

China Reconstructs

VOL. XXX
NO. 7
JULY
1981

Australia: A\$12.00, New Zealand: NZ\$10.80, U.K.: 39p, U.S.A.: \$0.78



• **FROM TEXTILE WORKER
TO MINISTER**

• **Shanxi,
China's Coal Base**
• **Life of Tianjin Workers**





井冈八角楼
一九六一年十月
一九六一年十月
一九六一年十月
一九六一年十月

Jinggang Mountains
by Cong Wenzhi

VOL. XXX NO. 7

JULY 1981

CONTENTS

SOONG CHING LING

Named Honorary Chairman of the People's Republic of China	3
Becomes Member of Chinese Communist Party	3
Speech: In Equality, For Peace	5
Canadian Award Marks Friendship	4

Political

From Mill Hand to Minister	6
Thoughts on an Anniversary	10
Major Events in the Chinese Communist Party's 60 Years	13

Economic

Shanxi Province — China's Largest Coal Base	16
Economic Results in 1980 (Charts)	24
Workers' Living Standards in Tianjin	45
Wang Jinling, the Soybean King	57

Education/Science

A Liberal Arts College Founded by the People	60
Xiamen (Amoy) University's Overseas Correspondence College	33
Mount Gongga — Biologists' Paradise	34

Culture

2,000 Years of Chinese Pagodas	27
Hongkong Photographer Exhibits in Beijing	42
Tianjin Collectors Donate Art Treasures to the State	62

Medicine/Society

A Woman Plastic Surgeon	32
Active Life for the Handicapped	48
Sports Meet for the Blind and Deaf-Mutes	50

Friendship

A Neighborly Visit in the Philippines	64
---------------------------------------	----

Nationalities

Dramatic Changes for the Kuongs	68
---------------------------------	----

Across the Land

The Ancient Port of Anhai	51
Changzhou Combs	56

Columns and Specials

Our Postbag	23
Chinese Staple Foods	58
Legends and Historical Tales: Nu Wa Patches Up the Sky	67
Chinese Cookery: Bean Vermicelli with Dressing	59
Language Corner: Lesson 7	
The Lantern Festival	70

Cover Pictures

Front: Hao Jianxiu as a young worker, and as Textile Minister	<i>Xinhua and Liu Chen</i>
Back: "Mirage"	<i>Jian Qingfu</i>

Articles of the Month



60 Years of the Chinese Communist Party

This month marks Party's 60th birthday. A brief chronological retrospect with pictures. Page 13

Thoughts on an Anniversary

Sidelights in China, old and new, during the same period by a long-time journalist who has lived here throughout. Page 10

SOONG CHING LING

Eminent stateswoman becomes member of the Chinese Communist Party and Honorary Chairman of the People's Republic of China. "In Equality, For Peace", her most recent speech.

From Textile Worker to Minister

The textile worker Hao Jianxiu, about whom China Reconstructs first wrote in 1952 when she was a girl of 17 and invented a new method in cotton spinning, was recently appointed China's Minister of Textile Industry. Her experience casts light on the growth of the new working class in new China. Page 6



China's Largest Coal Base



Shanxi province has about one-third of the China's coal deposits and is the biggest coal field in China. The article tells of new construction and mechanization of its mines and the life of miners. Page 16



Soong Ching Ling speaking at the First Plenary Session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference on September 21, 1949. At the conference she was chosen a vice-chairman of the government of the People's Republic of China.

Soong Ching Ling Named Honorary Chairman of the People's Republic of China

THE Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, meeting on May 16, 1981, unanimously adopted a decision to confer the honorific title of Honorary Chairman of the People's Republic of China on Soong Ching Ling.

The decision states:

"Comrade Soong Ching Ling unswervingly devoted her early years to the cause of the Chinese revolution alongside the great revolutionary forerunner, Dr. Sun Yat-sen. She has firmly stood by the Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese people during the people's democratic revolution and the socialist revolution and socialist construction in China.

She is one of the beloved and respected leaders of the Chinese people of all nationalities, including the Taiwan compatriots and overseas Chinese. She is a great patriotic, democratic, internationalist and communist fighter and a long-tested pioneer in the cause of defending world peace.

Comrade Soong Ching Ling has made brilliant contributions to the state and people in the course of our country's revolution and construction. In view of this, the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress hereby decides to confer the honorific title of Honorary Chairman of the People's Republic of China on Comrade Soong Ching Ling."

Soong Ching Ling Becomes Member of the Chinese Communist Party

BELOW is the text of the decision taken by the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party on May 15, 1981 to accept Comrade Soong Ching Ling as a full member of the Party.

Comrade Soong Ching Ling devoted her youth to the cause of the Chinese revolution alongside the great revolutionary forerunner, Dr. Sun Yat-sen.

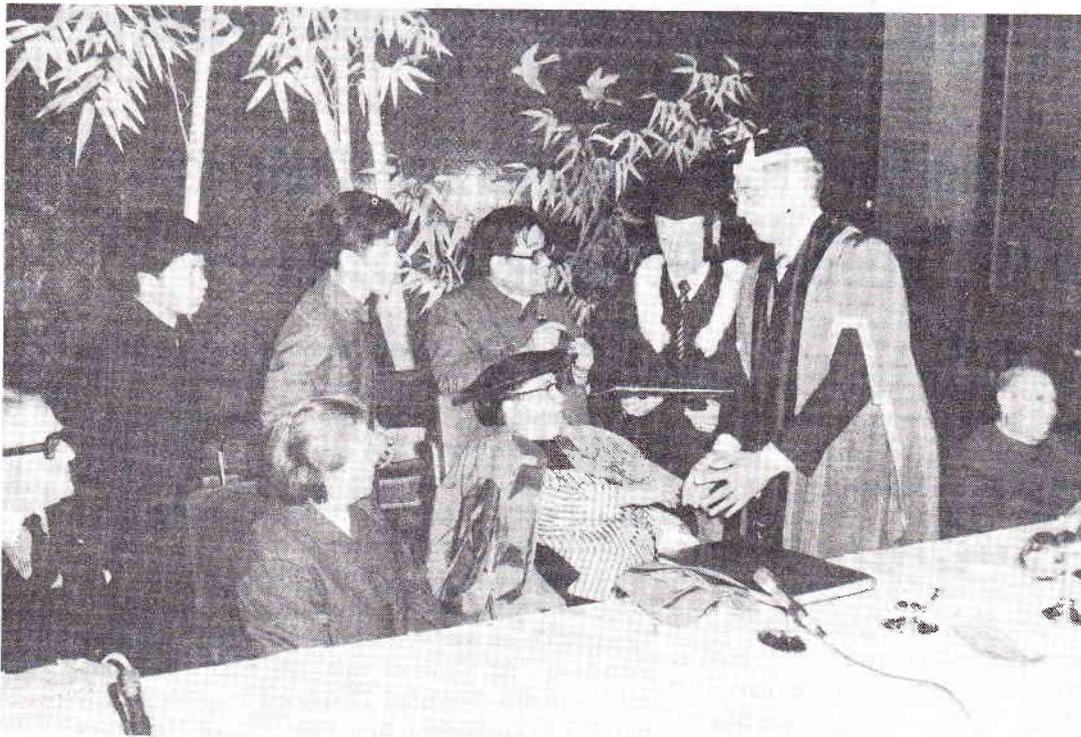
From the time of the first cooperation between the Kuomintang and the Communist Party in 1923, she unswervingly upheld Dr. Sun Yat-sen's revolutionary new Three People's Principles and firmly stood by the Chinese Communist Party during the difficult and arduous struggles of the protracted Chinese revolution. She has always been a closest comrade-in-arms of the Communist Party.

She has been one of the beloved and respected leaders of the people of all nationalities of China, including the Taiwan compatriots and overseas Chinese.

She has been a great fighter for patriotism, democracy, internationalism and communism, a long-tested pioneer in the cause of defending world peace, and a benevolent grandmother to all Chinese children.

She applied to join the Chinese Communist Party on many occasions in the past and tendered her application again recently after she became seriously ill.

The Political Bureau of the C.P.C. Central Committee has unanimously decided to accept Comrade Soong Ching Ling as a full member of the Chinese Communist Party.



Soong Ching Ling accepts a Honorary Doctor of Laws degree conferred on her by Canada's Victoria University.
Zhou Youma

Canadian Award to Soong Ching Ling

Marks International Friendship

SHE is a woman whose life has been a virtual history of the Chinese people's struggle to work together for social, political and economic modernization. Her unswerving devotion to the well-being of the Chinese people has won for her a special place in the hearts of admirers around the world... Few people have ever contributed so many years of active service to improving the welfare of children, to elevating the status of women, to extending health care to such a large portion of humanity and to supporting the goal of world peace."

With these words, in a ceremony that established a new bond between Canada and China, Dr. Ho-

ward Petch, president of that country's Victoria University, conferred its degree of Honorary Doctor of Laws on Soong Ching Ling (Mme. Sun Yat-sen), Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China, at a special convocation of the university held in May in Beijing.

SOONG Ching Ling said of the award, "I accept it not for myself but as a token of your respect and friendship for the Chinese people and what they have achieved through protracted revolutionary struggles and in the building of our People's Republic. Equally, I accept it as a token of the old and

firm friendship that binds the people of China and Canada."

Soong Ching Ling, besides her governmental position, is Honorary President of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries and Chairman of the China Welfare Institute which publishes *China Reconstructs*.

Other speakers at the ceremony were Wang Bingnan, President of the Chinese Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries and Michel Quavin, Canadian Ambassador to China. Present were many governmental and academic leaders as well as Chinese and foreign friends of Soong Ching Ling.

The text of Soong Ching Ling's speech follows:

IN EQUALITY, FOR PEACE

Saang Chung Chung

I am honored to accept the doctorate from the University of Victoria.

I accept it not for myself but as a token of your respect and friendship for the Chinese people and what they have achieved through protracted revolutionary struggles and in the building of our People's Republic. Equally, I accept it as a token of the old, and firm friendship that binds the people of China and Canada.

Our countries face each other across the Pacific. Long ago many Chinese began to go to Canada to work. They contributed in many ways to the building up of Canada. They won the respect of their fellow-citizens of other origins—they have been good Canadians. At the same time they have not forgotten their ancestral homeland, whose progress they have never failed to assist. In Sun Yat-sen's day they were staunch supporters of his cause—he himself spent much time among them. They aided that cause not only financially but by joining its ranks, many returning to China to help achieve its aims. Later in the struggles to repel Japanese militarist invasion and still later to found and build the People's Republic of China, they continued their staunch support.

And it is not only they, among the Canadians, who have stood by us. Both in the anti-monarchic revolution led by Sun Yat-sen and in the new democratic and socialist revolutions led by the Chinese Communist Party, the Chinese people have been helped by justice-loving Canadians of European ancestry. Their most outstanding representative and noblest symbol was Dr. Norman Bethune, who gave his life in 1939 while serving the wounded on China's most arduous front, the guerrilla front of the Liberated Areas. Lauded by the late Chairman Mao Zedong's famous essay, "In Memory of Norman Bethune", his name is known among the entire Chinese people who regard him as the brightest example of international sharing of weal and woe in the cause of progress and justice. When men, women and even children in even the most remote parts of our vast country hear the word Canada, they think of Bethune, and when they hear the name Bethune they think of Canada, his homeland. Bethune's bones rest on Chinese soil, his memory is enshrined in Chinese hearts, he will bind China and Canada together for centuries and for millenia. In a large sense, it fell to a Canadian, in China, to become an international exemplar of the necessary solidarity of people from all countries in battle against all would-be enslavers, and this is an honor to both our lands.

More generally, numerous Canadians, government people, educators and others have been friendly

to China's struggles for equality and independence. It was so, notably, in World War II, when our two countries were allies against the fascist Axis. It is so today. I would like, among long-term friends, particularly to mention Dr. Chester Ronning and Dr. James Endicott, and there are many more. Since the founding of the People's Republic of China and especially since the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Canada the bridge of Chinese-Canadian friendship has become more stable, broader and stronger, including good state relations, mutually advantageous trade, and academic and other amicable exchanges.

IN the present, as in the past, we have a common interest not only in continued friendship but, tangibly and sharply, in common effort for the preservation of world peace. Experience has taught both Chinese and Canadians that to guard peace, there must be a clear stand against all aggression by one state against another, all attempts by super-power expansionists to impose their will on the peoples and nations of the world.

As in the 1930s, the choice between two alternatives stands stark and clear. One is the course that, history has painfully taught us, leads to world war—the course of illusion, weakness, disharmony and appeasement that can only embolden and accelerate the aggressor's clearly unfolding drive for global hegemony. The other is the course of realism, of firmly-knit and determined resistance to halt that drive. The international situation is getting increasingly tense and turbulent and world peace is under serious menace. The root cause lies in expansion and aggression by hegemonism. We must face it firmly and adopt effective measures to cope with the present critical international situation.

Sun Yat-sen, in his last will, called upon us, in our country, to ensure the "elevation of China to a position of freedom and equality among the nations." And he wrote that "to ensure this goal we must bring about an awakening of our own people and ally ourselves with those peoples of the world that regard us as equals." Today China's international position is better than ever before, her people are awakened as never before, and on this basis she is confident that she can achieve the tasks of further progress epitomized in the current goal of socialist modernization. In this task, too, we must work with all those in the world who regard us as equals—among whom are the people and nation of Canada. □

From Mill Hand to Minister

TIE YUN

HAO JIANXIU was named China's minister of textiles in March. Once an ordinary worker, she is now in charge of more than five thousand textile enterprises throughout the country.

Asked to assess the prospects of the textile industry, she said, "Improving the people's standard of living is the starting point of all work. People's life has improved a lot, so demand has grown for better clothes and other daily necessities. Our job now is to improve the quality of textile goods, and increase the quantity and variety. People should be better clothed as a consequence of our efforts."

Model Worker

Now 45, the youngest member of the State Council, she was born into a poor family in the coastal city of Qingdao. Her father was a hauler and the breadwinner of a family of eight, struggling on the edge of starvation. Hao Jianxiu became her mother's helper at the age of nine, taking her brothers and sisters to pick edible wild herbs or collect coal cinders and shellfish.

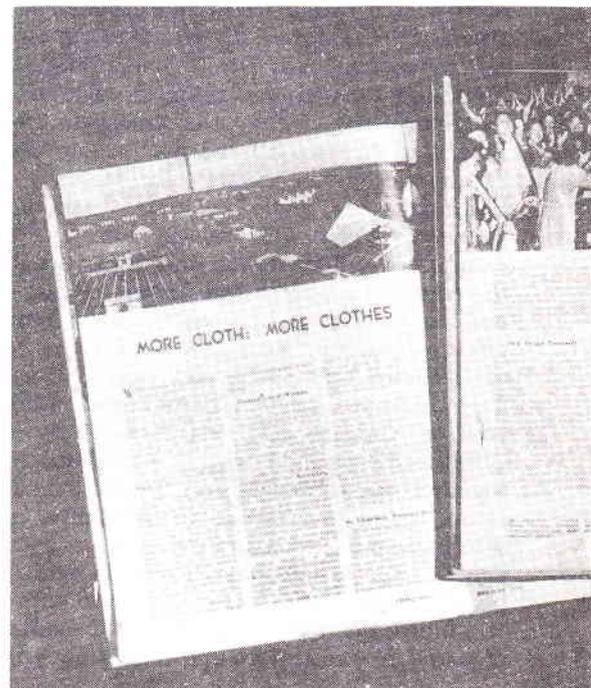
On a cold winter morning when she was only thirteen, her mother woke her up before daybreak and said, "Daughter, get up and go to the factory and try your luck. It's extraordinarily cold today. Maybe there'll be fewer applicants at the personnel office." But when she got to the textile mill, there was already a long queue waiting for jobs. They were all as poor as herself. She waited in the snow till noon and only four were allowed through the gate. Again she went home disappointed and depressed.

A year later, Qingdao was liberated. But what did liberation mean? No one in the family knew.



Hao Jianxiu (right) and former textile minister Qian Zhiguang.

Liu Jianguo



Reports on Hao Jianxiu's life and career in China Reconstructs: March 1952, May 1960 and March 1964.

In November, 1949, Hao Jianxiu went to the Qingdao Cotton Mill No. 6 — now state-owned — and this time was accepted. The world had really changed! The cadres of the people's government holding leading positions in the factory, she recalled in a recent interview, were all kind and soft-spoken. The factory was setting up a system of labor insurance, including a nursery, workers' sanatorium and evening school. Workers were encouraged to put forward rationalization proposals. Hao Jianxiu was deeply moved by all this. "I was a poor child saved by the Party from the abyss of misery," she said, "What I have in mind as minister of textiles is to do all I can to increase production and repay the Party's kindness."

She got three months of training before she was assigned to take care of 300 spindles. But when she start working on the loom, she noticed that the yarn was often broken by bits of cotton blown back. She discovered gradually that keeping the loom clean would reduce breakage. So she began to clean the frames and working areas much more often. She

watched the veteran workers closely and found out their "secret" in joining ends: The shorter the ends the quicker the joining. Later, to avoid walking unnecessary distances, she worked out a regular route round the frames. This enabled her to inspect all 200 spindles every two and a half minutes, cleaning up fluff as she went along, repairing thread breaks whenever she came across them and putting in a refill wherever one was needed. The result was: time saved, waste reduced and labor intensity lessened.

In less than two years' time, Hao Jianxiu had been able to set up her own method of operation. She now looked after 600 spindles. The chairman of the National Textile Trade Union, Chen Shaomin, visiting Qingdao in May, 1951 with a work team, studied her experience and named it the "Hao Jianxiu Method". It was popularized throughout the textile industry that August. At the age of 17, Hao Jianxiu was designated a national model worker, and attended the first national conference of outstanding workers, where she was received by the late Chairman Mao and Premier Zhou Enlai.

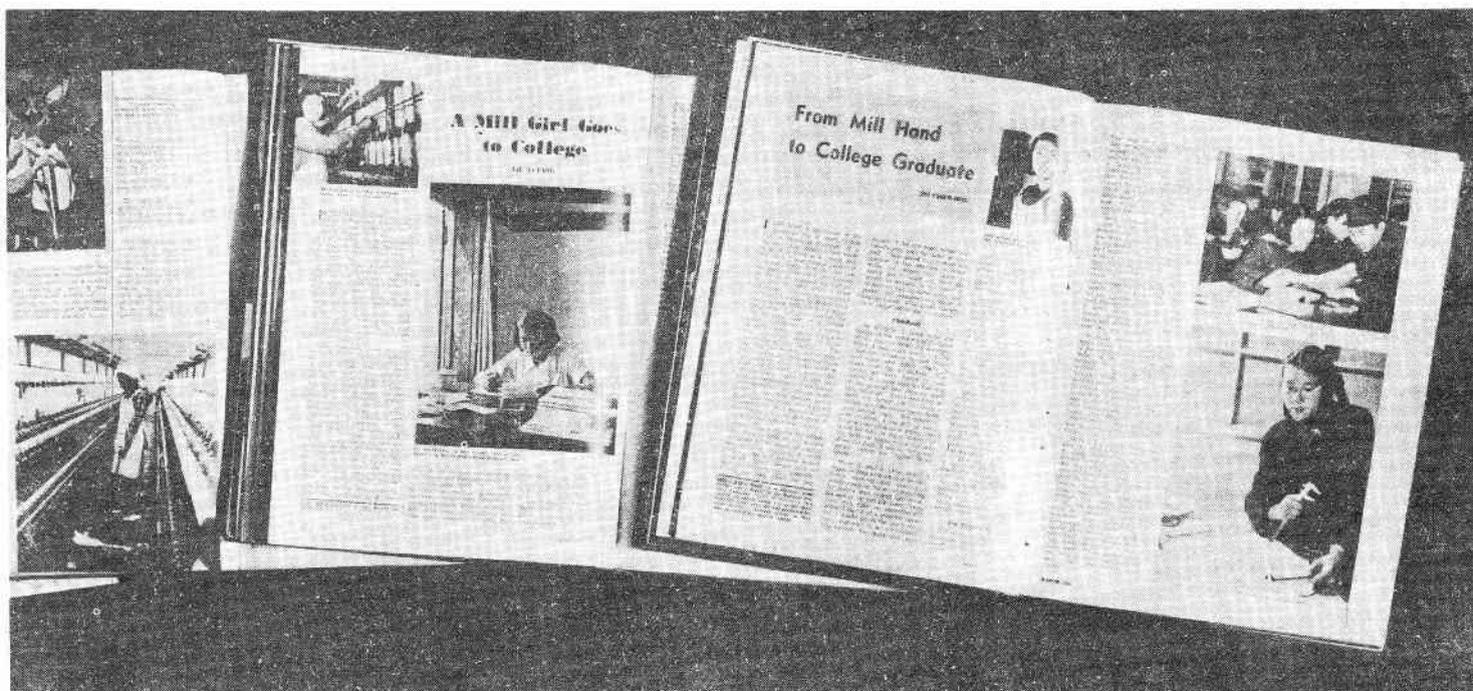
In 1952, Hao Jianxiu was sent to the Workers' and Peasants' Short-course Middle School attached to the Chinese People's University in Beijing. Still only semi-literate, she had difficulty studying. Except for the time she needed to eat and sleep, she spent every minute reading, memorizing equations and doing homework. But her grades were low and she became terribly depressed. She recalls how the leaders of the school encouraged her: "Have you considered carefully why the Party has sent you here to study? The Party wants you to shoulder heavier tasks in the building of socialism and communism. . ."

Studying hard

Not wanting to let the Party and the working class down, Hao Jianxiu studied harder than ever before and her grades gradually improved.

After finishing middle school, she was enrolled by the East China Textile Engineering Institute in Shanghai in 1958 and in four years she completed 30 subjects.

Participating in public life was one of her difficulties. She'd been





The minister maintains contact with textile workers.

Yu Huiru

elected to the National People's Congress in 1954, and every year had to take a month off to attend NPC sessions. To make up for lost time, she carried her books with

her, especially those on subjects that she found hard, and studied between meetings.

Sun Huimin, Hao Jianxiu's classmate at college, now the vice-secretary of the Party committee of Beijing Cotton Mill No. 1, said, "The kind of industrious spirit Hao Jianxiu had was exceptional among the worker-students. Even after lights-out, she would go and read under the dim light in the toilet."

On July 21, 1962 she stood before the examining professors of the East China Textile Engineering Institute and defended her graduation thesis. Clearly and eloquently she explained her design for a 30,000-spindle textile factory. The professors all agreed that her design was of high quality, practical, advanced and economical. Her thesis was marked "good".

From Theory to Practice

In October, 1962, Hao Jianxiu was sent to work as a technician in her old factory in Qingdao. After an absence of nine years, she found that tremendous changes had been made: The old machines had been replaced by new ones; there were even new looms for weaving broadcloth which they never had

had before; the variety of cloth produced had leaped from two or three to more than a hundred. Hao Jianxiu was aware that although she had acquired a lot of scientific knowledge at the institute, it would not be easy to combine theory with practice. She worked in the scutching workshop with the veteran worker Pan Yunting, whom she respected as her teacher. She always took on the dirtiest and heaviest jobs. Gradually, word spread among the workers that Hao Jianxiu hadn't changed: She was still their "Little Hao".

In a year and a half she was being regularly elected model worker of the workshop at every quarterly assessment. And in 1964 she was elected an advanced worker of the factory.

In 1965, Hao Jianxiu was named vice-director of the Qingdao State Cotton Mill No. 8. She had never dreamed of becoming a senior executive of a factory with more than 3,000 people. She was careful not to let herself become divorced from physical labor and the masses; she visited the workshops daily with the engineers and technicians, worked with the mill hands and helped improve the technology. She helped remodel the twisting frame, thus increasing the speed of the rotation and raising labor efficiency by 60%.

It pained her to see so much grain used in starching the yarn. Eager to find a substitute, she at last discovered that a gelatinous substance extracted from marine algae worked as well, and the starch substitute was quickly accepted by textile mills in the coastal cities.

Like many factory leaders, she was labeled a "capitalist roader" during the "cultural revolution". But she stood the test. Production in the factory was not interrupted. She became stronger than before and weathered the "violent storm and fierce wind".

In 1977 after the gang of four was toppled, Hao Jianxiu attended the 11th Party Congress and was elected a member of the Central Committee.



Hao Jianxiu checks up on supply and demand.

Liu Jianguo



Taking the ministry bus to work.

Liu Jianguo

In 1978, 42-year-old Hao Jianxiu was named vice-minister of textiles. The first thing she did was to organize a nation-wide demonstration contest of skilled textile workers in Tianjin; she herself put on her white cap and her apron and performed with dexterity. The point was not lost. "We've never seen such skill in a vice-minister," people said.

Hao Jianxiu visited two-thirds of the country's provinces to determine the distribution of textile factories, productive capacity, quality of goods and the level of administrative competence. At the grass-roots level, she gained much valuable information from veteran cadres and workers.

Last year she went to the minority communities in Yunnan and Guizhou provinces to find out their special need in textiles. Soon the people there were getting goods in patterns and colors they wanted.

Hao Jianxiu has been very strict with herself since she became a minister. Regulation entitles her to a secretary, but she has refused. She does her own secretarial work. Instead of commuting to work by car, she takes the ministry bus.

She and her family of five, representing three generations, live in an ordinary 60-square-meter apartment, though she is entitled to a much larger one.

Her predecessor, Qian Zhiguang, now 80 years old and an advisor to the State Council, told *China Reconstructs*: "Hao Jianxiu is modest as always, industrious, conscientious and ready to learn. She is the youngest textile minister we've ever had, and the most promising one."

Her Family

We visited Hao Jianxiu at home one Sunday. Her husband, Qiang Ruichun, a physician, said, "She's not a minister at home. She does everything — cooking, washing, shopping, cleaning the house and educating the children." Hao Jianxiu smiled. "I'm of worker origin.

Why should I stop doing housework after becoming a minister?"

They have two children, a boy in primary school and a girl in junior middle school. Both can handle some housework independently. The parents prepare breakfast and supper for the family, while the children prepare their own lunch. The parents eat theirs at their unit canteens.

We were curious to know how they fell in love. Dr. Qiang said, "Do you know what people called her at college? 'Icicle'. Quite a few young men showed interest in her. But she always said, 'I'm still young. I have so much to learn. Love can come later, after graduation.' So gradually the nickname Icicle stuck."

When did this icicle start to melt?

Dr. Qiang was then a student at the Shanghai Medical College No. 2 and the chairman of the Shanghai Student Union. At one of its meetings a speech by Hao Jianxiu left a deep impression on him. Later they encountered each other quite frequently on public occasions such as when meeting foreign guests, National Day celebrations and trips abroad with student delegations.

After graduation, Qiang Ruichun plucked up his courage and wrote his first love letter: "... With your fame and position (she was already a member of the National People's Congress), you could choose a man of higher political and financial status and more capable than I. If someone asks what my assets are, my reply is: a pair of hands that can work and a mind that hasn't rusted..." Hao Jianxiu accepted his proposal.

They were married on National Day, 1965 while Hao Jianxiu was on a business-trip to Shanghai.

Dr. Qiang said, "The foundation of our marriage is a solid one. It's withstood the test of the 'cultural revolution', when so many marriages were destroyed."

We asked Hao Jianxiu to say something about her interests and hobbies. She said, "The Party and the people have placed such heavy tasks on my shoulders. I feel that my knowledge and experience are far from enough to cope with them. Besides doing my work well, I still have a lot to learn about textile technology. So there isn't much time left for other pursuits. Really I have just one interest — to see the people of our country better clothed." □

Hao Jianxiu and her husband and children.



Thoughts on an Anniversary

ISRAEL EPSTEIN

THIS month, July 1981, marks the 60th birthday of the Communist Party of China. As one who has lived in this country for most of these 60 years, I would like to share some memories and thoughts.

SUBJECTION TO INDEPENDENCE

IN the early 1920s China was in about as desperate and humiliating a plight as could be imagined.

National independence? The country was semi-colonial or—in the bitter phrase of Sun Yat-sen, the founder of the first Chinese Republic which had been set up with such high hopes in 1911—a “hypercolony”, not of one but of many foreign powers. An

ISRAEL EPSTEIN, a journalist in China, the U.S.A. and elsewhere for some 50 years, is editor-in-chief of *China Reconstructs*. He became a Chinese citizen in 1957.

example was the political make-up of Tianjin (Tientsin), the northern port city where I grew up. Only a small part of it was Chinese administered. The rest was divided into five “concessions”—British, French, Japanese, Italian and Belgian—with their own municipal regulations, taxation and, in the first four cases, foreign military garrisons and police. Up to the end of World War I there had been three more—the Czarist Russian, German and Austro-Hungarian concessions, making eight in all. Other foreign enclaves continued to exist in Shanghai, Guangzhou (Canton), several inland ports along the Changjiang (Yangtze) River, Xiamen (Amoy), Yingkou and elsewhere. Besides, there were ports and naval bases completely under alien rule. The Japanese wielded the power in Dalian and Lushun (Port Arthur) on the Bo-

hai Gulf, the British in Weihaiwei on the Shandong peninsula, and the French in the present southern port of Zhanjiang (then known as Kwangchowwan), to cite some examples.

In the center of Beijing itself, China’s capital, loomed a “Legation Quarter” which Chinese were not allowed to live in or even freely enter. Guarded by American, British, Japanese and French garrisons, it was surrounded not only by its own fortress wall but beyond that by a no man’s land cleared of all buildings so as to allow the foreign troops a clear field of fire in case any Chinese tried to challenge this national disgrace.

Virtually the entire country was marked out, by the major world powers of the time, into their “spheres of influence”. Railroads and internal and coastal shipping were largely foreign owned; harbors and pilotage foreign-control-

Chinese workers armed themselves in the famous Shanghai Uprising of 1927. They fought against domestic and foreign oppression, as exemplified (right) by foreign troops and police arbitrarily checking on Chinese civilians in the city.





to behave like a superpower herself.

This is one reason for celebrating the jubilee of the Chinese Communist Party.

THE SOCIAL CHANGE

NOW for the social picture. When I was growing up, the peasants, the vast majority of Chinese, had been almost unimaginably impoverished by landlord exactions and the depredations of contending warlords. In "normal"

In 1981 nearly two-thirds of the 207 peasant households in a cotton-growing brigade have bought TV sets. In 1939, three generations of a peasant family begging in a Sichuan street.



led. Nationals of the main foreign countries were not subject to China's legislation, but could be judged in criminal cases, and sued in civil ones only in their own courts in specially privileged enclaves. China's financial, postal and Customs administrations were, to various extents, foreign-supervised or run, often as security for loans, for China was in pawn.

More indirectly, but no less effectively, all China was externally dominated. Her governments, monarchic or republican, had long been tributary to foreign powers which propped them up against their own people. The situation did not improve after the 1920s. It became even worse when, from the 1930s on, Japan directly occupied a large part of the country, and in the latter 1940s when the Chiang Kai-shek regime depended wholly on U.S. intervention. Only with the liberation in 1949 was China's independence restored.

LIBERATION had its history. It was the culmination of a century of struggles by the Chinese people—epic in scale and heroism. Victory finally came when the Chinese Communist Party, achieved the integration of its Marxist-Leninist analysis with China's realities which is called Mao Zedong Thought after its chief theoretician and practitioner. It learned over some three

decades to give effective leadership to the vast, protracted and complex political and military efforts required—something none of China's other parties had been able to do. It led not only in foresight and method but also in self-sacrifice and self-correction of errors. In 1927 and again in the 1930s, the Party and its armies were decimated, always to rise again. The Long March, and during its course the accession of a tested central body headed by Mao Zedong, was the turning point. The eight-year anti-Japanese War (1937-45) followed by the four-year War of Liberation (1946-49) brought the victory that ended a century of national subjection and more than twenty centuries of feudalism, established the People's Republic of China and put China on the road to socialism.

In post-liberation times, too, China under the Party's leadership has proved able to withstand renewed military, economic and political pressures by both the superpowers against her newly-won fullness of sovereignty. No longer stage-prop, pawn or prey on the world arena, but an equal and important participant, she stands for her own independence and supports that of all other countries, large or small, and is thus a strong factor for world peace. A huge country, she is pledged never

years, millions died of hunger; in bad crop years, tens of millions. Waves of refugees poured into the cities. I remember them begging, sleeping and freezing in the streets of Tianjin—once I found a boy of about 12 (my own age then) a stiff huddled corpse in a doorway where he had vainly sought shelter from a winter gale. Young men among the refugees thought themselves lucky if they could find work as porters, carrying monstrous weights on their backs or pulling carts. Girls were often pushed or sold into prostitution or to slavery in rich homes, or in spinning mills to which they were contracted en bloc by feudal labor-gang bosses. The textile workers would die in a few years of TB and other diseases induced by grinding toil plus lack of food, clothing and shelter—often I used to see them going off their dawn-to-dusk shifts, gaunt, lint-covered, coughing their lungs out. The porters and pullers would, as quickly, die of exhaustion or be



Women textile workers in China today. And yesterday: Kuomintang police subject women workers to body search at a pre-liberation textile mill gate.

literally crushed by the burdens they carried — I saw several killed at one time by the collapse of a stack of huge flour sacks.

TRUE, peasants had repeatedly rebelled, with such weapons as they could muster, during China's thousands of years of feudalism — and in the early 1920s they were still doing so in the "Red Spears" and other armed formations for which the rulers could find no word other than "bandit". But it was only after the Communist Party came on the scene, and particularly under Mao Zedong's bold and original Marxist leadership, that spontaneous rural protest was organized and provided with a real program to ensure the destruction of the age-old feudal system and thus the birth of a new China.

Anyone who, like myself, went during World War II from the defeatist and demoralized atmosphere of areas ruled by Chiang Kai-shek to Yanan and the Communist-led liberated areas wrested from the Japanese occupation could see the historic meaning of the full awakening of China's peasantry. The rural people there, though faced by murderous and modern-weaponed enemy, were unbowed, unafraid, confident of their own strength, producing for self-sustenance. Fighting back side by side with the people's army composed of their own brothers and sons, they proved unconquerable by war or blockade — even though many of their villages lay

in ruins. "A different breed . . . as though in a different country", said amazed observers, including U.S. pilots shot down in Japanese-occupied territory who were picked up by guerrillas and passed down safely, often over thousands of kilometers and over many battle lines, to Yanan and ultimately to their own units. But it was the same China, the same people. What was different was a leadership that could inspire, release and organize their latent strength. To Chinese and foreigners alike, the message was, and continues to be that all ideas that held the Chinese people incapable of solving their own problems were then disproved.

The leadership of the Party among the peasants is, essentially, leadership by the working class and its outlook.

Among China's urban workers themselves, it was the Party that organized their first unions, led them from the early 1920s in great strikes in mining, railroads, shipping, tobacco, textiles, etc., forged their links with the peasantry and all other democratic elements, integrated all forms of activity with the armed struggle that decided the issue in China. Since 1949 it has led them in the tasks of socialist construction, during which the urban working class has risen from some 3 million to some 100 million.

THE TECHNOLOGICAL CONTRAST

Technologically and industrially the China of the past was pitiable.

During my boyhood here, whatever was made of steel, not only things like bicycles but even pen points and thumbtacks that wouldn't flatten against walls, had to be imported — usually from Britain or Germany. Safety-matches, known then as "foreign fire", came from Sweden. No motor vehicles were made, or even assembled, in China until well after the liberation. It wasn't that China couldn't or didn't want to do these things: basic industries had been started, collapsed, started again, collapsed again since the 1870s. Though few, there had long been skilled workers, trained engineers, capitalists not only of the comprador variety but also those anxious to build national industry. But the weight of foreign politico-economic domination, plus the persistence of feudalism and the endless internal civil wars, had aborted industrial growth.

In 1949 came the victory of the revolution led by the Chinese Communist Party and supported by all classes and groups that had suffered under the previous order (including the national capitalists). Only then did industrial development really move forward. Every piece of machinery, truck, car, tractor, ship, airplane, locomotive or even bicycle flowing off China's own production lines today provides an added reason for celebrating what her people, under the Communist Party's leadership, have achieved.

(Continued on p. 31)

Major Events in the Chinese Communist Party's 60 Years

JULY 1921: The Chinese Communist Party was founded in Shanghai. Thirteen delegates, among them Mao Zedong and Dong Biwu, representing a membership of some 50, attended its First Congress. Chen Duxiu was elected secretary of the Central Bureau.

JULY 1922: The Second Congress of the C.C.P. formulated an anti-imperialist, anti-feudal program for the Chinese revolution.

JUNE 1923: The Third Congress worked out the policy of establishing a revolutionary united front with the Kuomintang Party headed by Sun Yat-sen, initiating the first period of Kuomintang-Communist cooperation.

1924-1927: The Party organized and developed the workers', youth and peasants' movements in China; and helped the Kuomintang reorganize itself and form the National Revolutionary Army. After



Site of the First National Congress of the C.C.P. in Shanghai. Young Pioneers come here to be educated in revolutionary tradition. Zhang Liuren

the consolidation of the revolutionary base in Guangdong

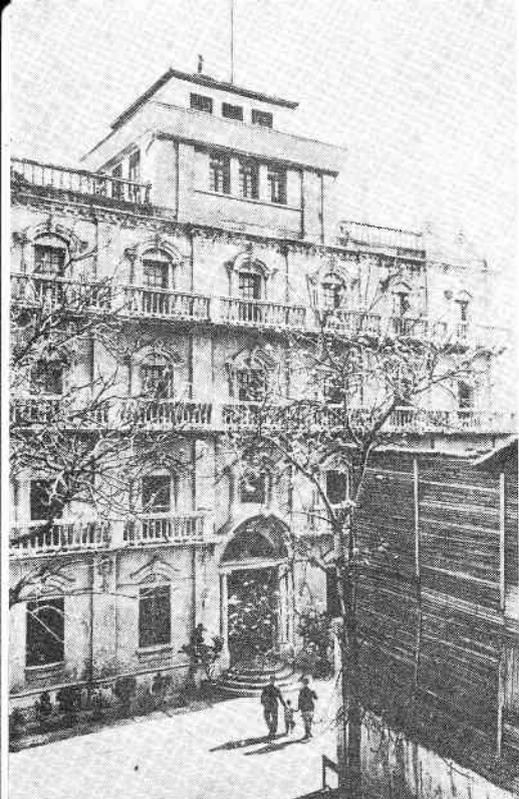
province, a military campaign (the Northern Expedition) was launched to overthrow the warlord regime with its center in Beijing.

Li Dazhao, a representative of the Communist Party, attended the Kuomintang's First Congress in January, 1924, during the first Kuomintang-Communist cooperation. The picture shows Li Dazhao (left) and Sun Yat-sen (right), leader of the Kuomintang, leaving the meeting hall together.

APRIL 12, 1927: The right wing of the Kuomintang represented by Chiang Kai-shek betrayed the revolution and perpetrated an immense massacre of Communists and progressives in Shanghai. On July 15, Wang Jingwei's Kuomintang government at Wuhan also turned against the Communist Party. Because the Party was then dominated by the Right opportunist line represented by Chen Duxiu, it failed to organize an effective resistance. The revolution was defeated, and the first period of Kuomintang-Communist cooperation ended.

AUGUST 1, 1927: By decision of the Party Central Committee Zhou Enlai, Zhu De, He Long, Ye Ting, Liu Bochong and others organized and led the Nanchang Uprising, which marked the beginning of the agrarian-revolution war in





The headquarters of the Nanchang Uprising on August 1, 1927.



Between October 1934 and October 1935, the Chinese Workers and Peasants Red Army went on the world-famous Long March. Here it is shown crossing snow-covered mountains.

The second Kuomintang-Communist cooperation brought about nation-wide resistance against Japanese aggression. Units of the Red Army, redesignated as the Eighth Route Army, crossed the Huanghe (Yellow) River to fight the Japanese invaders.

China. In September the same year the Party, with Mao Zedong in direct charge, led the Autumn Harvest Uprising of armed peasants, with some workers participating, in Hunan, Hubei, Jiangxi and Guangdong provinces.

AUGUST 7, 1927: An emergency meeting of the Party Central Committee repudiated the Right-deviationist line of Chen Duxiu and laid down a general policy for the agrarian revolution and the armed struggle against Kuomintang massacres.

OCTOBER 1927: Mao Zedong led the forces which had taken part in the Autumn Harvest Uprising to the Jinggang Mountains, where they were joined in April 1928 by the remaining contingents of the Nanchang Uprising led by Zhu De and Chen Yi. These formed the new Chinese Workers and Peasants Red Army, and the Jinggang Mountains became the Communist Party's first rural revolutionary base. Later the Red Army established bases in southern Jiangxi and western Fujian.

JUNE 1928: The Communist Party held its Sixth National Congress in Moscow. By now it had 40,000 members.

1928-34: In the base areas, the Chinese Workers and Peasants Red Army smashed four "encirclement and suppression" campaigns mounted by the Kuomintang. But interference by Wang Ming's Left-opportunist line caused Mao

Zedong to be excluded from the leadership of the Red Army, which subsequently failed to defeat the fifth "encirclement and suppression" campaign. In October 1934 the Red Army was forced to abandon its central base and embark on the Long March.

JANUARY 1935: During the Long March an enlarged meeting of the Central Political Bureau was held at Zunyi, Guizhou province. It firmly established the leadership of the correct line represented by Mao Zedong. As a result, the Red Army smashed the enemy's encirclement, pursuit and interception to reach the North Shaanxi revolutionary base in October 1935, thus victoriously completing the 12,500 km. Long March.

1937: Japanese imperialists launched an all-out war of aggression against China. Pressure from the popular patriotic movement compelled the Kuomintang to reach agreement with the Communist Party on ending the civil war and cooperate with it in fighting against Japan. This period is known in history as the second Kuomintang-Communist cooperation. The Chinese Workers and Peasants Red Army and the guerilla forces remaining in the southern provinces were redesignated respectively as the Eighth Route and the New Fourth Army, and the nation-wide War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression began.





Chairman Mao Zedong proclaiming the founding of the People's Republic of China from the Tian An Men rostrum on October 1, 1949. Dong Biwu is on his right.

APRIL 1945: Toward the end of the 8-year war, the 7th National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party, held in Yan'an, formulated a political line of fully mobilizing the masses, expanding the people's forces and, under the leadership of the Party, defeating the Japanese aggressors, liberating the whole people and building a New-Democratic China. By then, the Party had a membership of 1,210,000.

AUGUST 1945: In concert with the world-wide war against Fascism, the Chinese people's war of resistance against Japan, with the Communist Party in the lead, forced the unconditional surrender of the Japanese imperialists.

AUGUST 1945: The Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party sent Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai, Wang Ruofei and others to Chongqing to negotiate peace with Chiang Kai-shek. On October 10 the two parties signed an agreement to prevent civil war.

1946-49: Soon, however, Chiang Kai-shek broke his word and in June 1946 ordered a general offen-

sive against the liberated areas. Led by the Party, the army and civilians in these areas fought back in self-defence. In July 1947, the Chinese People's Liberation Army counter-attacked and by the end of 1948 and the beginning of 1949, in the course of three decisive battles — the Liao-Shen, Huai-Hai and Ping-Jing campaigns — wiped out the main strength of the Kuomintang army. In April 1949, the People's Liberation Army crossed the Changjiang (Yangtze) River and liberated Nanjing, sounding the death knell of Kuomintang rule.

OCTOBER 1, 1949: The People's Republic of China was founded. In the next three years, the Chinese people, led by the Party, rehabilitated the national economy, and at the same time successfully carried out the Land Reform and the War to Resist U.S. Aggression and Aid Korea.

1952: The Party put forward the general line for the transition period. It called for industrialization and the socialist transformation of China's agriculture, handicrafts, and capitalist industry and commerce.

SEPTEMBER 1956: The Party's 8th National Congress was held in Beijing. It called on its members to unite with all the forces that can be united with in and outside

the Party and strive for building a strong socialist China. Party membership reached 10,730,000.

The same year saw basic completion of the socialist transformation of agriculture, handicrafts, and capitalist industry and commerce. China thus became a socialist society.

At the Third (1964) and the Fourth (1975) National People's Congresses of the People's Republic of China Zhou Enlai, on behalf of the Central Committee of the C.C.P., put forward the goal of modernizing China's agriculture, industry, national defence and science and technology by the end of this century.

MAY 1966: The "cultural revolution" began. It ended with the fall of the gang of four in October 1976.

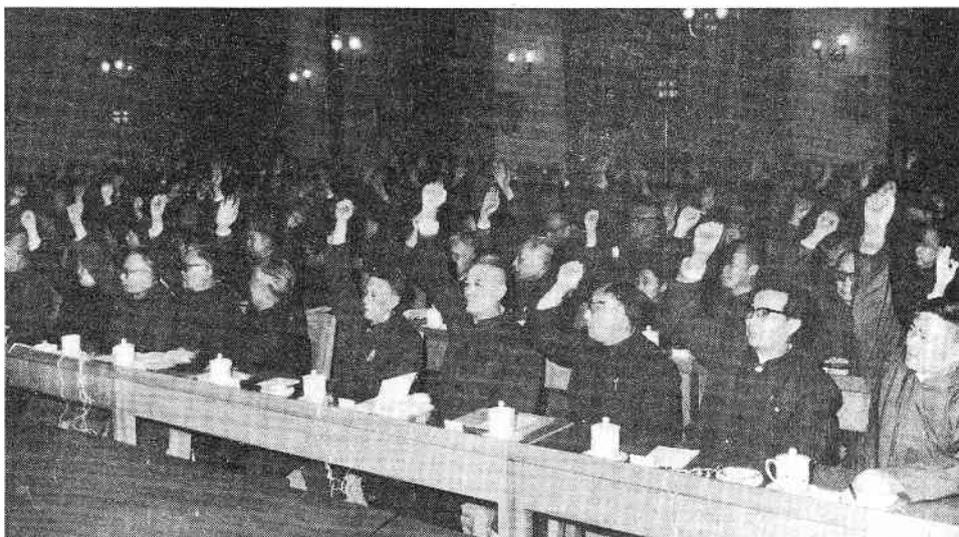
AUGUST 1977: The Chinese Communist Party's 11th National Congress proclaimed the beginning of a new historical period in China's socialist revolution and construction.

DECEMBER 1978: At the third plenary session of its 11th National Congress, the Party decided to shift the focus of its entire work to socialist modernization.

July 1, 1981, marks the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Chinese Communist Party, which now has 38,000,000 members. □

The Third Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee held in December 1978 voted unanimously to shift the focus of all Party work to socialist construction.

Wang Xinqing



Shanxi Province— China's Largest Coal Base

WEN TIANSHEN

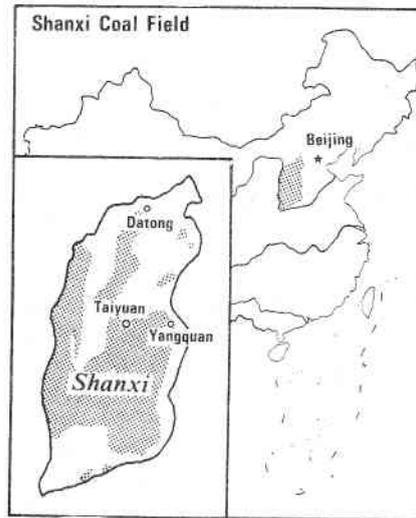
COAL accounts for 70 percent of the energy China uses; the country is the third largest coal-producer in the world. One-fifth of last year's total of 600 million tons came from Shanxi province — China's largest coal base — situated in the loess plateau 1,000 meters above sea level. Shanxi alone has greater reserves than such world-renowned coal fields as the Soviet Union's Donbas and West Germany's Ruhr, and it is high-quality coal of several varieties. One variety, Jurassic coal, can be used for both coking and power plants.

Satellite City

In Taiyuan, the provincial capital, I was told that a new field of high-quality coking coal was being developed in Gujiao, 56 kilometers away. Its five pitheads have a designed capacity of 16 million tons. The seam is as much as 13 meters thick. One kilogram of this coal produces as much heat as three-fourths kilograms of petroleum. Each pithead will be fitted out with a coal-washing plant.

This was intriguing, and I left for Gujiao by bus, accompanied by a comrade from the provincial coal bureau. We first crossed the Luliang mountains, 1,800 meters above sea level. In the valley, a 47-kilometer electric railway has been built, running through 18 tunnels and over seven bridges across the winding Fenhe River. The Xiqu mine in Gujiao, with a capacity of 3 million tons annually, has begun to take shape. On the surface, a high-tension 220,000-volt power substation is under construction. Other buildings are going up on either side of the river.

WEN TIANSHEN is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.



Down a tunnel where team No. 3 was working, rails, pipes and electric wires had been well arranged. On the mine face, five workers were using pneumatic drills guided by a cluster of red laser beams.

That night, from a nearby hilltop I got a bird's-eye view of the whole mine field. The brilliant night scene called to mind a line in a poem of the Tang dynasty: "It seemed the Milky Way had fallen from the sky."

A miner who had come with me pointed out the lights of apartment buildings, schools, clubs, dining-rooms and department stores. With the development of the coal base, a satellite city for 200,000 is going up.

Record Holders

From Gujiao I went to Datong 355 kilometers north of Taiyuan, site of the ancient Buddhist Yungang Grottoes and today China's major producer of power-

plant coal. One-third of the coal faces in Datong have complete sets of modern equipment. In 1980, Datong turned out 24.5 million tons, more than any other coal field in the country. Some 1,400 carloads of coal are dispatched daily to every part of China.

Liu Erkang, an assistant chief engineer, told me that many countries had long ago achieved full mechanization in coal mining, and China is striving to catch up. Full mechanization, he explained, includes setting supports, and extracting and transporting coal with advanced equipment.

The Datong mines not only use hydraulic supports which can withstand 600 tons of pressure per 1.5 square meters, but also powerful extracting machines and conveyor belts, replacing old equipment and metal supports that could withstand only 45 tons of pressure. Last year one of the teams in the mine produced 920,000 tons of coal, a national record.

An elevator took us down 150 meters to the tunnel where the record-holding team was working. Each of the 20-odd teammates on duty wore his prize medal. Along the 150-meter-long coal face, a large coal cutting machine brandished its sharp teeth, cutting 300 tons per hour which it dumped into a loader. Each shift thus produces the equivalent of three days' output with the old methods.

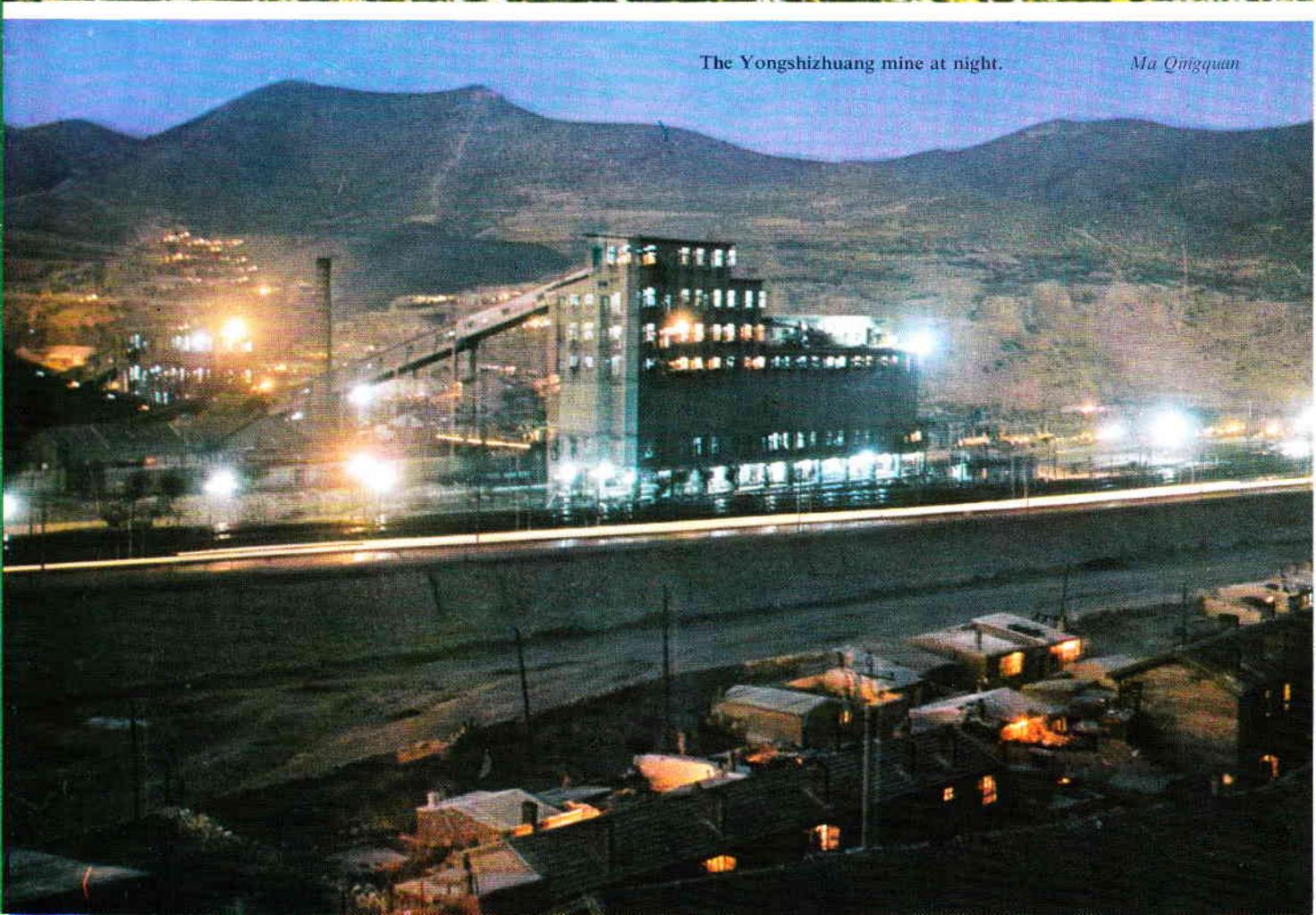
The working face is a steel corridor with more than 100 movable supports, each consisting of four thick steel pillars supporting a canopy-like beam. The pillars can be raised and lowered with the contour of the tunnel; one miner told me he and his mates no longer worry about injuries from collapsing tunnels. Many persons

The Yungang mine.
Ma Qingquan



The Yongshizhuang mine at night.

Ma Qingquan





Motor room of Shentou mining power plant in Datong coal fields.

Xie Jun

One of the 32 fully mechanized coal faces in the Datong coal field.

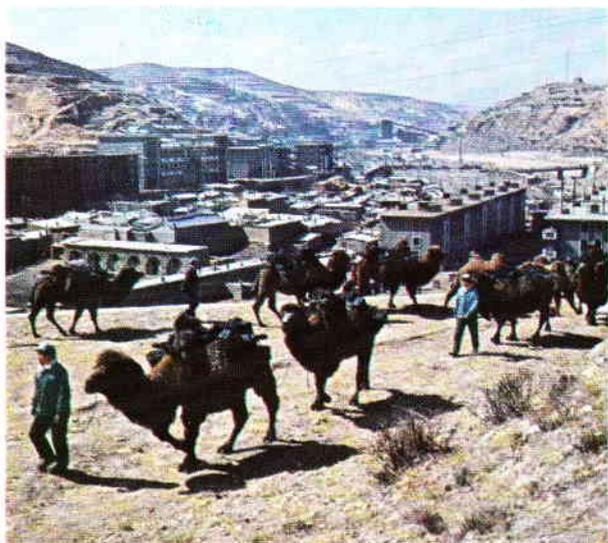
Xie Jun







The Stadium of the Datong Mining Administration. *Xie Jun*



A camel team of the Baidong mine delivers coal to miners' homes in the mountains. *Xie Jun*



Miners wash up after coming off shift.

Ma Qingquan

were needed to set the timber props that were used before. Now only two operators work the control board.

Two Engineers

Li Xueqian, an outstanding engineer, designed and built the advanced hydraulic supports. Fourteen years ago, when he saw miners setting timber props with an ordinary pick, risking disaster, he determined to improve the situation. By 1974, working side by side with the miners, Li succeeded in producing hydraulic supports with available technology.

Soon after the new supports were installed, the tunnel roof collapsed onto the protective canopy. At that critical moment, Li insisted on going to the coal face and observing how well the supports functioned. Since then, the Datong-type supports have been perfected.



Lin Junyi, a returned overseas Chinese engineer. Xie Jun

Lin Junyi, woman engineer at Datong was an overseas Chinese who returned to China 29 years ago, at the age of 18, giving up the easy life in Singapore and an opportunity to study in Britain. After graduation with good grades from the Northeast Engineering Institute in Liaoning province, she volunteered for the most hazardous work at Datong: drilling and blasting.

Once, designing a new pit, she encountered an unforeseen ob-

Some Facts and Figures on the Coal Mines of Shanxi Province

- 57,000 square kilometers of coal fields occupying 37% of Shanxi's 156,000 square kilometers.

- 200,000 million tons of known deposits — one-third of China's total.

- 1980 output of 120 million tons, one-fifth of national production.

- High quality: A kilogram of Datong Jurassic power-plant coal produces 8,000 kilocalories; Jincheng anthracite is 55% lumps. Many seams are stable, with gentle gradients and with deposits between 300 and 400 meters below the surface.

- 2,000 state- or locally-run mines. Large and medium-size mines are 50% mechanized, 18% more than the national average.

- Five main railroads with branches totaling 2,200 kilometers. Eleven special mine railroads are being built.

- Daily average of 70 coal-carrying trains outbound, to all parts of China. Large quantities exported to Japan, Romania, France, the Netherlands, West Germany, the United States, Bangladesh and Burma.

stacle: an ancient pond under the pit. To get a clear picture, she went to the bottom where the mud was knee-deep and there were many large rocks. She proposed to fill the pond with stones while the project continued, thus permitting completion not only on schedule, but safely as well. Her latest innovation is an elliptical coal storehouse which greatly facilitating the transport of coal underground and on the surface.

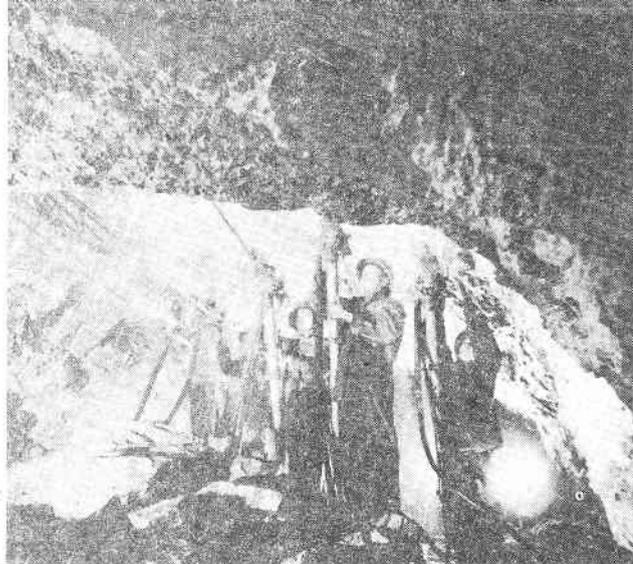
Life of the Miners

Heading south from Datong, we came to "anthracite city" — Yangquan. The high mountains afford a panoramic view of the four mines in the area. A 230-kilometer electric railway cuts through the city. About half the population are mine workers. Guided by Lao Gao, a reporter for *The Miner*, I visited a new residential area occupied last year by about 3,000 families. Not the 110,000 square meters of new buildings, but the gas stove in each apartment made the deepest impression on me. Gas from the mines is piped to the residential

area for cooking and heating, saving 90,000 tons of raw coal a year. All the mines have introduced modern gas alarms with automatic cut-off of electricity. Lao Gao pointed to the antennas above the apartment buildings and said that one out of five families there has a TV set.

The comrade in charge of purchasing noted that supply priority is given to underground miners. A new cold storage system has a capacity of ten thousand tons of fish, meat, eggs and poultry. Every mine has a dining hall and a cigarette and wine stand. But the local people's representative has asked for still more stores because the underground miners average 150 yuan per month (including wages and bonus), twice what an ordinary worker makes, and they have to travel long distances to spend it.

We visited the homes of two workers — driver Zeng Bingjie and miner Wang Changyi. Each has a two-room apartment totaling about 27 square meters. Zeng's wife is a primary school teacher and his mother also works; their



Building a tunnel.



Chen Liang Bridge No. 6 across the Fenhe River.

Chen Liang



A railway under construction at the Gujiao mine.

Chen Liang

family income is 200 yuan. Their rooms are furnished with a set of house-made furniture, a new tape recorder and a console radio. Wang lives with his wife, their older daughter, and her husband; all except Mrs. Wang are employed and their total monthly income is 260 yuan. (His younger daughter has married and moved away.) All four like to grow flowers, and their rooms are bright, clean, and tastefully furnished.

As in other mines, the miners at Yangquan are served a free lunch every day. They were having lunch when I arrived at the mine,

and offered me a taste of the day's dish — rice with fried meat. They said that sometimes they have fried egg sandwiched between pancakes.

Cultural Activities

The Yangquan miners told me about a worker-painter, Zhao Rongji, and I went to visit him. Of medium height with a thin face, Zhao lives in a dormitory room full of traditional Chinese paintings and sketches. One of his ink and wash pictures, of a doctor from the mining area making her round of visits, had attracted much attention. He'd been in Beijing a few days before, participating in the exhibition of Spring Festival pictures with a picture of miners cooking on gas stove. Recounting his experience as a painter, he said he was fascinated by the dyes at the printing and dyeing mill where he worked as a child laborer before the liberation. "After the founding of new China," he said, "I had an opportunity to go to school and got my teacher's help in painting. Then I was assigned to work as an electrician at the mine. I sometimes sketched the new people and new things around me in pen and ink, posting them at the entrance or on the wall of the site. I drew very quickly, and would often have drawings up for one shift of things that had happened on the previous shift."

In recent years, about forty of his paintings have been published in newspapers and magazines.

I also talked with the worker-composer Wang Chengshun. He's an organizer of the mine's Song and Dance Ensemble and its Jin Opera Troupe. About 600 people working at the mine are active in literary and art groups, performing on festivals or holidays. Of them, 22 have been trained by famous artists and have become members of the Shanxi provincial associations of artists, musicians, opera actors, and cross-talkers. In Yangquan, I heard a very promising singer — a young miner named Bai Junjie.

The day before I was to leave I was invited to visit a workers' college where 88 worker-students are studying on a three-year paid leave from the mine. Its three departments — extraction, electromechanics and coal-cutting — teach higher mathematics and mechanical engineering. Mu Xiuchang, 25, a student in the electromechanics department told me that having got the opportunity to study, he makes the most of it, staying at school even on holidays to review lectures he has recorded, in an effort to understand difficult theories. His mother, he said, has been urging him to get married, and he's been trying to explain to her that there'll be plenty of time for that after he graduates two years from now. □



A True Revolutionary

Many sincere congratulations on the much neater format and the wider range of articles in your magazine since the change of format.

Please convey to your Chairman, Mme. Soong Ching Ling, my very warm appreciation of her article in the February number on the late Mr. Jin Zhonghua. I knew him well in the years when I too was a member of the Committee of the old China Defense League in Hongkong. He was a true revolutionary and it was tragic that he should meet such a shameful and bitter end.

I have also appreciated the number of articles you have featured recently about foreigners—whether European or Asian—who in their time made a useful contribution to the cause of China's progress in these modern years.

JAMES BERTRAM

Lower Hutt, New Zealand

Legendary Yuan Ming Yuan

Congratulations on your February 1981 issue—it is one of your best! As a student of the Taiping period in Chinese history, I especially enjoyed the article on "The Old Summer Palace, Yuan Ming Yuan." Its magnificence is legendary and its destruction appalling. What an exciting and significant project to restore it to its original beauty. Bai Rixin should be praised for his long and continual effort to research the plans of the Yuan Ming Yuan. In future issues I hope that you will have reports on the progress of restoration.

SUE HESS

Andover, MA, U.S.A.

Attraction for Children

One of the wonderful things about your magazine is the attraction it holds for school children. My 12-year-old son shares my deep interests in the People's Republic of China and finds your magazine quite helpful for his school work.

HARRY RAMSAY

Concord, CA, U.S.A.

International Year of Disabled Persons

Being an amputee myself, I particularly liked the article about Ge Lijun, "Handicapped But Not Disabled" (December, 1980).

As 1981 is the International Year of Disabled Persons, could I suggest you

provide more of this type of article to show how disabled people have coped and are encouraged.

I am the national publicity officer for the Australian Amputee Sporting Association. Any information you could provide about my Chinese "brothers and sisters in pain" would be appreciated.

J. M. JONES

Toowoomba, Australia

Promoting Understanding

I have been a subscriber to *China Reconstructs* since 1979 and a regular reader. The colorful pictures and drawings impressed my son, Vijai Krishnan, aged 3, and my students aged 11 to 16. I am very much impressed to see the fly leaf published along with issues No. 11 and 12/80, regarding the "Stamps of New China."

Our age-old culture bridges and causes to flourish the friendship between our two neighboring countries, though we have some political misunderstandings, which can be normalized by bilateral talks. Your magazine is indeed playing a significant role in building bridges of understanding between our two countries.

Some suggestions:

1. Please interview a secondary school teacher regarding his salary, expenditures, social status, educational curriculum, students' attitudes (related to social service) and examinations.

2. Print more articles about the latest developments in space science.

3. Publish Children's Corner, picture stories and fiction.

T. P. STHALA SAYANAM

Madras, India

Avoid Obscure Expressions

China Reconstructs has made real strides towards modern journalism, both in word and photographic presentations—a far cry from the bad old gang-of-four days. I beg you not to allow obscure expressions or wrong usage of words to mar your real achievements.

JOHNNY WONG

London, England

Articles About Marriage

I carefully read an article in the March 1981 issue about marriage.

I feel that the remnant of feudal customs and ideology in marriage exists not only in China but in many countries, even in the developed countries. Law cannot change people's ideas as long as men and women are not equal in society. It functions only when a problem can be calmly solved. I was struck when I read that the process of law regarding divorce and the respon-

sibility for the care of children is decided according to economic conditions. All these are no different from the regulation in France.

BERNARD PIQUEPAILLE

Jarnac, France

Be More Readable

In the January 1981 issue I read articles about two national minorities in China's northwest—the Uygurs and the Tu. I feel that you have tried to make your articles readable and to present an all-round report on the condition of China's national minorities.

JOSE LUIS DIAZ MIRA

Madrid, Spain

Interest in Sports and Youth

I was very interested in the articles "Chinese Youth Today" in the September 1980 issue and the sports articles in the January 1981 issue. I also like articles about economics in China, for instance the article entitled "The Economy: Successes in 1980, Targets for 1981" in the December issue last year.

I hope you will open new columns covering Chinese music, important figures' biographies and the daily life of the people.

JOAQUIN EMILIO G. LONDOÑO

Cucuta, Colombia

Why a Two-year Reprieve?

After reading the article "Historic Trial," I asked myself again and again why Jiang Qing's death sentence cannot be executed immediately? In American newspapers I read quite a few reports on the trial, but still I cannot see why a reprieve is necessary.

OTTO FR. WLASSAK

Lakewood, CO., U.S.A.

Overconcentration of Power

China Reconstructs is a colorful and interesting publication. It has contributed much to understanding between people of various countries. As I am interested in political events and modern history, I think that the article "Good Start at Streamlining Government" in the December issue last year is very significant. For a long time I have pondered over this problem, because history proves that overconcentration of power will retard social development in a country. Revolution must keep on developing, and avoid mistakes. The Fifth Session of the National People's Congress testifies that your revolution did make progress. The Chinese people have realized this point in time and have set about reforming.

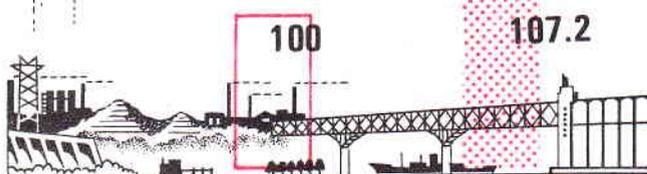
HORST KAMMEREP

Heiligenhaus, West Germany



Total industrial and agricultural output (value)

661,900 million yuan



Economic Achiev

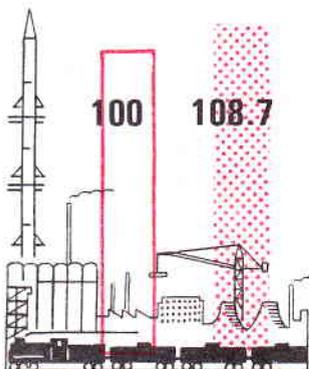
Total industrial output (value)

37.12 million tons

300,600 million kwh

620 million tons

499,200 million yuan

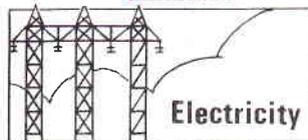


100 107.7



105.95 million tons

100 106.6



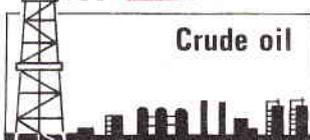
14,270 million cu.m.

100 97.6



79.86 million tons

100 99.8



100 98.3



100 108.1



222,000

100 119.4



2.49 million

12.32 million tons

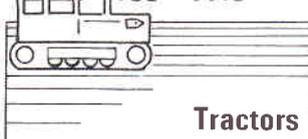
100 115.7



373,000

98,000

100 77.8



450,000 tons

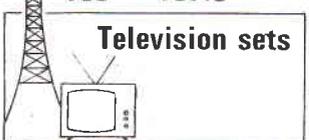
818,000 tons

100 101.1



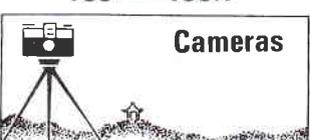
13,470 million meters

100 187.5



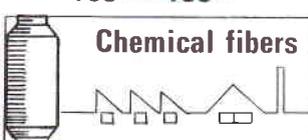
13.02 million

100 156.7



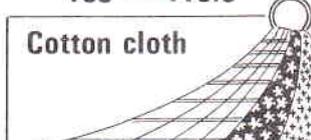
22.16 million

100 138



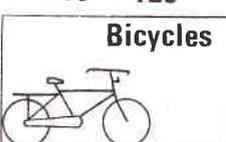
30.04 million

100 110.9



2.57 million tons

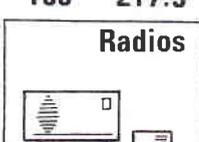
100 129



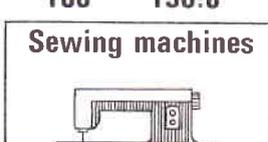
100 129.8



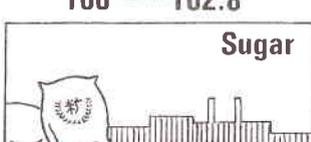
100 217.5



100 130.8



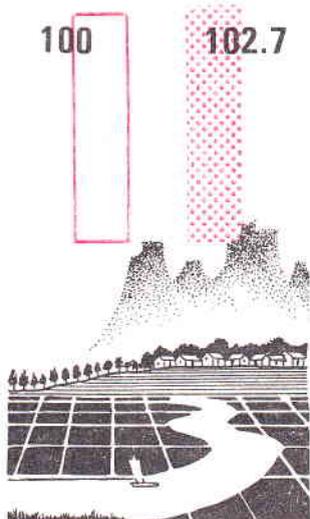
100 102.8



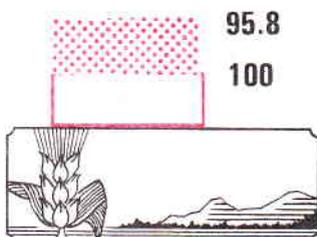
ements in 1980

Total agricultural output (value)

162,700
million yuan

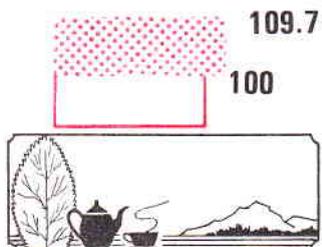


318.22 million tons



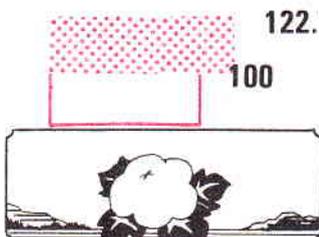
Grain

304,000 tons



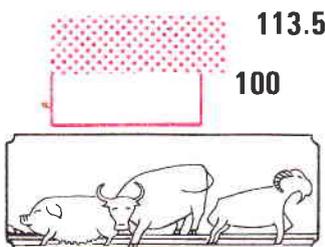
Tea

2.71 million tons



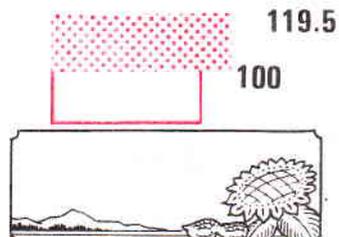
Cotton

12.06 million tons



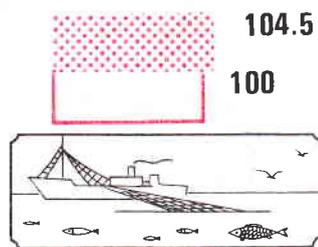
Pork, beef, mutton

7.69 million tons



Oilseeds

4.50 million tons



Aquatic products

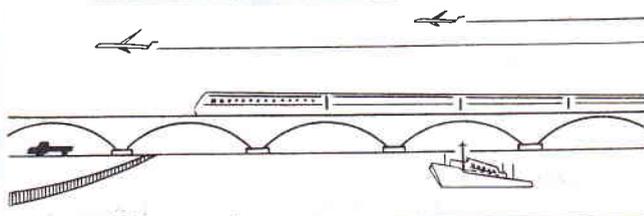
Total freight, all carriers of transport

1,202,600 million ton-kilometers



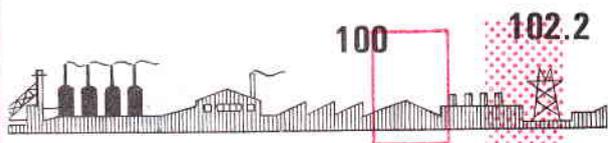
Passengers, all carriers

228,100 million passenger-kilometers



Fixed assets added

42,700 million yuan



New housing, total floor space

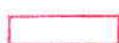
145 million square meters



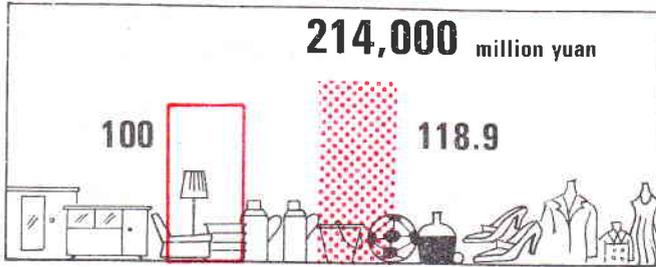
Legend



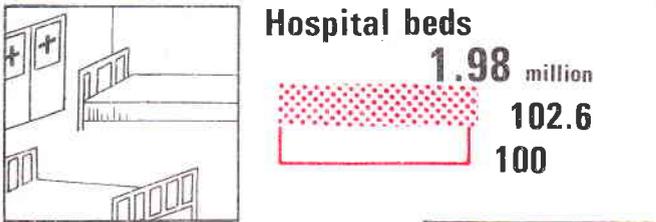
1980



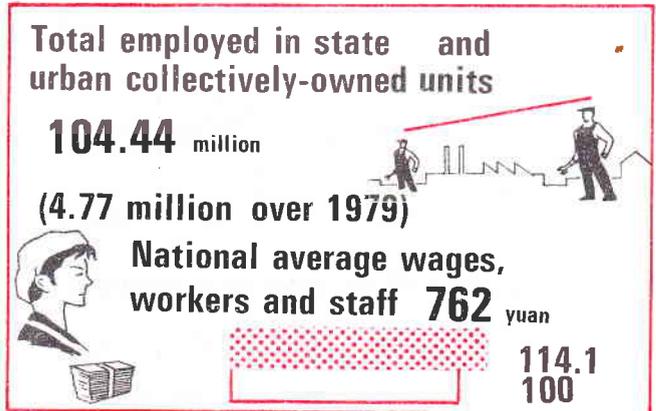
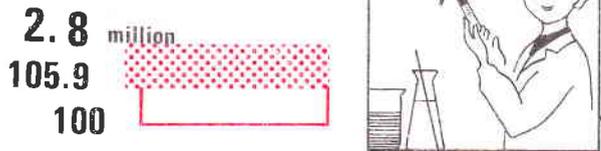
1979



Retail sales, total value



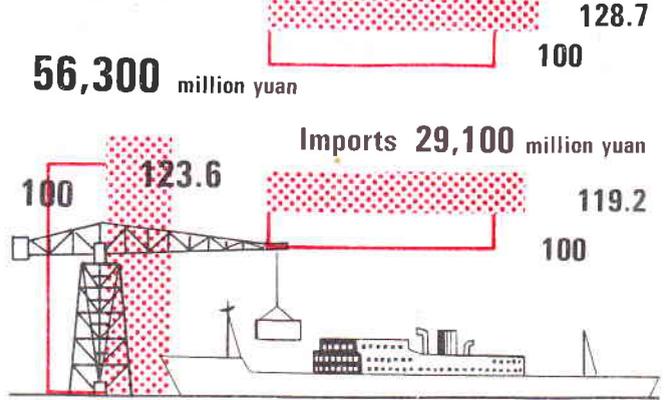
Professional medical workers



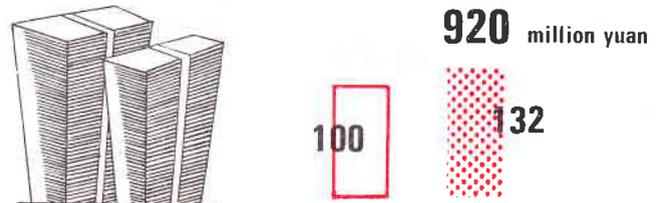
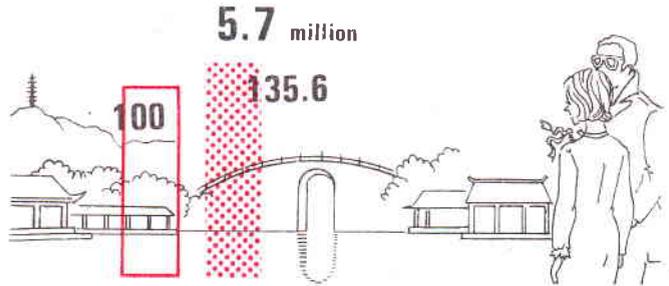
National average wages, workers and staff 762 yuan

114.1
100

Import and export, total value

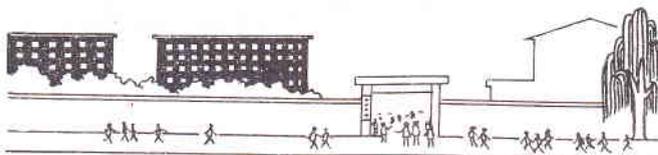


Tourists and other visitors from Hongkong, Macao and abroad



Foreign exchange earned (Converted to Renminbi)

College students 1.14 million
(an increase of 124,000 students over 1979)



Note:

Statistics for Taiwan province are not included.
The base figure for 1979 national income was readjusted from original 337,000 million yuan to 335,000 million yuan. Agricultural and industrial output values are counted at constant prices of 1970.
The retail sale figure includes 6,900 million yuan from retail sales by peasants to the non-agricultural population in 1980.

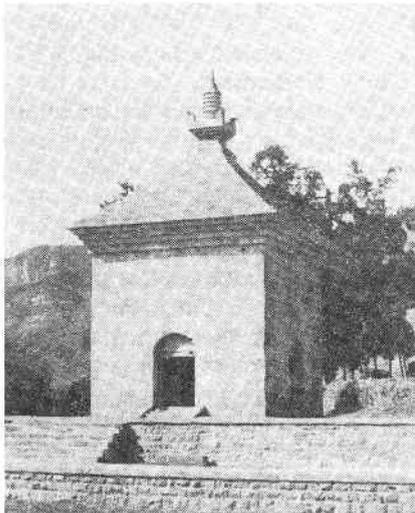
The 1979 total value of retail sales is correspondingly readjusted to 180,000 million yuan from the original 175,250 million yuan, a 12.2 percent increase, if rise in retail sale prices is accounted for.
The increase in real wages was 6.1 percent after deduction for a 7.5 percent rise in the cost of living.

2,000 Years of Chinese Pagodas

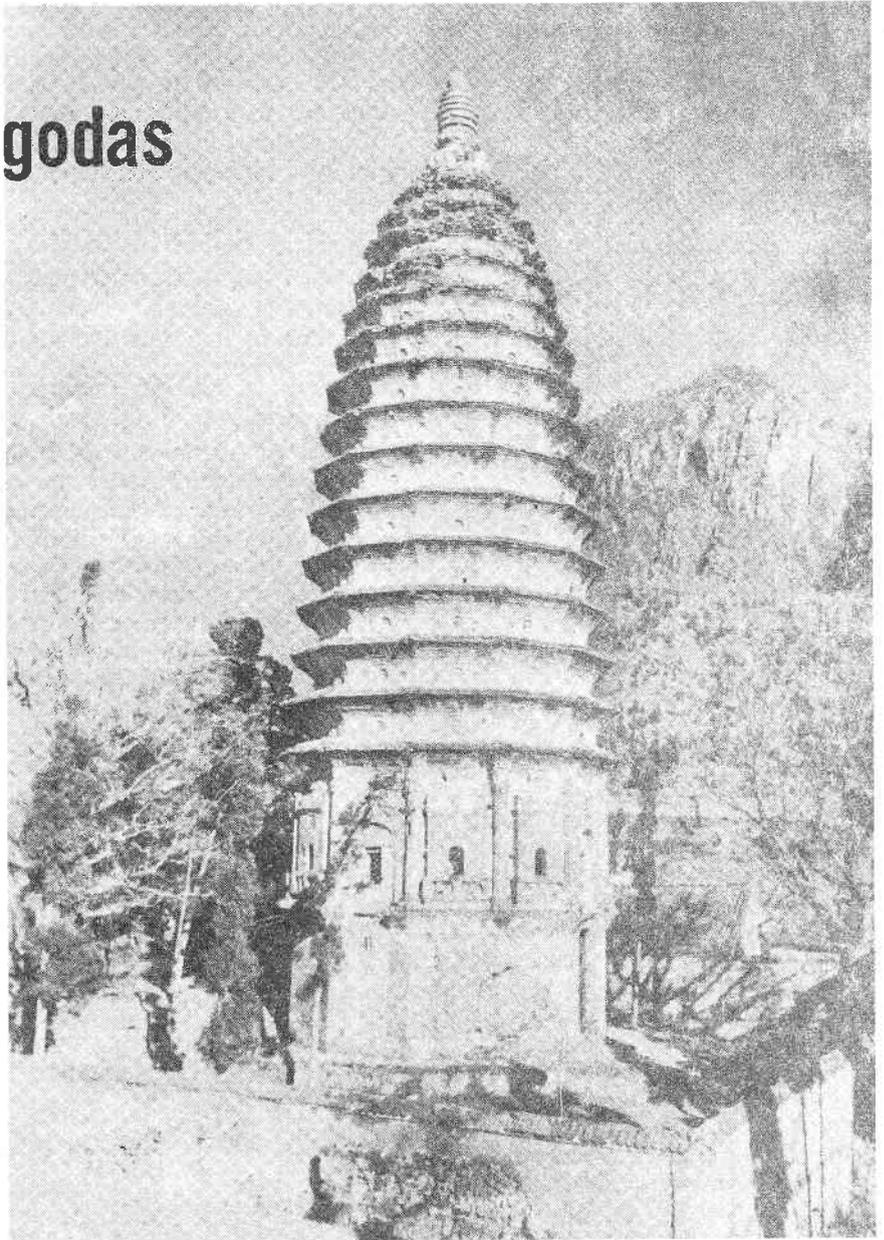
LUO ZHEWEN

TRAVELERS see pagodas everywhere in China—in cities, on mountaintops, beside rivers, near temples. The oldest of them date from the first century A.D., when Buddhism was introduced from India. Previously, the only tall buildings in China were those built so feudal rulers could meet “immortals” who were said to live amidst the clouds.

LUO ZHEWEN is a staff member of the State Administrative Bureau of Museums and Archaeological Data.



The Simen (four-door) Pagoda in Licheng county, Shandong province.
Luo Zhewen



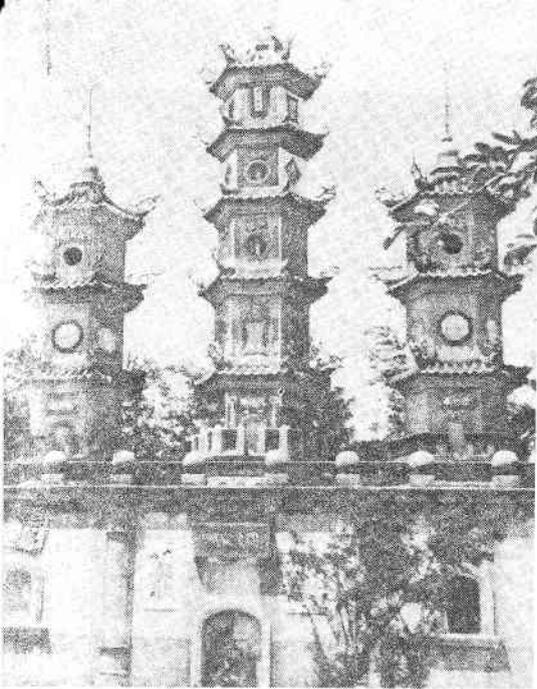
The Miyanshita style pagoda (523 A.D.) in the Songyue Temple on Mt. Song in Henan province.
Luo Zhewen

At first, pagodas were the central building of a temple, around which the monks prayed. Later, they were placed elsewhere on the temple grounds, and more recently still have been built without reference to temples.

In 67 A.D. during the Eastern Han dynasty, two Indian priests, Kasayapa Matanga and Dhawara Keha, came to preach Buddhism in Luoyang (in today's Henan province), the Han capital. The emperor built them a temple, and as they had come on two white horses

it was called Bai Ma Si—the White Horse Temple. The main building was a square pagoda, the first in China.

Since then, many pagodas have been built, most—but not all—connected with the Buddhist tradition in China. For instance, the “Xuan Zang (Hsuan-tsang) Pagoda in Xi’an, Shaanxi province, was built to commemorate Xuan Zang, an outstanding Tang dynasty monk who 1,300 years ago traveled to India to get the Buddhist religious writings from their source. After



The Santa Pagoda in Kaiyuan Temple, Tainan in Taiwan province.

17 years, he returned with 600 sutras and had them translated in Xi'an's Ci En Temple. The Dayan (Wild Goose) Pagoda was built to store the sutras.

But pagodas also served secular purposes. In north China, pagodas were built as military watch-towers. In south China, seashore and riverbank pagodas guided navigation. Sailors used to climb Guang Ta Pagoda in the Huaisheng Temple in Guangzhou (Canton) to observe weather conditions before going to sea. The Liuhe Pagoda at the Qiantang River estuary in Zhejiang province was built 1,000 years ago, supposedly so people could pray for protection from disastrous floods; it actually benefits navigation. Other pagodas which may once have had religious significance have taken on new historical identities, like the pagoda on Fenghuang (Phoenix) Hill in Yan'an (Yenan) which has come to symbolize the cradle of the Chinese revolution.

Architectural Styles

The ancient Chinese pagoda took on its own distinct style when architects combined the features of circular Indian Buddhist pagodas with those of traditional Chinese pavilions and towers. Chinese pagodas thus may be square,

polygonal, or circular, with many stories separated by projecting roofs or eaves. They may stand singly or in groups, and may be built of any material, including miniature pagodas of silver and gold.

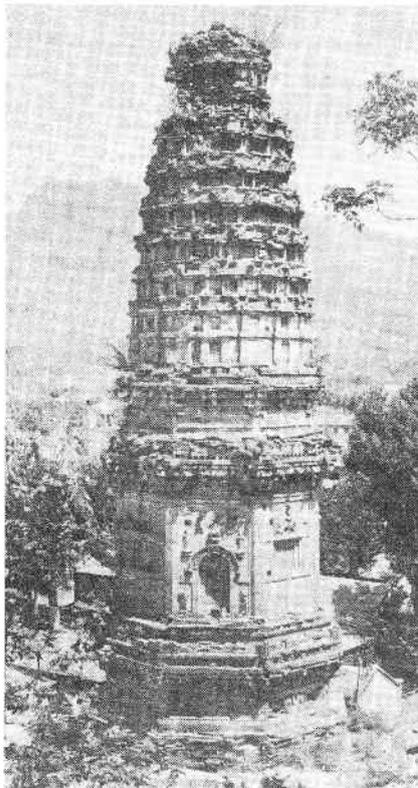
Chinese pagodas can be classified by design:

Tower style, the principal design of the early pagodas. The oldest and tallest of this type is the magnificent wooden pagoda in Yingxian county, Shanxi province. Built in 1056, it is an octagonal structure of five stories (plus four which are not apparent from the outside), altogether 67 meters high.

Miyanshita style, so called for the many tiers of closely-set eaves atop a tower. Most are built of brick or stone, without doors or windows except for holes that admit light. The earliest example is in the Songyue Temple on Mt. Song in Henan province, built 1,500 years ago in the Northern Wei dynasty. The 40-meter shaft has twelve sides capped by 15 tiers of eaves.

The flowery pagoda in Fangshan county, Beijing, built in the 11th century.

Luo Zhewen



Pavilion style, one-story buildings most of which are tombs of abbots and other high monks. The earliest still standing is the Simen (four-door) Pagoda built in 611 A.D. in the Shentong Temple in Licheng county, Shandong province. It is square, with a single roof and one door on each side.

Lamaist style, similar to Indian dagobas. A dome-like structure is set on a large pyramidal platform; on the dome is a spire capped with a crown. A familiar example is the White Dagoba in Beijing's Beihai Park; another is in the Miaoying Temple, also in Beijing, designed by a Nepalese craftsman in 1271.

Various other styles are represented by fewer extant examples. These include the flowery pagoda (with flowers carved on the upper part), the archway pagoda (street traffic passes through the arch), and the diamond-throne pagoda (two small pagodas set on a "throne" with elaborate carvings on all sides). The unique Bamboo-Shoot Pagoda in Jinghong county, Yunnan province, comprises a central pagoda in the shape of a lotus flower and eight smaller ones surrounding it; from a distance it looks like a bamboo thicket. There are also clustered pagodas, like the Pagoda Forest in the Shaolin Temple, Henan province. It is the largest of this type, with 220 brick and stone structures.

Main Features

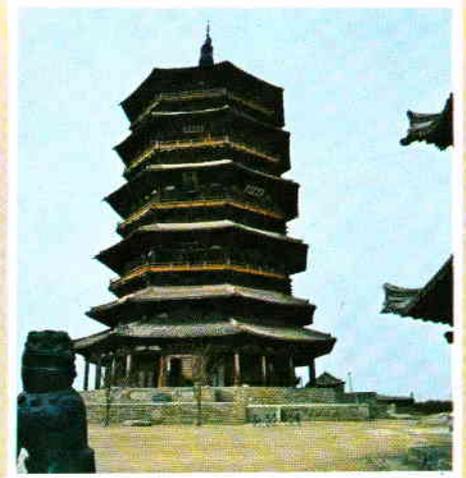
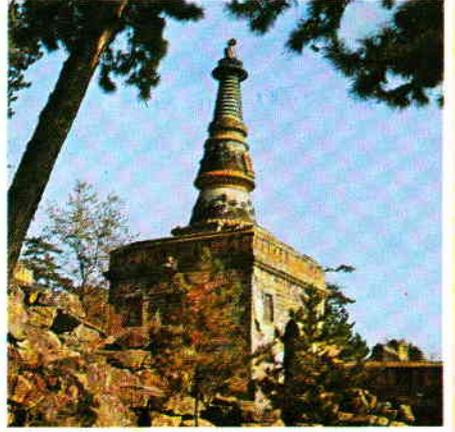
The typical Chinese pagoda has these elements:

The underground hall, for storing sacred relics. Some were also used to store gold, silver, books, paintings, and inscriptions.

The platform, or foundation of the pagoda. This may be a simple structure, or it may be elaborately decorated.

The body, the main part of the pagoda, which may be solid or hollow. In the latter case, a spiral stairway leads up through the interior. Images of the Buddha are carved on the outside walls. Most pagodas have an odd number of stories, from 3 to 17. On top is a crown decorated with jewels, pearls, and vases.

The archway pagoda at the Puning Temple in Chengde, Hebei province. It was built in 1755.
Luo Zhewen

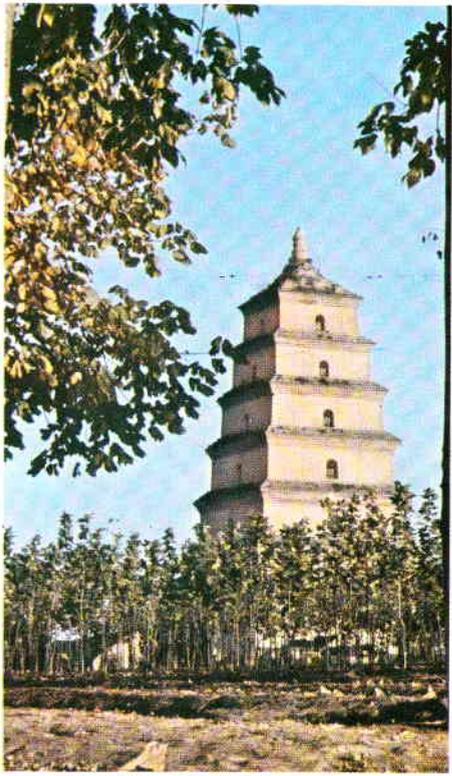


The wooden pagoda in Yingxian county, Shanxi province.

Xie Jun

The seven-story Dayan Pagoda in Xi'an. Built in 652 A.D., it is 64 meters high.

Xie Jun



The Baochu Pagoda in Hangzhou, Zhejiang province. It was built in 976 A.D. and rebuilt in 1933.

Huo Jianying

The Diamond Throne Pagoda in Hohhot, Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region. It was built in 1727 as a repository for Buddhist relics.

Luo Zhewen





The White Dagoba (1582 A.D.) on Mt. Wutai, Shanxi province. Wang Wenxi

As cultural relics, ancient pagodas have been protected and renovated by the Chinese government since the People's Republic was founded in 1949. For example, the

Shengxiang Pagoda, built during the Yuan dynasty (1271-1368) in Wuchang, Hubei province, was moved when the Changjiang (Yangtze) River Bridge was built in the present-day city of Wuhan. The pagoda was rebuilt according to its original plan on Snake Hill. Due to erosion and earthquake, cracks had appeared on the famous Qianxun Pagoda at Erhai Lake in Dali, Yunnan province. In 1977, the government sent experts to direct its restoration, which took three years. During this period, more than 600 valuable Tang and Song dynasty objects were found, including Buddhist sutras, pearls, and musical instruments played during worship. These items have proved important in the study of Yunnan history.

Some pagodas and towers drawing to various extents on pagoda architecture have been built since 1949, the former for religious purposes (such as the Foya Pagoda in

Beijing's Western Hills, where a tooth-relic of the Sakyamuni Buddha is said to be stored) and the latter mainly to commemorate revolutionary martyrs.

Among these latter is the February 7 Monument in Zhengzhou, capital of Henan province. The 14-story pagoda, 62 meters high, is composed of two pentagonal towers linked together. Inside the twin towers are displayed documents and artifacts of the 1923 general strike of railway workers opposing imperialism and warlordism. The 45-meter-high August 1 Monument in Nanchang, capital of Jiangxi province, was built in 1978. Its granite facade is engraved with a brief history of the uprising on August 1, 1927 which marked the birth of the Chinese Red Army (now the Chinese People's Liberation Army). On the other three sides are large, life-like reliefs connected with the event. □

THOUGHTS ON AN ANNIVERSARY

(Continued from p. 12)

In this issue of *China Reconstructs* the reader will find the latest figures of the country's industrial production. Textile output is the highest in the world, steel production is almost 30 times that pre-liberation (and higher than Britain's, France's or West Germany's), the output of oil—virtually none of which was produced before, is the eighth in the world, motor vehicles and standard tractors are produced in hundreds of thousands each year. In the higher branches of technology, the new China has done some striking things. The Changjiang (Yangtze) River has been bridged and dammed—neither Chinese nor foreign enterprises were able to accomplish this earlier. In the nuclear and rocket fields, China has moved from stage to stage faster than other countries.

This is the distance covered. To people with memories as long as mine, it is very impressive. But

in per capita production, due to her immense population, China is still very far from being in the top international ten; often she is in the hundredth or so place. This shows the distance which, as a developing country, she still has to travel.

In agriculture, though advance has also been uneven, gross output has persistently outstripped the growth of population—which is now double that of 1949. Medical care, education, housing—all are provided in quantities that are multiples of ten or more over the past—and free of charge or at very low cost.

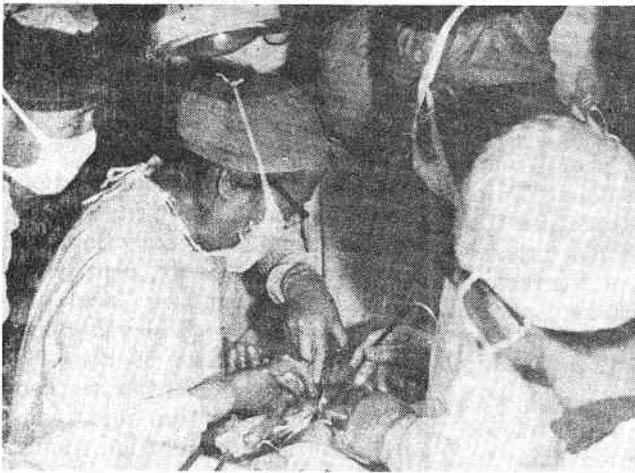
IN all these respects, along with advances, there are insufficiencies in amount and quality—some grave. There are difficulties of advance. But had the older, more basic problems not been solved by the revolution, the country would not have had the opportunity of tackling, much less of solving, these new ones. China's revolution has never been free of hardships, setbacks or errors, but

under the Party's leadership ways have been found of overcoming them, as is true still.

WHAT makes China important in today's world? Her vast size and population? They were always there. Her ancient culture? That was there too. Yet neither kept her from being weak, hungry, despised, trampled on, penetrated and exploited (as was true of other large, populous and ancient countries as well). If today she is an equal among the nations, a factor in the international scene none can overlook, the reason is the Chinese revolution.

In short, "Without the Communist Party there would be no new China," and "Only socialism can save China" are not just sayings but truths attested by history.

Realism teaches confidence in the future of both Party and country. And in the capacity of socialist China, one fourth of mankind, to contribute commensurately to human progress and the defence of world peace. □



Dr. Dong (second left) operates on a patient.



With a small patient. The baby girl was born with a cleft palate. It was remedied by plastic surgery.

A Plastic Surgeon's Career

LIU BINGQI and ZHANG TIANLAI

IN an operating room under a shadowless lamp, Dr. Dong Shufen, noted woman plastic surgeon, professor and deputy head of the Xi'an Medical College Hospital No. 2, was operating on a patient for a facial deformity caused by a severe injury. Dr. Nix, an American dental surgeon, stood beside her. A visitor to China, he had volunteered to assist in this difficult case.

The soft tissue of one side of the patient's face was raised, and the once-fractured fragments were restored to their normal position. Then Dr. Dong deftly drilled holes, fixed the pieces and quickly

Before (left) and after rhinoplasty by Dr. Dong.



sutured the wound. The operation took three hours.

In the lounge after the operation, Dr. Nix asked how much the patient had to pay. Told it was 20 yuan (about 13 U.S. dollars), he was amazed. "In the United States," he said, "it would cost 10 to 20 thousand dollars." He invited Dr. Dong to the United States to lecture and do surgery. Laughing, he said, "If I'm a millionaire, you could be a multi-millionaire!"

Knowing that the American doctor was joking, Dr. Dong replied, "I'm willing to study in the United States but I don't aim at being a multi-millionaire. I'm satisfied to be serving the people here."

An album of photos of facial deformity cases was brought out. One pictured an 18-month baby with a cleft nose, the brain tissue protruding from a skull fissure. Dr. Dong repaired the cranial fissure with bovine cartilage and reconstructed the nose. An "after" photo showed a normal, good-looking boy. A young woman

worker from Dandong in the northeast had lost the right side of her scalp in an accident. Dr. Dong had transplanted long hair flaps for her, leaving a beautiful girl with thick braids. A girl near 30, badly pockmarked, acquired a face almost as unmarked as a normal person's.

Training and Early Efforts

Dr. Dong, a hard worker, began as a dental surgeon in a Tianjin hospital. During the Korean War of the early 1950's she was in the first group of doctors to go to a hospital for the wounded. As a new Communist Party member and doctor in charge, she worked day and night. Once she had to reconstruct a nose for a wounded soldier. She used a piece of the skin of the man's forehead and rebuilt the nose. But she felt sorry after the nose turned out unshapely and a scar was left on his forehead. The experience made her decide to become a plastic surgeon.

In 1952 Dr. Dong entered the Beijing Russian Language Training School, and in 1954 went to study in the Soviet Union. In 1957 she returned to work in the Xi'an

LIU BINGQI and ZHANG TIANLAI are reporters for the Guangming Daily.

Medical College. Here she did her first plastic nose surgery for a young woman, which played a role in her marriage.

Li Xiuyuan, a worker in the Shenyang Cement Plant, who had lost his nose and upper front teeth in a battle during the War of Liberation (1946-1949), came to Dr. Dong for help. She reconstructed the nose with the tubed flap Filatov method. At that time most plastic surgeons were using forehead skin. But Dr. Dong did not want to leave the forehead scarred. She pared the subcutaneous fat of the Filatov tube as thin as possible but retained the subcutaneous mesh. The operation was successful. Asked to identify the patient among other people in a photo, no one could do it.

Still Hard at Work

Now over 60, Dr. Dong still operates four or five times a week. She tries to increase her skill by observing facial lines and musculature.

Herself childless, Dr. Dong puts particular energy and love into her work with children. One of her patients was a baby girl only several months old who was

born with two clefts under her nose. The parents had taken her to doctors everywhere without result. Dr. Dong succeeded in restoring the child's face to normal. "People are sometimes afraid to look at the patients who come to me," she said, "but I think how lovely they are!"

Lei Yuan, a technician in the Yinchuan Cement Plant, had burned his face, neck and hands so badly in a fire that his chin had adhered to his chest, his eyelids and lips were only scars, his fingers had become webbed and his ears were molded to his head. His deformity threw his young wife of six months into despair.

Dr. Dong did 13 skin grafts, allowing him to straighten his neck and have better facial features. The function of his hand was restored. Meanwhile, she had long talks with the wife to help her understand that one loved a man for his heart and not his face. Lei Yuan is now back at work. "Dr. Dong has no children," the couple said, "but we are her children — and our baby will be her grandchild."

Since 1975 Dr. Dong's plastic surgery has freed 8,900 patients from physical and mental distress, a record to be proud of. □

Dr. Dong and visitors, a group of American dental surgeons.

Photos by Zhu Yousheng



Correspondence College for Students Abroad

XIAMEN (Amoy) University founded 60 years ago by Mr. Tan Kah-kee, a patriotic overseas Chinese, set up an overseas correspondence department in 1956. Expanded and renamed the Overseas Correspondence College in 1980, its purpose is to provide foreigners as well as Chinese residing overseas and in Hongkong, Macao and Taiwan with opportunities to learn something about Chinese language and culture, and thus to promote cultural and friendly relations between China and other nations.

This year the correspondence college offers two courses, one on the Chinese language and the other on traditional Chinese medicine (internal). There will also be two special classes, one for advanced studies in the Chinese language and the other on acupuncture. Instruction is given mainly in Chinese. At the end of a course, certificates are issued to students who pass their in-term tests and final examination.

Enrolment in the college began in May and will last until the end of August. Prospective students (irrespective of nationality) should apply directly to the college, enclosing school transcripts (or evidence of equivalent education), and a letter of recommendation from an employer or other responsible organization. Entrance examination is conducted by correspondence, and those who pass will be so notified. Tuition and sundry fees are paid at registration.

The college also has a short-term Chinese language class for foreigners. The term of study is about six weeks at the school, followed by a two-week tour in China.

Applicants may write directly to the college for a brochure on enrolment regulations. The address is:

Overseas Correspondence College,
Xiamen University
Xiamen, Fujian province
People's Republic of China

Mount Gongga — Biologists' Paradise

QIU CHEN and LIU LU

MOST mountain ranges in China run east and west, but the soaring peaks and deep ravines of the Hengduan Range meander north and south through the western parts of Sichuan and Yunnan provinces and the southeastern part of the Tibetan Autonomous Region.

Mount Gongga, the highest peak in the northern section of the range, stands at the juncture of Sichuan's Kangding, Luding and Jiulong counties. Its main peak, 7,556 meters high, is capped with snow the year round. From there eastward to the Dadu River and southward to the Yalong River the distances are only 30 and 105 km. respectively, but the drop in altitude is as much as 6,000 meters. The intervening area is one of the few in the world with such a complete and complex climatic spectrum — ranging from frigid through temperate and warm-temperate

to subtropical. This, plus the complicated terrain, has produced a profusion of animal and plant life, attracting the attention of biologists in China and abroad.

Between 1973 and 1977 a team from the Sichuan Biological Research Bureau made a survey of the vegetation in western Sichuan, including a fairly exhaustive survey of the western slope of Mount Gongga. This was followed by a survey of the eastern slope in 1979 and 1980. As a result we now have a reasonably complete picture of the region's plant life and the distribution of grassland, brush and forest.

Majestic Mount Gongga

In June, 1974 our research team set out from Kangding county for the western slope of Gongga. Rain held us up for four days at Mount Longga, a 5,000-meter peak west of Gongga. Then at sunrise on the 5th day we set off

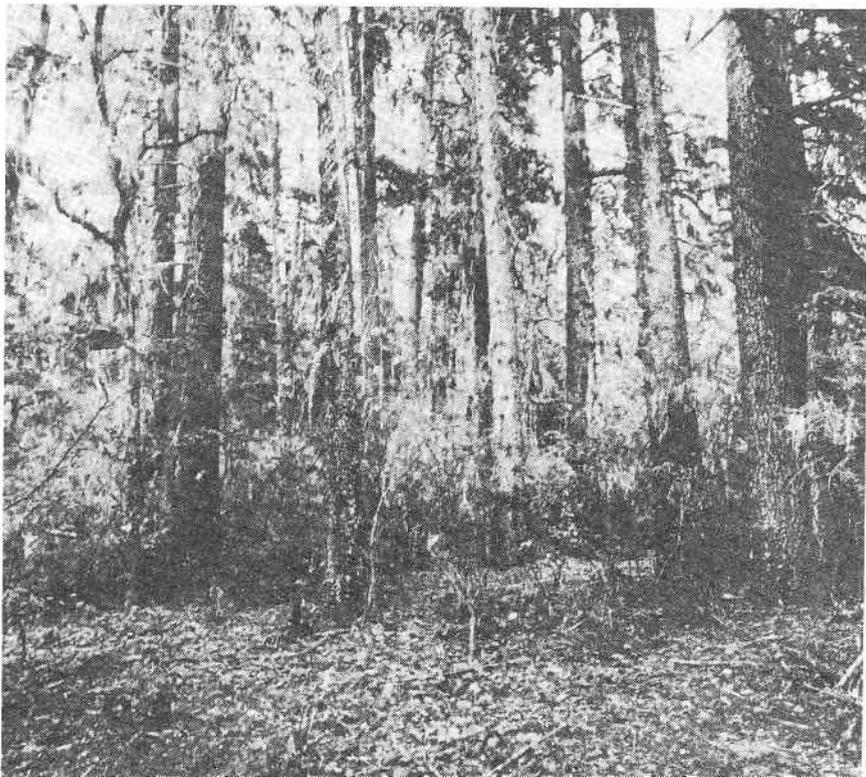
again. As we collected specimens, we were regaled with the sight of innumerable flowers. Soon we had collected more than a hundred different specimens, of which several dozen were azaleas.

After collating our specimens, we continued up the mountain. Gradually, snow drifts began to appear, and were knee-deep by the time we reached the pass at 4,500 meters. The weather at this altitude is unpredictable; a shrieking wind arose as we neared the peak, driving snowflakes into our faces so that we could hardly open our eyes. But when we reached the summit, the blizzard died down and the clouds began to disperse. The summit itself was an expanse of rock and broken stone almost devoid of soil, but between the melting snow drifts we found such mountain plants as down-covered *Saussurea* and *Eriophyton wallichii*, diminutive *Pegaeophyton scapiflorum*, and bun-shaped sandwort. The specimens we collected had roots up to ten times as long as the stems. These roots and the specially-adapted leaves enabled the plants to survive in these inclement surroundings.

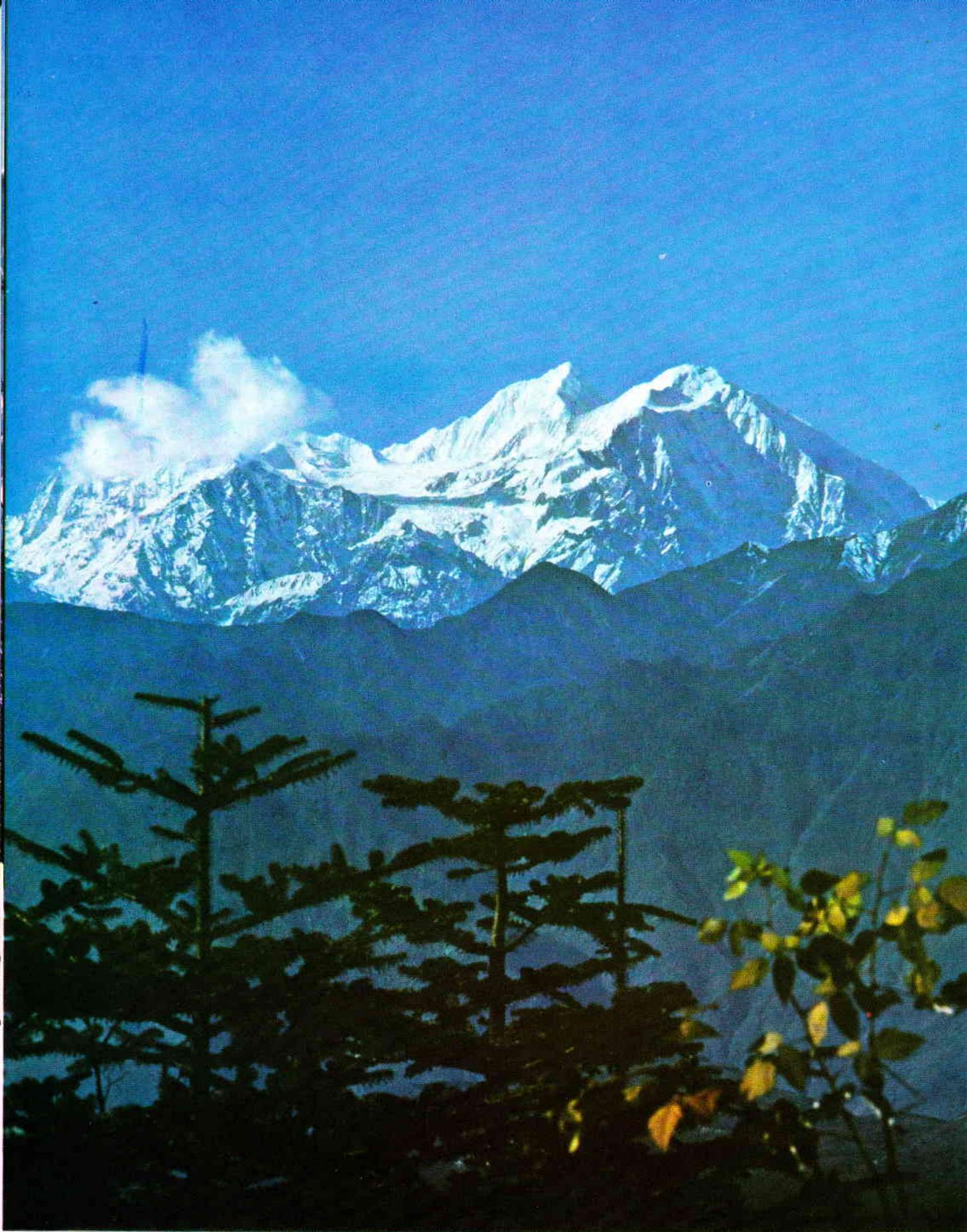
Gongga was barely visible through the haze. But soon a breeze swept aside the veil of mist and the splendid peak stood before us, pristine white and thrusting sword-like at the blue void above. The spectacle lasted but a moment, and billowing clouds gathered again to gird the mountain. Below the clouds were forests, brush, meadows and lifeless screes in orderly succession; above, the spires of snow-clad peaks were magnificently set off against the sky.

Yunnan pines

Lu Rongsen

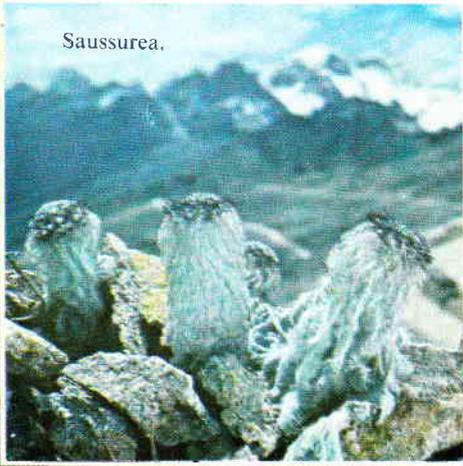


QIU CHEN and LIU LU are researchers at the Sichuan Bureau of Biological Research under the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

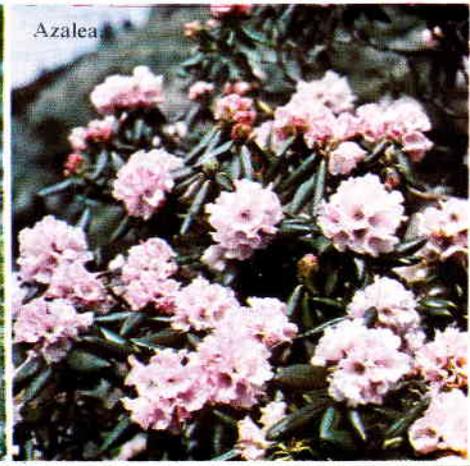


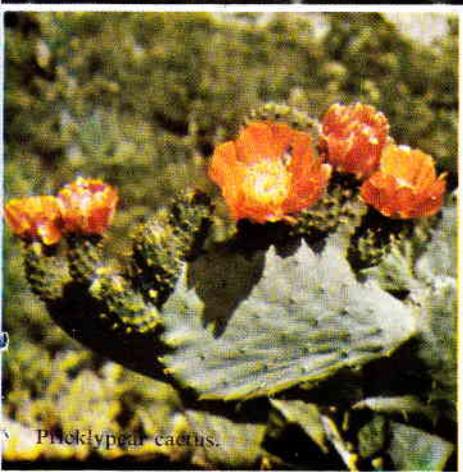
Mount Erlangshan on the eastern approaches of Mount Gongga.

Saussurea.

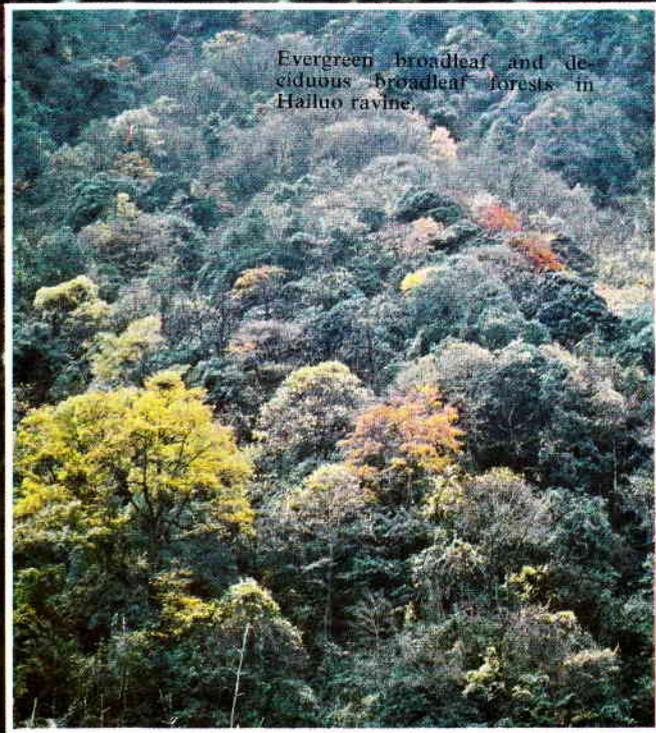


Azalea





Pachylpca cactus.



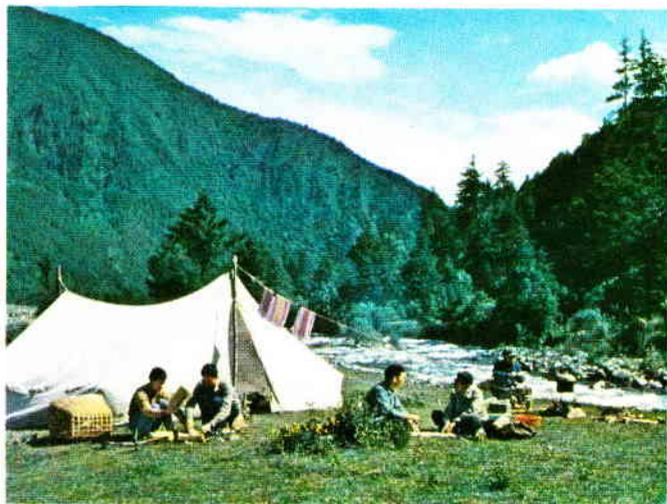
Evergreen broadleaf and deciduous broadleaf forests in Hailuo ravine.



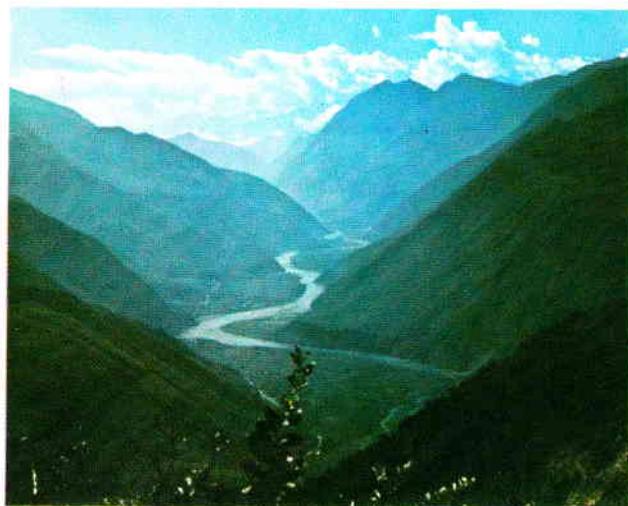
Cattle grazing in a meadow among the forests.
Photos by Lu Rongsen and Yin Kaipu



Gongba glacier on Mount Gongga.



Rest break during an expedition.



The Dadu River valley.

On a clear day, we crossed the 5,000-meter Mount Jichou to arrive at Lake Wuxu. Situated high in the mountains amid thick forests, its waters rippled clear and transparent over multi-colored algae growing on the lake bottom. Interspersed among the willows and silvery-leaved common seabuckthorn on the lake banks and the dark-green spruces and firs further back were soft-branched Chinese larches. In the background, snow-capped mountains rose into a clear blue sky.

We entered the spruce and fir forest to walk among the close-growing tree trunks, tall and straight. Sun-lo epiphytes hung from the branches like the white beards of old men. There was little underbrush; underfoot lay a carpet of moss, sometimes more than 20 cm. thick, dotted here and there with blossoms of the purple *Bergenia*. In a small area we found no less than seven kinds of spruce and fir, with trunks generally more than 80 cm. thick and 40 meters high. We estimated that each hectare of forest contained as much as 500 to 1,000 cubic meters of timber.

Next we came to an oak woods. The thick foliage blocked the sunlight. Fallen leaves and branches rotted slowly on the cool ground, covering it so thickly as to inhibit the growth of brush and grass, while ground mosses were forced to take root on the trunks of trees. In these woods we found stretches of delicate star-leaved *Circaea agratis*, a fairly primitive class in the evolution of plants. Oaks, too, are a carry-over from ancient plant life. They used to be very widespread, but during the Quaternary period about two and a half million years ago, the ancient Qinghai-Tibet plateau rose, causing the huge ancient Mediterranean (Tethys) Sea to retreat westward and dividing the oak family into three parts. One part is now situated on the banks of today's Mediterranean, another on the southern slopes of the Himalayas, and still another on the Hengduan Range. This last is the most developed, with about ten different species.

As we were working, a hail of ripe acorns rattled down on our heads, knocked down by a pair of flying squirrels chasing each other among the branches. Some-

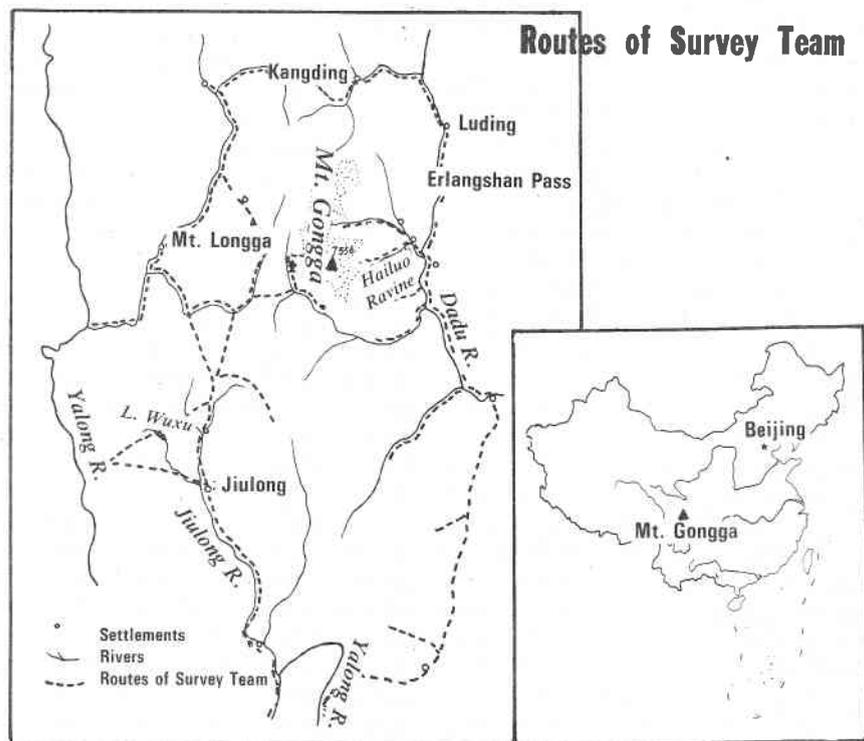
one took a potshot at them, and, unexpectedly, the report of the gun startled a flock of Tibetan eared pheasants. We also saw the droppings and footprints of many other wild animals in the forests.

The Yalong River

Southward along the Jiulong River, as its bed cuts deeper into the terrain, the valleys become narrower and their banks steeper. As we negotiated the small paths on the wall-like precipices, the sky overhead was often but a slim blue thread. Deep chasms yawned at our feet. We came upon different types of forests: mixed coniferous and broadleaf forests of hemlock, birch and maple; forests of Armand pine or Yunnan pine; and evergreen broadleaf forests of cinnamon, nanmu *Phoebe* and *Cyclobalanopsis glaucoides*.

Emerging from the Jiulong valley we came to the Yalong River. Its turbid waves thundered out of the mountains to engulf the clear waters of the Jiulong River and rush on eastward with magnificent élan.

Because of the warm, dry winds that prevail in the Yalong valley, rainfall is scant and concentrated. Evaporation exceeds the yearly precipitation, resulting in a hot, arid climate. After the Jiulong River, we seemed to have come to a different world. No more forests clothed the riverbanks; instead, a few straggling Yunnan pines clung to their upper slopes, overlooking the stunted, drought-acclimatized shrubs and grasses below. There were thorny acacia and *Osyris wightioima*, fuzzy longleaf mullein, aromatic Yunnan pistache, common bluebeard and lemongrass, and fleshy-stemmed common pricklypear and ancients euphorbia — all looking somewhat parched and wilted. The only touch of color and freshness was provided by the occasional scarlet flowers of the common pricklypear, a type of cactus. An interesting plant was the *Selaginella pulvinata*, whose leaves curl up in the dry season to avoid the blistering rays of the sun, and un-



furl only to soak up the dew in the early mornings; it has been called "the grass with nine lives". In like manner each plant here has developed its own means of survival in the withering heat.

With a broiling sun overhead, we continued downstream until we came to a small village with a fruit-laden tree known as the oil tea camellia. As we rested in its shade, the owner told us that it had been brought here 200 years ago, and that it provided all the oil needed by the ten members of his family. We were surprised that this tree, native to the low hills on the lower Changjiang (Yangtze) River, had managed to survive here, 2,000 meters above sea level. There were other fruit trees around the village — peach, plum, pear, walnut, and tangerine, the prettiest being the pomegranates, with their young fruit festooning the branches and flame-red flowers nestling amidst the green foliage.

Wonders of Hailuo Ravine

In May, 1980 we began our survey of the eastern slope of Mount Gongga. Setting out from Chengdu, we drove through Ya'an and Tianquan counties to Mount Erlangshan on the border of Luding county. Here, the magnificent sight of Gongga's main peak once again greeted our eyes.

Following the twists and turns of the mountain road, we soon reached the banks of the Dadu River. Masses of peach and plum blossoms graced the branches and a warm breeze from the river valley caressed our faces.

Through Hailuo Ravine a stream flows from Mount Gongga eastward into the Dadu River. About 20 to 30 meters wide, the stream is studded with huge boulders among which the water foams and eddies. The banks are lined with steep rocky cliffs, and the trails winding along them were tough going. At dusk we reached the place called Qingshiban where we had decided to make camp, and night fell by the time we finished our supper. Exhausted

by our day's trek, we rolled into our blankets and fell asleep at once.

The next morning we awoke as cuckoos, crimson tragopans, and a hundred other songsters trilled, whistled or chirped outside our tent.

Qingshiban is surrounded by mixed forests of evergreens and deciduous broadleaf trees. Dark-green evergreens such as tan oak, cinnamon and nanmu Phoebe were interspersed with light green deciduous broadleaves such as the katsura tree and the tetracentron. Rose-red magnolia blossoms, proudly erect on their branches, and multicolored azaleas adorned the leafy canopy. Inside the forest, hoary trees towered up to hide the sky with their heavy foliage, and the densely-growing glossyleaf chinacane formed almost impenetrable barriers below. There were a profusion of epiphytes, parasitic plants, and lianas and vines. Actinidia, China Franchetvine, magnoliavine, and *Millettia* twined up tree trunks and thrust their leaves and tendrils above the forest canopy for their share of the warm sunshine. One member of the lily family hung from the branches, its 30-cm.-long leaves suspended from stems so fine one could hardly see them without a magnifying glass. Growing on the trunk of a tan oak two meters thick we saw a whole range of epiphytic plant forms, lower or higher on the evolutionary scale. A sudden exclamation from one of our colleagues brought everyone clustering around him. Pushing out from the ground at his feet were pink shoots of the *Gastrodia elata* — a rare and much-sought-after ingredient in Chinese herbal medicine — as well as *Kingdonia uniflora*, a primitive plant with little leaves like parasols.

Leaving Qingshiban behind, we pushed forward along trails overgrown with bamboo and, heart in mouth, crossed several flimsy bamboo suspension bridges before getting to the upper end of the ravine. The forest here was especially green and luxuriant,

with the same spruces and firs growing here as in the mountains on the fringe of the Sichuan Basin. It was very damp in the forest. Glossyleaf chinacane grew fairly thickly, and the epiphytes on the tree trunks were mostly of the moisture-loving species. Particularly striking among these last was the *Rhododendron dendrocharis* with its bright red blossoms.

Picking our way through the forest we soon came to the famous Hailuogou glacier. The longest modern glacier at Mount Gongga, its kilometer-wide tail comes down into the forests at an altitude of around 3,000 meters. Seen from where we stood, it looked like a silvery dragon, blindingly white in the sunlight. There are not many glaciers in the world that descend to such a low altitude and exist side by side with the forests, yet there are several on Mount Gongga.

Our survey showed that the vegetation and plant types on the eastern slope are more complex than on the western slope, due to the warmer climate and more abundant water, and that a far larger variety of epiphytes, parasites and vines grow in the forests. Perhaps the most salient feature was that most of the plant species peculiar to southwest China, such as the tetracentron and katsura tree, were found on the eastern slope.

During our two surveys we collected nearly 2,000 plant specimens and saw a good many strange natural phenomena. The reason for the multiplicity of plant species and the unusual combinations of different types of vegetation lay not only in the geological shifts and movements of the remote past, but also in the existence of mountains and rivers that served as convenient bridges or passages for the coming together of plants from diverse regions. The different types of climate and terrain also favored their growth, differentiation and proliferation. All these, however, are subjects that require further investigation and study, and our work is just beginning. □



GUANGDONG CHEMICALS

BAKELITE

HIGH ABRASION FURNACE CARBON BLACK: Average particle size: 27-35 mu.

INTERMEDIATE SUPER ABRASION FURNACE CARBON BLACK: Average particle size: 22-26 mu.

GENERAL PURPOSE FURNACE CARBON BLACK: Average particle size: 50-70 mu.

FAST EXTRUDING FURNACE CARBON BLACK: Average particle size: 31-58 mu.

CARBON LUMPS: 15-40mm. and 50-150mm.

CALCIUM CARBONATE: 98% min.

CHLORINATED PARAFFIN: 50% min.

ETHYL ALCOHOL: 95% min.

IRON OXIDE BLACK: No. 722 Fe_3O_4 95% min.

IRON OXIDE BLACK: No. 721 Fe_3O_4 95% min.

IRON OXIDE MAGNETIC: TaPe grade, Fe_2O_3 , Coercivity (He) 300 Oersteds (Oe) min.

LITHOPONE: 28/30% total zinc content calculated as Zn8.

LITHOPONE: 30% min.

POTASSIUM PERMANGANATE: 99% min.

COLOR PROCESSING: Kit No. 1.

COLOR PROCESSING: Kit No. 2.

SODIUM HYDROSULFITE: 85% min.

TITANIUM DIOXIDE: Enamel grade 98% min.

TUNGSTEN TRIOXIDE: 99.5% min.

CHINA NATIONAL CHEMICALS IMP. & EXP. CORP.

GUANGDONG BRANCH

61 Yan Jiang Road (1), GUANGZHOU, CHINA

CABLE: "SINOCHEMIC" GUANGZHOU

TELEX: 44076 HAGON CN

Hongkong Photographer Exhibits in Beijing

WU YINXIAN



Jian Qingfu

AN exhibition by Hongkong photographer Jian Qingfu held early this year in Beijing won high praise for both his art and his skill. It is not technically difficult to take a good picture, given modern equipment, but technical accomplishment is needed to express an artistic conception, and Jian Qingfu clearly has both.

WU YINXIAN is a well-known photographer and vice-chairman of the Photographic Society of China.

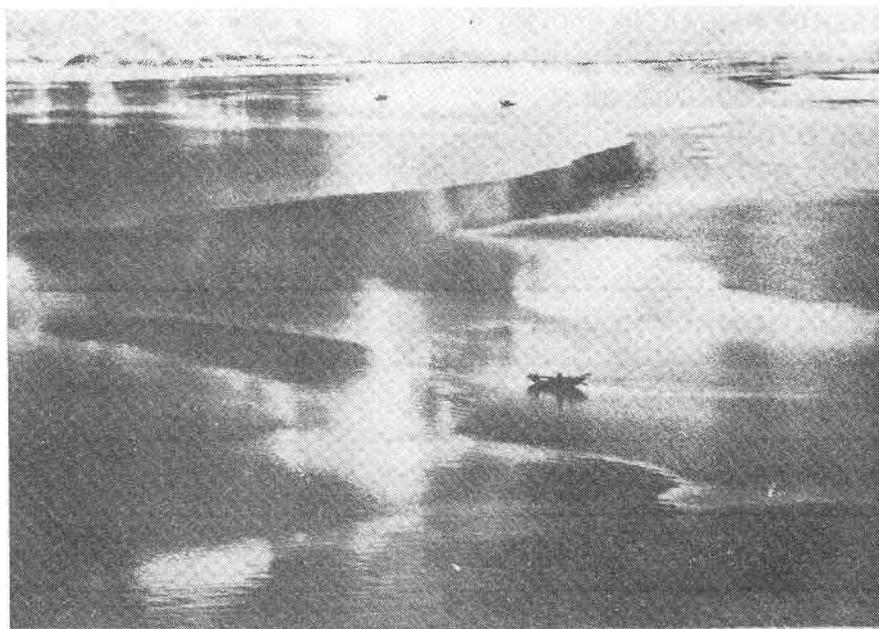
Jian's success lies in his use of composition, color, light and shade. "Good Earth", for instance, shows the beauty of a vast landscape with rich and harmonious color and careful composition. A few people standing far in the distance are carefully arranged; the woman with a water bucket walking away makes the picture's color perfectly harmonious.

"Good Earth", along with "Fingers of the Dawn", "Fairyland",

"Red Sail", and "The Tree Is Watching", are pastoral scenes rich in poetic charm and tranquility. In "Fingers of the Dawn" the photographer cleverly uses light, shade and color to heighten the atmosphere of early spring, as sunbeams through towering old trees reveal the new leaves.

Jian's work reflects the beauty and vitality of life. His pictures cover a wide range of subjects including people, animals, and landscapes; in all of them simple artistic form camouflages high technical skill. Jian presents ideas clearly in well-organized compositions, giving full play to the role of color either through striking contrast or complete harmony. At the exhibition, Jian displayed his huge print of "Fairyland" with a 135 contact print attached at the corner. There had been no cropping; the composition was all there in the negative.

In his black and white photos, Jian pays special attention to shade and lines, as in "Piscatorial Design", "Hunting", "Two Nuns", and "Water Palette". His animals and birds are particularly lifelike. It isn't easy to photograph an animal or bird in motion while maintaining good composition, but Jian does it well, in such works as "Arabesque" and "Fighting Bull". □



Some of Jian Qingfu's works on show.



The Tree Is Watching

Fairyland





Fighting Bull

Arabesque



Workers' Living Standards in Tianjin

LIU HONGFA

HAS the standard of living of Chinese workers risen or dropped? Research conducted last year in Tianjin, one of China's biggest cities, by the city's Municipal Statistical Bureau, gives us a clue. The bureau surveyed 500 families of workers in different trades, with different economic situations.

1. In 1980, workers' families in Tianjin averaged 39.38 yuan a month per capita, after deducting what they spent for the support of old people living outside the household, and for gifts—a 31.9 percent increase over the 29.86 yuan recorded in the previous survey in 1978. During this period, prices of staple foods (whose supply is guaranteed by the state), rent (usually about 1.4 percent of a person's income), and charges for utilities and public transportation remained stable. Tuition at middle and primary schools and child-care fees were lowered a bit. But the prices of some non-staple foods and other goods went up. After adjusting for inflation, workers' real income increased 23.3 percent in 1980, the biggest increase since the founding of the People's Republic.

Several factors explain this development. In 1977 and again in 1979 the government raised the wages of 40 percent of China's workers. More job opportunities were provided, so the number of wage-earners per family was increased. Starting in October 1979, a monthly subsidy of five yuan has been paid to each worker to compensate for the rise in price of some foodstuffs. Lastly, a bonus system has been initiated.

2. The average income of many households has increased. Families whose per-capita income is less than 25 yuan per month dropped last year to 4.8 percent of the city's total households, as against 31.15

percent in 1978. In the same period, well-to-do families, with per-capita income of more than 50 yuan per month, increased from 4.49 percent to 16.6 percent of all households. Families with per-capita income of 25 to 50 yuan, a middle-level economic situation, made up 78.6 percent of Tianjin's total households in 1980.

3. Most of the workers' increased income is spent on consumer goods. Money spent on food dropped from 70 percent of a family's total income in 1965 to 53.6 percent last year, while the percentage spent on clothing and other items went up substantially. Consumption of meat, fish and eggs increased respectively by 50.3 percent, 30.5 percent, and 81 percent compared with 1965, and on sweets and cakes by 180 percent and 120 percent respectively.

In the past few years there has been an upsurge in demand for higher-grade goods. In 1980 in Tianjin, for each 100 families there were 185 bicycles, 71 sewing machines, 249 wrist watches, 110 radios, 54 TV sets, 6.2 tape recorders, 4.8 cameras, 17.8 electric fans and 22 pairs of easy chairs. All these figures were below the levels of Shanghai and Beijing, except for bicycles and radios (higher

than Shanghai) and sewing machines (higher than Beijing). Before 1965, TV sets, tape recorders and electric fans were rarely seen in workers' houses in Tianjin.

4. The research showed that, as wage differences are not great, living standards depend mainly on the number of wage-earners and of dependent persons in each family.

To get a concrete idea of the living standards of Tianjin workers in different economic situations (well-off, middle-income and low-income), with a *China Reconstructs* photographer I made visit to three families.

A Middle-income Family

One was the home of Wang Xiujun, 37, a technician in a synthetic fiber plant. Wang Xiujun is a fourth-grade worker (there are eight grades, counted in ascending order), earning 65 yuan a month. Her husband, Song Maoting, is a dispatcher at the city's No. 4 Radio Factory. He too is a fourth-grade worker, and receives 67 yuan a month. They have a six-year-old daughter, so the family's per-capita income is 44 yuan.

Wang Xiujun's family of three occupies one room of a flat on the top floor of a six-story apartment

Wang Xiujun's family watches TV in the evening.
Wang Xiujun in her kitchen.

Photos by Li Fen



LIU HONGFA is a staff reporter for *China Reconstructs*.

building in southwestern Tianjin. The other room of the flat belongs to another family. She and her neighbor have separate kitchens, but share a toilet.

When we arrived, Wang Xiujun's daughter was playing a toy piano. The bright and pretty girl had been in a kindergarten for a while. Although there was no tuition — a government incentive for families having only one child — the kindergarten was far from their home, so Wang Xiujun had recently asked the child's two grandmothers, both living nearby, to look after the girl in turns. She pays about 15 yuan a month for the child's food. On Saturday afternoon she takes her home for the weekend.

After we had talked for some time, Wang Xiujun excused herself, saying it was the time for her to go to the food market. I invited myself along, to check the prices in the market. The market was not far from her home. A board on the wall listed some prices: pork at 2.4 yuan per kilogram, beef 2 yuan, mutton 2 yuan, eggs 2.4 yuan, croakers and butterfish 1.8 yuan, rape 0.28 yuan, celery 0.4 yuan and Chinese cabbage 0.12 yuan. Wang Xiujun bought a full basket of vegetables, meat, fish and eggs, and a piece of chocolate for her daughter. She invited us home for lunch.

Wang Xiujun and her husband prepared the meal together. I stood by their side, watching them working. "Do you spend most of your

money on food or clothing?" I asked. "On food," Wang Xiujun replied. "We don't care much about clothing," she smiled, "as you can see from what we're wearing," "But," her husband interrupted, "she's a good tailor. She makes all the child's clothes. Look, they're quite nice, aren't they?"

Lunch consisted of six dishes, plus wine. They said that most days they have three dishes, but on Sundays they often have six or more. When there are guests, they may have as many as a dozen dishes. Song Maoting likes wine, so there's always some in the house.

Their furniture seemed quite new, so I asked whether it had been bought recently. They told me they bought the wardrobe, the

Income and Expenditure of Three Representative Families for 1980 (in yuan)

(100 yuan, at this writing, equals US\$ 62.31, UK£ 27.64 or HK\$ 325.94)

	Well-off family Wang Shufang's*	Middle-income Family Wang Xiujun's	Low-income Family Jin Wenjiang's
Family members	4	3	4
Working members	4	2	1
Total net family income**	3252.00	1609.00	1093.50
Monthly per-capita	67.75	44.69	22.78
Total expenditures	3317.00	1560.50	1082.50
Total food expenses	1750.00	831.00	722.00
Staple foods	375.00	128.00	267.00
Non-staple foods	925.00	445.00	321.00
Other grocery items (cakes, cigarettes, wine, etc.)	450.00	258.00	134.00
Total clothing	946.00	282.00	184.00
Silk, wool and fur garments	667.00	86.00	14.00
Daily necessities	176.00	214.00	27.00
Books and entertainment	157.00	26.00	39.00
Fuel and other articles	119.00	69.00	65.00
Rent	67.00	32.00	(private house)
Living space	23 m ²	14.5 m ²	11 m ²
Water and electricity	34.00	24.00	10.00
Transportation	6.00	36.00	26.00
Repairs	12.00	13.00	7.00
Medical expense***	2.00	2.50	1.50
Education and recreation	48.00	31.00	1.00
Savings Dec. 31, 1980	218.00****	416.00*****	11.00

*Refers to Wang Shufang's mother's household. Wang Shufang now lives with her husband and father-in-law.

**Includes wages, supplementary wages, subsidies and bonuses, after payments for support of old people

living outside the household and money spent on gifts.

***Medical treatment is free; this expense covers registration fees and certain items, like dentures, not provided by state-paid medicine.

****The family's expenditure for the year was 65 yuan more than its income. Savings at Dec. 31, 1979, were 75 yuan.

*****Includes 1979 savings of 155 yuan.

chest of drawers and the two easy chairs not long ago, but Song Mao-ting made the round table himself.

The family planned to go to a park that afternoon and see a film in the evening.

Well-off Family

The next day, we visited the home of a department-store clerk, Wang Shufang. Her husband, He Weiqun, also works at the store. Shufang is a third-grade worker and her husband a second-grade worker; their wages are not high, but with subsidies and bonuses, their per-capita household income is 67.75 yuan. They were married in the fall of 1979 and have no children as yet. He Weiqun's father, a retired worker, lives with them. He receives a pension of 60 yuan, 75 percent of his original wage, every month. So the family can be considered one of the city's well-off households.

Wang Shufang's family lives on the first floor of a two-story building in southwestern Tianjin. When we arrived, the young couple and He Weiqun's father were all at home. Their two rooms were neat and well arranged. The furniture, the TV set and the sewing machine were new, as the young couple had been married less than two years. Wang Shufang told me her husband had made the furniture with the help of some comrades from the store. Her mother had given her 1,000 yuan worth of wedding presents, so they spent only 400 yuan to set up housekeeping.

When I learned they had bought an electric iron the day before, I asked about their plans for future purchases. "Now we are getting prepared to have a child," He Weiqun said. "Then I want to buy a tape recorder, but Shufang wants a washing machine. She says it will relieve her from household chores. Maybe her wish is more reasonable".

With the couple, I went to the home of Wang Shufang's mother, father and younger sister. Their flat is on the first floor, and has two bedrooms, a kitchen and a toilet. They had a 14-inch black and white TV set, a tape recorder and a phonograph. Wang Shu-

Durable Consumer Goods Owned by the Three Families

Item	Head of Household		
	Wang Shufang	Wang Xiujun	Jin Wenjiang
Bicycles	4	0	1 (home-made)
Sewing machines	1	1	0
Wrist watches	2	3	1
Radios	2	1	1 (home-made)
TV sets	1	1	0
Phonographs	1	0	0
Tape recorders	1	0	0
Electric fans	1	0	0
Easy chairs (pairs)	1	1	0

fang's father is in his late fifties, and her sister too works, so with the mother's retirement pay, the family has three incomes, and is of course well-off.

I asked the father how their life is today, whether it has been improved and if so, in what respects. In 1977, by the time both his children had jobs, he said, their life began to show improvement. In the past four years, they've bought a TV set, a tape recorder, a phonograph, four bicycles, two good-quality wrist watches, and an electric fan. Now they plan to buy a washing machine.

Shufang's mother added that they'd had quite a lot of new clothes made recently. Aside from those she had prepared for Shufang's wedding, the family had bought four overcoats, four pairs of leather shoes and several woolen sweaters and some knitting wool. Last year they spent 900 yuan on clothes.

Low-income Families

Families with more dependent old and young people find their budgets a bit tight. Jin Wenjiang's family is one of these. He's a bench worker at the Tianjin No. 4 Building Construction Company.

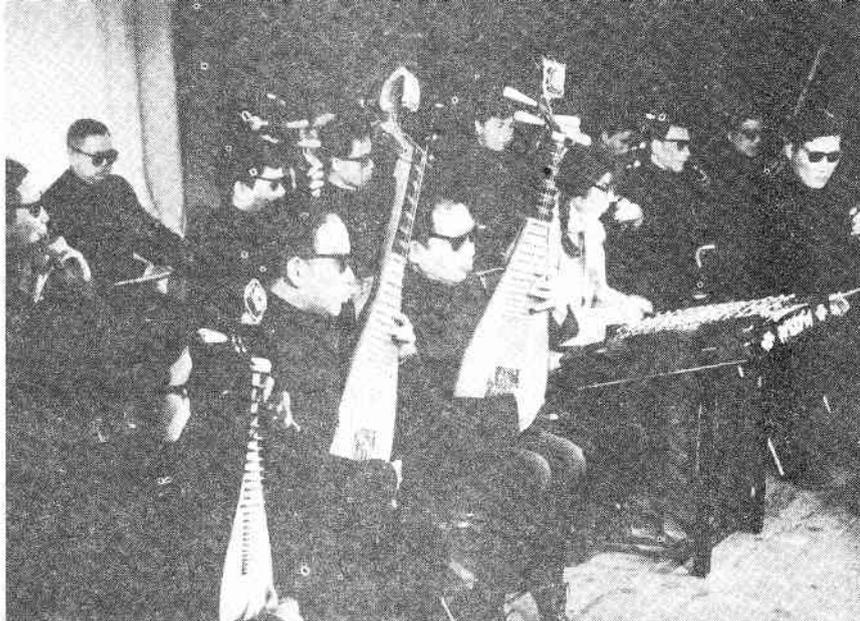
When we entered his room, his wife was sitting on the bed weaving material for covering electric wire on an old-fashioned spinning wheel. She doesn't have a regular job, and so does temporary work assigned by the neighborhood com-

mittee. "I'm lucky if I get ten days' work and earn 10 yuan a month," she said.

A little while later, their two children, a boy and a girl, came home from school. Both are Young Pioneers, and wore bright red scarves around their necks. They were clean and neat, though their clothes were old and becoming outgrown. Before long Jin Wenjiang also came home. Including myself and a *China Reconstructs* photographer, there were six people in this 11-square-meter room. It was really too small. There were stains on the wall, where rain had leaked in. "Why don't you get your room repaired?" I asked. "It's our own house," Jin said. "I can't afford to repair it."

Jin Wenjiang earns 81 yuan per month. With his wife's earnings, their total monthly income is around 91 yuan, only enough to feed the four of them. In emergencies, they can apply for a subsidy from Jin's work unit, which is usually forthcoming. The assistance comes from the plant's welfare fund.

Jin said that since 1977 he has been promoted twice; with bonuses and subsidies, he now earns 30 yuan a month more than he did before. But with four mouths to feed, it's still not much. The rising cost of some items, especially vegetables, threatens to push his family's consumption down, and what he hopes for most is that the government will stabilize prices. □



Blind People's Traditional Instrument Orchestra of the Shanghai Oil Pipe Factory.

the Shanghai Oil Pipe Factory — its twenty-six blind musicians played with great enthusiasm and liveliness. Backstage, *erhu* player Zou Rongquan said, "This is our festival, the first one by blind and deaf-mute people in thirty years. The audience was terrific! It explains one thing: We can perform like normal persons and are getting as much care and concern as anybody." This was a reflection of how all the performers felt.

In the Shanghai Oil Pipe Factory, specially set up by the Shanghai Civil Administration Bureau, half of the 800 workers are blind or deaf-mute, the sightless in the majority. There are 14 such factories in Shanghai. The blind orchestra of the factory was organized in 1965 but stopped functioning during the "cultural revolution" and could not resume its activities until 1977.

Zou Rongquan said, "Music plays a very important role in the life of the blind. We love to listen to music and play instruments. At the school for blind children, we had lessons and were taught to read scores in Braille and play one or two instruments. Nearly everyone of us has a tape recorder and records from radio broadcasts."

The members of the orchestra not only perform but also compose. "Festival Waltz" is one of their creations. "Our music," Zou said, "has not only enriched our life but brought good to society." The group has performed for TV, factories and communes. Last year they put on their own composition, "New Life of the Blind", for students in a reform school in Shanghai. Their concert deeply touched the audience.

THE ORCHESTRA'S *yangqin* player is Yang Dianyu, a 33-year-old gas welder who lost her sight because of glaucoma. Her

TAN AIQING is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.

Active Life for the Handicapped

TAN AIQING



The audience was thrilled.

TO commemorate the International Year of Disabled Persons, Shanghai held a three-day theatrical festival last March in which the performers were all blind or deaf-mute. Out of dozens of items, sixteen had been chosen for another three-day

show. It attracted a big audience, with people even standing in the aisles. One of the two announcers introduced each item with sign language.

The first number on the program was a piece by the traditional instruments orchestra of

baby was only three months old when the festival was held. This didn't stop her. She took along the baby's food and carried the child to the theater with her.

Twenty-five-year-old accordion player Dong Dalin is a worker in the Shanghai Aluminium Rivet Factory. He came second in an accordion contest last August in the Jin An district.

Dong got glaucoma in 1970 when he was 15 and in middle school. But that was during the "cultural revolution" and good doctors had been branded "reactionary academic authorities" and expelled from the hospitals. Without appropriate treatment, Dong lost his sight. In despair, he never left his home for three years except for medical treatment. Later, with the help of the Jin An administration, he got a job at the aluminium rivet factory and life once more became full of hope. He developed new interests, among them the accordion. The Xinhua Bookstore and Shanghai Music Bookstore helped him get books on harmony, theory and piano scores. The literature and art section of the radio and television station in Beijing made accordion recordings for him and sent him the tapes. He practiced hard for two years with the help of his father and became an outstanding player.

Introducing another young man, Dong said, "This is Zheng Cisheng from my factory. He goes with me every time I perform." Zheng, on his part, said with obvious admiration, "It's very unusual for a blind person to play as well as he does. His persistence moved me greatly." Zheng always helps him to mount and descend the stage, carrying his accordion.

The handicapped performers offered such difficult items as the Uyghur dance, "Picking Grapes"; part of the solo dance in "Silk Road"; "Shoe Polishing" and the Beijing opera, "At the Crossroads". There is room for improvement in their performance, but what strikes and inspires people is their indomitable spirit and



Dong Dalin, accordion player.

love of art, triumphing over their physical deficiencies.

AN amazing item was part of the Spanish dance from "Swan Lake" performed by two couples. Their movements were exact and poetic, typical of the passion of the dance. Using the drum to accompany the dance was unusual. The drummer, Kong Lingzhang, is a teacher at the Shanghai Dance School and a dance director. He noted that although the dancers could not hear the music, they could feel the vibration of the drum, which

Spanish dance performed by deaf dancers, vibrations are their guide.



became their accompaniment. The four dancers had three months of dance lessons, two hours twice a week. Unfamiliar with sign language, Kong demonstrates and uses direct teaching methods. Their three months of hard training resulted in a much-applauded performance.

The Beijing opera, "At the Crossroads", was performed by four workers of the Dong Hai Machinery Plant. Sun Genhua, who played the waiter, graduated from the Shanghai Deaf-mute School. He developed an interest in the acrobatic movements of Beijing opera after he came to the factory. His entire family came to see his performance. His wife is also a deaf-mute and works in the same factory. At



'At the Crossroads', acrobatic scene from an opera performed by deaf-mutes from the Dong Hai Machinery Factory.

Photos by Zhong Xiangdong

the festival she helped backstage, looking after props and costumes. Through sign language she said, "The festival has won credit for the deaf-mutes and blind. Everyone is interested. Many members of our families helped backstage for the performance." □

Sports Meet for Blind and Deaf-Mutes in Beijing



A grand sports meet for the blind and deaf-mutes was held in Beijing from mid-April to the end of May. Competitions were held in Chinese chess, table-tennis, basketball and track and field events for 746 participants from schools, factories and other units.

Blind players among the 119 participants in the chess matches called out their moves — retaining in their minds the positions of all the pieces by amazing feats of memory — while the referees did the actual shifting of the pieces. Eighteen deaf-mute teams, five of them women's, took part in the basketball competition. Track and field events included running, discus throwing, softball and broad jump. For blind athletes there were tug-of-war, rope skipping, 60-meter dash and broad jump from a standing position. The sports meet created such interest among the handicapped that two deaf-mute workers from outside Beijing came 50 kilometers by train to enter their names for the table-tennis match.

There were 66 participants from the Beijing Woolen Piece-goods Factory. The 600 workers there, half of them deaf-mutes, have their own long-distance running, basketball and table-tennis teams, and a nearby lake provides them with swimming in summer and skating in winter. They do setting-up exercises or *taiji quan* (shadow boxing) before work in the mornings. Last year this factory was cited as an advanced unit for physical training. □

Chess match, with blind players calling out their moves. The player with his hand on a piece is winner of the meet Shao Zuofu. Gu Dehua



MARINE PAINTS

IDEAL COATINGS OF EXCELLENT RESISTANCE TO SEA-WATER, MARINE ATMOSPHERE, ABRASION AND WATER EROSION

AVAILABLE IN SHIP BOTTOM PAINTS, BOOTTOPPING PAINTS, DECK PAINTS, TOPSIDE PAINTS, ANTI-CORROSIVE PRIMER, AND OTHERS

COLOUR CARDS AND CATALOGUES WILL BE SENT ON REQUEST



DISTRIBUTOR IN HONG KONG : OVERSEAS ASSOCIATES LTD
ROOM 133, WHELLOCK HOUSE, 20 PEDDER STREET, HONG KONG
PHONE : 5-234112 TELEX : 83567 FEOSO HX CABLE : OVERMAN HONG KONG
CHINA NATIONAL CHEMICALS IMPORT & EXPORT CORP., SHANGHAI BRANCH
27, Zhongshan Road, E 1, Shanghai, China Cable Address: "SINOCHEMIS" Shanghai TELEX: 33044 CCIEC CN

The Ancient Port of Anhai

HUANG MEIYU



The rooftops of Anhai.

PEOPLE from Anhai in Jinjiang, Fujian province, began going abroad as merchants since the Song (960-1279) and Yuan (1271-1368) dynasties. The town's two most famous historical sites, the remarkably long Anping Bridge and Longshan Temple, have witnessed many changes these past 1,000 years.

Anping Bridge; Longshan Temple

Situated at the top of Weitou Bay, 30 kilometers from the major foreign trade port of Quanzhou, Anhai's Anping Harbor served in ancient times as one of the principal mercantile centers and satellites of the Quanzhou harbor. Chronicles record no farming in Anhai; its people have lived by commerce for generations. Separated from Shuitou in Nan'an county by Weitou Bay, Anhai was dependent on water-transport, but boats were frequently capsized in storms, and so the Anping Bridge was built.

Stretching for 2.5 kilometers (or 5 *li*; it's also called Five-*li* Bridge), the longest span of its time, Anping Bridge was begun in 1138 A.D. and finished in 14 years. It is a stone bridge with 326 pylons, and is paved with slabs about ten meters long. It has fallen and been rebuilt many times; a dozen stone tablets record the story of its restorations. More recently, the waterway silted up and the bridge over the sea became a bridge over the land. It is now one of three historic sites in Fujian province under special government protection.

In the northwest corner of Anhai stands the Longshan Temple, which contains a Guanyin (Buddhist goddess of mercy) with one thousand hands. A tablet there informs visitors that the temple was renovated in the Sui dynasty (581-618); and a poem refers to the beginning of construction under the Eastern Han (25 -220) and rebuilding under the Southern dynasties (420-589). Over the years Anhai and the temple were looted several times, but both have

survived. Such is the fame of this temple that there are about 100 temples named after it in Taiwan province, modeled on the original in Anhai.

New Streets

Walking about the streets of Anhai, you will find that although it is no longer an important harbor (the channels can accommodate only ships up to 100 tons), it is still an important commercial center. In the town row upon row of shops maintain the tradition. The famous White Tower still stands at Anhai's west end.

If you could get to the top of the White Tower, you would see that a new Anhai is being built. Streets stretch eastward. New factories, department stores and public buildings have been put up. Flanking Baha'i Street from north to south are newly-built three- or four-story apartment buildings. Though not as high as some buildings in the big cities, compared with the older part of town they look quite imposing. An east-



The Anhai Hospital.

west road is under construction linking up new factories and enterprises. Overseas Chinese and Hongkong and Macao compatriots who return to Anhai will quickly see the difference in their old home town. Thirty years ago, there was little industry; today the former graveyard at the foot of Houku Hill, east of the town, has been turned into an industrial area with machinery, metallurgy, electronics, plastics, textiles, ironware, leather goods, printing, handicrafts, and other factories.

Over the centuries Anhai has been known abroad mostly for its bridge and temple. Today, Anhai's manufactures are marketed both at home and abroad. Products of the Diesel Engine Plant are sold in Southeast Asia; pumps made by the Water Turbine Pump Factory enjoy high prestige on the world market; Cock brand mosquito-repellent incense is marketed in 30 countries. The No. 1 Arts and Crafts Factory is famous for its pearl-embroidered slippers (400,000 pairs a year), which sell well both in Western Europe and in Southeast Asia. In 1979, Arts and Crafts No. 1 built a new workshop with equipment provided by businessmen in Hongkong to knit woolen sweaters with supplied material; monthly output is 57,600 items.

In recent years, Anhai has contracted with many foreign merchants. In addition to machine-knit clothing it also produces hand-knit garments, pearl-deco-

rated and embroidered woolen sweaters, and woven and painted shoe uppers, and assembles radio-tape recorders that are marketed in Hongkong and abroad.

Convenient water and land transportation makes Anhai a distribution center for agricultural and sideline products produced by nearby villages. Apart from state-owned commerce, there are about 800 peddlers, most of whom went into business in the past two years. Some 10,000 peasants sell their surplus in Anhai.

Anhai also has department store for returned overseas Chinese, a commission shop for surplus goods sent to residents by relatives abroad, and an office handling orders for imported merchandise paid for in Hongkong.

Anhai is also making progress in culture, education and public health. The Yangzheng Middle School has since the 1920s trained students who are now working all over the country and throughout Southeast Asia. The school now enrolls a record 2,000 students. The newly-built Anhai Middle School has 400 students. Anhai Central Primary School is among the best in China, and one of the "key" schools for Fujian province.

A cultural palace, a ball court, a cinema and a theater have been built in the town.

In the past there were only a few doctors, making it very difficult for ordinary people to get treatment. In 1957, Anhai Hospital was established, with funds raised from overseas Chinese at the suggestion of one of them, Miss Nie Duanyi, who had come back to China. Now the well-equipped hospital has departments of internal medicine, surgery, and gynaecology, 150 doctors of Western and traditional Chinese medicine, and 200 beds. Nie Duanyi, now over 80 years old, also raised 300,000 yuan from former Anhai residents for medical research building.

In 1980, the Anhai municipal government organized a city planning office, which solicited opinions from the general public

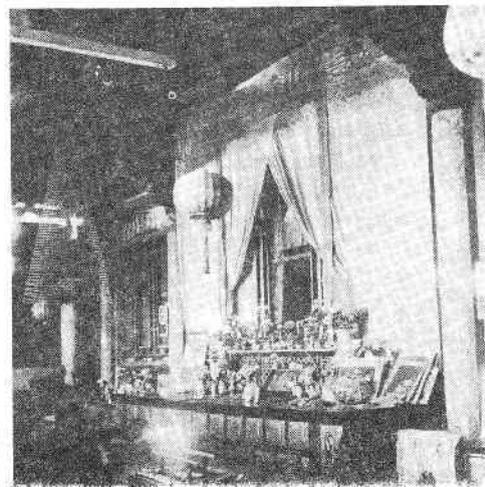
and invited technicians from Xiamen (Amoy) to help prepare a master plan for the town's reconstruction. Inns, a photo studio, a co-op, and a hardware store, started a few years ago, have now been completed. A new overseas Chinese department store, a regular department store, a shop selling candy, cigarettes and wines, a post office, and an agricultural bank are under construction. Preparation has been started for a waterworks.

The program includes the renovation of Longshan Temple and Anping Bridge. Like temples all over the country, Longshan Temple was desecrated during the "cultural revolution". Restoration and renovation have begun already. Four new "Buddha's Warriors" have been sculpted and two nuns who were driven away during the "cultural revolution" have been called back. In a very short time Longshan will be restored to its former appearance.

The government has allocated a special fund for the Anping Bridge. So far, the pylons and slabs have been repaired and the bridge pavilions repainted. There are plans to dredge a 1.5-meter-deep channel on either side of the bridge so it will once more appear to cross a body of water, and to build a new highway from Anhai to Shuitou to reduce the traffic on the bridge. A sluice gate will be built west of the bridge for irrigation. □

The 1,700-year-old Longshan Temple.

Photos by Yang Xiangzhan





The Anping Bridge, built in the Song dynasty.



Inspecting diesel engines.



Knitting workshop of the Art Handicraft Factory No. 1. Woolen sweaters are being made for foreign companies with supplied materials.



Workers at the Anhai Bamboo and Wood Handicraft Factory weave practical articles with bamboo.

Photos by Yang Xiangxian

顺丁橡胶

CIS - 1,4 - POLYBUTADIENE RUBBER

High Quality National Gold Medal Reasonable Price
Foreign Buyers Welcome

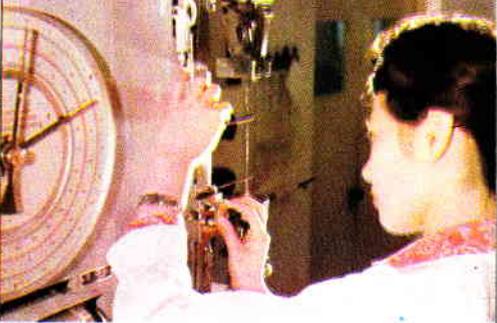
YANSHAN PETROCHEMICAL COMPANY

Address: Yanshan District, Beijing

Telephone: 933-2481

Cables: 2019

P.O. Box 10042, Beijing



燕山石油化学总公司



CHANGZHOU, southwest of Shanghai, is now an industrial town but its traditional products, wooden combs and double-edged fine-tooth combs, are still produced there as they have been for 1,500 years. My family has made combs for eight generations. Grandfather won a silver medal at the Panama Pacific International Exhibition held in San Francisco in 1915. Father got a gold medal for his combs at the Philadelphia International Fair in 1926, the 150th anniversary of United States independence.

In the late 19th century, a number of exquisite wooden combs were chosen every year for the emperor. Still preserved in the Forbidden City at Beijing is an exquisite comb from Changzhou used by the Dowager Empress Ci Xi (1875-1908).

By the eve of liberation, the comb industry in Changzhou had been seriously damaged by the dumping of cheap imported combs. Since liberation, several hundred comb workshops have merged into factories and production has risen sharply. In the past three years, the traditional handicraft techniques have been rapidly improved.

IN order of historical development, our combs may be divided into four "generations". The first type were made for daily use. The second generation combined daily use and decoration, with combs carved in the shapes of swans, parrots, pandas and goldfish. The third generation combs are more artistic than practical, they include mythological and theatrical themes like the Four Beauties; Twelve Buddha's Warriors; the Three Gods of Happiness, Emolument and Longevity; and Beijing opera masks. The fourth generation are combs for hair and clothing ornaments in the shapes of fans, chrysanthemums, peonies and butterflies. The designs have increased from 2 to 220. They are exported to more than twenty countries.

Changzhou Combs

BU ZHONGKUAN



Wang Jinling, the Soybean King

LIANG SHUTANG and AN RUZENG

COMMUTERS on the train from the city of Harbin to Acheng county, in northeastern Heilongjiang province often see an elderly man in peasant dress among the passengers. Few would guess that he is professor Wang Jinling, vice-president of the Northeast Institute of Agronomy, and that he goes to Acheng to inspect the work of 20 or more research stations in the county's communes.

Sixty-four years old now, Professor Wang has since 1940 cultivated more than 30 soybean strains, published two monographs and 37 studies on soybean farming and helped train many scientific and technical personnel. He is known as the Soybean King.

Rugged Path

Born in the city of Xuzhou in the eastern province of Jiangsu, Wang Jinling graduated from the department of agriculture at Jinling University in Nanjing (Nanking) in 1940. As a child he had loved plants and animals, and when, at the university, he read about China being the home of the soybean and how useful the plant was, he decided to devote his life to soybean research. This prompted him to switch from industrial chemistry, his original subject, to agriculture.

Jinling University had to move to Chengdu in Sichuan province after the Japanese invasion of China in 1937. In those years Wang witnessed the Chinese people's sufferings; he saw his country trampled on by foreign powers. He concluded that China's salvation depended on modern science, and from then on his research was linked in his mind with his country's destiny. As a student, he collected about 600 varieties of



Prof. Wang Jinling (second right) and researchers at the Northeast Institute of Agronomy handpick early-maturing soybean shoots. *Liu Xiangyang*

soybeans. With the help of Prof. Wang Shou, head of the agriculture department and a noted scientist, he completed his graduation thesis entitled *Soybean Classification*. After graduation he stayed on at the university as an assistant lecturer under Prof. Wang Shou.

In addition to his regular work he was invited to do practical research at an agricultural breeding and dissemination station in Wugong county, Shaanxi province and at the Shaanxi station of the Central Institute of Experimental Agriculture. He also wrote a number of dissertations, including

one named *Preliminary Study on the Distribution of Soybean-Growing Areas in China*.

However his hopes then were little more than castles in the air. In the years before liberation the authorities did not take his achievements seriously or try to popularize them. In fact, they paid no attention to agriculture, let alone soybean research. All the central experimental station possessed was a plot of semi-arid land and a couple of pottery jars. The seeds he and his colleagues spent so much time and energy cultivating

Bumper harvest of soybeans at Farm No. 852, Heilongjiang province.

Xinhua



LIANG SHUTANG is a reporter for the Xinhua News Agency branch office in Heilongjiang province.

AN RUZENG works in the publicity department in the Northeast Institute of Agronomy.

Chinese Staple Foods

THE staple foods of the Chinese people differ from region to region.

Rice, including glutinous rice, is grown on one-third of China's arable land, mainly in the Changjiang (Yangtze) and Zhujiang (Pearl) river valleys, two or three crops a year. Wheat, including winter and spring wheat, is grown on one-fifth of the arable land in most provinces, but mainly in the lower part of the Huanghe (Yellow River) and in north China. Other food grains include millet, maize, barley, and sorghum. Maize grows in every part of China, millet and sorghum mainly in north China.

Rice is the staple of southerners. In the countryside, most people have rice gruel for breakfast, but in the big cities southerners count about 300 dishes as breakfast foods, such as *huntun* (known as *wonton* abroad), deep-fried sweet cakes, and so on. Southerners cook a great variety of rice dishes, such as a New Year cake made of rice flour, rice noodles, glutinous rice *zongzi* wrapped in bamboo leaves, and sweet stuffed dumplings made of glutinous rice flour.

For northerners, wheat and ground maize are more common than rice. Breakfast for city dwellers may be noodles, a gruel

of corn flour, sesame seed cake, steamed bread, soybean milk, deep-fried cake or twisted dough sticks. Today, for convenience, many workers are eating ready-made bread for breakfast. Wheat-based foods for lunch and supper include steamed bread, rolls, noodles, steamed dumplings, flat steamed cakes, and steamed cornmeal cone. *Jiaozi* stuffed with meat and vegetables is popular with both city and country people on Sundays and holidays. On New Year's eve, members of a family may stay up until midnight making and eating *jiaozi*, a symbol of family reunion and good luck for the future.

Staple foods of the national minorities are somewhat different. On the grasslands, Mongolian and Kazak herdsmen have not only baked buns of wheat flour, but also eat large quantities of mutton, beef and dairy products. The staple of the Uygurs in Xinjiang is *nan* bread, a kind of crusty pancake made of wheat flour. On special occasions or festivals, rice steamed with a little oil is scooped up and eaten with the fingers. In the Tibetan highlands, *zanba* is the main food — roasted *qingke* barley flour kneaded with buttered tea or water. □

northernmost part of China has only 90 frost-free days. Among the new soybean strains Prof. Wang and his assistants have bred are some that need only 85 days to mature. Up to this writing they have cultivated more than 30 good varieties of soybeans, seven of which have been widely popularized within and outside the province.

New Heights

Wang Jinling has in recent years done further research into the basic theories of the evolution, classification, ecotype, heredity and selection for hybridization of soybeans, and has written a good many papers and a monograph *Evolution and Seed-Selection of the Soybean*. Some of these have been printed in the U.S. publication *Soybean Genetics*. Prof. Wang's achievements have won him a National Scientific Conference award and several first prizes for research results from the provincial government.

The thousands of students Prof. Wang has taught over the past 30 years are to be found in almost every agricultural research facility in Heilongjiang province. Many of them have done outstanding work. For example, Li Zhenyong, assistant researcher at the Academy of Agricultural Science of Northeast China has bred a strain of corn called Heiyu No. 46 which is well-known throughout the region. Another of his students, associate professor Meng Qingxi of Northeast Institute of Agronomy is now vice-head of the soybean research group at that institute. At the moment Prof. Wang Jinling is personally directing the work of two research fellows.

Wang Jinling's contributions to science have brought him merit and renown. He is a delegate to the National People's Congress, member of the National Agricultural Institute and president of the Heilongjiang Province Scientific and Technical Association. Last year he was cited as a national model worker. Since late 1979 he has been a vice-governor of Heilongjiang province. In spite of his many public duties, however,

were eaten by rats for lack of proper storage facilities.

Broad Vistas

In the autumn of 1948 Wang Jinling went to Harbin, the first big city in Northeast China to be liberated by the people's armies. Here he became one of the first teachers at the Northeast China Institute of Agronomy in Heilongjiang province, an important soybean-growing area. Though the Liberation War was going on and times were difficult, the people's government found him assistants and allocated funds for necessary equipment. It also marked off five hectares of good farmland to set up a center for experimental planting. Wang had come into his

element at last. He and his colleagues never stopped experimenting except during the ten calamitous years of the "cultural revolution".

In the 1950s, in line with the needs of agricultural mechanization, they developed the Dongnong No. 1 and No. 4 strains which are sturdy and disease-resistant and can be harvested by machine. In the 1960s they cultivated Dongnong No. 3513 suitable for intercropping and interplanting with wheat; and in the 1970s, Dongnong No. 806 and No. 34 yielding as much as 4,500 kg. per hectare.

Noteworthy were their efforts to extend the soybean-growing area northward. The region of the Greater Hinggan Mountains in the

he has never let up on his soybean studies. He also finds time for hobbies — ball games, singing, dancing and bike riding. A strong swimmer, he often swims as much as 15 kilometers in the Songhua-jiang River. He also raises birds, larks in particular.

Prof. Wang is quick to point out the help his wife Sheng Qixin has given him in his efforts. A former English teacher, now retired, she assists him by copying his articles and looking up and translating material and data in foreign publications. "If I have achieved anything," says Prof. Wang Jinling, "part of the credit belongs to my wife." □

Chinese Cookery

Bean Vermicelli with Dressing

(Liang Ban Fen Si)

- 150 grams bean vermicelli
- 50 grams (about 1 oz.) cooked pork
- 50 grams cooked chicken
- 50 grams ham
- 25 grams (1½ teaspoons) dried shrimps (soaked and chopped)
- 3 spinach hearts
- 2 eggs
- 3 tablespoons soy sauce
- 3 teaspoons vinegar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon taste powder
- 1 teaspoon sesame oil
- 25 grams dried jellyfish, soaked (optional)

Cut vermicelli into 15 cm. lengths and boil until soft, then rinse in cold water and drain. Mix with chopped shrimps and arrange around the edge of a plate.

Cut spinach into 5 cm. lengths and place in boiling water for one minute. Beat eggs, heat flat-bottomed skillet and fry into thin "pancakes." Cut into strips ½ cm. wide and 7 cm. long.

Cut ham, chicken, pork and jellyfish into strips ½ cm. thick and 4 cm. long. Place piles of these ingredients and spinach and egg strips in an attractive arrangement in the center of the plate.

Mix together soy sauce, vinegar, salt, sesame oil and taste powder and pour over vermicelli just before serving. Serves six.

The Soybean and Some of Its Uses

ORIGINATING in China, the soybean has been cultivated there for more than 4,000 years. It is called *shu* in the Chinese classics, and is said to have been used in sacrificial offerings before people learned how to eat it. Around the first century A.D., soybean cultivation spread to the Western Regions — as today's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region and the lands west of it were then called — and from there to Europe. The wild-growing ancestor of the soybean, still to be found in China, is treasured by botanists.

China's northeast is her main soybean-producing area. Beans grown on its black calcium-rich soil are large, full-bodied and high in protein and oil content. Other important soybean areas are the valleys of the Huanghe (Yellow) and Changjiang (Yangtze) rivers.

China was once one of the world's largest soybean producers, and soybeans used to rank with silk and tea as a major export. But both crop area and output decreased in the 1960s and '70s due to expansion of grain production and for other reasons. The situation has improved in the past three years following government measures to encourage increased soybean cultivation in areas suitable for this crop.

The soybean is a favorite food among the Chinese. It is highly nourishing as it contains 40 percent protein, 20 percent fat, vitamins A, B, D and E and such minerals as calcium, phosphorus and iron. Since it has very little cholesterol, it is a good food for people with high blood pressure, arteriosclerosis and heart trouble.



Soybean products at the Chongwen Market, Beijing. Zhang Jingde

Another reason the soybean is so popular is its versatility. An estimated 110 different food products are made from it, including such staples as soy flour, soy sauce, bean milk, bean curd and bean sprouts.

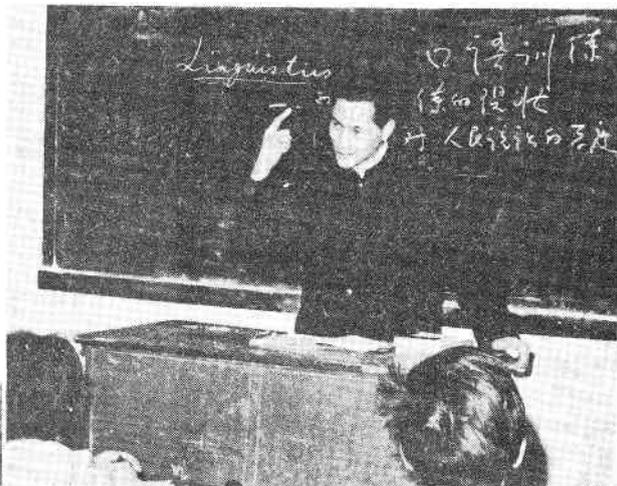
The invention of bean curd is credited to Liu An, Duke of Huainan (179-122 B.C.) in the *Compendium of Materia Medica* written by the famous Ming dynasty pharmacologist Li Shizhen (1518-1593). Liu An was an alchemist who tried to make pills of immortality, and studied the properties of plant and animal substances. To this day, people living in Huainan — the area south of the Huaihe River in Anhui province, still make excellent bean curd.

Most of the many different kinds of bean curd eaten today are made in two steps. First the beans are soaked and wet-ground. Then the liquid, or "milk", is separated from the bean residue and thickened with bittern to jelly-like consistency. To this, in the second step, salt, vegetable oil and a variety of condiments are added. The mixture is dried, then diced, shredded or cut into different shapes and then deep fried, smoked or fermented. Last year, over 50,000 kg. of these preparations were marketed in Beijing every day.

New products made from soybeans include such popular items as children's foods, milk powder substitutes, condensed bean milk and margarine. □

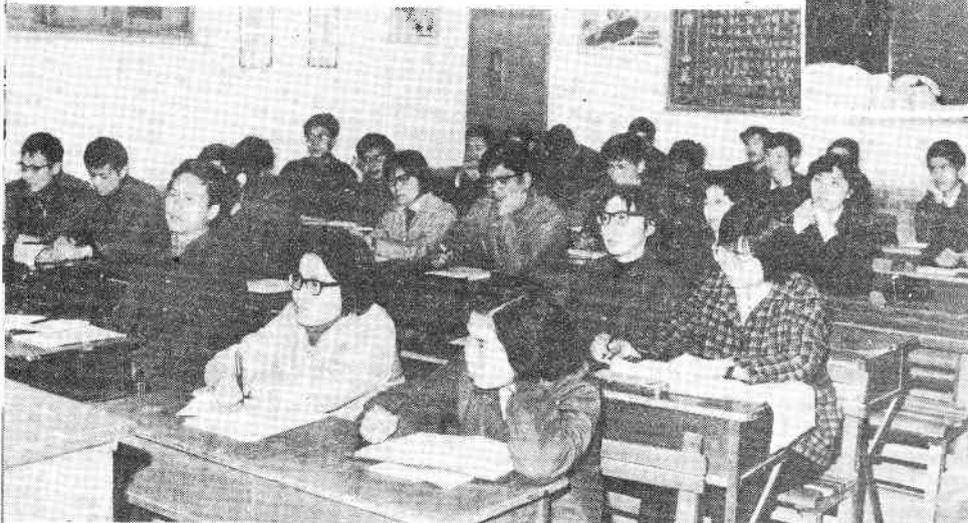
A Liberal Arts College Founded by the People

SHEN ZHIPING



Shen Zhiping teaches a class.

Classes are always held in the evenings.



I had taught Chinese language in primary school, middle school and college. Like many other liberal arts teachers, I was not satisfied with my work nor the way liberal arts subjects are taught in the schools. And I was not alone. At a time when many unreasonable structures in all fields were being reformed, a group of us decided to ourselves establish and run an experimental college of a new kind along lines we had long had in mind. It would give many-sided training that would make every graduate competent to work in writing, translation, teaching or foreign trade. The four-year curriculum would be a broad one, covering both the liberal arts and science.

First Step

How to start? We had no school building, no money, no books — not

SHEN ZHIPING is a teacher at Shanghai Jiangpu Middle School. He is one of the founders of the Shanghai General Liberal Arts College.

even any time, for we all had our own jobs. Was it a foolish dream to try to bring below-academic-standards people up to regular college graduate level in four years of spare time? Because we had found our own answers in individual study and mutual help, we believed that we could unlock the potential of students and succeed.

Fang Nengda, who had the initial idea for the college, was a good example of this. He had studied a great deal by himself when he was in middle school. He hadn't gone to college but through a decade of personal effort he learned to read in twenty languages. He had a wide knowledge of liberal arts and the natural sciences. He had been a translator and an assistant engineer. Now he was a graduate linguistics student at the Shanghai Foreign Languages Institute. Today he is a member of the Society of Languages and the Computer Linguistics Institute.

In November last year, Fang came to my home with one of his

"followers". With great excitement he told me that he had found a "campus" for our college. Han Jianping, a model teacher at Anshan Middle School in Shanghai, supported by Zhou Xianda and Xu Hongyuan, both leaders of the middle school, had arranged for us to use a classroom as our temporary quarters. We sat down at once and worked out "Regulations for Admission to the Shanghai Liberal Arts College". It described clearly the purpose we had in mind and the curriculum offered.

For a week we went around Shanghai putting up 500 notices in the ten districts. On November 9th, 1980, from 7 o'clock in the morning until 10 o'clock at night, we handled 570 applicants — so busy that we didn't have time for supper. The applicants included teenagers and people in their 60s. With the exception of a few unemployed young people, most of them were teachers, factory and office workers. Some of them came from technical schools and even universities. We were moved and inspired by their trust in us and their eagerness to learn. But our conditions were limited and we could only admit a few. When we gently turned down those whose levels were too low, some of them burst into tears. Did they regret the loss of their youthful years and of educational opportunities in the

ten years of "cultural revolution"? Facing such eager applicants made us realize all the more the importance of our college.

After a written examination on November 16, we spent five evenings and a Sunday giving oral examinations to the 120 we had chosen. This gave us some insight into our future students. One of these was Yang Zhongquan, a 37-year-old school teacher whose parents lived in Hongkong, the father a senior officer in a big electrical company. He had intended to go abroad for further studies to help modernize our country, but moved by our spirit,



Fang Nengda and his wife Chen Bei-quan prepare lessons.

he said that if he could be admitted, he would give up the idea and study hard here. We in turn were moved by his patriotism and decided to admit him.

Support

After four weeks of preparation, our school — proudly called the Shanghai General Liberal Arts College — opened on December 2nd. We only had ten teachers and fifty-six students. Our only funds were 500 yuan from the small tuition. Although we were the smallest and poorest in the city, we were full of hope.

Then came moral and material support from everywhere — other schools, education departments, newspaper editors and reporters, professional people. Our college grew rapidly. Our teachers increased to fifty. Ge Zulan, over 90,

a veteran educator and member of Shanghai's Institute of Culture and History, accepted the honorary presidency of the college. Wu Zongji, researcher of the Linguistic Institute of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and Ma Maoyuan, a professor at the Shanghai Teachers' College, became our academic advisors. Zheng Baoqi, deputy head of Chinese History Teaching and Research Section in the Department of History at the Shanghai Teachers' College, came personally to tell us, "I came to help just because yours is a free school, otherwise I would never have come."

A young worker student donated the fee he got for one of his articles. Another student, an English teacher in a middle school, volunteered to start an English class to raise money. Our students love the college and study hard. Most of them don't finish their homework until after midnight — yet have to go to work the next morning. We, too, often forget that we have to go to our regular jobs in a few hours.

The first step is always the hardest. During those days and nights, we were worried but busy, happy

and enthusiastic. Fang Nengda and his wife Chen Bei-quan, a teacher, often worked until the early hours of the morning, their baby sleeping on a small desk in the room with them.

Of course, we also got the cold shoulder from some bureaucrats because the unorthodox way our college was founded had no precedent. But after seven months of teaching we are optimistic. We receive letters from all sides asking for information, reference materials, articles, offering their services or just moral support. Others include contributions. Today while I was writing this article, a letter came from Fu Lili, a girl worker on a state farm, with a donation of 50 yuan. Two weeks ago, we got a letter from some friends at the Yodatani Chinese Language Institute in Japan, telling us that their college is also run by support from the public. They would like to establish permanent ties with us and collect books and reference materials for us. This wide support has given us more confidence. Our desire to blaze a new trail in training talent for the modernization of our country is stronger than ever. □

Ge Zulan (seated, left) chats with some teachers and students.

Photos by Zhong Xiangdong



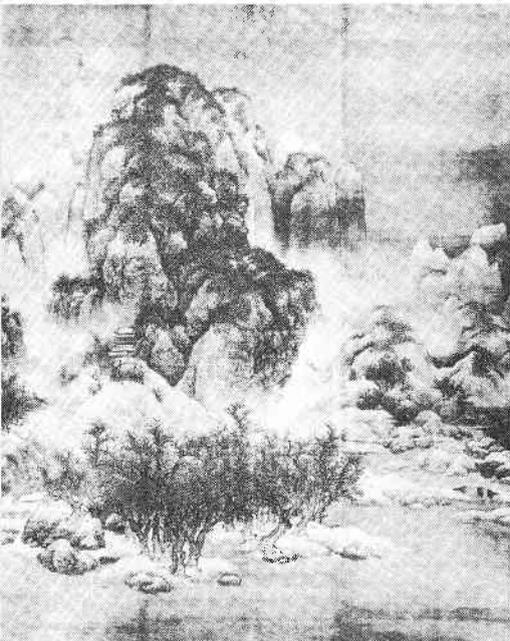


Zhang Shucheng, art and antique collector.

THE landscape painting, "Snow Scene in a Forest", one of 455 items presented to the state by Zhang Shucheng, a famous collector in Tianjin, is five centuries older than Leonardo's "Last Supper". Even more ancient are the 910 seals dating back 2,000 years that are among the 10,458 ancient books and artifacts presented to the state by another Tianjin collector, Zhou Shutao.

Both men have been given medals and financial awards by the Tianjin municipal government in a televised ceremony.

WANG KE is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.



"Snow Scene in a Forest" by Fan Kuan, Song dynasty.

Tianjin Collectors Donate Art Treasures to the State

WANG KE



Zhou Shutao, collector of classical books and relics.

"Snow Scene in a Forest" was painted in the 10th century by Fan Kuan of the Song dynasty. The painter lived a long time on Mt. Huashan (in east Shaanxi province) to observe the magnificent scenery that he recorded on silk two meters high and one meter wide.

"Only two of his works are left now," Zhang pointed out. "The other, 'Traveling Through Streams and Mountains,' is in Taiwan province, but the sides of it have been cut away, so it's not so well preserved as 'Snow Scene'."

Another painting from Zhang's collection is "In the Peach Fairyland" by Chou Ying (?-1552), one of the four great masters of the Ming dynasty (1368-1644). His color work was extraordinary; although he painted "Fairyland" 500 years ago, it looks as if he had done it only yesterday.

Zhang's collection includes many other representative works by ancient painters and calligraphers. Among them is "Living in Peace", the only extant work by the 14th-century painter Lu Bian, a "flower-and-bird" scroll by Qian Xuan (ca. 1239-1299), "Brewing Tea in a Sylvan Pavilion" by Wen Zhengming (1470-1559), and a book of calligraphy by Dong Qichang (1555-1636).

30-character Seal

In ancient times, most official seals were made of gold, silver, or bronze. These seals, or "chops", were used in place of hand-written signatures. Many of the seals

that Zhou Shutao donated to the state will aid research on the official systems and the evolution of geographical names and Chinese script through the ages. The high skill of the ancient craftsmen is shown by the vigorous strokes and elegant casting of such seals as the "Chenggao Magistrate Seal", the "Yan Zhiu Seal", and the "Prince Seal" — three bronze seals from the Han dynasty (206 B.C.-220 A.D.). The hexagonal seal of "Cao Shi", dating from the Wei and Jin periods (220-420), is unique. A 30-character seal of "Zhao Xu Zi Chan" contains more words than any other known seal.

His Lifetime Work

Zhou, in his nineties, is a collector of ancient books as well as seals. "From childhood on I've loved and collected books," he said. "When I was 12, I began to buy famous classics according to a simple catalogue in the *Si Ku Quan Shu* encyclopedia. To my regret, when I was 17 a large part of my collection was burned in a fire at our house." Scion of a wealthy merchant, Zhou continued to buy classical works and learned from old masters and hard study to distinguish items from the different dynasties. He collected a large number of block-printed and hand-copied editions as well as editions prepared by famous scholars. He not only stored them carefully but did his best to obtain missing volumes. For example, a 30-volume set of the Song dynasty block-print edition of *Annotations of the Spring*

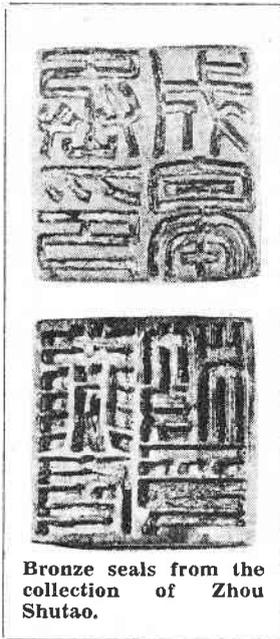
and *Autumn Annals and Other Classics* had been scattered in many places. By 1931, Zhou had found 29 volumes, and was missing only the first. Ten years later, he learned that it was for sale in Beijing, but at a very high price. After hard bargaining, he got it for one ounce of gold.

After the Japanese occupation of Tianjin, Zhou could no longer afford to buy rare books. But he told his children that his collection belonged in China, and instructed them that if they ever found it necessary to sell any of it, they should find Chinese rather than foreign buyers. He often said, "These books are as dear to me as my daughters. I want to find good homes for them. These homes are in our country." In 1952, Zhou began to present books from his collection to the Beijing Library, the Tianjin Library, and Nankai University. His intention had been for many years that he would one day dedicate the entire collection to public purposes. During the "cultural revolution", Zhou was criticized twice, but his home and library were protected by the Tianjin Cultural Relics Bureau.

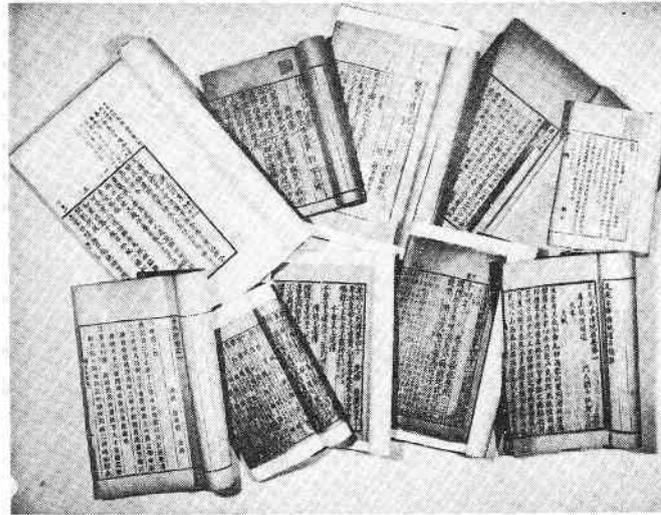
Zhou's donation of 9,196 rare books and manuscripts to the state covers the entire history of book production in China, each period being represented by its characteristic methods of printing and binding.

Proper Place

Official corruption and imperialist arrogance in the pre-liberation period resulted in many of China's most important cultural treasures ending up in foreign museums, libraries, and private collections. Greatly distressed by this process, Zhang Shucheng, whose father had been a high official after the 1911 revolution, tried to buy up every valuable item he could; among those he acquired in the years before liberation was a landscape by Shi Tao (1642-1718). He lent it out for exhibition in Japan — insured at U.S. \$20,000 — and was offered a good price if he would sell. But Zhang refused. "I regard my



Bronze seals from the collection of Zhou Shutao.



A Song dynasty edition of "History of the Later Han Dynasty", Yuan dynasty edition of "Essential Mirror of Universal History" and Ming dynasty edition of "Account of the Travels of the Emperor Mu" — from the collection of Zhou Shutao.

Photos by Li Fen

collection as my children," he said. "I won't sell them to anyone."

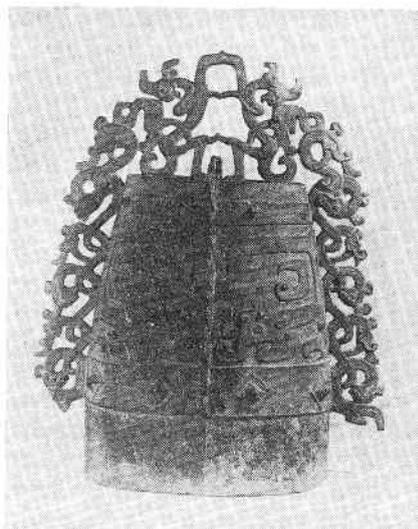
One item for which he had refused good offers was a porcelain figurine of Guanyin, the goddess of mercy, dating from the reign of the Ming emperor Xianzong (1465-1487) and once housed in the famous Da Bao Guo Temple in Beijing. Guanyin might have fared better had she been sold abroad: She was smashed to pieces in the fury of the early days of the "cultural revolution",

being, through no fault of her own, an object of superstitious reverence, and no less superstitious hostility. But the non-religious items in Zhang's collection were spared.

In addition to the ancient paintings, Zhang's donation included more than 100 jade and bronze vessels in animal shapes, among them a Shang dynasty (16th-11th centuries B.C.) yellow jade mantis and Western Zhou (11th-8th centuries B.C.) white jade cicada, all in the simple but robust styles of the ancient craftsmen. Another treasure in the collection is a *kebo*, a bell-like bronze musical instrument of the Western Zhou period decorated with a dragon and an 81-character inscription.

A *kebo*, bronze musical instrument of the Western Zhou period.

Photo by Liu Bingjun



Scholarly Value

The two collections also include many hand-copied Buddhist scriptures as well as ancient ink slabs, ink sticks and books on calligraphy. The donations have aroused great interest among archaeologists, historians, and artists. The Tianjin Cultural Relics Bureau has arranged two exhibitions and the Central Newsreel and Documentary Film Studio has made a documentary on these treasures. □

A Neighborly Visit in the Philippines

TAN MANNI



At a dinner party held in honor of the Chinese Journalists Delegation, Li Pu, delegation head and Xinhua News Agency Deputy Director-General, and the host, Gregorio S. Cendaña (Second row, second and third from left). *Efren Socorro*

TODAY you look 150 percent Filipino!" exclaimed my Philippine friend as I came out wearing a *barong Tagalog*, the Philippine women's filmy dress of "pineapple fabric" specially tailored for each of the women in our Chinese journalists' delegation. According to the Philippine custom of showing friendliness with a gift of their national costume, every member of our delegation was presented with one by our host, Gregorio S. Cendaña, Officer-in-Charge of the Ministry of Public Information of the Philippines.

Being Cantonese, thus with physical affinities probably stretching down to people of the Malayan peninsula, who are of the same stock as the Filipinos, I found it easy to be taken for a Filipina on many occasions. It was only one of the many links between China and the Philippines that I discovered on our two weeks' visit in March during which we were received by government ministers, met with our counterparts on various newspapers, attended many social functions in our honor and toured several parts of the country, stopping for sightseeing and interviews at factories, cultural centers, uni-

versities and other places of interest. Everywhere we were accorded a warm reception by a people known for their hospitality.

Receiving our delegation, President Ferdinand Marcos expressed his happiness about the continuing flow of mutual visits. He and his wife, Imelda Romualdez Marcos, worked closely with China's late Chairman Mao Zedong and the late Premier Zhou Enlai in 1975 to initiate the new era of friendship and diplomatic ties between the two countries. "I'm sure your visit will further spread and advance the friendship and cooperation between the two countries," he said. This is what we hoped for, too.

A variety of originally external influences are evident among the Filipino people. Friends escorting us bore Spanish surnames and American-sounding given names, some looked very Chinese and some were able to interpret for me when the conversation was in the Fujian dialect of Chinese, which I myself do not understand. Brought to the islands by Chinese immigrants, Fujianese is spoken widely in some circles. Geographically, the archipelago was linked to the mainland of Asia by land bridges up to ten thousand years

ago during the Ice Age. Trade between China and the islands began in the third century, and Chinese emigrants were among the earlier settlers there in historical times; for the islands were only a trip of a few days by small ship from China's southeast coast (today Manila is only two hours from Guangzhou by jet).

The intermingling of the two peoples has resulted in many Filipinos having a partial Chinese ancestry, including the foremost national hero of their 19th century struggle for independence, Jose Rizal. At the reception Mrs. Marcos observed, "Physical nearness brings about a close relation between our two countries. We are different only in size and age. We are very close to you not only physically but also mentally and spiritually."

Similar Terrain

The similarity extends to the landscape. Travelling through the

A group of children who were eager to make friends with the author (center) as she was touring the port area of Manila. *Wu Fan*



TAN MANNI is a veteran writer for **China Reconstructs**.

fertile plain of Luzon province, known as the country's "solid rice bowl"; or rice production base as it would be called in Chinese, I felt as if I were in China's Sichuan province "land of abundance" on the upper Changjiang. Paddy fields stretched to the horizon, dotted here and there by huts hidden in bamboo groves, with only the sight of TV antennas amid the trees of the barrios to remind me that I was in a foreign land. And as our bus zigzagged its way up the pine-forested mountainside I recalled another winding ride like it I had taken on a visit to minority peoples in Yunnan province on China's southwestern border.

On the coastal lowlands the barrios can be spotted from far away by their luxuriant surrounding forests of coconut and huge fruit-laden mango trees. If our crimson lichees were substituted for the mangoes, this would be typical of the coast of China's Hainan Island. And I felt I was back in my native place south of Guangzhou when we were treated to a favorite Filipino dish *lechon* or roast suckling pig, for the look and the flavor are the same as ours in Guangzhou and it was something I have missed since living in north China.

National Pride

As the Philippine Air Lines jet touched down smoothly at the Ce-

Ifugao women.



bu airport I asked a Filipino friend beside me whether the pilot was one of his countrymen. When I got the tart reply, "We have Filipino pilots that can fly as well as the airmen of any country," I knew that I had tactlessly offended his national pride, something very strong among the Filipinos. The point came up again in a conversation with a young executive of the state broadcasting and TV center, a graduate of the University of the Philippines, when I mistook the TV announcers speaking perfect English for westerners. Talking about exchanging TV news with China and the ASEAN countries, he observed, "The main complaint from our TV viewers is that news broadcasts we use originating in western countries are very biased against our country. We see what is happening in Europe or America but not in our own area." He expressed the hope that closer cooperation could be established in this field "so we don't have to see everything through western eyes and will be able to view events through the eyes of the developing countries of Asia."

Another example of such pride involves the Pantabangan Dam built in the 1970s in central Luzon. Providing water to irrigate 78,000 hectares, it has made possible two crops a year and also doubled the per-hectare yield. It also provides



On Mactan Island where he resisted and killed Magellan, the statue of the chief Lapu-lapu overshadows that of the explorer, who initiated three centuries of Spanish rule.

100,000 kilowatts of power needed for the country's projects for industrialization. "It was built mainly by our own Filipino engineers and workers and is now operated by our own people," I was informed by the young engineer briefing us. Engineering and construction were done by a noted local construction firm. When I asked whether the personnel received a special subsidy from the government for working in this remote area far from the comforts of urban life, he answered, not without pride, "No, we come here to serve the people." Thus, I glimpsed the spirit of the people of this developing Asian nation.

Cultural Roots

Though the Philippines is known as a melting pot of many cultures, both oriental and occidental, beneath the obvious western influence is the people's effort to conserve their ancient traditional cultural heritage.

Surely the hearts of the urban Filipinos must throb in time to the pounding disco rhythm, for we

were haunted by the beat no matter whether in the office of newspapers or government ministries, shopping in supermarkets, riding the jeepney converted-jeep minibuses, even in a closed hotel elevator. Yet I discovered there was also true Filipino music and songs in their national language, Tagalog. And there is the exuberant, lyrical *kundiman* music, which gets its name from that classic of Philippine native music, the love song. There is a movement to preserve and promote this once-neglected musical heritage. It is stipulated that one radio station must play *kundiman* one day every week. An annual *kundiman* contest is held and composers are urged to devote serious efforts to it. When I play the *kundiman* tapes I brought back with me at home in Beijing my neighbors ask me to leave the door open so that they can share my enjoyment of this beautiful but unknown music.

I got my first impressions of a westernized Manila from the skyline of Manila's highrise-lined Roxas Boulevard along the bay, with its gigantic neon signs, and from Ayala Avenue in Makati, Manila's new business center where towering glass-and-concrete structures house multinational banks and financial institutions. But national style is also given its due. Not far from the international airport is Nayong Filipino (Philippine Village), a park featuring samples

of landscapes of various parts of the country, rice and sugar fields, orchid farms, complete with lifesize replicas of local houses. Each one represents a different region and there are many blends of traditional, Spanish and Muslim styling. In them are displayed local costumes and artifacts.

Ifugao Heritage

I had a chance to travel to one of the most spectacular of these areas, the breathtaking array of rice terraces swirling up the mountains in Banaue of northern Luzon sometimes called the "eighth wonder of the world". They have been farmed for two thousand years by the Ifugao tribesmen.

The Ifugaos are noted for their original wood carving, unspoiled by outside influences. Flanking the entrance to the modest two-story Banaue Hotel with ethnic-style decor, are carved lifesize statues of an Ifugao man in his loincloth and woman in her *tapis* wrapped skirt. Their weapons, ornaments, deities of their polytheistic faith are displayed in the lobby, and one of our delegates even found crossed Ifugao spears fixed on the ceiling above his bed.

The arts of the Ifugaos and other tribes of the Igorots who are the major ethnic groups of the Philippines, are also featured in a museum in Baguio, the famous pine-scented mountain resort lying be-

tween Manila and Banaue. The exhibits speak for the history of these people who have never submitted to the Spanish and American colonialists' cultural influences. The newly-opened museum is built in the pyramid-shape of the Ifugao hut. Philippine architects are encouraged to use traditional styles, materials and techniques and adapt these to modern needs.

This was done at the Tambuli Beach Resort near Cebu. At first glance it seems a rural village of cottages with palm-leaf roofs and bamboo walls beneath the lush coconut trees. But the cottages provide comfortable bamboo-furnished tourist rooms with modern facilities and from the window a vista of the calm blue sea.

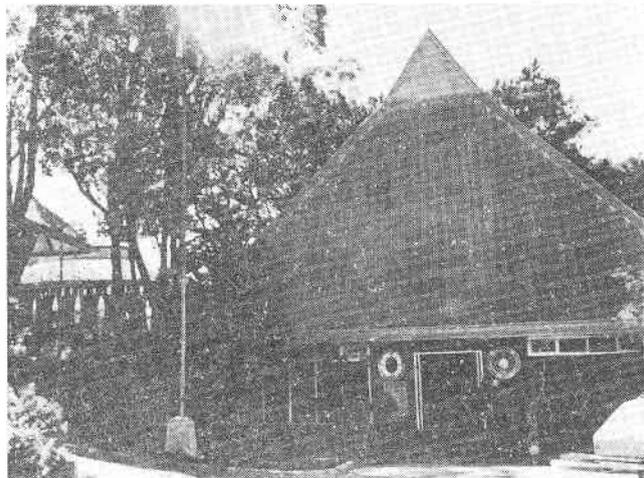
Bringing out the best of the country's natural beauty through the use of simple ethnic styles is something that China's young tourist industry could learn from the Philippines. This was the first way that leaped into my mind that China could gain from reciprocal exchange when I heard Mrs. Marcos speak of adopting China's experience in building up her own country. Such experience, she remarked, was like a glass of water that overflows, and that it overflows first to the Philippines because it is very near China. Throughout the visit I found there were also many things China could learn from her Philippine neighbors. □

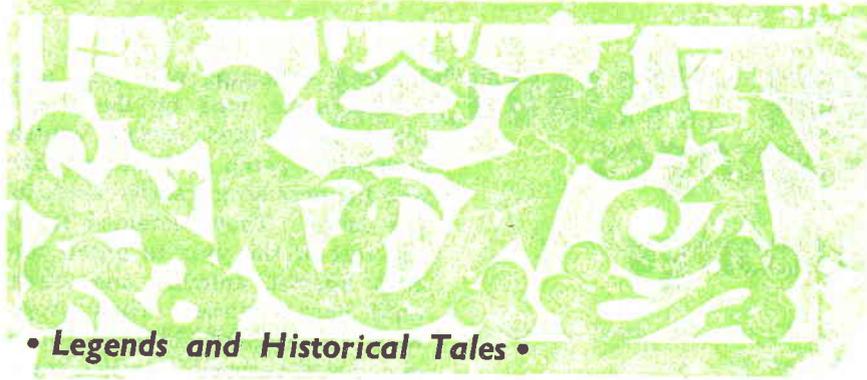
Modern western-style architecture on Manila's Roxas Boulevard.



The Baguio Museum built in the style of an Ifugao hut.

Photos by Tan Manni





Nu Wa and Fu Xi holding up the sun and the moon, from a Han dynasty stone coffin in Xinjin county, Sichuan province.

• **Legends and Historical Tales** •

Nu Wa Patches Up the Sky

FENG TANG

AN early female figure in Chinese mythology is the goddess Nu Wa (sometimes Nu Kua). According to one legend it was she who was the creator of mankind.

The earth was a beautiful place with blossoming trees and flowers, and full of animals, birds, fish and all living creatures. But as she wandered about it Nu Wa felt very lonely. She bent down and took up a handful of earth, mixed it with water and molded a figure in her likeness. As she kneaded it the figure came alive—the first human being. Nu Wa was so pleased with her creation that she went on making more figures, both men and women. They danced around her cheerily and her loneliness was dispelled.

Nu Wa is defined in China's earliest dictionary by the philologist Xu Shen (c.58-147) as being "in charge of the breeding of all living things", so possibly her origin is associated with fertility.

In some versions of the legend Nu Wa is said to have been both the sister and the wife of Fu Xi, the legendary ruler who was credited with teaching man to domesticate animals and to have taught people matrimony.

Nu Wa and Fu Xi were pictured with snakelike tails interlocked, with a child between them in a Eastern Han dynasty (A.D. 25-220) mural in the Wuliang temple in Jiexiang county, Shandong province. She was credited, among other things, with the invention of the *sheng* reed pipes.

ities, called in one version the God of Water Gong Gong and the God of Fire Zhu Rong, were in battle. They fought all the way from heaven to earth, causing turmoil everywhere. The God of Fire won, and in anger the God of Water struck his head against Buzhou Mountain (a mythical peak supposed to be northwest of the Kunlun range in southern Xinjiang). The mountain collapsed and down came the big pillar that held heaven from earth. Half the sky fell in, leaving a big black hole. The earth cracked open, forests went up in flames, floodwaters sprouted from beneath the earth

and dragons, snakes and fierce animals leaped out at the people. Many people were drowned and more were burned or devoured. It was an unprecedented disaster.

Nu Wa was grieved that mankind, which she had created, should undergo such suffering. She decided to mend the sky and end this catastrophe. She melted together various kinds of colored stones and with the molten mixture patched up the sky. Then she killed a giant turtle and used its four legs as four pillars to support the fallen part of the sky. She caught and killed a dragon, scaring the other beasts away. Then she gathered and burned a huge quantity of reeds and with the ashes stopped the floodwater from spreading, so that the people could live happily again.

The only trace left of the disaster, the legend says, was that the sky slanted to the northwest and the earth to the southeast, and so, since then, the sun, the moon and all the stars turn towards the west and all the rivers run southeast. □

友

SEE CHINA FOR YOURSELF!

In the interests of strengthening the ties of friendship and understanding between the people of China and English-speaking friends, the Society for Anglo-Chinese Understanding has been organising visits to the People's Republic of China since 1970. For 1981/2 we can offer the following:

- Chinese language courses in Beijing and other cities
- Courses in acupuncture in English
- Special interest tours for botanists, birdwatchers, railway enthusiasts, traditional medicine, potters, lawyers, popular art
- Trekking in the mountains of Qinghai, Sichuan, Xinjiang, Tibet and Yunnan
- General tours featuring centres in Tibet, Xinjiang, Inner Mongolia and Changjiang (Yangtze) River Cruises
- Women's Tours
- Overland tours travelling on the Trans-Siberian Railway
- Special "In Depth" Friendship Tours
- Bicycle tours

For further information, please contact:

Tours Organiser: Society for Anglo-Chinese Understanding

152 Camden High Street, London NW1 ONE, England. Tel. (01) 267 9841

ANOTHER legend tells how she patched up the sky. Two de-

Dramatic Changes for the Kuongs

LIN ZHENYU



No more plantain leaves: Kuongs' clothing has become as elaborate as that of their neighboring minorities.

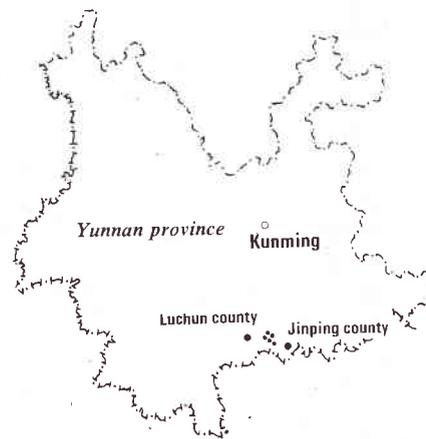
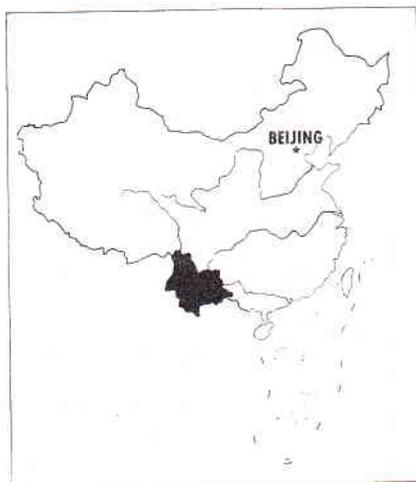
Cai Jiansheng

DRILLING wood to make fire and living in caves in the deep forests were the ways of primitive man. Most of the world's people today must read archaeological literature and study ancient sites to visualize this kind of life. But it is still personally remembered by people of the China's Kuong nationality of middle age and over it for this was their society only two or three decades ago.

The Kuongs, about 5,000 in all, live in the forests of the southern slopes of the Ailao Mountains in Yunnan province. They have their own language, habits and customs. After liberation in 1949 they broke away from primitive life and began to live in permanent houses, farm and know modern civilization.

LIN ZHENYU is a government worker in the Hani and Yi Autonomous Prefecture of Yunnan province.

In old China the Kuongs lived in patriarchal clan communes characteristic of the late primitive society. They moved from one place to another in the forests,



hunting, collecting wild fruit and raising some food by the slash-and-burn method. Every winter they set a patch of forest on fire and the next spring sowed seeds in the ashes. They remained there the rest of the year to guard the crop against animals and birds until harvest time. Their crops were insufficient because their methods were crude and their tools only of wood or bamboo.

The Kuongs were principally hunters, their main weapon the bow and arrow. When a boy was four or five, his parents would make a bow for him. He carried one the rest of his life. Even after his death, it was buried with him. So many of the Kuongs were excellent archers. They could hit small animals such as the squirrel easily. To kill larger animals they used a more powerful bow and arrow set to shoot at places the beasts frequented, the pre-set bow being released by a trigger line. Their only domestic animals were pigs and chickens.

They wove small baskets with rattan, but could not weave cloth. They did not know the skill of casting. They used hides and the leaves of the plantain tree for clothing. Their shelters were merely tree branches set in the ground and covered with plantain leaves. These easily collapsed in storms and people often used caves instead. Cooking vessels were the hollow sections of bamboo. Fire was vitally important, for it was

used not only for cooking and warmth but for defending themselves against wild animals and for burning patches of forest for planting.

Once a fire went out, they had no way to start another except by rubbing two pieces of dry bamboo together until sparks came. Because fire was precious, each family had an older member look after it constantly. During long-distance moves, the head of each family took charge of the fire. These moves usually took place when their homes were destroyed by natural disasters or when epidemic disease struck. Before the migration, the head of the family chose a new place by divination and offered sacrifices to their ancestors. The oldest member of the family, carrying the ancestral memorial tablet, led the way, followed by the men. Women, who occupied the lowest position in the family, were last in the procession. The bitter thing was that people often died of hunger or disease on the way.

Distribution and Exchange

The economic life of the Kuongs was based on primitive equalitarianism. They shared the fruits of their labor equally. Classes did not exist. The vast stretches of forests belonged to no one and each family used land freely. The land they had reclaimed went back to wilderness when its owners left. Nevertheless, when a few small plots became fertile after several years of cultivation, the original planter would put a mark to indicate possession. If anyone else wanted the land, they had to ask the planter's permission and pay a certain number of dried squirrel skins. This was a rudimentary form of private ownership.

Trade with other peoples was based on barter. To get daily necessities the Kuong people usually

took hides and rattan to a village of the Hani nationality about 50 kilometers away, put them beside the trail and hid in the nearby brush to wait for Hani passersby, who could take the things they needed and leave something of their own such as old clothes, salt or iron farm tools which they hoped reasonable for exchange. When the Hani had gone, the Kuongs would take the exchanged goods and go back.

First Attempt

Kuong people had long wanted to come out of the forests and settle along the nearby Honghe River. But that was impossible in the old society. Feudal rulers looked down on them as barbarians and often deliberately killed them. Just before new China was founded, the Kuongs had dropped to only 2,500 in number and were on the verge of extinction.

An old man named Bai Xiaoda, the first person who is remembered as having come out of the forest, settled down in Mengla village in Jinping county with his two sons in 1942. The local rulers promptly ordered armed men to surround his house and shoot his oldest son. In the pitch-dark night the weeping old man fled back into

the forests with his remaining son. From then on nobody dared to try it again. An old song describing the life of Kuong people goes like this:

*Living in the forests for centuries,
We cannot see the sky.
Leaves are our clothes,
Wild animals our food.
Our roofs are plantain leaves,
The tracks of the chamois we follow.
Our population is dwindling day by day,
We suffer the most in the world!*

(Continued on p. 72)

Chen Xiangdong, a Kuong teacher in arithmetic class.
Cai Jiansheng



Though livelihood now depends less on hunting, the Kuongs are still good shots.



Lesson 7

The Lantern Festival

王平: 小张, 好久 不见了!

Wáng Píng: Xiǎo Zhāng, hǎo jiǔ bú jiàn le!
Wang Ping: Xiao Zhang, good long(time) not see (you)!

小张: 我回成都过春节,

Xiǎo Zhāng: Wǒ huí Chéngdū guò Chūnjié,
Xiao Zhang: I return Chengdu pass Spring Festival,

妈妈舍不得我走,

Māma shě bù de wǒ zǒu,
Mother couldn't bear (to) have me go,

非让我过了灯节

fēi ràng wǒ guòle Dēngjié
insist let me after Lantern Festival

再回来, 你知道,

zài huí lái. Nǐ zhīdào,
then return. (As) you know,

正月十五是灯节,

Zhēngyuè shí wǔ shì Dēngjié,
first month fifteen is Lantern Festival,

吃元宵、赏灯。有的地方

chī yuánxiāo, shǎng dēng. Yǒude dìfang
eat yuanxiao, admire lanterns. Some places

特地要接出嫁的

tèdì yào jiē chū jià de
specially want welcome left (to) marry

女儿回娘家呢。

nǚér huí niángjia ne.
daughter return mother's home.

今年灯节那天, 成都

Jīnnián Dēngjié nà tiān, Chéngdū
This year Lantern Festival that day, Chengdu

举行了灯会。

jǔxíng le dēnghuì.
held lantern gathering.

王平: 那一定很好看。

Wáng Píng: Nà yíding hěn hǎokàn.
Wang Ping: That certainly very good-looking.

小张: 成都的灯节历史很

Xiǎo Zhāng: Chéngdū de Dēngjié lìshǐ hěn
Xiao Zhang: Chengdu's Lantern Festival history very

悠久, 一千多年以前

yōujiǔ, yì qiān duō nián yǐqián
long, one thousand more years ago

就开始了, 后来形成了

jiù kāishǐ le, hòulái xíngchéng le
just began, afterwards became

灯市。我家住的地方,

dēngshì, Wǒ jiā zhù de dìfang,
lantern fair. My family residence place,

就是因为历史上曾经

jiù shì yīnwei lìshǐshàng céngjīng
just because historically once

有匠人在那里做灯笼、

yǒu jiàng rén zài nàlǐ zuò dēnglong,
have craftsmen at there make lanterns,

卖灯笼, 所以叫灯笼街。

mài dēnglong, suǒyǐ jiào Dēnglongjiē.
sell lanterns, therefore called Lantern Street.

王平: 真有意思。

Wáng Píng: Zhēn yǒu yìsi.
Wang Ping: Really interesting.

小张: 那天晚上, 我和妈妈

Xiǎo Zhāng: Nà tiān wǎnshàng, wǒ hé Māma
Xiao Zhang: That day evening, I with Mother

到公园去了。公园里

dào gōngyuán qù le. Gōngyuánlǐ
to park went. (In) park

灯火辉煌, 挂着各种各

dēnghuǒ huīhuáng, guàzhe gè zhǒng gè
lights dazzling, hanging various kind various

样的花灯。

yàng de huādēng.
type decorative lanterns.

王平: 宫灯也多吧?

Wáng Píng: Gōngdēng yě duō ba?
Wang Ping: Palace lanterns also many?

小张: 多。有一个福州做的,

Xiǎo Zhāng: Duō. Yǒu yì ge Fúzhōu zuò de,
Xiao Zhang: Many. Have one Fuzhou made,

两米多高, 直径一米

liǎng mǐ duō gāo, zhíjīng yì mǐ
two meters more high, diameter one meter

多, 分四层, 上面画着

duō, fēn sì céng, shàngmiàn huàzhe
more, divided (into) four tiers, on (it) painted

人物故事。大家都围着

rénwù gùshi. Dàjiā dōu wéizhe
people (and) stories. Everybody all surrounding

看。还有回廊上的壁灯,

kàn. Hái yǒu huílángshàng de bìdēng,
(it to)look. Also have winding corridor wall lamps,

能活动的动物灯。
néng huódòng de dòngwùdēng.
can move animal lanterns.

王平: 有荷花灯吗?

Wáng Píng: Yǒu héhuādēng ma?
Wang Ping: Have lotus lanterns?

小张: 有。湖里绿绿的荷叶

Xiǎo Zhāng: Yǒu. Húli lǜ lǜ de héyè
Xiao Zhang: Have. Lake inside green green lotus leaves

中间, 点点红色的
zhōngjiān, diǎn diǎn hóngsè de
among, (are) dotted red-colored

荷花灯分外美丽。

héhuādēng fēnwài měilì.
lotus lanterns especially beautiful.

王平: 再加上放焰火、放

Wáng píng: Zài jiāshàng fàng yànhuǒ, fàng
Wang Ping: Again add let (off) fireworks, let (off)

鞭炮, 一定非常热闹。

biānpào, yídìng fēicháng rènao.
firecrackers, certainly extremely exciting.

小张: 妈妈说明年请你去呢!

Xiǎo Zhāng: Māma shuō míngnián qǐng nǐ qù ne!
Xiao Zhang: Mother say next year invite you go!

王平: 我一定去。请你替我

Wáng Píng: Wǒ yídìng qù. Qǐng nǐ tì wǒ
Wang Ping: I certainly go. Please you for me

问她好。

wèn tā hǎo.
ask (if) she well.

小张: 好。

Xiǎo Zhāng: Hǎo.
Xiao Zhang: Fine.

Translation

Wang Ping: Hello, Xiao Zhang. Haven't seen you for a long time.

Xiao Zhang: I went home to Chengdu over the Spring Festival. My mother couldn't bear to see me leave. She insisted I come back after the Lantern Festival. As you know, the Lantern Festival is on the fifteenth of the first month by the lunar calendar. People eat yuanxiao and look at the lanterns. In some places it's the special time for a married daughter to return to her mother's home. During this year's Lantern Festival a lantern fair was held in Chengdu.

Wang Ping: It must have been beautiful.

Xiao Zhang: The Lantern Festival has a long history in Chengdu. It began a thousand years ago, and later developed into a lantern fair. The place where my home is located is called Lantern Street because in the past craftsmen made and sold lanterns there.

Wang Ping: How interesting!

Xiao Zhang: My mother and I went to the park that evening. It was brilliantly lit with all kinds of festive lanterns.

Wang Ping: Were there any palace lanterns?

Xiao Zhang: Yes. There was one made in Fuzhou more than two meters high and a meter in diameter. It had four tiers with characters and scenes from stories painted on them. It was ringed round with a crowd looking at it. There were also wall lanterns in the winding corridors and lanterns in the shape of animals that moved.

Wang Ping: Were there any lotus lanterns?

Xiao Zhang: Yes. The red lotus lanterns scattered among the green lotus leaves were especially beautiful.

Wang Ping: It must have been great fun, what with the fireworks and firecrackers.

Xiao Zhang: My mother said she would like to invite you next year.

Wang Ping: I certainly want to go. Please give her my regards.

Xiao Zhang: Fine.

Notes

1. Continuous action shown with zhe 着。

Wǒ nǎzhe shū 我拿着书(I am holding the book).

Wǒ qízhē yí liàng zìxíngchē 我骑着一辆自行车
(I am riding a bike).

Tā zài yǐzishàng zuò zhe 他在椅子上坐着
(He is sitting on the chair).

If the action has ended but the result of the action continues, 着 is also used.

Dēngshàng huàzhe huà 灯上画着画儿(Pictures are painted on the lanterns).

In sentences with 着, the negative is formed by placing méiyǒu 没有 before the verb.

Gōngyuánlǐ méiyǒu guàzhe dēng 公园里没有挂着灯(Lanterns are not hanging in the park).

2. Haven't seen you ...

Hǎo jiǔ bú jiàn le 好久不见了 is frequently used when you haven't seen someone for a long time.

Sometimes it is said hǎo jiǔ méi jiàn 好久没见. The word hǎo is often used in the sense of 'very'.

3. Zhēngyuè 正月 (the first month).

Like the months on the western calendar in Chinese, the months of the Chinese lunar calendar are referred to by numbers with the slight difference that the first month is referred to as zhēngyuè 正月.

4. Yuánxiāo 元宵 are balls of rice flour with a sweet filling eaten at this holiday.

Everyday Expressions

1. 回 huí return

回家 huí jiā return home

回国 huí guó return to one's country

回办公室 huí bàngōngshì return to the office

回朋友那儿 huí péngyou nàr return to a friend's place

- 2、过 **guò** pass, spend
 过年 **guò nián** spend New Year's
 过节 **guò jié** spend festival
 过星期天 **guò xīngqītiān** spend Sunday
 过假期 **guò jiàqī** spend vacation
- 3、接 **jiē** go to meet, welcome, go get
 接朋友 **jiē péngyou** meet friend (i.e. at airport)
 接小孩儿 **jiē xiǎoháir** fetch children
- 4、举行 **jǔxíng** hold, stage
 举行展览会 **jǔxíng zhǎnlǎnhuì** hold exhibition
 举行晚会 **jǔxíng wǎnhuì** hold evening party
 举行典礼 **jǔxíng diǎnlǐ** hold ceremony
 举行比赛 **jǔxíng bǐsài** hold competition
- 5、放 **fàng** set off, let out
 放炮 **fàng pào** fire a cannon
 放枪 **fàng qiāng** fire a rifle

Exercises

1. Answer the following questions in Chinese:
 (1) What does one often say when one meets a friend one hasn't seen for a long time?
 (2) What should you say when you ask a

person to convey your greetings to someone else?

2. Translate the following into Chinese (pay attention to the use of 着):
 (1) 他 is riding a bike.
 (2) 北京民间 many tales circulated.
 (3) 那个灯上 are painted with many small animals.
 (4) 那些石柱上 carved with many lions.

3. Read aloud and change into negative:

- (1) 他握着小王的手。
 (2) 他骑着自行车。

4. Read the following:

正月十五是灯节，民间的风俗是这一天要吃元宵、赏灯。

今年灯节，成都举行了灯会。那天公园里挂着各种各样的花灯。有一个宫灯，两米多高，直径一米多，分四层，上面画着人物故事。回廊上挂着壁灯，还有能活动的动物灯。湖里绿绿的荷叶中间，有点点红色的荷花灯，非常好看。

灯节那天晚上，我和妈妈到公园去了。公园里的人多极了，灯火辉煌，再加上放焰火、放鞭炮，非常热闹。

CHANGES FOR THE KUCONGS

(Continued from p. 69)

Buying cotton prints. Cai Jiansheng



Becoming Farmers

After 1949 the hard life of Kucongs came to an end. The people's government sent many work teams consisting of other nationalities and army men stationed along the borders of Yunnan province into the forests to look for them. But it seemed almost impossible to find a scattered group of only two

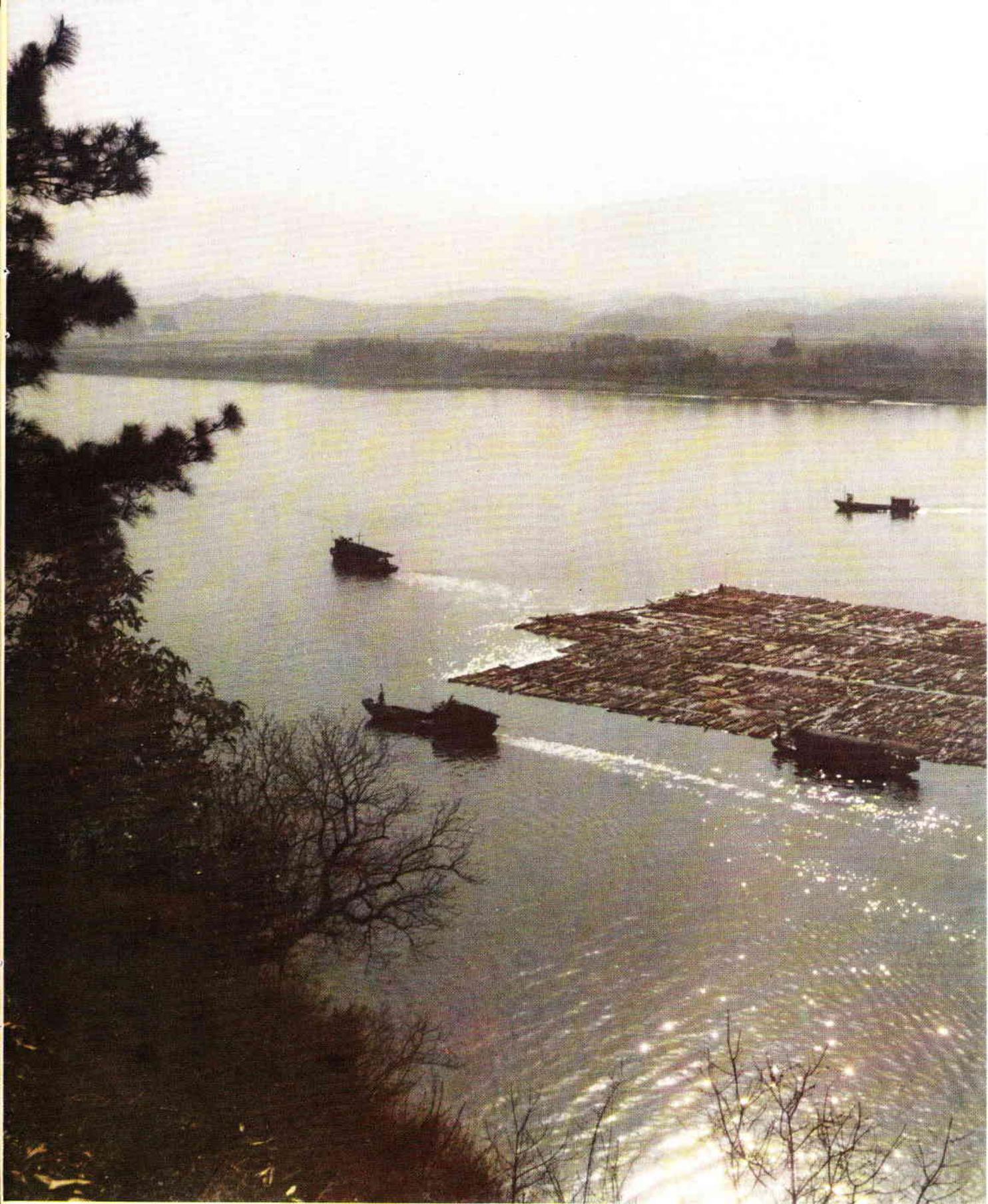
and a half thousand people in the boundless forests. Finally the members met Deng Damei, a woman of the Yao nationality who had close ties with the Kucongs. With her help, they found three other households. Bitter experience, however, had taught the Kucong people to suspect that they might be being led into some new disaster. Even though the work teams explained the Party's policy on nationalities, it took several years to locate all the Kucongs.

The work teams helped them build houses and set up villages. They were given farm tools, food, grain, clothing, quilts and other necessities. People of other minority nationalities gave them land and showed them how to use draft animals and grow rice and corn. Today the Kucongs get crops of 3.75 tons of rice per hectare.

Primary schools were set up in mountain villages where the Kucongs are more concentrated. Pupils can get subsidies from the

state. Textbooks and tuition are free. Only in 1969 did the first Kucongs go to universities. Among the leaders trained there is Li Pulong, the deputy secretary of the Jinping county Party committee. In 1969 he went to Shanghai's Tongji University. After graduation he worked in a machinery plant in the Hani and Yi Autonomous Prefecture and later was transferred to his native home as a leader. His father is a deputy to the Fifth Provincial People's Congress of Yunnan.

In recent years the government has allocated funds to build a number of small hydropower stations for the Kucongs. Some of the villages use electricity for light and the processing of corn and rice. Medical treatment is free in a government-established station. Malaria, which used to plague the Kucongs, has been eliminated. Today they live the better life that the other peoples of China do. □



The Fuchunjiang River in Zhejiang Province

Wang Tianrui

