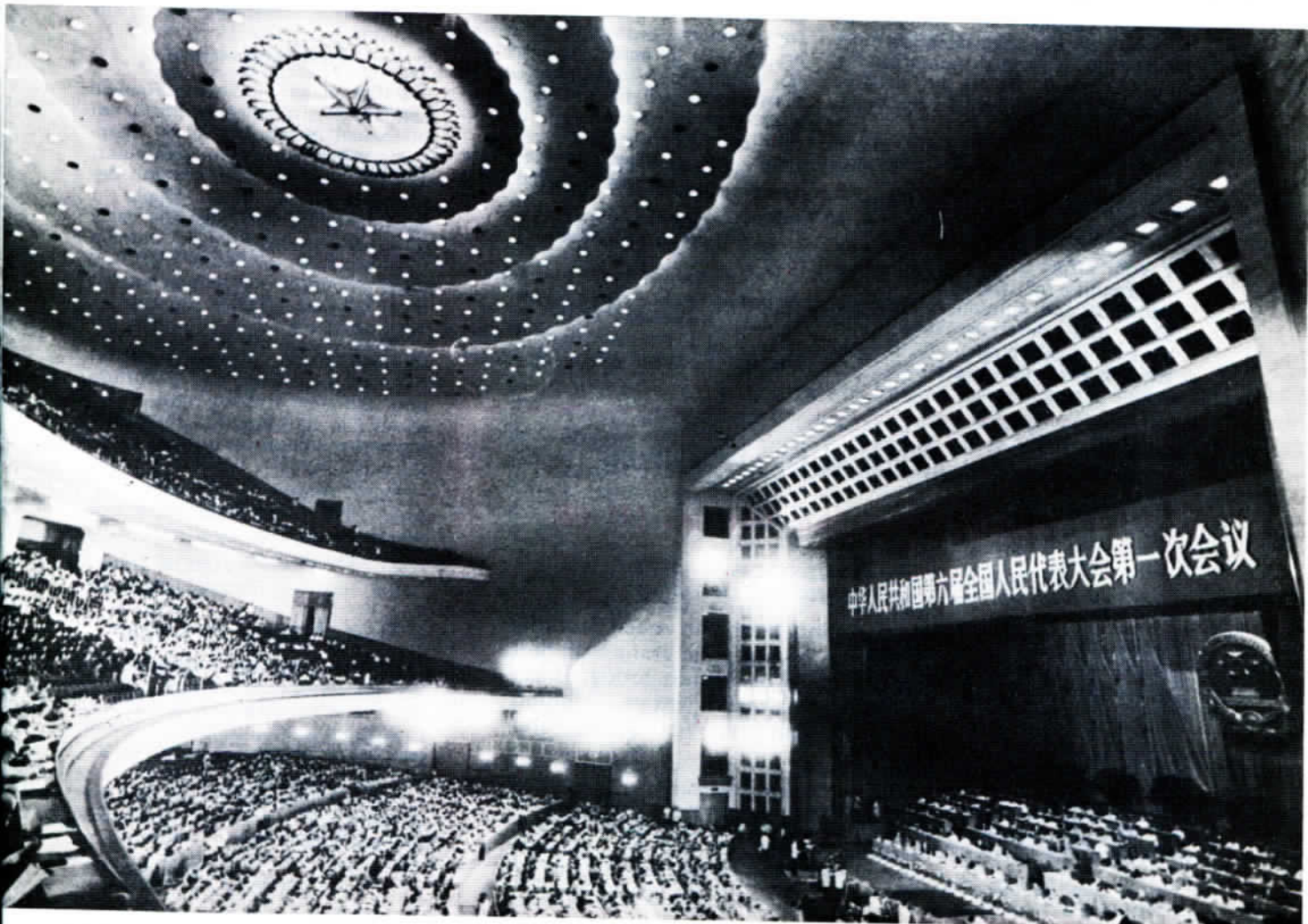


# BEIJING REVIEW

北京周报

A CHINESE WEEKLY OF  
NEWS AND VIEWS

- 6th NPC in Session
- Tibet: History and Anecdotes



# LETTERS

## Successful New Economic Policies

I find *Beijing Review* even more interesting now that I have visited China. One could see that the new economic policies are working very successfully. Chinese shops are filled with all kinds of goods that people would want to buy and people are buying these goods. Every one looks very prosperous. In a visit to a commune we were able to see how the new economic policies are working in the countryside. People are certainly at least as prosperous as those in the cities and sideline occupations probably make some of them even better off. On this commune near Shanghai we saw many new two-story houses being built and visited one of them. Many people in the tour group were astonished to discover that the house cost the family £3,000 to build! To those who say that socialism does not work, I would recommend a visit to China, where they will be able to see that it works very successfully indeed.

A.J. Mayes  
Britain

## Too Many Articles About Economy and Industry

Your effort to inform the world community of China's thoughts, demands and opinions is respectable and deserves support. I began subscribing to *Beijing Review* early this year.

I find there are too many articles dealing with economy and industry (sometimes too long), but only a few articles about culture, arts and natural reserves or China's picturesque landscape.

In general, I like the articles in your magazine. I am most interested in the articles in the column "International: Reports and Comments" dealing with China's viewpoints on problems in European and other countries, and the column "Notes From the Editors."

I read the "Chinese-Type Modernization" series with great interest. But I dislike "Facts and Figures" (I imagine some people may find this kind of article interesting).

I am quite satisfied with the language style of your German edition. The German language is better used in many of your articles than in some Swiss newspapers and magazines.

I suggest you occasionally publish interviews with Chinese leading members, peasants and workers as well as actors or actresses. (It would be better if the interviews were put in the centre-fold page just as "documents" are, so they can be pulled out.)

Beast Slehrenberger  
Wadenswil, Switzerland

## Like and Dislike

I like the following two articles in issue No. 17: "Principles Governing Relations With Foreign Communist Parties," and "China Values Its West European Ties."

In these articles about international issues, your analysis and viewpoints on the world situation are quite clear.

I do not like the article "The Rebirth of a County" in the same issue.

A series of articles entitled "Chinese-Type Modernization" and "Facts and Figures" are well written and clear. Reading these articles helps us to know what China is doing.

The magazine as a whole is useful to me. Now I am able to talk with my friends about the People's Republic of China.

Your makeup, illustrations and charts are good, and I hope you will go on with your good work.

I suggest that the magazine be circulated on a wider scale because it can break the barriers of lies built around China by the capitalist world.

Deogracias Lopez Ros  
Alcantarilla, Spain

## First Impression

I like many of *Beijing Review* articles, or, in other words, I am interested in reading all of them. I enjoy the features in particular, as they illustrate the will and determination of your people. I began reading the magazine early this year, but have not yet become a subscriber. I knew nothing more about China before, except that it was a socialist country.

In short, the magazine is very interesting. "A Glimpse of China" (German edition) and "Culture and Science" inform me a lot about the living styles of China's various nationalities as well as its scientific level.

The column "International" tells your viewpoints on major world issues.

Martins Ismael  
Brussels, Belgium

## More Articles on Culture

I suggest that you include more articles on Chinese culture. China is a country with a long history. I wish you would publish more articles on archaeological developments in China.

I also would like to say that the pictures on the cover sometimes are not clear.

Kacioui-Madjid  
TiziOuzou, Algeria

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## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

### *First Session of 6th NPC Meets*

The first session convened in compliance with the new Constitution, the Sixth NPC will elect new leaders and will discuss the Premier's report on the work of the government and other reports. It will organize the country to fulfil or overfulfil the Sixth Five-Year Plan and will draw up and implement the Seventh Five-Year Plan (p. 5).

The First Session of the Sixth CPPCC began meeting two days earlier. All of its members attend the NPC session as observers (p. 6).

### *Unique Theory of a Noted Economist*

Before his death, Sun Yefang had since the 60s formulated a series of economic propositions which differ from traditional socialist economic theory. Some have been adopted by the government. An account of his main points (p. 16).

### *History of Tibet*

Two authors, one Tibetan and one of the Han nationality trace the history of close and friendly relations that Tibet maintained with the Chinese dynasties and describe how it became an integral part of China in the 13th century (p. 19).

### *Opening Up Hainan Island*

On the same latitude as Hawaii but twice its size, Hainan Island is China's second largest island after Taiwan. Several government departments have offered help in developing the island which abounds in tropical and sub-tropical plants, mineral resources and aquatic products (p. 7).

### *Middle East Tension*

The Lebanon-Israel troop withdrawal accord has aggravated differences among Arab nations. The root cause of the region's trouble lies in Israel's intensified expansionist efforts and stepped-up rivalry between the two superpowers (p. 11).



The NPC meeting hall.  
Photo by Chen Zonglie



## NOTES FROM THE EDITORS

### For the prosperity in the 1990s

#### — First Session of the Sixth National People's Congress

The First Session of the Sixth National People's Congress (NPC), China's highest organ of state power, is now in progress. The session will elect new state leaders, discuss the Premier's report on the work of the government and examine and approve the plan for national economic and social development as well as the final state accounts.

This is the first congress held in compliance with the new Constitution enacted last year; it has become a focus of attention at home and abroad.

The previous NPC began in March 1978 when China had just smashed the gang of four and put an end to the chaotic decade of the "cultural revolution." During the previous five-year term, China rid itself of an accumulation of serious problems, shifted the emphasis of its work to economic construction, brought about unity and stability, ended grave disproportionation between different sectors of the economy, and embarked on a path of sound development.

The current congress will elect leaders from among those who represent the fundamental interests of the people, serve the people wholeheartedly and suit the needs of the new historical period. This event ensures permanent stability and peace and the continuity of policies.

Before nominating new leaders, the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party repeatedly solicited opinions

from people of various circles and, on the eve of the current session, held a consultative meeting to which they invited leaders of the Fifth NPC Standing Committee, of the Fifth National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, of democratic parties and of various people's organizations, as well as representatives of people without Party affiliation.

On behalf of the Party Central Committee, General Secretary Hu Yaobang proposed a list of candidates to the meeting. At the First Session of the Sixth NPC, deputies to the congress will hold thorough discussions and finally elect the leaders. This process of repeated considerations and consultations vividly demonstrates socialist democracy.

The current congress will, in compliance with the new Constitution, elect the President and the Vice-President (previously translated as Chairman and Vice-Chairman — *Tr.*) of the People's Republic of China; the Chairman and other members on the Central Military Commission of the People's Republic of China.

China's First, Second and Third National People's Congresses elected a Chairman of the People's Republic of China (Mao Zedong in 1954 and Liu Shaoqi in 1964) in accordance with the 1954 Constitution. But under the 1975 and the 1978 Constitutions, neither the Fourth

nor the Fifth NPC elected a Chairman.

Experience shows that China should have a state President to improve the state system, and that electing such a leader conforms to the wishes and habits of the people of all nationalities.

The difference between the functions and powers of the president-to-be and those of the previous Chairman is that he will not command the nation's armed forces, now a task of the Chairman of the Central Military Commission of the state. With the establishment of the Central Military Commission of the state, the People's Liberation Army will have an appropriate position in the state system.

The Sixth NPC will strengthen its work. When the NPC is not in session, the Standing Committee it elects will exercise more functions and powers in compliance with the Constitution, and some full-time Standing Committee members will concentrate on important state work.

The current congress has established a Nationalities Committee, a Law Committee, an Overseas Chinese Committee and three other committees. These special committees will assist the NPC and its Standing Committee.

The Sixth NPC will remain in office until 1988. During this period, China will fulfil the Sixth Five-Year Plan and begin to carry out the Seventh. With these new leading state organizations, the Chinese people will lay a foundation for China's prosperity in the 1990s.

— Political Editor An Zhiguo

## Sixth NPC meets in Beijing

The First Session of the Sixth National People's Congress (NPC) opened in Beijing in the afternoon of June 6 at the Great Hall of the People.

The Sixth NPC is the first to be elected under China's new Constitution. During its five-year term, China will complete the Sixth Five-Year Plan and begin the Seventh. Seventy-six per cent of the 2,977 deputies to the current session are new faces.

Leaders of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee Deng Xiaoping and Deng Yingchao, who are not NPC deputies, attended the opening ceremony as guests.



**Peng Zhen, Presiding Chairman of the session and Executive Chairman of the presidium, delivers the opening address.**

Peng Zhen, Presiding Chairman of the session and Executive Chairman of the presidium,

declared the congress open at 3:00 p.m.

Peng Zhen said in his opening speech that the current session has these main tasks: To examine and discuss the report on the work of the government, to examine and approve the plan for social and economic development and the final state accounts, and to elect and name a new group of leaders to form the new leading organs of the state.

He said that accomplishment of these tasks will be important for leading and mobilizing the people of all nationalities in strengthening and developing a political situation of stability, unity and liveliness, and guaranteeing correct implementation of state policies in all spheres of work and sound economic growth.

The meeting then heard a report on the work of the government by Premier Zhao Ziyang. The 25,000-word report consisted of two parts: Review of the government's work in the past five years (1978-82) and the main tasks for the next five years (1983-87).

Premier Zhao Ziyang said that during the past five years China has followed a path of sound growth after surmounting various political and economic difficulties, and the people enjoyed ease of mind and the state has grown increasingly prosperous. He cited 10 major achievements.

Zhao Ziyang said these successes were not easily won. They were achieved as a result of the fundamental changes in the guidelines and principles after

**The opening session of the Sixth National People's Congress in the Great Hall of the People.**





(From left to right) Hu Yaobang, Deng Xiaoping, Li Xiannian, Zhao Ziyang, Deng Yingchao and Peng Zhen in the lobby of the Great Hall of the People.

correcting "Left" errors in many spheres of work.

The main tasks of the government for the next five years, the Premier said, are to mobilize the people of all nationalities to fulfil or overfulfil the Sixth Five-Year Plan, draw up and carry out the Seventh Five-Year Plan, and continue to push ahead work in various fields centring on economic development. (The main contents of the report will be found in our next issue.)

Attending the meeting as observers were members of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) who are now in Beijing attending the First Session of the Sixth CPPCC National Committee, and leaders of the democratic parties, central government departments and the general departments, services and arms of the Chinese People's Liberation Army.

Foreign diplomatic envoys and correspondents stationed in Beijing attended the meeting as guests.

The session is expected to last 17 days.

## First session of 6th CPPCC opens

The First Session of the Sixth National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) opened in Beijing on June 4.

Deng Xiaoping, Li Xiannian, Peng Zhen and other leading



Deng Yingchao addresses the opening ceremony of the First Session of the 6th CPPCC National Committee.

members of the Party Central Committee attended the opening ceremony to extend their congratulations.

The 2,039 members of the current CPPCC National Committee are in a position to attend the First Session of the Sixth National People's Congress

(NPC) as observers to discuss state affairs. They also will elect leading members of the current CPPCC National Committee and set the CPPCC's future tasks.

Deng Yingchao, Executive Chairwoman of the Presidium of the First Session of the Sixth CPPCC National Committee, addressed the opening ceremony. Since the Fifth CPPCC resumed its work in February 1978, she said, it has actively participated in consultations and discussions about state policies and principles, has put forward many good suggestions for promoting state work, has actively conducted democratic supervision and has made great contributions to developing China's socialist cause.

She pointed out that the composition of the current CPPCC is highly representative, which reflects the great unity of the Chinese nation.

She stressed that the CPPCC is a patriotic united front organization and an important medium for promoting socialist democracy in China's political life. The CPPCC is expected to further carry out democracy, ensure free airing of views and encourage the initiative and expertise of its members so as to render still greater services to the prosperity and reunification of the nation.

The peaceful reunification of the motherland is a common aspiration of the Chinese people of various nationalities and a glorious historic task of us, she added. "We respect history and we respect reality. We give full consideration to the wishes of the people of all nationalities in Taiwan and to the circumstances of the Taiwan authorities. After the reunification of the motherland, the Communist Party and the Kuomintang will

supervise, co-operate and coexist with each other for a long time to come. And Taiwan as a special administrative area may practise a system different from that on the mainland so that the two can complement and support each other."

She pointed out further that the Taiwan question is China's internal affair over which no foreign interference will be tolerated.

Foreign diplomatic envoys and correspondents stationed in Beijing attended the session as visitors.

## Hainan Island to be developed

Hainan Island, known as the "pearl on the South China Sea," is China's second largest island after Taiwan. The State Council has decided to accelerate the island's development by opening it to outside investment, Guangdong Province announced recently.

It is on the same latitude as Hawaii but twice its size (it is 32,200 sq. km) and abounds in natural resources.

— It is a natural greenhouse. Mild all year round, Hainan grows 4,200 kinds of tropical and subtropical plants. Of the 608 that are native to Hainan, 40 per cent are rare species under state protection.

The island boasts 730,000 hectares of shrubs and trees that grow pepper, coffee, coconuts and other fruits. It also has 360,000 hectares of grazing pastures and 265,000 hectares of rubber plants, making it China's main rubber producer.

— It is an aquatic treasure bowl. The island has 1,470 kms of coastline with 68 large and small bays and gulfs. Its 65,600 square nautical miles of coastal fishing grounds are the home of some 600 marine products.

— It has rich underground mineral resources. Among the 50 minerals already discovered, 30 have verified deposits large enough to exploit. These include iron, coal, manganese, chromium, cobalt and titanium.

Hainan Island has much potential that as yet is unexplored. Several government departments have offered their help.

— The Ministries of the Coal Industry and of Water Resources and Power will invest jointly in a new open-cast coal mine with an annual capacity of half a million tons of coal and a power station with a generating capacity of 50,000 kw.



— The Ministry of Petroleum Industry has decided to restore the production of several small oil wells for the use of the island with an expected annual output of 20,000 tons of crude oil.

— The Ministry of Railways will invest in the construction of 50 km of railways, which will be open to traffic in 1985.

— The Ministry of Communications will build one deep-water port and expand two of the 11 existing ports.

— Taking advantage of the natural scenic spots and historical sites, the State Bureau of Tourism, in co-operation with the local government, will build the island into a winter resort, the first in China.

The state's decision to give Hainan greater decision-making powers has attracted the attention of both Chinese and foreigners. Already agreements on 30 items have been reached with foreign investors. Some 1,400 people have applied to take part in the construction of Hainan, including professors, experts, technicians, engineers, teachers, doctors, workers, artists, writers and students in their last year of college.

## First doctorates awarded in Beijing

China conferred doctor's degrees on the first group of postgraduate research students trained in China by its own educators in Beijing on May 27.

Premier Zhao Ziyang and other Party and state leaders attended the degree-conferring





First Ph. D.s and their instructors at the degree-conferring ceremony in the Great Hall of the People.

ceremony, where they congratulated the 18 graduates, including one woman, and thanked their instructors. Also present were representatives of master's degree recipients.

Whether China can independently train high-level professionals is crucial for the success of its modernization drive, addressed Hu Qiaomu, Chairman of the State Council's Academic Degrees Committee, to the ceremony.

While consolidating and improving its own new degree system, China will continue to send a certain number of research students abroad to study branches of science that are relatively weak in China and to promote international academic exchanges, he said.

In addition, scholars and specialists from other countries will be invited to teach Chinese postgraduates.

China will enroll 15,000 postgraduates pursuing master's and doctor's degrees this year, 1,000 of whom will be sent abroad. Twenty thousand will be enrolled by 1985.

Since China's academic degree regulations went into effect at the beginning of 1981, nearly

15,000 students have received master's degrees. Today, 20,000 Chinese postgraduates are preparing for master's degrees and nearly 1,000 for doctorates.

Before the founding of New China, very few research students were trained and only a small number of those were awarded master's degrees. No doctor's degrees were ever conferred.

Since 1949 China has enrolled more than 60,000 postgraduates, of whom 43,000 were admitted after 1978.



Nearly 6,000 people attend the fast-breaking celebration at a Beijing mosque.

The average age of the first Ph. D.s is 38.

## More mosques opened in China

An increasing number of Moslems in China are returning to their mosques for religious observances. Recitation of their Holy Koran can once again be heard across the land. This is a positive result of the Chinese Communist Party's reiteration of the policy of "freedom of religious belief."

In line with the implementation of this policy, a large number of old mosques have been reopened and new ones set up nationwide. Twelve thousand mosques in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region have been reopened and 1,300 mosques have been founded or have resumed in Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region. Many other provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions that have Moslem populations are also reopening their mosques.



During the "cultural revolution" in 1966-76, all churches, mosques and temples of all denominations were closed and clergymen suffered from prejudice or persecutions to varying extents.

China has more than 13 million Moslems, most of whom live in Xinjiang Uygur and Ningxia Hui Autonomous Regions.

The six million Moslems in Xinjiang belong to the Uygur, Kazakh, Hui, Khalkhas, Tajik, Uzbek and Tartar minority nationalities. In recent years, the Islamic association of the region has sent 38 young minority nationality Moslems to study in the Institute of Islamic Theology in Beijing or to Egypt or on pilgrimages to Mecca.

At present, 60 young imams have returned to work in their former mosques after finishing theological courses in Urumqi, capital of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. At the same time, 30 imams will each

train two or three disciples older than 18.

It is estimated that more than 200,000 volumes of the Koran and Hadith Al-Bukhari texts in the Uygur language are now available in the region and preparations have begun for the establishment of a Koran school.

Similar changes are occurring in other religions in China, such as Buddhism, Daoism, Catholicism and Protestantism, that have their own associations or religious schools.

## Protest Mongolia's expulsion of Chinese nationals

The Chinese Foreign Ministry on June 3 lodged a protest with the People's Republic of Mongolia over its persecution and expulsion of Chinese nationals.

In a protest note to the Mongolian Embassy in Beijing,

the Chinese Foreign Ministry said that from March 9 to June 1 this year, the Mongolian authorities concerned told 1,764 Chinese nationals (294 households) residing in Ulan Bator to move to farms in other provinces within 14 days of the notification.

Since March 30, the note said, groups of Chinese have been expelled from Mongolia or ordered to leave the country within a specific time. The Mongolian customs officials confiscated and held the belongings of the departing Chinese and even told them to strip and subjected them to insulting examination.

Although the Chinese side has made repeated representations to the Mongolian side over this matter, the note said, the Mongolian side is still forcing Chinese nationals to move or expelling them from Mongolia, and even on a bigger scale.

"These acts of the Mongolian side have seriously violated the proper rights and interests of the Chinese nationals in Mongolia," the note said. These Chinese have resided in Ulan Bator for several decades, abiding by the Mongolian law and living in amity with Mongolian people. They have the legitimate right of residence, were properly employed and have made contributions to the development of Mongolia. The abrupt action taken by the Mongolian side to force Chinese to move and expel them has caused them great difficulties in their life and work as well as mental distress.

While repeatedly professing a desire to improve the relations between China and Mongolia, the note said, the Mongolian side has created the incident of persecuting Chinese nationals.

---

### Premier Zhao's message

**P**REMIER Zhao Ziyang on June 5 greeted the 6th session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) with a message on behalf of the Chinese Government and people.

The message said, "UNCTAD has been an important forum for discussions on international trade and development issues and has played a positive role in strengthening international co-operation and promoting North-South negotiations. It also has advanced the reform of unjust and inequitable international economic relations and safeguarded the just rights and interests of the third world countries and peoples. The Chinese Government appreciates all this, and wishes the session success.

"This session is held amid a sluggish and grim world economy. I hope the meeting will contribute to the revitalization of the world economy, to the acceleration of the sustained economic development of developing countries and to the establishment of a new international economic order."

---

The note said, "The Chinese side cannot but point out solemnly that the unreasonable action of forcing Chinese nationals to move or quit Mongolia totally contravenes the norms of international law and the established international practice, and has put up a new obstacle to the improvement of the relations between the two countries. The Chinese side expresses its indignation at this."

While closely following the development, the Chinese side once again solemnly demands that the Mongolian side immediately stop forcing the Chinese nationals to move or quit Mongolia, stop confiscating or holding the belongings of Chinese nationals upon their leaving Mongolia and stop the insulting examination, return the confiscated or detained belongings to the Chinese concerned and guarantee the normal life and work of those Chinese who remain in Mongolia.

"Otherwise," the note warned, "the Mongolian side must be held fully responsible for all the consequences arising therefrom."

## China-World Bank co-operation

The World Bank initially expects to lend China about US\$2.4 billion for the 1984 and 1985 fiscal years, said World Bank President Alden Wainwright Clausen at a press conference in Shanghai on May 31.

Clausen and his party arrived in Beijing on May 24 for a visit to China.

Deng Xiaoping, Chairman of the Central Advisory Commission of the Communist Party of China, met with Clausen and

said that by the end of this century, China will enjoy a comfortably off society, free from poverty and backwardness. This will be a significant contribution to the stability and development of the world economy.

Deng said: "Arduous efforts should be made to realize this objective. We should have correct economic policies and continue the policy of opening to the outside world.

"We also need international assistance, including aid from the World Bank, which is of great importance. The World Bank may help us in the form of funds, technology and economic management."

He appreciated Clausen's role in developing co-operation between the World Bank and China.

Premier Zhao Ziyang, meeting with A.W. Clausen, said that co-operation between China and the World Bank is on a long-term basis and with growing content.

In the three years since the restoration of China's legitimate seat in the World Bank, Zhao said, China has maintained good co-operative relations with the bank. "We are satisfied with this," he said.

He added that the World Bank has done a lot in providing loans and consulting services for China as well as in training Chinese personnel. Their co-operation projects have yielded good results, he said.

Clausen said that the World Bank is expanding and strengthening its co-operation with China. In the past few years, the World Bank has provided China with various kinds of loans and aid, totalling nearly US\$900 million. He expected the momentum of the co-operation

between the two sides would continue to increase.

## China backs struggle of S. African people

Premier Zhao Ziyang on June 3 said that China firmly supports the struggle of the South African people against the racist regime in South Africa and the Namibian people's struggle for independence.

He said this during his meeting with the delegation from the African National Congress of South Africa led by its president, Oliver Tambo. The delegation is visiting China at the invitation of the International Liaison Department of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee.

Premier Zhao said he is very concerned that the racist regime in South Africa, shielded and backed by the United States, is stubbornly obstructing Namibia's independence and threatening the security of independent countries in southern Africa. He reiterated that China opposes linking the independence of Namibia with the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

Tambo, who earlier had talks with Qiao Shi, head of the Liaison Department of the CPC Central Committee, and had met with Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian, thanked China for its position. He said that his delegation had fruitful talks with the Chinese side in the last few days. He also said that the ANC will continue to push forward the struggle against the racist regime in South Africa.

CORRECTION: In issue No. 23, p. 5, middle column, paragraph 3, last line. "supporting 0.63 people" should read: "supporting 1.63 people."

*Middle East***After the Lebanon-Israel agreement**

**D**ISPUTES among the Arab countries over the Lebanese-Israeli agreement for the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon have caused concern about developments in the Middle East.

As soon as the content of the agreement was revealed, Syria, the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), Libya, Democratic Yemen, Kuwait and Arab Yemen expressed opposition to it. Syria charged that the agreement was a reproduction of the Camp David accords. The PLO said that it was a threat to Arab security and in conflict with Lebanon's duty to the Arab nation. The Libyan Government recalled its ambassador from Beirut and called for sanctions against Lebanon by the Arab League.

Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, the Sudan and Oman expressed understanding and support for the agreement to varying degrees. Egypt said that the agreement was an "important step on the road to a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East." Other Arab countries' responses were cautious.

**Explosive Factors Grow**

The Lebanon-Israel agreement is contingent upon the withdrawal of Syrian and PLO troops from Lebanon. Therefore the agreement has heightened the contradictions between Syria and the PLO and the signatories to the agreement, especially between Syria and Israel.

Although Lebanon, Israel and

the United States all asked Syria and the PLO to withdraw their troops from Lebanon, their purposes for the request differ. For Lebanon, the withdrawal was linked to other concessions it wanted from Israel that would lessen the threat to its national sovereignty. Lebanon also wanted all foreign troops to withdraw in order to create the most favourable conditions for internal peace and unification. The United States attempted to reduce the Soviet influence there and put Lebanon under its influence. Israel's major target was to drive away the Syrian and PLO troops, which was the purpose for its initiating the aggressive war against Lebanon.

Since the Lebanon-Israel agreement was signed, all concerned parties have been in frequent contact over whether the Syrian and PLO troops stay in or leave Lebanon.

The United States and Israel have applied diplomatic pressure upon Syria. Washington attempted to open dialogue with Syria after the agreement was signed and urged the latter to withdraw its troops. Syria refused to receive US special envoy Philip Habib, so he had to change his original plans. He then asked Saudi Arabia to persuade Syria to withdraw its troops.

Israel is exerting pressure on Lebanon to make Syrian troops withdraw by calling for renegotiating a "safe arrangement" and threatening to permanently occupying the southern part of Lebanon.

The US State Department called the Soviet ambassador to Washington many times and Habib conveyed a message to the Soviet ambassador to Beirut through Lebanese Prime Minister Shafic Wazzan, urging Moscow to force Syria to withdraw its troops from Lebanon. Israel sent hundreds of tanks and thousands of troops to the front-line in the Bekaa area after it held a special defence meeting on May 25. Syria adopted corresponding measures to send a large batch of troops to the Bekaa area and held large-scale military exercises. Now the two sides are confronting each other and reaching the "saturation point," which may trigger an armed conflict at any time.

The contradictions among the various factions in Lebanon also have sharpened. Some political parties have formed a national front against the Lebanon-Israel agreement, and have engaged in armed conflicts with the Christian militias many times since the agreement was signed. The trend towards confrontations threatens the stability of the Lebanese Government and increases the possibility of a large-scale civil war.

**Root Cause of Trouble**

The division of the Arab world and the turbulence in the Middle East have resulted from arrogant Israeli expansionism and sharp rivalry between the two superpowers there.

The Israeli method of dealing with the Arab nations is to rout them one by one. As a "just conciliator" of the Arab-Israeli conflict but in fact a conspirator of Israel, the United States took concerted action with Israel to press Lebanon to sign the



agreement, based on the precondition of Syrian and PLO troop withdrawal. The agreement drove a wedge between Lebanon and Syria, creating a pretext to drive the Syrian and PLO forces out of Lebanon.

Their next step may be to press Jordan to talks with Israel alone. Thus they will make it difficult for the Syrian troops to fight and leave the PLO no place to live. The Arab countries have been vigilant and have fought against the US and Israeli actions. This was evidenced by Lebanon's struggle during the talks with Israel and Jordan's refusal to make a settlement with Israel alone when it broke off the Jordan-PLO negotiations.

### **Belgrade Conference**

## **Examining world economic crisis**

**T**HE sixth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, opened on June 6 in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, is expected to devote most of its time discussing the present economic crisis and proposals for a new international economic order.

In the five years since the fifth UNCTAD session in Manila, the world has been plagued by the most severe economic crisis since the 1930s depression.

The crisis has swept the entire globe, with developing nations bearing the brunt of it. In the past two years, most developing countries have suffered a decline in their per-capita income and deficits in their balance of international payments. Since 1980 they have lost an estimated US\$200 billion in foreign exchange and their total foreign debts were US\$700 billion by the end of 1982. Many are now on the brink of economic collapse.

The Soviet Union supports some countries and criticizes others in the Middle East. This also has deepened the disputes among the Arab world and further weakened the Arab forces. This year Moscow has changed the weak stand it adopted during Israel's aggressive war against Lebanon last year and has taken a series of strong measures. Its aim: First, to prevent rifts with some Middle East countries and to keep a firm footing there; second, to break up the US monopoly in the Middle East arena.

The way to end the turmoil in the Middle East lies in restoring and strengthening the unity of the Arab nations.

— Mei Zhengmin

### **Main Subject**

Some developed nations' economies have shown signs of improvement in recent months, but overall recovery still seems remote. The search for solutions to the world economic crisis that will allow developing countries in particular to rebuild their economies has become the main subject of the Belgrade meeting.

However, the developed and developing countries disagree on how to tackle this crisis. The declaration adopted at the fifth ministerial conference of the Group of 77 held in March and April in Buenos Aires said that a long-term world economic recovery would be impossible without a readjustment of the existing international economic system.

The ministers of the Group of 77 requested developed nations to raise the import prices of primary products, reduce interest rates to stabilize the foreign

exchange market and increase loans and aid to the developing countries, especially to the least developed. They also called for immediate, global talks on world economy and expanding co-operation among the developing countries.

The response from developed countries has been lukewarm. The developed countries have tried to avoid stabilizing prices of primary goods, have enacted protectionist measures to limit imports from developing countries and have maintained high interest rates.

About 30 per cent of the goods produced by developed countries are sold to developing countries. If the developing countries are drained of their resources to buy from abroad, not only they, but the whole world economy will suffer the consequences. Some Western countries, aware of the problem, favour a relaxation of control over imports, promotion of free trade, supply of necessary aid and delay in debt repayments so as to avoid a collapse of Western banks and an international monetary crisis.

Contradictions also exist among Western countries. West European countries oppose the United States' policy of high interest rates but the US is recalcitrant and will not support drastic reforms in the existing international trade or monetary systems. The two sides also differ on the trade of farm products.

In view of the contradictions between developed and developing countries, no major breakthrough is likely in the current UNCTAD meeting. Nevertheless, it will be a good opportunity for discussion and clarification of issues.

— Su Yuanchun

*Williamsburg Summit***A Western display of 'unity'**

**T**HE Williamsburg summit broke with precedent on May 29 to issue a statement on nuclear disarmament. Originally a meeting to discuss economic recovery in the capitalist world, the leaders of the seven Western nations, at US insistence, used the occasion to show their "strength, determination and unity" to the Soviet Union.

Read to the press by US Secretary of State George P. Shultz, the statement reaffirming the West's position on nuclear disarmament was unprecedented in that it was issued jointly in the name of the leaders of the United States, Britain, France, West Germany, Italy, Canada and Japan. It also was the first time that Japan, not a member of NATO, directly joined in issuing such a statement.

Clearly, the United States is doing its best to win the support of its major Western allies in order to strengthen its position in the talks with the Soviet Union.

**Response to Moscow**

The statement was a direct response to a Soviet government statement on the Soviet-US nuclear arms negotiations issued on the eve of the Williamsburg summit. The Soviet statement, unusually tough in tone, accused the United States of insincerity and of following an unconstructive and obstructionist policy in the talks. It said that the United States had no intention of reach-

ing an agreement but wanted to gain military superiority and, in particular, to greatly increase nuclear confrontation in Europe.

The statement further warned the West "with utter clarity" that if new US missiles are deployed in Europe, the Soviet Union "will take timely and effective reply measures."

It said that, in that case, "the need would also arise to implement, on arrangement with other Warsaw Treaty member countries, other measures as well as to deploy additional means" and that it will "also be necessary to take other measures with a view to the territory of the United States itself."

Western observers believe that the Soviet statement showed once again that the Soviet Union has toughened its stand in its efforts to stop the planned deployment of new US missiles in Europe. They say that Moscow's statement was timed to induce the West Europeans to pressure Washington to adopt a more moderate stance on the Euro-missile issue.

Some Westerners think that the Soviet statement contains the warning that, besides deploying more SS-20 missiles in Europe and Asia, Moscow will deploy other types of new missiles in some East European countries, most likely the short-range SS-22 and SS-23 missiles, to counter-balance the US Pershing II missiles.

The Soviet statement obviously had an effect on the Williamsburg summit. Long before its opening there were many contradictions between the United States and some of its West European allies on economic matters. Moscow's action was clearly designed to deepen the contradictions and disrupt US-West European unity.

The United States and the West European nations naturally were not going to let the Soviet Union exploit their differences. The summit's host, US President Reagan, in particular, did his utmost to create an image of Western "unity," and seized the issue of nuclear disarmament to give a firm rebuff to Moscow.

Besides expressing Western willingness to reach a disarmament accord through serious negotiations, the Williamsburg statement was mainly to show that the seven nations were in agreement on the disarmament issue, that "the security of our Western countries is indivisible," that they must "maintain sufficient military strength," and that should no agreement be reached, the NATO countries "will proceed with the planned deployment of the US systems in Europe."

The statement also was to tell the Soviet Union that its attempt to divide the West, by proposing the inclusion of the deterrent forces of France and Britain in the negotiations and by influencing Western public opinion, will fail.

Obviously, when the seven leaders discussed the disarmament issue at the summit, their views were not in full accord. However, as far as the statement goes, it has strengthened

the US position in its talks with the Soviet Union.

### Economic "Ideals"

Hoping to promote their economic recovery after successive years of economic crisis and to avoid making a display of their conflicts and differences, the leaders of the seven nations decided to temporarily sweep their differences under the rug and "unanimously agree" on a "Williamsburg Declaration on Economic Recovery."

However, despite its fine-sounding phrases, the declaration had nothing of much substance for solving such real

economic problems, as unemployment, high interest rates, protectionism and debts that confront the Western countries. It was merely a general statement expressing "joint economic ideals." None of its signatories are under any obligation and any one of them can at any time blame the others for its failure.

In a nutshell, the Western nations at Williamsburg managed to achieve superficial reconciliation but failed to solve any real economic problems. Furthermore, their "unity" on disarmament only showed that Soviet-US contention on nuclear arms will continue unabated.

— Fang Min and Zhang Zhenya

brutal suppression of the revolutionary forces in Namibia and fostered the puppet forces there with the aim of annexing Namibia.

The United States should also be held responsible for the fact that Namibia's independence remains unsettled. Even in the course of negotiations the US Government has directly or indirectly provided military and economic assistance to the South African regime. In 1982, the United States put forward the proposal that Namibia's independence should be linked to the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola. This was yet another pretext for the obstruction of the negotiations and an act of support for the South African authorities.

It is unreasonable to tie the two questions together. The issue of Cuban troops stationed in Angola is entirely an internal affair of Angola and is different in nature from the issue of Namibian independence.

## Namibia

### Independence remains unsettled

A RESOLUTION on Namibia adopted unanimously by the UN Security Council on May 31 gave UN Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuellar a mandate to talk with the parties to the proposed ceasefire with a view to securing early independence for Namibia.

This discussion on the resolution was initiated at the request of the African group of the United Nations, non-aligned states and the April meeting in Paris of the International Conference in Support of the Independence Struggle of the Namibian People.

#### The Key Problem

The resolution calls for a speedy implementation of the 1978 UN Security Council Resolution No. 435 for Namibia's independence. Following the earlier resolution, negotiations seemed to be progressing and a settlement seemed likely. The present reversal of the situation has been caused by the South

African regime with the support of the United States.

The strategic aim of the racist regime of South Africa is to perpetuate its occupation of Namibia. The South African authorities agreed to the negotiations only because of external and domestic pressure. However, while they repeatedly raised obstacles and tried to sabotage negotiations, the South African authorities intensified their

#### The Road to Independence Is Tortuous

The deadlock on the Namibian question has aroused indignation and anxiety among African countries, especially in southern Africa. The South African authorities have used the Namibian issue as a pretext for numerous invasions, acts of sabotage and subversive activities against neighbouring countries. Thus the region is in increasing turmoil.

For years the South African regime has carried out "disruptive" policies towards





the frontline African countries. It has shielded, supported or trained other countries' anti-government forces in an attempt to obstruct the unity and sabotage the security of the frontline countries who firmly support the Namibian independence movement. It also has constantly threatened and intimidated other African countries that support Namibia.

The South African racist regime has repeatedly conduct-

ed military invasions of Lesotho and recently it launched a savage air raid on Maputo, the capital of Mozambique. The widespread support for the Namibian independence movement has caused fear of further brutality from the South African authorities.

Though the struggle for the national independence is tortuous, the Namibian people will certainly attain their goal.

— Zhong Tai

investment in agriculture and fishery.

Of the water conservancy projects under construction, the Medjerda-Cape Bon canal warrants special mention. This China-aided project will be 120 kilometres long and will go through two tunnels and aqueducts measuring 2,600 metres. It will be equipped with pumping stations, dykes and other facilities.

After its completion, the canal will meet the water needs of Tunis, the capital, and other coastal cities, and will irrigate nearly 20,000 hectares of farmland, including 6,000 hectares of citrus orchards.

#### Development of Tourism

Tourism, a major source of foreign exchange for Tunisia, has an important place in the country's economic construction. A belt, from Bizerte to Djerba Island, in the south, is full of scenic tourist attractions. Tourist departments have organized ingenious winter tours to oases so that visitors can observe the old life style of the local people.

In 1982, tourism earned US\$496 million, accounting for 4 per cent of Tunisia's GNP, and has become the largest source of foreign exchange next to the oil industry.

Tunisia couldn't escape being affected by the world economic recession. Its economic growth, once fairly rapid, slowed down last year. Today, the government is trying hard to accelerate production, particularly in agriculture, expand exports and reduce consumption in a bid to bring about an improvement in the current economic situation.

— Ke Yueling

### Tunisia

## Along the road of advance

TUNISIA, a small country with limited natural resources in Northern Africa, has made remarkable achievements in developing its national economy through unflagging years of efforts.

Since 1960, its GNP has increased by more than 8 per cent a year. Its national income per capita in 1980 was US\$1,160. This was quite an accomplishment, for it ranked Tunisia among the leading African countries.

#### Industrial Growth

The changes in Bizerte, a northern port-city, reflect the tremendous economic developments in Tunisia. Formerly a foreign military base, Bizerte's only industry was a ship-repairing plant to serve the occupation troops. The Tunisian people, however, have turned Bizerte into the country's biggest industrial base.

Since 1963 it has built such major industrial enterprises as oil refineries, machine-building

plants, shipyards, iron and steel plants, cement plants and plants producing engines and motors, as well as more than 20 textile mills.

Not content with its achievements, Bizerte is continuing to expand, extending into the surrounding areas. It plans to develop into four industrial sectors as it builds more than 100 medium-sized and small factories in the years ahead.

#### Developing Agriculture

With the growth of its national economy, the Tunisian Government has underscored the importance of developing agriculture and has taken steps to build water conservancy projects.

Tunisia now has more than 20 reservoirs, compared to three before independence in 1956, and has sunk 2,000 deep wells. During the period of the fifth five-year plan (1977-81), the government allocated 240 million dinars to water conservancy projects, 50 per cent of its total

# A Brief Introduction to Sun Yefang's Economic Theory

*Sun Yefang (1908-83) was a noted Chinese Marxist economist who was adept at integrating theory with practice and made excellent approaches to economic studies. He began to study economics in the 1920s and developed a unique economic theory by the early 1960s.*

*When the "Left" mistakes ran amuck, he was branded "the biggest revisionist in China's economics field" and had been unjustly criticized since 1964. He was jailed for seven years during the "cultural revolution."*

*After he was set free with a verdict of not guilty in April 1975, he devoted himself to the study of the practical problems and theoretical questions in China's socialist construction and developed many valuable new ideas. His study was exceptionally fruitful and some of his propositions on economic reforms have already been adopted by the authorities.*

*The following article presents the principal points of his theory. — Ed.*

SUN YEFANG's socialist economic theory differs from the traditional socialist economic theory, as the latter rejects the functions of value and the law of value while his is based on the theory of value.

Guided by the theory of value, Sun Yefang put forward a series of unique economic propositions which may be summed up in the following five main points:

**First, obtaining the maximum economic results with the minimum consumption is the thread running through socialist political economy.**

The traditional economic theory regards socialist economy actually as a natural economy which aims at the acquisition of use value, emphasizes only products and seeks the increase of the amount of products, that is, the use value. It neglects the comparison between costs and results and between consumption in particular cases and average social consumption. It furthermore attaches no importance to whether the value of products can be realized in the course of circulation and it ignores economic results. Such problems as a limited number of varieties of products, poor quality, high consumption, low efficiency and dislocation between production and demand become common failings of socialist economic systems established on the basis of this theory.

Diametrically opposed to this traditional notion, Sun Yefang stated that the study of economic results (which can be finally ascribed to

economizing on time use) is the central issue of socialist political economy, and that the contradiction of the dual nature of labour (concrete labour and abstract labour) and the contradiction of the duality of social products (use value and the value of a product) should run through socialist political economy.

"The secret of all economic problems lies in how to produce more products with less hours of labour or how to reduce the amount of labour needed in producing each single product unit," he said. He held that squander and waste in socialist construction are "the inevitable results of negating 'the concept of value' and the duality of products (use value and value)."

The negation of the concept of value and the idea that socialist production is aimed purely at obtaining the use value lead people to ignore costs. Therefore, to do things at great costs has seemingly become the "unchallenged breadth of spirit in socialist construction."

China and some other socialist countries have for a long time reported poor economic results, which are mainly manifested in limited technological progress and the imbalance in the economy. The root causes are that these countries' economies violate objective economic laws, the law of value in particular, and that they lack a correct understanding of and respect for the functions of the law of value in a planned economy.

**Second, planning must be based on the law of value.**

According to the traditional socialist economic theory, a planned economy and the law of value are mutually exclusive. Sun Yefang rejected this view and pointed out that under the planning system established on the basis of this theory, the central planning agency sets major targets in terms of total output value which must be fulfilled down to the grass-roots level.

This results in "the state acting in place of the enterprises to supervise functions within the sphere of simple reproduction which should be planned in an overall manner by the enterprises," and has thus restricted the initiative of the enterprises.

Furthermore, "because the state is tied up in routine work within the sphere of simple reproduction that should be the responsibility of millions of independent-accounting enterprises, it cannot concentrate on the important plans for the long-term construction of the state, that is, matters related to expanded reproduction and the balance of the national economy."

Hence, he concluded, "Only on the basis of the law of value can the planned and proportionate development of the national economy be achieved. Economic policies (including pricing policies) and economic plans which overlook the law of value and act according to subjective thinking will in the end disrupt all the proportionate relations and obstruct the rapid development of the national economy."

As early as the 1950s, Sun Yefang pointed out that in principle, China's planning system should be "overall planning plus limited freedom." "Socialist society's planned economy must have a unified, centralized leadership, and targets belonging to the category of abstract labour and value must be put under centralized, unified management."

"But, as for the targets belonging to the category of concrete labour and use value (the targets for material objects) such as the designs and varieties of products, with the exception of a very small number of national projects, they should be handled by the lower agencies and be resolved as much as possible through contracts or through direct contacts between the suppliers and users in different localities and enterprises."

**Third, circulation is the process of material supersession of socialized production and reproduction under socialism.**

The traditional economic theory denies the existence of circulation in socialist economy. In his *A Course in Economics* published in the

1920s, Bogdanov, a Soviet economist, stated that the foundation of socialism "is not exchange but the self-sufficient natural economy," which is a typical statement of the non-circulation school.

In essence, it proposes to manage socialist economy with methods appropriate to a self-sufficient natural economy which are manifested by rationing system and lack of exchange between different places.

Sun Yefang was the first Chinese economist who criticized this theory. He pointed out that the non-circulation theory confused the different functions of the two economic processes of exchange and distribution by replacing exchange with distribution.

In fact, without exchange and circulation there would be no socialized mass production; socialized mass production could hardly be developed without the development of exchange and circulation. Socialist economy is made up of several hundred thousand or even millions of independent-accounting enterprises, and, among them is a wide-ranging social division of work.

The denial of the exchange of products between these enterprises and the replacement of exchange and circulation by state allocation and rations will lead to a serious imbalance between production, supply and sales, and the whole process of society's reproduction cannot proceed smoothly.

Sun Yefang pointed out further that the non-circulation theory was related to defects in Stalin's definition of the relations of production, an object of study of political economy. There is no exchange in Stalin's definition, which negates the exchange that is independent from the process of direct production (from an overall viewpoint, exchange is circulation).

Karl Eugen Duhring (1833-1921), German philosopher and vulgar economist, held the same viewpoint as Stalin. In criticizing him, Engels said: "Herr Duhring only shows that he either does not know or does not understand the colossal development which this very process of circulation has undergone during the last 50 years."

In practice, Stalin's definition provided the theoretical basis for the unified distribution for hundreds of thousands or millions of kinds of products. This resulted in the ineffective operation of the economy, the dislocation of production, supply and sales, and the arbitrary use of price as a tool to redistribute the national income in the exchange of industrial and agricultural



products which finally hurt agriculture and caused a serious imbalance between industrial and agricultural production.

Diametrically opposed to the non-circulation theory, Sun Yefang stated in the late 1950s and the early 1960s that the second volume of *Capital* is more suitable than the other two volumes to organizing and managing our socialist economy today. He stressed that circulation is the process of material supersession in the society's reproduction and that in compliance with the law governing the society's reproduction the means of production should also be brought into the fields of circulation and commerce. Only in this way is it possible to overcome the various drawbacks brought about by the existing distribution system regarding the means of production.

He also pointed out that China's socialist economy is called a planned economy because under the public ownership of the means of production each enterprise's internal production is planned and the production of the whole society also is conducted according to plan. And an important aspect in the planning of the whole society is exactly the relations between production, supply and sales among different enterprises, that is, the process of circulation or the market. These relations should be co-ordinated in a planned way so that they make up an organic whole.

**Fourth, profit is a comprehensive standard of the technological and management levels of an enterprise.**

As to the method of putting the enterprises under planned management, Sun Yefang stated that the quota for product output is not an ideal comprehensive target that can constantly promote and improve the management of the enterprises, nor should it be made the central target that can be expected to help improve their results. Only profit can play the role of the comprehensive standard. He criticized the traditional management method which uses quotas for product output as the central target with the metaphor, "trying to make an ox move by lifting its legs" and suggested that stressing profits is more like "pulling the ox's nose."

Profit was once considered to be a concept belonging to capitalist economy and was thus condemned. Sun Yefang, however, argued at the end of the 1950s that socialist profit was essentially different from the capitalist profit. Socialist profit is a part of the material wealth created by the workers and staff of the material-

producing departments for the society's expanded reproduction and public needs.

The social material wealth is divided into three parts. The first part replaces the fixed assets and raw materials consumed in production; the second is for the consumption of the necessary means of subsistence by the workers and their families; and the third part is the surplus provided to society. The first and second parts constitute what is generally called costs.

Whether it is for the total products of society or for the total products of an enterprise, the lower the costs, the better. The reduction of costs means a relative increase in the surplus labour provided to society by the workers and staff of the enterprises. Unless prices change, lowering costs is synonymous with increasing profits. Hence, profit is the comprehensive standard of an enterprise's technological and management levels.

Simultaneously, Sun Yefang also gave a detailed account of the differences between socialist profit and the capitalist profit, including the different class natures of these two kinds of profits and the different ways they are obtained.

**Fifth, making the price of production the basis for the planned price in order to encourage the use of funds in an economical manner.**

For a long time, traditional socialist economic theory has equated profits with capitalism and as a result has been indifferent towards the concept of funds. In practice, a system of allocation of funds is practised without regard for the results of their use and without analyses of investment results.

In the 1950s, Sun Yefang stressed the importance of effective fund utilization. At discussions on the prices of heavy industrial products around 1956, he opposed lowering their prices, arguing that although the profit-cost rate (calculated by dividing an enterprise's annual profit by its cost) was relatively high, the profit-fund rate (calculated by dividing an enterprise's annual profit by its value of fixed assets plus the sum of its circulating fund) was not high. To measure the prices of products in terms of the profit-fund rate is to encourage the use of funds in an economical and rational way and to attach importance to their results. Such practice, in essence, requires pricing products on the basis of the price of production (the average cost of production of the producing departments plus profit decided according to the average profit-fund rate).

In 1953, Sun Yefang suggested: "Every enterprise must obtain the average social profit-fund rate. Those who have exceeded the rate are advanced enterprises and those who fail to reach the level are backward." Funds are the accumulated surplus labour the society pays in advance to production. Because the amount of funds used by the enterprises (which reflects the levels of materials and technical equipment of an enterprise) is directly related to the level and growth rate of labour productivity, those enterprises and departments whose materials and technical equipment are comparatively advanced and hence use a larger amount of funds are duty-bound to deliver more profits to society or the state. The production and management levels of the enterprises and departments must be judged in terms of the rate between their profits and the average amount of funds they use.

In expounding the problem of the profit-fund rate, Sun Yefang constantly stressed the need to analyse the price of production. He held

that the price of production reflects the process of socialist economy, particularly the process of direct production.

The reason of taking the price of production as the process of socialist direct production, he argued, is because the function of the law of commodity prices is to regulate production through floating commodity prices around their value. With the exchange of commodities as its premise, the law influences the process of production through the process of circulation. The law of value of products functions, first of all, directly in the process of production. It is a law governing "economizing on time use and the distribution of work time in a planned way to different productoin departments."

*(An abridged translation of an article entitled "Some Principal Points of Sun Yefang's Economic Theory" by Sun Shangqing and five others which was published in "Jingji Yanjiu" [Economic Study], No. 1, 1983)*

## Tibet: History and Anecdotes (I)

by Lobsang and Jin Yun

*Since "Beijing Review" published five reports on Tibet last year (issues Nos. 47-51), a stream of correspondence has poured into our editorial office asking for background information. In response, we solicited contributions from Lobsang (of Tibetan nationality) and Jin Yun (of Han nationality), researchers in the history of China's nationalities. Here they offer a systematic run-down of Tibet's long history. The first half of the article, which appears in this issue, deals with Tibet from the end of the 6th century to the 18th century. We will publish the second half in the coming issue. — Ed.*

**T**HE Tibetan people are one of the 56 nationalities that together form China as it is today, a unified, multinational country. They have, in the long course of history, contributed to the whole nation's political, economic and cultural development. The following facts, garnered from an inexhaustible ocean of historical data, bear eloquent witness to their contributions.

### Time-Honoured Close Relations

As early as the late 6th century, a number of tribes in Tibet came into contact with the Sui Dynasty (581-618 A.D.) in hinterland China.

Such contact, if sporadic at the very beginning, paved the way for the growth of friendly relations between the Tang Dynasty (618-907) and the Kingdom of Tibet (between the early 7th century and the mid-9th century).

**Songzain Gambo and Princess Wen Cheng.** In the early 7th century, Songzain Gambo, the son of Nangri Loinzain who was the leader of the Yarlung Tribe on the Tibetan Plateau, unified the territory and founded the Kingdom of Tibet, a state of slave system.

In the meantime, the Tang Dynasty was at its apex.



Statues of Songzain Gambo and Princess Wen Cheng in the Bodala Palace of Lhasa.

After Li Shimin or Emperor Taizong took the throne in 627, he did a great deal to consolidate his regime and improve relations with other nationalities. This brought about economic and cultural prosperity.

The King of Tibet was an admirer of the Tang civilization. He time and again beseeched the Tang emperor to give him the hand of one of the imperial daughters, hoping thus to cement closer economic and cultural relations with the Tang Dynasty.

In 641 A.D., Emperor Taizong presented Princess Wen Cheng in marriage to Songzain Gambo, *Zainbo* or King of Tibet. The princess took with her many books in the Han language and her entourage included craftsmen and experts in pharmacology and calendrical science. These promoted Tibet's economic and cultural development. A statue of Sakyamuni, brought by the princess to Tibet, is still enshrined in the Jokhan Monastery in Lhasa.

The marriage between the King of Tibet and the Tang princess brought the Tibetans and the Hans closer. After the passing of Emperor Taizong, a grieved Songzain Gambo sent his representative to offer his condolences. In his message to the Tang court, he said that if anyone should show disloyalty to the succeeding emperor he would lead his own army to the Tang capital to punish him.

The new emperor, Gaozong, who reigned from 650 to 683, was so impressed that he made

Songzain Gambo "Imperial Consort and Military Commander" and "Prince of Xihai." He even erected a statue of the Tibetan king in front of the tomb of Emperor Taizong.

**Princess Jin Cheng and Chide Zugzain.** In 710 another member of the Tang royal family, Princess Jin Cheng, the adopted daughter of Emperor Zhongzong, was married to a Tibetan king. She was a patron of literature and the arts, and her dowry included tens of thousands of bolts of silk and brocade and books on arts and crafts. A large team of acrobats and musicians was sent along to keep her company in her new home. She later invited many monks from the Western Region (west to present Gansu Province) to Tibet. Her activities made important contributions to expanding the cultural exchanges between the Tibetans on one hand and the Hans and the Western Region nationalities on the other. Her marriage also fortified the political ties between the Hans and the Tibetans.

In a memorial to the Tang throne, her husband, Chide Zugzain, wrote, "I, your humble nephew, am a descendant of the long-time relative of the late emperor and I also have the honour to be married to Princess Jin Cheng. We are thus members of one family. May all our people under heaven live in happiness and prosperity."

**Tang-Tibet Alliance.** Frequent exchanges between the Tang Dynasty and the Kingdom of Tibet, however, were sometimes interrupted by

conflicts and wars which were destructive to both sides. This kindled a strong desire on both sides for friendship and peace.

This desire finally found expression in the Tang-Tibet alliance, otherwise known as "uncle-nephew alliance," concluded first in 821 on the western outskirts of Changan (today's Xian) and then in the following year on the eastern outskirts of Lhasa. The text of the alliance, inscribed in both the Tibetan and Han languages in a stone tablet in Lhasa, read in part: "We have never for a moment relinquished our desire for good relations even when anxiety and danger were looming large. We are close neighbours and long-standing relatives. We will reaffirm the uncle-nephew alliance and never forget it." The accord, which was reached during the Changqing reign of the Tang Dynasty, terminated almost all Tang-Tibet conflicts.

**Tea-and-Horse Trade.** The mid-9th century saw the collapse of the Kingdom of Tibet, torn apart by internal strife. During that period, the main part of China experienced the fall of the Tang Dynasty, and the Five Dynasties (907-960) and the rise of the Song Dynasty (960-1279).

Yet, despite these historical ups and downs, Tibetan tribes living in areas adjacent to the hinterland still maintained varying degrees of political and economic contacts with these dynasties. Such a relationship was characterized by the trade in tea and horses.

Bartering sheep, horses and animal by-products for tea and silk from the Hans was a long tradition of the nomadic Tibetans. In the Five Dynasties period and the Song Dynasty, this form of trade saw new developments.

Incessant fighting in the north had drained the Song Dynasty of its supply of horses there. To acquire enough horses for both military and other purposes, the dynasty established horse markets in the Xizhou and Hezhou Prefectures in the northwest (present-day Lintao County and Linxia Hui Autonomous Prefecture in Gansu Province) and the Yazhou Prefecture in the southwest (western part of today's Sichuan Province)—traditional trading places between Tibetans and Hans.

By a government stipulation, only the tea produced in the Yazhou Prefecture could be used on these markets to barter for Tibetan horses. The scattered Tibetan-Han trade was thus turned into well-organized tea and horse barter, which not only strengthened the economic exchanges between the two nationalities

but also put their cultural contact and day-to-day relations on a more intimate footing.

### An Integral Part of China

In the early 13th century, Tibet was still locked in internal fighting among different religious sects.

In 1206, when Genghis Khan arrived at Lake Kokonor (in today's Qinghai Province) with his Mongolian troops, he was met by representatives of local Tibetan forces who came to pledge their allegiance to him and solicit his support.

In 1244, at a written invitation from Hudan, grandson of Genghis Khan, Sagya Bainchida sent two nephews, Pagba and Qagna Doje, to Liangzhou (in today's Gansu Province) for a discussion on Tibet. He himself met the Mongolian leader in the same place two years later. Political negotiations between the two leaders resulted in an agreement to annex Tibet into Mongolia.

In 1253, Mengke Khan dispatched his troops into Tibet and unified Tibet, thus putting an end to nearly 400 years of internal fighting.



The statue of Sakyamuni brought by Princess Wen Cheng to Tibet.



In 1271, Kublai Khan, the founding emperor of the Yuan Dynasty, unified China (which he called Yuan). Thereafter the Yuan Dynasty's central government adopted a series of important measures by which it shored up its administration of Tibet.

**Integration of State With Religion.** After he took the throne, Kublai Khan established the *Zongzhiyuan* (later it was changed into *Xuanzhengyuan*), a government department in charge of the nation's Buddhist affairs and Tibet's military, government and religious affairs. Imperial Tutor Pagba was put at the head of it.

The Yuan emperor also put Tibet under the rule of the Sagya Sect, the Sagya King of the Law. Thus for the first time in Tibet, state and religion was integrated, a system which lasted until 1959.

The Yuan Dynasty set up courier stations and military posts in Tibet and dispatched pacification commissioners and armies there. It also conducted censuses and popularized the corvee system. Local officials were examined at regular intervals. All these measures helped re-establish order in Tibetan society.

Pagba himself was an outstanding linguist. In 1270, he created a new Mongolian written language patterned after Tibetan. Known as the written language of Pagba, it was vigorously promoted by the Yuan court and he was promoted to the "Dabao King of the Law" and "Tutor of the Great Yuan Emperor."

After that, the Yuan Dynasty continuously

installed Tibetan Buddhists as Imperial Tutors at the head of the *Xuanzhengyuan*.

**Ming-Tibet Relations.** In the mid-14th century, the Yuan Dynasty fell and in its place rose the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). However, the Yuan system remained basically intact in Tibet. The Xian Military Headquarters, for example, set up two sub-headquarters in Dokam and Wuzang to control Tibet assisted by a hierarchy of local officials: *Wanhu*, commanding 10,000 households, *Qianhu*, commanding 1,000 households, *Baihu*, commanding 100 households, and so on.

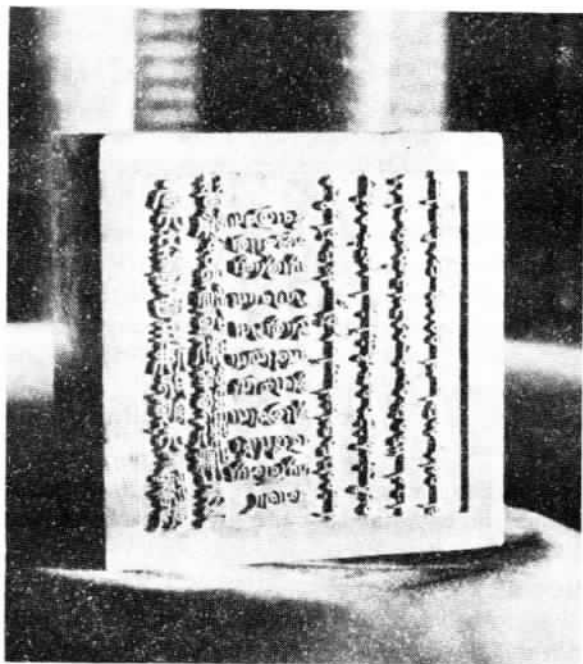
During this period, leaders of the various religious sects and local forces vied with one another for establishing direct relations with the Ming Dynasty to gain awards and support from the central authorities. Leading Tibetan rulers who once ruled the greater part of Tibet, including Pagmo Zhuba of the Gagyuba Sect, Rinbungba of the Gama Gagyuba Sect and leaders of the Xingxagba Sect, were bestowed titles of honour by the Ming Dynasty.

Relinquishing the Yuan policy of favouring the Sagya Sect, the Ming Dynasty undertook to appease all the religious sects in Tibet by conferring title on their leaders. To cite a few of these titles: Three Kings of the Law, Five Religious Kings, Disciple of the Buddha in the West and Great Imperial Tutor. The administration of Tibet at the time was carried out through making contacts with local religious leaders and conferring titles on them.

According to records of Ming Dynasty's Board of Rites, in the 1450s, every year 300-



A mural in the Bodala Palace shows Qing Emperor Shunzhi granting an audience to the fifth Dalai Lama in Beijing in 1652.



The gold seal issued by Emperor Shunzhi to the fifth Dalai Lama.

400 Tibetans arrived at the capital city to offer tributes to the emperor and pay homage to him. By the 1460s, the figure was 10 times larger.

**Dalai Lama and Bainqen Erdeni.** At the turn of the 14th-15th century, Tibet witnessed the rise of the Gelugba Buddhist Sect founded by Zonggaba. Otherwise known as the Yellow Sect, the Gelugba Sect grew so fast that by the mid-16th century its monasteries were almost ubiquitous in Tibet.

In 1576, Anda Khan, the chieftain of the Mongolian Tumed Tribe, who held a Ming Dynasty title of prince, invited Gelugba priest Soinam Gyaco to lecture on Buddhist sutra in Qinghai. In 1578, the Khan gave his guest the title: "Waqirdala Dalai Lama" ("Waqirdala," a Sanskrit word, means "holding a vajra," a symbol for mightiness; "Dalai" means vast sea in Mongolian, and "Lama" means Teacher in Tibetan).

Since then "Dalai Lama" became a permanent title.

Gedun Zhuiba, a disciple of Zonggaba, posthumously was made the first Dalai Lama; Gedun Gyaco, the successor to Gedun Zhuiba, became the second; and Soinam Gyaco, the third.

In 1645, when Gushi Khan, the Mongolian Hoxot Tribe leader, controlled Tibet, he bestow-

ed the title "Bainqen Bogto" upon Losang Qoigyi Gyaincain, the fourth Bainqen.

This marked the beginning of the reincarnation system for Bainqen Erdeni.

In winter 1652, Losang Gyaco, the fifth Dalai Lama, went to Beijing, where he paid homage to the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911) and received a title of honour from the emperor. In 1653, Emperor Shunzhi conferred on him the title "All-Knowing, Vajra-Holding Dalai Lama." The title was printed on a golden certificate and inscribed in a gold seal in the Manchu, Han, Mongolian and Tibetan Languages.

Emperor Kangxi bestowed in 1713, the title "Bainqen Erdeni," also in form of golden certificate and gold seal, on the fifth Bainqen.

From then on, through the years of the Republic of China, it was an established practice for all Dalai Lamas and Bainqens to have their titles conferred on them by the central government.

**High Commissioners and the "Gasha."** Between the late-17th century and the mid-18th century, the ruling cliques in Tibet and the forces behind them were engulfed in a fierce rivalry for control of Tibet.

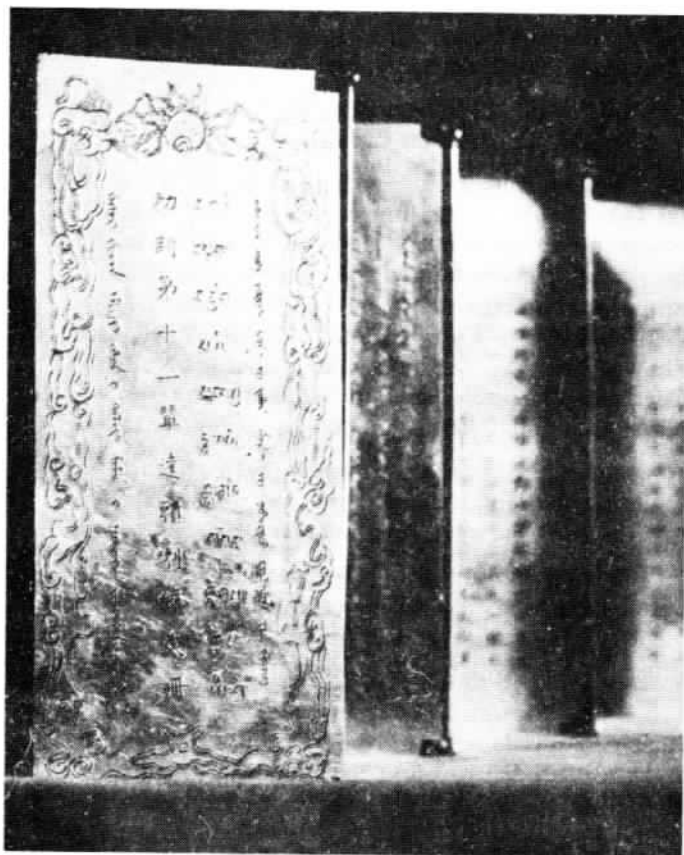
To stabilize the political situation and shore up its rule there, the Qing Dynasty launched several expeditions to Tibet which quelled the fighting and consolidated the unification of Tibet.

In 1728, the Qing Dynasty established a government office in Tibet headed by two high commissioners (central government representatives) who helped the local government in its administrative work.

Then the Qing court improved its administration of Tibet by allowing the Dalai Lama to join the high commissioners in making decisions on important matters. In 1751, it decided to set up the *gasha*, local government, under the leadership of the Dalai Lama and high commissioners. Four *kaloons*, chosen by the consent of both the high commissioners and the Dalai Lama, presided over day-to-day political and religious work.

This type of local government existed until early 1959.

**The Regulations Concerning the Administration of Tibet and Gold Urn.** In 1791, Korga (a nationality of another country) invaded Tibet. The Qing government lost no time in sending troops to defend the region. It drove



The gold certificate which is inscribed with the title conferred on the 11th Dalai Lama by the Qing Emperor.

the invaders out, secured Tibet and maintained the unification of the motherland.

Then, the Qing high commissioners together with the local authorities of Tibet formulated the 29-article Regulations Concerning the Administration of Tibet. In 1793, the document was promulgated upon examination and approval of the central government. Among other things, the regulations stipulated:

— The high commissioners, Dalai Lama and Bainqen Erdeni held equal positions and handled local government affairs through consultation. Officials below the rank of *kaloon* and living Buddha were subordinate to the high commissioners;

— When a new *kaloon* was chosen, the candidate was to be nominated by both the high commissioners and the Dalai Lama before being finally appointed by the emperor;

— The reincarnation of the Dalai, Bainqen or living Buddhas should be decided by drawing lots from a gold urn under the supervision of the high commissioners;

— The inauguration ceremony of a new

Dalai or Bainqen should be presided over by the high commissioners;

— The size of the Tibetan army and the appointment of officers should be decided and chosen by the high commissioners together with the Dalai and Bainqen;

— The high commissioners exclusively handled diplomatic relations. All the letters written by neighbouring nations to the Dalai and Bainqen were to be submitted to the high commissioners for examination. *Kaloons* and other local officials were forbidden to maintain contact through correspondence with foreign countries;

— The budget of the local government should be examined by the high commissioners.

The regulations furnished solid evidence that at the time the unification of Tibet with the motherland had reached a period of new development.

(To be continued.)

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## Answer to Our Reader's Question

After reading the article "The new experiments in colleges" in the "Events and Trends" column, of *Beijing Review*, issue No. 8, 1983, which says that "Starting from this year, a lower standard will be set for entrance examination marks for students who want to study in teachers' colleges or in the fields of agriculture...", an American reader asks in his letter: "Why should the standard be lowered? What is its significance? And will that affect the quality of education?"

\* \* \*

We should have clarified the fact that the lower standards will apply only to students coming from or willing to go to the countryside who want to study teaching methodology, agriculture, forestry or medicine and who are willing upon graduation to work in rural areas. This does not apply to students in general.

China's countryside is relatively underdeveloped and educational levels do not conform to the national average. It is hard for peasants' children to meet the normal standards of the college entrance exams. On the other hand, most of the college graduates are badly needed for urban construction. Thus the lower standards are an expedient by which we expect to improve rural education.

By limiting the slightly lower standards to colleges that teach rural-oriented subjects, the general educational level in our country will not be affected. The normal standards will be restored as soon as rural education improves.

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# Young People on the Silver Screen

by Our Correspondent Gao Miao

**T**HE Beijing Film Studio, founded in 1949, is one of China's largest and employs 116 performers. Its young players are considered to be among the most promising young talents in the country.

*Beijing Review* recently interviewed four young actors.

## Revealing the Inner World

Yang Hailian, 27, is a northerner who worked as an educated youth in the countryside before she made her screen debut in 1974. She has made a dozen or so films but is best known for her sensitive portrayal of the village girl Cunni in *A Love-Forsaken Corner*, which received the best screenplay award from the Chinese Film Artists' Association in 1982.

The part required a subtle interplay between inner feelings and external stoicism. Cunni is the victim of feudal views of marriage who eventually drowns herself.

"She longs for love," said Yang, but doesn't recognize proper love. When her lover seduces her she is bewildered but happy. Later when the villagers find out about her affair, she is astonished at their vehement condemnation of her but feels no remorse. She uses suicide to express her indignation.

"These changes are complicated and subtle. As the old saying goes: Eyes are the heart's windows. I use my eyes to show her many sentiments."

Yang's eyes, large and sparkling under defined eyebrows, are remarkable windows.

In one playful scene in a granary, the boy friend suddenly grabs at Cunni, in a shift of attitude from teasing to near-assault. Yang's depiction of Cunni's emotions, evolving from laughter to insult to anger, and then, when the boy recovers his senses and is regretful, to compassion and loving forgiveness—these are the abilities that have won her recognition as a good actress.

After the film was released, she received

many letters from fans, but takes little credit for her performance.

"I must thank Zhang Xuan, the scriptwriter. He gave me a chance to play a part that comes from real life, not from an ideal. Cunni's personality was molded by the society she lived in. This made it possible for me to draw on my own experience. I believe artistic images should be true to life, like Cunni. My job is to show the inner world of such characters."

## An Uneven Path

Twenty-three-year-old Shen Danping began to work in the studio after she graduated from the Beijing Institute of Cinema. Slim and pretty, her dialect and gestures suggest that she is a gentle, quiet girl from southern China.

In *A Love-Forsaken Corner*, she was cast in the role of Cunni's younger sister, Huangmei,



Shen Danping in the role of 30s film star Zhou Xiaoying in "Shanghai Twilight."





Zhang Jinling as a slave girl in the feature "From a Slave to a General."

a melancholy girl who suffers from the repercussions of her sister's tragic love. Shen's success in the film brought offers of new parts from several film studios.

"My career has not been a smooth one," she said. "In the part of Huangmei, I realized how hard it is to portray some characters. Huangmei was supposed to be an industrious village girl who was often shown working in the fields, carrying water, cutting firewood and so on.

"I was brought up in a city, and had never worked in the fields. When I carried two buckets of water on a shoulderpole, I staggered as if I were walking on stilts. It took a lot of practice to look natural doing field work. And it was only after living for some time in the countryside that I gradually became comfortable with the village girl Huangmei.

"Not long after I had finished that film, the Greatwall Film Company of Xianggang offered me the leading role in the film *Shanghai Twilight*. The story is based on the life of Zhou Xuan, a noted film star and singer in the 30s and 40s. I was very far from the character's

artistic attainments, sentiments or experiences. I was a stranger to Zhou Xuan's speech patterns, her gestures and clothing. When I put on *qipao* (a long gown) I didn't know how to move.

"To narrow the gap between the film star and myself, I read a great deal about her, listened to my older colleagues talk about life in that period and I watched her films repeatedly. Gradually I had a fuller understanding of her.

"If my part in *A Love-Forsaken Corner* was a starting point, my role in the *Shanghai Twilight* was the outcome of endless study. I believe the singer and dancer I played will impress the audience more than the village girl.

"Later I was cast for *An Unfinished Game of Go*, a Chinese-Japanese co-operative film about the Japanese war of aggression against China. Before the actual shooting began, I had little time to read the script and had little feel for the daughter of the "king of Go in southern China," I failed to grasp the true nature of the character. I only portrayed the innocence of a teenage girl, but missed her determination. When I saw the first sequences, I knew it was wrong.

"I began to understand that as an actress, I constantly have to enrich myself. I cannot play different parts unless I work hard at my art. So since then whenever I am free I practise singing, piano, badminton, swimming and reading books on psychology and aesthetics."

### Screen Is My Career

Zhang Jinling is familiar to movie-goers as a resourceful woman guerrilla leader, a shrewish country-woman and a revolutionary fighter who was brought up as a slave. Some say that whatever roles she plays, she inevitably have a plain and natural beauty. But somehow she "disappeared" from the screen last year.

"In another month I'm going to be a mother," explained the 31-year-old actress with pleasure. "To be frank, I didn't want to have a baby now, especially after I was cast in the part of an empress dowager in a historical film.

"But some veteran players told me it would be of great help to my future acting if I personally experience the sweetness and bitterness of being a mother. So I had to reject some offers from film studios, though not willingly."

"But her mind is still in the studio," put in her husband, Xu Min, also a film actor. "She

either reads books on drama or acting, or she looks into a mirror imitating the gestures and expressions of different characters. Whenever there are good films, she goes to see them even during a storm."

Xu's "complaining" failed to conceal his admiration and compassion for his wife, but Zhang Jinling still responded defensively, "You're making it all too clear that I'm only a junior middle school graduate and have had no chance to study at the cinema institute. In the last few years, I was too busy working in the studio and had no time to study. Now I finally have time to read books on art and literary theories and to sum up my acting experiences." She looked affectionately at her husband. "Now that I'm resting at home, I keep him busy. He is also an actor at the Beijing Film Studio but until the baby comes, he can't leave Beijing for shooting. And he has to do all chores from shopping to cooking. I'm really sorry about that."

Zhang Jinling is eager to collect writing describing emotions and contemplation and asks *Beijing Review* to help her gather such materials.

### Beginning From Here

Shen Guanchu, 30, is known to audiences across China for his role as Aming, the son of the "king of Go in southern China" in *An Unfinished Game of Go*. Playing the part of a Chi-

nese youth who was raised in Japan, his restrained style and his clear and fluent Japanese perfectly conveyed the mixed emotions of the character. He said this was the beginning of his career as an actor.

Shen Guanchu is tall and good-looking. He recalled how he played that part: "I think I can use three (Chinese) characters—worry, learn and act—to describe my co-operation with the Japanese players. To be frank, when I was told I was going to cast the part of Aming, I was scared. Because most of the dialogues were in Japanese and in most scenes I was to work with Japanese actors. I didn't know a single Japanese word and I had little screen experience.

"After I graduated from the Beijing Film School in 1979, I was assigned to work in the Beijing Film Studio. But I only played in two films, and was not completely successful. I worried that I couldn't play such a difficult part. For several days I was really upset. Finally I made up my mind to do my best.

"I began to learn Japanese, coached by a teacher. Every day I would shut myself in the room listening to the recording of the part I was going to speak. Half a month later, I managed to memorize all my dialogue. By that time I had greater confidence.

"When the rehearsals began, since I didn't understand the dialogue of the Japanese players, I was at a loss as to how far had the story gone. I discovered the Japanese director never told the players to do this or that, but let them express their emotions in a natural way. It was through mutual communications between the players that the plot developed.

"Once I grasped this concept of creation, I tried to learn from their techniques. Gradually I found we could communicate with one another even though I didn't know their language. I could follow what they intended to convey. I had less worries as we proceeded and my acting became more natural.

"It's not easy to be a really good actor. My wish is that in the future I will have a chance to create new and even more difficult roles." □



Shen Guanchu (left) as Aming in "An Unfinished Game of Go."

## OPINION

### *Different views on morality*

AT present, China's young people can be divided into five categories according to their understanding of moral values:

The first category is those who judge the morality of an act by whether it is punished. In their opinion, acts which are not punished are moral and acts which are punished are immoral. Their criteria for right and wrong are often the words of great figures, their teachers and parents. They think that people who obey their leaders, teachers and parents are moral. These "obedient-type" young people are a very small portion of the total.

The second category is those who judge right and wrong by whether the acts are in their own interests. They think it is natural for people to live for their own interests. They speak highly of acts which serve themselves and speak ill of those that do not. A fair number of young people are of this "self-serving type."

The third category is those who judge the morality of an act by whether it maintains public order and is praised by society. Young people in this category are able to conform their own acts to social moral standards and actively fulfil their moral obligation. Many young people have this "habitual-type" understanding of social ethics.

The fourth category is those who think that moral standards embodied in the law and habits are by no means immutable.

What they seek is the perfection of morality which is useful to society. They are not satisfied with the status quo and often castigate immoral acts and outdated moral values. Young people in this "thinking-type" category make up the largest portion in the total.

The fifth category is those who are imbued with lofty com-

munist moral beliefs. They consider their own interests, personalities and dignity in line with this ideal morality and principle. In practice, their actions defend and improve sound moral values. In order to uphold their moral principles, they willingly lead hard lives or even lay down their lives. Young people in this category are of a "sublimated type." More and more such young people are coming to the fore.

— "Huangjin Shidai"  
(Golden Age)

## PEOPLE

### *My husband*

HE FENGXIN, my husband, was twice put behind bars for stealing a bag of sorghum and a pair of handcart wheels. I hated him so much that I went to the court and asked for a divorce. A man in court talked to me patiently. He told me that He Fengxin could be reformed. He asked me not to leave my husband at that juncture. If I did, my husband would be more miserable. I thought what the man said was right.

My husband came out of prison on July 3, 1982. One day, he was very happy and said to me: "I saw some people were sick and could not walk when they got down from train and bus. It would be wonderful if there was someone waiting for them at the station. I think that I can do the job." He got a rickshaw licence in a few weeks and began to pull a rickshaw for passengers arriving at the station.

Several days later he told me, "I met a man this morning. He stopped me and inquired of me about my job. He then asked me why I did not buy a pedicab. I said that I had no money. He led me to the county government office and asked some people there to lend me the money. Later, I found out that he was deputy secretary Sun Mingxian of the county Party committee." My husband was so touched that his eyes were filled with tears.

On the morning of National Day (Oct. 1), my husband pulled his newly bought pedicab to the door. He bought a string of firecrackers to celebrate the occasion. Then, he pedalled the pedicab to the railway station with a joyous heart.

At the end of October he asked me to make an account of

the jobs he had done. In total, he made 157 trips in the month; 128 were to take sick people to the county hospital including 17 trips for people who were seriously ill; 29 trips were to deliver things to places the passengers designated. The total income he earned from his hard work was 103.1 yuan.

When he came back one evening, he was so tired that he threw himself to bed without eating anything. Although he had a fever, he asked me to set our alarm clock for 11:30 that night.

He said to me, "A patient in the county hospital has booked my pedicab. He wants to go to Shenyang by the midnight train. Another patient also wants to leave at 3:30 in the morning. Please wake me up in time."

He did not sleep at all that night. While I saw him disappear into the black night, I asked myself, "Is it that he wants to earn a few more cents?" No. He once said: "If my laziness delayed a patient's treatment, it would be my fault."

He came home at about 7:00 on November 7. His clothes were soiled and he had a big hole in his trousers. Seeing this, I asked him: "What is the matter?" While washing, he said: "At about four this afternoon, some horses pulling a cart were startled in front of the railway station and ran away. There were many people on the street. It would be unfortunate if anyone got hurt. So I did my utmost to catch up with the horse cart and managed to halt it."

That is my husband. Shouldn't I love him with all my heart?

— An article by Shen Kunyu in Qingyuan County, Liaoning Province, published in "Liaoning Ribao"

## Cultural and technical education in prison

**M**OST of the convicted criminals under 45 in Shanghai Municipal Prison have now begun to attend various kinds of cultural and technical training classes.

The training classes include elementary and advanced cultural courses, as well as special courses for medical workers, lathe operators and art designers.

At the opening ceremony for the training classes in March, prison director Wang Qihe said that the classes were aimed at transforming the inmates into useful contributors to the modernization drive.

"Prisons in China are themselves special schools to reform and train people," he said.

Kang Wei, 78, a veteran educator and director of the Shanghai municipal bureau of education, told the meeting that if the inmates achieved good results in their studies and could pass cultural tests designed by the state, departments of education would issue diplomas to them.

The teachers of the training classes are from among the inmates. They themselves must be college or university educated and have some teaching experience.

The prison is the only one in Shanghai. At present, it has a total of 3,500 inmates, most of whom are young.



Harbin Prison inmates attend a training class on electrical appliances in the prison.



**MEDICAL SCIENCE**

*Babies born through artificial insemination*

The first two Chinese babies to be born as a result of artificial insemination are both in good health, reports the Hunan Medical College.

The first, a girl born in Changde, Hunan Province, on January 16 this year, weighed 3.1 kilogrammes and was 46 centimetres long at birth. The second, a boy born in Changsha, Hunan Province, on April 8, weighed 3.4 kilogrammes at birth and was 51 centimetres long.

The Hunan Medical College began to study the techniques of refrigerating sperm and of artificial insemination in 1981. Fertile sperm was preserved in liquid nitrogen at 196 degrees centigrade below zero and then warmed to body temperature before insemination.

Five women have volunteered to participate in the insemination experiments. In addition to the two women who have given birth, one is in her sixth month pregnancy and two have not become pregnant.

Professor Lu Huilin of the college, who is vice-director of the National Human Reproduction Engineering and Genetic Engineering Society, advocates artificial insemination. He described the new technique as a venture "off the beaten track" in family planning and eugenics.

Artificial insemination guarantees healthy impregnation as strict genetic semen tests may select a healthy sperm.

Furthermore, frozen preservation protects male reproductive cells against genetic mutations caused by environmental pollution such as radioactive rays, he said.

**CHILDCARE**

*Bringing up babies to music in Shanghai*

Every morning at 6:30, nearly 200,000 babies in Shanghai nurseries wake up to the sound of music that imitates a cock crowing.

On a typical day, tens of thousands of Shanghai toddlers play, exercise, eat and take naps to the strains of musical notes.

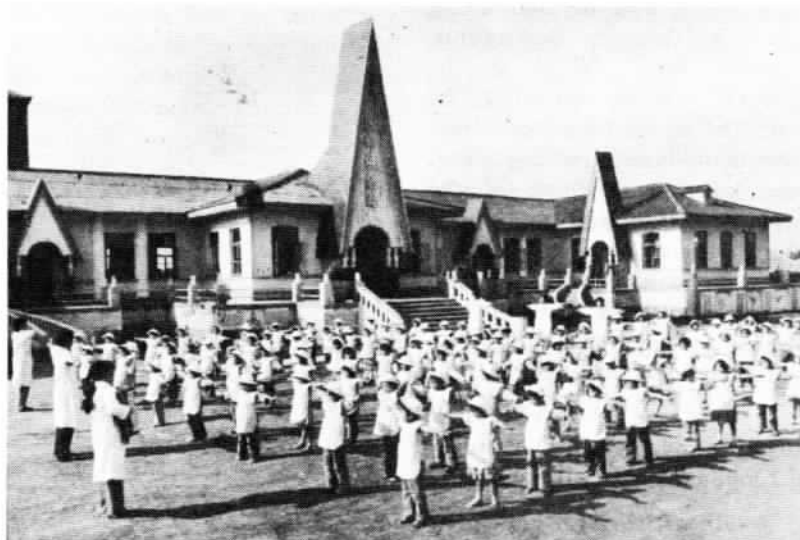
This "life music" was compiled in 1980 by Shanghai composers designed to accompany the activities of children who are between two months and three years old.

The pieces are five to 15 minutes long and include traditional Chinese melodies as well as famous Western classical themes. Lively and cheerful, they are intended to aid psychological growth and teach listening skills.

The tape-recorded music has been introduced to more than 8,000 nurseries. The city has 21,000 nurseries all together, which care for 380,000 babies and toddlers.

One music-playing nursery reports that the children fall asleep three minutes sooner when the music is played.

Han Dihua, a 30-year veteran of childcare and an official of the Shanghai Children's Hospital, heads the group that is compiling the music. She said that the use of "life music" to train children to prepare for activities in daily life reduces the workload of the nursery personnel, but, more importantly, gives children some intellectual and aesthetic education.



This well-equipped kindergarten which schools 130 children was funded with an investment of 300,000 yuan from a production brigade in Heilongjiang Province.

## Ha Ding's sketches of Inner Mongolia

Born in 1923 in Nanjing, Jiangsu Province, the artist uses both water colours and oils to depict still life, figures and landscapes. He taught for many years in fine arts and is now a painter in residence.

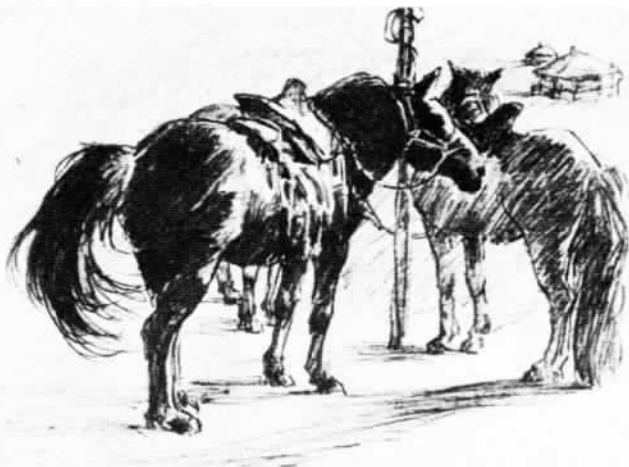
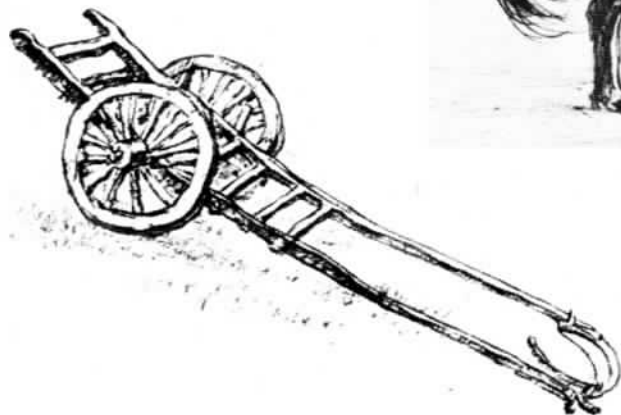


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## ART PAGE



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