

BEIJING REVIEW



**NPC Standing
Committee
Adopts Important
Decisions**

●
**Life of Young
People in
China's
Countryside**

**A CHINESE WEEKLY OF
NEWS AND VIEWS**

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

NPC Standing Committee Meeting

The 22nd Session of the Standing Committee of the Fifth National People's Congress approved the plan for restructuring the State Council, adopted a resolution for severely punishing criminals in the economic field, decided to release all former Kuomintang officials, and approved a number of appointments and removals (p. 5).

Women's Day Marked

Chinese women who are playing an increasingly important role in socialist construction celebrated International Working Women's Day (March 8) with a variety of activities in the Chinese capital and other cities (p. 7).

Young Peasants' Outlook

What are the views, values, demands and interests of China's rural youths who make up 72 per cent of the young people in China? A special feature by our correspondent who recently

visited Longhai County in the coastal province of Fujian helps readers get a better understanding of how China's 136.8 million young people in the countryside live, work and feel today (p. 18).

Sino-American Relations

An article by Xinhua Commentator reiterates the prerequisites for a better relationship between China and the United States. If the United States were to insist on a long-term policy of selling arms to Taiwan, which is a province of China, Sino-American relations will retrogress (p. 10).

"Two Chinas" Plot Denounced

A responsible member of the Chinese Softball Association declared that any attempt to create "two Chinas" by making use of the forthcoming World Women's Softball Championship in China's Taipei is absolutely impermissible (p. 9).

Soviet Sub's Intrusion

The intrusion of a Soviet submarine into Italian waters is yet another example exposing Moscow's hypocrisy that it desires to turn the Mediterranean into "a sea of peace" (p. 13).

"Three Monks"

A humorous animated film which has gained international acclaim, *Three Monks* incorporates new ethics in an old fable (p. 27).



A woman worker in a chemical fibre plant.
Photo by Wang Guanmin

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More on Prosecuting Economic Criminals

Will the current campaign of prosecuting cases of graft, corruption and smuggling in China affect its open-door policy?

The adoption of an open-door policy for trade and economic co-operation with foreign countries is not an expediency but a strategic decision taken after careful consideration. The present campaign against smuggling, embezzlement, bribery and other economic crimes will not affect this policy, but will ensure its better implementation.

China will continue to carry out economic and technical co-operation with other countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, import advanced technology and management expertise, make use of foreign funds and learn from other countries' strength to overcome its own shortcomings. All this will enhance China's self-reliance and is necessary for the country's modernization drive. It is also one of the 10 principles laid down by the government for economic construction.

Not a single country in the world, no matter what its political system, has ever modernized with a closed-door policy. International economic and technical co-operation and exchange are increasingly necessary in today's world where modern science and technology are rapidly changing.

In recent years, economic co-operation between China and other countries has developed very quickly. In 1980, China's total volume of foreign trade was 56,300 million yuan,

more than twice that of 1977. Large-scale readjustments were carried out in 1981 which, for the fourth year in succession, saw double-digit increases in the total volume of exports and ended China's unfavourable balance in foreign trade.

To date, approval has been given to 40 joint ventures with foreign funds, 26 of which are in operation. In addition, we have signed more than 500 compensatory trade contracts and lease agreements with foreign businesses. Currently, China is calling for bids from foreign firms for joint exploitation of offshore oil resources.

On the other hand, we are aware that some unhealthy tendencies are likely to crop up with the implementation of an open policy towards foreign countries and flexible economic policies at home. A major one is the increase in economic crimes, which disrupt the market and normal trade and are detrimental to the develop-

ment of China's foreign trade.

We carry out economic co-operation with foreign countries today when the socialist public economy holds the predominant position in China, and we adopt flexible economic policies at home with the prerequisite of upholding the socialist orientation of management. Illegal economic activities that harm our socialist cause will not be tolerated and socialist China will never be a paradise for adventurers.

Combating crimes in the economic field and punishing the perpetrators according to law will ensure the correct implementation of our open policy and flexible domestic economic policies, protect the legitimate rights of businessmen and leave no loopholes for a few criminals to exploit. In this way, obstacles will be swept away for the expansion of economic and trade co-operation with foreign countries as well as for China's socialist construction.

— *Economic Editor Wang Dacheng*

Western Sahara Issue

The Organization of African Unity's recent acceptance of the West Sahara People's Liberation Front (Polisario) as a member has given rise to grave differences inside the organization. How do you look at this question?

Since the West Sahara war broke out in 1976, the region has been turbulent, relations between the countries concerned have been strained and they have incurred substantial manpower and material losses. In

addition, the war has provided opportunities for the United States and the Soviet Union to interfere in the region's affairs. The Western Sahara issue has become a major topic of discussion at the previous OAU summit meetings. Efforts made by the OAU to solve this question are worthy of praise.

At the OAU Council of Ministers meeting held in Addis Ababa in late February, major differences emerged as a result of admission of the Saharan

LETTERS

Ideology and Art

I was especially pleased to read the article "Questions on the Ideological Front" in issue No. 4, 1982 with its scientific approach and hence its correctness.

Whilst visiting your country recently I observed and sensed some of the bad tendencies mentioned in the article, which raised deep concern in my mind for the future of your socialist cause and also doubts about the new Party leadership and economic policies. I was unsure whether these bad tendencies were going to be corrected.

Since the printing of the above mentioned article I have a renewed confidence in the future of true socialism in your country.

I was concerned because in my country although many people have a reasonable material existence, the spiritual relationship between people leaves much to be desired. It would be tragic to see this happen in China.

Such articles probably help to clarify unanswered questions which your readers have. Please include more of these. Specifically, could you include more articles giving examples of how people are being educated against bad tendencies?

A.I.

Adelaide, Australia

In the article "Questions on the Ideological Front," Hu Qiaomu applied the central theme of Chairman Mao's *Talks at the Yanan*

Arab Democratic Republic, represented by Polisario, as a member of the OAU. Early this month, Kenyan President Daniel A. Moi, current chairman of the OAU, said that he would consult with all quarters concerned to solve the Western Sahara issue.

We hope that the differences thus generated will be settled as soon as possible by a solution acceptable to all the parties concerned. We are confident that the OAU can properly settle this matter.

Forum on Literature and Art: Literature and art are reflections of life in human society; life is the only source for literature and art. Writers in socialist China should side with the proletariat and the masses and write about the experiences of the people. I'm touched by the self-criticism made by Bai Hua, the author of *Unrequited Love*, and the letter he wrote to *Jiefangjun Bao*.

Tsuyoshi Seki
Chiba, Japan

Economic Articles

Economic reports in the "Events & Trends" column are my favourite because they supply statistics by which readers can judge the development of China's various economic sectors. Such statistics were a rarity in the *Beijing Review* of 1975 and the change must reflect progress in data systematization. This helps the reader work out the important parameters of economic and social progress in your country which has one-fourth of the world's population.

Since September 1981, I have been able, through the pages of *Beijing Review*, to keep abreast of the developments in China's grain production, industry, petrochemical industry, animal husbandry, exports, agriculture, livestock breeding and energy utilization. Further, the articles about rural planning and economic co-operation have revealed how China's national economy is moving ahead in a planned and proportionate way.

In my opinion, China's new economic research centre should

The Western Sahara issue cannot be resolved on the battlefield. It should be solved through peaceful consultations, and the sooner the better. A peaceful settlement will be conducive to peace and stability throughout the Maghreb region. It will also facilitate the region's economic development, raise the people's living standard and enhance African unity against hegemonism.

— International Editor Mu
Youlin

provide reports for *Beijing Review* on the increase and distribution of the gross national product and also on supply, real wages and the living standard. These statistics are vital to evaluating the development of any country.

Lazaro Balencia Giraldo
Manizales, Colombia

Population Growth

I've recently read the article "Developmental Trends in Chinese Population Growth" which appeared in *Beijing Review* issue No. 2. The population issue is of international concern. Due to the uncontrolled baby boom, this important and urgent problem cannot be solved until the year 2000. This is one of the factors hindering development in Africa, Latin America and Asia. I'm delighted to see that China is the first country to give its due consideration to this matter.

Ali Mohamed dit Niza
Mitsamiouli, Comoros

Christianity and Socialism

I would like to reply to the letter from Frances H. Jacobsen of the USA, which appeared in your issue of January 18, 1982.

It is a fact, which the Chinese people well know, that the Christian Churches have been very antagonistic towards socialism and communism. But many leaders of the Christian Church in the world today are either socialists or sympathetic towards socialism.

It was my belief in the teachings of Jesus which led me to become a socialist. Therefore I hope that socialism and Christianity will work together in China for the benefit of the Chinese people, for whom I have a sincere love.

S.A. Hubbard
Victoria, Australia

International Affairs

Your international section is very informative. The articles present a different perspective from the European one. The majority of our magazines proceed from the policies of strength of Europe and the United States to look at politics. In your magazine, we find another way of viewing the US (European) — Soviet relationship. Your perceptions contain much food for thought and open new horizons for us. This provides us with a new vantage point to observe future events.

Peter Michael Kreuzer
Muenster, West Germany

Beijing Review, No. 11

POLITICAL

NPC Standing Committee Decisions On Restructuring the State Council and Other Questions

The 15-day 22nd Session of the Standing Committee of the Fifth National People's Congress closed in Beijing on March 8.

The session approved a plan for restructuring the State Council put forward by Premier Zhao Ziyang on March 2. According to this plan, there will be two vice-premiers instead of the present 13, and the 98 ministries, commissions and agencies under the State Council will be merged and reduced to 52.

The staff of the State Council and ministries and commissions under it will be cut to 32,000 from the present 49,000, a 30 per cent reduction. Except for those who are retiring, those relieved of their present posts will be retrained. They will later return to work on a rotation basis so that others can also be trained.

A new standing committee of the State Council — consisting of the premier, vice-premiers, state councillors and a secretary-general — will be set up. This committee will make decisions on important work and give guidance, within the purview of the State Council. The newly designated position of state councillors will be equal to that of vice-premiers. Some will also head ministries or commissions. State councillors may represent the premier in diplomatic activities.

The streamlining will be carried out in stages, beginning with 12 ministries. The Ministry of Power Industry and the Ministry of Water Conservancy will be merged into the new Ministry of Water Conservancy and Power. The Ministry of Commerce, the All-China Federation of Supply and Marketing Co-operative and the Ministry of Food will become the Ministry of Commerce.

The State Administrative Commission on Import and Export Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Trade, the Ministry of Economic Relations With Foreign Countries and the State Foreign Investment Commission will be merged into the new Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations. The Ministries of Chemical, Coal

and Textile Industries will remain as before, but their internal structure will be simplified.

Staff

The staff of the 12 units will be reduced from 8,693 to 5,864, a 33 per cent cut. The number of ministers and vice-ministers will be reduced from 117 to 27, and their average age will drop to 57 as opposed to 64 at present.

The State Planning Commission will be strengthened, and the State Economic Commission will be reorganized and its functions and powers augmented.

The plan calls for the abolition of the State Agricultural Commission, the State Capital Construction Commission, the State Machine-Building Industry Commission, the State Energy Commission and the Financial and Commercial Group under the State Council. Their responsibilities will be taken over by the State Economic Commission and other ministries.



The 22nd Session of the Fifth NPC Standing Committee adopting the decision for restructuring the State Council.

Leading bodies of the ministries and commissions will become smaller and their leadership gradually younger, better educated and professionally more competent. The number of ministers and vice-ministers for each ministry is fixed at three to five. At the next lower level, the directors and deputy directors of each department will number two or three. Under normal conditions, the age limit for a minister is 65, and for vice-ministers and department directors, 60.

Some veteran cadres will retire. Others in good health with leadership experience and professional knowledge may serve as advisers, or take part in investigation, consultation and supervision work, or engage in scientific, educational, cultural and public welfare activities.

The NPC Standing Committee approved the establishment of a state commission headed by the premier to be responsible for restructuring the economic system. Restructuring in the provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions will begin next year, except for a few areas where conditions are ripe for experimentation.

Appointments

The four new ministers appointed by the NPC Standing Committee are:

Qian Zhengying, 59, Minister of Water Conservancy and Power. A graduate of Qinghua University in Beijing, she is a water conservancy expert and was formerly Minister of Water Conservancy.

Liu Yi, 51, Minister of Commerce. He became Vice-Minister of Commerce, after heading Shandong provincial food

and financial departments in east China for many years.

Chen Muhua, 61, Minister of the newly established Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations.

Qin Zhongda, 58, Minister of Chemical Industry. Formerly Vice-Minister of Chemical Industry, he was also a former director of the Dalian Chemical Works and a departmental director of the Ministry of Chemical Industry.

The session also approved:

— A resolution for severely punishing criminals who do great damage to the state economy. The resolution points out that, in order to deal heavy blows at smuggling and other economic criminal activities, it is necessary to make some corresponding amendments and revisions to some provisions of the Criminal Law of the People's Republic of China. The revised provisions stipulate that sentences above 10 years, life or death sentences can be passed against those criminals who engage in smuggling, purchase illegally foreign currencies, extract excessive profits through embezzlement and speculation, commit offences of larceny, smuggle drugs, steal and ship valuable cultural relics out of the country, and whose cases are extremely serious. Their properties can be confiscated. State functionaries who make use of their positions and commit the above-mentioned offences and whose cases are extremely serious will be punished more severely. State functionaries who ask for and accept bribes will be dealt with according to the provisions against offences of corruption and those whose cases are extremely serious will be given life or death sentences.

— Law of Civil Procedure of the People's Republic of China (Draft). The session decided that the trial implementation of the law will begin on October 1, 1982.

— Resolution on pardoning and releasing all former Kuomintang party, government and military personnel and special agents below the county and regimental levels held in custody. The resolution decided to release them all and grant them political rights.

Proper arrangements will be made to help these people to settle down. As for those whose homes are in Taiwan and wish to return there, they may do so. They will be given adequate money for travel and provided with conveniences. (In March 1975, the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress released by special amnesty all war criminals in custody, and in December that year, it pardoned and released all former Kuomintang party, government and military personnel and special agents above the county and regimental levels.)

— Ratification of the "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects."

— Other appointments and removals.

The session also heard Vice-Premier Gu Mu's summary report on the second meeting of Chinese and Japanese government members, and a report by Qin Wencai, Vice-Minister of Petroleum Industry, on the joint exploration and exploitation of China's offshore oil resources with foreign countries.

International Working Women's Day Marked

On March 8, more than 1,500 Chinese and foreign women gathered at Beijing's Great Hall of the People to celebrate International Working Women's Day.

Vice-Premier Chen Muhua and Chairman of the All-China Women's Federation Kang Keqing attended the gathering. In her speech Kang Keqing said: At present, Chinese women are taking an active part in the modernization drive and in improving socialist ethics. She added that Chinese women have the fine tradition of cherishing peace and friendship. She pledged to continue to promote friendly exchanges with women in other countries, deepen mutual understanding, friendship and co-operation, defend the rights and interests of women and children and make unremitting efforts in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, hegemonism, aggression and expansion as well as for world peace.

Present on the occasion were Mme. Sihanouk, wives of foreign diplomatic envoys in Beijing, foreign women diplomats and foreign women experts helping China in its construction as well as wives of foreign experts and visiting overseas Chinese women and woman compatriots of Xianggang (Hongkong), Aomen (Macao) and Taiwan.

Other celebrations:

- On March 7, under the sponsorship of the All-China Women's Federation, 8,000 women from all walks of life in the capital celebrated the festi-



Muhelabaer (right), who teaches at the history department of Xinjiang University, is the first Uzbek associate professor in the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.

val in Zhongnanhai, the walled park that houses the CPC Central Committee and the State Council. They visited the house where the late Chairman Mao Zedong lived and the meeting rooms used by Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai, Liu Shaoqi, Zhu De, Chen Yun, Deng Xiaoping and other Party and state leaders. They also went boating on the Zhongnanhai lake.

A discussion meeting was held that day at Zhongnanhai, attended by national women pace-setters, model and advanced workers. They expressed their determination to make new contributions in socialist construction.

- More than 100 women attended a meeting for veteran cadres. Most of them took an active part in revolutionary work from the period of the great revolution (1924-27) to the founding of New China in 1949. Their experiences serve as historical records of women's contributions to the Chinese revolution.

- The All-China Journalists' Association held a reception for Chinese and foreign journalists.

Leading members of the All-China Women's Federation told the gathering about Chinese women and children, marriage and families. It was disclosed that by 1981, the total number of women workers and staff members was 34 million, or 34 per cent of the nation's total; and of the 5.29 million scientific and technological workers in China today, 31.6 per cent are women. Among them 3,500 are professors or associate professors, and 100,000 are engineers and lecturers.

- The Beijing Women's Federation held a meeting in which 1,030 "five-good" women's collectives and individuals were commended for their achievements in work, study and productive labour; for carrying out state policies and observing discipline and law; for their harmonious relations at home and with neighbours; and for their good work in family planning and in promoting new socialist trends and socialist ethics.

Similar activities in celebrating the festival were also held in other cities throughout the country.

CULTURAL

Government Moves to Protect Historical Sites

The State Council recently designated the first group of 24 cities as China's important urban historical and cultural sites. The designation will increase the legal protection for old city sites, ancient ruins, residences of famous people and ancient architecture.

Many of the designated cities were political, economic and cultural centres in ancient China, while others are significant sites of major revolutionary movements and historic events in modern history. The historic and cultural relics in these cities depict the nation's long-surviving civilization and its brilliant revolutionary traditions.

Among the cities named were Beijing, Nanjing, Suzhou, Hangzhou, Luoyang, Xian, Guilin, Lhasa and Yanan.

The State Council's action took the form of approving a report prepared by the State Capital Construction Commission, the State Administration of Urban Construction and the State Administrative Bureau of Museums and Archaeological Data.

Full consideration for the intrinsic historic and cultural characteristics must be given in future city planning, the report said. In addition, the report assigned specific time periods for pollution reduction by factories, mines and other industrial enterprises that present serious environmental hazards in those cities.

One of the cities on the list is Xian, an ancient metropolis in northwest China. It was the nation's capital for the longest



period of any Chinese city, spanning 11 dynasties and adding up to 1,100 years beginning in the 11th century B.C. Reminders of that long history blanket the city. Its Dayan Tower was built more than 1,300 years ago to house an image of Buddha brought from India. Xian's virtual forest of steles (pillars inscribed with ancient characters) built in 1090 are the best preserved in the country. The city also boasts a large display of Qin Dynasty (221-207 B.C.) terracotta figurines of warriors and horses that were unearthed in the 1970s on the outskirts of the city.

Since the founding of New China in 1949, the State Council has issued several circulars and regulations concerning the protection of historical relics. In 1961, the State Council first designated 180 key places of cultural and historical importance. The announcement stressed that China's rich revolutionary and historical relics are a valuable heritage of human progress and culture. It called on people's governments at all levels to adopt appropriate methods to protect the relics and ensure that they are not damaged or lost.

The recent naming of 24 important cities represents another government effort to preserve relics of historical, artistic, scientific and cultural value. It is designed to augment socialist morality and ethics and, as a positive side-effect, will help promote China's tourist industry.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

French Communist Party Delegation

A delegation of the French Communist Party, led by Maxime Gremetz, Member of the Political Bureau and Member of the Secretariat of the Central Committee, paid a visit to China from March 4 to 9.

During the visit, the delegation held talks with leading members of the International Liaison Department of the CPC Central Committee on the restoration of relations between the two Parties and other issues of common concern. The talks have promoted mutual understanding and opened the way for the restoration of formal relations between the two Parties.

Vice-Chairman Li Xiannian met with the delegation on March 8 and, on behalf of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, invited Georges Marchais, General Secretary of the French Communist Party, to visit China at a time convenient to him. Maxime Gremetz accepted the invitation on behalf of Georges Marchais.

"Two Chinas" Plot Impermissible

In an interview with Xinhua on March 9, a responsible member of the Chinese Softball Association pointed out that it is absolutely impermissible for some Americans in the International Softball Federation (ISF) to try to openly create "two Chinas" by making use of the forthcoming World Women's Softball Championship in Taipei of China.

He said that in May 1981 the ISF congress approved a resolution submitted by its executive committee, which ruled that the softball organization of Taiwan should be called "the Taipei Softball Association of China" and that it can no longer use its original flag and anthem. This resolution was based on the recognition that there is only one China, that is, the People's Republic of China, and therefore the Taipei Softball Association of China can function only as a local organization.

However, recently some Americans in the ISF, ignoring the resolution of the ISF congress, regard a part of the Chinese territory as an independent state, and use this as a pretext to proclaim that the organizers of the upcoming championship can use Taiwan's

so-called "national flag" and "national anthem" at the opening and closing ceremonies. This undisguised attempt to create "two Chinas" is absolutely impermissible.

The responsible member said that the ISF should take immediate measures to ensure that neither the name nor the "flag" and "anthem" of "the republic of China" should be used on all official occasions or in official documents and publications during the tournament.

The responsible member expressed the hope that the Taipei Softball Association of China and the Taiwan authorities will not fail the wishes of the entire nation by creating side-issues and putting up obstacles to prevent the participation of our national women's softball team in the world championship in Taipei.

As a member of the ISF, the Chinese Softball Association is entitled to participation in the championship. It is now actively preparing for the tournament scheduled to be held in Taipei from July 2 to 11.

Protest Against Vietnamese Gunboats' Atrocities

The Chinese Foreign Ministry on March 8 sent a note to the Vietnamese Embassy in Beijing, strongly protesting against the brazen attack at Chinese fishing boats by Vietnamese naval vessels.

On March 3, 11 Chinese fishing boats were engaged in fishing operations on the high seas of the South China Sea at 107 degrees 50 minutes E., 17 degrees 40 minutes N. when they

suddenly came under heavy shelling by 2 Vietnamese gunboats (one of them had the sign SO 272 on its side). Chinese fishing boat No. 122 exploded after being hit by shells, with the 18 people on board missing; 14 shells hit fishing boat No. 419, wounding the captain and five other people; fishing boat No. 108, which burst into flames because of the shelling, was seized together with the people on board by the Vietnamese soldiers.

The note pointed out that in disregard of repeated protests by the Chinese side, the Vietnamese authorities have recently continued to carry out armed provocations against and intrusions into China's border areas and dispatched vessels frequently to intrude into China's territorial waters for harassment and sabotage. The note said that the recent attack on Chinese fishing boats is by no means accidental and isolated. It once again proves that while intensifying their military attacks against the patriotic forces and people of Democratic Kampuchea and frequently intruding into the border areas of Thailand, the Vietnamese authorities are whipping up a new wave of hostility against China, deliberately aggravating tension between China and Viet Nam.

The note demanded that the Vietnamese authorities return immediately the Chinese fishermen and fishing boat they had seized, compensate for the losses incurred and stop forthwith their raids on Chinese fishing boats and military provocations in the areas along the Sino-Vietnamese border. Otherwise, the Vietnamese authorities will be held responsible for all the consequences arising therefrom.

Critical Point in Sino-US Relations

TEN years after the issuance of the Shanghai Communiqué, Sino-US relations have truly come to a critical point that will determine if relations improve or deteriorate.

China has consistently held that because of the interests of global strategy, it is necessary for Sino-US ties to develop. This is what China has striven to achieve.

Prerequisite for a Better Relationship

The prerequisite for better relations is that the United States must respect the sovereignty of China.

Unfortunately, some people in the United States are always trying to interfere in the internal affairs of China and flouting China's sovereignty. They want to create "two Chinas" by one means or another, and even regard Taiwan as an "unsinkable aircraft carrier" in the Far East for the United States.

These people are presently insisting on arms sales to Taiwan, claiming that it is a US matter which China has no right to challenge. This position denies that Taiwan is part of the People's Republic of China. This position does not respect China's sovereignty. If it prevails, Sino-US relations will be certain to suffer serious setbacks. Even some high-ranking US officials have spoken publicly on the adverse implications this position can have.

China has made great efforts

towards the solution of the problems of US arms sales to Taiwan. China has stated repeatedly that Sino-US relations should be developed according to the principles set forth in the China-US Joint Communiqué on the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations. In view of the fact that the Taiwan issue is inherited from history,

the Chinese Government, while sticking to its principled position, has been very patient and realistic in its negotiations with Washington and has put forward many reasonable and just proposals.

However, the matter has developed to such a point that China is forced into a corner and left without any options. If the United States insists on a long-term policy of selling arms to Taiwan, Sino-US relations will retrogress.

The Superpowers Should First Reduce Nuclear Weapons

THE head of the Chinese Delegation recently recommended an immediate halt in the development and testing of nuclear weapons in an address before a session of the Geneva Committee on Disarmament.

The United States and the Soviet Union should first substantially reduce the number of their nuclear weapons and then the nuclear arsenals of other countries should be reduced in an appropriate proportion, said Tian Jin, the head of the Chinese Delegation.

"This is the best way to accomplish nuclear disarmament in line with the status quo of nuclear build-ups taking place in various countries," he added.

Tian Jin also said that the United States and the Soviet Union have enormous quantities of sophisticated nuclear weapons. Because of their attempts to establish global hegemony and nuclear superiority, they are accelerating the development and deployment of nuclear weapons. Despite their much discussed talks about reductions in such weapons, they have entered into a new nuclear arms race.

Therefore, he said, both nations should immediately end their efforts to produce large

numbers of newer, high quality nuclear weapons and missiles.

Tian Jin recalled that the United States and the Soviet Union have conducted more than 1,100 nuclear tests since 1945.

"There is no reason whatsoever for them to continue the tests," he said. "They should stop such tests immediately and for ever."

The Chinese representative said that because China is placing primary emphasis on economic development, it does not want to devote resources to developing nuclear weapons.

"However," he said, "faced with the superpowers' nuclear threat, we are compelled to acquire the necessary defence capability to safeguard our independence, security and economic development."

"We have carried out only a very limited number of nuclear tests," he noted.

He reiterated that "at no time and under no circumstances will China be the first to use nuclear weapons and, in conjunction with this position, we will not use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against any non-nuclear country or region."

China's Position

It is China's hope that such a retrogression will not occur. But if such a situation is forced upon China, it can virtually do nothing to help. Again, for China, that is not something too terrible to contemplate. Though a poor nation, China is in a better position than anyone else to survive any difficulty. Even in the days of Yanan when people lived in hillside caves, the Chinese people were able to defeat domestic and external enemies, not only succeeding in surviving but also faring well, let alone today when their conditions are much different.

Some US citizens believe that China, broad-minded but poor, will have to depend upon the US and it will swallow the bitter pill insisted upon by the United States which, they think, has nothing to benefit from China. This reasoning is false and dangerous.

As far as advanced technology is concerned, China has not received much from the United States since diplomatic relations were established. For a long time, the United States has even been reluctant to sell China computers to be used in China's census.

It must be made clear that in the wake of a retrogression, China will not only be able to survive and fare better, but will continue with the policies it has pursued in recent years. China's views on international affairs, especially its opposition to hegemony, will not change. Neither will its open-door and other policies.

Within the US Government, quite a number of high-ranking officials have expressed the hope that Sino-US relations will not worsen. This is also

the hope of many countries throughout the world.

If, as a result of the efforts of both sides, US Government decisions and moves develop in accordance with the principles on which diplomatic relations between the two countries were

established, Sino-US relations will have a bright future. The position of China remains one of striving for the best and preparing for the worst.

— Xinhua Commentator
(March 1)

Sinai

Will Israel Withdraw?

EGYPT and Israel signed an agreement settling almost all problems on Israel's final withdrawal from the Sinai before April 25.

However, many people have recently begun to wonder whether Israel will complete its scheduled withdrawal or purposefully create obstacles as a justification for abrogating the Camp David accords.

Timetable

Generally speaking, Israel's withdrawal is proceeding in accordance with the established timetable. Israel recently announced that its troops will completely withdraw from the Sinai when the scheduled handover is completed at 12 a.m. on April 25. Egyptian civilians have been gradually assuming administrative responsibility for public installations in the area. Israeli troops have blockaded all tunnels between the Gaza Strip and Sinai and Defence Minister Ariel Sharon has announced that the Israeli army will begin evicting Jewish squatters.

The Egyptian Government has agreed to

compensate Israel \$143 million for the schools, hotels and other installations left behind in Sinai. Egypt and Israel have reportedly reached consensus regarding peace keeping forces and the troops to be stationed on the two strategic islands at the entrance of the Aqaba Gulf.

Obstacles

Nonetheless, Israel has created several obstacles which may eventually be used in order to win concessions from Egypt.

In addition, some Israelis are trying to generate public oppo-



Israeli troops to be withdrawn
before April 25

sition to retreating from the Sinai. Some segments of the Israeli press are charging that withdrawal from the Sinai will result in "concessions" and "great losses."

Since annexing the Golan Heights, Israel has concentrated large numbers of troops along the border in southern Lebanon. They are reportedly preparing to attack Palestinian forces. If Israel follows through with this plan, Egypt will be placed in an awkward position.

The United States is supporting Israel's effort to get Egypt to make "concessions" on the autonomy talks before Israel retreats from the Sinai. Israel has also created problems regarding the Egypt-Israeli border.

Furthermore, Israel has placed unreasonable preconditions on the Egyptian President's planned visit by demanding that Mubarak spend some time in Jerusalem. These actions indicate that Israel is seeking to obtain as many Egyptian concessions as possible. Israel appears to be attempting to prevent Egypt from improving its relations with other Arab countries.

Egypt's Position

Egypt's position is firm and clearcut. Mubarak, in defiance of Israeli pressure, has refused to visit Jerusalem. Moreover, he has steadfastly maintained that East Jerusalem, the west bank of the Jordan River and the Gaza Strip are Arab territories.

The United States and Israel recently attempted to get Egypt to establish a "principled agreement" in the Palestine autonomy talks. Mubarak re-

fused to make any concessions on these issues. He insisted that any agreement concerning Palestine has to be acceptable to the Palestinians and should encourage the participation of other Arab countries and the Palestinians in the Middle East peace talks.

In reference to the Palestine autonomy talks, Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali has said that Egypt will not sign an agreement unacceptable to the Palestinians.

Habib's Middle East Trip

The United States, which initiated the talks that resulted in the Camp David accords, is deeply involved in the present negotiations between Egypt and Israel. President Reagan has announced that US Middle East policy rests on continuation of the process begun at Camp David. As a result, Israel's

withdrawal from the Sinai involves the honour of the United States and the implementation of US Middle East policy. US presidential special envoy Philip Habib visited Lebanon on Feb. 26, seeking ways of consolidating the ceasefire in southern Lebanon. His visit was clearly tied to US concerns about Israel's military plans for southern Lebanon and its scheduled retreat from the Sinai.

Israel's aggressive actions have generated strong indignation among the Arab countries and injured US relations with these countries. Now that there is only a month's time left before Israel finally withdraws its troops from the Sinai, US authorities do not want anything to happen which might force Washington into a more isolated position in the strategically important Middle East.

— Xing Xiangchao, Lin Jiaomin

Healthy Developments In Zimbabwe

Report From Salisbury

ZIMBABWE remains calm and positive despite the recent discovery of several large caches of military equipment.

Shortly after the arms and ammunition were found on a number of farms owned by the Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU), ZAPU President Joshua Nkomo and three other members of the union were relieved of their posts in the cabinet and then the cabinet was reshuffled. Although many people feared that these events might generate instability in Zimbabwe, such has not been the case.

British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington, who recently visited Zimbabwe, reported afterwards that the country is stable. Zimbabwean Deputy Prime Minister Simon Muzenda has also indicated that the nation's government is functioning normally.

Strategic Locations

The hidden arms and ammunition could have been used to equip a brigade of 5,000 men and two infantry battalions. According to press reports, the ZAPU buildings and farms involved were strategically located at intervals along the main

highways linking Salisbury, Bulawayo, Gwelo and Umtali.

Prime Minister Robert Mugabe calls the discovery a serious matter. He suggests that ZAPU stockpiled the hidden weapons in order to overthrow the government.

Mugabe has expelled ZAPU President Nkomo, Vice-President Chinamano and Secretary-General Msika from the cabinet because they were responsible for the hidden arms. Nonetheless, he indicated that because most ZAPU members did not know about the hidden arms, they will be permitted to retain their positions in the government and the army.

Earlier, answering foreign correspondents' questions, Nkomo said that as a ZAPU leader, he should have known about the hidden arms. On February 27, he pointed out at the ZAPU Central Committee that Zimbabwe should not be split. He stressed that it is for national unity that the ZAPU joined the government.

Last month, the Zimbabwean Government announced the largest cabinet reshuffle since independence. Nonetheless, two ZAPU ministers and one deputy minister will remain in the cabinet.

Moderate Economic Policy

Diplomats believe that the cabinet reshuffle is an indication of Prime Minister Mugabe's determination to maintain his commitment to a moderate economic policy.

Mugabe recently told a group of white Zimbabweans that he expects private enterprises to exist for at least two more decades.

"We cannot destroy the infrastructure we inherited at independence," he said. "We have

to develop on the viable basis we founded at independence."

Observers say that discovery of the hidden arms has reduced the prospects of a large armed uprising and contributed to Zimbabwe's security and healthy development.

Addressing a recent rally, Mugabe said that while the

unearthed arms no longer constitute a threat to the nation's security, people should remember Zimbabwe is still faced with potential threats from forces inside the country and from South Africa.

— *Xinhua Correspondents
Ding Man and Guan
Yunqiu (March 2)*

Soviet Submarine Intrudes Into Italian Waters

THE recent intrusion of a Soviet submarine into the Gulf of Taranto along Italy's southeastern coast has generated great concern in Rome's political circles.

The Italian Foreign Ministry issued a statement which "strongly and deeply deplored the unacceptable violation of its territorial waters."

Chairman of the Defence Commission of the Chamber of Deputies Alfredo Biondi called the submarine's intrusion a "very serious event."

Secretary-General of the Italian Social Democratic Party Pietro Longo said that this "serious provocation" was "another manifestation of the power politics practised by Russian imperialism in the Mediterranean" and infringed on Italian sovereignty.

On October 27 last year, the Soviet Union sent a Whisky-137 submarine into Sweden's restricted military zone outside the Karlskrona naval base in order to instal an electronic surveillance device. The submarine was discovered after it ran aground.

Just as the Italian navy began conducting anti-submarine manoeuvres, the Soviet Union sent its submarine into the Gulf of Taranto near the Italian military base. Its intention is very clear. In order to collect intelligence, Moscow has repeatedly violated other countries' territories and waters, completely disregarding international law.

The Soviet Union sent its submarine into Swedish waters while claiming a desire to turn northern Europe into "a non-nuclear zone." Moreover, Moscow has always pretended to be interested in transforming "the Mediterranean into a sea of peace." In both cases, Moscow is guilty of lies and hypocrisy.

Since the Soviet fleet entered into the Mediterranean in the 60s, it has constantly strengthened its military presence. It has set up military bases in the eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East region. The intrusion of the Soviet submarine into Italian waters proves that Soviet expansion into the Mediterranean seriously threatens the peace and stability of countries there. West European governments and people cannot but see the threat they face.

— *Ren Yan*



The Diplomacy of Zhou Enlai

This is the second part of the article. The first part appeared in our last issue. — Ed.

Seek Common Ground, Agree To Differ

WHILE supporting and assisting all oppressed countries and nations suffering from aggression, socialist China is ready to co-operate with all countries which treat us as an equal. But, as Zhou Enlai observed, it is unrealistic to expect that two nations have no political differences. Zhou Enlai referred to the saying "many men, many minds" to illustrate that as there are always differences among people, so will there be among countries and nations. How to handle disagreements with other countries in the course of establishing and developing China's foreign relations was, therefore, a problem to be solved. Premier Zhou formulated the principle of "seeking common ground while agreeing to differ" as the proper way to cope with this problem. This approach has become an integral part of New China's diplomacy.

The Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. During the Sino-Indian talks late in 1953. Premier Zhou codified the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence as: Mutual respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence. These, he said, governed New China's handling of its relations with India and they were subsequently endorsed by the Indian Government. Not long afterwards, the Governments of India, Burma and China worked jointly to promote these five principles as rules that should govern all international relations. These efforts evoked worldwide response, and today the Five Principles of Peaceful Coex-

istence are universally accepted, a noteworthy contribution of Chinese diplomacy to international politics. These five principles provide the basis on which China seeks common ground with other countries while agreeing to differ.

The Bandung Conference. This principle of "seeking common ground while agreeing to differ" was first put forth by Premier Zhou at the 1955 Bandung Conference, attended by 29 countries of Asia and Africa. The exclusion of imperialist and colonialist countries at the conference reflected the Asian and African peoples' common desire to take their destiny into their own hands and was of historic import. Nevertheless the influence of imperialism was present.

When the conference convened, differences among participating countries began to surface. Many representatives knew little about New China and some raised questions about social systems and ideologies. If the conference had been allowed to debate such questions, no tangible results would have been achieved, except to widen the gulf between the participating countries. In Zhou Enlai's speech, he stated that the Chinese delegation had come to seek common ground with other

Premier Zhou Enlai speaking at the Bandung Conference in April 1955.



participants, not to emphasize differences with them. He maintained the aim of the conference was to define a common programme while recognizing divergences. The overwhelming majority of countries in Asia and Africa had since the beginning of modern times suffered (and some continue to suffer) the misery and hardships caused by colonialism. Zhou Enlai declared that all present could agree on this. He proposed to seek further unity in a common programme to remove the tragedies caused by colonialism. In this way the delegates could understand and respect each other, instead of being suspicious of and repudiating one another.

Thanks to the joint efforts of all the delegations, the conference was able to agree on various questions and formulated the Ten Principles of the Bandung Conference which were based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. The conference was a historic landmark in a united struggle of the Asian and African countries against imperialism.

This practice of seeking common ground and agreeing to differ in international relations is a creation of Chinese diplomacy. This constructive attitude fostered by China promotes friendship among nations and world peace. Over the years, China has in its diplomatic activities applied this approach widely and successfully resolved problems with many countries, thus concluding numerous treaties, agreements and joint communiques. As for unresolved questions, Premier Zhou never failed to sum up the points of agreement or near agreement after his talks with foreign leaders. Foreign statesmen usually came away from meetings with Zhou Enlai with some points of agreement and a better understanding of the other side. They learnt that China never tried to impose its views on others.

On the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and in the spirit of seeking a common ground and agreeing to differ, China has succeeded in developing friendly relations with most Asian, African and Latin American countries and in establishing good rapport with countries in Western Europe, North America and Oceania. This approach of seeking common ground while agreeing to differ, where principle is coupled with flexibility, has played and will continue to play a positive role in the

international struggle against hegemonism and for world peace.

All Countries Are Equal

At the same Bandung Conference Zhou Enlai expounded another principle New China upholds in its diplomatic endeavours: all countries, big or small, are equal. Speaking before the political committee of the conference, he said: We attach great importance to this question because ours is a large country liable to disrespect smaller ones. Among our own people we often refer to this question as big-nation chauvinism. Because of tradition a big country is liable to ignore or look down on smaller ones. This is why we often scrutinize ourselves on this matter. Will fellow delegates to this conference kindly tell us if any one of you find a Chinese delegate showing disrespect for a delegate of another country? We are ready to acknowledge such mistakes and rectify them.

Zhou Enlai was true to his words and often raised this issue in his talks with foreigners, especially friends from Asia, Africa and Latin America. He solicited their opinions about China's work and sought to uncover mistakes caused by big-nation chauvinism. This concerned him even in his last audiences with his foreigners when he was seriously ill and in the hospital. Bracing himself up, he explained China's principle of not seeking hegemony, now or in the future.

China is a nation which suffered from foreign oppression. Valuing the independence and sovereignty China has won, it respects the independence and sovereignty of others. China realizes that a nation which oppresses other nations is not truly free.

The Chinese revolution was not imported, nor can its revolution be exported. China maintains that revolution in a country will develop only when its own people see the need for one. Moreover, this revolution can only be won by the revolutionaries who integrate the universal truth of Marxism-Leninism with the concrete practice of the revolution in their own country, certainly not by other people on their behalf. The Chinese people came to this conviction through summarizing their prolonged struggle and China repudiates any act of coercion against another country in international relations.

President Nyerere of Tanzania observed while visiting China in March 1981: China has its own "very clear views on different aspects

of international relations," but "Tanzania has never found itself under pressure from China." "I have commented before on the manner in which this country respects the integrity of other nations; I do so again because it is not a common virtue, especially in large states."*

China, True to Its Word

A fine tradition of the Chinese nation is to live up to the maxim: "Promises must be kept and action must be resolute." The late Premier Zhou Enlai took this maxim as his own and adhered to it throughout his diplomatic career.

Soon after New China was established, a war swept through Korea. In the article "Strive to Consolidate and Develop the People's Victory" by Zhou Enlai, *Renmin Ribao*, October 1, 1950, he wrote: "The Chinese people ardently love peace, and, in defence of peace, they have not feared and will never fear war to resist aggression. We brook no foreign aggression, nor can we ignore the imperialist invasion of China's neighbour." At 1 a.m. on October 3, Premier Zhou Enlai summoned the Indian Ambassador to China for an urgent meeting. He explained the Chinese Government's views on the war in Korea and noted that US troops were planning to cross the 38th Parallel and expand the war to the north. He explained that if they actually did this, China could not sit back and do nothing; it would have to get involved. Unfortunately, the US Government simply ignored the Chinese Government's warnings and dispatched US troops across the 38th Parallel to drive towards the Yalu River. In response the Chinese people took up arms in the struggle to resist US aggression and aid Korea.

Formerly, China owed a debt to the Soviet Union, a considerable part of it being incurred during the Korean war for Soviet military supplies. After the Soviet Union broke its contracts with China and when the Chinese people were having difficult times, we tightened our own belts to repay it. In December 1964, Premier Zhou announced: "The sum total of the principal plus interest we owed the Soviet Union is 1,406 million new rubles; we have paid 1,389 million new rubles on schedule and have proposed to the Soviet side to pay off the remaining 17 million new rubles ahead of schedule from the favourable balance in our trade with the Soviet Union in 1964."**

Zhou Enlai's reputation for being a diplomat who was as good as his word was world-

wide. This became another characteristic of New China's diplomacy. Henry Kissinger, former US Secretary of State, wrote this in his memoirs: "Chinese diplomats, at least in their encounters with us, proved meticulously reliable." "They stuck to the meaning as well as the spirit of their undertakings. As Zhou was fond of saying: 'Our word counts.'""***

Realistic and Fair-Minded

In dealings with foreign countries, New China not only is faithful to its words, but is fair-minded and handles things in a factual manner.

Zhou Enlai personally went through all historical records extant to find out China's actual jurisdiction over the Sino-Burmese border region in successive dynasties since the Han. Examining different maps, he determined the differences in the delineation of the boundary and sought the reasons for these variances. He reviewed the materials on the dispute between China and Burma and the records of negotiations between the two countries in the 19th and 20th centuries, and studied the reports of the conditions of the Chinese and Burmese inhabitants in the border area, distribution of various ethnic groups, peoples' life and work habits, etc. International laws and conventions were consulted, as were materials concerning New China's foreign policy and its relations with Burma. Investigation and research on such a scale was a gruelling undertaking, especially for a head of a government, but his efforts were not in vain.

Zhou Enlai formulated a fair, reasonable and feasible proposal which took into consideration historical and actual conditions. This proposal was studied by both parties with an attitude of mutual understanding and mutual accommodation. The boundary question between China and Burma was thus settled through the friendly consultations of the two governments. This provided New China with an experience in settling border issues. Following the signing of the Sino-Burmese boundary treaty, border agreements were reached between China and

* See *Renmin Ribao*, March 26, 1981.

** "Report on the Work of the Government to the First Session of the Third National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China" (Dec. 21-22, 1964).

*** "White House Years" published by Little, Brown and Company, USA.

other countries which were willing to resolve this question.

When incidents which contravened China's foreign policy occurred, Premier Zhou on behalf of the Chinese Government took immediate measures to stop them and remedy the situation. Zhou Enlai himself would apologize to the injured party.

In August 1967, at the height of ultra-Left mania which was propagated by Lin Biao, Jiang Qing and their counter-revolutionary cliques, a building in the compound that housed the office of the British Charge d'Affaires in Beijing was set on fire. After the damaged building had been repaired and the British Charge d'Affaires had moved back into the premises, Premier Zhou personally received him to extend best wishes. Zhou Enlai told the British diplomat that bad elements were behind the incident and the Chinese Government strongly disapproved of these actions. The Chinese Government acknowledged its duty to pay for the damage.

Some foreign experts in China were unfairly and wrongly treated during the "cultural revolution." Zhou Enlai personally took measures to redress these wrongs and offered his apologies.

Although Premier Zhou was indignant that the Soviet leadership tore up its contracts with China and withdrew all Soviet experts, he always objectively evaluated the Soviet experts' assistance in China's construction in the 1950s. Zhou Enlai maintained that when explaining the process of building the Changjiang (Yangtze River) bridge at Nanjing one must refer to the germane experience gained in the construction of the Changjiang bridge at Wuhan with the help of Soviet experts.

Zhou Enlai demonstrated a factual, realistic approach to international relations and this diplomatic style is New China's style: proletarian, candid and aboveboard.

Building Friendship

We need peace, we need friends.

We place our hope on the people of the world.

— Zhou Enlai

Zhou Enlai knew how to overcome barriers of unfamiliarity and ignorance and make friends. He believed that friendly relations between nations could only be promoted when there were frequent contacts. Friendship even between

March 15, 1982.

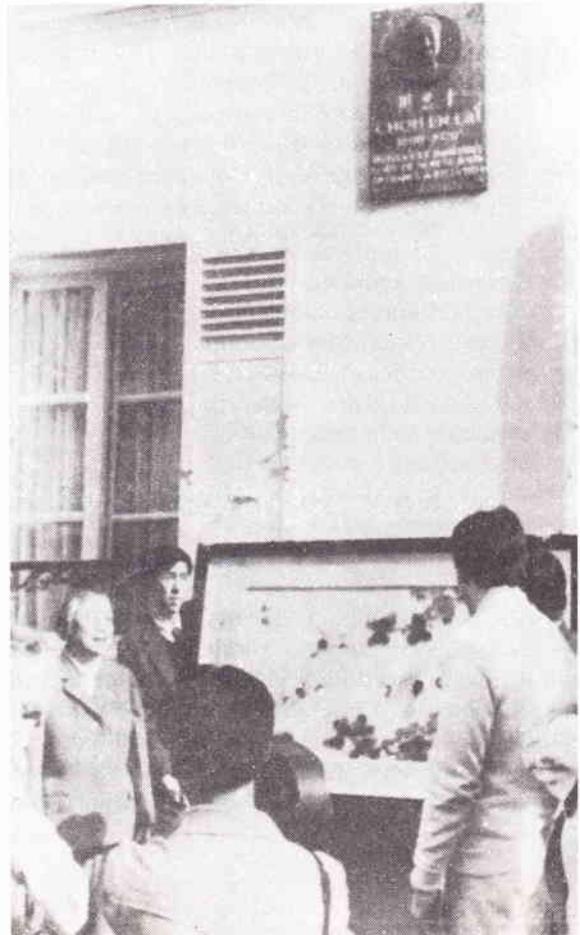
peoples who agree can only be enhanced through contact, without it estrangement will creep in. It is even more necessary to have contact, exchange views and develop mutual understanding with those one differs with or does not know well. Zhou Enlai attached importance to the development of friendship with the people of those countries that had not yet established diplomatic relations with China, because he knew this would promote the establishment of cordial governmental relations. The people-to-people contacts prior to the normalization of relations between China and Japan played just such a positive role.

Premier Zhou made countless friends for the Chinese people; he regarded visitors from all lands as possessors of knowledge, as his "private tutors." Seeking every opportunity, Zhou Enlai would put aside his work and have long talks with foreigners, not infrequently from midnight till the wee hours. He said these talks were "his best study sessions."

China is acquiring more and more friends, but it will never forget its old friends who have

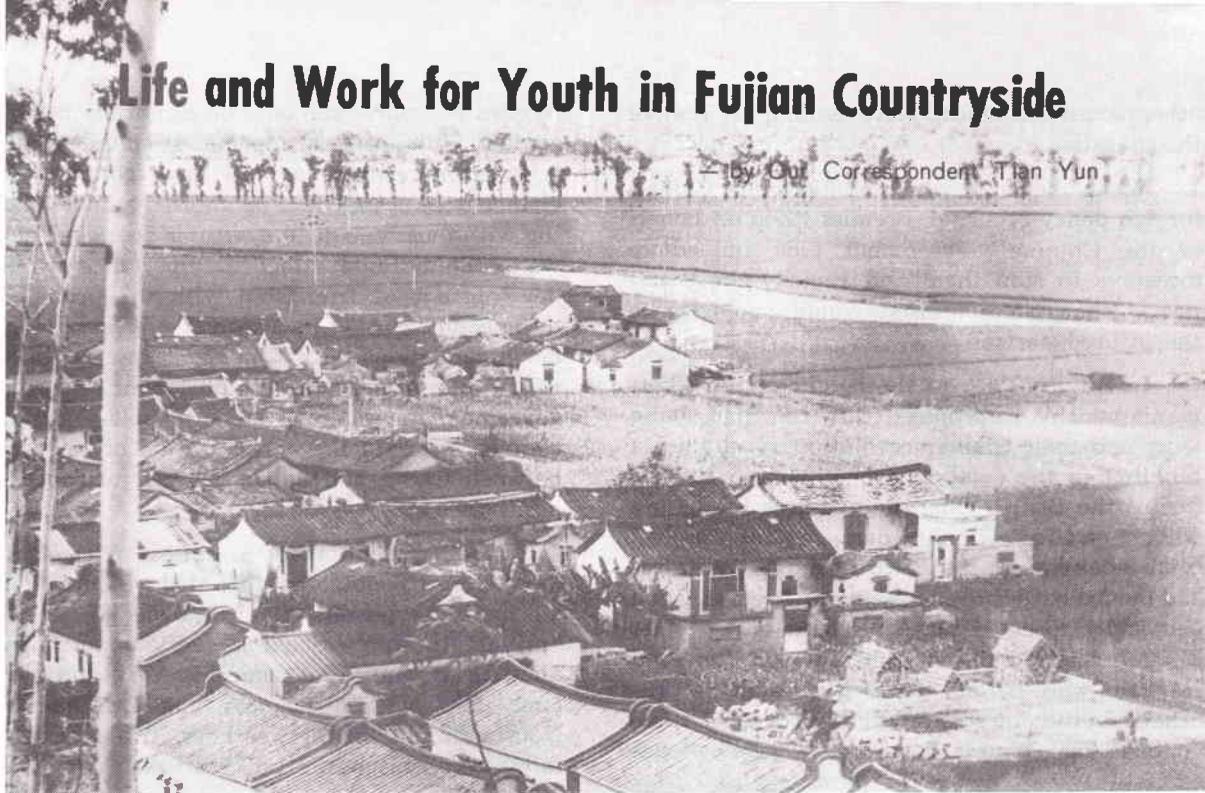
(Continued on p. 26.)

In June 1980, Deng Yingchao, widow of Zhou Enlai, visited the Godefroy Hotel where Zhou Enlai lived when he was a student in Paris.



Life and Work for Youth in Fujian Countryside

—by Our Correspondent Tian Yun



In this article, rural youth refer mainly to the generation born between 1956, when the agricultural co-operation was completed, and 1966, when the country was plunged into chaos nationwide. This group makes up 72 per cent of the young people in China.

Historical changes in social conditions have resulted in differences between this younger generation of peasants and their parents' and grandparents' generations. The youths' views of values, social position and role, their demands and interests as well as their ideological conditions since the country began its modernization drive and adopted flexible economic policies three years ago have become subjects of general concern.

Although there are large variations between different areas in China's vast countryside, with its population of 800 million, this special feature by our correspondent based on his surveys of Longhai County in the southeastern coastal province of Fujian may well be considered a typical picture of China's 136.8 million rural young people. — Ed.

A New Generation of Educated Peasants

FOR years Longhai County's early rice fields were riddled with rotting seedlings and rice borer's larvae. But this is no longer so. A few years ago the agricultural scientific research group composed of young people

of Lianhua commune's Liming brigade observed and made notes about the rice's growth cycle and consulted meteorological data collected in the previous 20 years. Led by Huang Zhijian, the Communist Youth

League branch secretary of the Liming brigade, they found that their analysis suggested that the time for sowing, planting and harvesting should be postponed for 15 days so as to avoid the damage done by spring low temperatures and the rainy season. As a result of following this suggestion, the rotting seedlings and insect pests were reduced and the period under sunshine was lengthened, raising the rice's seeding rate from 80 per cent to 90 per cent. The method was quickly adopted throughout the county.

This was one of the six major successful production improvement methods suggested by the scientific research group. For 17 years, the group has received enthusiastic support from technical personnel of the provincial academy of agricultural sciences and from old peasants, including Pan Wumao, a national model on the agricultural front. While simultaneously working and studying, these youths have gradually matured and become useful people. Six of them in suc-

cession have been appointed leading members at the commune and production brigade levels, 14 have become technicians in agricultural scientific research institutes at the provincial, prefectural and county levels or peasant technicians in other places, and five others have been enrolled in universities or secondary vocational schools. Today the group is composed of 12 young people, each of whom has mastered more than one area of professional knowledge.

These hard-working young people have been encouraged and rewarded in several ways. Secretary Huang Zhijian, who attended a short-term training class sponsored by the provincial academy of agricultural sciences after finishing junior middle school, is a good example. In 1979, he became a member of the Chinese youth delegation to Japan, and in 1981, he was elected the representative of a youth shock team to attend a national meeting.

Huang was born into an ordinary peasant family, but he

has had opportunities unavailable to his father, who went to school for only a few months and remained a hired labourer for most of his life before liberation.

They Are Fortunate

During China's 2,000 years of feudalism, the socio-economic structure, which was based on small-peasant economy, resulted in the peasants' dependence on land. Even in the more recent semi-feudal, semi-colonial stage before liberation, the peasants were oppressed by imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat-capitalism and the heaviest exploitation of them took the form of land rent.

The democratic revolution and the socialist revolution have done away with feudal exploitation and private ownership of land, and transformed the small-peasant economy into a collective economy—a component part of socialist planned economy. The peasants now work and live on the land owned by the collective in the spirit of equality and mutual benefit.

The present-day young peasants have no experience with these kinds of political oppression and economic exploitation. The state has provided them educational opportunities that have permitted them to acquire a broader vision of the world. The improved social conditions enable them to grow up healthily and develop their personalities freely. Generally speaking, they are much more fortunate than their parents.

The 1949 average per-capita income for Longhai peasants was only a little more than 30 yuan. Many people were undernourished and looked sallow and emaciated. They could hardly carry on simple reproduction. Now a fundamental change has

taken place. In 1981, every peasant earned 156 yuan from taking part in collective labour. Their income from tilling small plots of land for personal use and domestic sideline occupations approximately doubled this figure. Most of the young people looked healthy and strong. This enables them to become the backbone force in agricultural production, especially in such concentrated production activities as water conservancy projects and the building of forest centres and tea plantations. They are also key to other labour-intensive work such as fighting floods.

In the early 1950s, nearly all the peasants in Longhai County were illiterate or semi-literate. When they were given land during the land reform movement, a dream come true, almost no one could write his name on the land markers. After liberation, they took an active part in the campaign to eliminate illiteracy and supported their children to go to school. Now, all young people there receive a primary school education. One in every four young people is a middle school graduate. The total number of students studying in middle schools is now 26 times that of 1949.

The social positions of young people have risen noticeably with the improvement in their educational level and with support from all social sectors. Each village has members of the Communist Youth League, a mass organization of advanced youth. The league members take the lead and work with other young people to pursue scientific and technological studies so as to help build up their home villages. Some outstanding youths have been elected to leading posts at the grass-roots level and more have been assigned jobs which require education



Huang Zhijian (front) working in the rapeseed field.



Five young cadres in Longhai County.

and skill. In Longhai County, 30 per cent of the cadres at the commune level are young people, as are 50 per cent at the brigade level, 60 per cent of rural teachers, 70 per cent of workers in the commune- and brigade-run enterprises and 82 per cent of farm machine operators.

The ideological foundation for rural youth is quite different from the experiences of the older generation of peasants. The young generation has grown up under the collective ownership of the means of production and has virtually no concept of private land ownership. They assiduously make use of and transform the land and raise its yields of crops. They want to develop a diversified economy and to make contributions to the collective and to the modernization of agriculture. The education they got from schools, families, society and the offerings of the mass media, as well as the bitter lessons they learnt in the 10-year internal turmoil beginning in 1966, have broaden-

ed their visions and activated their thinking. They stress practice, think independently and do not have blind faith in anything.

They avidly discuss everything from the changes in the Party leadership to the success or failure of a feature film, from documents concerning the responsibility system in agricultural production to unhealthy tendencies in society. Each one will defend his or her own opinion in heated arguments with the others. It is no wonder that some rural cadres feel that these young people must not be treated and led in an oversimplified manner.

Plenty of Scope for Their Talents

Of Longhai County's 140,000 rural youth, more than 10,000 have taken part in some form of agricultural scientific research activities. Now, there are some 100 scientific research groups based in the production brigades.

Even though they can always count on sound advices from

veteran peasants and technological personnel, they do not always have an easy time. Those who have made significant achievements are those who did not waver in face of setbacks.

In the hot season of 1978, two pigs died of heatstroke in the youth-run pig farm of Guotian Production Brigade in Dongyuan commune. Although this frustrated Chen Yatou, the 21-year-old head of the farm, and his colleagues, they learnt a lesson from it. After consulting technical books and seeking help from professional technicians, they took a series of steps to lower the temperature to prevent heatstrokes: they improved ventilation in the pigsties and sprinkled them frequently with water, grew trees and flowers and then turned them into mat shelters, and established a system for spraying water and chemicals in amounts that correspond to the variations of local weather. For years, they have brought in high-quality pork breeds from other places and raised them in large numbers. They have also taken steps to prevent sows from having litters during seasons of either extreme heat or cold, and changed the practice of controlling the pigs' diet, thus increasing their growth rate. As a result, the brigade has become an advanced unit in collective pig-raising based on the number of fattened pigs sold to the state, the number of piglets produced and the brigade's profits.

The youth pearl-raising farm in Shipai Production Brigade in Yancuo commune began cultured pearl raising in freshwater oysters in 1973. In the first five years, about 90 per cent of the oysters died despite the use of medicine. Leading comrades in the brigade realized that since artificial freshwater pearl raising was a new thing

in their locality, there were sure to be setbacks. They encouraged the young people to go on with their experiment and to overcome difficulties. The provincial foreign trade departments and scientific-research institutes arranged loans for them. Zheng Haifa, the young head of the farm, considered the problem and decided to introduce different varieties of freshwater oysters from neighbouring Jiangxi Province. The young women workers on the farm also worked to improve their skills in planting and harvesting pearls. These two measures improved the farm's output tremendously. Now, the farm has 270,000 pearl oysters and its 1981 income reached 50,000 yuan.

The youth agricultural scientific groups have helped solve some other problems in farm production. The Linxia Production Brigade in Jiuhu commune relies on more than 30,000 litchi trees as a major source of its income. For years, however, two-thirds of the saplings blos-

somed nicely but bore little fruit. The youth agricultural scientific group in the brigade made up their minds to solve this problem. They examined the data collected previously on planting litchi trees and consulted the professional technological personnel. Then they began to experiment, using 104 trees as an experimental group and keeping 396 as a comparison. They sought to determine the most appropriate time for applying fertilizer, the best use of chemical regulators and the most advantageous method of thinning flowers and protecting the fruit. The results were that the experimental group of 104 trees substantially increased its output. In 1981, the total litchi output was 23 times that of six years earlier.

The written materials supplied by Longhai County indicates that the young people have also achieved satisfactory results in their scientific experiments on rice, wheat, soybean, artificial reproduction of razor clams, laver, shellac, tea, jute, bamboo, asparagus, sugar cane, oranges, bananas, red bayberries as well as in raising chickens and some sideline occupations. As the county Youth League committee has led the rural youth in carrying out active scientific experiments and has made remarkable progress, the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Youth League conferred on it the title "shock collective in the new Long March" in 1979.

Demands and Interests

The material demands of the older generation of Longhai peasants are for adequate food, clothing and shelter and enough money to get married. Their luxuries are occasional drinks, or performances of local opera. But, since the founding of New China they have seen many changes. For instance, they saw

with their own eyes that in the early days after liberation, the leading department in the county had only two bicycles. Now it is common for one peasant household to have two. The county now has a total of 30,000 bicycles. With this understanding of the distance they have come since liberation, the older people are easily satisfied.

The situation for young people is different. They have never seen their fathers wear clogs into the city nor have they led the miserable life when the same quilted jacket was worn by several generations. They direct their attention to the cities, or even some developed countries. For many young people today, there is not much difference between the way they live and the living conditions of the local city dwellers.

They have begun to buy medium- and high-grade goods. Some 70 per cent of the rural young people in the county have watches, a few are members of rich families that own TV sets, electric fans and radio-cassette recorders.

Their cultural demands are also many-sided. Local operas that are simple narratives are not popular among young people, who prefer those giving the audience food for thought. When they go to see a film, they want a sophisticated artistic presentation.

Youth centres which are equipped with TV sets, books, musical instruments and sports equipment have been set up in 60 per cent of the county's production brigades. The Zhuogang Production Brigade has designed and built some 300 two-storeyed buildings for the peasants and each building has a balcony, on which the young people grow flowers, enjoy the cool air or play musical instruments.



Catching pearl oysters.

The new views held by young people are also reflected in their marriages. In fact, many peasants have upgraded their living conditions through the marriages of their children. Marriage of the young is also a process of renewal of the means of subsistence for both generations. The parents use the money they have saved for years to help their sons get all their households started when they get married. For example, it has become a fairly common practice among the peasants in Longhai County to build new houses and to buy new furniture for their sons as wedding gifts.

Huang Zhijian, secretary of the Youth League branch of Liming brigade, was married in the spring of 1981. His wedding was very thrifty and simple. He did not build a new house. He only bought one suit of clothes for himself and six outfits for his bride. In addition, they bought a bed, a table, two trunks and made some peanut candy for relatives and friends.

Huang Zhijian's wife is a primary school teacher. They fell in love several years ago while working together in the agricultural scientific research group. There, they got to know each other very well and came to deeply love each other. This is quite different from the marriage of Huang's parents, which was arranged by his grandparents through a matchmaker. His father and mother saw each other for the first time when they entered the bridal chamber and the red cloth covering the bride's head was removed.

Three Types of Young People

Since the Third Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee which was held towards the end of 1978, China



A youth agricultural scientific research group collecting soil samples.

has embarked on a "New Long March" for modernization. Flexible economic policies have been adopted for the rural areas, the responsibility system for production has been introduced and the peasants are being encouraged to diversify their production so as to increase their incomes. The overwhelming majority of young people are happy with this situation and they march vigorously along this road with great interest and initiative. They have joined in the struggle to build a new and modern socialist countryside.

This is also the major trend among the rural young people in Longhai County, according to Yang Yinggu, deputy secretary of the county Party committee, and Zhang Shuihu, secretary of the county Youth League committee. In their opinions, the young people in the county can be divided into three ideological categories: those who are enthusiastic; those who are neither inspired nor cynical; and those who remain aloof and uncaring.

Those who are enthusiastic account for 25 per cent of the total. They have high aspirations and are full of vigour. They assiduously study science and technology and conscientiously

apply their labour and wisdom to developing production. Among them, many have joined "shock workers" in the modernization drive and exhibit fine qualities such as taking pleasure in helping others and sacrificing one's own interests to help others. Members of 25 Youth League groups and other young people postponed their own work and volunteered to work extra hours to help 53 families in their two production brigades who found themselves shorthanded during the transplanting and harvesting seasons. Because the brigades had adopted the system of fixing output quotas on household basis. The youths' help to the 53 households was invaluable.

In the latter half of September 1981, torrential rains brought on by a typhoon in Longhai County resulted in a huge flood. The many young people who risked their lives to save the lives and property of others were named "pioneers of fighting floods and dealing with emergencies." An emergency squad composed of 60 Youth League members and young people in Xiban Production Brigade of Dongsi commune rescued 400 people in seven hours despite the fact that their

own families were also in danger. Ignoring their own hunger and fatigue, they then distributed food to the flood victims.

Youths who are neither inspired nor cynical still make up the majority of the rural youth. They have inherited their elders' fine tradition of hard working and plain living. They support socialism and are happy with China's modernization drive. Some people among them have become rich through labour, but mainly aim to improve their own living conditions. Others are satisfied with the status quo and do not push themselves to raise their educational level or to master advanced farming techniques. But, since the production responsibility system was adopted, their need for advanced techniques has become more and more urgent. As long as they have access to scientific and technological knowledge, their talent will be developed.

Those who stand aloof and uncaring only constitute a very tiny number of youths. Some of them were deeply influenced by the "Left" mistakes that prevailed in the past and are wary of the adoption of flexible economic policies in the countryside, or place too much emphasis upon the negative influence produced by the 10-year internal turmoil and lack confidence. Some others are short of the spirit of hard struggle. They only seek economic benefits for themselves and show no regard for the interests of the state, the collective or others. There is also a very small number of young people who are fond of seeking personal gain by trickery. They even go so far as to break the law. However, young people in this category are also changing. Some regain their political spirit and enthusiasm for labour after a period of re-

education. In Longhai County, the ratio of crimes committed by young people in the total criminal cases has decreased by a big margin.

Zeng Yongwan, chairman of Yancuo commune, is in his 50s. After analysing the similarities and differences between the two generations of peasants, he said with deep feeling that this younger generation will become the major force in accomplishing the modernization programme. Their problems are nothing to

be afraid of. What is much more important than their problems is that they have received a solid education. The Party, the government, the Youth League, the cultural and propaganda departments and the society as a whole must show concern for their growth and educate them to adopt a correct attitude towards work and life. Zeng is of the opinion that all young people can change for the better, even those who have committed offences.

Aspirations of a Youth League Member

WANG Maosheng, a Communist Youth League member, attended a Fujian provincial conference of "modernization-drive" model workers in February last year.

Before he was chosen to go to the conference, some people from his village, the Zoutang Production Brigade of Longhai County's Jiuhu People's Commune, objected to his nomination. Last year, he made 10,000 yuan from growing flowers, a business he started only four years ago. Some people argued that he could be called a horticultural expert but not a model worker. A model worker, they said, should be socialist-minded.

It is true that a model worker should be socialist-minded. But what about Wang Maosheng?

Jiuhu is a flower-growing commune. Last year, one-fourth of its total farm and sideline occupation earnings was derived from growing world-famous daffodil corms. But people of the Zoutang brigade did not grow flowers like their neighbours; their tradition was to grow rice and fruit.

Wang Maosheng had been fascinated by horticulture since he was a boy. He had wanted to cultivate flowers after he graduated from junior middle school in 1973. But, at that time, people who enjoyed flowers were accused of hankering after a bourgeois life style. Consequently, flower-planting was prohibited because accusers said it only served the rich and idle bourgeoisie. Since 1978, such "Left" concepts have been rejected and discarded. The peasants are now encouraged to develop household sideline occupations while continuing farming. As a result, they have increased their private incomes.

Once, during a visit to the neighbouring Hundred-Flower Village, Wang Maosheng was enchanted by the fragrance wafting from the luxurious flowers growing there. The more he looked at the scene, the more he knew he wanted to cultivate flowers. Shortly afterwards, with his parents' consent, he began learning horticultural skills from an experienced peasant of the Hundred-Flower Village, which he supplemented with reading.



Wang Maosheng (middle) passing on his experience to visitors.

He began planting flowers on the foundation of what was once a neighbouring house and on the plot designated for his use in front of his own home.

He had an unquenchable thirst for knowledge. While learning from his teacher, he also visited the Caiban brigade, a daffodil-growing centre. He bought whatever special potted flowers and trees he could afford. He picked winter daphnes from nearby mountains and collected orchids in deep ravines 40 kilometres away from home. He experienced failure while learning grafting skills, but he never gave up. To learn a flower's growing pattern, he would stay beside it day and night.

His relatives encouraged him, the commune gave him loans, and county and prefectural Party committee leaders came by to offer him words of support. As a result, his garden spread to 0.12 hectare and he now grows 150 kinds of flowers. He became an expert in growing flowers. His family began to gain financially. In 1978, he earned 300 yuan from flowers sales. He made 800 the following year and 1,000 the third year. Last year his income was more than 10,000 yuan.

An increasing number of village residents followed his lead. Today, 150 families, or 48 per cent of the total number in Zoutang, grow flowers, and nearly 100 of them are earning more than 1,000 yuan a year from it. Wang Maosheng has consistently advised and encouraged everyone who has asked for his help.

Florists across the country want to buy his flowers. But, he said, "many people in my village want to sell flowers, so I can't monopolize the business." Once, a customer came all the way from Nanjing to buy 100,000 jasmine saplings. Wang sold the man only 6,000 and encouraged him to purchase the remainder from the other families. In one year alone, he helped fellow commune members sell 10,000 yuan worth of flowers, but refused to accept

Shimei Youths: Their Spare-Time Life

HUANG Xiaohui is a 19-year-old member of the Shimei Production Brigade of the Jiaomei People's Commune, Longhai County. In September 1981 he lost 20 yuan while gambling in a neighbouring village. He was so ashamed he

any commission to which he was entitled.

"I do not go after easy money," he said. "The government encourages and supports my efforts because they want me to help the whole village prosper. The more flower-growers we have, the higher the prestige we enjoy and the bigger the sales of our flowers. Don't I also secure an outlet for my own flowers this way?"

He gained national fame after an article about him appeared in the *Zhongguo Qingnian Bao* (China Youth Daily). He received two hundred letters from all over the country. From the northern province of Heilongjiang to the southern subtropical Hainan Island, people wanted to learn his cultivation techniques. Other letters came from Guangzhou, Hangzhou, Shanghai and Fuzhou asking to buy flower seeds or seedlings from him. One letter from a primary school teacher in the hilly part of southwest China's Guizhou Province asked him to mail some seeds to beautify the school garden. Wang replies to every letter he receives and does his best to meet their demands. He sent a package of flower seeds to the school teacher in the remote area. "School gardens have got to be beautified, so do the mountains and the plains," he said. "Wouldn't it be great if the whole country becomes a flower garden!"

thought he could never look anyone in the eye again. But the brigade Party and Youth League branch secretaries did not criticize him publicly, nor did they take him to task privately. Instead, they talked with him about the evils of

gambling. They explained that before liberation quite a few gamblers lost everything they had and became destitute. They invited Huang to take part in healthy recreational and sports activities. Their sincere words made a lot of sense to Huang Xiaohui and he resolved to mend his ways. Now he no longer gambles but instead spends many of his off-work hours at the brigade's youth centre and theatre.

Youth Centre

Although it is a small affair, the youth centre run by the Shimei brigade Youth League branch is an integral part of the young villagers' life. After a day's work, young men and women gather there to play table tennis, caroms or chess. Some borrow reading materials from the centre's 1,400-book library. Some watch television. Basketball enthusiasts organize games on the flood-lit outdoor court they built for themselves.

The other entertainment place in the 4,200-person village is a movie theatre which seats 1,100 and also houses the brigade's *xiangju* opera troupe. Most of the performing troupe's 41 members are young people. Those who wish to join must apprentice themselves to the troupe for four months when they are between the ages of 15 and 17, and must then excel in performers' examinations. The opera is not only popular in its home village, but has an extensive following throughout the neighbouring counties and towns. The troupe also conducts performance tours in the area. In addition to entertaining the peasants, these tours greatly augment the performers' private incomes. Since 1980, the troupe members—performers, accompanists, di-

rectors and properties assistants—have earned as much as their counterparts in the cities.

Love

The youth centre and theatre allow young people frequent informal contacts with each other. But in Shimei, an invitation to a movie is usually seen as a courting gesture. If the invitation is readily received, both partners have at least tacitly agreed to eventual marriage.

Many young lovers are shy. They prefer to conceal their relationship until they decide the right moment has arrived. More often than not, trysts are held when night falls, beside a river, under a tree or on board a small boat. If an acquaintance happens to pass by, the young woman is likely to blush deeply and lower her head, while her boy friend offers an embarrassed smile. More than one half of the married couples in Longhai County chose their own partners. The rest were introduced by match-makers (usually parents or relatives) and married each other with mutual consent.

The Shimei brigade has very little land and too many people. The per-unit grain output is high, but for many years after liberation, the villagers remained poor. Consequently, many girls wished to marry out of the village. But they have changed their minds over the last few years due to a thriving diversified rural economy and an accompanying improvement in livelihood. Young villagers now date each other. In bygone days, young women sought the sons of rich families; now they are mainly concerned about the moral behaviour and work attitude of their potential mates.

Wang Shuzhen, 22, chose her fiancée precisely in this way. Huang Qixiang graduated from senior middle school and returned to Shimei in 1975. But for a time he was not very enthusiastic in work because he was drawn by the hustle and bustle of the cities. He often moaned about his fate. After the Party instituted flexible economic policies in the rural areas, he saw the potential to make gains and began to work hard. Before long he was cited as a model Youth League member and was later elected deputy secretary of the Youth League branch.

No longer yearning for city life, he began to settle down and found himself falling in love with Wang Shuzhen. He wanted to marry her but her parents would not agree to the match because they said Huang had been in poor health. But the young couple insisted that the significant thing was how they felt about each other. Finally, seeing them so deeply in love, the parents changed their minds.

Bringing Up the Children

The 11 staff members of Shimei's 10-year-old kindergarten accommodates all the village children 4-6 years old. In summer 1980, a newcomer joined the staff. Ding Xiuhua, then 22, had just graduated from a kindergarten teachers training school in Fuzhou, the capital of Fujian Province, and had chosen to return to her native village. At first she found it hard to keep most of the 6-year-olds occupied, because there was no outlet for their pent-up energy. Little Yongqiang and Jiming were the noisiest of all. Trying to make them feel a part of the school's daily routine, she designated them as group leaders. After a few days of this new responsi-

SPECIAL FEATURE RURAL YOUTH

bility, Yongqiang calmed down. But Jiming remained the same.

Ding Xiuhua made further efforts to improve her teaching methods and to satisfy the children's desire for knowledge. After school she worked overtime to design and construct visual aids for teaching simple numbers and for story-telling. She spent long hours preparing lessons, as she was expected to teach a range of subjects for pre-schoolers such as drawing, singing and dancing. Last summer saw her drenched in sweat practising the accordion. She recently learnt to make finger puppets so she could use them to teach the children.

She could not do as good a job without her family's support. Her mother and sister are proud of her achievements and often do her share of the household chores when she is busy. Her devotion to her work has been well worth it. The children adore her, and two of the devices she designed for teaching numbers have won awards at a prefectural exhibition of teaching aids.

In her diary Ding Xiuhua wrote: I take up a hard work but it is worth doing. What the children have learnt will exercise a tremendous influence throughout their lives.

Youth League Activities

Shimei has 189 Youth League

members, who are 26.1 per cent of all the village's young people. Learning socialist moral values is one of the league's tasks.

The Youth League members meet once or twice a month during spare-time hours. Before each meeting begins, the members sing songs, listen to stories or watch special television presentations. At the meeting, every member voices his or her opinions about major events at home and abroad and about issues that pertain directly to youth, such as how to pay attention to decorum and manners and act according to socialist moral norms. They also discuss movies and theatrical performances they have seen. Other topics include methods for boosting output in farming and sideline occupations. They exhibit cartoons in the village's three display windows that criticize or praise local events. During the farming seasons they use these windows to acquaint villagers with different wheat strains and cultivation techniques.

Anyone who ill-treats aged people is likely to be censured by Youth League members on local broadcasts aired through the brigade's public address system. One time, without naming names, they criticized a middle-aged woman who abused her septuagenarian mother-in-law, contrasting her poor be-

haviour with the conduct of Chen Guoan, a young man who lived quite amicably with the 23 members of his four-generation family. The result? The unnamed woman, who had defied persuasion by brigade and team leaders, was brought into line by the public opinion the young people had created. She no longer dared maltreat her old mother-in-law.

Youth League members serve as good examples for the village youths, whose public behaviour has markedly improved. Now they return money they pick up on the road and offer help to aged residents. For several years, there has been no violations of state law or Party discipline by Shimei youngsters. □



(Continued from p. 17.)

made contributions in promoting friendship with the Chinese people. On the occasion of the normalization of Sino-Japanese relations in 1972, Premier Zhou Enlai spoke these words in tribute to Japanese friends who had long been working to enhance Sino-Japanese relations: "Remember those who sank the well while drinking the water."

Among the last foreigners Zhou Enlai received were some leaders of Southeast Asian

countries. He nostalgically recalled old acquaintances he had worked together with at the Bandung Conference and asked the visitors to convey his regards to them.

Premier Zhou once described his tour of 11 Asian and European countries in late 1956 and early 1957 as a quest for friendship, knowledge and peace. To serve his country and people, Zhou Enlai persevered in this quest all his life. New China's diplomacy owes much to his efforts.

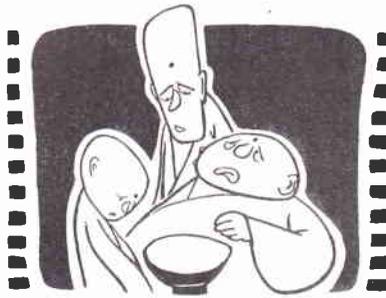
— Ma Lie and Wang Ning

FILM

"Three Monks"

"When the monk is alone, he carries the water himself; when the second monk comes, they carry the bucket together; when the third monk arrives, they carry no water." This old Chinese saying satirizes selfish people who accomplish nothing because they don't work with others. Based on this proverb, the Shanghai Art Film Studio created the humorous animated film *Three Monks*.

Since its release, this entertaining cartoon has been very popular in China. It was selected the best animated film in China's 1980 Rooster Awards and has won international acclaim, including a silver medal at the Fourth International Fairy Film Festival in Denmark



last year and a Silver Bear Award at the 32th West Berlin International Film Festival held in February 1982.

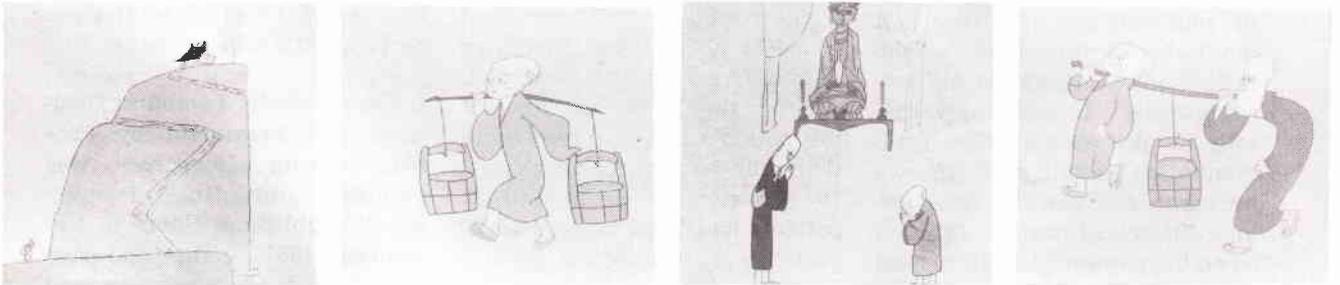
Three Monks is an 18-minute film about a little monk who lives alone in an ancient temple. He goes down the hill and faithfully carries water every day until all the containers in the temple are full. He maintains the temple and chases away all the rats. He lives a happy and peaceful life as a result of his honest labour.

One day a tall monk moves into the temple and neither monk wants to be the one who fetches water. Finally they agree to carry the bucket together, but the weight must be equally distributed for neither is willing to bear an extra burden.

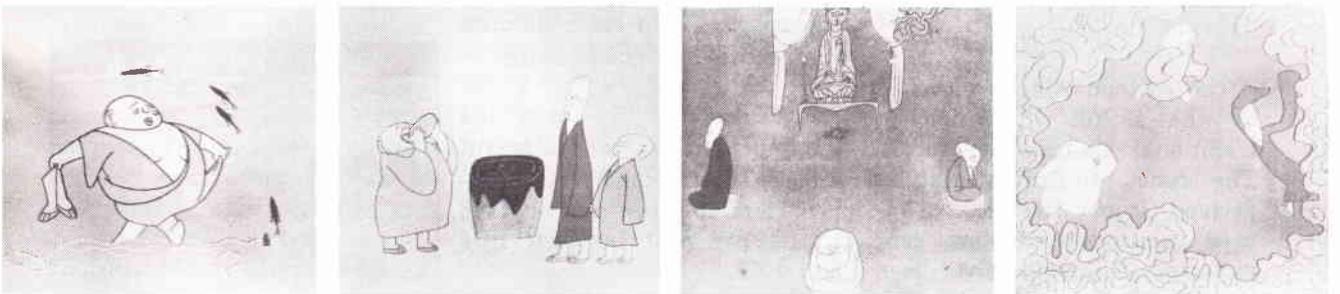
Not long afterwards, a fat monk arrives. Again no one is willing to carry water. Day by day, the water reserve in the temple decreases.

The traditional fable ends with "no water." But the film version continues the story.

Rats are wild in the temple and one night they turn over a candlestick. Books catch fire and flames sweep through the temple. The three monks all rush to carry water and put out the fire. After the blaze the three monks recognize the truth:



From Left to Right: 1. The temple at the top of the hill. 2. The little monk carrying water. 3. Greeting the tall monk. 4. The monks working together.



From Left to Right: 1. The fat monk on his way to the temple. 2. The three monks live on water reserves. 3. The water supply depleted, still no one will fetch water. 4. Fire! The three monks work frantically to put it out.

A happy life can only be reaped by co-operation and hard work.

Life has taught them a lesson. The three monks continue to carry water, each seeking to bear the heaviest load. The film thus incorporates a new moral standard: people should unite together and help each other. The writer and animator have skilfully and unabrasively put new ethics into an old fable.

Animation is an art. It attracts the audience not through its realism, but by its humour and ingenuity. The exaggeration used in the *Three Monks* is so imaginative that it entrances the audience. When the fat monk enters the scene, the sun follows directly over his head. He sweats and his face turns white, brown and red. He is so hot that he puts his head into the water and steam rises. The audience cannot but help laughing at the scene.

Another interesting scene is like this: While fetching water to put out the fire, the tall monk hooks the collar of the little monk's cassock on his carrying pole. Unknowingly, the tall monk carries the little monk up the hill and throws him into the fire, thinking he is a bucket of water. This is something unimaginable in real life. Yet the exaggeration of their hurry, depicted by the camera, the music and other artistic devices, makes it seem like a believable situation.

The cartoon film is enriched by the skilful adaptation of traditional Chinese art forms. The scenes are drawn in styles derived from traditional Chinese paintings and New Year pictures. The music has been composed to incorporate Chinese folk and opera melodies, and the characters' movements

are reminiscent of Chinese dance.

MEDICINE

New Progress in Treating Choriocarcinoma

Chinese medical researchers have reported success in treating a form of gynaecological cancer with chemotherapy.

The cancer, known as choriocarcinoma, is a highly malignant tumour.

Professor Song Hongzhao, who heads the choriocarcinoma research group at the Shoudu Hospital in Beijing, gave details of his success with chemotherapy at a recent national conference attended by gynaecological experts and doctors.

He said, a follow-up survey of 618 patients treated with chemotherapy and discharged from the hospital showed that by 1980 no patients had died within five years of treatment. Among them, 60 per cent of the patients had survived more than 10 years after discharge, 10 per cent 15 years and 31 patients had lived more than 20 years.

Of 159 young women treated with chemotherapy, 85 per cent gave birth after discharge from the hospital, and their children are reported in good health.

The hospital has used the same method to treat malignant moles. The mortality rate dropped from 25.9 per cent in 1958 to 1.4 per cent between 1973 and 1975.

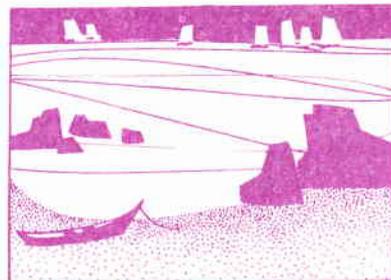
The choriocarcinoma research group headed by Professor

Song Hongzhao was set up in 1958 to study methods of treatment. It found six drugs especially effective. Two of the drugs: 6-mercaptopurine and 5-fluorouracil, have been used abroad to treat other kinds of malignant tumours. The hospital has administered these drugs in large concentrated doses to people suffering from these two diseases with good results. Gengshengmycin, an antibiotic made from a strain of fungus, and three Chinese synthetic drugs have also been used.

The medicine is selected to suit the conditions of each case. The hospital also pays close attention to reducing the side effect of chemotherapy. No patient has died from side effects of the treatment in the last five years.

Of 392 cases of choriocarcinoma treated between 1958 and 1975 by the Shoudu Hospital, the mortality rate in the treatment period and for five years after discharge dropped from 89.2 per cent in 1958 to 21.4 per cent in 1973-75.

Trophoblastic Tumours: Diagnosis and Treatment by Professor Song Hongzhao was published by the People's Health Publishing House in November 1981. The 285-page book introduces treatments and clinical practices.



The Schizophrenia Of Exile

Two Women of China — Mulberry and Peach

Written by Hualing Nieh,
Translated by Jane Parish

Yang with Linda Lappin,

Published by New World Press,
1981,

Pages: 257,

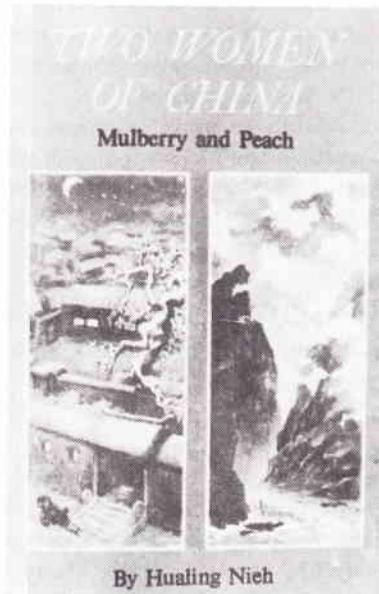
Price: RMB 2.00 yuan, paper-
back,

Distributed abroad by Guoji
Shudian (China Publications
Centre), P.O. Box 399, Beijing,
China.

This is a haunting novel of flight, confinement, exile and mental breakdown. The author, Hualing Nieh, is a recognized Chinese-American woman writer whose life has encompassed the same periods as her narrative.

The story spans a quarter-century of trials and turmoil for Chinese people, not only in China but also overseas. The narrative begins in 1945 with the central character, Mulberry, at the age of 16 running away from home towards the Nationalist (Kuomintang) wartime capital of Chungking (now Chongqing). By the novel's end in 1970 she has split into the two personalities of Mulberry and Peach, and is still fleeing, now in America from the US Immigration Service. This is a very individual, personal story, but it is set against a background of great political and social developments. The plight of the characters and their responses are overwhelmingly determined by these historical forces.

The structure of this novel is quite complex. Its four main parts are presented as portions of a diary kept by Mulberry to describe her experiences. Though they cover only selected years, these sections are set forth in chronological order. Each main part, however, is prefaced by a letter from Peach to a US immigration agent dated in various months of 1970. Peach sends Mulberry's diaries to the agent, repeatedly insist-



ing that she is a different, separate person and that Mulberry is dead.

All these parts are enclosed between a prologue at the beginning of the book and an epilogue at the end of the story. In the prologue the immigration man interrogates the central character who tries to convince the officer that she is Peach and Mulberry is no more.

The epilogue tells the tale of a bird trying to fill the sea and make it into solid earth by

dropping pebbles into the water one by one. The tale concludes with the bird still making the same effort to this day. In the appended interview the author explains that this epilogue is meant to add a note of hopefulness to the book. She tells us, "It's a sad book, but with hope." The epilogue means, she says, that the human spirit is indomitable; people will always keep trying, even if the task is impossible.

The author also explains why the different segments of the book are so distinct from each other. She has been asked why there is hardly any carryover of characters, apart from Mulberry, from one main part to another. She replies: "Because the four parts are symbolic of the Chinese in exile at four different times . . . I think the four parts have the same themes . . . flight, the threat, the trap—and alienation. So I picked up four separate periods of life which can express these themes."

Yet at the same time the book is unified by the continuous development of Mulberry-Peach's unhappy personality. In Hualing Nieh's words again, "The whole book shows the metamorphosis of this character. At the end she was an entirely different person because of all the experiences of the past."

If there is a single aspect that dominates the novel more than any other, it is the ever-present decay and collapse of the old order in Chinese society, together with all its morals and values.

The themes of collapse and loss reach a climax with Mulberry disintegrating and trying to reconstitute herself as Peach in the US, where she finds she has nothing in the

way of cultural or social roots to sustain her.

Closely related to all this is the constant reappearance of death in the story. In three of the four parts older women die undignified deaths which seem to be the final expression of their decadence. There are scenes of death and destruction in the war against Japan and a story of a ghoulish creature who kills and eats people. Just as societies collapse and disintegrate, so do individuals break down and cease to exist. The theme of death appears again in another form when Peach, in order to assert her own existence, claims that Mulberry is dead.

The oppression of women in old China also has its place in this narrative. There are stories of child marriage, concubinage, and wives reduced to gaining their ends by manipulating and even murdering their husbands' concubines. The novel gives the reader a sense that this oppression has led to a certain passivity on the part of the victimized women, including those emerging from the breakdown of the old system. Most of the female characters, including Mulberry-Peach, appear to be rather easily dominated and pushed around by men and also by older women. At no time throughout the narrative does the central character show a clear and definite sense of what she wants to do with her life. When she does occasionally assert herself, it is usually in running away from one situation or another.

Helplessness and being swept along by events are by no means confined to the women. Men as well have little control over their lives, and many seem to make only weak efforts to influence their fate.

In the scenes of war, for example, most of the characters are portrayed mainly as victims or witnesses rather than purposeful participants. Again when Mulberry's husband and the two women see the liberation army taking Beijing, they are seemingly neutral spectators, not involved one way or another, not even expressing any reaction to the sight before them. It is as if the old society had produced men as well as women who were indecisive, weak-willed and easily overcome by developments surrounding them.

All the principal characters in this novel are connected with the bourgeoisie or other exploiting and oppressive classes in the old system. Moreover, they are the ones who have chosen flight and exile individually and personally, not as part of any organized or politically conscious force. They have neither joined the revolutionary cause nor struggled hard against it. At most they are passive supporters of whatever status quo surrounds them. Ideologically they are undeveloped, and so politically they are passive. Indeed, apart from the brief arguments between the old man and the student in the first part of the book, there is hardly any ideological confrontation among these characters.

The story is well told. It holds the readers' interest despite the somewhat disjointed plot. There are poignant and poetic passages as well as effective invocations of horror and terror. The characters are well drawn and, though seldom endearing or heroic, they seem quite real. The author is especially careful and sensitive in her skilful portrayal of Mul-

berry-Peach and her long-suffering psychic transformation.

— C.A. Valentine
(Hua Luntan)

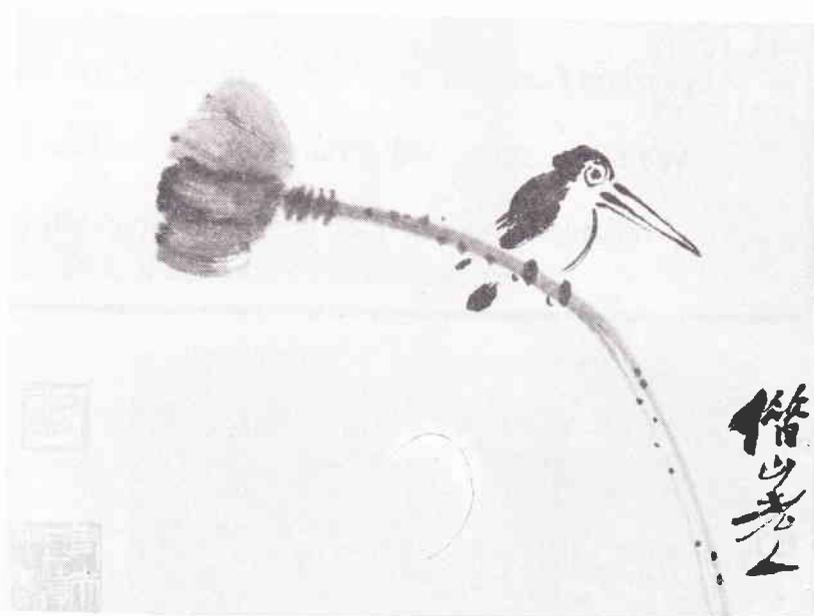
Almanac of Chinese Literature and Art

(1981 Edition)

The Almanac of Chinese Literature and Art (1981 edition), a reference book on literature and art in China, will be off the press soon.

This yearbook is divided into seven parts. The article section contains speeches and articles by the deceased veteran revolutionaries and by the present state leaders and leading members of the literary and art circles on literature and art published in the last two years. The encyclopaedia section gives accounts of the situation, achievements and controversies in 1980 in fiction, drama, cinema, music, dance, *quyi*, fine arts, photography, calligraphy, etc. Some of the information have been published for the first time. The general situation section introduces 1,200 performing troupes, 532 journals, 102 publishing houses, 101 colleges and academies, 51 units for film production, 34 research institutions, some 300 literary and art organizations, and 115 art galleries, libraries, museums, theatres, and memorial halls of cultural personages. The chronicle lists the important literary and art activities; the cultural exchange section enumerates exchanges. The appendix includes a directory to the directives issued by the Ministry of Culture and an index of articles on literature and art published in the country's newspapers and journals.

Qi Baishi's Traditional Chinese Paintings



Qi Baishi, born in Xiangtan, Hunan Province, began painting and drawing in his boyhood. His works include a series of 50 landscapes painted during five trips across the country in his 40s. His artistry is really vivid. Former honorary president of the Academy of Traditional Chinese Painting in Beijing, Qi Baishi continued to be a creative artist until his death in September 1957 at the venerable age of 96.



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