quantizing degree of 256 guarantees clear and brilliant pictures. It can also store images and provide special effect displays, slow motion analysis, image repeat and static images. "Asiad has pushed China to the world's most advanced level," Zhang said emphatically.

Most noteworthy is the Indoor Swimming Pool of the National Olympic Sports Centre. With its stylish design and multitude of functions, the pool ranks among the world's ten best. Almost all of the building materials are China-made. In addition, it is the world's best in two aspects: the diving pool is equipped with 22 diving boards, and has a lifter which can raise a diver to a height of 6.5 metres. The chairman of the International Swimming and Diving Association said during an inspection of the swimming pool, "The pool is a combination of the national style and advanced technology of the 21st century. It's clear that aims to host Olympiad in the future."

Zhang does not refute such comments. He said that surrounding the current Asiad project, two areas are being reserved. One, about 13 hectares in size, will be used for an Olympiad Village. The other, some 47 hectares, will be used for a main gymnasium if China wins the right to host the 2000 Olympiad.

When asked if he was interested in overseeing the construction of the Olympiad project, Zhang said, "Whenever I think of the frustrations and difficulties I encountered in the past four years, I want to quit." After a pause, he continued, sincerely but with a sense of humour, "However, when I remember that the successful construction of the Asiad project and the success of the Asiad will win glory for my country, I want to have another try." ■

A Shopping Centre at the Asiad Village.



Asia Prepares for the Games

by Our Staff Reporter Lou Linwei

The 11th Asian Games will soon be kicked off in Beijing. International experts predict sharp competition ahead. As a matter of fact, the competition for victory has begun much earlier among Asia's various sports armies.

Intensive Training

South Korea. When the Seoul Olympic Games closed in October 1988, South Korea's *Dong-A Ilbo* published an article entitled *Intensify Training for 600 Days to Prepare for the Beijing Asian Games*.

On January 10, 1989, an opening ceremony was held for the training in South Korea's *Ke Ling* Training Centre, known as "the gold medal casting station." Kim Tsu-ong Ha, president of the Sports Association of South Korea, presided over the ceremony and gave an opening speech. Kim Soo-Nyung, the individual all round champion in women's archery at the Seoul Olympic Games, made a pledge on behalf of the athletes compete first at the Beijing Asian Games.

There is no doubt about South Korea's prowess in Asian sports. From 1954 to 1986, it was among the first three in team's total scores for seven times. In the 1986 Asian Games, it trailed China by just one gold medal.

DPRK. There is a sports village called Youth Street in the southwestern suburbs of Pyongyang, capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Some 11 stadiums and hotels well suited for multiple competitions are located between an orchard and a forest of pine trees. Nearly 1,000 Korean athletes

and sport workers have gathered here since the beginning of the year for intensive training in 18 events, including men's and women's volleyball, basketball, table tennis and weightlifting.

Taiwan. This spring, Taiwan's well-known track and field athlete Li Fuen went to Indiana State University in the United States to receive special training. Li once won the men's all round championship in ten events at the 7th Asian Track and Field Championships in 1983. His current training in the United States is no doubt aimed at defending his position at the forthcoming Asian Games. He has publically vowed to set new records at the Beijing Asian Games in the ten-event and all-round record score of 8,009 established 27 years ago by the famous Taiwan athlete Yang Chuanguang. Li's target is to score 8,270 points.

Training in Foreign Countries.

Training in a foreign country is an important tactic for China's Taiwan and other Asian countries to boost the competitiveness of their athletes. It was reported that India has sent its track and field athletes respectively to Federal Germany, Malaysia, Singapore and other countries to receive special training. It has also dispatched 12 boxers to Cuba for six-week training courses. Viet Nam sent seven boxers and 12 archers to the Soviet Union.

According to the July 24 issue of Taiwan's *Independent Evening Post*, China's Taipei recently established Women's Football Team left on August 2 for Switzerland, France, and three other European countries for a one-

month training. During the month, they had eight friendship competitions and invited the local coaches to help with the training. They have reportedly beefed up their ability to compete against the strong European opponents.

The Taipei *Wushu* (Chinese martial arts), golf, women's volleyball and both men's and women's basketball teams have been approved to come to Beijing earlier for training. The women's volleyball team, after participating in the 11th World Women's Volleyball Championships in Shanghai, stays in Shanghai for warming-up training.

The teams which will take part in the Asian Games value every competition beforehand. For instance, Mongolia sent their best players to the Seattle Goodwill Games; the Football Team of Yemen, headed by a Brazilian coach, competed several times in Arab countries. The 1990 AFC Marlboro Dynasty Cup football championship held in Beijing recently was an important warm-up competition for South Korea, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Japan and China.

Excellent Lineup

In March this year, an official of the Athletic Association of India announced that Usha, India's "track and field empress," would take part in Beijing's Asian Games. Since then, people saw Usha, running like a gazelle, training on the Kerala sandy beach in southern India.

Usha, now 26, once took fourth place in the women's

400-metre hurdle race at the Los Angeles Olympics, the best placed finish for an Asian athlete. In the Seoul Olympics held four years ago, she won four out of five gold medals. It was no surprise that some Indian people later said that if they had known of her prowess earlier, they would have sent only one athlete to Seoul for the competition. In the 8th Asian Track and Field Championships held in India in 1989, she won four gold and two silver medals.

After the Asian Championships, Usha, listened to her father's advice and left the sports ground so as to have more time to consider her personal affairs. This is why she didn't take part in the competitions in the United Kingdom last February.

In February this year, the Indian sports officials sent a group of three people to visit Usha, trying to persuade her to participate in Beijing's Asian Games. She readily agreed.

In the 13th Asian Men's Basketball Championships, the Philippines won because of its highly professional team members. As professional men's basketball members are allowed to take part in the Asian Games, the Basketball Association of the Philippines has decided to send a professional basketball team. The Professional Basketball Association of the Philippines already has decided on the choice of the team members and vowed to win once more.

In war-torn Lebanon, sports officials have also indicated that they would send their best players to Beijing.

Japan, which monopolized the first eight Asian Games, seems to be going downhill when compared with the progress made by the Chinese and South Korean teams. In the 1988 Seoul Olympics, Japan won only four gold medals, its worst showing since the 1964 Tokyo Olympics. The

results caused quite a stir in Japan.

Last year, the Japanese government gave 1.733 billion yen as subsidies to sports teams, 432 million yen more than the previous year. Of these subsidies, 1.298 million yen are for the intensive training of athletes, an increase in spending of some 427 million yen over the previous year.

On August 3 last year, the Japanese Ministry of Culture and Education formally approved Japan's Olympic Committee of Japan as a legal entity. From then on, the Olympic Committee, originally affiliated to the Sports Association of Japan, becomes independent financially and so was able to increase its investment in sports.

In March 1989, before the Olympic Committee was legally incorporated, the Sports Association of Japan decided to provide economic subsidies to those promising athletes who might win gold medals at the Olympics, world championships and the Asian Games. The programme stipulated that athletes would be given different scores based on the level of competition and the prizes he or she obtained. Those who reached a score of more than seven are listed as A series, and are given 200,000 yen apiece in subsidies each month. Those who score over 4 are listed as B series and are given 100,000 yen apiece for subsidies each month.

Individual associations in Japan followed suit by providing rewards. The Gymnastics Association stipulated that groups and individuals who did well at the Olympics, the world championships and the Asian Games would be given up to 100,000 to 300,000 yen as a reward. At the end of 1989, Ikeya Yukio and Nishikawa Daishuke, who made outstanding contributions to the Japanese men's gymnastic team

in winning a bronze medal at the Seoul Olympics, obtained 300,000 yen each from All Japan Youth Gymnastic Club, an organization affiliated to the Gymnastic Association of Japan. They were the first to be rewarded for their performance at a competition. The Table Tennis Association of Japan wanted to nurture master sportsmen and so earmarked 100 million yen in rewards for internal and external competitions and as subsidies.

Japan also invested a great amount of man power, materials and funds to strengthen the study of sport science. The various efforts by Japan show that they are engaged in a concerted programme to galvanize its athletic competitiveness, not only for Beijing in 1990, but also for Barcelona in 1992 and Hiroshima in 1994.

To prepare for Beijing's Asian Games and raise athletic standards, each Asian Olympic Council has increased its level of funding in sports. For example, the Malaysian government earmarked US\$300,000 while Pakistan offered US\$500,000 for training. The Sports Committee of Indonesia plans to reward each of its players who win the gold at the forthcoming Asian Games in Beijing with 50 million Rupiah (about US\$28,000).



Beijing Hotels Ready for XI Asian Games

by Our Staff Reporter Han Baocheng

Beijing is expected to host 150,000 overseas guests and tourists during the 11th Asian Games. All the preparatory work is in place and there will be no problems in accommodation and traffic. Hotels in Beijing are ready to welcome their guests with first-rate services and stable prices.—Ed.

After a slump during the second half of last year, Beijing's hotels have come to life with the increase in foreign tourists. In the first seven months of this year, Beijing hosted 553,000 overseas tourists, an increase of 24 percent over the same period last year. The number hit 91,000 in July, an increase of 3.5 times. The occupancy rate of the city's tourist hotels is currently more than 60 percent and some hotels in good locations, such as the Peace Hotel in the downtown area, have continued to report a full house.

Han Brouwuers, general manager of the Palace Hotel who took the office in early May this year, said the general situation in China was improving and that foreign investment was going up. He predicted that next year, China's tourism would return to the 1988 level or better. The 11th Asian Games, scheduled to open

on September 22, he added, will help restore the tourist industry and provide the nation with a chance to display the Chinese people's hospitality, good service, life styles and traditions. In this sense, the Asian Games is a gigantic public relations activity.

An analysis of potential tourists and the various preparatory work shows that people have every reason to expect Asiad to create a boom in tourism. According to the organizing committee of the Games, the Games will be the largest in Asiad's history. The total number of athletes, coaches, working personnel at various sports grounds, journalists, officials and non-governmental organizations from various countries and regions, representatives from international sports organizations, and overseas tourists and businessmen coming for the Games is expected to hit 150,000.

Adequate Accommodation

Will such a great influx of people into Beijing during such a short period of time create strains on Beijing's traffic and accommodation? Will the visitors suffer from price gouging and poor service? Lu Bing, deputy director of the Beijing Tourism Administration, said that such concerns are unfounded because the municipal government of Beijing began its preparatory work years in advance and has adopted effective measures to avoid such problems.

According to Lu, Beijing hosted 146,000 overseas tourists in October 1988, an all-time high. At that time, there was indeed a strain on hotel rooms in downtown areas, but there were still vacancies in suburban hotels. Since then, more than 20 new hotels have been completed and the number of hotel rooms increased by more than 10,000. At present, the city has 110 hotels with some 40,000 rooms designated as overseas tourist hotels. Lu has made assurances that there will be no lack of accommodation during the Asian Games. But she added that it is likely there will be strains on the more popular hotels.

To prevent unauthorized price increases, the Beijing Tourist Administration recently made public the ceiling prices for 36 major hotels during the peak tourist season (July-November) this year. These prices are basically the same as last year's tour-

The Peace Hotel offers colourful evening recreational activity. Here, guests are entertained by a magic show.



ist season. These 36 posh and medium-grade hotels are the backbone of Beijing's hotel business and have 43 percent of the total number of rooms of the city's tourist hotels. They include the four most sumptuous five-star hotels—Palace Hotel, the China World Hotel, the Shangri-la Hotel and the Palace Tower.

First-Rate Service

To provide overseas tourists with satisfactory service, the Beijing Tourist Administration since early this year has organized programmes in all Beijing hotels so that they can train their staff and provide competitive service, including safety, reception, guest room, catering, telephone switchboard, cooking, tourist guide, taxi, shopping and washroom services. Tourists now generally agree that Beijing's tourist service has been much improved and, as evidence, an increasing number of commendatory letters have been received. It is worth noting that China's tourist administration prohibits employees from accepting tips. Bo Xicheng, director of the Beijing Tourist Administration, said that the government wanted visitors to know that they could get satisfactory service in China without giving tips.

The Beijing Tourist Administration opened a tourist telephone hotline in April this year to deal with tourist complaints about the quality of service and to provide consultative services. The round-the-clock service is offered in three languages—Chinese, English and Japanese. The telephone number is 5130828. Since it was put into service, the hotline, on an average, answered two to three calls daily. According to the rules set by the Beijing Tourist Administration, the response to each call should not exceed 24 hours and that explanations should be

made to the complainant if the problem cannot be promptly resolved.

Diversified Service

To attract more guests and establish its own reputation, each hotel is striving to improve service and increase service items.

According to Yin Xinmin, manager of the Public Relations Department of the Peace Hotel, the hotel early this year set up an Asian Games advisory group headed by the general manager and comprising department heads. The group carefully examined all the hotel's service items in guest rooms, canteens, the shopping centre and recreational facilities and worked out measures to improve service. Yin said that his hotel planned to attract tourists by offering services with distinctive features. It has collected a host of material about the life-style, cultural traditions and consumption habits of Asian guests and, after carefully studying such information, provided those service items catering to Asian guests. For instance, the hotel has held feasts of games, Chinese noodle dishes, sea food

and herbal dishes. Recently, it began to offer Confucian dishes, the type available during the life of the ancient Chinese thinker and educator Confucius (551-479 BC). To enrich the guests' night life, the hotel recently opened a concert hall and a night club and has sponsored performances and recreational activities with the distinctive flavour of north China and, in particular, of Beijing.

The Beijing Hotel, 500 metres to the east of Tiananmen Square, is the oldest hotel in Beijing with a history of 90 years. It now has 880 suites and a floorspace of 160,000 square metres. There are more than 40 canteens in the hotel and the total canteen and shopping area is the largest among all of Beijing's hotels. According to General Manager Sun Jifu, the hotel, during the Asian Games period, will chiefly host official delegations from various countries, as well as a small number of tourist groups and individual visitors. To prepare for the Asian Games, the hotel has not only trained all of its employees but has also reorganized its management system to make it more responsive to the needs of the

Staff of the Wuzhou (Five Continent) Hotel located in the Asian Games Village provide efficient service.



guests. Sun said, "Our aim is to provide our guests with an elegant, quiet and comfortable environment and the best services."

Sun noted that with regard to the geographical location there are few hotels in Beijing which can compete with his hotel. However, because it has been operating for such a long time, many facilities have become outdated. Although the hotel has continually upgraded its facilities, it still cannot match with luxury hotels. He said the hotel's advantage lies in the good tradition fostered among its employees. Highly responsible, they are extremely cordial to their guests, making them feel as safe and comfortable as if they were at home. This is the chief reason why the hotel is always able to attract guests.

A building for distinguished guests which adjoins the west wing of the hotel was completed last year. Sumptuously furnished, it will host senior officials of the Olympic Council of Asia during the Asian Games.

The Sheraton Great Wall Hotel in east Beijing, which started business in the early 1980s, is one of the earliest Sino-foreign hotel joint ventures. Ronald Reagan, former US president, and President George Bush all held receptions there during their visit to China. Charles Shen, deputy manager of the hotel's public relations department, said, "The hotel has undergone renovation. To welcome the Asian Games, we began renovation work early this year. We improved the fire-control system and brought in new equipment. Our guests have a fresh feeling when they step into our hotel." To enrich the night life, the hotel holds all kinds of recreational activities, such as week-end barbecues, a mock Beijing food street, a jazz night and foreign food fair.

The China World Hotel, which started business on July 12 this

year, has completed the construction of the China International Trade Centre, a project worth US\$400 million in investment. The 21-storey hotel, with 687 standard rooms and 56 luxury suites, is managed by the Hong Kong Shangri-la International Management Co. Ltd.

This luxury, multi-functional hotel mainly serves commercial and conference tourism. The 8,231-square metre banquet hall can host large international conferences. The adjacent exhibition centre, a double-tiered modern work of architect, is able to accommodate all kinds of exhibitions.

Jean Pazar, a guest from Pennsylvania of the United States, was held spellbound by the beautiful piano and violin music under the candle light in the main hall of the hotel and praised the performance for its authentic American style. Extremely satisfied with the service, she said she would stay at the hotel on her next visit to China.

Modern Management

According to an official of the Beijing Tourism Administration, 20 new hotels are scheduled to start business this year and another 20 hotels are expected to be put into operation in the next two years. Most of these hotels are at or above the four-star level and 80 percent of them are Sino-foreign joint ventures. The Chinese government does not now encourage the building of hotels, except for those Sino-foreign jointly funded hotels for which a contract has already been signed. Although, in the long run, Beijing's tourism is likely to grow year by year, it is an unavoidable fact that the capital's hotel construction has outstripped demand. One of the benefits of this excessive development is that there will be en-

ough hotel rooms for the influx of tourists during the upcoming Asian Games.

In recent years, in addition to the construction of hotels and catering establishments, the Beijing municipal government has widened or built several dozen roads to facilitate the city's busy traffic and there are all kinds of motor vehicles available for the Asian Games. In addition to the existing taxis, the municipal government has requisitioned several thousand cars and coaches from government organizations and institutions and carried out safety and language training programmes for the drivers.

The 11th Asian Games Shopping Centre will be opened on September 1-October 10 in the Beijing Exhibition Hall. With a total floorspace of 15,000 square metres, the centre will offer 10,000 kinds of name-brand, high-quality, special or new commodities in 20 categories. There will be a 250-metre long food street in the centre where 50 hotels will sell some 100 varieties of Chinese and foreign snacks. During this period, the centre will also sponsor performances of Oriental songs and dances, *qigong*, magic, acrobatics, Peking opera and other recreational activities.

According to Lu Bing, deputy director of the Beijing Tourism Administration, Beijing's tourism has developed from the hotel construction and basic staff training to the present stage of modern management after several years of effort. Today, service is intended to meet the needs of the times, and tours with distinctive national flavour are offered. The 11th Asian Games, Lu said, will mark China's continued development of its tourist industry. The Games will be a good chance for overseas tourists to feel the charm of Beijing and such excellent service will be provided that they will be sure to return. ■

The Origin of the Chinese Legal System

by Wu Naitao

Chinese laws are formulated on the basis of soliciting opinions from all sides, drawing on collective wisdom and absorbing useful ideas. The process of formulating the laws, therefore, is also the process of carrying forward, practising and promoting socialist democracy—Ed.

At a meeting held to discuss the legal affairs by the Standing Committee of the Seventh National People's Congress (NPC), this reporter interviewed Wang Zhuqian, deputy secretary-general of the Committee for the Legal Affairs of the NPC Standing Committee. Composed of 170 staff members, the committee has since its founding in 1979 been working to draft, study and revise laws for the National People's Congress and its Standing Committee. "Because China has a vast territory, a huge population and numerous nationalities, the political and economic development is uneven in various localities," Wang Zhuqian said. "While formulating the laws, we should not only study and use the experience of other countries for reference, but go to learn about the situation at the grass-roots level and heed the opinions of various sides. This is the only way that the laws will be formulated in accordance with the national conditions and the wishes of the people." This practice of drawing on collective wisdom and absorbing all useful ideas is not only required by legislation, but also by the nature of the Chinese socialist system and the people's congress.

There are many ways to gather the opinions of the masses in the

course of legislation.

Ways to Solicit Opinions

—Go to learn about the situation and heed the opinions of the people at the grass-roots level. For instance, the draft of the Law on Industrial Enterprises Owned by the Whole People adopted in 1988, was deliberated for eight years. Its name was revised for several times, its content was adjusted more than ten times and its articles were complemented and revised more than 100 times. This was all the result of long-term investigative activity.

The first major investigation began in October 1980. Sponsored by Peng Zhen, then chairman of the NPC Standing Committee, people from 59 ministries and commissions under the State Council in 15 groups were sent to carry out investigations in 16 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities having a fairly developed industry and economy. Peng Zhen personally investigated the situation in China's northeast, Shanghai and Zhejiang. Afterwards, Premier Li Peng submitted the Amendment to the Law of People's Republic of China on Joint Ventures Using Chinese and Foreign Investment to the NPC Standing Committee in December 1989. Early

this year, the Law Committee, the Foreign Affairs Committee and the Financial and Economic Committee of the National People's Congress Standing Committee organized a joint inspection group to investigate the question concerning the operation period of joint ventures, a matter of fierce debate in Fujian Province where many joint ventures have been set up.

—The convening of various kinds of investigations. Wang Zhuqian noted that while formulating laws, it is necessary to hold a series of discussions and investigative meetings. For instance, while formulating the General Principles of Civil Law, 180 personages from various parts of the country were invited to discuss the proposed articles in Beijing and opinions were solicited on a wide range of one article. In the course of discussion, 40 articles were added to the draft law and 15 articles were deleted. The revised law with 156 articles was adopted in 1986. Another example is the drafting of the Law on Rallies and Demonstrations which was submitted to the Eighth and Ninth Session of the Standing Committee of the Seventh National People's Congress for discussion. In July 1989, the draft law was made public throughout the country in order to solicit public opinions. During

this time, the Committee for the Legal Affairs, the Internal Affairs Judicial Committee and the Committee for the Legal Affairs of the National People's Congress invited the standing committee members of the municipal Party committees, the municipal governments and the municipal people's congresses from Shanghai and Tianjin and eight other large cities as well as the leading members of the law enforcing departments to hold special discussions. Some leading members of institutions of higher learning, legal experts, members of various democratic parties and mass organizations were also invited to the meetings and their opinions solicited. At the same time, many people wrote to the legislative departments to express their views. Therefore, the Law on Rallies and Demonstrations submitted by the Committee for the Legal Affairs to the Tenth Meeting of the Seventh NPC Standing Committee was a much discussed, much revised draft before becoming a law. Members of the committee believe that the law accords with China's national conditions and the people's in-

terests and shows the relationship between democracy and the legal system. At the meeting, the law was adopted by an overwhelming majority of 103 votes.

—Send draft laws to various localities and departments for opinions. Take the Enterprise Law for example. After receiving the draft, the various ministries and commissions under the State Council as well as the people's congresses, the people's political consultative conferences, people's governments, and the mass organizations in various provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities, except for Taiwan, held special meetings in an organized way and conducted a series of meetings. Many experts, scholars, cadres and staff members from economic, legal and theoretical circles and enterprises actively aired their views and made suggestions. The comprehensive reports made in various localities and departments were sent to Beijing.

Public Discussions

In order to enable people to actively participate in the formu-

lation of state laws, the NPC Standing Committee also published in newspapers full text of some important draft laws for public discussion. It solicited opinions so as to better pool the wisdom and experience of the people throughout the country and to ensure that the formulation of laws would better reflect the will of the people. For instance, opinions were solicited from all sides throughout the country for the Constitution, the Law on Industrial Enterprises Owned by the Whole People, the Basic Law on the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the Law on Rallies and Demonstrations and the Law on the Administrative Procedure.

In January 1988, the publication of the full text of the Draft Enterprise Law and the notice soliciting opinions of the draft law, jointly issued by the General Offices of the NPC Standing Committee and the State Council, were followed with interest by people from all circles of society. Many people from various parts of the country wrote to the related department responsible

for the drafting the law. The Committee for the Legal Affairs alone received 500 letters from factory directors, workers, technicians, government functionaries, intellectuals and jurists. They put forward their own opinions and suggestions on further revising and perfecting the Enterprise Law. On the premise that the draft was basically good, the letters suggested that it make clear the rights and duties of the workers, the main body of the enterprise. The principle safeguarding the lawful rights and interests of the labourers and the

Dai Jie (front centre), NPC deputy and director of the General Customs Administration of the PRC, discusses at a NPC meeting the Amendment to the Law of the PRC on Joint Ventures Using Chinese and Foreign Investment (draft).



basic principles that should be observed by the enterprises should be written into the general principles.

In their letter, Gao Min and others from the Shandong Taian Bearing Plant said that the draft law did not stipulate the term of office for factory directors and lacked the reform measure for the abolition of life tenure for cadres. They worried that the ambiguous system of implementing the factory director responsibility system could easily lead to director dictatorship. They held that the expansion of the factory directors' powers should be compatible with the democratic election of the factory directors and that there should be a strict term of office of the factory directors. Wu Jiabin from the China Petrochemical Corp. said in his letter that the leading members of enterprises should accept democratic appraisals by the workers at regular intervals. With regard to administrative cadres who are listed as qualified or unqualified by the majority of delegates at the workers' congress, it is still necessary that promotion and dismissal suggestions be submitted to the higher authorities in accordance with their jurisdiction for the appointment and dismissal of cadres. Guo Jian-ying from the Beijing Insurance Co. said in the letter that the Enterprise Law should clearly state that enterprises have the obligation to protect the property of the state and the collective, and ensure safe production. Various kinds of property insurance coverage of enterprises should be furnished by the Chinese insurance companies. Enterprises should accept inspection and supervision by the in-



NPC deputies discuss the Military Service Law.

surance companies. These opinions were fully taken into account during the revision of the draft Enterprise Law.

After the publication of the draft Law on the Administrative Procedure in November 1988, people from various circles wrote to the Committee for the Legal Affairs of the NPC Standing Committee and raised many opinions and suggestions for revision. Many letters expressed the view that the scope of administrative powers should be expanded. They believed that the Law on the Administrative Procedure is a means by which a lawsuit could be brought against "officials" by "civilian people." Administrative cases under the jurisdiction of the court where the defendant lives would be unfavourable to protecting the lawful rights and interests of the suitor. Therefore, they suggested that administrative cases be handled under the jurisdiction of the court where the suitor resides. Some letter writers held that the Law on the the Administrative Procedure offered a legal basis for mass organizations to bring a

lawsuit against administrative encroachment by government organizations. However, some letter writers worried that the court would not act in accordance with the law and suggested that the draft law have additional stipulations. If people believe that law enforcement was not handled according to the law, they could appeal to the standing committees of the people's congresses at all levels. The requirement is that those who neglect their duty be investigated according to the law.

Before the law's publication, the practice of soliciting opinions from the people was welcomed and appreciated by a variety of people. Many wrote to the NPC Standing Committee to say that the practice accords with the wishes of the people and embodies the desire of the people to be masters of the country and to participate in the management of state and public affairs. It is the concrete expression of the NPC Standing Committee, follows the mass line on major issues and helps to implement open politics and democratization.

Many opinions and suggestions raised by people from various circles have been accepted. For instance, a considerable number of people made the suggestion that the Enterprise Law be aimed at mobilizing the initiative of managerial personnel and labourers. As a result, the article that "enterprises guarantee workers and staff members the status of master of their own affairs and that they safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of the workers and staff members" was written into the General Principles of the Enterprise Law. Workers' rights and duties have thus been clearly stipulated in the related chapters and articles.

Extensive Evaluation

In order to carefully promote the formulation of laws, the National People's Congress and its Standing Committee have established procedures for reviewing and formulating laws. Generally, these are the following: When the State Council submits a draft law to the NPC Standing Committee for examination, the committee will first listen to the council's explanation and then, after preliminary examination, will leave the question in the hands of the NPC Legal Committee and special committees concerned for examination and revision; the Legal Committee will then conduct an examination in light of the opinion of the NPC Standing Committee and the reports concerning the law which have been submitted by various localities and departments and opinions put forward by the public. On this basis, the Legal Committee will report on



Deputies to the Seventh National People's Congress vote to adopt the Enterprise Law.

Photos by XUE CHAO

its examination, which will then be submitted by the chairman to the NPC Standing Committee for further examination.

The NPC Standing Committee is composed of people representing various walks of life and includes law experts and leaders of various fields who have a rich experience and maintain close ties with all social circles. Each time the NPC Standing Committee meets, it invites the chairmen of the provincial people's congress standing committees to attend and because this commands extensive representation. When the NPC Standing Committee examines the draft law, its members fully discuss the question in light of the principle of democratic centralism. There is a particular effort to encourage different opinions. When many members differ over some important articles or, even if only a small number of members object to the draft law, the draft law will not be put to a vote. Instead, the voting procedure will be postponed for further investigation and study, amendment or revision. The draft law is not submitted to the NPC Standing Com-

mittee for further examination until the Standing Committee members have reached fairly unanimous agreement. Therefore, some important laws undergo repeated evaluation by the NPC Standing Committee.

In 1985, when the Standing Committee of the Sixth National People's Congress met to examine the draft Law on Enterprise Bankruptcy, all the members believed the law was very important. Some, however, thought conditions were not yet ready for its enactment. They argued that China's commodity economy was underdeveloped and that there was no co-ordinated implementation of an enterprise law. Consequently, the rights and interests of the enterprises were unclear. There were wide differences on some important articles of the enterprise bankruptcy law, and so no final vote was held even though it was submitted twice to the NPC Standing Committee. After this, the chairman, vice-chairmen and members of the NPC Standing Committee went to conduct a special investigation in various localities and they reported the results of their inves-

tigation to the committee. During a re-examination of the draft law, five major revisions were made, including an amendment to the law to ensure co-ordinated implementation, and a stipulation that the law be implemented in three months. When the revised Enterprise Bankruptcy Law was submitted the third time to the NPC Standing Committee for examination, it was adopted by a unanimous vote of 101 for, none against and nine abstentions.

Some laws of major importance, in addition to review by the NPC Standing Committee, have to be submitted to the annual National People's Congress for examination. The opinions of the NPC deputies are then taken into account in a follow-up evaluation.

When the NPC Standing Committee members and NPC deputies examine draft laws, the Committee for the Legal Affairs and department concerned must provide them with reference documents, the subject matter of which includes the areas covered by the draft law, the basic situation of the subject areas, current work being done in the areas, problems that exist, related foreign laws and regulations, and the opinions collected from throughout the country.

In order to put into legislation and systemize the work of the NPC Standing Committee and the National People's Congress, some new laws have been enacted in the last few years which stipulate the regulations in force during discussions respectively by the National People's Congress, the NPC Standing Committee and the meeting of the NPC Standing Committee chairman and vice-chairmen. These laws guarantee that the National People's Congress and its Standing Committee can examine draft laws and make decisions in strict accordance with the princi-

ple of democratic centralism. These steps have enhanced efficiency and made it possible for them to better perform their duties.

Reference Materials

Between 1979 and September 7, 1990, the National People's Congress and its Standing Committee have enacted 94 laws and adopted resolutions on the revision of and amendment to 73 laws and resolutions concerning legal matters. These 167 legislative actions are more than the total number undertaken during the past 30 years (1949-78).

Laws concerning state organs include the Electoral Law of the National People's Congress and Local People's Congresses of the People's Republic of China, the Law of the People's Republic of China Governing Regional National Autonomy, the Procedural Rules of the Standing Committee of the PRC National People's Congress, the Procedural Rules of the PRC National People's Congress, and the organic laws concerning the National People's Congress, local people's congresses, the central government, the local governments, the court and the procuratorate.

The laws concerning administrative management include the Food Hygiene Law, the Law on Maritime Traffic Safety, the Law on the Administration of Medicine, the Regulations Concerning Resident ID Cards, the Law on Control of the Entry and Exit of Aliens, the Regulations for Penalizing Those Who Disrupt Public Security, the Frontier Health and Quarantine Law, the Regulations Concerning Diplomatic Prerogatives and Immunities, the Archives Law, the Law on Keeping State Secret, the Law on Prevention and Treatment of Contagious Disease, and the Law on Administrative Procedure.

The laws on criminal matters include the Criminal Law, the Criminal Procedure Law, the Regulations on Punishment of Servicemen Who Commit Crimes Contrary to Their Duties, the Regulations Regarding the Time Limit for Handling Criminal Cases, the Supplementary Regulations for Punishment of Smuggling, the Supplementary Regulations on Punishment for Embezzlement and Bribes.

The laws on civil affairs include the Marriage Law, the Inheritance Law, the Civil Procedure Law, and the General Principles of Civil Law.

Economic laws include the Law on Chinese-Foreign Joint Venture, the Income Tax Law Concerning Chinese-Foreign Joint Venture, the Individual Income Tax Law, the Economic Contract Law, the Income Tax Law Concerning Foreign Enterprises, the Law on Sino-Foreign Economic Contracts, the Law on Foreign-Capital Enterprises, the Statistics Law, the Accounting Law, the Law on Enterprise Bankruptcy, the Measurements Law, the Law on Industrial Enterprises Owned by the Whole People, and the Law Concerning Joint Venture With Chinese and Foreign Investment.

The laws concerning natural resources and environmental protection include the Forestry Law, the Law on Environmental Protection, the Law on Maritime Environmental Protection, the Law on Water Pollution Prevention and Control, the Law on Air Pollution Prevention and Control, the Grassland Law, the Fishery Law, the Law Governing Mineral Resources, the Land Administration Law and the Water Law.

The laws concerning culture, education and science and technology include the Law for the Protection of Cultural Relics, the Patent Law, the Compulsory Education Law and the Regulations on Academic Degrees. ■

Nuclear Technology Boosts Agriculture

by Our Staff Reporter Liu Jianjun

China has established a complete research and application system for nuclear agronomy. By using nuclear technology, the nation has taken the world lead with its remarkable progresses and achievements in the fields of improved crop variety, pest prevention and control, and food preservation.

The Chinese Nuclear Society recently held a seminar in Beijing on the application of nuclear technology in agriculture. Scientists extensively exchanged information on their scientific research, application and achievements.

Xu Guanren, nuclear agronomist and the founder of the Institute for the Application of Nuclear Energy under the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Science, concluded in his report at the seminar: "Since China listed the peaceful application of nuclear energy as a key development project in the late 1950s, particularly during the ten years of reform and opening to the outside world in the 1980s, rapid progress and notable results have been attained in China's nuclear agronomy, enabling it to lead the world in the area of technical application."

Currently, China has formed a rather complete nuclear agronomy scientific research and application system. There are 26 institutes for the application of nuclear energy in agriculture above the provincial level, and nuclear agronomy societies have been set up in 21 provinces and municipalities. Moreover, there are more than 140 scientific research institutes engaged in

the field which involves more than 2,000 scientific research personnel. They have established variety laboratories with advanced equipment and have begun to shift from pure scientific research to production and marketing their products.

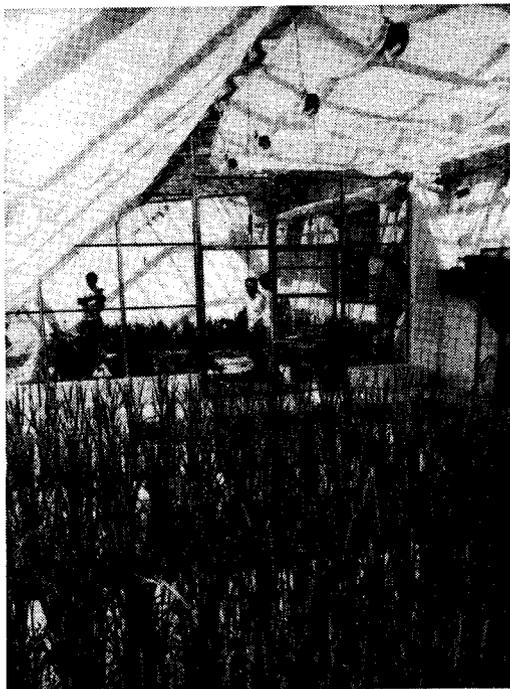
Breeding New Varieties

Outstanding achievements have been made in breeding and cultivating new varieties of crops through nuclear irradiation and in stimulating production with low doses of irradiation. China's

methods are now the world's state of the art. Statistics indicate that 325 improved varieties have been cultivated for 29 crops. Of these, 220 are grain crops, 36 cotton and oil-bearing crops and 69 vegetables and fruits. Two-thirds of these varieties were developed after 1980. The number ranks first in the world's total (518) and is 3.2 times higher than Japan, also a country with quite advanced breeding technology. As of now, the land planted with these improved varieties has amounted to 130 million *mu* (15 *mu*=1 hectare), one-tenth of the acreage sown to the same crops in China, 10 times over that of 1975. Among these varieties, six have been sown to more than 1,000 *mu* and 25 varieties have a growing area above 3 million *mu*.

The economic returns of these new varieties are considerable. Calculated by the most conservative standards, experts estimate that 3.25 billion-4 billion kg of grain, 150 million-200 million kg of cotton and 50 million-75 million kg of oil-bearing crops can be added annually to the harvest. The increase in grain alone can bring an additional 3.25 billion yuan each year, 650 times as much as the 5 million yuan invested by the state during the past decade.

A γ -ray greenhouse in Heilongjiang Province breeds pest-resistant farm crops under a closely monitored agricultural environment. WU ZUZHENG



For instance, the output of the cotton variety "Lu mian No.1" increased from 16,650 kg in 1979 to 172,500 kg in 1984 and its growing area rose from 8.14 million *mu* to 26 million *mu*.

The output of improved varieties of other crops such as maize, wheat, paddy rice, soybean and peanut all increased by a big margin and their growing area now makes up 70 to 90 percent of the total producing area.

These improved varieties helped to enhance disease resistance and crop adaptability and to shorten their growing periods. For example, the planting region of soybean has extended to 52 degree north latitude. Its resistance to cold has been greatly increased and its planting region has extended to 22 degree north latitude from original 18 degree north latitude. One variety of wheat has combined resistance to rust, powdery mildew and snow mould. The height of sunflower has been reduced to 80 cm and the bearing period to 85 days. A new variety of pear is able to survive at a temperature of 35 degrees below zero Centigrade.

Sweet potato series with a high resistance to disease and a high content of starch have been bred through radiation of asexual reproduction. Also, seedless, high-yielding orange varieties and a variety of short-stalk chestnut with more seeds in one bud were bred.

Notable achievements have also been made in animal production through low doses of irradiation. For example, by administering low doses of rays and neutron radiation, the vitality and adaptability of silkworms have been enhanced. The output of silkworm has increased an average of 10 to 20 percent and silk quality obviously improved. To date, this technology has been promoted in more than ten provinces and municipalities. Low doses of irradiation on fish and

shrimp eggs and larvae help raise their incubation and survival rate and boost their output by 20 percent.

Breeding technology through the use of irradiation is at present applied to more than 70 kinds of animals and plants. Its use is expected to be further promoted.

Pests Control

China began to use the irradiation technology to sterilize and wipe out insects in 1960.

The technology is first used to artificially propagate large amounts of pest and then to use γ -rays to destroy their reproductive capacity. The pests are then let into the environment to mate with other pests. Their ovums cannot be fertilized and they become extinct.

The technology is cheap and effective and avoids the problems caused by pesticides. It is currently the only possible advanced biological prevention method for destroying pests.

China has used this technology to eliminate scores of pests, including the maize-borer, pine moth, *Heliothis armigera*, *Argyroplece schistaceara*, maggot silkworm fly, *Plutella maculipennis*, *Tetradacus Citri* and *Plochia interpunctella* in grain storage.

Notable achievements have been made in controlling the *Tetradacus citri*, a pest which ravaged 80 percent of the citrus area in south China. The pest causes premature fruit drop. Artificially breeding of the pest began in 1981. Tens of thousands of ova were bred in laboratory, and 560,000 sterilized male flies were set free on 500-*mu* orange groves in Huishui County, Guizhou Province in 1987. The result was a drop in the affected area to 0.2 percent. In 1989, another 950,000 such male flies were set free and the insect pest rate dropped

further to 0.005 percent, a near complete eradication of the problem.

Marked results have also been achieved in the prevention and control of other pests. Currently, the technology is shifting from laboratory experiment to farmland application. Tremendous economic returns and biological benefits are expected after its general adoption.

Food Preservation

In a large agricultural country like China, how to keep the nation's abundant farm and sideline products fresh and extend the storage life has become an important research topic. The application of nuclear technology has provided a new avenue for research in the field.

In 1958, China began the research of nuclear irradiation of food and, particularly over the past decade, rapid progress has been made as research enters the commercialized production stage.

According to Wang Chuanyao, an expert in the field, there are more than 40 units and 200 people in China engaged in this work, using 52 large food irradiation equipment. After another ten are built, there will be a commercial network of irradiated food systems with the capacity for batch processing.

In the 1960s-70s, priority of the research was given to grain, and positive results were achieved. The storage periods of wheat, rice and other grain crops were extended by one-third of their original periods. In the 1980s, the research was expanded to herbs, meat, aquatic products, vegetables, fruits, medicines, cigarettes, wine and flowers. In 1984, the Ministry of Public Health approved the sanitary standards required for irradiated potato, onion, rice, mushroom, peanut and sausage

and following this, fresh food preserved with the irradiation technology were put on the market.

The grain isotope irradiation technology, internationally acknowledged, can kill pests in stored grain and extend the storage period, reducing losses by more than 50 percent. This achievement has been highly praised by experts and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Entrusted by the IAEA, Chinese research units studying the lethal doses of irradiation on stored grain pests and its affection to grain.

Irradiation of chicken meat can extend its storage life to 45 days at a room temperature of 25 to 30 degrees Centigrade, 11 times longer than natural storage period, without any obvious change in the nutrition value. In 1987, an expert from the Federal Republic of Germany agreed that the method was feasible after sampling some radiated food.

Irradiated bean products can be kept 10 days at a room temperature of 25 to 30 degrees Centigrade. Irradiation of cigarettes effectively prevents them from becoming mildewed and eliminates a breeding site for insects. At present, dozens of foods are being researched and it appears that the technology will be increasingly promoted in the years.

Use of Fertilizers

An expert of the Atomic Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Science said that even though China applies 85 million tons of fertilizer each year, the utilization rate is just one-third of this amount. The application of the nuclear isotope tracing technology has been proved to be helpful in the rational application of fertilizer.

The technology uses radioactive isotope to track the revolution and distribution of materi-

als. In regards to fertilizer application, it is a means of measuring the state of soil fertilizer and its influence on the growth of farm and sideline products. In this way, the variety and amount of fertilizer can be properly decided.

China began to research the use of tracing fertilizer application on farmland in the early 1960s and, as of now, has categorized more than 20 types of soil, each responding to a particular fertilizer with satisfying results, and obtained hundreds of experimental data. For example, each type of crop has a different requirement for phosphate fertilizer and only with a proper dose will the crop grow rapidly, or else the result will be counterproductive.

Tracer technology indicates that phosphate fertilizer on the surface of rape soil brings notable result but that it is a waste for paddy rice. Deep fertilization on paddy field brings an average increase of output of 5 to 12 percent and an increase of fertilizer utilization rate by 20 percent.

To date the area using this technology has reached 66.5 million *mu*, and the grain output has been raised by 1.66 billion kg. The adoption of rational fertilizer application proportion has also increased the output of other products. For instance, apple harvests increased an average of 10 percent and orange by 70 kg per *mu*.

Experts predict that 20 million tons of fertilizer can be saved each year as the technology is promoted in wider areas.

Co-operation

Since the 1980s, China has strengthened its ties with other nations in the field of nuclear agro-technology.

In 1982, M. Fried, head of the combined office of the UN Food

and Agricultural Organization and the International Atomic Energy Agency, said on a visit to China, "There is no country in the world like China which possesses such a complete system of nuclear technology application in agriculture. The results which China has achieved are quite notable."

Since China joined the IAEA in 1984, it has participated many times in the agency's activities nuclear agronomy. Each year, two or three Chinese experts attend the agency's training courses, and China has hosted international conferences and seminars on food storage, pest sterilization, breeding through irradiation and the application of neutron technology.

By 1989, China had been awarded nearly 30 IAEA contracts to develop agricultural research, and a training centre has been established in Zhejiang Province.

China has hosted many officials and scientists from more than ten countries who came to receive training or on fact-finding tours. China has also provided training courses for scientific research personnel from other countries. Some Chinese experts have been invited abroad to give lectures or to participate in scientific research activities. Chen Ziyuan, president of the Zhejiang Agricultural University, was invited by the IAEA as an adviser. Professor Xu Guanren, a nuclear agronomist, went to the United States in June 1990 to attend a seminar and report on the progress made by China in this field.

As China opens its door wider to the outside, it will not only import and absorb foreign advanced technology and equipment, but also continue to export its own research achievements and products. ■

Beijing's First Group of New Nuns

XIN SHIJI
(New Century)

Since 1980, China has reopened or established 11 Catholic theological colleges and preparatory schools. More than 20 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities have initiated primary schools for educating nuns. There are more than 1,000 devoted nuns and Catholic students studying at these institutes or schools.

Now Beijing has produced its first group of educated nuns. Ranging in age from 23 to 28, the seven nuns have just graduated from the St. Joseph Convent.

The seven all passed entrance examinations in September 1985. After physical examination and an interview, they were enrolled in the college along with other five. A year later, due to the strict restraints on future life, only seven remained.

Routines of campus life were not easy for them. Getting up at 5:00, the nuns participate in meditation, Mass, self-examination, read three classics and attend classes during the day. Their curriculum covers classes in Catholic Principles, Bible, English, Chinese, Current Affairs, Embroidery and Physical Training. They are able to participate in fencing, rhyiming and other physical training classes, not calling it a day until 9:00 at night.

Students live a collective life and practise a supply system. Each student enjoys a monthly 40-yuan stipend, however a portion of the stipend is used for a common fund. They usually dress themselves in white shirts and black skirt. Gray Western garments and nun habits are provided free of charge, so they need only buy their daily necessities. A white quilt and some religious paintings decorate their dormitory rooms. They have chosen to be a nun for various reasons. Some are devotees of religious faiths, some are influenced by family and some choose the life of a nun for other personal reasons.

After completing their primary education, they will further their specific professions in nursing, English, cooking and sewing. One will act as an assistant to the dean helping with some administrative affairs and learn

to play religious music. Apart from lecturing to friends, they also attend various religious activities.

(Issue No. 2, 1990)

Potala Palace Repair Project

RENMIN RIBAO
(People's Daily, Overseas Edition)

The first phase of renovation to the Potala Palace in Tibet has passed quality examination by the relevant department. Luo Zhewen, a senior engineer who authorized the renovation project for the Great Wall, considers the work at Potala Palace "satisfactory."

The three-phase project has a total state investment budget of 35 million yuan. The just completed first phase involves the reinforcement of the underground channel at northern side of the White Palace, a repair to the two-storey Wangkang (the place for Abhisecana, a Buddhist rite for ordination purpose), repairs to the Buddhist scriptures and garments halls at the Red Palace, the water pump house and the Puncog Duilang Ladder. The northern wall at the eastern hall of the White Palace has also been reinforced.

During the process of repairing, experts of ancient architecture have successfully preserved murals totalling 93.8 square metres and washed a total of 126 square metres outmoded murals. Experts of the Institute of Wood Industry under the Chinese Academy of Forest Sciences have specifically processed antiseptic and pestfree timber to use in the repair of wood frameworks in the palace.

Meanwhile, workers have tried their best to preserve the cultural relics during the renovating of the palace. Relics at each site were wrapped, documented or moved to insure their protection. More than 4,000 movable relics loaded in 90 boxes have been transported to safe locations.

The first-phase work is a fundamental one. The repairs of the Red Palace and the Lingta Hall will be a more laborious undertaking in the coming three years.

(August 27, 1990)

Causes of Wage Increases

GUANGMING RIBAO
(Guangming Daily)

Since 1978, Chinese workers have seen major increases in their wages. Many factors have played a role in this including the following:

A decade of wage hikes. From 1978 to 1988, the workers' wages nearly doubled, surpassing the 29.4 percent increase in wages over the 25-year period between 1952 and 1977. Discounting price hikes, the actual average increase between 1978 and 1988 was 50.7 percent and 4.2 percent for the annual increase as compared with a 4 percent increase between 1952 and 1977 and an annual increase of 0.16 percent.

Changes in wage increase system. Ten years ago, the state government was responsible for over-all increases in the wages of workers. During this period, most enterprises exercised a floating wage system whereby wages reflected the efficiency of enterprises. For personnel in state organs and institutions, a system in which their salaries were related to their position was adopted.

Wages influenced by price hikes. During the 27 years from 1950 to 1977, the cost of living grew by only 43.7 percent, averaging 1.35 percent annually. But in the ten years between 1978 and 1988, it grew 88.5 percent or 6.5 percent annually. Therefore, wage increases over the decade were partly offset by price hikes.

Increase in individual savings. Between 1978 and 1988, savings deposits shot up 17.16 times to 265.92 billion yuan in 1988 from 15.49 billion yuan in 1978. That represented an annual increase of 32.88 percent. Cash in hand grew by 12.94 times, up 29.18 percent annually.

Increase in income from sources other than wages. The proportion of workers' income from sources other than wages increased 13.34 times to 63.5 billion yuan from 4.76 billion yuan, or 29.57 percent annually.

Increase in citizens' incomes from the state and other sources. In 1988, this type of income nearly tripled to 55.99 billion yuan from 19.85 billion yuan in 1978. That represented an annual increase of 10.9 percent annually and was 15.3 percent of the total income of both urban and rural residents, or about 24 percent of each worker's total wage volume.

(July 7, 1990)

Projects Seek Foreign Partnership

Hong Kong, Macao, Taiwan compatriots and foreign businessmen are invited to set up their own factories, share factories and conduct compensatory trade with mainland partners in 71 economic and technological projects specially designed to attract foreign investment. The projects were announced in Beijing on September 4 by Zhang Renwei, deputy director of the State Bureau of Building Materials Industry.

The projects involve cement, glass, glass fibre, non-metal ore, new building materials, inorganic non-metal materials and building ceramics. They are in accordance with the state industrial policy and the development programme of building materials and have the potential for good economic returns.

Also announced are 58 projects whose technology and equipment for production of cement and their products, glass and glass fibre, building sanitary ceramic, new building materials and artificial crystals will be exported. The patent right, patent applicant right and patent implementation permission can be transferred; the technology for research, development, production and directions of these products will be transferred; complete sets of equipment, major facilities and production lines will also be exported and; further co-operation may be carried out in production, design, development and construction contracted projects.

Over the past decade, economic and technological co-operation between China's building materials sector and foreign countries has been very

brisk. Foreign funds were used, for example, to set up Jidong, Ningguo and Shunchang cement factories each with an annual output of 1.2 million tons of cement and to establish more than 50 foreign-funded enterprises with a total offshore investment of US\$500 million. The Shanghai Yaohua Pilkington Glassworks, for instance, exported 62 percent of its output in 1989 for a value of US\$38 million. This represented an outstanding foreign investment in China. In addition, the building materials industry invested US\$2 billion to introduce advanced foreign technology and equipment to update outdated enterprises. This resulted in an increase of export ability of building materials industry.

Statistics indicate that the 1989 gross output value of China's building materials industry reached 54 billion yuan, 1.5 times the 1980 figure. Its export value was US\$1 billion in 1989, and is expected to reach US\$2.5 billion in 1995.

Zhang said that there are many favourable conditions in expansion of economic and technological co-operation with foreign countries in the building materials industry. China is rich in mineral resources and has a wider sales market both at home and abroad. In addition, the state has designated the industry as a major one which can use foreign funds in order to support agriculture.

In order to boost the building materials industry, Zhang added, the 4th Sino-Japanese Building Materials Exchange Meeting will be held in Tokyo in November this year. The two sides will negotiate the establishment of cement and glass joint ventures; at the end of November, the Exhibition of International Construction Technology, Building Materials and Equip-

ment will be held in the China World Trade Centre. At the same time, trade talks will be held and technological exchanges conducted.

by Yao Jianguo

Better Supply for Joint Ventures

The supply of materials and equipment of more than 20,000 foreign-invested enterprises is expected to improve in the coming years, according to a report by the Ministry of Materials and Equipment and approved recently by the State Council.

At present, almost all raw and semi-finished materials, fuel, machines, electrical appliances and other materials needed by Chinese enterprises involving foreign investments are domestically produced.

As these materials and equipment are in small number and various varieties, some are difficult to purchase and suppliers are hard to find in some areas. All these affect the normal production.

The report calls upon all material and equipment departments to bring into play any advantage for improvement of the supply of materials and equipment in two or three years. They should provide as much of the raw and semi-finished materials needed as possible to foreign-invested enterprises which China can offer. They also should study the demands of these enterprises for additional material and equipment and deliver or allot them in order to establish, step by step, stable supply relations.

The report also proposes that enterprises, in principle, should import raw and semi-finished

materials in short domestic supply for producing export goods. If this is difficult, they can entrust foreign trade companies or materials and equipment companies of foreign-invested enterprises which have right to import goods with imports of materials and equipment they need.

The report also says that in order to help these enterprises with imports of raw and semi-finished materials, the materials and equipment companies of foreign-invested enterprises in the coastal areas at the provincial or city level are empowered to import materials and equipment. These companies are under the leadership of local economic and trade departments. ■

Better Quality of Imports & Exports

Zhu Zhenyuan, director of the State Administration for the Inspection of Import and Export Commodities, said in Beijing on August 29 that since the law on inspection of import and export commodities was implemented on August 1 last year, the quality of both import and export goods has improved steadily. Over the first half of this year, commodity inspection departments examined export products worth US\$11.85 billion, an increase of 39.1 percent over the same period last year. Of this figure, 96.45 percent of the goods were up to standard. During the first half of last year, for example, there was a dramatic drop in quality of nine export goods such as canned pork, tobacco, mountain products, cotton, drawnwork, nonferrous metals, medicine, silk and washing machines. The quality of these products has improved.

Statistics indicate that 88.23 percent of major import goods were up to standard during the first half of this year, a 1.46 percent rise over the same period last year. The quality of complete sets of imported machinery and electrical equipment, household electrical appliances, pig iron, paper, timber and plywood, for example, has improved.

Although the quality did improve overall, there was still a drop in quality in 15 out of 112 major exports. Low quality, damaged, substandard and adulterated goods were commonplace. All 200 tons of smoken sheet rubber imported in March this year by the Huangpu port in Guangdong Province, for instance, were below the standards stipulated in the contract. Inspection authorities produced examination certificates and required that the foreign firm pay for the loss. Incomplete statistics indicate that 14 provinces and cities including Liaoning and Jiangsu province, Shanghai and Tianjin cities were compensated some US\$12.5 million from foreign countries in the first quarter this year.

In order to guarantee product quality, China formulated and revised 19 necessary laws and regulations over the past year, increasing the varieties of both import and export goods to be inspected from 375 to 481. As of May 1 this year, China started a quality licence system governing nine import products including automobiles, motors and engines, refrigerators and compressors, air conditioners and compressors, TV sets (colour or black and white) and products crucial for safety, health and environment protection. A total of 24 new state commodity inspection laboratories and a batch of local laboratories have been approved so as to increase exami-

nation capacity. Statistics indicate that in the first half this year the value of inspected import and export products respectively accounted for 80 and 50 percent of China's total foreign trade. ■

Taiwan Applies for More Trade Marks

According to the State Administration for Industry and Commerce, the Chinese government in 1989 accepted 1,350 applications for trade mark registrations from Taiwan, 650 more than the 1988 figure. Applications reached 811 in the first half of this year.

An administration official noted that China always welcomes Taiwan businessmen to apply for trade mark registrations on the mainland. Such registration allows them to enjoy the same treatment as their mainland compatriots.

The fact that China in 1989 joined the Madrid Agreement on International Trade Mark Registration not only provided a favourable and effective channel for mainland enterprises to apply for trade mark registrations in foreign countries but also offered Taiwanese the convenience of applying for international trade mark registration, the official said.

Statistics indicate that 989 out of more than 2,800 applications made by Taiwanese for trade mark registrations on the mainland have been approved since 1988.

Industrial and commercial authorities on the mainland are ready to set up a trade mark agency in Hong Kong on behalf of Taiwan businesses who wish

to apply for mainland trade mark registration. ■

Smugglers Foiled In Their Attempts

During the first half of this year, China's customs houses uncovered and seized 280 million yuan contraband connected with some 6,000 smuggling attempts, respectively up 160 percent and 6 percent over the corresponding period last year. Of the total number of cases, 56 major ones each involved more than 1 million yuan and 195 cases have been brought to justice.

Of the smuggled goods, the amount of videorecorders and nylon cloth decreased 79 percent and 60 percent compared with the same period last year, while television sets (colour, black and white) increased 180 percent. The amount of filter tip cigarettes also tended to increase. For example, 1,300 tons of such filter tips worth 58 million yuan were dug out at the Jiulong, Guangzhou, Shantou and Tumen checkpoints alone. In addition, a total of 27 million yuan foreign materials were captured by June this year.

Goods, about to be smuggled out, include cultural relics, foreign currencies and cotton textiles. In April, the Guangzhou Customs House discovered that a Hong Kong driver hid more than 2,200 pieces of historical relics in a freight car, of which 1,839 were legally banned from export. ■

Jungar Coalfield to Import Facilities

Invitations regarding the import of equipment needed for

the first stage of a project at the Jungar Opencut Coal Mine, Inner Mongolia, the largest of its kind in China, were issued at the end of August this year.

The Jungar Coalfield is the second project set up by China using Japanese energy loans. Under the agreement, the necessary equipment may be purchased abroad using an unlimited purchase form.

Located in the eastern part of the Jungar Banner of Ih Ju League, the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, the Jungar Coalfield stretches 65 kilometres from north to south and 21 kilometres wide from east to west. There is an exploration area of 1,365 square kilometres, into which some 4.14 billion yuan has been and will be invested. A total reserve of 26.2 billion tons of coal had been found by the end of 1986.

The first stage of construction includes the 12-million-ton Heidaigou Opencut Coal Mine, a large coal-dressing factory; a 200,000 kw power plant; a 216-kilometre electrified railway between Fengtian Town and Jungar; and a water diversion project from the Yellow River and other necessary projects. The first-stage project is expected to begin operation in 1993 and reach the designed output capacity in 1995. ■

News in Brief

● Sponsored by the China Geological Society (CGS) and the COGS of the United States, the international symposium and exhibition on the "Application of Computers in Geology" will be held in Beijing from September 2 to 6, 1991.

The meeting will be a forum

for discussing geophysics and geochemistry and a display of exploration instruments, equipment and computer software and hardware. The Beijing Computation Centre of the Ministry of Geology and Mineral Resources, organizer of the meeting, successfully arranged the Beijing '89 International Symposium on Exploration of Geophysics last year.

● The 8th National State Farm Produce Exhibition will be held in the Beijing Agricultural Exhibition Centre from September 23 to October 5. On display will be thousands of products including new products, local specialties and name-brand products which enjoy brisk sales on the international market. With an exhibition area of 21,030 square metres, it is the largest display of its kind ever held.

● All judges of the 11th Asian Games will stay in the Beijing Xin Dadu Hotel which will open on the eve of the games.

A modern four-star hotel, Xin Dadu is an extension of the Beijing Dadu Hotel. After its renovation and expansion, the hotel has 400 guest rooms (suites) including single, double standard and luxury rooms and presidential suites. For the convenience of domestic and foreign businessmen travelling in connection with their work, all rooms are equipped with international direct dial telephones. The hotel has satellite dishes and can receive commercial broadcasts from the United States.

Located in western Beijing, Xin Dadu Hotel is only several hundred metres from China's eight largest import and export companies under the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade. It is an ideal place to stay for foreign businessmen. ■

Tourist Attractions In Shaanxi

During the autumn tourist peak, Shaanxi has introduced a number of tourist attractions, including:

—From September 1 to the end of October, at the First Exhibition Hall of the Museum of the Qin Dynasty, tourists can appreciate Terracotta Warriors and Horses by standing on a floating bridge and have their pictures taken.

—From October 7 to 15, a fireworks display will be held in Xian. At the same time, folk art performances with a rich northwest national flavour will be given in the city square for the entertainment of travellers. Gunpowder is one of China's greatest inventions and fireworks manufactured in Xian have long had a reputation throughout the country.

—Since August 26, the ruins of the common bathing pool located in Huaqing Palace, built during the Tang Dynasty (618-907), has been open to visitors. According to recorded history, Yang Yuhuan, a favourite imperial concubine of Emperor Li Longji, came here frequently to bathe. During the period of 712-756, when the emperor was on the throne, the Tang Dynasty experienced ups and downs. The love story of the emperor and concubine is a household word in China.

Kong Qingsen, director of the Shaanxi Provincial Tourist Administration, said that Shaanxi is one of the birthplaces of China's cultural heritage. Eleven dynasties, lasting at least more than 1,100 years, made Xian or the vicinity their capital. Its long history has left numerous precious cultural relics and historical legacies in the area. While the Qin Dynasty Terracotta Warriors and Horses unearthed in 1974 caused a sensation throughout the world, it is reported that another discovery of pottery figures from the early Han Dynasty can be traced back to more than 2,100 years. Although not as big as the Qin Dynasty Terracotta Warriors

and Horses, there are more in number.

Kong said that there are four main tourist routes from the north, east, south and west leading to Xian. The four routes provide a scenic journey which does credit to the natural landscape of the northwest plateau.

In recent years, tourist facilities in Shaanxi have continued to improve. The newly built Xianyang Airport at which large Boeing 747s can land is expected to operate on a trial basis by the end of the year. At present, some 24 tourist hotels with more than 6,000 guest rooms have been completed in Xian.

China's Northwest Airline Company, one of the six largest airlines in the country, has opened a branch in Beijing to handle domestic and international passenger and cargo business.

by Han Baocheng

Dragonair in Beijing

A Beijing branch affiliated to the Hong Kong-based Dragonair Co. went into business recently at the China World Trade Centre in Beijing.

As of now, the company's planes are permitted to fly to 30 cities throughout China, and eight airlines have been put into service. In addition to scheduled flights from Hong Kong to Beijing, flights to Dalian, Kunming, Shanghai, and Xiamen are also provided. The company also arranges chartered flights to such places as Guilin, Haikou and Nanjing. When the expansion of Hangzhou Airport is finished, it will have flights to that city too.

Jerry Penwarden, chief operating officer of the company, said that the main task of the company is to carry guests from Hong Kong and Southeast Asian countries as well as Taiwanese who travel and visit their relatives and friends on China's mainland or on business purposes. Now that the new Boeing 737-200A planes are in use, it shows that the company's business

is thriving. He added that the company carried more than 328,144 people to various areas throughout China during the first seven months of this year. By the end of 1990 the number of travellers is expected to reach 680,000, double that of the previous year.

Established in April 1985, Dragonair opened its first airline to Xiamen in November that year. Dragonair's Beijing branch is its largest resident airline company overseas.

by Han Baocheng

China's Largest Garden Hotel

At 11 o'clock on September 1 this year, the opening ceremony was held for the Building of Distinguished Guests at the Beijing Friendship Hotel (originally the main building). Standing Member of the Advisory Commission of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party Zhang Jinfu and other leaders were present to cut the ceremonious red ribbon.

Thanks to the late Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai, the Friendship Hotel was built in 1954 and has since been a main residence for foreign experts and guests in Beijing. When China began to carry out the policy of reform and opening to the outside world in 1979, the hotel as of 1984 collected the funds necessary to renovate the internal facilities of five large buildings and 50 apartments in order to meet the demands of the developing tourist business.

Now the hotel boasts 1,900 suites. The new Building of Distinguished Guests is up to the state level of a four-star hotel.

To salute the XI Asian Games, the hotel has installed some modern service facilities for the high-level hotel. In the courtyards of the Friendship Hotel with the Village Garden, Su Garden, Yi Garden, Ya Garden and Central Flowers Garden, hundreds of trees, flowers and lawns are luxuriously green. The hotel will provide a unique garden-style living quarters to friends from various countries during the XI Asian Games. ■

Drama Reflects Contemporary Rural Life

Only half an hour before curtain rises there are still a large group of anxious people strolling outside the Beijing People's Art Theatre hoping for a chance to buy last minute cancelled tickets. Each time this theatre stages or restages a good play this is sure to happen. This time the play *Field ... Field* is about village life in China's northeast. Audiences numbering about 40,000 people have seen this drama during the 45 performances staged and enjoyed it immensely. One member of the audience who came from the countryside in Jilin in the northeast wrote in a letter to the People's Art Theatre, "It seems as if the story in your play took place just where I live."

The Beijing People's Art Theatre has always taken seriously to modern and contemporary themes, among which dramas on rural life make up the major proportion. After *Wedding and Funeral* in 1984, and *Gouerye's Nirvana* in 1986, it now performs *Field ... Field*. People call these "a trilogy on rural life."

Wedding and Funeral tells about the contradictions arising from different views village folk have towards marriage, love and funerals in north China's villages. *Gouerye's Nirvana*, with Grandpa Gouerye as the main character, tells about the lives of rural people of various strata between the end of the 1940s and mid-1980s. *Field ... Field* describes the happenings of one

day in a country village during the 1980s.

At the crack of dawn, farmers and various pedlars appear, shouting and rushing to a fair at the head of the village. Honest Old Wang is at his stall preparing to sell melons, and a small restaurant, the Dongya, is busy setting up for its first day of business. The deputy village cadre Chang, out to fulfil his duty, disregards circumstances and asks Old Wang, whose profits are meagre enough, to register as a "millionaire" private businessman, then makes him donate money towards education in the village. Uneducated private business "millionaire" Deaf Ba returns from a visit to Beijing and excitedly tells villagers about the marvelous goings

on in the city. He gives the folks a chance to listen to some funeral music which he mistakenly calls a popular song. After this, a number of health inspectors and tax collectors come to the restaurant and are treated to an extravagant meal with plenty of drinks. When the county head, who happens to be passing by, sees this, he criticizes the cadres severely. In the evening, farmers tired after a day's work come in and sit down at the tea tables to watch a performance of local opera. Lao Diao of the tax bureau claims the tea tables are doing illegal business because they were not licensed, and he has the electricity cut off. Farmers still interested in the performance move to a vacant spot in the village to continue listening to the opera.

Field ... Field.



Playwright Li Jie said, "We selected this ordinary day from among many in the lives of country folk related typical events that happen in a single day, using the real simple language of the people. It gives the audience food for thought." Director Lin Zhaohua said, "In this 'random structure' play, we didn't deliberately build up a complete, detailed story, but artistically let it reveal on the stage the various phenomena of complicated village life which take place on an ordinary day." This play was praised by the critics who likened it to *Riverside Scene at Qingming Festival*, a large famous genre painting of the Song Dynasty, depicting

people of various social strata on holiday in the capital city Bianliang. The painting shows many figures, men and women, old and young, a teashop, wine shop, merchants, ships, carts and so on. The composition is life-like, complicated and highly original. Specialists think that *Field ... Field*, with the help of concrete and real figures, reflects the contradictions between modern Chinese farmers and their deep-rooted culture as they are swept along in the great tide of reform and opening to the outside world. The drama shows them in search of a new life, but full of hesitations and uncertainty as they strive ahead into the future.

Field ... Field is a "group play" on a broad canvas. Sometimes over 70 characters appear on the stage, including farmers, vendors, private businessmen, village cadres, entrepreneurs, government officials, cobblers, folk pharmacists, pig breeders and so on, all bearing their distinctive occupational characteristics. Performing such a group play which involves so many characters is a technique the People's

Art Theatre are experienced at. *Teashop, Dragon Beard Ditch, Top Restaurant, Xiaojing Lane*, and others performed by the theatre also had casts of as many as 40 to 50 actors and actresses.

To cater to the needs of the stage, the director boldly overthrew some traditions during the performance to make the play more realistic and more lively. For example, according to general stage etiquette, actors should avoid turning their backs to the audience. But in this play, two kept their backs to the audience for quite a long time, one, a woman fruit vendor and the other, a cobbler. What is more, usually props are used to represent animals on the stage, but here a real donkey, a dog and a sheep are used. Famous film director Dong Daoming said, "The playwright and director of this play wanted to make the action more realistic and to create a refreshing and stimulating effect."

The stage design is also very special. There are things woven with rice straw. The melon stall and restaurant are made of maize and sorghum stalks, while

a large willow tree provides a simple but strong village atmosphere.

To prepare for rehearsals, over 50 persons on the *Field ... Field* cast went to live in the heart of a rural community in Jilin Province for some time last spring. This was, as they put it, "to experience life." This is also a long tradition of the People's Art Theatre. Nearly every play reflecting real life has passed through a rigorous stage of "experiencing life." "Only by understanding life can one express life," says an actor.

by Liu Zhangchun

New Progress in Corrosion Science

In 1989, the Beijing Heat and Power Plant found some of its oil pipes leaking because of corrosion. Then the Shenyang-based Institute of Corrosion and Protection of Metals under the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Bohai Petroleum Designing Company were invited to make an investigation into the corrosion. Scientists consulted the corrosion data of metals in different types of soil collected by the institute, and made a trial excavation. They found the leaks in spots where the oil had permeated the earth layer to only 20 cm below the surface and prevented a serious accident.

Corrosion by atmosphere, seawater and soil is harmful to human beings. According to incomplete statistics compiled through surveys by the Ministry of Petroleum Industry on China's 12 oil fields from 1978 to 1980, some 1,0130 holes in the pipelines were caused by corrosion, resulting in an economic loss of 8 million yuan. The Anshan Iron and Steel Company, China's largest, suffered

Chen Jiajian, associate research fellow at the institute, talks with his colleagues about the corrosion inhibitor.

WEI LIMING



a 67.21-million-yuan damage, about 5 percent of the company's yearly profit. Experts estimate that each year China suffers a direct damage of 14 billion yuan because of corrosion, almost 2 percent of the country's total output value.

The Shenyang Institute of Corrosion and Protection of Metals is the first of its kind in China. The Environmental Corrosion Research Group of the institute has successfully graded the corrosivity of 41 kinds of soil after surveying and accumulating relevant data on soil corrosion, providing a scientific basis for engineering work and corrosion control in underground projects.

China is the world's No.1 coal producer. However, with the development of industry, large quantities of corrosive gases like sulfur dioxide have seriously polluted the air and resulted in acid rain which increases the rate of corrosion. As a result, a great deal of equipment has been damaged because of corrosion, causing minor problems such as leakage of oil, air and water, or even serious accidents. Therefore it is very important to study the air pollution in a certain area. At present the institute is drawing up an atmosphere corrosion graphic map of Liaoning Province and an atmosphere corrosion graphic map of Hainan Province, and is studying acid rain corrosion on materials in southwestern China.

The corrosion inhibitors successfully created at the institute have solved corrosion problems in the country's economic construction. For years the institute applied its inhibitors to the heat supplying pipes in Fushun city, Liaoning Province, enabling the city to save over 10 million yuan each year. This achievement won a second-class award of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Now the institute is doing research on a new kind of inhibitor that can resist the corrosion of carbon dioxide for the North China Oil Field. The oil field once had to suspend operation of one productive well because of the corrosion by carbon dioxide.

To prolong the life span of machines and reduce corrosion is one of the most important of the institute's research items. The multi-functional laser processing lathe can have laser processing on the inside and surface of various parts especially on the motor cylinders whose life span can be doubled.

The laser processing lathe has processed the cylinders sent by the Changchun No.1 Motor Factory and the Capital Taxi Company and the results are outstandingly satisfactory. For example, after 30,000 kilometres running, abrasion on the cylinders of a car engine is only 0.005 mm. Experts say that if the technology is applied to China's 200,000 cars of the same kind, US\$20 million in foreign currency can be saved for the country.

by Wei Liming

News in Brief

The shooting squads of eight feature films such as *The Grand Founding Ceremony*, three TV series such as *After Marriage*, and six short TV pieces such as *The Last Moment of Bainqen Erdini Qoigy Gyaincain* won Gallant Horse Awards. The activity was sponsored by the Film and TV Journalists Association under the China Journalists Association, the China Film Distribution Company and the Film Bureau of the Ministry of Radio, Film and Television.

* * *

China Zibuo Ceramics and Coloured Glaze Festival was

held in Zibuo city, Shandong Province from September 5 to 11. Businessmen from other parts of China and other countries, as well as Hong Kong and Macao were invited to attend.

Zibuo is known as one of China's five largest ceramics production bases. Its ceramics history dates back 4,000-5,000 years. The city also has a history of coloured glaze production of more than 600 years. Zibuo's ceramics and glazed products have enjoyed outstanding fame both within the country and abroad.

During the festival, in addition to an exhibition of ceramic and glazed products and trade talks, there were academic symposiums on ceramics and coloured glaze, competitions in design, decoration and variety of ceramics and glazed products, an autumn lantern festival, folk arts show and camp-fire party.

* * *

A dragon lantern festival presented by Wuhan, Hubei Province, began on July 24 in Taoranting Park for the entertainment of Beijing audiences. To celebrate the opening of the 11th Asian Games, the festival will continue until October 10. The 56 groups of decorative coloured lanterns made by folk artists in Wuhan transformed the park into a wonderland.

* * *

China's first four-way laser record was recently produced by the China Huayi Audio and Video Co. Ltd. The first series named *Sing Along* includes 48 popular Chinese songs. The company is preparing to present more at a later time and will offer traditional Chinese artistic pieces from opera and *quyi* (folk art forms including ballad singing, story telling, comic dialogues, clapper talks, cross talks). ■



A Gathering of Lions.

Snuff Bottle Paintings

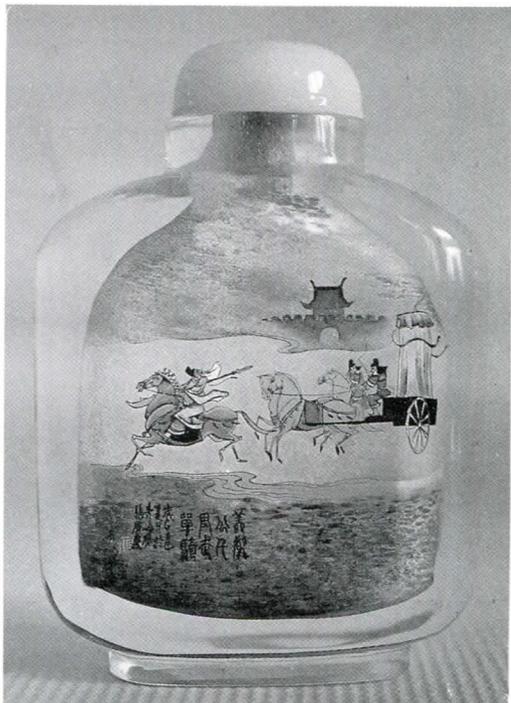
These paintings are drawn on the inside walls of transparent snuff bottles. The painter Zhang Guangqing is a skilled artist born in Jining City, Shandong Province in 1948. He can draw many vivid figures of people and animals in a bottle of less than three square centimetres. His works are highly praised at home and abroad.



Ancient Figure



An Ancient Peasant Uprising.



An Old Story.

Chinese Trumpet Creeper: Trueran Gauze



Cloth woven and made by good-quality trueran and natural cotton yarn:
Pure terylene products include two-ply, three-ply and four-ply skein and cheese;
Trueran blended gauze has a variety of mixed ratios:
Trueran yarn includes varied counts of carded, combed single-ply and two-ply as well as the waxed-cheese;

Trueran yarn includes grey cotton, bleached cloth, dyed cloth printed or dyed shirting. Our variety of fabrics include fine cloth, fine spun, poplin, voile, seersucker, linen, Oxford spun, yarn spun fabric, drills, khaki drills, jacquard, brocade and corduroy.

The printed and dyed products made from trueran are rich in colour, bright, original and beautiful in style. Through resin finishing, they are durable, crease-resistant, waterproof and have as beautiful imitation silk treatment. Being smooth, soft and comfortable to wear, they are a favourite with customers and sell well throughout the world.

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