

Vol. 25, No. 21

May 24, 1982

# BEIJING REVIEW



- Writers and Artists on Creative Works
- Draft Economic Plan for 1982



A CHINESE WEEKLY OF NEWS AND VIEWS

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

### Premier Zhao Gives Interview

In his talk with a Japanese press delegation, Premier Zhao Ziyang stressed the significance of developing long-standing and stable relations of friendship and co-operation between China and Japan. The Premier also answered questions on a number of other important issues (p. 5).

### 1982 Economic Plan

Vice-Premier Yao Yilin listed the major tasks and targets for China's socio-economic development in 1982 in his report to the NPC Standing Committee. He called on the nation to work hard to fulfil and overfulfil the state plan (p. 14).

### Writers and Artists on Creation

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the publication

of Chairman Mao's *Talks at the Yanan Forum on Literature and Art*, Chinese writers and artists discuss the significance of the *Talks* in the light of their personal experiences and creative achievements (pp. 23-29).

### Summing-Up of Socialist Ethics Month

Significant achievements were scored during the "national socialist ethics and courtesy month" last March. A national meeting discussed ways of conducting ideological education among the people and called for sustained efforts to foster socialist ethics (p. 7).

### Economic Reorganization

The establishment of the China Shipbuilding Industrial Corporation represents a new effort in the ongoing readjust-

ment of the national economy. This step is regarded as a breakthrough in the restructuring of the management system in China's industry (p. 8).

### Stop Use of Chemical Weapons

Minister Keat Chhon of Democratic Kampuchea appeals through *Beijing Review* to the people of the whole world to take immediate action to stop the use of chemical weapons by the Vietnamese invaders against his people (p. 22).



Well-known writer Xia Yan (left) and film artist Bai Yang.

Photo by Lu Xiangyou

## BEIJING REVIEW

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### Protectionist Measures

**China has repeatedly declared that its open-door policy will remain unchanged. But why does it restrict the importation of industrial consumer goods?**

The State Council's decision to restrict imports of motor vehicles, television sets and nine other durable consumer goods is a protectionist measure normal to every sovereign country. It is not an act of backing away from the open-door policy, but one that aims to keep China's growing foreign trade and economic co-operation with other nations on the right track.

China's economic exchanges with foreign countries have rapidly expanded since 1978. In 1981, the total volume of imports and exports amounted to 73,530 million yuan, 94 per cent higher than the 1978 figure, and the unfavourable balance in trade was basically changed. During the last few years, China has imported on a large scale advanced equipment and technology which have played a positive role in the modernization drive. At the same time, foreign industrial consumer goods have poured into the home market; some were useful and needed by the people, but many were imported because of poor planning and management. The influx of TV sets, cassette tape-recorders, digital wrist-watches, refrigerators, cameras and other goods into the home market has adversely affected China's budding consumer goods industry. This has aroused the concern of the Chinese Government, for to promote the production of these consumer goods is an important goal in

the current readjustment of the economy.

Every sovereign nation is duty bound to protect its own economy. This explains why many nations follow the policy of encouraging exports and restricting imports. Tariff and non-tariff measures in certain countries number in the hundreds. It is, therefore, only natural for a developing socialist country like China to protect the development of its industry in its economic exchanges with other nations. Restrictions will be placed on the import of commodities which we can produce and supply. If we fail to do so and allow such commodities to be dumped into China or if we only import foreign goods without learning how to make them, we will commit the mistake of having to rely heavily on foreign countries.

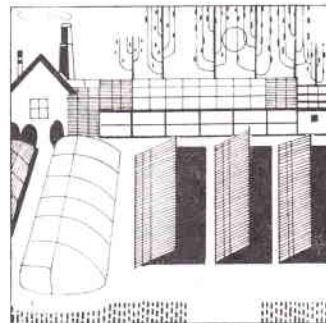
Import and export are always interdependent. In contemporary international economic exchanges, a nation has to increase exports if it wants to see growth in imports, and the expansion of exports requires comprehensive industrial development. It goes without saying that China is a potentially big market, but it should also become a powerful industrial goods producing country, and not merely the producer of mineral and farm products.

While restricting the import of industrial consumer goods, China encourages importing advanced equipment, expertise and high-quality new materials. We welcome foreign investment in developing China's en-

ergy resources, offshore oil deposits in particular. Foreign businesses are also welcome to co-operate in the technical transformation of China's old enterprises. A meeting will be convened in early June in Guangzhou during which the UN Industrial Development Organization and China's Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade will discuss investments in China's 130 industrial projects. This will provide ample opportunities for foreign investors. It is expected that China's capability of self-reliance will grow along with the development of its economic co-operation with foreign countries.

While adopting necessary protectionist measures, China will also advocate the use of home-made commodities among its people as part of education in patriotism. Those foreigners who have interpreted this as inappropriate "nationalist feelings" obviously misunderstand China's policies. We support patriotism and internationalism and we are for self-reliance and international co-operation. Our policies have nothing to do with parochial nationalism.

— *Economic Editor*  
Wang Dacheng





# LETTERS

## Sino-US Relations and Taiwan

*Beijing Review* carried the article "Where Does the Crux of the Sino-US Relationship Lie?" (issue No. 15). I deeply appreciate that your country has sober-mindedly handled this dispute and sincerely protected international justice. The article is reasonable. It recounted the history of Sino-US relations and cited the parallel of US opposition to British interference in its internal affairs during the American Civil War.

I hope that your country will adhere to its just stand and become a country playing a significant role in the world.

**Toshio Uemura**  
Kobe, Japan

The article "Where Does the Crux of the Sino-US Relationship Lie?" convincingly explains the principles of the Sino-US relations on the Taiwan issue.

Taiwan, like Hainan Island, is a part of Chinese territory. The People's Republic of China is the sole government of China. This is commonly accepted by the Japanese people, including Japanese who are doing business and travelling in Taiwan.

Based on the five principles for the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and the United States and the Shanghai Communique, the two countries re-established diplomatic relations. However, some Americans (including some leading politicians and monopoly capitalists) do not understand this. They want to sell arms to the local government in Taiwan and interfere in the internal affairs of China. How unreasonable this is!

**Kosaburo Yoshimura**  
Kanagawa, Japan

I am an American professor of economics and I remember Shanghai Communique and normalization for being in the best interests of the United States and China as agreed by leaders in China and the United States.

Since the People's Republic of China is the legal government of China and a member of the United Nations, we must respect the sovereignty of a nation as a matter of principle. No wishy-washy shenanigans, i.e., the softball championship.

Those who praise Taiwan and ignore the achievements in China commit fallacy of composition: What is good for Taiwan is not necessarily good for China because Taiwan is a part of China.

The goal of peaceful reunification would be a matter of economic feasibility for China and the pride of the Chinese nation. Non-Chinese should honour the intent of the Chinese people, one-fourth of the human race.

I was impressed by the national socialist ethics and courtesy month. May I suggest a national socialist learning day? I believe that if one billion people learn one thing each day, the cumulative results in one month or one year would be incalculable. I hope you see fit to publish my idea for the leaders to start such a movement officially. I am sure that modernization would be facilitated with daily learning habits.

**F. Shieh (Xie Shihao)**  
Upper Marlboro, Md., USA

## The Malvinas Issue

I appreciate the article "China's Stance on the Malvinas" (issue No. 15). I will inform my friends of the facts so as to counter the tendentious reports by the propaganda organs in my country.

**Pierre Bellanger**  
Paris, France

I think it should not be necessary for a fleet to be sent to far-away islands and war be risked just because of mineral and other resources of such distant territories. Isn't the world but one country and humanity its citizens: in unity and in diversity, overcoming prejudices? Therefore I hope that the day will come when we'll have a competent, just and wise international body responsible in administering our world's resources for the best interests of all.

I believe it's a most important point for world peace!

**Marco G. Kappenberger**  
Berne, Switzerland

## US-West German Relations

I read with great interest the article "West Germany's Efforts to Patch Relations With the United States" (issue No. 12). It is regrettable that the objective situation corresponds with what you described, but I still have an objection. I myself am one of many young persons who vehemently opposes decisions which benefit the United States. The overwhelming majority of the youth have awakened. In order to win and take into their own hands the peace and security of their countries and Europe, they have risen in opposition to some political decisions. However, our young generation which undertakes efforts for peace was labelled as the insurgent extremists. And there is little understanding of and support to what we fear.

I like your weekly. Although I am still young, I pay attention to the news about China's social and political reforms.

**Annette Kublank**  
Delmenhorst, FRG

*We reported on the Western anti-nuclear movement in our issue No. 19. We hope it may be of some value for your reference. — Ed.*

## Interest in China

I am inspired when I read stories and news from *Beijing Review*. Most of my friends have developed an interest in China and are fond of reading articles about developments in the field of agriculture, science and technology and sports.

I appreciate the friendly relationship China wants to establish with other countries of the world.

**M.Y. Mensah**  
Wenchi, Ghana



FOREIGN  
RELATIONS

## Premier Zhao on Sino-Japanese Relations and Other Questions

Premier Zhao Ziyang met with the Japanese Press Delegation led by Yoshiro Shimizu on May 14. He answered their questions and told them that he was scheduled to pay an official visit to Japan on May 31.

**Sino-Japanese Relations.** Premier Zhao said that political relations of peace and friendship and economic relations of equality and mutual benefit have been established in the past decade between China and Japan following the normalization of diplomatic relations. Such good relations accord with the common interests of the Chinese and Japanese peoples and are conducive to peace and stability in the Asian-Pacific region. He quoted Japanese Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki's remark that between Japan and China there are no differences and problems but only friendship and trust. The Premier said that China not only treasures the good relations existing between the two countries but is duty bound to continue to consolidate and develop them.

In the present turbulent international situation, Premier Zhao continued, China and Japan should endeavour to establish and develop long-standing and stable relations of friendship and co-operation which will not be affected by international storms. This is of great significance to the two countries, and will also exert

far-reaching influence on peace in Asia and the world as a whole. Premier Zhao said that he will discuss and exchange views with Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki on the international situation and on ways of furthering Sino-Japanese relations. He expressed the confidence that his visit will be beneficial to establishing and developing long-standing and stable relations of peace and friendship between the two countries.

**Sino-US Relations.** The Premier said that the serious obstacle in Sino-US relations lies mainly in US arms sales to China's Taiwan Province. The two countries have held talks on this issue on many occasions. During the recent visit by Vice-President George Bush as entrusted by President Reagan, the Chinese side once again explained in depth its fundamental position on the US arms sales to Taiwan. Vice-President Bush expressed the desire of his country to resolve this problem. The talks have been useful and have increased the understanding of each other's position, and both sides have agreed to continue talks on this issue. So long as the United States strictly abides by the principles laid down in the joint communique on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries, the obstacle in Sino-US relations can be removed.

**Sino-Soviet Relations.** There exist major differences of principle between China and the Soviet Union, the Premier said. China opposes Soviet hegemonism and its policy of external expansion. China has consistently stood for maintaining and developing normal state relations with the Soviet Union on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, and has all along advocated the settlement of existing questions between the two countries through negotiations. China has taken note of the remarks about improving Sino-Soviet relations made by President Brezhnev in Tashkent not long ago, but it attaches importance to the actual deeds of the Soviet Union in Sino-Soviet relations and international affairs.

**Draft of Revised Constitution.** The draft of the revised Constitution now being discussed among the Chinese people is a fairly good one that conforms to China's realities, Premier Zhao said. When adopted, it will serve as the fundamental law for China's new historical period. It will exert far-reaching influence on long-standing stability and order and the continuity and stability of China's domestic and foreign policies.

**Economic Readjustment.** The Premier noted that initial successes have been achieved in readjusting China's economy. Experiments and probes are being made with regard to restructuring the economic management system. Consolidation of Chinese enterprises is proceeding in a planned way. China's economy is full of hope although numerous difficulties have to be overcome.

## Cape Verde President's Visit

Aristides Maria Pereira, General Secretary of the African Party for Independence in Cape Verde and President of Cape Verde, paid an official visit to China in the middle of May.

During his meeting with President Pereira in Beijing on May 15, Vice-Chairman Deng Xiaoping said that the leaders of the two countries should increase the exchange of visits so as to promote mutual understanding and relations of friendship and co-operation.

Premier Zhao Ziyang held talks with the President. Both sides expressed satisfaction at the friendly relations between the two countries. They briefed each other on the political and economic situation in their countries and discussed bilateral relations and a number of international issues. Zhao Ziyang praised the Cape Verde Government for pursuing a policy of non-alignment and safeguarding African unity.

Outlining China's foreign policy, Premier Zhao said that it is guided by two principles, that is, maintaining unity with the other third world countries and firm opposition to hegemonism so as to safeguard world peace. Zhao Ziyang said that China, as a developing socialist state, will unswervingly strengthen its unity and economic and technical co-operation with the other third world countries.

Referring to disputes among the third world countries, the Premier said that they are caused by both historical reasons and superpower interference. The Chinese Government, he said, has always maintained that disputes should be settled by the countries involved through peaceful consultation and free from outside interference. They should be aware that their disputes will not escalate and that these disputes will not be exploited by the superpowers.

Pereira said that Cape Verde's foreign policy is strict neutrality and non-alignment.

Cape Verde wants friendship with all other countries in accordance with the principles of mutual respect, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit.

A cultural agreement between China and Cape Verde was signed in Beijing on May 15.

## Chinese Leaders Meet Thai Foreign Minister

"China supports an early unification of the three patriotic forces in Kampuchea."

This statement was made by Vice-Chairman Deng Xiaoping when he met with Thai Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsila on May 13. Deng pointed out: "This alliance should be conducive to the strengthening of the struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors and should not weaken the forces that are now fighting the Vietnamese invaders at the forefront in Kampuchea. This is the most fundamental and most important political principle."

Vice-Chairman Deng said that China will continue its efforts to help promote the realization of this alliance. But, he said, "we do not impose our views on others and do not interfere in their internal affairs. Non-interference in the internal affairs of others is a principle which New China has consistently upheld since its founding in 1949." Deng added: "A stable alliance will be realized only when the three patriotic forces in Kampuchea reach agreements through negotiations and adhere to these agreements."

Thai Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsila paid a visit to China from May 10 to 14. During the visit, Premier Zhao Ziyang and State Councillor and Foreign



Premier Zhao Ziyang welcomes President Aristides Maria Pereira.



Minister Huang Hua met with him on separate occasions. Zhao Ziyang said that China desires to see an independent, neutral and non-aligned Kampuchea. He added that the efforts now being made by Thailand and other ASEAN countries are very important to solving the Kampuchean question in a fair and reasonable way.

The Thai Foreign Minister stressed that Thailand cannot accept the continued presence of Vietnamese forces in Kampuchea.

Both sides also praised the friendship between China and Thailand and their peoples.

### **Protesting US Checking of Chinese Diplomats' Luggage**

The Chinese Foreign Ministry on May 12 lodged a strong protest with the United States against the unreasonable checking of Chinese diplomats' luggage by US personnel.

The protest was conveyed to an official of the US Embassy in Beijing who was summoned to the ministry by appointment.

The protest said that on the morning of May 6, when the members of the Chinese Delegation to the UN Conference on the Law of the Sea were at the New York Airport awaiting a CAAC flight for Beijing after completing luggage checks, a dozen or so US personnel, in the absence of the Chinese passengers, went so far as to open, even break with knives and search in private scores of pieces of luggage of the members of the Chinese Delegation and other Chinese passengers. Upon learning of the incident,

the Chinese Delegation immediately lodged a verbal protest with the US side and asked them to stop searching the luggage. The US personnel concerned acted wilfully and resorted to sophistry. They stopped their search only after a firm protest from the Chinese Delegation. The act of the US side led to a delay of the CAAC flight's taking-off by about two hours.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry in its protest pointed to the serious nature of the incident. It strongly demanded that the US side conduct immediate investigations into their act which violated international law and practice and grossly infringed on the privileges enjoyed by diplomatic personnel, make a responsible reply and guarantee against the recurrence of similar incidents in future. Otherwise the US side shall be held responsible for all the consequences arising therefrom.

## **POLITICAL**

### **Summing-Up of "National Socialist Ethics Month"**

During the "national socialist ethics and courtesy month" in March this year, 270 million volunteers cleaned the streets and sidewalks, planted trees, assisted the elderly and disabled and cleared away 24 million tons of garbage. In Beijing alone, 35 million trees were planted. Criminal cases throughout the nation in March fell 12.5 per cent compared with the same period of 1981, and in 23 big and medium-sized cities the decrease was as much as 30 per cent. Services

improved in commercial and communication departments.

These figures were made known at a meeting to sum up the "national socialist ethics and courtesy month" activities jointly held recently in Beijing by the Propaganda Department of the Party Central Committee and the Central Committee of the Communist Youth League of China.

The meeting held that these well-begun activities should be continued in a deep-going and sustained way and communist ideological education should be conducted among the people.

Participants at the meeting were of the opinion that workers should be taught the historical mission of the working class and its revolutionary traditions so as to enhance their sense of responsibility as masters of the country. Peasants should be taught to understand the relationship between the state, the collective and the individuals and to take all these into consideration. Young people should be educated to love the motherland, the Party and the socialist system and enhance national pride and dignity.

Regarding the relationships among the people, the meeting's participants decided that mutual respect, unity, mutual assistance and wholehearted service to the people should be encouraged. They also urged that the principles of communist ethics be applied to social morality, professional relationships, marriage and family ethics. They all held that communist ideological education and improving the general trend in society are not only requirements for fostering socialist ethics but also essential conditions for building our socialist material civilization.

### New Management Reorganization Effort

The China Shipbuilding Industrial Corporation, which was recently established in Beijing, represents another of China's efforts to streamline its economic structure.

The new corporation has replaced the Sixth Ministry of Machine Building, which formerly managed China's shipbuilding. The new corporation is responsible for production, planning, import and export and other business activities related to shipbuilding. Its tasks also include formulating relevant policies and principles for the State Council.

More than 150 enterprises and departments formerly belonging to the Sixth Ministry of Machine Building and the Ministry of Communications were merged to form the new corporation. Its material and technical resources include 26 big and medium-sized shipyards, 66 ship equipment factories, approximately 30 research and design institutes and three institutes of higher learning, including Shanghai's Jiaotong University. The corporation has 300,000 employees and the largest of its 80 shipways can be used for building 100,000 ton ships.

The corporation's general manager is supervised by a board of directors. And although leadership is unified, authority is divided among subordinate organizations. A three-echelon management system has been instituted — corporation headquarters, local branches and grass-roots enterprises. A similar three-level accounting system is being worked out. The

corporation has already established a branch in Shanghai and preparatory work is being done to set up branches in Guangzhou, Tianjin and Dalian. The corporation and its subordinate organizations can, while ensuring the fulfilment of state plans, formulate their own plans in light of market conditions, both domestic and international. Its mandate is to increase exports, expand services and undertake more projects by processing material supplied by domestic and foreign businesses.

Because its authority supersedes local districts and departments, the corporation has considerable flexibility. It also coordinates the production of military and civilian products, shipbuilding, ship repairs and research. By transforming a government department into an enterprise, it is facilitating the nation's effort to use economic methods to improve economic results.

Shortly after the new corporation was established, another one — the China Auto Industrial Corporation — was set up in Beijing. Under it are 140 branches, factories and a research institute. Each of its

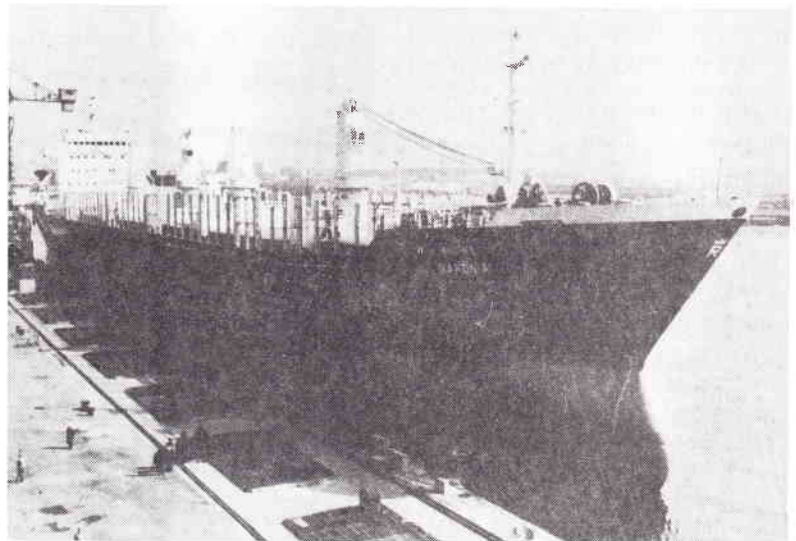
branches produces a certain type of products.

### More Ships for Export

China has exported ships totalling 900,000 tons during the past three years. Thirty-four of these ships are of the 10,000-ton class, with a total tonnage of 770,000 tons.

The exported vessels included 36,000- and 27,000-ton bulk ships, 17,500-ton multi-purpose cargo ships, 12,300-ton container ships and 700 hp tugboats and pleasure vessels. More than 10 other 10,000-ton ships will be exported this year. Two 27,000-ton ocean-going freighters, built and exported by the Dalian Shipyard in the first quarter of this year, have received particularly favourable comments from foreign shippers.

Some shipyards have started building offshore oil drilling rigs for foreign countries. Contracts to build three offshore oil rigs and repair another one have been signed. The capacity to fit the ships with complete set of equipment has been increased, and some products are sold on the international market.



Wangyuan, a 27,000-ton ocean-going freighter built by the Dalian Shipyard for export.



Fifteen kinds of advanced technology have been imported and patents to produce some world-famous products in China have also been obtained. At present, there are 12 ships of the 10,000-ton class for export which will be equipped with a main engine and auxiliary engines made in China in accordance with the advanced technical know-how imported from abroad.

By 1985, 80 per cent of the material and equipment needed by ships for export will be supplied by China itself. China's immediate aim is to build 60,000- to 80,000-ton ships, and 100,000- to 150,000-ton ships in the near future.

China only produced one 10,000-ton-class ship for export before 1979. However, it is now accepting both fleet orders and orders for single ships, including bulk ships, container ships and oil drilling rigs. The firms which have placed orders for Chinese ships are located in the Xianggang-Aomen region, Singapore, Malaysia, the United States, Italy and West Germany. Some firms have placed large orders. For example, three companies in Hamburg have ordered 14 freighters worth 150 million marks from Shanghai shipyards since early last year.

### Good Prospects for Petroleum Resources

Geological experts estimate that China has 30 to 60 billion tons of oil reserves.

Comprehensive geological surveys have confirmed the presence of more than 300 basins with some 4.5 million square kilometres of sedi-

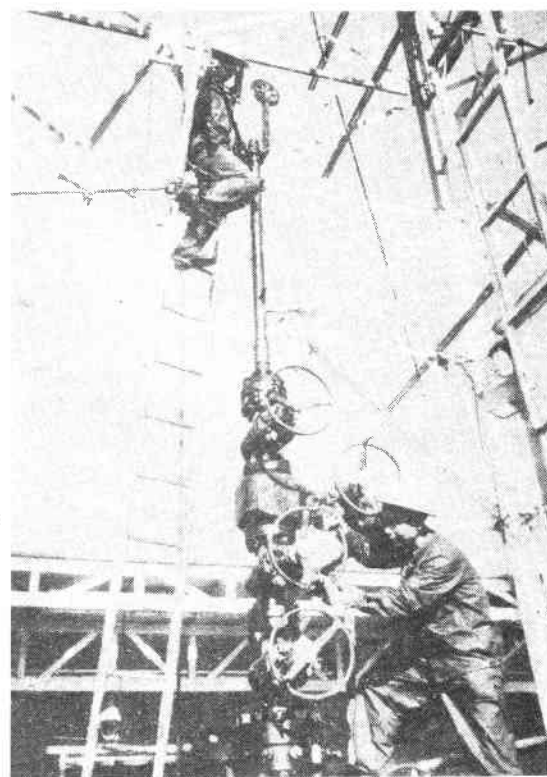
mentary rocks. In addition, there are 1.2 million square kilometres of the continental shelf appropriate for petroleum prospecting. They all contain rich oil reserves.

Oil and gas fields formed between the remote Sinian and the quaternary periods are extensively distributed in 20 of China's provinces and autonomous regions.

In areas with rich oil deposits, only a small amount of oil reserves have been verified in shallow strata. The north China basin, for example, has an estimated reserve of 8 billion tons, and the basin between the Songhua and Liaohe Rivers has an estimated reserve of 4.5 billion tons, but proven geological oil reserves in the two basins are much smaller than the estimates.

The six large oil-gas bearing basins discovered on China's continental shelf are linked with major oil-bearing zones on the continent. For example, the 80,000-square-kilometre Bohai Sea basin is an extension of the Shengli, Dagang and Liaohe oil fields. A number of high output oil wells have been sunk there. The East China Sea basin, with an area of 460,000 square kilometres, also has abundant oil- and gas-bearing structures. Oil reserves in the South China Sea are quite rich. The area around the Zhujiang (Pearl) River estuary covers 150,000 square kilometres and the seven wells that have been drilled yield oil of industrial value.

Bidding for joint exploitation of China's offshore oil resources has been completed. Forty foreign oil companies have participated in the first



Opening up a new oil field in the South China Sea.

round bidding, covering an area of 150,000 square kilometres.

The distribution area and volume of sedimentary rocks, the amount of organic matter accumulated and the geological conditions for the movement and deposition of oil determine the prospects of a country's oil reserves. China has good prospects in this respect, but it is still weak in survey techniques and efforts will be made in the future to improve oil survey techniques in order to increase the amount of verified oil reserves and create conditions for further development.

China started to export oil in 1973. By 1978 it had increased its output to more than 100 million tons, ranking ninth among the oil-producing nations in the world.

## Fine Prospects for Egypt's Relations With Other Arab Countries

SINCE Israel returned the Sinai to Egypt on April 25, Egypt's relations with other Arab countries have begun to improve.

### Frequent Visits

Both King Hussein of Jordan and King Hassan II of Morocco sent messages on April 27 congratulating Egypt on its repossession of the Sinai. Moroccan Prime Minister Maati Bouabid, Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali and Secretary-General of the Arab League Chedli Klibi also expressed hope for Egypt's return to the Arab world. Bahrein Emir's brother Sheikh Mohamed Ben Salman Al Khalifa and Princess Teghrid, wife of the brother of Jordan's King Hussein, have visited Egypt. And Sultan Qaboos Ben Said of Oman also recently visited Cairo. Moreover, high-ranking officials from some Arab nations have recently made unofficial visits to Egypt.

All this indicates that discord between Egypt and some other Arab countries has diminished and that their relationship is improving.

Omani Sultan Qaboos' visit to Cairo was a significant effort to promote Arab unity because Oman is a member of the Gulf Co-operation Council. Before he went to Cairo, King Hussein of Jordan and Moroccan Prime Minister Maati Bouabid visited Oman. The primary subject in their talks was the restoration of Arab unity. Therefore, Sultan

Qaboos' visit to Egypt reflected the common aspiration and stance of many Arab nations.

After his four-day visit to Cairo, Sultan Qaboos changed his original schedule and, instead of going home, he went to Jordan. This is also an indication that there is a possibility of improved relations between Jordan and Egypt. Observers believe that friendly exchanges between Egypt and other Arab countries will increase.

### Common Aspirations

Common aspirations are causing moderate Arab states and Egypt to consider improving their relations. Since its withdrawal from the Sinai, Israel has tightened its control over the West Bank of the Jordan River, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights. Moreover, there are daily reports of Israeli troop attacks against the Palestinians in Lebanon.

Israel's aggressive actions require Arab unity. Those Arab leaders who seek the return of Egypt to the Arab world unanimously emphasized Egypt's influential position in the Arab world. They also agree that Egypt's absence has weakened Arab strength.

Since repossessing the Sinai, Egypt has indicated its determination to support Palestinian and other Arab people in their struggle to recover all their lost land and to seek a comprehensive and peaceful settlement of the Middle East problem.

The Arab nations in the Gulf particularly want Egypt's support to protect the Gulf from any possible Soviet thrust into the region. Egypt has said that the security and stability of the Gulf Arab nations is "an integral part of our strategic security" and it "would view with deep concern" any threat to the security of these nations.

Egypt supports Iraq in its war with Iran, a position which has attracted admiration from some other Arab nations. Egypt has also said that it would help the Gulf nations protect their oilfields from any attempted takeover by the Soviet Union.

Moderate Arab states hope to see a stable Egypt pursuing an independent foreign policy. Therefore, the Gulf nations have offered aid to Egypt to help solve its economic problems.

### Different Opinions

However, obstacles still exist on the road towards rapprochement between Egypt and other Arab nations. While expressing the wish to mend fences with other Arab nations, Egypt continues its commitment to the Camp David accords. Hence, some Arab moderates have adopted a wait-and-see attitude to see what Egypt will do next.

Saudi Arabia's *Arab News* said in an April 26 editorial about the Sinai withdrawal that "Mubarak is in a better position to repair Egypt's bridge with the Arab states," but "it remains to be seen what developments will occur."

Syria and other Arab nations belonging to the Rejection Front oppose negotiations between Egypt and Israel

on Palestinian autonomy and insist that Egypt should renounce the Camp David accords and the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

It will probably take a long time to resolve these differences of opinion.

—Zhong Tai

## Reagan's Nuclear Reduction Proposal

US President Ronald Reagan delivered an important speech on May 9 dealing with East-West relations. Speaking at Eureka College, Reagan proposed negotiations on strategic nuclear weapons with the Soviet Union and the reduction of long-range ballistic missile warheads. He also suggested that negotiations on nuclear arms reduction between the United States and the Soviet Union be held by the end of June and expressed the hope that Brezhnev will attend the Special UN Session on Disarmament at that time and meet with him.

US newspapers said that Reagan's speech was more conciliatory than his previous ones. He did not emphasize a US arms buildup and the need to talk with the Soviet Union from the strength. But most of his comments were on the importance of strategic nuclear arms reductions and his proposal for reducing the number of ballistic missile warheads. Reagan did criticize the Soviet Union for its occupation of Afghanistan and for seeking to expand its conquests. He also appealed to the allied countries to unite and restrict economic and technical benefits to the Soviet Union.

Reagan's calm and flexible attitude result from internal and external needs. Moscow has recently emphasized peace offensives and advocated arms reductions. However, the United States has responded negatively. Moreover, the US economy has declined and Reagan's proposed hikes in military expenditures have generated domestic

resistance. Opposition to Reagan's military modernization programme and freezing the US and Soviet nuclear weapons has become particularly strong in recent weeks. Because this is a mid-term election year, members of Congress are very sensitive to public opinion. The Senate and the House of Representatives are considering more than 40 proposals on a nuclear arms freeze.

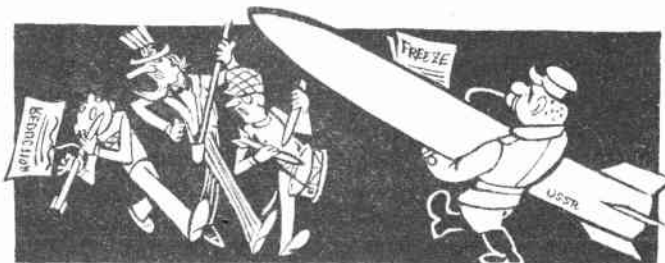
At the same time, Western Europe's anti-nuclear forces, which oppose the nuclear arms race between the United States and the Soviet Union and the deployment of new US missiles in the region, are gaining momentum. Next month Reagan will visit Western Europe and he is clearly seeking to alter his image there. As the Special UN Session on Disarmament will soon be held, the United States is seeking ways to cope with the Soviet peace offensive. Given these circumstances, Reagan agreed in early April to hold talks on strategic nuclear weapons with the Soviet Union and said he hoped to meet with Brezhnev at the Special UN Session on Disarmament in June. But the Soviet Union has rejected his proposal with the claim that his timing is not appropriate. Now Reagan has re-

sponded by saying he hopes to meet with Brezhnev next month and put forward specific proposals on reducing nuclear arsenals.

The two-phase plan on reducing nuclear missiles issued by Reagan obviously would not be accepted by the Soviet Union because it counters the Soviet proposal. The United States has proposed a "reduction" of nuclear missiles while the Soviet Union has proposed a "freeze." The Soviet "freeze" is designed to maintain its SS-20 missiles in Europe and prevent Western Europe from deploying medium-range US ballistic missiles. Reagan's "reduction" proposal calls for decreasing the number of the Soviet nuclear missiles. Some US newspapers claim that the Soviet side has an edge over the United States in land-based missiles which constitute a threat to the United States. But they also point out that the US strategic nuclear submarines and bombers are superior to those of the Soviet Union, even though they are expected to be used in a secondary capacity in case of war. Therefore, the primary objective of Reagan's proposal is to deter the threat of the Soviet 1,398 land-based missiles to the US 1,025 ones.

According to a US newspaper, Reagan's speech on nuclear reduction was primarily for US citizens, Congress and West European leaders. Nevertheless, it was also intended to counter the Soviet peace offensive.

—Yuan Xianlu





## Struggle Around the Japanese Constitution

**T**HE Japanese Constitution has become the focus of a political struggle whose outcome will have important global consequences.

On the eve of May 3, the 35th anniversary of the promulgation of the Japanese Constitution, six Japanese opposition parties issued statements or made speeches reaffirming their support for the existing constitution and opposing any revisions.

The ruling Liberal-Democratic Party on May 3 organized a 2,000-member rally calling for a new constitution.

Hence the struggle between the two sides, one to revise and the other to defend the constitution.

### Reasons to Revise the Constitution

The most outstanding characteristics of the existing constitution are its stipulations that state sovereignty be vested in citizens instead of the emperor and that the state pursue the principle of democratic politics. These formulations transformed Japan from an autocratic monarchy into a bourgeois democratic state with a constitutional monarchy. However, during the 35 years since the constitution's promulgation, there have been endless efforts to revise it. Upon its founding in November 1955, the Liberal-Democratic Party declared its intention to seek a revision of the constitution in order to include self-determination. Some members of the party have increased their efforts to revise the constitution in recent years.

The Liberal-Democratic Party wants to revise the constitution because it was imposed on Japan by occupation troops. They claim that several sections of the document are inconsistent with Japan's specific conditions. They particularly dislike Article 9, which requires Japan to renounce for ever the use of war as a means of settling international disputes. They are also dissatisfied with the section which addresses the position of the emperor. They prefer a stipulation which would permit the emperor to become more involved in state affairs. Some even impute Japan's social problems to the constitution permitting citizens too many rights and freedoms.

### Reasons to Defend the Constitution

The document's defenders believe that the constitution's advocacy of the principles of peace, fundamental human rights and state sovereignty have guaranteed democracy and peace. They also believe it has been crucially important to Japan's postwar economic development and improved standard of living.

The defenders say attempts to change the constitution are connected with militarism and point out that memorial monuments to those killed during the war of aggression have been built in numerous places. Moreover, the Japanese cabinet recently designated August 15, the day Japan was defeated in World War II, as "the day to pay tribute to the dead and pray for peace."

### The Struggle Gains Momentum

Revising the constitution will not prove easy because it requires approval by at least two-thirds of the Diet's members. The Liberal-Democratic Party only occupies a half of the Diet seats. Therefore, it has begun a campaign to attract supporters. If the Liberal-Democratic Party can take two-thirds of the Diet seats in the 1983 election, constitutional revision will probably be added to the agenda. The constitution's defenders believe this would be dangerous. As a result, they are redoubling their efforts to defend the constitution.

Whoever wins the struggle will determine the future of Japan and influence the world.

— Chen Bowei

## France's Social Economic Transformation

**F**RANCOIS Mitterrand and the Socialist Party of France won the presidential and legislative elections a year ago under the slogan of "transformation." A new cabinet was subsequently formed and a

series of social economic reforms pursued.

Although the reforms leave the fundamental social system intact, they address a wide range of issues which have at-

tracted world attention. The "110 proposals" put forward last year by the congress of the Socialist Party have been called "Mitterrand's programme." Some businesses have been nationalized and political power has been decentralized. Improvements have been made in the area of social welfare and the National Assembly is discussing reforming radio and television.

### Cause of Success

Though Mitterrand encountered numerous problems during his first year in office, France has not experienced the chaos predicted by the opposition parties. This was due to several factors. Firstly, Mitterrand's reform programme conforms to a certain extent with the demands of the French people. It is supported by the majority, especially of the middle and lower classes. Political theorist Raymond Aron suggests that the trade unions have provided Mitterrand with crucial support.

Secondly, the Socialist Party and its "Left-wing" allies not only have the political power in their hands but also hold a dominant position in the National Assembly. This has facilitated legislative approval of Mitterrand's reforms.

Thirdly, for a fairly long period after their defeat in last year's election, the opposition parties were too disorganized to pose a threat to the new government. The Union pour la Democratie Francaise is still attempting to reorganize and select leaders.

### Facing Difficulties

The March General Council election indicated that the future may prove difficult for France's reform-oriented government.

Although welfare measures adopted by the government have benefited lower class voters, they have not benefited the middle class. Farmers are extremely upset about their falling incomes, and 100,000 of them recently held a demonstration in Paris to express their dissatisfaction. Some people have complained that the government is "making more promises than offering assurances."

The government has failed to effectively reduce unemployment and foreign trade deficit and check inflation. Increased employment was the prime component in the Socialist Party's programme, but the number of unemployed people has increased from 1.66 million last year to 1.97 million late in March. The government is also finding it difficult to control inflation and promote economic growth. The French franc is faced with a new threat after its devaluation less than six months ago. Moreover, nationalization, a shortened work week and leaves with full pay have been strongly opposed by employers and opposition parties. They claim such reforms increase the economic burden on enterprises and diminish French exports' competitive ability because of increased production costs. Transfers of funds abroad by a number of businesses and weak investing in France have seriously hindered a rapid economic recovery.

Given these circumstances, the government and the ruling party have begun to bicker about proposed reforms. In November last year, a debate about the desired rate of reform took place between the Minister for the Budget and the Prime Minister. A controversy over

the examination of credentials has also emerged between the Minister of Privy Seal and the Minister of the Interior. The Prime Minister's attempt to mediate has been criticized by several leading members of the Socialist Party.

### Stronger Opposition

The opposition parties have been gradually regaining strength and unity. They enhanced their prestige and influence in the by-election and the General Council election. Since returning to the political arena, former President Giscard d'Estaing has become a leading member of the Union pour la Democratie Francaise and organized a "Study of France's Future" group. Jacques Chirac's Rassemblement pour la Republique is growing conspicuously. The number of General Council congressmen belonging to this party increased 80 per cent in the March General Council election. Recent polls indicate that Chirac is the "most dangerous opponent" of the ruling party.

Nevertheless, the French Government is stable as the Socialist Party and its allies still predominate in the National Assembly.

The government is attempting to adjust its social and economic objectives. Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy indicated in early April that the examination and approval of several items of reform will possibly be postponed. Soon afterwards the government reached a compromise with the business community designed to mitigate business expenses in exchange for increased investment.

— Ma Weimin

# Report on the Draft 1982 Economic and Social Development Plan (Excerpts)

—At the 23rd Session of the Standing Committee of the Fifth National People's Congress on April 28, 1982

Yao Yilin, Vice-Premier of the State Council and Concurrently Minister in Charge of the State Planning Commission



## I. Fulfilment of the 1981 Plan

WITH the concerted efforts of the people of all nationalities throughout the country, the 1981 national economic plan has been successfully fulfilled. The fulfilment of the plan is better than expected.

1. The total output value of agriculture, calculated at 1970 constant prices, reached 172,000 million yuan, an increase of 5.7 per cent over that of 1980. Further improvement has been made in the internal structure and distribution of production in agriculture. The overall agricultural situation is inspiring.

2. The total output value of industry, calculated at 1970 constant prices, reached 519,000 million yuan, 4.1 per cent more than the previous year. The proportion of the output value of light industry in the total output value of industry rose from 46.9 per cent in 1980 to 51.4 per cent in 1981.

3. The total amount of investment for capital construction was 42,800 million yuan, 11,100 million yuan less than the previous year, a reduction of 20.6 per cent. Improvements have also been made in the utilization of investment for capital construction.

4. According to initial statistics, total revenue was 106,430 million yuan and total expenditure, 108,970 million yuan (including both receipts and payments of foreign loans). There was a deficit of 2,540 million yuan, somewhat less than the originally expected 2,720 million yuan.

5. The total volume of retail sales was 235,000 million yuan, an increase of 9.8 per cent over the previous year (or an increase of 7.2 per cent if the retail price rises are excluded). The overall level of retail prices in 1981 was 2.4 per cent higher than the previous year.

The total volume of imports and exports was 73,530 million yuan, 29 per cent higher than the previous year. The actual increase was 11 per cent after price fluctuations and changes of foreign exchange rates are excluded. Exports increased 18 per cent and imports, 5 per cent.

6. New developments have been made in science, education, culture and public health.

7. The livelihood of urban and rural people has been improved.

The fulfilment of the plan shows that industrial and agricultural production has developed at a certain pace in the large-scale readjustment of the economy, more proportionate relationships have been established between the various economic sectors and



the nation's economic situation is basically stable. The hardest times are over and work in all fields has embarked on a road of steady development.

However, some noteworthy problems still exist in the national economy. The major ones are: The basic balance between revenue and expenditure in 1981 was achieved mainly through large-scale cuts in expenditures. Therefore, the balance is not a consolidated one. There are an unstable balance between energy production and demand and insufficient transportation facilities. These still restrict, to a large extent, the growth rate of industrial production. Increased production of some consumer goods has not kept pace with the growth of demand by the people. To keep market prices basically stable is still a difficult task. Not much improvement has been made in the situation of low economic results in some fields, and in some cases the situation even deteriorated.

These indicate that potential dangers still exist in the national economy even though they are less critical than before. We must not be blindly optimistic and lower our guard.

## **II. Tasks and Targets for 1982**

The State Council has decided that the major tasks for the 1982 plan of economic and social development are to further carry out the principle of readjustment, restructuring, consolidation and improvement, consolidate and enlarge the 1981 achievements in stabilizing the economy, maintain a basic balance between revenue and expenditure, basically stabilize market prices, and raise economic results. The plan also calls for the national economy to develop at a somewhat quicker rate than in 1981. The following constitutes an elaboration on the specific tasks and major targets:

### **1. Strive for a better harvest in agriculture and achieve an overall development of agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, sideline occupations and fishery.**

In 1982, the total output value of agriculture is expected to increase 4 per cent over 1981. Grain output is expected to be 333.5 million tons, an estimated increase of 8.5 million tons or 2.6 per cent over last year. Output of cotton and sugar-bearing crops will be higher than in 1981 and new developments will be made in forestry, animal husbandry, sideline occupations and fishery.

### **2. Develop light industry at a faster rate and further readjust the service orientation of heavy industry.**

In 1982, the output value of light industry is planned to increase 7 per cent over that of 1981 and that of heavy industry, 1 per cent. The total output value of industry is expected to increase 4 per cent. Efforts will be made to exceed these targets. Cotton yarn output is expected to increase 3.4 per cent and sugar, 6.7 per cent. Fairly large increases are also planned in the output of bicycles, sewing machines, wrist watches and other durable consumer goods. The planned output for coal is 625 million tons, of which 345 million tons will come from mines whose products are distributed according to state plan, an estimated increase of 3.9 per cent over that of 1981. The planned output for crude oil is 100 million tons, more or less the same as in 1981; electricity, 313,000 million kwh, an increase of 2.6 per cent. In order to improve the quality of steel products and increase the needed varieties, steel output is planned at 34 million tons, an estimated cut of 4 per cent.

Priority will be given to increasing the economic results of industrial production in 1982 and, on this basis, striving for a growth rate void of exaggeration. In order to achieve better economic results, it will be necessary to guarantee that the products suit the demands in society. It will also be necessary to improve quality, increase and improve variety and pay attention to producing products which the market needs. The wrong practice of seeking high output value one-sidedly disregarding social demands must be prevented and corrected.

### **3. Make efforts to increase revenue and limit expenditure in order to maintain a basic balance between the two.**

Planned total revenue for 1982 is 110,450 million yuan and total expenditure, 113,450 million yuan (including receipts and payments of foreign loans). There will be a planned deficit of 3,000 million yuan. In order to keep the deficit at a minimum and maintain a basic balance between state revenue and expenditure, priority will be given to increasing state revenue through better economic results. At the same time, it will be necessary to control continuously allocations for capital construction and do everything possible to save on other expenses. Allocations for cultural and educational undertakings and national defence will be increased appropriately.

#### **4. Control the scale of capital construction and rationally utilize investment.**

Planned total investment for capital construction in 1982 is 38,000 million yuan and allocations for replacing and renovating equipment is 25,000 million yuan. The combined total investment on fixed assets will be 63,000 million yuan. Of the planned total investment for 1982 capital construction, the part directly from the state budget is 18,630 million yuan and investment pooled by the departments, localities and enterprises is 8,100 million yuan.

Investment for capital construction should be primarily used to continue the projects under construction. Strict control will be enforced on new projects. Investment from the state budget will be used mainly for the construction of transport and energy facilities. It is necessary to continuously provide support for the development of economic and cultural undertakings in border regions and areas inhabited by minority peoples in a planned way.

The replacement and renovation of equipment in enterprises will be primarily achieved by relying on funds pooled by the enterprises and bank loans.

#### **5. Keep in good balance supply and demand on the market, keep prices basically stable and make efforts to expand foreign trade.**

The planned social purchasing power of commodities in 1982 is 244,000 million yuan, an estimated increase of 8 per cent over 1981. The total supply of commodities is planned at 238,000 million yuan. Compared to purchasing power, the margin is 6,000 million yuan. In order to reduce this margin and balance market supply and demand, it will be necessary to increase the output of some products which sell well and draw on existing stock in order to increase the supply of goods on the market. It will also be necessary to control the growth of purchasing power. Bonuses and various kinds of subsidies for workers and staff will be examined and the practice of issuing bonuses excessively or issuing bonuses in disguised forms should be corrected.

Market management and price control will be strengthened. Raising prices at will or in disguised forms should be banned. Activities such as speculation, smuggling and tax evasion must be dealt with resolutely. Market prices must be kept basically stable.

The total volume of imports and exports will continue to increase. Efforts must be made to increase foreign exchange earnings from exports

and to do everything possible to reduce costs of products which earn foreign exchange. Imports must be strictly controlled so as to save on foreign exchange and reduce losses. It is necessary to make use of foreign funds actively and effectively and import advanced technology suited to China's actual conditions.

#### **6. Strengthen scientific and technological research and develop cultural, educational and public health undertakings.**

More than 400 projects of new product experiments, intermediate experiments, major scientific research and experiments related to industrialization have been listed in the 1982 national scientific and technological research plan. Scientific and technical forces of all sectors must be mobilized and co-ordinated to solve major technical problems calling for urgent solution in technical transformation, production or construction. It is necessary to actively publicize results achieved in scientific and technological research to promote economic development.

We must continue to consolidate and improve the institutions of higher learning, accelerate the structural reform of secondary education. We must actively develop correspondence, spare-time, TV and day universities so as to train more personnel for the state. It is necessary to carry out the patriotic sanitation campaign, improve medical services, strengthen the work of preventing and curing diseases and increase the number of hospital beds in departments of gynaecology, obstetrics and paediatrics as well as other urgently needed specialized areas.

#### **7. On the basis of expanded production, ensure the stability of the people's livelihood and continue to improve it.**

Population growth should be firmly controlled. In view of the rising rate of natural growth of population, effective measures have to be taken to promote family planning.

Continue to arrange job opportunities in urban areas. In 1982, some 5.6 million people will get jobs by mainly developing collective and individual economic units in cities and towns.

Continue to readjust wages for the personnel in state organizations and scientific, cultural, educational, medical and health departments where no bonus system has been established.

Expand agricultural production and lower costs in order to continue increasing peasants' incomes.

Further improve living conditions for urban residents, and increase the supply of building materials to rural areas by big margins. Do a good job in environmental protection, reduce pollution from waste liquids, waste gases and waste residues; strengthen labour protection and pay due attention to safety in production.

### III. Work Hard to Fulfil 1982 Plan

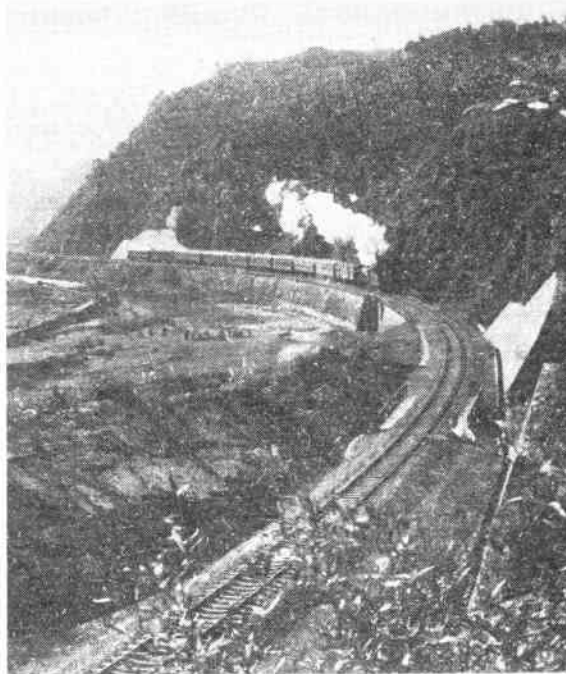
Judging from the first quarter of this year, the national economy is growing healthily. The primary problem now is not whether the rate of economic growth prescribed in the plan can be achieved, but where emphasis should be placed in order to improve economic results. Now the key to success lies in earnestly implementing the 10 principles set forth in Premier Zhao Ziyang's Report on the Work of the Government to the Fourth Session of the Fifth National People's Congress, and taking practical and effective measures to improve economic results in all fields of endeavour. We expect to do a good job in our economic work in the following respects:

**First, concentrate our efforts on the consolidation and necessary restructuring of enterprises.**

The State Council plans to carry out systematic and overall consolidation of all existing enterprises within two or three years. This important measure will tap the potential of these enterprises, raise their economic results and thereby increase revenue. Consolidation should first be carried out this year in large and medium-sized key enterprises where there are many problems, the potential payoff is big and consolidation is badly needed. In consolidating an enterprise, emphasis should be placed on reorganizing the leading body and reforming the system of leadership. Plans should be developed to turn out fixed amounts of output by fixed numbers of workers. All workers and staff should be trained in rotation. Fundamental work in business management and enterprise financing and accounting should be improved. Consolidation should achieve better economic results for the enterprises involved.

In the course of consolidation, a number of factories with high energy consumption but low economic results and product quality should be closed. This includes some of those run by counties and communes.

**Secondly, carry out replacement of major equipment and technical transformation in key enterprises.**



A section of the Wuhu-Guixi Railway has gone into operation.

It is necessary, while economizing on energy use, to transform such major products as boilers, motor vehicles, transformers, pumps, blowers and certain primary elements. A good job should be done in the technical transformation of key enterprises and the experience gained will be gradually popularized.

Departments should formulate correct technical policies for different trades. They should choose and popularize a number of important scientific and technical achievements which yield tangible results so as to speed up production and construction. It is imperative to further implement the Party's policies concerning intellectuals and give full scope to the technical transformation role of scientific research institutes and research personnel.

**Thirdly, increase the benefits of investment.**

Long building cycles and high costs in capital construction are major problems in the present national economy. From this year on, every effort should be made to shorten building cycles and lower the costs of construction projects until marked results are achieved.

In a number of selected key projects, sufficient investments and materials should be guaranteed according to the schedule of progress, and a strict responsibility system for their progress should be instituted. All the related



departments should be committed to fulfilling their tasks.

**Fourthly, reduce working funds.**

Too many links in the field of circulation, excessive inventories and slow turnover of working funds underlie China's backward system of economic management. While consolidating enterprises, it is necessary to gradually reduce their working funds to a reasonable level. Bank interest rates should be raised on funds in excess of amounts assigned by the state. Banks should refuse loans to enterprises whose applications are unreasonable.

**Fifthly, consolidate and improve the achievements made during the initial stage of restructuring the economic system.**

During the last two years, there have been initial results in restructuring our economic system, which has played a significant role in activating the economy. But this has produced some new problems. In order to keep the economic reforms on a sound basis, it is necessary to evaluate experiences and adopt proper measures for solving new problems that arise.

An outstanding problem in the economic field is that after China adopted an open-door policy and the policy to activate the domestic economy, criminal activities such as smuggling, selling smuggled articles, speculation, swindling, embezzlement and bribery are becoming rampant in certain places and units. Without a resolute fight against such illegal activities, it will be impossible for us to keep China's economy growing smoothly along the socialist road. Such practices also undermine the open-door policy and the policy for activating the domestic economy.

Localities and departments must carry the struggle against these criminal activities through to the end. This struggle should be waged in co-ordination with consolidation of enterprises and the restructuring of government organizations. Rules and regulations should be instituted or improved and all loopholes plugged. Such actions will improve management and increase economic results.

The growth of departmentalism, decentralism and liberalization tendencies is another noteworthy problem in the economic field. They should be resolutely corrected. We have a socialist planned economy. In our economic work, we must adhere to the principle of ensuring that planned economy play the primary role and regulating by market play the sup-

plementary role. We should uphold the principle of taking the nation as a whole. Departments, localities and enterprises should heighten their sense of the overall situation and try their best to fulfil the production and delivery tasks stipulated by the state plan.

**Sixthly, practise economy and oppose waste in all fields.**

In order to achieve a fundamental turn for the better in the state's financial and economic situation, we should encourage frugality in all fields of endeavour. The first thing is to achieve better management and use of available funds and materials. We should also gradually establish a system to supervise and examine the use of funds and materials and a related system of rewards and penalty. Building the country and running all enterprises by functioning in an industrious and thrifty manner is still an important principle that we should maintain.

**Seventhly, strengthen ideological and political work in the economic field.**

It is imperative to educate people to uphold the four basic principles\*, properly handle relationships between individuals, collectives and the state, properly handle the fundamental guiding principle that "we need both to eat and build up the country," properly handle the relationships between immediate and long-range interests, foster the viewpoint of keeping the overall situation in mind, and unite in a concerted effort to actively develop the national economy.

Education should be conducted across the land with regard to the economic situation so as to help the masses gain a full understanding of China's situation and further foster in them commitment to building the country industriously and thriftily and working hard. Leading cadres at all levels should improve their style of work, overcome bureaucratism, play an exemplary role and take the lead in reviving and carrying forward the fine tradition of sharing weal and woe with the masses.

The various tasks laid down in the 1982 plan will be fulfilled or overfulfilled if we do a good job in the ideological and political areas and in implementing the various concrete economic and technical measures. □

\* The four basic principles are: uphold the socialist road; uphold the people's democratic dictatorship, i.e., the dictatorship of the proletariat; uphold the leadership of the Communist Party; and uphold Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought.

## Village Life

Our Correspondent Lu Yun

**H**OW is the life of the villagers under the administration of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea? With this in mind, we visited some villages, a hospital and a mine production facility in the jungles in Phnom Melai in the northwest and the middle and eastern sections of Dangrek Panom in the north.

These villages were built from half a year to two years ago after the Vietnamese invasion. The basic political power organs are the joint village committee, composed of heads of villages, and the village committees which are democratically elected by villagers. The joint village committees we visited have 2,000 to 4,000 people under their administration. According to the stipulations of the political programme of the Patriotic and Democratic Front of the Great National Union of Kampuchea, people live with the family as a basic unit. Most families engage in individual production. Some choose to form mutual-aid teams.

The villagers are poor. They also have difficulties in expanding production. But they have high spirits and are satisfactory with the implementation of the new policies as prescribed in the above-mentioned political programme. A 50-year-old peasant said to us: "The Government of Democratic Kampuchea has applied a policy greeted by the masses."

The villagers are now working hard to support the front. They expect to seize victory over the Vietnamese through protracted efforts.

### Working Hard

The Sang Ke village, which is located about seven kilometres from Phnom Melai, has existed for six months. Almost all of its 600 inhabitants are people who have returned from internationally organized refugee camps in Thailand.

We observed the villagers planting cassava and bananas on newly reclaimed land and collecting charcoal. Some were cutting trees and hunting in a nearby forest. We met a neatly dressed woman weaving rattan bracelets on the porch of a thatched cottage built on stilts. Her name is Duyilah and she is 26 years old. Her

husband was fishing in a nearby river and their lovely child was toddling near her. Duyilah was originally a worker at a woollen blanket mill in Phnom Penh, but she learnt to weave in a refugee camp. She is skilled at weaving rectangle and oval portable boxes which have a good market, but her output is low. It takes her a month to weave a box. As for the bracelets, she is only able to make three to five a day.

The political programme of the Patriotic and Democratic Front of the Great National Union of Kampuchea stipulates that villagers have the right to choose the form of their labour organizations. They may engage in individual production, form their own mutual-aid teams or join collectives. They are also free to arrange their time and production and sell their products. People we met were satisfied with this. The government has concrete requirements for the people with regard to reclaiming wasteland to grow food grains and cassavas. But handicapped by the poor fertility of the land and insufficient water, fertilizer and seeds, the hard-working people have to rely on government support or the international relief.

We met two young people in Sang Ke who were doing household chores. They said they had been living in the village for half a year. "We do not worry about eating and clothing," they said. "We have freedom in production and life. We all feel very happy." They also told us that many Kampuchean refugees are willing to return and settle in areas controlled by Democratic Kampuchea.

### Shops

Local inhabitants also have the right to trade and we saw state, collective and individually operated shops in the villages.

A village shop in the jungles of Dangrek Panom was opened on March 3. It is operated by local authorities in accordance with the demands of the masses. There we saw a middle-aged woman holding a baby. She sat cross-legged on the bamboo floor of a thatched

cottage propped up with stilts. She was busy selling tooth-brushes, tooth-paste, soap, washing powder, needles, thread, batteries, pencils, aluminium pots, transistor radios, sugar, wine, pepper, and several kinds of medicine. The store, she said, has replenished its stock twice.

In Daung village near Phnom Melai, there is a jointly run selling centre. In addition to medicine and articles for daily use, it also sells stationery, toys and soft drinks. There are also five individually run small shops in the village which sell daily necessities, including water cloth, cakes, fruit, duck eggs and tobacco. These stalls are set up right in front of their owner's homes. This makes it possible for shop-owners to do business and look after their children. The Government of Democratic Kampuchea does not levy commercial taxes so all the profits go to the owners.

### Marriage and Families

All the inhabitants in one of the villages in the jungles of Dangrek Panom are survivors who fled their homes in various places after the 1979 Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea. They initially built homes inland, only to have them destroyed by the enemy. Most of them had not lived in peace until they moved to the border area in June 1980. During the past two years, the village has expanded to include 120 families. More than 20 of them are composed of newly married couples. The village has 360 residents, 9 per cent of whom are newborn babies.

We paid a visit to a young couple living in a cottage by the roadside. They were very happy with their six-month-old daughter.

The 26-year-old man is named Ganyuan. He used to work in a storehouse for state

materials in Phnom Penh. His wife, Sukan, was formally a textile worker in Phnom Penh. They didn't know each other until they joined the transport team of the village. When we asked them about their relationship, the people surrounding us burst into laughter. "I found she worked very hard in the transport team and was an honest woman," said Ganyuan. This convinced me that she would make a good wife. So I asked for her hand."

"I also watched him closely and, after two months, found that he was honest and a hard worker," said Sukan. "My mother was also satisfied with him when I asked her opinion. Then I agreed." "We applied to get married and our application was quickly approved by the joint village committee," added Ganyuan. "Neither of us prepared dowries and the wedding ceremony was simple yet lively. It was attended by all of the four village committee members and representatives from each family in the village."

Ganyuan has a good relationship with his wife and her mother. In addition to actively supporting the front, he often carries water for his mother-in-law. Whenever he has delicious dishes, he always shares them with her. The two families are working together to reclaim wasteland and Ganyuan collects rattans for sale during his sparetime. He raises nine chickens and has planted cabbages, sugarcane and two papaya trees in a plot in front of his house. (Each village household has 0.1 hectare of land to grow vegetables.)

The government is very considerate of disabled armymen. In a Phnom Melai district village 25 such people have established happy families and people have been assigned to look after the 46 unmarried disabled armymen. Most of them study in schools or do light work such as weaving baskets. Some are active in the village's literary and art propaganda team. We met one of them, Don, who killed four Vietnamese in a local battle on February 23. Seriously wounded, he had his right leg amputated. He told us that he would continue to contribute to the fresh struggle from the rear area. "Don was wounded for the national cause," said his wife Lei Un. "I will look after him well all my life."

### Religious Freedom

Intellectuals are widely respected and those who cannot go to the front volunteer to teach in schools. We heard many people praising



A government-run shop.

them. Despite the poor conditions of the schools, they work hard to educate 90 per cent of the school-age children and some disabled young mynmen. Although the students are treated well, they must comply with strict demands. Examinations are given each month or quarterly. Primary schools are generally set up in villages and some train students to repair machines and to work as laboratory technicians. The intellectuals familiar with telegraph techniques have trained numerous people for various units of the National Army. Ke Leh, 10, fled his home when the Vietnamese invaders had killed his mother. Now he is receiving telegraphic training in Dangrek Panom District. His teacher told us that he is diligent and receives good marks. "I must work hard to master the skill and revenge my mother," he said.

A temple is being built in Sang Ke village. We were told that an old man and five young people want to be monks. "The Front programme ensures freedom of religious belief," said the village head. "Their wish will be fulfilled when the temple is built." People living here often cross the river to Thailand in order to worship on Sundays. A staff member of Democratic Kampuchea told us that some old people in the inland have become monks. Because of the war, small cottages serve as temples and because *kasaya* is not available, they have to use water cloth.

### A Jungle Hospital

We visited a mine production facility and a jungle hospital in the middle section of Dangrek Panom.

The National Army and guerrillas of Democratic Kampuchea are fighting the Vietnamese invaders with modern weapons and weapons made by the local people, such as mines and bamboo spikes. The mine production facility is not very large and has only a small amount of simple equipment, but the mines produced there have great killing power. Their killing range tends to be a fan-like area 50 metres long and 40 metres wide. Wei, who is 45 years old, has been making mines for 11 years and 28-year-old Wan has been doing so only for less than two years. Each worker is skilful and their products ensure the needs for the nearby battle zones.

A hospital was built in the area after many difficulties had been overcome. A year ago when 28-year-old Len, now the hospital director,



Making land mines.

and 29 other women arrived to build the facility, they were confronted with a sweep of desolate land. Len organized her comrades to cut trees in the forest and to collect bamboo and big leaves. Two male surgeons helped them build a bamboo cottage. Now the hospital has 80 staff members and the capacity to receive 75 patients.

Though the hospital lacks modern equipment, its staff has performed several serious operations.

To make up the shortage of medicine, they produce physiological saline, glucose and V-C pills. The hospital staff also produces 50 per cent of the amount of medicine needed for pills and injections from herbs gathered in the forest.

The hospital often sends doctors to the front and receives wounded soldiers. Free medical treatment is provided for local people. "Many people in the village send their vegetables to the hospital to express their feelings for the wounded soldiers and the hospital staff," said 69-year-old U Di.

The village head Le Un is one of the five members of the village committee elected by the whole village in September last year. He warmly praised his fellow villagers' devotion to the work and their support for the front. "We all suffer from the disaster brought to us by the Vietnamese invaders," he said. "We sincerely wish to make contributions to the struggle aimed at driving the Vietnamese invaders out of our country. Whenever we organized a transport team, people vie with each other to go, despite the scorching heat, the shortage of drinking water and the danger of enemy ambush." □



# An Appeal for Opposing the Use of Chemical Weapons

by Keat Chhon

**T**AKING the opportunity provided by *Beijing Review's* Correspondent Mr. Lu Yun's visit to our country, I would like to make an appeal through *Beijing Review* to intellectuals and peace-loving and justice-upholding peoples of goodwill throughout the world to take effective actions in opposing the use of chemical weapons. While killing the Kampuchean people by using various kinds of conventional weapons and man-made famine, the aggressor troops of Hanoi are intensifying their chemical warfare in Kampuchea. I'm making the appeal not only as a Minister, but as a citizen who is shocked by the extreme suffering of his compatriots and who is agonized physically and mentally by the terror caused by this kind of weapon.

It is known to all that the Soviet Union and its agents in Viet Nam used chemical weapons against people of the Hmong nationality in Laos as early as 1976. The Vietnamese invaders, after failing in their strategy for a "blitz victory" in a "blitz attack," extended their criminal activities to deal with the Kampuchean people in 1979.

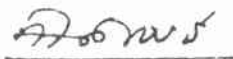
Millions of people in Kampuchea, Laos and Afghanistan are being struck each year by death and terror caused by chemical weapons which are banned by mankind. Trichothecine, a new kind of weapon in particular, has a great killing power. So far no other chemical weapons can match it. Seeing that the Soviet Union possesses a special chemical warfare corps composed of well-equipped and well-trained personnel, I have come to the conclusion that Kampuchea, Laos and Afghanistan are vast test grounds for the Soviet Union by which it would proceed to realize its plan to throw other countries into tragedy. I'm making this appeal because I'm convinced that the tragedy will not just be confined to the three nations. It will involve people the world over. Just as Mr. Kor Bun Heng, a friend of mine who was a Kampuchean professional mathematician and is now a diplomat as a result of the aggressive war, said at the UN debate on the chemical and bacteriological (bio-

logical) weapons: "We strongly demand an immediate end to the use of chemical weapons against the Kampuchean people. We also ardently hope that no other nations will ever suffer the tragic fate the Kampuchean people are experiencing."

This is no time for hesitation. Everyone has to be mobilized. Such a mobilization is aimed not only at seeking new evidence, but also at prohibiting chemical warfare. The existing evidence is convincing enough. The toxic nature of various kinds of materials collected in Kampuchea has been confirmed and described by Thiounn Thioeun, a graduate of the Medical Institute of Paris, and the public health department of Democratic Kampuchea.

Blood tests for the Kampuchean victims of the chemical weapon Trichothecine show that poisonous elements have sharply reduced the number of leucocytes. Two victims had only 1,700 and 3,000 leucocytes respectively. The relationship between the number of leucocytes in a person's blood and the quantity of poisonous elements are obvious — the more poisonous elements, the fewer leucocytes. Those who are poisoned seriously feel dizziness and nausea; experience visual problems, dyspnoea, burning feelings in the thoracic cavity, tachycardia, haematemesis and haematuria; pass blood in their stools; itch unbearably and have high fevers that may lead to coma and even death in a few hours. For people who eat poisoned food, the symptoms come on slowly. But they will die if they don't take medicine and undergo timely treatment.

So I would like to ask intellectuals and people of goodwill around the world to take actions at once to stop the use of the chemical and biological weapons which are prohibited as prescribed in the 1925 Geneva Protocol and the 1972 Convention. Dozens of people are being killed every day by such weapons and there exists the danger of the spread of their use. This constitutes a grave threat to mankind.



— March 8, 1982 in Democratic Kampuchea

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The author is an engineer who specializes in marine and atomic project. He has been a Minister of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea since late December 1979.

# Writers and Artists on Creation

*In his celebrated "Talks at the Yanan Forum on Literature and Art" 40 years ago, Chairman Mao Zedong theoretically solved the fundamental problem of whom literature and art should serve. His comments provided direction for the development of literature and art after the birth of New China. Today, Chairman Mao's ideas still guide China's literary and art work.*

*To mark the 40th anniversary of the publication of the article, we publish here the memories and experiences of writers and artists nurtured and influenced by his ideas. We hope this will help our readers understand the development of China's literature and art. — Ed.*

## Recollection and Encouragement

DING Ling, 78, is one of the most prominent writers in contemporary China. She was also a participant in the Yanan forum. In an article published in *Xin Wenxue Shiliao* (Historical Data on New Literature), she recalled her experiences before and after the forum. In another article, which appeared in *Hongqi*, she made the point that it is very important for writers and artists to go among the masses.

### Chairman Mao's Consistent Idea.

At a 1936 meeting held in Baoan, then the seat of the revolutionary headquarters, to mark the establishment of the China Literary and Art Association with Ding Ling as the chairman, Chairman Mao encouraged writers and artists to "carry forward the Soviet worker-peasant-soldier literature and art that thrived in the base area during the civil war of the 1920s and carry forward the anti-Japanese literature and art in the national revolutionary war."

The following year, she led a cultural ensemble to the anti-Japanese forefront. Just before she set off, the Chairman told

her: "Your propaganda work should be to the populace's taste.... Your performance should be short and pithy.



Ding Ling in 1981.

catered to the military situation and to the delight of the people." He attended the troupe's performances, which included plays, operas, *dagu* (versified story sung to the accompaniment of a small drum and other instruments), cross talks and *yangge* (a popular rural folk dance).

In their contacts, Chairman Mao talked about the famous 8th and 9th century Chinese poets such as Li Bo and Li Shangyin. They also discussed Chinese poetry of the Song Dynasty after the 10th century and classical literary works. Sometimes he would take a brush and write one or two of his own poems or favourite poems by others for her. Once he gave her a copy of *Loushan Pass*, a poem he wrote during the Long March, and asked for her comments.

Ding Ling felt she had learnt too little about classical literature at the time, so whenever they met she would let the Chairman do most of the talking. "However, he repeatedly said that literary and art work should be done in the popular style," she said.

In Ding Ling's opinion, Chairman Mao, who possessed comprehensive knowledge of literature, enjoyed works with high artistic value. He even enjoyed things with high artistic quality but little political content. Of course, any extant good piece of art must have a certain ideological content. As a great statesman and revolutionary shouldering the heavy tasks of leading the Communist Party and directing the nationwide revolution, Chairman Mao naturally wanted to bring all endeavours into the political orbit of the revolution. His sense of responsibility prompted him to advocate something which was not necessarily what he liked, but he had to advocate it.

**The Yanan Forum.** During the movement to rectify the Party

style of work that started in Yanan in 1942, the Central Committee decided to hold a forum on literature and art. It is evident from the famous talks Chairman Mao made on May 2 and 23 that the forum was designed to address fundamental problems and trends of thought related to revolutionary literary and art work in the new situation. This showed the importance the Party attached to art and its concern about artists. It also showed that the Party, wary of the pernicious influence of non-proletarian ideas, had begun to counteract them.

"To prepare for this forum, Chairman Mao chatted with many people," recalled Ding Ling.

"In one of his talks with me, we discussed literary and art criticism. At the forum, his analyses of many problems of fundamental importance were so penetrating, so clear-cut and so comprehensive that every word touched my heart. I earnestly used them as a weapon to examine myself. I felt I would be happiest if I could unlearn whatever things that smacked of the old society. I wanted to plunge into the new fight, light-hearted and without any misgivings. My comrades took the same attitude. I always remember this solemn, intense, painful yet happy learning experience as a happy episode in my life."

According to Ding Ling, after the Yanan forum on literature and art and the movement to rectify the Party style of work, writers and artists in Yanan and other revolutionary base areas went among the workers, peasants and soldiers and dedicated themselves to the mass struggle. This produced a rich outpouring of new plays, music, reportage, novels, etc.

**Go Among the Masses.** It is extremely important, Ding Ling said, for writers and artists to "go among the masses." "Going among the masses does not in the least mean merely to observe their lives for the sake of writing something; it means that many problems can be solved only when they are put among the masses."

"No matter what subject a writer deals with—history, landscape, people, struggle, love, etc., he is giving expression to his own ideas and his viewpoints on life, society and the norms of conduct. A writer could not possibly write about things that do not generate love and hatred in him. If he forces himself to write such things, his works can hardly be profound and touching. So, he should get hold of a wealth of source materials before he begins writing; he must have certain training in skills; and, more important, he should have the ideo-

logical ability to analyse society and snatch something from life. Only when he keeps improving in these three aspects can he come up with meaningful pieces that appeal to the broad masses of the people, precious pieces that enrich morals and culture."

Ding Ling concluded her recollection of her days in Yanan by saying: "Chairman Mao's *Talks at the Yanan Forum on Literature and Art* educated intellectuals of my generation and brought up a whole generation of writers. It also struck a deep chord in the other parts of the world. Whenever I recall this, my heart would stir with excitement. When I experienced hard times during the two decades since the 1950s, the talks were always a source of strength and confidence for me. That I'm still alive, still writing for the people with my inadequate ability, is due to the education I received during the Yanan period."

## New Starting Point

SIXTY-three-year-old writer Fang Ji of Tianjin, though suffering from hemiplegia resulting from persecution by Jiang Qing and company more than 10 years ago, is excited and full of zest when he recalls his experience in participating in the *Talks at the Yanan Forum on Literature and Art*.

Fang Ji took part in the patriotic student movement in Beijing and joined the revolution during the mid-1930s when he was studying in the university. He subsequently went to Yanan and in 1941 he published a novel entitled *Outside Consciousness*. Some critics said the novel advocated emancipation of man's individual personality and reflected the writer's pet-

ty-bourgeois sentiments. "I didn't understand this criticism at that time," Fang Ji recalled.

The story is about a young woman who left the big city, went to Yanan to join the revolutionary ranks, but she had illusion about the revolution. She could play the violin and wanted to do literary and artistic work, but her superior assigned her to the job of nurse at a hospital. This gave rise to a contradiction between her personal interests and the needs of the revolution and she suffered from spiritual depression. Nevertheless, she tried her best to do her job and suppress her depression. After many years, she developed a schizophrenic condition.

In his article published in a recent issue of *Xin Wenxue Shiliao*, Fang Ji recalled that after his participation in the *Yanan Talks* he gradually realized the shortcomings of the work. He said: "Before the Yanan forum, I did not have a clear understanding of fundamental questions concerning the role of revolutionary literature and its objectives. Deeply affected by Western bourgeois democratic ideas of literary creation, I thought that literature should present the emancipation of man's individual personality. Therefore, in the story I inappropriately emphasized the need to give prominence to individual personality and neglected the fundamental principle that individual interests should be subordinated to the interests of the revolution. I carefully depicted the young woman's depression resulting from the conflict between individual personality and reality and emphasized personal suffering. Thus, the thoughts and feelings expressed in the work did not tally with the revolutionary situation in Yanan. What is more, the novel did not produce a change of the female leading character, but instead it focused on her mental disorder. As a result, the work did not have positive significance. After the Yanan forum, I gradually came to understand that literary works should conform to the fundamental interests of the proletariat and be guided by proletarian ideas, that writers should plunge into the thick of life and speed up the remoulding of world outlook.

"The *Yanan Talks* represented a new starting point for me, it brought about a fundamental change in my literary orientation," said Fang Ji. After the *Yanan Talks*, in editing and writing for the newspapers, acting as a correspondent with the

army and engaging in propaganda work for the Party, he made serving the masses of people his primary objective. In his numerous novels and short stories, he described the profound change in the history of Chinese society and the reaction of the people of various strata to this change. In *A Story Occurred Beneath an Old Mulberry Tree*, a novel he wrote after taking part in the 1940s land reform movement designed to overthrow the landlord class, he portrayed the images of industrious, brave, simple and honest peasants and the cunning and sinister nature of landlords. Later in another medium-length novel *An Interrupt-*

*ed Story*, he portrayed the spiritual scars of the peasants produced by the centuries-old system, their liberation, their new life and strength after the land reform. After visiting various places and taking part in the construction of major projects in the 1950s and 1960s, he wrote works singing the praise of the advances of the motherland and the heroic images of the builders of socialism. He always plunged into the thick of life and struggle. Through his works he told people about how our epoch has developed and in what direction will it advance. He is an accomplished writer known for his prose, poems and novels.

## Dance Serves the People

**I**N a recent interview, Wu Xiaobang, recounted his artistic career and reaffirmed that Chairman Mao's *Talks at the Yanan Forum on Literature and Art* provides the appropriate orientation for Chinese cultural creations.

In July 1942 when he read the text of the *Yanan Talks* dispatched from Yanan to Chongqing, a city in southwest China, he found with astonishment that Chairman Mao called on writers and artists to serve the workers, peasants and soldiers. Mao Zedong proclaimed that literature and art was a weapon for uniting the people and attacking the enemy. Wu Xiaobang found these views in accord with his artistic experience during the war years.

Late in the 1920s when Wu Xiaobang was a youth, he was the first ballet major in China. In the 1930s, he became a founding member of modern

Chinese dance. After the War of Resistance Against Japan broke out in 1937, this young dancer joined the national salvation performing team which worked along the railway



Wu Xiaobang in 1981.

Wu Xiaobang is the 76-year-old president of the Chinese Dancers' Association.



lines near Shanghai. He recalled: "Gunfire woke me from my dream of locking myself in the ivory tower of advanced artistic studies. I began to see how vast the world outside the tower was and considered how I should contribute my artistic skills to the times. War taught me the scientific foundation of modern dance. I considered not what beautiful movements and postures could be achieved in ballet, but the need to base dances on the heroic images of the Chinese people fighting in the thick of their miserable life. I was not clear whether I should perform modern dances or folk dances; I was governed by one thought that my dancing should serve the struggle for the survival of the Chinese nation."

Motivated by this idea, Wu Xiaobang was imbued with imaginative power. His creativity grew and his achievements multiplied. Through



Solo dance Return From A Day's Collecting Mulberry Leaves, performed by Mao Xiaochun of the Zhejiang Provincial Song and Dance Ensemble.

various dance forms, he attacked the aggressors and Chinese traitors and expressed his nostalgia for his native village. Through his dances he praised the guerrillas and messengers and portrayed the famine victims languishing in a hopeless state and ordinary people yearning for freedom. In depicting a fighter in the solo dance which he choreographed on the basis of the resistance song *March of the Volunteers*, he dramatized the line which read: "Arise! People who do not want to be slaves build our new Great Wall with our flesh and blood." This portrayed the indomitable spirit of the Chinese people. In another dance he employed symbolism and utilized the antics of the clowns in traditional operas and the satirical methods of Chinese folk arts to expose the international fascists who tried to dominate the world, and to ridicule the officials who claimed merit for themselves by serving the invaders. He also created a dance based on the *Internationale*, then a popular tune among the patriotic Chinese youths.

"I clearly remember that both in the cities and the countryside the spectators reacted strongly to these performances," he continued. "Once we performed in Nanchang for the wounded soldiers. The solo dance I performed as the volunteer fighter was greeted with rousing applause. Then I repeated the dance, the audiences, filled with indignation, sang aloud in unison. When I performed it again for the third and the fourth times, many people stood up, sang and beat the time. Amidst this warm atmosphere in which people were united and filled with hatred for the enemy, I danced a fifth performance. Thus, my artistic life entered a new stage of realism."

After reading Chairman Mao's *Yanan Talks*, Wu Xiaobang more consciously regarded his artistic career of dance as a weapon for revolutionary struggle. After a tortuous journey, this dancer who was born into a wealthy family and was accomplished in music, literature and painting came in 1945 to Yanan, the headquarters of the revolution. There he passed his experiences and creative skills on to young artists. Later during the War of Liberation which was aimed at defeating the reactionary rulers, he choreographed the full-length *Marching Dance* to present the power of the people's soldiers. The dance was well received and was performed in various parts of the country. In the *Triology of the Inner Mongolian People*, he used the national minority dance materials he had gathered to depict the life, struggle and liberation of the Inner Mongolian people.

After the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949, this accomplished dancer, upholding the tradition of realism under the guidance of the principle that literature and art should serve the workers, peasants, soldiers and other working people, tried to create dance pieces praising the new epoch and reflecting the life and struggle of contemporary people. In addition, he diligently studied the dances of minority nationalities living in southwest China and ancient China's music and dances. On the basis of this research, he refined a number of his dances and created many new ones.

In recent years, this influential dancer has given numerous lectures. He calls on professional and amateur dancers to pay attention to the tradition of revolutionary literature and

art developed since the 1919 anti-imperialist and anti-feudal patriotic movement. He stresses that like other kinds of art, dance should be based on life. He encourages the dancers to

plunge themselves into the thick of life and create works that reflect the spirit of the 1980s and inspire people to forge ahead triumphantly on the new Long March.

## The Source of Creation

**F**ORTY-six-year-old novelist Liu Shaotang said: "One of the first literary works I read was Chairman Mao's *Talks at the Yanan Forum on Literature and Art*. Chairman Mao's notion that literary and artistic works are the products of social life reflected in people's minds and life is the sole inexhaustible source of literature and art is a universal law governing literary and artistic creation. I have become mature under the guidance of the *Yanan Talks*."

Liu Shaotang was a young literary star coming to the fore shortly after the founding of the People's Republic of China. His father and many generations before lived on the eastern outskirts of Beijing. An old canal by the side of the village where he lives flows southwards

to Tianjin and then into the sea. Many villagers in the area had previously been boatmen. The women were employed as maids or wet nurses. During times of famine, children were kidnapped and sold. The poverty-stricken place called Rulin (scholar) village where Liu Shaotang lived in his childhood never turned out a real "scholar." As a result of the great social changes which have taken place in modern China, the literary seeds in the heart of Liu Shaotang have sprouted, grown and born fruit. With the fervent enthusiasm of a young boy, he depicted a new, happy life and outstanding people. When he was a grade-2 student of a junior middle school at the age of 13, he published his first story in the newspaper. The

Youth League organization, which is the assistant and reserve force of the Party, noted this and gave him help. *Zhongguo Qingnian Bao* (China Youth Paper), organ of the Central Committee of the Communist Youth League, provided him with opportunities to attend public lectures, study documents and visit factories, mines and rural areas. The newspaper office invited veteran writers with rich creative and revolutionary experiences to talk with him . . . "As far as I am concerned, I should attribute my personal accomplishment to the Party's training," Liu said.

This young man who is honoured as a "singing cuckoo of the epoch illuminated by rosy dawn" has been fired with high enthusiasm and achieved fruitful results. By his 21st birthday, he had published four short stories and two medium-length novels (totalling approximately one million words), most of them described life and struggle in the new epoch in his native village.

Beginning in 1957, Liu Shaotang was subjected to unjust political treatment for 21 years. He was deprived of the right to write and forced to do farmwork in the countryside. This experience was unjust, but it benefited him because he was determined to write about the countryside. He recalled: "For more than 20 years, I lived and laboured together with my villagers. I had a profound understanding of every household and its members — men, women, old and young. I was familiar with the voice and smiling countenance of everyone, their character and psychology; I was affected by them in my manner of speech and my use of words. My artistic inclination was the same as that of the peasants. I knew what



Liu Shaotang (first from left) soliciting peasants' opinions on one of his new works in his native place, Rulin Village, in Beijing's Tongxian County.

they liked and disliked. I dug a deep well in this small village where I was born, which has now become an inexhaustible source for my literary creation."

His *Big Catkin Willow Family*, written early in the 1980s, is another medium-length novel. He produced it shortly after he was rehabilitated and permitted to return to live in Beijing. "A strong nostalgia grows within me," said Liu Shaotang. "The life of my childhood is unforgettable. I always think of my villagers and old friends. The two child brides and an orphan sold by her aunt who ran a small shop often appear before my eyes. They were 10 years older than I. They collected firewood, gleaned grains, wove baskets and crates and pushed grinders every day. I witnessed how they were bullied by their mother-in-law and aunt and felt great sympathy for them. I always befriended them when they were playing on the beach. Their attitudes and kindness are deeply engraved on my memory. I incorporated the life of my childhood and of theirs into this novelette.

Many villagers became characters in my works. It is with this fervent enthusiasm for writing about my villagers and old friends that I produced this novelette."

Liu Shaotang, who calls himself "the wild grass of the village," has decided to "sing the praise of the working peasants who have given birth to and reared me all my life." Now he is one of the most active and prolific writers in China's literary circles. Each of the three novels, 20 novelettes and 22 short stories he published in two and a half years are about his native village. Like his previous works, they have the character of idyllic songs and the flavour of earth.

In recent years, Liu Shaotang has emphasized the need to develop "provincialist literature" with unique characteristics. He believes that efforts should be made to instill the flavour of earth into the subject matter and content and in the sentiment, language, means of artistic presentation and rhyme scheme. He said:

## Popularize and Improve

**I** NCREASING numbers of peasants in the rural areas of Jinshan County on the outskirts of Shanghai are often engaged in painting. Peasant paintings, which have their unique style, composition, artistic conception and colouration, present a strong flavour of rural life.

Peasants have been engaged in farmwork over the centuries but only recently have they picked up the painting brush. Their creations have been admired by art-lovers and commended by professional painters worldwide.

When people praise Wu Tongzhang, an artist working in the county cultural centre, he attributes his creations to Chairman Mao's *Yanan Talks*. The *Yanan Talks* pointed the direction for literature and art to serve the workers, peasants and soldiers and put forward a dialectical principle for the development of artistic undertaking: Raising of standards on the basis of popularization and popularization under the guidance of improved standards.

Wu Tongzhang lives in Jinshan County and has integrated himself with the rural masses. He recalls that in 1950 he heard of the *Yanan Talks* for the first time. He was inspired when he learnt that many artists and

Although great change has taken place in the villages where petty peasants live and engage in farmwork, the characteristics of "provincialist literature" will be everlasting. Such literature should include the content reflecting the characteristics of our times. Now he is going all out to write about rural life, local conditions and customs.

writers, inspired by the *Yanan Talks*, immersed themselves in real life and the struggle of the people and served the revolutionary cause with their creations. When the chance arose, this student of a fine-art training school discontinued his studies and joined the navy. For more than 10 years, this painter lived at sea and on small islands. He painted for himself and tutored many others in uniform, all of whom came from worker and peasant families.

In the 1970s, he participated in the activities to develop peasant paintings in Jinshan County. Besides coaching the young lover of art who sought help, he often went to the countryside to look for masters of

Peasant painters in Jinshan County.

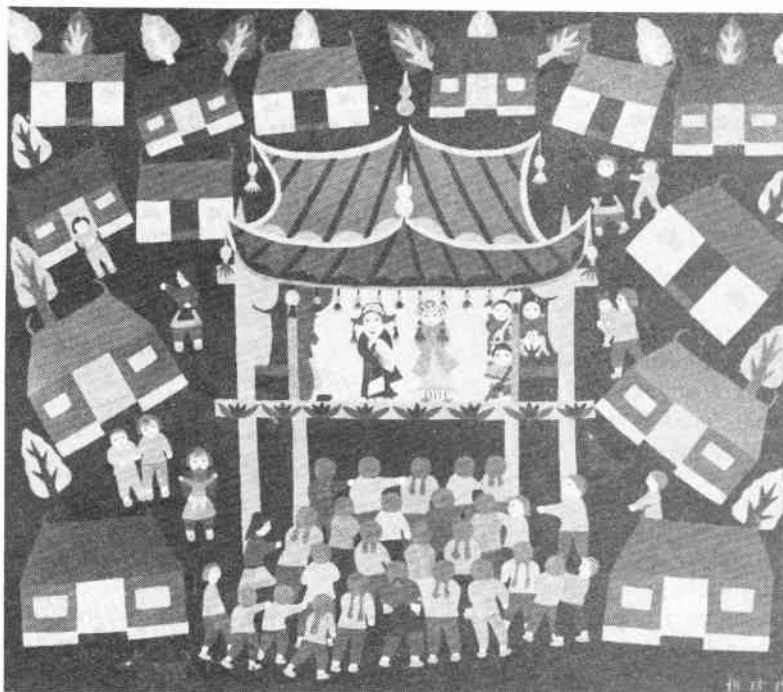


folk arts. He learnt that China's countryside is rich in wood carvings, kitchen wall paintings, painted porcelain vessels, batiks, toys and papercuts.

Wu Tongzhang discovered that elderly Cao Jinying was a skilful embroiderer in her younger days. Her composition was unique. She often utilized exaggeration and distortion to depict fish, birds and flowers and give prominence to their unique features. She varied her patterns and skilfully used diverse colours in her embroidery. Wu encouraged her to paint and suggested that she depict a festive occasion employing the style familiar to her. While she painted, he gave her advice. This first picture was a success — a bustling scene with dragon lanterns, boats and peach blossom lanterns in a field of red. The images were vivid and the colours were warm. Fish ponds, aquatic-product markets, carving workshops, fishes and the celebration of a baby's first month of life — all these became subjects of her creations. They were full of life and expressed a rural women's feeling for the new era.

Another old woman was adroit in embroidering different designs. Now she paints birds and flowers. A third woman, 46-year-old Chen Dehua loves opera. She portrays folk legends which are filled with artistic imagination in her pieces.

Guided by the principle of "popularization among the workers, peasants and soldiers" as advocated by Chairman Mao, Wu Tongzhang unleashed the artistic talent of rural women of which even they themselves had not been conscious. Most of them had little education, and had for decades worked in the fields and lived in the country-



A painting by a woman peasant depicting a local performance.

side. Now they have become the stalwarts of the Jinshan's peasant art.

They have the natural artistic ability, but they need nurturing in order to bloom. Wu Tongzhang implemented Chairman Mao's teaching to "raise standards among the workers, peasants and soldiers." Well versed in traditional Chinese paintings and oil paintings, he did not ask his students to adapt to his skills. Instead, he helped them preserve and devlop their artistic styles. Further, he encouraged young painters to familiarize themselves with the varied folk arts. Women peasant painters who were skilled in embroidery and papercuts had little contact with the outside world, so he tried his best to inspire their artistic imagination. In painting, he demanded that they display their talents and then he advised as to whether they had given prominence to the theme, whether the composition was well-balanced and whether the colouring was harmonious.

In his association with the peasant painters, Wu Tongzhang himself also developed his ar-

tistry. In recent years, he has specialized in utilizing the styles of China's folk arts and stressed decorative effect. In giving guidance to painters, he observes the artists' own ways and asks why they paint that way and what is on their minds. He thus comprehends the aesthetic values of the peasant painters and their artistic temperaments and interests.

Unlike what he learnt in the art academy, Wu Tongzhang discovered that the peasant painters did not portray their objects through direct perception, but presented the subjects based on their personal experience. In composing the painting, they usually interwove objects disregarding time, space and perspective. They painted their pictures in a harmonious decorative style.

The modern theme and popular artistic forms are united in the peasant's works. While continuing to train more painters and helping the existing painters to improve their skill, this enthusiastic teacher hopes to develop a school of peasant painting. □



CINEMA

"The Herdsman"

*The Herdsman*, a newly released feature film, has received extensive comments and been proclaimed artistically superb and educationally valuable.

In the 1957 anti-Rightist movement Xu Lingjun, the main character, is wrongly labelled a "Rightist" and packed off to the grassland to herd horses. When Xu is finally exonerated in the late 1970s, he encounters a new challenge. His father who abandoned him when he was small returns from abroad and wishes to take him to the

United States to inherit the family fortune. Faced with the alternatives of material enjoyment abroad or a hard life at home, he unhesitatingly decides to remain on the grassland which has been watered with his sweat.

The film is convincing in portraying this difficult decision. The motherland has a magnetic attraction for her child.

After Xu arrives in the grassland, the plain and kind-hearted herdsmen never look down on him. The day he arrives, Uncle Dong helps him hang up a straw mat to shield him from piercing wind. Auntie Dong prepares two bowls of noodles for him. "Help yourself," she assures, "you won't feel homesick if you are full."

Later, when Xu is to be summoned to the town to be criticized and struggled against, the herdsmen insist they are short of help and take him into the mountains to herd horses. Thus they cleverly protect him during the "cultural revolution." Further, kind-hearted Guo Piazi helps him marry. The film shows the upright and kind character of China's common people and tells why Xu is unwilling to abandon these people.

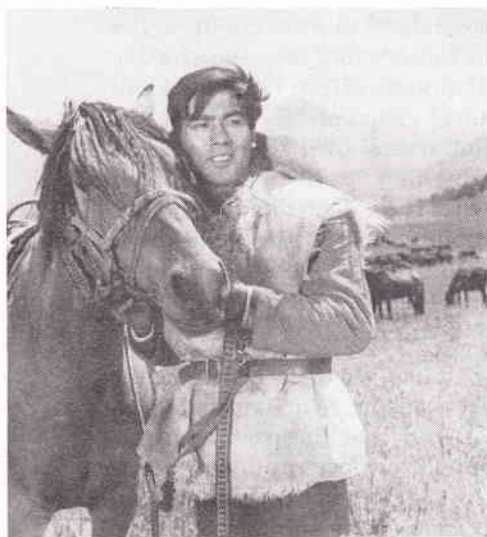
left her disaster-ridden village during the "cultural revolution" to seek a new life on the grassland. Finding her fiance has died in an accident, she comes across Guo Piazi and asks him for help. Seeing his opportunity to help Xu start a family, Guo brings the girl to Xu's shabby hut and tries to persuade him into marrying her. Unable to dissuade Guo, Xu agrees to board the girl for the night.

The next morning, Li finds Xu asleep on the floor in a corner. Then he gives her all his savings to help her return home. But she tells Xu that she feels lucky to have met such a kind person and though he has been labelled a "Rightist," she still wants to marry him. Her love and industriousness make Xu's life happier and strengthen his will to persist against adversity. It is natural for Xu to conclude that millions in family property are not as valuable as his wife's love.

The horses he herds also seem to understand him and often warm him with their breath. He loves them and the vast grassland across which he rides with other herdsmen whistling, singing and flicking whips.

All this makes him able to reject the lure of material

Li Xiuzhi, a young woman.



Xu Lingjun becomes a herdsman on the grassland.



Neighbours congratulating Li Xiuzhi about her marriage.



Li packs luggage for her husband to go to see his father.



Xu presents his father with some herbal medicine.

wealth and proclaim he has found the value of man and human warmth in his motherland. There are his roots. His father admits: "In terms of wealth I am a millionaire, but emotionally I am a pauper." Further, moved by his son's patriotism he decides to entrust Xu with buying a piece of land so that his remains can be buried in China.

The character of Xu Lingjun is portrayed truthfully, movingly and dramatically. The absence of slogans and rhetoric is refreshing. The film is adapted from *Soul and Body*, a fictionalized biographical short story by Zhang Xianliang; it is an artistic creation based on life. The author's love for the grassland, herdsmen, labour and horses is manifested through Xu Lingjun. Li Zhun, the script-writer, interjected material from his own prolonged rural stay into the character and actions of Xu Lingjun. Li Xiuzhi and Guo Piazi. Xie Jin, the director, skilfully brought forth exquisite performances that highlight the characters' inner worlds.

The audience is imbued with love of life and the motherland by the film. It depicts not just darkness but brightness in the cave, not callousness but warmth in rejection, not sorrow but happiness in difficulties and not tears but smiles with sorrow.

This wide-screen film was produced by the Shanghai Film Studio.

### Films Distributed Abroad

China's film industry has business contacts with nearly 200 cinemas, organizations or individuals in 63 countries and regions.

Commercial export of films has increased from 400 copies per year between 1977-80 to 680 last year.

*The Legend of Mount Tianyun, The In-laws, The Young Generation, Sha Ou and Yanzhi* are among the recently released films acclaimed abroad as the best of Chinese cinematography. However, some foreign film buffs still appreciate movies produced in 1930s and 40s the most. These early realistic works are profound and artistic. *A River Flows East, Mission on Streets* and *Crossroad* are classic films which have been bought by British and French firms.

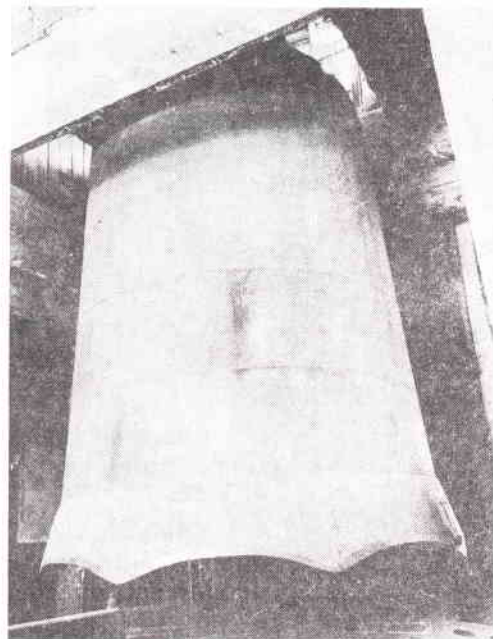
Animated, documentary, scientific and educational films are gaining favourable reactions from foreign audiences. The worldwide distribution rights of *Nezha Upsets the Sea*, an animated film which won an international film festival prize, has been sold. *Havoc in Heaven*, another full-length cartoon, has been shown in 43 countries and regions.

## CULTURAL RELIC

### China's Biggest Ancient Bell

Hung in a temple situated in the western suburbs of Beijing, the ancient Yongle bell, the biggest in China, has long been famous for its melodious tones and exquisite workmanship. *Random Notes of a Traveller*, an ancient Chinese book, records: "Struck day and night, it can be heard several dozens of *li* away (one *li* is equivalent to half a kilometre). Its tone, harmonious and different from that of any other bell, seems to come from both far and near."

"One of the Yongle bell's outstanding characteristics is its



musical quality when struck from the outside with a wooden pole," said Chen Tong, vice-director of the Acoustics Research Institute. "Among the bell's dominant partial tones are two in the vicinity of 98 hertz (cycle/second). The interaction of these two tones produces a slow undulation called a frequency beat. It is probably this undulation that produces what ancients referred to as 'far and near' sounds."

"At a distance of three metres from the bell the sound level is greater than 120 decibels. After being struck, the sound gradually fades away. The tones gradually attenuate to a hum of very low frequency which lasts a long time and suggests a mood of solemnity."

Inscribed on the bell and its loop are the lotus sutra and 16 other sutras totalling 227,000 characters.

The bell was cast during the Yongle reign (1403-1424) of the Ming Dynasty, and hence its name. Weighing 46.6 tons, it is 4.5 metres high, with a maximum diameter of 3.3 metres. The loop at the top of the bell is 1.1 metres high.



# China State Shipbuilding Corporation

## ANNOUNCEMENT

Approved by the State Council of the People's Republic of China, the China State Shipbuilding Corporation (CSSC) was set up in Beijing on May 4, 1982.

China State Shipbuilding Corporation is composed of the departments directly under the original Sixth Ministry of Machine-Building and some departments directly under the Ministry of Communications.

It is a national corporation with legal status under the State Council of the People's Republic of China. CSSC will deal directly with companies, enterprises and institutions at home and abroad in business activities.

Domestic and foreign trade is run by the subordinate China Shipbuilding Trading Company Limited (CSTC). The original China Corporation of Shipbuilding Industry, which ran import and export trade under the Sixth Ministry of Machine-Building, is abolished.

All the economic and technological agreements and contracts signed by the original China Corporation of Shipbuilding Industry (CCSI) and its branches under the Sixth Ministry of Machine-Building with domestic and foreign units as well as those signed by the shipbuilding and repairing yards under the Ministry of Communications are still effective. These agreements and contracts will be performed by China Shipbuilding Trading Company Limited (CSTC) and the subordinate companies, enterprises and institutions under China State Shipbuilding Corporation (CSSC).

CSSC will actively develop domestic and foreign trade and business.

It will provide both home and overseas customers with high quality and timely delivered products as well as efficient services.

### **Leaders of CSSC approved by the State Council:**

**Chairman of the Board: Chai Shufan**

**Deputy Chairmen: Zhang Youxuan, Cheng Wang**

**General Manager: Feng Zhi**

**Deputy General Manager & Technical**

**Superintendent: Peng Shilu**

**Deputy General Managers: Pan Zengxi, Wang Rongsheng**

*Address: 5, Yuetan Beijie, Beijing, China*

*Tel: SB 890971*

*Cable: 0038    Telex: 22335 CSSC CN*

*P.O. Box: 2123 Beijing*

**May 4, 1982**