

Vol. 27, No. 18

April 30, 1984

# BEIJING REVIEW

北京周報

A CHINESE WEEKLY OF  
NEWS AND VIEWS

- Hu's Forthcoming Visit to DPRK
- China's Rural Economic Policies



## SPOTLIGHT



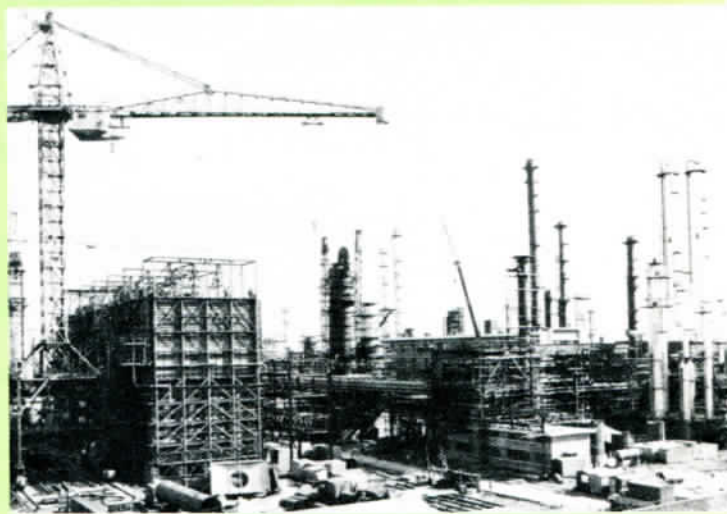
The expansion of the Daqing Oil Field continues as new reserves are discovered.

A new oil well begins production.

This plant will produce 300,000 tons of ethylene a year when completed.



Laying a pipeline in a new oil field.



Computers play a vital role in research and management.





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<b>COVER:</b> Hu Yaobang and Kim Il Sung at a heavy-duty machinery plant in Pyongyang in April 1982.	

Photo by Wang Jingde

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

### *Hu Yaobang's Visit to Korea*

General Secretary Hu Yaobang's upcoming visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will further strengthen ties between China and Korea. This is another major event in the history of Sino-Korean relations, which are based on Marxism-Leninism and internationalism (p. 4).

### *Defence Minister on Communications Satellite*

The successful operation of China's first communications satellite shows that its carrier rocket technology is not inferior to that of other advanced countries and its satellite communications technology is also approaching advanced world levels, Defence Minister Zhang Aiping said on April 19. He said the unified hard work of so many departments was responsible for this success (p. 7).

### *Howe's Visit Contributes to Hongkong Issue*

Talks between British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe and Chinese leaders have made further progress towards reaching the agreement sought by both sides on the Hongkong issue. Meeting with Howe, Deng Xiaoping reiterated that the system in Hongkong would remain unchanged for 50 years after China resumes the exercise of sovereignty in 1997 (p. 10).

### *China's Rural Economic Policies*

At a recent news conference, Du Runsheng, a high-ranking Party official with expertise in rural affairs, talked about the achievements of China's rural economic policies in recent years. These policies have encouraged peasants to diversify the rural economy by running small-scale industries, commercial or transportation, co-operative enterprises and large-scale animal husbandry. This, together with the introduction of the contract system, is seen as the way to help them become rich (p. 16).

### *Mao Zedong in His School Days*

From the story of Mao's school days, people can see that even the young Mao was full of ideals, courage and insight. He studied hard and concerned himself with the future of his country and people, seeking ways to work for their liberation. Seeing the various influences which shaped his later thinking contribute much to our understanding of this great leader (p. 22).

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# Major Event in Sino-Korean Ties

by **MU YOULIN**  
International Editor

Hu Yaobang, General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee, will visit the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) in early May, at the invitation of Kim Il Sung, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Korean Workers' Party. Yang Shangkun, Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Executive Vice-Chairman of the Military Commission of the CPC Central Committee, will accompany Hu.

Just like the visit Hu and Deng Xiaoping paid in April 1982, this trip will further deepen and strengthen the relationship between China and Korea, marking another major event in the history of Sino-Korean relations.

Sino-Korean friendship has a long history. The two peoples have long had close contacts and frequent exchanges. Both have made outstanding contributions to oriental civilization, with their own wisdom and ability. In modern times, the people of the two countries have fought shoulder to shoulder to resist their common enemies, imperialist aggressors; they have advanced hand in hand to promote the socialist construction in their respective countries.

It is particularly worth noting that during the "cultural revolution," when China was in turmoil and the Party and the state were faced with difficulties and setbacks, the Korean Workers' Party and Comrade Kim Il Sung showed a deep understanding of our

Party's history. They shared the worry of our Party and people and exercised exceptional judgment and great patience.

In recent years, as our Party and state are forging ahead after setting things to rights, the Korean Workers' Party and Comrade Kim Il Sung, with their remarkably keen insight, have shared our joy and given us warm support and encouragement.

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***Sino-Korean relations, based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and internationalism, can serve as an example of relationships between Parties or states.***

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Relations between our two Parties and states, based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and internationalism, can serve as an example of ties between Parties or states. Our Party and state once suffered as a result of treacherous acts by some people. That is why we treasure true friendship even more.

The Korean Workers' Party is an honourable party, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has an heroic tradition and the Korean people are hard-working and brave. They have struggled for the past 50 years to achieve independence, win national liberation, and build an ideal socialist society. Under the wise leadership of the Korean Workers' Party, the Korean people have finally turned their homeland, once a poor, back-

ward colonial and feudal country, into a prosperous socialist nation. Now they are working hard to meet their Second Seven-Year Plan for economic development and to achieve their long-term objectives for economic construction.

During their tour of Korea, Hu Yaobang and Yang Shangkun will visit many places and meet Korean Party and government leaders. They will carry with them the Chinese people's greetings and tribute and, more importantly, learn from the precious experiences the Korean people have gained in their socialist construction. They will also exchange views with Kim Il Sung and other Korean Party and state leaders on the international situation, and the situation in Northeast Asia and the Korean Peninsula in particular.

The programme for the independent, peaceful reunification of Korea, the plan to set up a north-south federation and the recent proposal for tripartite talks put forward by the Korean Workers' Party, the DPRK Government and Comrade Kim Il Sung have been warmly supported by the Korean people and widely acclaimed by peace-loving people throughout the world. The Chinese people have always stood on the side of the Korean people and resolutely supported their struggle. We believe a new era, in which Korea appears in the East as an independent, unified, prosperous and powerful country where all people live in harmony, will come eventually.

### China's Population Structure

You are quick to make corrections in your magazine, so may I write to point out that the *Zhejiang Ribao*, quoted on page 39 of your January 30 issue (Nos. 5-6, 1984), is dangerously wrong in saying that "China's population structure in the past decade has belonged to the decreasing type." The correct version had already been published by your magazine two weeks earlier (No. 3, 1984, p. 20): "China's population is now in a transition, moving from increase to static."

Even with the most heroic efforts that you are now making, your population will increase by three times the total population of Britain between now and the year 2000, to give a total of 1,200 million people. We wish you all success in this enormously important task.

**Kenneth Hutton**  
York, Britain

*We think Dr. Kenneth Hutton's opinion is right. According to the Swedish demographer Sundborg's differentiating method, which has been generally adopted throughout the world, the population structure is usually divided into increasing, static and decreasing types. The sample data from China's third national census in 1982 shows that in China 33.6 per cent of its population is 14 years old or younger. This indicates that China's population structure is still of the increasing type. Thanks to our efforts in family planning, China's population growth rate is shrinking and the proportion of young people is decreasing.*

*But it is still far from the static. To say that "China's population is now in a transition, moving from increase to static. To say that "China's population structure in the past decade has belonged to the decreasing type" is wrong.*  
— Ed.

### Americans Studying in China

Your article "Seeking Stable and Durable Sino-US Relations" (Issue No. 16, 1984) emphasizes importance of Chinese studying in United States, but only vaguely refers to American students in China. The first-hand knowledge that American youth acquire while attending classes in China provides a basis for a meaningful and lasting relationship. The number of Americans studying in China has continued to grow since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1979 and by now constitutes a sizeable group. For instance, China Educational Tours sent more than 100 Americans to study Chinese Language and culture in China last year.

**Nancy Hess**  
Massachusetts, USA

### "Solving Problems While Consolidating Party"

The article "Solving Problems While Consolidating Party" in Notes From the Editors (issue No. 11) is a nice piece. In China, the living standards of many people, as we know, are still not high considering its huge population. But meanwhile special consideration and certain privileges are granted to the veteran cadres who have tasted to the full the bitterness and

miseries of the old society and who have gone through cruel fighting during the years of war. In a sense, this is reasonable. But I think all people in the socialist society should share the good and bad together. I hope therefore that you pay attention to solving the housing problem of the common people. Consideration should not be given only to a few leaders. Moreover, those who build their own houses through bribery are really not living up to their glorious revolutionary tradition of fighting for the 1949 victory.

The housing problem directly affects the feelings of the masses as well as their enthusiasm for work. I wish common people can all get decent apartments, so that they can happily contribute their share to the four modernizations.

**Yukiko Maekawa**  
Kagawa, Japan

### "Spotlight" Lacks Contrast

I like most of your photos in the "Spotlight" section. But in the issue I read (issue No. 8, 1984), I did not like the picture entitled "Yanan, an Old Revolutionary Base, Takes on a New Look." The photo really does not show many old style buildings (in other words, we do not know how Yanan was before). So the "Spotlight" in this issue caused some confusion, because the photo does not reveal enough contrast between the old and the "new look." There are some office buildings, but these are of the style in the 1950s.

**William C. Cheng, O.M.D.**  
Seattle, USA

# Experimental Satellite Firmly in Position

China's experimental communications satellite, launched on April 8, reached its geostationary position at 125°E across the equator at about 6:28 p.m. on April 16. Instruments on the satellite are functioning normally and telecommunications, radio and television transmissions have been exchanged successfully.

The Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, the State Council and the Central Military Commission sent a message of congratulations on April 16 to all

the scientists, engineers, technicians, workers, cadres, People's Liberation Army commanders and soldiers involved in the project.

The message said, "The successful launching of the communications satellite is an important achievement in China's socialist modernization programme and marks a new leap forward in China's space technology."

"It is of great significance in speeding up China's modernization and is a great encouragement

to the Chinese people," it continued.

The leaders attributed the success to the close co-operation and hard work of all departments and units across the country. It also called on all those who took part in the project to summarize their experience and make still greater contributions to China's socialist construction and the modernization of its national defence.

On April 17, TV viewers all over the country saw a colour broad-

### Brief Introduction to Satellites China Has Launched Since 1970

No.	Name	Time of Launching	Performance	Others
1	Man-made earth satellite	April 24, 1970	Broadcast the music of "The East Is Red" at a frequency of 20.009 megacycles	
2	Scientific experiment earth satellite	March 3, 1971	Sent back scientific data on various experiments at frequencies of 20.009 and 19.995 megacycles	
3	Man-made earth satellite	July 26, 1975	Various meters and instruments functioned normally	
4	Man-made earth satellite	November 26, 1975	Various systems functioned normally	Returned to the earth three days after as scheduled
5	Man-made earth satellite	December 16, 1975	Functioned normally	
6	Man-made earth satellite	August 30, 1976	Functioned normally	
7	Man-made earth satellite	December 7, 1976	Functioned normally	Retrieved according to plan
8	Man-made earth satellite	January 26, 1978	Functioned perfectly and completed scientific experiments	Returned to the earth as planned
9	Spacephysics experiment satellites	September 20, 1981	Various systems functioned normally and continuously sent back scientific experimental data	Launched with one rocket
10				
11	Scientific experimental satellite	September 9, 1982	All meters and instruments functioned normally	Returned to the earth after five days as scheduled
12	Scientific experimental satellite	August 19, 1983	Various systems functioned normally	Returned to the designated site according to plan
13	Experimental satellite	January 29, 1984	Achieved important results	
14	Experimental communications satellite	April 8, 1984	Entered its geostationary position and functions normally	



cast by the China Central Television (CCTV) which was relayed by the satellite. The programme featured scenic spots in Beijing, in-

cluding Tian An Men, Beihai Park, the Great Wall and a giant panda in the Beijing Zoo.

The 15th satellite launched by

China since 1970, it is widely regarded as a victory for the nation's policy of independence and self-reliance.

## Defence Minister on New Satellite

After the successful launching of China's first communications satellite on April 8, Defence Minister Zhang Aiping said on April 18 that he had a telephone conversation via the satellite with Wang Enmao, First Secretary of the Party committee of the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region in Urumqi. He said they both heard each other clearly.

Wang Enmao told the Chinese Defence Minister that he could clearly see the programmes of the China Central Television (CCTV) transmitted by the communications satellite on that day. Previously, he could only see the CCTV programmes one week later.

Zhang said on April 19 that the successful operation of the satellite shows that China's carrier rocket technology is not inferior to other advanced countries, and its satellite communications technology is also approaching advanced world levels.

Zhang stressed that the satellite operated successfully on its first test and was smoothly put into use for communications and radio and television transmissions. This first-time success is rare in any country's space programme.

China's first communications satellite will provide coverage not only for all of China, but also for some friendly neighbouring countries and regions. This will lay the groundwork for establishing satellite communications linkups between China and these countries and regions.

Zhang attributed the success first of all to China's strong con-



tingent of space scientists and technicians, including a number of veteran experts. He said the majority are middle-aged scientists and technicians trained since the founding of the People's Republic in 1949. They have become the mainstay in developing China's space science and technology.

The Ministries of Aeronautics, Electronics, Radio and Television and the Signal Department of the Headquarters of the General Staff

of the People's Liberation Army all took part in the project, Zhang pointed out. A dozen more departments and commissions under the State Council and several hundred organizations all over China also contributed to the research, manufacture, experiment and construction of the satellite.

Zhang also attributed the success to the effective Chinese system guiding scientific research. This includes the establishment of a chief designer, a command system and the combination of unified leadership and division of labour with individual responsibility. This system was initiated by Zhou Enlai, Nie Rongzhen and other veteran revolutionaries, he pointed out.

The United States, France, the Federal Republic of Germany and Italy have all said they wish to co-operate with China in developing its space programme. Zhang said, "We are also willing to co-operate with them, so as to speed up the development of China's space science and technology."

## Rights of KMT in Hongkong Ensured

Kuomintang personnel and organizations from Taiwan stationed in Hongkong will enjoy full rights when China resumes the exercise of sovereignty over the region in 1997, State Councillor Ji Pengfei told a group of Hongkong social activists in Beijing on April 21. Their legitimate rights and interests will be protected by law, provided they observe the local laws, he said.

Relations between Hongkong and Taiwan, including sea and air transportation, economic and cultural ties and personnel exchanges, will not be affected, Ji added.

He said he hoped Kuomintang personnel and organizations in Hongkong will contribute to China's resuming the exercise of sovereignty over the region, and to maintaining the stability and prosperity of Hongkong.

## Japanese Ship Hit By Taiwan Forces

The Japanese merchant ship *To-yofuji No. 5* was shelled by Taiwan forces on the morning of March 11 while anchored off Fuzhou Port, waiting for the high tide.

Investigations have proved that the shell, which hit the deck of the ship, came from Taiwan forces stationed at Nangantang on Mazu Island. Twenty motor vehicles aboard were damaged, but no one was hurt.

Fuzhou's harbour administration immediately took steps to guide the ship to Mawei Harbour; it arrived at 10 a.m. the same morning.

The Taiwan authorities flatly denied on March 13 that their troops on Mazu had shelled the Japanese ship, saying the attack came from the mainland.

But the Japanese newspaper *Mainichi Shimbun* reported on March 29 that Hiroshi Hashimoto, Director of the Asian Affairs Department of the Japanese Foreign Ministry, indicated that the damage had been done by shelling from Taiwan forces, while answering questions about the incident at the Budget Committee of the House of Councillors on the afternoon of March 28.

Before this incident took place, Taiwan forces stationed on Mazu and Baiquan Islands had shelled merchant ships from Panama, Japan and Korea on February 7, February 11 and March 2, respectively.

These successive shellings show clearly that the Taiwan authorities are trying to cause tension in the Taiwan Straits to support their recent demand for US sales of sophisticated arms, and to disrupt relations between the People's Republic of China and the United States, according to the sources quoted by Xinhua News Agency.

They also attempted, by such shelling, to obstruct China's policy of opening to the rest of the world.

The situation in the Taiwan Straits had become increasingly tranquil in recent years. The Taiwan authorities' shelling of foreign merchant ships, endangering normal international navigation, is not conducive to maintaining the peaceful life of people on both sides of the straits, and does not conform with their hopes for a peaceful reunification of the country, the sources said. The Taiwan authorities will not benefit from such shelling, they concluded.

## High Employment Shown in Census

Almost 52 per cent of all people in China have regular work, Chinese demographer Liu Zheng told an international seminar on China's 1982 census, held in Beijing. The figure is higher than that of most developed countries, including the United States, Japan, Canada, Great Britain, France and the Soviet Union, Liu added.

Using the international standard

of counting the labour force as aged 15-64, 83.2 per cent of China's labour force were employed. But China defines the age range as 16-59 for males and 16-54 for females, Liu noted, and 87.5 per cent of this group was employed. Included among the unemployed in this group were students and those unable to work. Liu said this high proportion of employment is rare elsewhere in the world.

There were 3.86 million people employed last year. The total number of people waiting to be assigned jobs in Chinese cities and towns in 1983 was 2.7 million, the lowest in the past five years.

Sun Jingxin, deputy director of the Population Statistics Department of the State Statistical Bureau, said that with increased labour productivity in agriculture, part of the labour force now engaged in crop cultivation will gradually shift to industries and other trades. The state will find ways to solve the problem of surplus rural labour by developing cash crops, forestry, animal husbandry, fishery and rural industries in the small towns.

**Job-waiting youth in Guangzhou have been organized into a housework service company. Here, they learn science and technology.**







The Daqiao Hydropower Station in Guangdong's Longmen County.

## More Small Power Stations Built

Last year, 1,150 small hydropower stations were built in China, bringing the total to 86,000. They added 400,000 kw to the total installed capacity, making it 8.5 million kw. Out of 47,500 million kwh of electricity consumed last year in the rural areas, 20,000 million kwh were supplied by these small hydropower stations.

To alleviate the energy shortage in rural areas, peasants are encouraged to use local water resources to run small hydropower stations by themselves while exploiting small coal pits, biogas and solar energy. They manage these small stations themselves and allocate the energy produced.

Today, 1,575 of China's 2,100 counties have their own hydropower stations, and 774 of them are relying on these small hydropower stations for most of their power. Many have even set up their own power grids. Rich in water resources, Guangdong, Fujian, Sichuan, Hunan and Zhejiang Provinces lead the country in total installed generating capacity.

Since the implementation of flexible economic policies such as the responsibility system in agricultural production in the last few years, the living standards of the peasants have improved remarkably. Electric fans, TV sets, washing machines and electric cookers and ovens are common in many peasant families. According to the Water Resources and Electric Power Ministry, 200,000 peasant families are now cooking dinner with electricity instead of plant stalks. Electricity is no longer used just to process farm products and turn on the lights in China's rural areas.

In the next five years, the government plans to electrify 100 counties which are rich in water resources and have made achievements in running small hydropower stations, as part of a trial programme.

An ideal electrified county, with a population of about 400,000, is expected to have an installed capacity of 30,000-40,000 kw, with the average per-capita consumption of about 200 kwh a year. Electricity can run the appliances of more than 90 per cent of the families in such a county, and can cook dinner and warm the houses of about 20 per cent.

## Tobacco Fraud Culprits Convicted

The nationwide crackdown on economic criminals culminated in a trial of the Guangdong tobacco

fraud case, in which the prime culprits, Zhang Ying and He Jingwen, were sentenced to death and life imprisonment, respectively, and their accessories were placed behind bars by the provincial court last January.

The tobacco fraud, which had entailed grave economic and political losses on the state, took place in 1981 when the Guangdong Provincial Native Produce Import and Export Company signed four contracts with a Hongkong-based firm to import 5,300 tons of high-grade tobacco, worth US\$8.84 million.

The company directors made no investigation into the sources of goods the Hongkong firm could supply, and entrusted the business deal to an official who had no expertise in foreign trade. He Jingwen, manager of the Hongkong firm, whose registered capital was only 80,000 HK dollars, was thus given the perfect opportunity for fraud.

With RMB 84,000 yuan (about US\$42,000), He Jingwen first greased the palm of Zhang Ying, deputy-director of the No. 2 Cigarette Factory. In return, Zhan helped him falsify documents relating to the shipment of tobacco the factory ordered. Then in 1982 He Jingwen passed off 2,700 tons of inferior tobacco as required high-quality goods, and defrauded the company of US\$4,279,600. Of this, US\$1.3 million was later recovered in indemnities.

The swindlers could not have operated so freely if the relevant provincial department heads had paid any heed to the tip given by the country's organizations in Hongkong about the fishy dealings of He Jingwen's firm. But because the officials concerned neglected their duties, the fraud went unchecked, losing the country US\$2.97 million. What's worse, when the fraud was exposed, certain officials tried to shirk responsibility and cover up their mistakes.

The Guangdong provincial Party committee is attacking the bureaucracy in the course of its Party consolidation campaign by taking disciplinary action against those guilty of bureaucratic misconduct.

## Deng and Howe Discuss Hongkong

The three-day visit to China by British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe, during which he had talks with several Chinese leaders, has been called successful and a contribution to progress on the Hongkong issue.

A press communique released by Qi Huaiyuan, director of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department, at Beijing Airport on April 18 as Sir Geoffrey and Lady Elspeth Howe left for Hongkong, said that both sides agreed that Howe's visit and talks "have made further progress towards reaching the agreement sought by both sides on the Hongkong issue."

"After the visit," the communique continued, "Sino-British talks on the Hongkong issue will be continued."

During his stay, Howe met with Deng Xiaoping, Chairman of the

Central Advisory Commission of the Chinese Communist Party, Premier Zhao Ziyang, Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian and State Councillor Ji Pengfei.

Deng Xiaoping had a wide-ranging discussion with Howe when he met him on April 18. Deng and Howe agreed on important aspects of Hongkong negotiations. During his 90-minute talk with Howe, Deng reiterated that the present system in Hongkong would remain unchanged for 50 years after China resumes the exercise of sovereignty in 1997.

"Our position has been taken in connection with China's long-term objective of realizing the four modernizations," Deng said.

Noting that Howe's last visit to China had been in 1978, Deng said, "Great changes have taken place in China since then. But, compared with our grand and ambitious goals, they are just a beginning."

Deng said China's first goal is to achieve a gross production value of US\$1,000 billion by the year 2000 — equivalent to US\$800 per capita. China's second goal is to reach or approach the economic standards of the advanced countries in the next 30 to 50 years.

China's future does not depend on the role of individuals, Deng said, but on the correctness of its policies and the road to be taken.

"If the road is correct, no one can change it because any change would be unpopular," he said. "People like the changes that have taken place in the past few years, so they will be continued."

Speaking at a dinner he hosted in honour of Sir Geoffrey and Lady Howe and their party on April 16, Wu Xueqian said, "To reach an early agreement on the settlement of the Hongkong question not only serves Hongkong's stability and prosperity but is also conducive to the further strengthening and growth of Sino-British relations."

Both China and Britain, as permanent members of the UN Security Council, "are charged with the lofty international responsibility of maintaining world peace," Wu said. "Our two countries hold similar views on many major international issues. We need to exchange views more often and without formality and make our respective contributions to the easing of international tension and the maintenance of world peace."

In his talks with Wu at the dinner, Howe said: "Internationally regular consultation between us on world issues is an influence for stability and world peace in a world which remains turbulent and beset by crises."

"It is important for Britain, and for the world in general, that China should be a prosperous, strong and active member of the international community," he said.

Noting the increase in Sino-British contacts in recent years, Howe said that such contacts would create good conditions for the expansion of co-operation between the two countries in many fields. He expressed his hope for further bilateral economic and technical co-operation.

Deng Xiaoping meets with Sir Geoffrey Howe.



Wu and Howe signed a Sino-UK agreement to establish a Chinese Consulate-General in Manchester and a British Consulate-General in Shanghai.

## ARCO Proposes Fertilizer Plants

Premier Zhao Ziyang and Robert Anderson, Chairman of US-based Atlantic Richfield Company (ARCO), have discussed the exploitation and utilization of natural gas discovered within the Sino-US offshore co-operation zone near Hainan Island.

During their meeting in Beijing on April 16, Anderson outlined ARCO's proposal to use the natural gas in fertilizer production and showed Zhao models of two chemical fertilizer plants. He said he was fully confident that both sides would co-operate in this project.

Zhao pointed out that ARCO

had discovered rich natural gas reserves shortly after signing its exploration contract with China and that Anderson had shown initiative for further co-operation. "I appreciate your attitude of positive co-operation," he said.

Zhao said he favoured the view that both sides should co-operate not only in exploiting natural gas but in using it to produce fertilizer and other petrochemical products.

China is going to adopt more flexible economic policies in its coastal regions, Zhao added. For instance, a Sino-foreign fertilizer plant on Hainan Island would enjoy preferential treatment.

He said that exploration and development of the gas field should be stepped up to verify its size. At the same time, feasibility studies on gas utilization should be carried out.

Anderson said he hoped that this project would become a symbol of friendship between the two countries.

"The Vietnamese authorities must immediately stop all their criminal acts and withdraw all the aggressor troops from Kampuchea," the spokesman concluded.

## News in Brief

**Premier Zhao accepts declaration for disabled.** Premier Zhao Ziyang accepted Rehabilitation International's declaration for the 1980s during his meeting with a delegation led by Harry S.Y. Fang, president of the group. The New York-based private organization looks after the rights and welfare of disabled people.

Zhao assured the members of the delegation that the Chinese Government and people would energetically support the work of Rehabilitation International. Its declaration for the 1980s was approved at its 14th world congress in Canada in 1980. It urges leaders of all countries and areas in the world to give proper consideration to the life, study and work of disabled people.

**Sino-Bhutanese boundary talks.** Delegations of officials from China and Bhutan expressed their satisfaction with the results of the first round of boundary talks held April 17 to 20 in Beijing. Their joint communique was signed by the Chinese delegation leader Gong Dafei, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the Bhutanese delegation leader Om Pradhan, Bhutan's Ambassador to India.

Premier Zhao Ziyang extended a warm welcome to the first official delegation from Bhutan to visit New China.

So long as both countries continue their discussion in the spirit of friendly co-operation and mutual understanding, the bilateral boundary talks will keep progressing, leading to a satisfactory solution of the problem, Zhao said.

## Viet's Criminal Acts Denounced

The Chinese Government and people indignantly denounce and strongly condemn the Vietnamese authorities' atrocities against the Kampuchean and Thai peoples, and firmly support the just position of the Thai Government and Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said on April 19.

"Over the past few days the Vietnamese authorities have made repeated barbarous military attacks along the Thai-Kampuchean border, raiding residential areas and refugee camps and committing all kinds of evils against the defenceless inhabitants and refugees, including burning, killing and looting," he noted in a statement.

"As a result," the spokesman added, "many people, especially

women and children, were slain in cold blood, and large numbers of refugees became homeless and fled into Thai territory, imposing heavier burdens on Thailand.

"This is another crime committed by the Vietnamese authorities against the Kampuchean and Thai peoples," the spokesman stressed.

He pointed out that Viet Nam's savage acts are in total violation of the basic norms governing international relations and fundamental humanitarian principles. They are not only a serious provocation against the Kampuchean and Thai peoples but also a brazen provocation against those countries and peoples who have repeatedly called on the Vietnamese authorities to withdraw their troops from Kampuchea, he said.



## Kampuchea

### War Going in Coalition's Favour

by WANG ZHIGUANG

SPRING has been welcomed by the Democratic Kampuchean armed forces, who since December have launched one operation after another, threatening the Vietnamese occupation troops in the hinterlands and forcing them to postpone their dry-season offensive. The Democratic Kampuchean army's advance and victories indicate the overall situation is heading in a more favourable direction.

The latest dry season, from last December through March, was the sixth since Viet Nam invaded Kampuchea in 1979. The patriotic armed forces of Democratic Kampuchea have frequently attacked the interior plains, capturing Battambang, Pursat, Kompong Thom, Siem Reap, Kompong Speu and other cities. They have destroyed Vietnamese military installations, cut off Highways 4, 5 and 6, and raided supply and communications centres. The National Army of Democratic Kampuchea has expanded operations to the hinterland and wiped out many Vietnamese troops. Tempered by several years' fighting, the Democratic Kampuchean armed forces have greatly improved their combat capabilities.

The battlefield situation in Kampuchea is getting worse for the Vietnamese, according to observers. Hanoi finds itself in becoming unable to settle its problems in Kampuchea by armed force.

The growing unity of the Kampuchean resistance forces is another factor in their military suc-

cess. The Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea has played an important role in uniting resistance forces at home and abroad and seeking international assistance. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, President of Democratic Kampuchea, inspected bases of the patriotic resistance forces in January and March, greatly encouraging the Kampuchean people to fight against the Vietnamese invaders.

It was reported that the tripartite co-ordination committee for defence of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea met recently on Khmer territory. Representatives reached agreement on major problems concerning the resistance. They stressed the need to strengthen the co-ordination between the armed forces of the three parties in their common struggle for national liberation and salvation.

Aggressive forces always miscalculate the situation and overesti-

mate their own strength. The Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea has become bogged down. In the long, drawn-out war, Hanoi has lost many men and materials. Viet Nam finds its economy deteriorating, as it becomes more isolated by the world.

Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach has acknowledged these problems. He also said Viet Nam was being subjected to enormous world political pressure.

However, the Vietnamese authorities have not changed their aggressive attitude, and still refuse to withdraw their troops from Kampuchea. In order to shake off its lethargy, Hanoi has employed tactics both of military aggression and diplomatic trickery. As the war in Kampuchea entered its sixth year, Nguyen Co Thach visited Indonesia and Australia. He told those countries that Viet Nam has changed its attitude and become more realistic. He also announced Hanoi's willingness to settle the Kampuchea issue through negotiation and dialogue. During his visits, Thach also attempted to split the three factions

Democratic Kampuchean soldiers study Vietnamese troop movements.



of the Democratic Kampuchean armed forces and create friction between China and the ASEAN countries.

When he failed to do so, the Vietnamese authorities launched new attacks against the Democratic Kampuchean armed forces, intruding into Thai territory and stepping up armed provocations against China along the Sino-Vietnamese border. This just reveals Hanoi's lies and desperation. The press in the Southeast Asian countries has pointed out that the Vietnamese military attacks and political lies can only arouse more vigilance, as people see through Hanoi's tricks and

abandon any illusions about its intentions.

Although the road to ultimate victory for the Democratic Kampuchean resistance forces remains long and hard, the most difficult time has passed. The Vietnamese might have temporary superiority in military strength and armaments, but as time passes they will suffer heavier losses.

As long as the Kampuchean people remain united and continue to fight, they will weaken the enemy, strengthen themselves, and finally win victory. The changes on the Kampuchean battlefields during the last five years have proved this truth.

their military expenditures by 3 per cent and approve a 15-year defence programme to cost US\$60,000 million. These efforts were intended to eliminate the threat arising from the increased military strength of the Warsaw Pact.

Today, in the 1980s, the United States and the Soviet Union are deploying new types of missiles in Europe. However, because the United States and the other Western allies have different requirements regarding detente, disagreements over defence policies have arisen, which together with the vigorous development of the peace movement, have put obstacles in the way of the policy of defence and detente.

## NATO

# Defence-Detente Policy Facing Test

by LIU FANGAN

As it marks its 35th anniversary, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is discovering that differing outlooks of the United States and Europe regarding detente, as well as disagreements over defence, are putting new strains on its policy of defence and detente.

Founded by the United States, Britain, France and nine other Western countries on April 4, 1949, under the North Atlantic Treaty, with Greece, Turkey, the Federal Republic of Germany and Spain joining later, NATO in its early days was a major tool used by the United States to restrain the Soviet Union and control Europe.

Since 1949, however, the international situation has undergone great changes. The 1960s saw the military strength of both NATO and the Warsaw Pact grow quickly, with the Warsaw Pact possessing 80 per cent of the conventional weapons deployed in Central Europe. Warsaw Pact troops out-

numbered NATO troops by 50 per cent and its tanks outnumbered NATO tanks three to one. Annual production of tanks by the Warsaw Pact countries was 22,000, triple that of NATO.

Starting then, NATO began to be on the defensive. In the mid-1960s it started to pursue a policy of defence and detente: On the one hand it stressed strengthening defence and maintain a strong, modern and flexible military force to counter the Warsaw Pact's military superiority. On the other hand, it expressed a willingness to negotiate with the Soviet Union to ease the tensions between the East and West.

In the 1970s, especially in the latter half, not only did the Warsaw Pact strengthen its conventional forces, but the Soviet Union began to deploy its SS-20 missiles, tipping the balance of nuclear weapons in Europe in its favour. NATO, while continuing to stress dialogue with the Soviet Union, decided to further strengthen its military forces. It stipulated that member countries must increase

First, regarding the matter of detente. The central concerns of the Reagan administration are to restrain Moscow and regain its military superiority. On the other hand, the West European members of NATO wish to follow a more independent political role and develop extensive trade relations with the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. This split has affected NATO's ability to maintain a dialogue with the East and pursue the policy of detente.

Second, the United States and its allies have again and again disagreed with each other on defence expenditures and on the issue of nuclear weapons, making NATO's efforts to strengthen defence difficult. For example, the United States requested that the West European members increase their military expenditures and bear a greater share of the NATO defence burden. But many of them, hampered by slow economic growth, cannot meet the 3 per cent a year increase in defence spending set by NATO.

There are also other areas of disagreement. The United States wants to transfer its troops stationed in Europe to defend any

crisis region it considers vital to its security, but the West European countries say they are not ready yet for such a move. Furthermore, there are issues in the area of trade, concerning new technology and weapons. Washington hopes that the West European countries will restrict access by the Warsaw Pact countries to new technology that can be used for military purposes, but these countries are dissatisfied that the United States has bought very few of their weapons. It is particularly pointed out that although the security of Western Europe is inseparable from the United States, there has been heated discussion over the idea of establishing an independent West European defence system centred on France and Federal Germany. This reflects the desire of West Europeans to remove US control and take their own road. On the US side, former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, who represents some Americans, has issued his "Plan to Re-

shape NATO," which outlines the responsibilities of the United States and each NATO member. These two new trends within NATO have aroused the attention of the European public.

However, the rapid growth of the Soviet nuclear forces and the superiority of the Warsaw Pact's conventional forces constitute a serious threat to the NATO countries. Therefore, the West European countries and the United States must eliminate their differences if they are to safeguard their joint security.

The annual spring NATO ministerial meeting will be held in Washington in May. According to NATO sources, the meeting will restate the alliance's political and military strategy, in an attempt to encourage East-West dialogue and further eliminate differences within NATO over the defence and detente policy, so as to strengthen the alliance's defence against the Warsaw Pact.

ually these countries, under the pressure of their staggering debt, had to adopt austerity measures, including currency devaluations, increased customs duties and exchange controls, to encourage exports and limit imports. According to the statistics in the IADB report, the value of both imports and exports decreased last year, with the imports falling a steep 29 per cent, compared with 20 per cent in 1982, to nearly half the 1981 levels. The trade surplus was the result mainly of this decline in imports.

Chief among these countries' imports are intermediate products, capital goods and energy, all urgently needed for domestic production. As a result of the reduction in imports, a large number of companies had to reduce or hold up production for lack of materials or energy. Some even had to halt operations.

In addition, the massive reduction in imports sent the prices of these goods soaring, seriously affecting the living standards of lower and middle-income people and causing social turbulence. No wonder Peru's President Fernando Belaunde Terry recently complained that the austerity programmes prescribed to combat recession are worse than the disease itself.

What is more, faced with sagging world trade, Latin America has been hit heavily by Western protectionist policies. During the 1970s, when the Latin American economies were booming, exports of manufactured goods grew to some extent. But exports of primary products, both mineral and agricultural, still made up the largest share of their foreign trade. Some countries relied on heavy exports of a few specialized products. Their lopsided economic structure left them vulnerable to the damages caused when the industrialized countries shifted their economic crisis on them. Begin-

## Latin America

# Strong Trade Balance Paradoxical

by ZHU MANTING

THE annual report recently published by the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) says that the countries of Latin America posted a trade surplus of US\$31,200 million in 1983. This figure, which stands in sharp relief against their combined foreign debt of US\$336,000 million and an average decline of 3.3 per cent in gross domestic production (GDP), is seen with mixed feelings.

In the past several years, the foreign debts of these countries have been skyrocketing. A large portion of these debts is made up of private short-term loans, which, with high interest rates, were

granted with harsh terms attached, burdening these countries with serious financial difficulties. The interest on the debt alone is too much for them. Last year the interest paid by these countries, coupled with the profits foreign investors extracted from them, were as high as US\$34,000 million. Fortunately, the trade surplus has helped them make their pressing payments, lowering their unfavourable balance of international payments to US\$4,000 million, compared with US\$19,800 million in 1982.

However, the large surplus did not mean great progress in foreign trade for Latin America. On the contrary, it reflected the fact that the trade was dwindling. Ac-



ning in 1981, while prices of Western industrial products rose, prices for primary products dropped precipitously, depressing the value of exports by the Latin American countries for three years running. In 1983, exports fell by US\$900 million to US\$87,500 million. So despite an overall trade surplus, these countries suffered real losses in terms of exports.

Latin America's unfavourable trade position reminds one of the Prebisch Theory. In 1950, Argentine economist Raul Prebisch, then Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America, repudiated the prevailing Western theory of international trade which stated that the scientific and technical advances being made in the industrialized nations would lower the prices of their

manufactured goods, thereby benefiting poorer countries. Prebisch pointed out that the industrialized countries, by making use of biased price ratios in the irrational international trade system, exploited the developing nations, including Latin America, to the detriment of the developing nations' economic development while enriching themselves. Moreover, he stressed that the poor nations, despite the march in technology, had to exchange increased amounts of their primary products to obtain manufactured goods.

Today, more than 30 years later, the economic troubles in Latin America suggest that the unreasonable international trade relations foreseen by Prebisch are still at work and harming the developing economies.

## Portugal

# Economic Crisis Causes Strife

by HUANG PENGNIAN

THE strikes and demonstrations against non-payment of wages in Lisbon and other cities in the past few months and the recently painted slogans demanding bread and jobs on the walls of Lisbon's buildings show the extent of the Portuguese people's dissatisfaction with their sliding living standard and their country's gloomy economy.

Since last year, the Portuguese Government has been pursuing a policy aimed at arresting the mounting current account deficit and foreign debt, which accounted for 14 per cent and 55 per cent, respectively, of the gross national product last year. Trade and the balance of payments have shown signs of improvement. But the working people feel hard-pressed under the present economic situation.

Non-payment of wages and benefits such as holiday subsidies has become widespread in public and private enterprises, which are confronted with government cuts in subsidies, ill management and a lack of competitiveness. Many businesses are only kept operative through borrowing. More than 100,000 workers in about 600 companies have not been paid for several months, and their back wages now total US\$162 million.

Meanwhile, consumer prices and inflation are still on the rise. The annual rate of inflation in the first quarter soared to 30.8 per cent from last year's 25 per cent. The rise in the price of houses, clothes, shoes, food and drink ranged from 24.5 per cent to 34.4 per cent.

The value of the escudo — Portugal's currency — is dropping, following a 20.3 per cent devaluation in 1983. According to the government's 1984 budget, direct

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and indirect taxation will increase by 30 per cent and 44.7 per cent, respectively. Purchasing power is expected to decline by another 10 per cent this year, after last year's 10 per cent drop.

Moreover, the Portuguese are threatened by rising unemployment. Now, some 500,000 people are jobless, which is about 10.8 per cent of the country's work force. Last year about 4,000 small and medium-sized enterprises went bankrupt and at present, many factories, both public and privately owned, are still dismissing workers.

The government is trying its utmost to improve the economy, but the economic malaise is too deep-rooted to be cured quickly. The Portuguese people's struggle for better living conditions is therefore unavoidable.

# Explaining China's Rural Economic Policy

*Du Runsheng, head of the rural policy research institute under the Secretariat of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee and head of the Chinese Research Centre of Rural Development, addressed a press conference held last March by the All-China Journalists' Association, answering questions on rural economic policies. The following is a transcription of the interview. In reporting the average per-capita peasant income in 1982, revisions have been made by "Beijing Review" in accordance with the information provided by the State Statistical Bureau. — Ed.*

**Question:** Mr. Du, two years ago you wrote in *Beijing Review* that one-third of the peasants in China had an annual per-capita income of 100 yuan. May I ask how many peasants earn an income higher than that and how many receive around 50 yuan. Is there polarization in Chinese villages?

**Answer:** The accounts for 1983 aren't settled yet. The 1982 statistics show that 2.4 per cent of peasants received less than 100 yuan, 24.4 per cent earned between 100 and 200 yuan; 37 per cent between 200 and 300 yuan, 29.5 per cent between 300 and 500 yuan and 6.7 per cent over 500 yuan. The situation in 1983 was even better and we will soon publish the figures.

According to the Marxist view, polarization happens when the means of production are concentrated in the hands of some people, who transform them into capital, while another portion of people lose control of the means of production, which transforms their labour force into a commodity. Unless they sell their labour they cannot earn a living. This situation is no longer possible under China's present condition. But there still exist differences in incomes, sometimes very wide ones. Annual family



income can be as high as tens of thousands of yuan or more. But their income cannot be turned into capital used to exploit others. Our government advocates that a portion of people become well-off first, who then help others to prosper as well, so that eventually there will be common prosperity. Common prosperity does not mean becoming rich at the same time. "To each according to his work" does not mean equal distribution. Up to now, rural development is healthy, normal and in line with our goal. It would be incorrect to eliminate income differences at the present stage.

**Q:** You have mentioned the 1982 figures. Can you tell me the figures for 1978 or 1979?

**A:** In 1978, 33.3 per cent of peasants received less than 100 yuan, (compared with 4.6 per cent in 1981); 31.7 per cent between 100 and 150 yuan (14.6 per cent); 17.6 per cent between 150 and 200 yuan (22.7 per cent); 15 per cent between 200 and 300 yuan (34.5 per cent); and 2.4 per cent received more than 300 yuan (23.6 per cent).

**Q:** You said that some peasant families earned 100,000 yuan every year. Is it true? How do well-to-do peasants help poorer families to become better-off?

**A:** It is true, but only for few families. Some villages have become well-off faster by developing small industries, mines and transportation and by raising special livestock. This is the outcome of the policies implemented since 1979, which encourage the peasants to diversify the economy. They are allowed to leave their land and run small-scale industries with their partners, or run co-operative commercial or transportation enterprises and large-scale animal husbandry. Different factors of production are allowed to circulate freely, which means a free flow of workers, capital and technology. The development of co-operative industry, commerce and sideline occupations is not restricted by regions or trades. The policy of free circulation was reaffirmed in the 1984 No. 1 document (i.e., the Circular on Rural Work, see *Beijing Review*, No. 8 — Tr.) issued by the CPC Central Committee. Compared with the policy of the 1950s, the policy of free circulation is a marked change, posi-

tive both in its significance and its function.

Today the total output value of co-operative industries throughout China amounts to 80,000 million yuan, with fixed assets of 40,000 million yuan. If you tour the rural areas, you will find the peasants' incomes from the small industries are very high. In Jiangsu Province, Yantai Prefecture in Shandong and the Zhujiang (Pearl) River delta, peasants' income from small industries accounts for more than 70 per cent of their total income. In other areas, it accounts for over 50 per cent. The reason for some low-income areas is chiefly due to lack of such small industries.

The way to help peasants become rich is to encourage a diversified economy. Within the scope of co-operative organization, appropriate methods are adopted to use the income from industry and sideline occupations to support farming. Some peasants cannot become better-off faster because they engage only in farming, which cannot result in easy prosperity. What is more, China's population is too large and consumes a large proportion of grain, leaving only a limited amount of marketable grain. Therefore those who depend on farming receive a higher income if they have large tracts of arable land, but in areas where the tracts of cultivated land are small and the population large, their incomes are relatively low. If they turned out farm and sideline products in great demand, they would receive high profits.

**Q:** Do you mean that those families with insufficient labour must engage in industry in order to get rich?

**A:** It all depends on which area. In some places, peasants engaging in lines of work other than industry may also become well-off, provided they plant crops and trees, grow fruit, vegetables and local

products, and engage in animal husbandry or horticulture. We advocate an all-round development of agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, sideline occupations and fishing as well as comprehensive management of agriculture, industry and commerce. Only one path will not do. To put it in a nutshell, peasants may engage in whatever lines of production are best suited to local conditions.

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**We advocate an all-round development of agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, sideline occupations and fishery as well as comprehensive management of agriculture, industry and commerce. . . . In other words, we allow peasants to engage in whatever lines of production that are best suited to local conditions.**

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**Q:** Why is it that the majority of the Chinese peasants are still comparatively poor?

**A:** We can put it this way: Their livelihood has not reached as high a standard as it should. But compared with the past, the difference in their livelihood is like the difference between heaven and hell. The time during which China was a semi-feudal and semi-colonial state was terrible — 70-80 per cent of arable land was in the hands of landlords and rich peasants and half of a peasant's income would go to rent. But now the peasants do not have to pay rent and they are free from imperialist economic plunder. The

achievements of New China are the pride of the entire people. The problem is that we lack experience in building socialism. If the present sets of policies had been practised earlier, China would have developed faster and we would have achieved more and would have become more prosperous. Even then, the achievements of recent decades cannot be denied. Without them, today's standards would be out of the question.

With the implementation of the production responsibility system, water conservation facilities, chemical fertilizers and farm machines are put to better use, as is land. Existing water conservation projects are able to irrigate 50 million hectares of arable land (about half of the nation's total — *Tr.*). The annual production of chemical fertilizers totals 70 million tons and the capacity of farm machines comes to 220 million horsepower. If we pay attention to demonstrating the superiority of socialism and giving play to individual initiative, and if the two are integrated, more undertakings can be done. In the past, to some extent, we did not pay adequate attention to developing individual initiative; nor was the superiority of socialism brought into full play. Now we have worked out a way, though it's just a beginning. However, China is carrying out a large-scale industrial construction. Being a vast country with a population which consumes a lot, China does not find it easy to accumulate funds. The state cannot lay aside more money to help the peasants, whereas the peasants have to make contributions to the state. That is why the Chinese peasants' living standards are lower than in some other countries. We hope to do our work better and faster. But worrying won't help. Impatience will only lead to rash mistakes. That is why we set forth a minimum-standards target — a well-to-do society by the year 2000, with an annual



per-capita income of US\$800 to US\$1,000.

**Q:** Now that many peasants are beginning to engage in individual enterprises such as ore-mining, are they still called peasants or private business owners? And how do you define who is a peasant?

**A:** So far not many families have left all their land to engage in industry or sideline occupations. Take the family as a whole. They still plough some land, but some of their members are no longer peasants. We cannot define a peasant only by his family or by one individual. Generally speaking, if the main income of one family (that is, over 60 per cent of the total income) comes from the cultivation of crops, they are called a household specializing in crop cultivation. If they engage in other specialized lines of production, they are termed otherwise. Some of them no longer farm their land, but they still live in their rural homes. This is a phenomenon special to China. There is a surplus of labour power relative to the total amount of land. Some

big cities are already over-populated. If peasants are allowed to pour out into the cities spontaneously, that would cause a lot of problems.

We have a vision of the future in which 30 to 40 per cent of rural labour will engage in industries and sideline occupations, and they will get together to set up small towns, thereby cutting down urban population while increasing the population in rural towns. In a situation of surplus rural labour, this may be a proper way to increase employment and people's incomes, to raise their cultural level, and to speed up rural development. In short, this is a policy for comprehensive development of the countryside. This vision will come true in 20 years.

**Q:** It seems the saying that there is a 30 to 40 per cent surplus of labour in the countryside contradicts the fact that in some places labour is in short supply following the adoption of the responsibility system. In addition, in what forms did the surplus labour exist in the countryside and how was it absorbed in the past?

**A:** The implementation of the production responsibility system has not resulted in a labour shortage. So there is no such contradiction. Some people, because of their unawareness of the real situation, think that the responsibility system means developing production with manpower. Actually, this is not the case. Please don't think that the adoption of the responsibility system has dispensed with mechanization. In the last few years, progress has been made in mechanization, which takes the form of compensatory services. In other words, machines are still being used, but they have become a means providing services with compensation. Of course, it is still necessary for us to make use of human and animal power in some places and production departments. But generally speaking, there is a surplus of labour.

The problem of surplus labour became serious in the 1970s because among the rural population the average life expectancy increased, the mortality rate declined and the birth rate went up when birth control measures were relaxed. Finding outlets for the surplus labour has become a big problem in the 1970s and 1980s. In the past, part of the surplus labour force was absorbed by social service trades organized by collective economic undertakings while another part found jobs in the cities which were booming. However, the existence of a surplus labour was hidden because the organizational forms of labour were not perfect, the production responsibility system was not established, collective labour was misunderstood with the result that the form of scattered labour was done away with. After the responsibility system was established, the problem of surplus labour became more obvious.

We don't think it is impossible to solve the problem of surplus

Peasants in Henan Province racing their motorcycles.



labour. The key is to create more job opportunities. This can be done. Have you been to Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Guangdong and Fujian? These provinces have taken the lead in solving the problem basically.

**Q:** How do the peasants engage in individual industrial activities? Must they apply for licenses? In addition, what are the specific stipulations for peasants running individual businesses, such as those covering hiring?

**A:** There are many forms of industrial and sideline undertakings run by peasants. Most of them have the characteristics of a cooperative economy. Their funds and property are owned by the collectives and their profits are distributed within the collectives. But, the size of these collectives can be different. Some are composed of several households and are called "small complexes," while in others the production is carried out individually. There is, however, unified supply of raw materials and marketing of products, as well as unified designs and requirements. A few days ago, I went to Dingxian County in Hebei Province and saw how the peasants there made sports goods. First, sports goods stores in Tianjin and Beijing put forward their demands. Then, a joint purchasing station in the county will be responsible to buy all the needed raw materials and distribute them to several hundred households. There are 60 to 70 products, including uneven bars, parallel bars and horizontal bars. Each product is made up of several parts. Their processing is shouldered separately by several households. Finally, the finished products are collected and marketed in the cities by a unified sales department. This is what we called "scattered production and unified supply and marketing."

Now, many things can be done in China this way. Take clothe-



Salted and pressed ducks are processed by specialized households in Jiangxi Province.

making for example. Clothes can be made as long as there is a sewing machine. I can tell you

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***The implementation of the production responsibility system has not resulted in a labour shortage. On the contrary, the problem of surplus labour became even more obvious. However, the problem can be solved if we create more job opportunities.***

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friends a fact: there is not only a surplus labour force but also a surplus time. Many households mainly earn their incomes from crop cultivation, and livestock, poultry and fish breeding. Agri-

cultural production is, however, seasonal. The peasants can use their free time between the seasons to engage in all kinds of other gainful activities. Their costs for certain kinds of production are much lower than in the cities. Those who engage in such production need neither large factory buildings nor any kind of welfare facilities. In one place, it costs six yuan to produce one acrylic shirt in an urban factory but only three yuan to produce a shirt of the same quality in the countryside. Coupled with the fact that the market has been gradually expanding from the cities to the countryside, the goods are much sought after. Now, in the countryside, modern household industry has appeared. It is socialist, not capitalist, in nature.

The hiring of labourers is limited to certain trades, certain industries and certain employers. Those masters and craftsmen who have certain special skills are allowed to have no more than six or seven apprentices and helpers.



Passengers board buses bought by some peasants in Dengfeng County, Henan Province.

Within this limit, they are still small individual proprietors and not capitalists.

In China there is the National Administration for Industry and Commerce. All peasants who wish to engage in industrial and sideline production as well as transportation and communications must register with it. The administration also exercises proper control over the market and decides the amount of taxes. On the one hand, it is necessary for us to invigorate the economy, and on the other, it is necessary to establish some proper management systems. At the same time, necessary social regulation should be carried out.

**Q:** How should we estimate the negative factors brought about by too many hired labourers? The No. 1 document of the Party Central Committee in 1984 said that the period of land contracts could be extended to 10 or 15 years. Prior to this a readjustment must be carried out with regard to the distribution of land. Could you please explain this?

**A:** The decision to allow the land contracts to be extended to more than 15 years was very important because it ensures the long-term implementation of the contract system, which links remuneration with output. The contract system is a combination of unified collective management and scattered household management. We call it "a double-tier management system." The system will be carried out for a long time to come.

The progress of technology makes it possible for a smaller piece of land to yield higher output. Therefore, there is no need for us to divide the land into large pieces. However, the size of land tilled by each household at present is too small. Some peasants want to leave their land and engage in other undertakings. This trend is expected to continue for some time. If cultivated land is gradually concentrated and tilled by 30 to 40 per cent of the peasant households, who can thus specialize in crop growing, the size of the land tilled by each household would be two, three, four times

the present size. I think this would be more suitable to the development of science and technology. Under such a situation, we encourage the peasants to readjust land distribution and transfer the land contracts they have signed. The land is still public property and so free trading in land is prohibited. The terms of the transfer of the land contracts can be negotiated by both sides, but the transfer must be registered with the collective.

We exercise certain control over the hiring of labourers. The basic point of our policy is not to let production using hired labourers develop freely into a capitalist system. When production using hired labourers appears, we must restrict its development and guide it on to the road of co-operative management. In China, there are extremely few cases of large-scale production using hired labourers and they cannot develop into a capitalist system which runs parallel with the socialist system. In the future, when Taiwan returns to the motherland, it will be allowed to keep the capitalist system. This will be a different case.

**Q:** How do you tackle the problems of saving energy, raising product quality and preventing environmental pollution arising from the development of small industries in the countryside?

**A:** Some of our small industries do waste energy resources. Some do not. They are a necessary supplement to the large industries. If they are not set up in the countryside, they will be set up in the cities. In other words, if they do not consume some energy in the countryside, they will consume it in the cities. Some products are turned out in small amounts but they are of a wide variety. To turn them out, the equipment needs to be renovated constantly. The big factories are not willing to accept such tasks. As for the small factories, because they are small, it is



easier for them to change the direction of production and they can start production quickly. Therefore, both big and small factories have their own advantages. So long as it is necessary, it cannot be called wasting materials. If it is not necessary, it will not do whether it is in a big factory or a small one, and whether it is run in the countryside or in the cities.

Both big and small factories can cause pollution. It depends mainly on the nature of production and the materials used. The problem of pollution can only be solved through legislation. We have noticed this problem and have adopted a resolute attitude towards it. But the results achieved are far from satisfactory.

**Q:** With the development of the countryside, antagonism and even confrontation might occur between peasants who have prospered and peasants who have remained poor. What measures have you adopted to protect the interests of both?

**A:** This is largely a question of education. There is also the question of economic policies. Among the economic policies there is one of giving assistance to the poor. The government has earmarked a certain amount of funds for this purpose. The banks grant special loans to help poor households. Various departments also give all kinds of technical help. If a peasant household cannot grow crops, it can raise pigs or chickens. There is always a way for it to earn a living. The policy has been conscientiously implemented.

We must also educate the peasants that it is impossible for them to get rich at the same time, that they can earn more if they work harder, and that they should not just envy those who have got rich through hard work. If the better-off households voluntarily help their brothers so as to let the latter get rich together with them, society will reward them



Peasants in Jiangxi Province catching fish for the market.

with some kind of honour. Now numerous facts show how the better-off peasant households help poor ones to get rich together. This, however, is not compulsory.

In addition, the government is now considering setting up a taxation system, such as a tax on the utilization of natural resources. That is, a certain amount of resource tax will be levied on those who have made use of the state's and, forests and other natural resources to earn a big income. Some people have suggested establishing an income tax. A system of levying personal income tax has been carried out in the cities but not in the countryside. The development of the situation might impel us to consider many things.

**Q:** In the past few years, China's agricultural sector has reaped

bumper harvests. With the steady development of its agricultural production, will China be ready to drastically cut its imports of grain and cotton?

**A:** We have not drawn up any specific plans with regard to this problem. Although there have been bumper harvests, the per-capita average is still not high. China's total grain output is now 380 million tons, for a per-capita average of 380 kilogrammes only. China's total cotton output is 4.5 million tons. Divided by a population of 1,000 million, the per-capita average is 4.5 kilogrammes, not a big figure either. Therefore, the future scale of imports is decided by production in China as well as other related factors. However, our exchanges with the outside world will never stop. □

# Mao Zedong in His School Days

The following is an abridged translation of an article originally published in the "Report on the Times" to commemorate the 90th birthday of Mao Zedong. The author is deputy head of the Organization Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China. — Ed.

by LI RUI

**M**AO ZEDONG was born in 1893. For more than half a century before his birth, because the dying Qing Dynasty (1644-1911) was unable to resist invasions by the capitalist countries, China had been rapidly reduced to the status of a semi-colonial and semi-feudal country. The great historical change from the old China into the new was the outcome of the arduous and persistent struggle waged by the hundreds of millions of Chinese people over more than one hundred years. Mao Zedong was one of the most outstanding leaders of the Chinese people in this struggle.

How did Mao respond to the call of the times, making himself a great man when such men were sorely needed? What efforts had he made in his early life, and how did these efforts later influence his career? These questions offer meaningful avenues for study. This short article tries to offer some information about his school days.

## Seeking Knowledge and Pondering Problems

Mao Zedong was born into a peasant family in Shaoshan, Xiangtan County, Hunan Province. It was then a mountain village with very poor transportation. People living there were utterly uninformed. Mao's father could read only a few words, but he was intelligent



and capable and engaged in both farming and commercial work. His loss in a lawsuit prompted him to send the boy to school, so that he would be helped to win the suit.

Mao was sent to a private school at the age of eight, and stayed there until he was 13. He learnt thoroughly such classics as the *Analects of Confucius*, *Mencius* and *Zuozhuan* (Zuo Qiuming's commentary on the *Spring and Autumn Annals*). He later said in his childhood he was only taught such things as "The Master said: 'How pleasant it is to learn and constantly review what one has learnt.' Though this teaching material was

antiquated, it did me some good because from it I learnt to read."

But, dull and difficult as those materials were, Mao's memory of his childhood education obviously served to help him formulate his later thesis of "making the past serve the present." We find many remarks quoted from Confucius and Mencius appropriate in the context of his articles in the *Selected Works of Mao Zedong*, Vol. IV.

During his boyhood, Mao was both a student and long-term hired labourer. When he was 13 years old he left his private school and worked all day as an adult labourer in the fields. In the evenings he had to help his father keep the family accounts. Nevertheless, he eagerly read whatever books he could. Mao was especially interested in such novels as the *Three Kingdoms* and *Shui Hu* (*Outlaws of the Marshes*), and committed every story to memory.

It is commendable that he could think independently while reading. One of the things he found strange in these novels was that not a single peasant was depicted as a leading character. Instead, all were military officers, civil officials and scholars. He was perplexed by this for two years, and later determined to analyse the contents of these novels. He discovered all characters eulogized in the traditional novels were military officers or rulers who did not till the land.

The many descriptions of war in such novels as the *Three Kingdoms* and *Shui Hu*, and the records of warfare in *Zuozhuan* obviously

served to enlighten and help Mao Zedong in his later military career, especially during the early period of guerrilla warfare. He quoted some stories from *Shui Hu* to illustrate his points on military strategy and philosophy.

During the 10 years of civil war, the dogmatists spoke sarcastically about Mao, saying he directed wars by relying on *Sanguo Yanyi* (*Romance of the Three Kingdoms*), the Sun Wu Zi's art of war and the maxims of Zeng Guofan and Hu Linyi on military command. [Zeng Guofan (1811-72), was a minister of the late Qing Dynasty; Hu Linyi (1812-61), was an official who worked with Zeng Guofan; the two were known by the combined name of Zeng-Hu.]

In his search for knowledge, Mao read the book *Shengshi Weiyan* (*Alarmist Talks in a Prosperous Age*), the first work he read which dealt with problems of social politics. The author, Zheng Guanying, was a reformist of the late Qing Dynasty. Zheng pondered over why China was poor and weak and concluded that China should develop a capitalist economy and politics guided mainly by Chinese learning but supplemented by Western knowledge. For instance, he urged instituting protective tariffs, developing the machine-building industry, coping with the foreign trade war by starting one of their own, and setting up parliaments. These remarks included in the most influential works advocating reform — works which appeared before contemporary bourgeois reformist movement leaders Kang Youwei and Liang Qichao, were active. Mao liked Zheng's book very much. Even 30 years afterwards he could still outline its contents to others. Mao had a wide interest in books and often mused over problems concerning the present and future of the motherland.

At home, Mao resented his father's autocratic authority and re-

fused to remain within the bounds of the rules set for him. Instead, he liked to go his own way and often demonstrated his disobedience to his father through his actions.

Mao deeply loved his mother, a rural woman who was kindhearted, modest and amiable, fair-minded and happy to help others. Her virtue had a good influence on

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**The great historical change from the old China into the new was the outcome of the arduous and persistent struggle waged by the Chinese people over more than one hundred years. Mao Zedong was one of the most outstanding leaders of the Chinese people in this struggle.**

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Mao. A pious adherent of Buddhism, she imbued her son with the idea of religious belief. This is why Mao believed in gods in his childhood. In his article "Learn From Mao Zedong," Zhou Enlai said, "When his (Mao's) mother was ill, he prayed to Buddha for help." And this was not just an ordinary act of worship. When he was 15 years old, Mao made a pilgrimage to the temple on Hengshan Mountain (or Nanyue) in Hunan, which is hundreds of kilometres away. He walked there, stopping to worship Buddha every few steps.

The following year, 1909, teacher Li Shuqing returned to Shaoshan, publicizing the new reformist ideas and opposing religious beliefs. Mao had heart-to-heart talks with him. Under Li's influence, Mao once again read *Shengshi Weiyan* and other new books, and finally did away with his superstitions.

## Contact With New Trends

When Mao was 16 years old, his father decided to send him to a food store in Xiangtan to serve as an apprentice. At that time Mao heard that the Dongshan Classical School in Xiangxiang, his neighbouring county, had become a new type of higher primary school. Eager to learn more, he firmly asked to study there. Unable to dissuade Mao, his father finally gave in.

On an early autumn day in 1910, Mao left his hometown for the first time and arrived at the Dongshan higher primary school, run by the Xiangxiang county government. He left behind for ever the home which shackled him physically and mentally, and the mountain village where people were so uninformed. Mao's independent and uninhibited nature helped this great man make an important choice, which determined his destiny the rest of his life.

In the Dongshan primary school, besides reading classics Mao received a regular school education for the first time. He learnt modern natural sciences and English. His teachers thought highly of his good comprehension, skill in writing in the classical literary style, and command of Chinese. Many of his articles were so well written that they were widely read in the school, even dozens of years afterwards. The headmaster and teachers said of Mao, "Our school has enrolled a student who has the makings to build our nation."

One of Mao's classmates, Xiao San, was famous for his poems. In his memoirs, Xiao San said he once lent the book *Biographies of the World's Heroes* to Mao Zedong. The book included the biographies of George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Jean Jacques Rousseau and Charles Louis de Secondat Montesquieu. When he returned the book, Mao said apologetically, "Sorry, I've soiled your



book." It turned out that he had marked words and phrases throughout the book with dots or circles. He especially admired Washington, because he led the United States through eight bitter years of war to independence. Mao said, "China should also have such great men as Washington."

In school, Mao first came to know Kang Youwei (1858-1927) and Liang Qichao (1873-1929), and admired them greatly. He borrowed a volume of *Xinmin Congbao* (New People's Journal), a magazine started in Yokohama in 1902 when Liang Qichao fled to Japan after the failure of the Reform Movement of 1898. The journal stopped publication in 1907. Kang Youwei and Liang Qichao, leaders of the bourgeois reformists, had great influence in Chinese ideological circles. However, by the time Mao came to read Liang Qichao's works in this old journal, his influence had waned.

Mao had new feelings as he read Liang's criticism of feudalism and his introduction to Western bourgeois doctrines on social politics. Because he was older and better educated, he obviously assimilated more from these new works than he did from reading *Shengshi Weiyuan* years before.

Mao was also attracted by Liang's well-organized, charming style. He made up his mind to imitate Liang, and wrote some political essays. From the existing copy of *Xinmin Cong Bao* (New People's Journal) which Mao read in those years, we can see the following remarks he wrote: "When the constitution of a constitutional state is drawn up for the people, the monarch will enjoy their support. To the contrary, when the laws and decrees of an autocratic state are formulated by the monarch, he will not convince the people. The former holds true for present-day Britain and Japan while

the latter applies to China's dynasties, which founded the state in a robber's way over the past thousands of years."

Mao was clearly influenced by the ideas in *Xinmin Cong Bao*. This influence lasted quite a long time. In 1918, he and other friends with similar ideas organized the Xinmin Xuehui (New People's Society). The name of this society was derived from Liang Qichao's famous article, *Theory on the New People*.

### Tested Through the Storms Of Revolution

Mao stayed in the Dongshan primary school for only six months because it could not quench his thirst for knowledge. He wanted to go to Changsha, the capital of Hunan Province, where there were more new schools with higher grades. In the spring of 1911, Mao walked to the county of Xiangtan, carrying his luggage on his back. Then he went to Changsha by boat. His stay in Changsha marked a turning point for his future course. Changsha was then the political and cultural centre of Hunan, and the site of constant struggle between the old and the new. Many bourgeois reformists and democratic revolutionaries in modern Chinese history were active in Hunan. Mao felt the real pulse of the times only after he arrived in Changsha.

At that time, the Qing Dynasty was collapsing. Its corrupt rule plunged the people into dire poverty and caused seething discontent among the masses. A year before Mao's arrival, famine victims in the city rioted to take rice from the government stores. They were brutally suppressed by the local authorities; severed heads were hung on flagpoles. Back home in Shaoshan, Mao discussed the incident with his friends, siding with the famine victims. Later he said the incident affected him all his life.

Just at that time, the Tong Meng Hui (Chinese Revolutionary League) led by Dr. Sun Yat-sen (1866-1925) launched a series of armed uprisings against the Qing Dynasty. Around the time of Mao's arrival in Changsha, an uprising against the provincial government broke out in Guangzhou, in which 72 people died. This heroic struggle deeply influenced the people of Hunan Province, including Mao. Eight years afterwards, in an article in *Xiangjiang Pinglun* (Xiangjiang Review), he recalled the armed struggle started by Huang Xing in Guangzhou in 1911, which reverberated throughout the country. When the news reached Hunan, those students who backed the revolution all longed to stage their own uprising. Mao was among them. He was active in the student movement of the Xiangxiang county middle school in the provincial capital, and he and several other radical students not only cut their own braids but forcibly cut others' pigtailed. The absence of the long braid was the mark the Qing court used to distinguish who was rebellious.

Before long, the movement to protect the railways broke out in Sichuan\*, sounding the death knell of the Qing Dynasty. Then a similar movement broke out in Hunan, where the students were especially indignant. Behind closed school gates, many students made impassioned speeches every day, agitating for revolution.

Mao was fully aware that the Qing Dynasty should and would be overthrown. Although he had a naive view of politics as a young man, he had given serious thought to the future of China. On the eve of the 1911 Revolution he heard of Sun Yat-sen and the programme of the Tong Meng Hui. Prompted by excitement, he wrote an

\* An anti-Qing Dynasty movement which broke out in 1911 in south-west China's Sichuan Province and later developed into an armed uprising.

article and pasted it on the wall of the school. The somewhat confused essay conveyed Mao's political views for the first time. He still admired Kang Youwei and Liang Qichao, and was not clear about the difference between them. In his article he proposed that Sun Yat-sen be called back from Japan to be president of the new government, Kang Youwei the premier and Liang Qichao the foreign minister. Mao himself later admitted that this article failed to make clear the political differences between revolutionaries and reformists. However, among his confused ideas there were also some good ones. Of the triumvirate he chose for government leaders, the highest was, after all, the revolutionary Sun Yat-sen and not the reformists Kang Youwei and Liang Qichao.

The Wuchang Uprising on October 10, 1911 changed the course of China's development and the course of Mao's growth. Mao stayed at the Xiangxiang county middle school for only a year and a half. Hunan then became the first province responding to the call for independence. On October 22, the Hunan military government, headed by revolutionaries, was established. In only 10 days, a constitutionalist organized a mutiny, ambushing troops killed the revolutionaries, and the constitutionalist himself took over the post of military-governor of the province. The political situation really changed a lot in one month!

Mao witnessed all these changes from Changsha. He intended to respond to the call of the Hubei military government and join the revolutionary army in Wuchang. He heard that Wuhan's streets were damp, so he specially borrowed a pair of rubber boots from his friend. But after Hunan declared independence, he could join the revolution right in Changsha. At the end of that October, Mao became a private in the first batta-

lion of the 50th regiment of the 25th mixed brigade of the Changsha New Army.

Later on, Mao described his military life: "I received seven yuan in pay and provisions. . . . I spent two yuan on food and some money on buying water. Soldiers had to go to the outskirts to fetch water. But I was a student and disdained to carry water, so I bought water from the porter. I spent all the remaining money on buying newspaper, because I was insatiably eager for knowledge. Socialism was discussed in *Xiangjiang Ribao*, a daily advocating revolution. In it I came to know the term of socialism for the first time. Other students and soldiers and I also discussed socialism, but in fact that was only social-reformism."

In the barracks, Mao came into direct contact with workers and peasants who had joined the army and was on good terms with them.

In March 1912 the Nanjing Provisional Government and the Beijing government agreed to unify the north and south. Thinking that there was no more work for him to do in the revolution, Mao left the army and returned to his studies. He had been a soldier for only six months.

### Study on His Own

Mao entered several schools — a police school, a school of political science and law, a commercial school and an industrial school — but none were to his liking. He left each after staying just a month or so. In the spring of 1912, he placed first in the entrance examination and enrolled in the first middle school run by the provincial government. But he was again dissatisfied because he thought there were too few courses offered and was disgusted with the school regulations. He borrowed the book *Yupi Tongjian Qilan* (a book consisting of 116 volumes with the written comments by Gao Zong of the Qing Dynasty) from

a Chinese-language teacher who regarded him highly and read it with great interest. Rather than go to school, he studied on his own. In this way he could read what books he liked.

Mao left this school after six months, drew up an independent study plan and went to the provincial library every day. He followed his study plan seriously and with perseverance, remaining in the library every day until closing time.

Deep in study at the library Mao took the first step towards the world. Everyday when he passed the world map, he would stop and look carefully. He felt the world was really large. In ancient times China was said to be "located within the four seas," meaning it encompassed the whole world. But in fact, seen on the map it accounted for only a very small part. Hunan Province appeared much smaller and Xiangtan was not even named.

He read greedily in the library, including Adam Smith's *The Wealth of Nations*, Darwin's *Origin of Species*, a book on ethics by John Stuart Mill, works by Rousseau, Spencer's *Logic* and a book on law by Montesquieu. While conscientiously studying the history and geography of Russia, the United States, Britain, France and other countries, he also read poems, novels and ancient Greek stories.

Famous works by 18th and 19th century European sociologists, such as Smith's *The Wealth of Nations*, Montesquieu's *De L'Esprit des Lois*, John Stuart Mill's *On Liberty* and Herbert Spencer's *The Principles of Sociology* had been translated by Yan Fu, a contemporary bourgeois reformist. They were already outdated when Yan Fu introduced them to China. By that time, Marxism had emerged and exerted a profound influence on the advanced West European nations, overshadowing the doc-

trines of Smith and others. But, compared with China's traditional feudal classics, these European works seemed far more progressive than the *Analects of Confucius*, *Mencius* and the *Yupi Tongjian Qilan*. Mao received great enlightenment from these books.

The book *Theory of Evolution*, translated and edited by Yan Fu on the basis of Huxley's *Evolution and Ethics*, was mixed with his own comments. He opposed those Chinese who loved the ancient while neglecting the present. He said if China wanted to save itself from subjugation and ensure its survival, the only way was to change its policy as soon as possible and strengthen the present in order to triumph over the ancient.

The translations by Yan Fu had a great influence on the young Mao. Later, in Mao's work "On the People's Democratic Dictatorship," he juxtaposed Yan Fu and Hong Xiuquan (leader of a peasant uprising during the Qing Dynasty), Kang Youwei and Sun Yat-sen as "representatives of those who had looked to the West for truth before the Communist Party of China was born."

After six months of independent study, Mao's father forced him to return to a regular school by threatening to withhold the financial support he had been sending.

In the spring of 1913, Mao, then 20, again placed first in the entrance examination and enrolled in the Fourth Normal School, run by the Hunan provincial government. After reading Mao's composition, the headmaster said admiringly, "How many among my colleagues can write such a good piece?" The following spring, the Fourth Normal School was incorporated into the famous First Normal School. Mao studied there for five and a half years, graduating in the summer of 1918.

(To Be Continued).



Lao She at work, 1953.

## Lao She, a Cultural Giant

**L**AO She (1899-1966), a prolific and outstanding novelist, playwright and master of folk literature, was one of the few in China to be called "the people's artist."

One of the earliest victims of the "cultural revolution," he was persecuted to death in August 1966, although his name was cleared in 1978. In recent years, many of his works and translations have been reprinted. His play, *Teahouse*, was taken to Europe and Japan after being restaged in Beijing, and was favourably received. His novel, *Camel Xiangzi*, was made into a film, which won acclaim at home and abroad.

### Writing Career

Lao She, of the Manchu nationality, was born into a poverty-stricken imperial city garrison's family. He first came to the attention of Chinese writers in the late 1920s with the three novels he wrote in Britain — *Old Zhang's Philosophy*, *Zhao Ziyue* and *Two*

*Men by the Name of Ma* — which sarcastically describe the life of Chinese city people.

In the 40 years which followed, he wrote 16 novels, more than 70 short stories, 36 plays and librettos (for Beijing opera, musicals and *Quju*, a kind of opera derived from ballad singing), a long poem of 4,000 lines and more than 300 short poems. Other works of this versatile writer include essays, comic dialogues, ballads and literary theory. He also translated 20 foreign works, including R.M. Church's *Dante* and George Bernard Shaw's *The Apple Cart*. His own works have been translated and published in more than 20 countries.

The artistic charm of Lao She's works lies in his sense of humour and biting sarcasm. Some people have likened him to Mark Twain or Charlie Chaplin. Blended with bitter tears and irony, his humour can both make people laugh heartily and give vent to their agony.

His works deal mainly with the lives of the common people, es-



pecially those in Beijing, his native city. The characters born from his pen are from every corner of life, including butchers, coolies, rickshaw pullers, undertakers, witches, midwives, matchmakers, barbers, pedlars, opera and ballad singers, comic dialogue performers, shadow boxing masters, bandits, prostitutes, policemen, descendants of Manchu nobles and petty intellectuals. Through this wide array of characters, Lao She presented an urban life brimming with local flavour.

*Camel Xiangzi*, a novel published in 1936, is representative of Lao She's works. The tragedy of Xiangzi, a rickshaw puller, vividly reflects the miserable life of the working people in old China. The work has already been translated into almost 20 foreign languages.

Honoured as a great man of letters, Lao She was also known for providing a view of the whole society through glimpses of places most people tend to overlook. He said, "A teahouse is a small society." In *Teahouse*, a three-act play written in 1957, the writer

lays bare the darkness of old China by following the fortune of a Beijing teahouse from the last years of the Qing Dynasty, through the days of the northern warlords following the 1911 Revolution, up to the period of Kuomintang reactionary rule. Some foreign drama critics regard this play as a Chinese epic.

In another play, *Dragon Beard Ditch*, Lao She presents a sharp contrast between the old China and the new by describing the tremendous changes in the life of people living along a smelly ditch. The play is one of Lao She's earliest works praising the new society in China.

He once wrote that in the early 1950s, when he first read Mao Zedong's "Talks at the Yanan Forum on Literature and Art" (1942), he was "greatly elated." He discovered who and how literature and art must serve. After reading Mao's work, his enthusiasm for writing rushed out like water from an opened dam, and the range of his subject matter expanded. He became one of the most active modern Chinese writers. He wrote

23 plays after liberation, and countless other works of fiction. Through the humour and vitality of his characters, the writer portrayed the new look of a new era of socialism.

### People's Artist

In 1951, Lao She was awarded the title "the people's artist" by the Beijing Municipal People's Government. This is the highest honour given to those who have made great contributions to literature and art in a country where the people are their own masters.

At the meeting to mark the 85th anniversary of his birth on March 15 this year in Beijing, Peng Zhen, former mayor of Beijing and now Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, told the 300 people assembled that he had witnessed how Lao She served the people after liberation. He met privately with the writer when the play *Dragon Beard Ditch* was written and staged.

"I found that he was very familiar with the society of Beijing and was very warm towards the Beijing people, especially the labourers here. I will for ever think of him as a people's artist," Peng Zhen said.

Ba Jin, one of China's most famous modern writers and Chairman of the Chinese Writers' Association, remembered Lao She in a message he sent from Shanghai. He recalled, "Since I came to know him in the early 1930s in Beijing, I have followed the development of his work. His whole lifetime creation was centred around his desire to make the country powerful and prosperous and the people happy. He loved the people and was concerned about their welfare. His works depict the daily life of the ordinary Chinese people and what they think and feel. I respect him a

Party and state leaders Peng Zhen and Xi Zhongxun with Lao She's widow Hu Jieqing (first from left, seated) and other members of the writer's family.



great deal," said the 79-year-old writer.

Cao Yu, Chairman of the Chinese Playwrights' Association and a playwright as famous as Lao She, recalled when the two of them visited the United States in the 1940s to lecture, at the invitation of the US State Department. At that time Lao She's masterpiece, *Camel Xiangzi*, was a bestseller in the United States, which made his appearance even more enjoyable. His sense of humour and witty remarks frequently drew applause from his audience.

One day the two writers went to visit a friend in New Mexico. The hospitable hostess asked Lao She in front of many guests, "How should America help China now?" At that time, the US army was helping the Kuomintang reactionaries to wage civil war and slaughter the Chinese people. Lao She replied, "The best way your government can help us is to send your army home." His words stunned her other guests. He himself became very serious and his sense of humour disappeared completely. "There, on him, I saw the image of a great Chinese man, the image of a great Chinese writer," Cao Yu said.

Zhong Jingwen, a folklorist and Vice-Chairman of the Chinese Folk Art Study Society, said that after the Japanese imperialists invaded China in 1937, Lao She, who was then known as an accomplished novelist, widened his scope. He wrote the lyrics for many ballads, in order to awaken the masses. He regarded literature as a weapon, as Zhong said. Novels and plays were like cannon and ballads, bayonets.

After New China was founded, Lao She devoted more of his efforts to popular literature, as he thought this would serve his less educated readers more effectively. He also joined a folk art study group, made friends with folk



Lao She with his wife and their youngest daughter, in the spring of 1954.

artists, trained *Quyí* (ballad singing and story telling) performers and wrote many essays on the forms, characteristics, methods of creation and development of this art.

Professor Zhong added, "It is both rare and commendable that such a famous writer made such a great contribution to this field."

Members of the Beijing People's Art Theatre regarded Lao She as a kind teacher. Beginning with *Dragon Beard Ditch*, the troupe has put on six plays Lao She wrote specially for them, and *Camel Xiangzi* which was adapted from the novel.

In recent years, the number of performances and the size of audiences for Lao She's plays have all surpassed those before the "cultural revolution" began. The plays are favourites both of the performers and people of all trades.

Xia Chun, manager of the theatre, said at the anniversary meeting, "Whenever we rehearsed Lao She's plays, we felt he was still with us. We seemed to hear his hearty laughter and his typical

Beijing-dialect humorous remarks. Whenever we put on his plays we felt he was still sitting among the audience and watching us."

Xia recalled that when the writer was alive, he was so concerned about the performances that he often came to see the plays when they were staged. Every time, after the curtain fell, he would come back stage to give the performers his opinions about their lines, actions and eye expressions. To the staff of the theatre, "he was also like a kind elder," Xia added.

Hu Jieqing, Lao She's widow and an accomplished painter in the traditional Chinese style, was the last to address the meeting. She said, "Lao She said in 1938 that he had just one wish. He hoped that after his death people would put a tablet in front of his tomb with the words, 'Here lies a man who has done his duty in literature.' Today, the speeches made by his friends are like a huge monument, far greater than what Lao She could have hoped for in his lifetime." □

# East & West Exchanging Artistic Traditions

by ZHAO YU

**A**N exhibition of paintings by the renowned Chinese-French painter Zhao Wuji (Zao Wou-ki) was held last autumn, in Beijing and at the artist's old school, the Zhejiang Academy of Fine Arts in east China's scenic city of Hangzhou. The 27 oils and 10 traditional Chinese ink-and-wash paintings on display show the artist's distinctive style, merging the techniques of both the East and the West.

Born in 1921 into a banker's family, the young Wuji was influenced by his father's love for calligraphy and painting. In his childhood, he began to read many thread-bound Chinese classics and practise calligraphy. At 14, he enrolled at the Hangzhou School of Fine Arts (now the Zhejiang Academy of Fine Arts), and became a teacher at the school after graduation. In 1948, he left his home for Paris.

In an article introducing Zhao, Yu Feng, a noted artist and writer and former member of the Secretariat of the Chinese Artists Association, said that as far as she knew, Zhao did not really understand the subtlety of Chinese painting in his adolescence. Instead, he learnt Western-style painting then. She remembered that the tiny oil paintings done by this mild young lecturer in the 1940s resembled Vlaminck's rural landscapes or the children's playgrounds in Chagall's paintings. The freshness and charm they exuded could never be found in those stereotyped oils painted by students at the academies of fine arts.

Today, after a careful study of Zhao's works and the road the painter has travelled, Yu Feng is convinced that "the Chinese tradi-

tion has always been kept alive in his heart."

In 1949, a year after he settled in Paris, Zhao held an exhibition of his paintings there for the first time. Commenting on his works, Bernard Dorival, Curator of the Musée National d'Art Moderne, said Zhao succeeded in creating a most enjoyable synthesis which is Chinese in essence but modern French in some aspects.

Zhao travelled in Western Europe, the United States and Japan for many years after that. He was able to contemplate the rich and varied but confusingly complicated artistic treasures of the world. He studied them seriously, in an effort to find his own road and create his own artistic style. An important influence which brought about the turning point of his artistic career was the paintings of Paul Klee and Paul Cezanne. Seeing Klee's work, Zhao remembered the artistic drive he had vaguely experienced a long time ago from Chinese art, and from what he had presented in his own works. From then on, he gained the confidence to pursue the exquisiteness of Chinese ancient art and calligraphy.

Zhao was also stimulated by Cezanne's unrestrained style, which recalled the subtlety of freehand Chinese landscape paintings into Zhao's mind, and he later said, "It is Cezanne who taught me how to become a Chinese painter again."

According to Yu Feng, Zhao also applied calligraphic brushwork to his paintings, which imbued his works with power, speed and rhythm, overwhelming their viewers with the buoyancy of life. Zhao's skill became more mature in the 1970s. His paintings since then are full of vivid poetry, giving their viewers a joy-

ous feeling of mingling with nature.

After decades exploring both Western and Eastern art, Zhao is a world-renowned artist, and has blazed a new trail for the development of traditional Chinese painting. He has moved to the fore among Western artists because of his special ability to embody the spirit and rules of Chinese artistic traditions in his works.

Now, Zhao's paintings are represented in the collections of more than 70 museums in 20 countries and regions. In 1975, Zhao won the Chevalier of Legion of Honour and the title Officer of Arts and Letters of France. Coming home last year, the painter stunned his Chinese colleagues and audience with his unique style.

In fact, Zhao is not the first artist to succeed in combining Western and Eastern styles. The late famous artist Xu Beihong (Xu Peon), and the veteran painters Feng Gangbai and Liu Haisu, all went to the West at the beginning of this century to study Western-style painting. They overcame many difficulties, trying to transplant the techniques of Western oil painting to China, in an effort to combine the best of Chinese and Western paintings. They incorporated their great skill in realistic painting with the techniques of classical Western art to portray the daily life and moral spirit of the Chinese people.

In the 1930s, some other artists introduced various schools of Western painting to China. The influence of these schools was reflected not only in oil painting but also in cartoons, decorative drawings and black-and-white paintings appearing in popular magazines.

(Continued on p. 31.)



## How to Reform Education

from "GAOJIAO ZHANXIAN"  
(Journal of Higher Education)

**I**N order to help students study by themselves more effectively, a recent article in the *Journal of Higher Education* suggested the following.

— Transform traditional thinking about education. Primary and middle school students, and even those at university, are used to attending lectures and don't like to read more or do exercises by themselves. Teachers are also willing to provide more details in their lectures. But practice shows that the more details teachers give, the lower the students' ability to study and analyse problems by themselves.

— Reform the teaching programme. With the current programme, teachers spend much more time giving detailed lectures in class, fearing their students will meet with difficulties in class or in reviewing. As a result, more and more materials are included in the teaching programme, more teaching hours are needed, and less and less time is left for students to study individually.

— Change the subject matter discussed in class. It is necessary to change the current practice in which the subject of each class is pre-arranged. While guaranteeing the basic requirements of the teaching programme, teachers should be able to lecture more freely, and discuss matters not directly related to the subject, in

order to encourage their students' interest in study.

— Improve teaching methods. According to the traditional method, teachers lecture and students listen. Other more flexible methods should be adopted to develop the students' ability to study by themselves.

— Reform the examination system. In the past examinations only included what teachers discussed in class and the students answered what the teachers asked. This must be changed. Apart from answering questions, students must also be allowed to ask questions during examinations.

— Improve the teaching of scientific experiments. The students now carry out experiments on instruments arranged by their teachers, following the steps laid out for them, with no need to think for themselves. In the future it is necessary to add an experiment designed and set up by the students themselves.

— Change the students' study habits and attitude. Now many students are too lazy to think independently, and rely on their teachers to analyse problems. They pay more attention to learning facts and less to improving their study habits and developing their ability to think for themselves.

## Urban Housing Construction (1979-82)

from "WEN ZHAI"  
(Digest)

**T**HE construction of urban residential housing has developed rapidly since 1978, setting a record every year. From 1979 to 1982 state-owned and collectively own-

ed enterprises in urban areas earmarked 51,510 million yuan to build 365 million square metres of houses. That is 40 per cent of all urban housing built in the 33 years since the founding of New China (not including the houses built by individuals).

Year	Investment (100 million yuan)	Floor Space (10,000 sq. m)	Per-Capita Floor Space (sq. m)	Number of Apartments (10,000)
1979	77.3	6,256	3.7	125
1980	123.7	9,150	3.9	183
1981	135.0	9,387	4.12	188
1982	179.1	11,790	4.4	236

## Four Sisters Care for Lonely Granny

from "RENMIN RIBAO"  
(People's Daily)

**I**N granny Zheng Yucai's house in Lianjiang County, Guangdong Province, a girl is busy every morning with the household chores, fetching water, cooking, sweeping the floor and washing clothes. When all the work is done, she says good-bye and goes to work in her family's fields.

The girl is Xiao Xiuquan, granny Zheng's neighbour. Xiuquan, like her three elder sisters, has taken care of Zheng, winning the praise of the other villagers.

In the spring of 1968, 66-year-old Zheng suddenly fell ill. When Communist Party member Xiao Guanglai found out, he rushed to the commune clinic for the doctor. Zheng suffered from acute pneumonia and needed special care, but she had no relatives or children. The father, after consulting with his wife, decided to ask his eldest daughter Xiao Faying to look after the granny.

Xiao Faying bought medicine and spoon-fed Zheng every day. Realizing it would be difficult for her to get up for drinking water and go to the toilet, Faying moved her bed into the granny's house and lived with her. When Zheng

lost her appetite because of her long illness, Faying made soup with eggs every day. She also bought lean pork at the local fair with her own money and cooked special foods for Zheng. Thanks to Xiao's care, granny Zheng recovered. But Faying still came to help. On holidays, she asked the granny to join her family for dinner, or sent her good dishes. She treated Zheng as her own grandmother.

In the winter of 1977 Faying got married. On the eve of her wedding, she went to the granny's house with her younger sister and told Zheng, "My sister Huaying will come here to take care of you instead of me when I get married." So Huaying took over her sister's duties. When Huaying got married

she asked her younger sister, Xiao Xueying, to replace her. By the end of last year the task had fallen to Xiao Xiuquan, the youngest of the four.

Now granny Zheng is 81 years old and cannot live alone. Xiuquan spends most of her spare time taking care of Zheng and chatting with her. Granny Zheng is very happy in her later years.

## Queer Date Tree

from "GONGREN RIBAO"  
(Workers' Daily)

**C**YLINDERS, eggs, cubes, spindles, balls, gourds, oblateness, kidneys and the like — one date tree, planted in Xiajin County, Shandong Province, during the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), bears fruit which differs in all these shapes but not in kind. Once in a while it bears differently shaped dates on one branch. An average harvest is 500-600 kilogrammes of dates a year. The largest crop was 850 kilogrammes.

(Continued from p. 29.)

Xu Beihong, who became an accomplished oil painter during this period, applied Western methods of perspective and realism to traditional Chinese painting. Another artist, Lin Fengmian, combined the characteristics of the Western modernists' colour and structure with Chinese paintings to create his own style of coloured ink-and-wash painting. Still other Chinese oil painters were greatly influenced by Russian paintings.

Artists, such as Zhang Daqian, who went to Hongkong or Taiwan in the 1940s and 1950s, also broke through the confines of traditional Chinese painting by incorporating

the techniques of modern Western painting into traditional Chinese style.

Chang Yu and Pan Yuliang, deceased Chinese artists who had lived in Paris for a long time, created their own distinctive styles by applying the techniques of Chinese ink-and-brush and line-drawing paintings to oil painting. Many other artists now living abroad became famous because of their exceptional skills in traditional Chinese painting. They have made great contributions to the spread of Chinese culture abroad.

The significance of Zhao Wuji's work goes beyond the

beauty of his paintings; he serves as a great ambassador of cultural exchange. Just as we can make foreign things serve China, so can the foreigners make the best use of Chinese things. Part of the importance of artists like Zhao Wuji is that while residing in a foreign land, they have opened up a new field of art somewhere between the East and West.

Zhao's exhibition also showed people the great potentials for developing Chinese art. Aside from the nourishment Chinese artists can absorb from abroad, there is a vast wealth of our own traditions which can nurture our artists for a long time to come. □

## Awards for Best Short Stories of 1983

Twenty short stories published in 1983 received awards at a ceremony sponsored by the Chinese Writers' Association last month.

"Short stories have made steady advancement and improvement, both in ideological contents and in artistic standards," said Feng Mu, a literary critic and Vice-Chairman of the Chinese Writers' Association, at the meeting.

The outstanding short stories written last year are characterized by their close links with society and their reflection of the new facets and trends in Chinese life.

In *Enclosing Wall*, the top award winner, the author Lu Wenfu exposes and criticizes bad working styles—empty talk, sticking to out-of-date conventions and causing delays. The story takes place in an architectural research institute. The director and the architects hold several meetings to decide how to repair the collapsed

enclosing wall, but cannot come to any practical conclusion. Outside their meeting room, a junior staff member works two days and two nights, and manages to build a solid and graceful enclosing wall. By describing this minor incident, the author depicts the obstacles standing in the way of reform.

*Throes*, by Deng Gang, describes how the waves of reform wash over a common worker's life. Guo Dazhu, the hero of the story, is an intelligent and staunch man. Unfortunately, during the "cultural revolution" he learnt no production techniques, because he engaged only in political movements and eventually became a cadre. But, when the economic responsibility system begins to be implemented in his factory, the staff is cut back, and he is made an ordinary worker. He finds himself unwelcome in any of the production groups, because he has

never done any actual labour. He suffers several upheavals before he finally realizes what he must do.

By describing the typical experience of the worker, his worries, his regret and his reawakening, the author brings out the truth that the tide of reform is not only changing the factory but is also changing the ideology of the workers.

Zhang Xianliang, a middle-aged writer who also won a short story award in 1980, writes about the sincere feelings between people in *Xiaoerbulake*. The story is about a truck driver's two marriages.

First, he marries a girl of whom he knows nothing. Later on, he finds that the girl, who was forced to marry him, is already in love with another man. He is angered and agonized, feeling wronged. However, he lets the loving couple marry each other, and helps them continuously as a friend.

The second time, he meets a young woman carrying a very sick baby. Anxious to help, he takes the woman to hospital, despite her distrust of him. He is later told that the woman was once deceived and the child has no father. Through consistent, sincere efforts, the driver wins the woman's love at last.

In vivid detail, the story deals with a common theme—sympathy, trust, tolerance and helpfulness are the pillars of relationships between people.

Among the 21 winning writers (one of the stories is co-authored by a couple), 14 have come into the national limelight for the first time. The second prize winner,

Zhang Xianliang (centre).







Shi Tiesheng (seated).

*My Faraway Qingping River Bend*, is by Shi Tiesheng. It is the story of an old peasant's concern for an educated city youth who has been sent to the northern Shaanxi countryside during the "cultural revolution." His work has received high acclaim for its new approach to describing the life of educated young people, and for its rhythmic language.

One of the third-time winners

is Wureertu, a writer of the Ewenki nationality. His *Amber-Coloured Campfire* describes a warm-hearted Ewenki hunter who is always ready to help others.

*Relatives*, by Rim Won Chun of the Korean nationality, is the first short story commended in a national selection to be written in a minority language.

Twenty-seven-year-old Li Hang-

yu is the youngest award winner. His work reflects the changing countryside.

This is the sixth annual national selection of the best short stories. The winners demonstrate the continuous progress made by China's short story writers. They also illustrate how society has promoted the advance of literature.

If, as it is said, in the first years following the downfall of the gang of four Chinese literature was one of grief, pain and looking backwards, now it can be said the historical wound has healed. Literature has taken new root in the land of social reform since 1981. Chinese writers treasure the future of their country. Hoping the past mistakes will not be repeated, they write about what they have seen with their own eyes and what is happening today in China.

But this is not enough. "Compared with the dramatically developing social reality," Feng Mu said, "the literary works produced in the past years are still lagging behind. More works deeply rooted in real life are expected."

## Winning Musicians Show Their Talents

Music lovers in the capital enjoyed a series of concerts given by 15 international prize-winning Chinese musicians\* this March.

Guo Shuzhen, a soprano, won a gold medal at the 1957 Moscow Youth Festival. She is now an associate professor at the Central Conservatory of Music. At the concerts, she sang an aria from Puccini's *Gianni Schicci* and a sad song from *The Yellow River Cantata*, which is well known in China.

Li Xinchang, 48, a baritone, won a prize at the 1960 Second Schumann Vocal Competition in Berlin. He returned to China several months ago, after studying three years in Italy. His performances were very well received.

Ye Ying, a soprano, graduated from the Central Conservatory of Music sixth months ago. She is one of the promising sopranos trained after the chaotic "cultural revolution." In 1981, she won a prize at the 10th Rio de Janeiro International Vocal Competition. Ye has a smooth and graceful voice.

Two other young singers, Fu Haijing, a baritone, and Liang Ning, a mezzo-soprano, surprised London opera-goers when they sang in many different Western languages at the Benson and Hedges Gold Awards for Singers. Each came home with a prize.

Li Xuequan, 52, was the only

flute player at the concerts. He has been playing first flute with the Central Philharmonic Society since he won a gold medal at the 1963 World Youth Festival in Romania. He performed Schumann's *Romance Op. 94* and a piece by the young Chinese composer Huang Anlun. His fine technique and deep feeling probed all the moods of the two pieces.

Four stars of the concerts were violinists in their teens. Hu Kun is the first mainland violinist to win a prize at the 4th Sibelius

\* Since the 1950s, 119 mainland musicians have won prizes at various international music competitions and festivals.



(Top row, from left) Hu Kun, Wang Zhengrong, He Hongying and Xue Wei. (Bottom row, from left) Fu Haijing, Liang Ning, Wei Danwen and Ye Ying.

Competition in Finland. He showed why he was a prize-winner with his performance of Tartini's *G Minor Sonata—The Devil's Trill*, a very difficult piece to play.

He Hongying and Wang Zhengrong, students at the Central Conservatory of Music, won prizes in the Yehudi Menuhin Violin Competition last year.

Xue Wei, also a student of the Central Conservatory of Music, won the third prize at the Second International Music Competition in Japan last year. His performance of Sarasate's *Fantaisie* based on Bizet's *Carmen* displayed his excellent technique.

Among the five pianists, Zhou Guangren, professor of piano at the Central Conservatory of Music, was the first prize-winning pianist of New China. She won prizes at the Third World Youth Festival in Berlin in 1951 and at the First Schumann International Piano Competition in 1956.

One of the selections Professor Zhou performed was *The Cowherd and the Flute* by the famous Chinese composer He Luting. In her

40-year career, begun in Shanghai at 16, she has performed this happy and graceful piece, full of folk flavour, many times at home and abroad. She played with great enthusiasm at the concert, combining a delicate style with a strict technical approach.

Liu Shikun, a featured pianist with the Central Philharmonic Society, performed *Hungarian Rhapsody No. 6* by Liszt at the concerts. When Liu was 17, he won third prize at the 1956 Liszt Competition in Budapest, and was awarded a lock of Liszt's hair by the Hungarian Government.

Liu, and all the pianists, played on an instrument made by the Beijing Musical Instruments Factory. He also played the first movement of Beethoven's *Moonlight Sonata* at the concert, just to prove the high quality of Chinese-made pianos for different kinds of music.

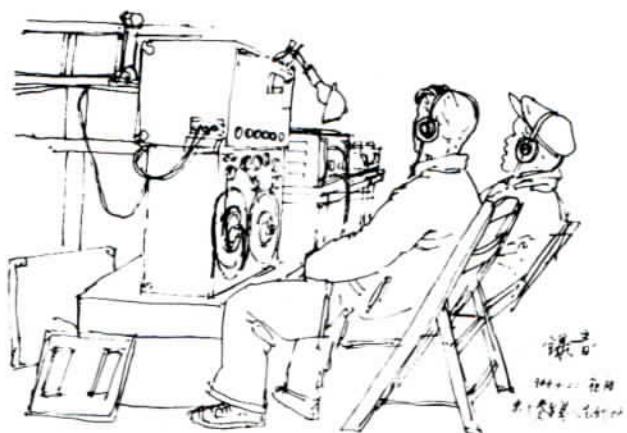
Two other pianists, Bao Huiqiao and Li Qifang, won prizes in Enesco competitions in the 1960s. Bao played a piece by the Romanian maestro Enesco and two

pieces by Chinese composers. Her performance showed her excellent technique.

Li Qifang, who studied piano under a Polish master, played Chopin's *Fantaisie in A Flat Major Op. 61*. Her performances showed her full understanding of Chopin and his works, and her superb skill.

Wei Danwen, 19, a student of Li Qifang, won sixth place at the 19th Concours International Marquerite Long-Jacques Thibaud. He performed a piece by Liszt. Audiences could feel the nimble grace of his performances.

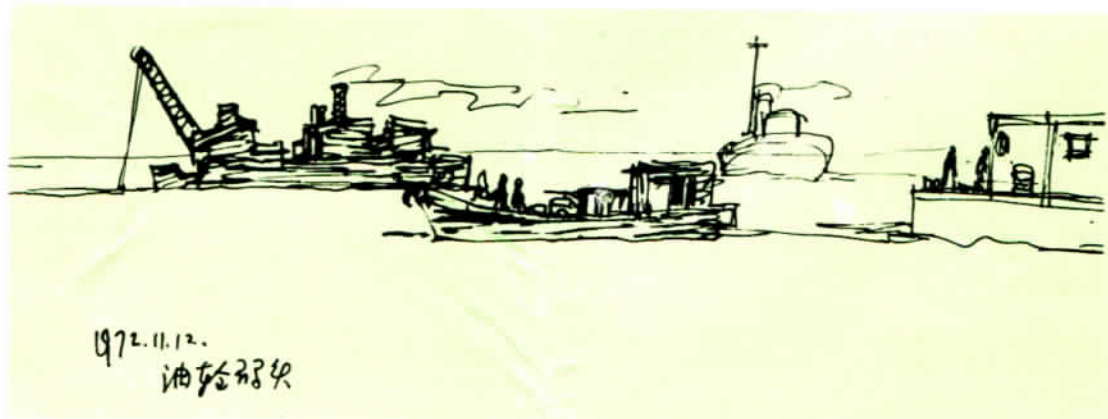
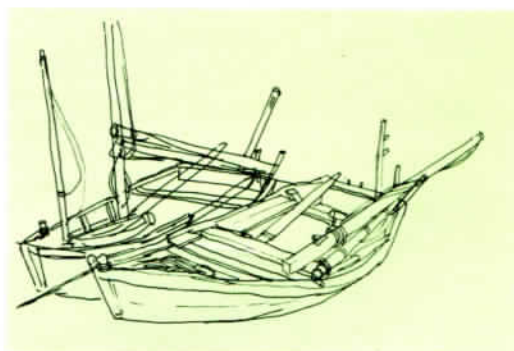
Another star of the concerts was the new grand piano, named after well-known Chinese composer Xian Xinghai (1905-45). Xinghai pianos enjoy a high reputation in China for their good sound quality and excellent action. The Beijing Musical Instruments Factory was the first to produce Chinese pianos. There are now three more piano factories in Shanghai, Guangzhou and Yingkou. Together, they produce about 14,300 pianos a year.



## ART PAGE

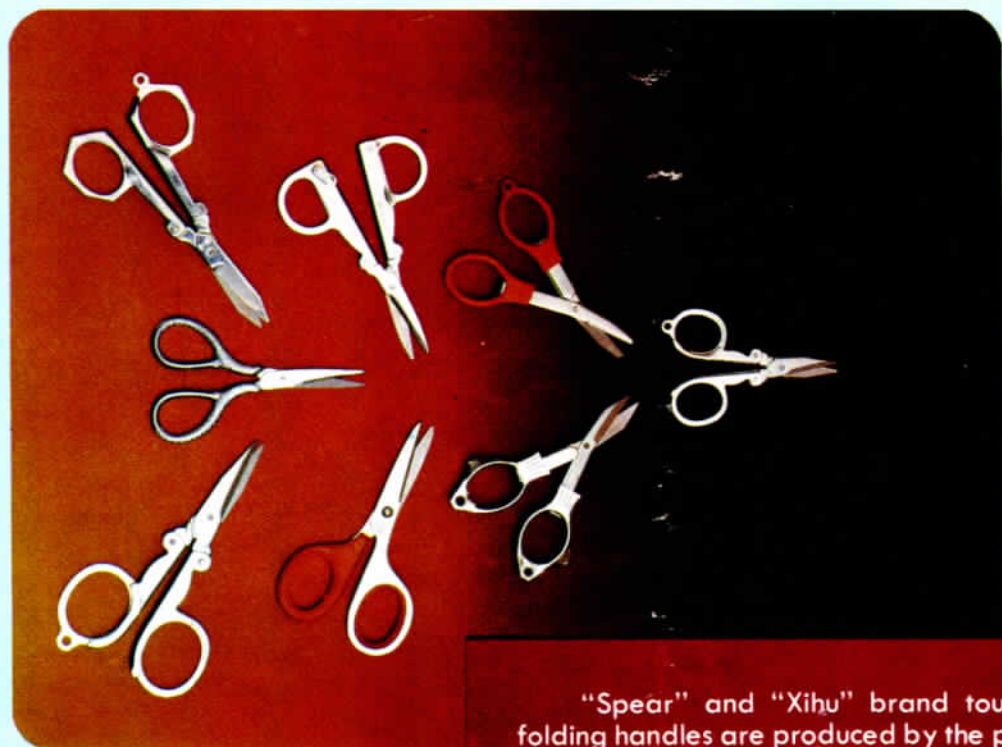
### Sketches by Chen Baochang

Born in 1938 in coastal Qinghuangdao City, Hebei Province, Chen Baochang is now working as an artist for a cinema in his native city. Adept at sketching, Chen also taught himself painting techniques when he was a boy.





# TOURIST SCISSORS FROM ZHEJIANG



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