

BEIJING REVIEW

北京周报

A CHINESE WEEKLY OF
NEWS AND VIEWS

- How China Handles Petty Crimes
- Principles for Sino-African
Economic and Technical Co-operation



LETTERS

"Facts and Figures"

I have been a regular reader of your magazine. Recently in your issue No. 48, 1982, I read "National Economy: Major Targets" in the "Facts and Figures" column, and also in the "International" column "US-Western Europe Relations Eased," "President Zia's Visit to India and Southeast Asia" and "Soviet-US Disarmament Talks Lead Nowhere." I liked all heartily.

Govind Paudyal
Jhapa, Nepal

I personally hope to see the new column "Facts and Figures" cover forestry, i.e., annual output of timber, pulp and paper, imports and exports, etc.

Pierre Letarte
Quebec, Canada

Recent Issues

The "Highlights of the Week" in your magazine arouse wide interest and attract those who have concern about current events.

I am impressed by your articles "Communist Attitude Towards Labour" (issue No. 45, 1982), "On the Practice of Communist Thought" (issue No. 42, 1982) and "Socialism and Inflation" (issue No. 44, 1982). They present clearly the Chinese interpretation of socialism and communism, although

I am surprised to read that "to each according to his work" does not contradict communism.

Self-admission of inflation in a socialist country is also a surprise to us Western Europeans. However, it is gratifying to find no cover-up on the Chinese part.

Generally speaking, theoretical articles in recent issues are explicit, views are no longer obscured in the mist of equivoques.

I think your attitude towards the Soviet Union is not clear-cut at least in the article "Adhere to Independent Foreign Policy" (issue No. 46, 1982). What is the relationship between the two governments? Perhaps a special article on this issue could be published in the future.

I was pleased with the series about Tibet (issues Nos. 47-51, 1982). You explain in the articles that Tibet was never separate from China. However, Tibet is so isolated that we knew only a little about it. These articles have certainly contributed a lot of information. I wish there had been more photos with the stories.

I don't agree with the many letters from the readers which you have published that suggest to cut down the "International" column. I find it indispensable to my understanding of China's stands and viewpoints on international affairs.

Short articles like "Telephone Service to Be Upgraded" (issue No. 47, 1982) contribute to clarifying China's domestic situation.

Through such articles we see that the problems confronting China are quite different from our own and comparisons are of no value.

Peter Brockmann
Utzingen, Switzerland

More on Africa

I appreciate your coverages of Africa and hope you will pay more attention to this continent where people think highly of China.

However, I have to say that your magazine has not mirrored well the amazing changes in your country. You have altered the spelling of the name of your magazine from *Peking Review* to *Beijing Review*, but you need more beautiful covers and more distinct pictures to convey the image of China. This is what your readers expect.

I think highly of the contents of your articles, I hope more space will be devoted to Chinese history, geography and social life.

Diallo Amadou Lamarana
Yaounde, Cameroon

Support the Palestinians

After reading the article "Salute to the Heroic Palestinian Fighters" in issue No. 36, 1982, I could not refrain from writing to thank you for your unconditioned support of the Palestinian people. The article is not written by your staff, but printing it in such a prominent place shows that you regard the Palestinian people's struggle as your own.

Omar Aliamani
Ariana, Tunisia

Criticism and Suggestion

Your answers to readers' questions about China's economic construction and foreign policies were often superficial and failed to clarify your views. Therefore, I suggest that you sort through the readers' questions and then answer them with theoretical explanations as well as personal experiences. Such in-depth responses would have to be published in several issues.

Julio A. Vidal
Chapingo, Mexico

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Restructuring Theatrical Institutions

Minister of Culture Zhu Muzhi stresses the need to reorganize cultural and theatrical institutions, proposing the adoption of a responsibility system so as to give greater decision-making power to performing troupes and ensure them higher pay (p. 8).

Zhao Ziyang's African Tour

Premier Zhao continued his African tour in Guinea, Gabon, Zaire and the Congo, where he talked with leaders on bilateral relations and international issues. He outlined four basic principles on Sino-African economic and technical co-operation (p. 5).

China's Finances

Excerpts from Minister of Finance Wang Bingqian's report to the National People's Congress on the implementation of the state budget for 1982 and draft state budget for 1983 (p. 13).

Against Hegemonism, for World Peace

An analysis by a *Renmin Ribao* commentator: The major threat to world peace today comes from superpower hegemonism, hence the need to combat hegemonism in order to safeguard world peace (p. 17).

Reform Minor Lawbreakers Through Education

The reformatory near Qinhuangdao exemplifies the government's policy of rehabilitating people who commit petty crimes through a programme of work, study and recreation (p. 19).



Lei Jieqiong (first from left), deputy mayor of Beijing, visiting reformatory students.

Photo by Guo Dehua

Three key reforms

China's economic reforms in the next three years will focus on the substitution of taxes for profits delivered to the state in the case of state-owned enterprises, maximize the role of the more economically developed cities and reform the system of commodity circulation. Why?

Premier Zhao Ziyang announced these three key reforms in his Report on the Sixth Five-Year Plan (1981-85) (see issue No. 51, 1982). They are a continuation and development of the reform of the economic system which began in 1979. Their purpose is to improve the leadership of the state over enterprises, break down the barriers between regions and departments in their economic activities and fuse production and circulation, which are two independent systems, into an organic whole so as to further stimulate the national economy.

Now, departments and localities are adopting measures to make 1983 "a year of reform."

Substituting Taxes for Profits. Beginning in the 1950s, China adopted a highly centralized and unified economic management system which placed great limitations on the enterprises. In the past three years, while improving the planned management, we have enlarged the decision-making powers of the enterprises and conducted experimental reforms in more than 6,000 state enterprises. Most of these retained a given portion of their profits, while 400 other enterprises experimented with the substitution of taxes for profits. The results proved that the latter was more satisfactory.

In all these enterprises where the experiment was conducted, the earnings from the sales were markedly higher than the increase in the gross output value, and the greater part of the profit increases was handed over to the state in the form of taxes and payments for the use of state funds. The income of the enterprises also increased and was used for production development, employee benefits and bonuses for individual workers and staff. Thus, fundamental changes have marked these state enterprises, which in the past operated under the system of unified allocations and unified collection of receipts and the method of "everybody eating from the same big pot," thereby making no efforts to make any improvement.

At present, it is not possible to substantially readjust the current irrational prices, so taxes have become an important economic lever which we can make use of. Reasonable tax rates can increase financial income and regulate the relationship between supply and demand for commodities. The substitution of taxes for profits is an example of the state exercising leadership over the enterprises through increasing the use of economic levers as regulators instead of merely employing administrative means.

Maximizing the Function of Economical Centres. Another acute problem in China's current economic management system is that enterprises are managed according to the administrative divisions and administrative departments to which they belong. What is more, they are often

independent from each other. Hence a duplication of leadership. All this creates economic barriers between town and country and between the regions as well as between the departments and results in wasteful replication of production facilities and public utilities. It is difficult to get anything done efficiently.

To solve this problem, it is necessary to simplify and merge the administrative agencies at various levels and properly divide their functions and powers. An important step to this end is maximizing the role of the more economically developed cities. Apart from a few national corporations and large key enterprises which must be directly administered by central authorities, the vast majority of other enterprises, including those formerly administered by provincial authorities, should be run by city authorities. At the same time, prefectural administrative authority will be revoked to enable the more developed cities to exercise leadership over the surrounding counties and over construction in the countryside in order to facilitate the gradual formation of economic zones centring on the cities.

More than 10 cities including Shenyang and Anshan in northeast China's Liaoning Province have been the administrative centres for the surrounding counties and rural areas for many years. Their practice shows that this system is conducive to industrial support of agriculture, promotes the interflow of commodities be-

Premier Zhao continues African tour

tween the cities and countryside and accelerates the development of scientific and cultural undertakings in the countryside. This year, experiments will be conducted in east China's economically developed Jiangsu Province.

Reforming the Commodity Circulation System. For a long time, the practice was to take production as the key link and separate industry from commerce. The productive enterprises only stressed output and the targets of output value, and were not directly responsible to the demands of the market. On the other hand, as state agencies, the commercial departments found it difficult to free themselves from the strictures created by administrative divisions. The situation was further complicated by poor management and a too-complex circulation system, causing a serious waste of labour power.

Commodity circulation is an intermediary between production and consumption. All possible efforts should be made organizationally to form them into an organic whole and link production directly with market demands. State commerce constitutes the major part of the unified socialist market. At the same time, we must try to maximize the positive role of collective commerce and individual commerce, as well as the role of enterprises marketing their own products. It is also necessary to break down the barriers between areas, open up more channels for commodity interflow between the towns and countryside and reduce middle links so as to ensure smooth commodity circulation.

— *Economic Editor Wang Dacheng*

In Guinea. Premier Zhao Ziyang arrived in Conakry on December 30. At the airport, the welcoming crowds sang and danced to the beating of African drums and shouted: "Long live the friendship between Guinea and China." Accompanied by President Ahmed Sekou Toure, Premier Zhao Ziyang stepped into an open car and drove to the guest house. Hundreds of thousands of Conakry citizens lined the road to extend an enthusiastic welcome to him. On the same day, a 30,000-strong mass rally was held in Conakry to welcome Premier Zhao. President Sekou Toure and Premier Zhao delivered warm speeches at the rally. Premier Zhao paid warm tribute to the successes won by the Guinean people under the leadership of President Ahmed Sekou Toure. He also paid tribute to the efforts and contributions made by President Toure to promote and safeguard the unity of African and third world countries.

Zhao Ziyang said that the third world countries are more and more aware of the fact that to get rid of poverty and backwardness, they should close their ranks and help each other through "South-South co-operation" in order to achieve collective self-reliance, while pressing ahead with "North-South dialogue."

Premier Zhao held two rounds of talks with President Toure. They exchanged and reached extensive agreement on major international issues as well as African problems. Premier Zhao said that to consolidate

their independence the African nations should do away with outside interference and prevent the superpowers from taking advantage of disputes among African nations to meddle and interfere in African affairs. He added that African problems should be solved through patient and peaceful consultations.

Premier Zhao reiterated that China firmly supports the Namibian people's struggle for national independence and opposes the United States obstruction of Namibia's independence by supporting South Africa's refusal to implement UN Security Council resolution on Namibia. He added that the question of Namibia's independence should not be linked with the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

The two leaders also discussed their economic and technological co-operation.

In Gabon. Premier Zhao Ziyang paid an official and friendship visit to Gabon on January 1-2. The Chinese Premier called on President El Hadj Omar Bongo. They discussed the world situation and bilateral relations. Both sides presented their views and policies on major international issues and held that they had identical viewpoints on the issues discussed. They also discussed the economic and technical co-operation between the two countries.

Premier Zhao held talks with Prime Minister Leon Mebiame who expressed satisfaction with the agrotechnical co-operation between the two countries and



At a mass rally in Conakry, Premier Zhao Ziyang and President Ahmed Sekou Toure drive round the stadium in an open car.



President El Hadj Omar Bongo with Premier Zhao Ziyang.

praised the Chinese experts working in Gabon.

Premier Zhao said that China views the "South-South co-operation" from a strategic perspective. He said that China attaches great importance to developing relations of friendship and co-operation with Gabon. There is an enormous potential for future China-Gabon co-operation and a good beginning has already been made in this respect.

In Zaire. Premier Zhao Ziyang arrived in Kinshasa on January 2. President Mobutu Sese Seko presided over a ceremony at

the People's Palace Square in Kinshasa that afternoon to welcome Premier Zhao. The People's Palace Square was in a festive mood, with the welcoming crowds singing and dancing.

Premier Zhao held two rounds of talks with President Mobutu. Premier Zhao expounded China's views on the present major international issues. He said that the two governments have many points in common in their foreign policies. Both of them uphold an independent foreign policy, safeguard the legitimate rights of the third world countries and share a strong desire to further develop

the friendly relations and co-operation between the two countries. The two sides held that the present international economic order is not satisfactory and expressed their readiness to work for the establishment of a new one.

Premier Zhao held talks with Zairean First State Commissioner Kengo Wa Dondo on January 3. He also called on Nzondomyo A'dokpe Lingo, President of the National Legislative Council.

Premier Zhao Ziyang, accompanied by President Mobutu, cruised on the Zaire River and

Premier Zhao and President Mobutu Sese Seko cruise on the Zaire River.



President Denis Sassou-Nguesso welcomes Premier Zhao at Brazzaville Airport.



Sino-African Economic and Technological Co-operation

When Premier Zhao Ziyang met with leaders of Guinea, Gabon, Zaire and Congo during his tour of African countries, he said that China's economic and technological co-operation with African countries is guided by the following four principles: equality and mutual benefit, emphasis on practical results, diversity in form and common development.

Speaking at a mass rally in Conakry, Premier Zhao pointed out that China has good relations with African countries and that, to enrich the contents of these good relations, China is willing to strengthen co-operation with African countries in the economic and technical fields on the basis of unity and friendship and in accordance with the principle of equality and mutual benefit. Such co-operation should be based on strict respect for sovereignty and non-interference in each other's internal affairs and with no political strings attached. Such co-operation should proceed from the actual needs and possible conditions of both sides, give scope to the strong points and potential of both sides and adopt various forms, so as to achieve better economic results. Such co-operation should serve no other purpose than making up their own deficiencies and helping each other with a view to raising the level of each side's self-reliance and boosting the growth of their national economies.

toured the famous port of N'sele, the birthplace of the Zairean popular revolutionary movement in 1967. He also visited the presidential domain.

Chinese Minister of Foreign Affairs Wu Xueqian, in an interview with the Zairean press on January 3, said that there exist broad areas and prospects for economic and technological co-operation between China and Zaire. He noted that Sino-Zairean economic and technological co-operation may take the form of joint ventures for economic projects in addition to the loan and aid that have been provided.

In Congo. Premier Zhao arrived in Brazzaville on January 4 for an official and friendship visit to the Congo and was accorded a warm welcome there.

Premier Zhao held talks with President Denis Sassou-Nguesso and Prime Minister Goma on separate occasions. Premier

Zhao said that the talks were significant and fruitful. Sino-Congolese relations have always been good since the establishment of diplomatic ties, and co-operation in the economic and technological field is satisfactory. He added that the two countries should make further efforts to seek co-operation in diverse forms on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

Zhao Ziyang noted that differences between African countries should be settled through patient consultations. The existence of different views is nothing strange and it needs time to reach an identity of views. Africa should strengthen its unity and not let itself be turned into a theatre of big power rivalry. It should prevent foreign intervention and big power involvement.

Premier Zhao ended his official and friendship visit to the Congo on January 5 and left Brazzaville for Lusaka.

Co-operation with Africa in agriculture

An increasing number of African countries are seeking technical co-operation on agricultural projects with China.

China began offering agricultural aid to African countries early in the 1960s. Since then, it has undertaken 47 agricultural projects in 29 countries and has invested US\$ 140 million to open up 40,000 hectares of land.

Thirty-two of these projects have been completed and handed over to the host countries; nine are under construction and six have not yet begun. Eighteen projects involve rice cultivation.

China has sent more than 3,000 agrotechnicians to take charge of construction work and to supervise production and management. They also have trained a large number of African technical personnel, some of whom have become officials or responsible technicians in their countries' agricultural production.

In addition, the Chinese workers and technical personnel have used local materials to produce a large number of manually operated farm tools and have promoted the use of draught animals to raise labour productivity.

Most of the projects have achieved satisfactory results. For instance, a co-operative project in Upper Volta began by cultivating 590 hectares in 1973, but by 1981, it had ex-

panded to 1,600 hectares with a total rice output of 7,000 tons a year. As the income of farmers in the cultivated area increased, many farmers from other places competed to move in and settle there.

China also built successful

sugar-cane farms, tea farms and tobacco experimental stations for Mali, Guinea, Tanzania, Zaire and Togo to help these countries increase agricultural output. Other countries have also expressed the desire in the last few years to set up farms jointly with China.

the troupe increased 3-5 times.

The minister also emphasized that the particular features of cultural work should guide the reforms and that cultural and theatrical institutions should be granted greater power to decide their own affairs. Practical considerations should determine issues like the size of a troupe which should generally not be too big. At the same time, the reform should conform to the socialist system and the Party's policies. As our cultural and artistic undertakings also bear the task of carrying out ideological education, the emphasis should therefore not be on profits.

Restructuring cultural institutions

Reorganization is the major task for cultural and theatrical institutions this year, said Zhu Muzhi, Minister of Culture, at a recent meeting.

He said that a responsibility system linking production with remuneration similar to the one introduced in agricultural production may be adopted so as to allow each performing troupe greater power to decide its own affairs and improve its financial situation.

Overstaffing, he stated, is the major problem for the 3,400 performing troupes throughout China, which employ more than 230,000 people, many of them unfit for the work. This has hampered the initiative of the performers and resulted in fewer stage opportunities for promising artists. Furthermore, too few performances have limited the number of theatre-goers. In addition, although the state allocates large sums of subsidies to many performing troupes each year, performers' income is still very low. These factors have seriously impeded the development of the country's cultural and theatrical undertakings and slowed down the improvement of artistic creations, both qualitatively and quantitatively, he said.

The minister supported troupes that have carried out reforms and introduced various

forms of responsibility system. These include a Peking opera troupe organized by the well-known actress Zhao Yanxia, a *quyi* (folk art forms including ballad singing, story-telling and cross-talks) troupe formed by the famous actress Zhang Guilan, and a Shanghai acrobatics and magicians troupe.

He listed the advantages of reforming stage organizations. First, it will reduce the number of staff in each troupe and increase their efficiency by maximizing the performers' initiative; second, more people will be entertained; third, fewer state subsidies will be needed, while the incomes of both the collective and individuals will increase; fourth, promising artists will have more stage opportunities, the performing arts will flourish and young performers will be trained and mature quickly.

Take Zhang Guilan's troupe for example. A well-known actress, in the past Zhang gave only a dozen or so performances a year. Two years ago she formed a troupe composed of 11 people from her own and her brother's families, responsible for their own profits and losses. Since then the troupe has given 495 performances, entertained more than 500,000 people and earned 55,000 yuan. The monthly income of each member of

Appropriate arrangements should be made for the extra personnel resulting from the administrative simplification, he said. Older members may retire, while others may be sent to study or assigned to work as artistic instructors in factories, rural areas and schools.

Smugglers convicted

An investigation of one of New China's biggest smuggling cases in the 30-odd years since its founding recently ended. The principal criminals, Zhou Zhirong and Xu Zhiliang, former leaders of the Shenzhen branch of the China Electronic Technology Import and Export Corporation have been arrested.

A 10-month investigation found that since the establishment of the Shenzhen branch of the corporation in May 1980, Zhou and Xu smuggled 23 million yuan in electronic products into the country on 26 occasions, pocketed 1.48 million yuan in customs duties, and illegally bought and sold foreign exchange totalling 16 million US dollars. Moreover, they bribed some personnel by selling the electronic products at

lower prices, causing a loss of 200,000 yuan to the state.

Besides facing criminal charges, the two were expelled from the Communist Party by the Shenzhen city Party committee and were removed from their administrative posts by the Ministry of Electronics Industry.

The country has made great strides towards implementing the National People's Congress Standing Committee decision, promulgated in March 1982, to punish severely economic criminals who seriously sabotage the economy.

The Supreme People's Court recently announced that in the first nine months of last year, 24,636 cases of economic crimes were handled by the people's courts at various levels. These included cases of smuggling and sale of smuggled goods, bribery and receiving bribes, speculation, theft of public property and illegal sale of precious relics. Already 26,227 people were convicted, 25 of whom committed crimes involving more than 100,000 yuan, 1,062 of them obtained more than 10,000 yuan by illegal means, and 3,706 were government workers.

According to the NPC Standing Committee decision, in dealing with economic criminals, the major offenders are prosecuted to the full extent of the law, while the majority of their accomplices are separated from them, won over and reformed with a combination of punishment and leniency. Those who confess are treated leniently, but those who resist pay severe penalties.

Some leading cadres in some areas and departments have failed to correctly understand the importance of waging the struggle against economic crimes. Some feel that it is time to wind up this struggle. However, the Central Commission for Inspecting Discipline Under the CPC Central Committee has called upon Party committees at every level to strengthen their leadership of the continuing battle against economic criminals.

Liberal arts for science students

Su Buqing, noted mathematician and professor of Fudan University in Shanghai, has stressed in a recent article the importance of teaching liberal arts to science and engineering students.

Some students think scientists do not need to learn literature and history. Scores of students enrolled at Fudan University in past years failed to pass their Chinese language examinations. Consequently, some cannot write logical, clear or coherent graduation theses.

Science and engineering students should have some knowledge of literature and history, Professor Su wrote. They should particularly learn modern Chinese history for this helps them understand social developments and cultivate the materialist-dialectical and historical-materialist world outlook. Moreover, some knowledge of Chinese literature and

history will help them carry forward the fine traditions of the Chinese nation and will enhance their patriotism as they serve the motherland. By learning ancient history, they can get a better understanding of classical scientific works, thereby laying a good foundation for future scientific research work. Furthermore, the study of the liberal arts will help them write clear, articulate papers.

Neglect of the liberal arts among science and engineering students, as mentioned by Professor Su, has attracted the attention of both professors and government officials. A Chinese language teaching and research group, and three other research groups (music, fine arts and the discovery and training of talented people) have been set up at the Jiaotong University in Shanghai. The students there can now select from among a dozen courses such as Chinese, basic music theory, traditional Chinese painting and Western painting as optional subjects.

The Beijing Aeronautical Engineering Institute started a special literature course last year, in response to student requests. The teaching material was *Selected Poems of the Tang and Song Dynasties* (40 Tang and 14 Song poems) edited by the institute itself. Three hundred students took the course in the first semester, and 400 students attended the lectures in the second semester. Many students were inspired by the poets' patriotism. One of them said: "My love for the motherland is the inspiration encouraging me in my studies. And the strong desire to change China's backwardness spurs me on to study hard."

*Soviet Union***TASS statement on Afghanistan**

THE Soviet news agency TASS Dec. 31, 1982 statement revealed Moscow's intention to hang on in Afghanistan, when it said that "the Soviet Union will carry out its internationalist duty to the end to defend Afghanistan against foreign armed intervention."

The statement said, "the attempts to make the development of relations between the Soviet Union and the USA, between East and West, dependent on developments in Afghanistan cannot fail to evoke surprise and censure." It added that the hopes that the Soviet Union will change its attitude towards Afghanistan are "illusory."

Soviet Intentions

The TASS statement, undoubtedly, disappoints and frustrates those who assumed recently that the Soviet stand on Afghanistan had become a bit more flexible. It demonstrates clearly that the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan will not change, that its 100,000 troops will not withdraw, and that it will not leave the Afghan lands already occupied. The Soviet Union not only refuses to return to Afghanistan its independence and non-aligned status, but also is unwilling to remove its threat to the security of Afghanistan's neighbours and to peace in Asia and the world. The

Soviet claim that does not intend to withdraw from Afghanistan is not just rhetorical. It is, in fact, taking great pains to turn that strategic country into a forward base for its southward thrust policy. Large Soviet strategic air and logistic bases in Afghanistan are under construction or have been completed. Missiles have been deployed. Ferries, bridges and highways entering this small Mideast country are being built or extended. Russian advisers control the Karmal regime's key departments and its troops.

Afghan People Say No

The Soviet attempt to continue the occupation has sustained the Afghan people's staunch opposition and resistance. It was reported that the local Afghan people struck the Soviet aggressors repeatedly around the third anniversary of the invasion. The Afghan freedom fighters killed 16 Soviet soldiers and destroyed 5 tanks in a surprise attack on the presidential palace in southern Ka-



I'm staying until you withdraw.
— Fang Cheng

bul on Dec. 24. On Dec. 27 they raided on the Karmal defence ministry building and the Soviet embassy. Furthermore, dissatisfaction and resentment of the Russian occupation and the puppet rule are growing within the Karmal regime itself. Not long ago, a mutiny within the Karmal army left more than 30 officers dead. 100,000 Soviet armed forces cannot provide protection to neither the puppet government in Kabul, nor themselves. The Afghan freedom fighters are determined to kick those self-styled "defenders" out of Afghanistan.

The message from TASS should be a warning against having any illusions about Soviet hegemonism. Only stronger support from all peace-loving countries for the Afghan people's struggle against aggression and a continued pressure on the Soviet Union can bring about a just and reasonable solution to the Afghan question that will be in the interests of the Afghan people and contribute to global security and peace.

— Wang Dadao

Iran-Iraq**When will the war end?**

THE Iran-Iraq war is in its third year and no easy military victory for either side is in sight. Neither nation expects any significant military or economic change, but instead pins its hopes upon a shift in the political situation and leaders on the other side.

Uneasy Review

Iran and Iraq are both Moslem countries, but disagree-

ments among religious sects have plagued their relations, as have historical border disputes. Such questions remained unsettled after Iran won its Islamic revolution, and in summer and autumn of 1980 frictions intensified. On September 22, 1980, 100,000 Iraqi troops launched a wholesale offensive against Iran and occupied 20,000 square kilometres of Iranian territory from Ghassr-Shirin in the north to Khorramshahr in the south, encircling the famous oil city Abadan. At that time Iran lacked war preparations. Although it later organized forces to resist the Iraqi troops, it fought a largely defensive war at first. Then both sides reached a military stalemate. However, in September 1981, Iran launched repeated offensives and broke a year-long standoff between the two armies.

In the first half of 1982, two strong Iranian offensives recovered most of the country's lost territories and was completed with the Iranian capture of Khorramshahr last May. The Iraqi troops returned to the original border between the two countries and called for a ceasefire. However, Teheran disregarded this request and sent troops across the Iraqi border in response.

In the latter half of last year, Iran launched three offensives within the Iraqi border. First, in July 100,000 Iran troops attacked Iraq from the southern line (code-named "Ramadan"), targeting Basra, the second most important city in Iraq, an industrial and commercial centre and oil base. Although the Iranian troops tried five times to take the city, they did not succeed in overcoming the counterattacks by the Iraqi troops.

Second, on October 1, 50,000 Iranian troops attacked Iraq

from the north (code-named "Muslim Ibn-e Aghil"), aiming their fire at Baghdad. Western military analysts said that Iraq prevented a severe Iranian attack by relying on its strong defence positions, the superiority of its air force and the determination of its soldiers to defend their territory.

On November 1, Iran again assembled 50,000 troops and launched a third offensive against the central border area of Iraq's Maysan Province (code-named "Ramadan"). The purpose of this attack was to disrupt the strategic highway from Baghdad to Basra. The Iranian military declared that this offensive was successful and the highway was within the range of the Iranian fire. Iraq built up numerous fortifications on the plains between the border and this highway and deployed a large number of tanks and artillery there. At present the two sides are again stalemated.

In short, Iraq did not achieve its aim of defeating Iran militarily nor of changing the Iranian political situation, nor did it prevent Iran from exporting its Islamic revolution in 1981. Neither did Iran defeat Iraq militarily or force the collapse of the Saddam Hussein regime in 1982.

Great Losses

The total death toll for both sides has topped 100,000 and over a million people have become homeless. Iran has lost an estimated US\$5 billion in oil facilities. US\$14 billion in crude oil for export alone. Iraq's losses are put at US\$7 billion in oil installations, US\$36 billion in crude oil for export. Experts estimate that the war has delayed both countries' economic programmes by 10 years.

The Gulf region is significant because of its geographical position and its rich oil resources. It has been a long-time source of active contention between the two superpowers. The Iran-Iraq war has not only brought heavy losses to both sides but it has provided an opportunity for superpower interference. The Soviet Union has expanded its influence in this region through supplying military equipment to both sides. Moreover, the war has also sharpened disputes among the Arab countries.

Mediation Efforts

This war has evoked great concern from the peace-loving countries and peoples of the world. Many international organizations have joined the efforts to mediate. The mediation mission, with representatives from 43 Islamic countries, has shuttled nine times between Teheran and Baghdad. So far these efforts have not succeeded, largely because of Iran's demands upon Iraq, which include a US\$150 billion payment of war reparations as well as the resignation of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and prosecution of him as a war criminal.

After more than two years of war, Iran and Iraq face many difficulties, in particular the growing war-weariness of their two peoples. Iran recently said that it would begin a large-scale military operation in retaliation against Iraq's two-missile barrage on the Iranian city of Dezful. Iranian Majlis Speaker Rafsanjani on December 20 once again refused the offers of the peace mission but did not slam the door to mediation. If the mission would bring "new and just proposals" from Iraq for ending the Gulf war, "we have always welcomed it," he said.

The world's people hope that Iran and Iraq, two neighbouring countries, will end the war as quickly as possible, build their own prosperity and contribute to peace in the Gulf, the Middle East and the world.

— *Zhong Dong*

USSR-US

Quarrels over disarmament

A NEW round of disputes between the two super-powers over disarmament has been touched off following the Reagan administration's rejection of a new Soviet proposal for reducing their nuclear arsenals.

The Soviet proposal, contained in Soviet leader Yuri Andropov's speech at a celebration marking the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Soviet Union, said Moscow was prepared to cut back its missile forces in Europe to the combined total of missiles held by Britain and France.

Washington's Response

John Hughes, the US State Department's chief spokesman, said on December 21 last year that the Soviet proposal was "unacceptable." The Soviet offer, he said, would leave the Soviets with hundreds of potent SS-20 medium-range nuclear missiles "while denying us the means to deter that threat."

The major West European countries also cold-shouldered the Kremlin offer. Britain and France refused to allow their nuclear arsenal to become an element in the US-Soviet arms

reduction negotiations in Geneva. They resented Moscow's practice of equating their mainly submarine-launched missiles to its land-based medium-range missiles.

"This is a device aimed at sidetracking the conversation from the true subject, which is the imbalance of forces in Europe," said Claude Cheysson, the French Minister for External Relations.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said that the Soviet plan, if implemented, would leave the United States with no medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe, while the Soviet Union would have a considerable number left.

According to available statistics, the Soviet Union possesses more than 600 medium-range missiles, over half of which are SS-20s. Most of the powerful, highly accurate, triple-warhead SS-20 missiles have been deployed in the western part of the country, a cold fact that worries the West greatly. Western defence experts said that, even if Moscow reduced the number of SS-20s in Europe in accordance with its new proposal, it would still have 160 such missiles stationed in the continent and would overpower Britain and France with their tiny nuclear forces. They were also concerned about how Moscow would handle the missile cut back. They stated that it would be meaningless for the Soviets to just move the SS-20s from the west to the east of the Ural Mountains.

Some Western observers said that although the Soviet new proposal showed some signs of flexibility and represented a step in the right direction, the

step was too small to be convincing. Since Moscow would still maintain nuclear superiority in Europe, they said, the Soviet proposal could not be considered a major breakthrough in the East-West disarmament negotiations.

A Counter-Proposal

The year-old US-Soviet Geneva talks on the reduction of medium-range missiles in Europe was fruitless and again adjourned last November. The NATO foreign ministers in their meeting last December reiterated support for Washington's negotiating position, and stated that NATO will begin to deploy new US missiles in Western Europe as scheduled at the end of 1983 if there is no specific progress in the Geneva talks. Therefore, 1983 will be a key year in the Soviet-US nuclear contest. It is not surprising that Moscow put forward its proposal on the eve of the new year.

The new Soviet proposal is, in fact, a counter-proposal to the US "zero option" plan which called for no deployment of NATO intermediate range missiles and a total dismantling of Soviet SS-20s. The new Soviet proposal, however, offers to cut some of its medium-range missiles in exchange for Washington's promise to scrap the plan to deploy US Pershing-2 and cruise missiles in Europe. If these new US missiles are deployed as planned, they would change the balance of nuclear forces in Europe in favour of NATO. That's what the Kremlin is worried about.

The new Soviet proposal also was aimed at public opinion in

(Continued on p. 29.)

Report on the Implementation of the State Budget For 1982 and the Draft State Budget for 1983

(Excerpts)

(Delivered at the Fifth Session of the Fifth National People's Congress on December 1, 1982)

Wang Bingqian

Minister of Finance



I have been entrusted by the State Council with making the report on the implementation of the state budget for 1982 and the draft state budget for 1983.

The Implementation of the State Budget for 1982

THE state budget for 1982 will be overfulfilled. According to present estimates, state revenues for 1982 will total 110.69 billion yuan, or 100.2 per cent of the budgeted figure; expenditures will total 113.69 billion yuan, or 100.2 per cent; on balance, the financial deficit can be kept within 3 billion as specified in the budget.

Implementation of the 1982 state budget shows that there will be a basic balance between

state revenues and expenditures as in 1981. Although the basic balance is similar in these two years, the specific circumstances are vastly different: it was achieved in 1981 mainly through drastic retrenchment of expenditure, while in 1982 it will be achieved despite increased expenditures. The state in 1982 appropriately increased necessary expenditures to ensure the steady growth of the national economy; meanwhile, efforts have been made to increase state revenues by expanding production, enhancing economic results and exercising stricter financial supervision and control. It should be said that the fulfilment of the 1982 state budget marks a new victory in our effort to bring about a fundamental turn for the better in the financial and economic situation. It is the result of continuing the policy of further economic readjustment and greater political stability by the people of all our nationalities.

Of the total state revenue for 1982, tax receipts come to 67.95 billion yuan, or 105.2 per cent of the budgeted figure; receipts from enterprises 31.1 billion yuan, or 90.4 per cent; state treasury bonds 4.2 billion yuan, or 105 per cent. Compared with 1981, total revenue will rise from 108.95 billion yuan to 110.69 billion yuan, reversing the downward trend in the previous three years.

As we know, between 1979 and 1981 the state allocated more than 140 billion yuan through revenue deductions or defrayment appropriations for readjusting the economy solving the host of problems left outstanding

over the years, especially those left over from the decade of domestic turmoil, namely, raising the purchase prices of farm and sideline products, reducing or remitting taxes in the rural areas, providing employment for young people in cities and towns, raising the wages and salaries of workers and staff, building more housing for them, speeding up urban construction, etc. As a result, state revenues dropped for three years in a row. **Steady improvement in the economic situation and the gradual solution of the aforesaid problems have halted the decline in revenue, and we anticipate a steady upturn beginning 1983.** The rate of revenue increase, of course, cannot be very fast for some time. However, **the switch from downturn to upturn is a crucial change which shows that the country's financial situation is beginning to improve notably** and that our economic readjustment is entering a new and more deep-going stage.

Total state expenditures in 1982 work out thus: appropriations for capital construction 30.27 billion yuan, or 101.8 per cent of the budgeted figure; funds for tapping the potential of present enterprises, financing their technical transformation and subsidizing the trial manufacture of new products 6.07 billion yuan, or 112 per cent; allocations of circulating funds for enterprises 2.3 billion yuan, or 95.8 per cent; financial aid to rural people's communes and other agricultural undertakings 7.65 billion yuan, or 100.5 per cent; expenditures on culture, education, science and public health work 19 billion yuan, or 105.6 per cent; expenditures on national defence 17.87 billion yuan, or 100 per cent. Compared with the previous year, total expenditure rises from 111.49 billion yuan to 113.69 billion yuan.

Generally speaking, the 1982 state budget is being carried out well. But quite a few problems remain in our economic and financial work. In terms of state finance, this means that the growth of revenue cannot keep pace with the needs of economic and social development in our country, and that achieving a balance between revenue and expenditure remains a rather serious problem.

The Draft State Budget for 1983

THE main guidelines for state budgetary revenue and expenditure in 1983 should be: to continue the policy of readjusting, restructuring, consolidating and improving the economy,

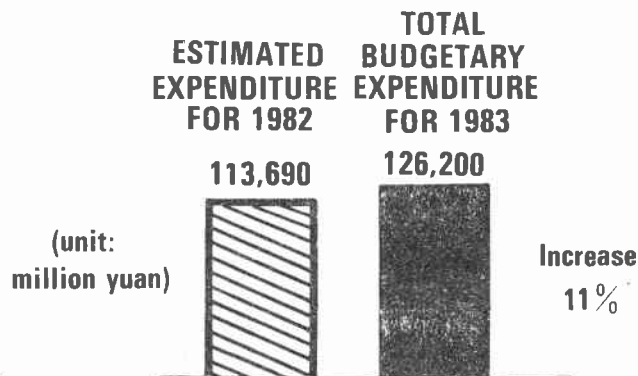
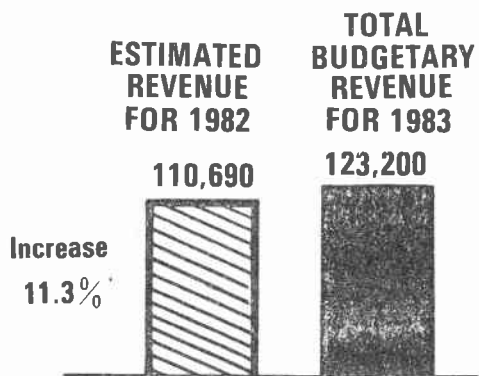
encourage the growth of production, work for better economic results, tap new financial resources and increase revenues; to concentrate adequate financial resources for construction of key projects in energy and transport while continuing to stimulate the initiative of all concerned; to expand culture, education, science and public health services and keep raising the people's living standards through proper arrangements for expenditures based on needs and possibilities; and, through constantly improving work, to do a better job of striking an overall balance, achieve better budgetary control and maintain a basic balance between revenue and expenditure.

The draft state budget for 1983 sets total revenue at 123.2 billion yuan and total expenditure at 126.2 billion yuan, the latter being 3 billion yuan over the former. We should try to reduce this deficit in the course of carrying out the budget.

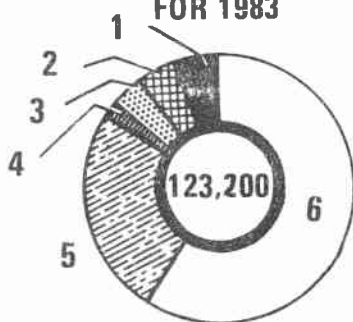
Total budgetary revenue for 1983 shows a rise of 12.5 billion yuan compared with the estimated 1982 revenue, or a 11.3 per cent increase. After deducting such non-comparable factors as foreign loans and funds raised for key projects in energy and transport, revenue is to increase by 6.11 billion yuan, a 5.8 per cent growth rate. The breakdown is essentially as follows: tax receipts 72.97 billion yuan, receipts from enterprises 32.39 billion yuan, basic depreciation funds turned in by enterprises to the central financial departments 2.2 billion yuan, receipts from the issuance of state treasury bonds 4 billion yuan, foreign loans 5.4 billion yuan, and construction funds raised for key projects in energy and transport 6 billion yuan.

The 1983 increase in revenue over the previous year marks a good beginning of the gradual expansion of state financial resources. The margin of increase for total revenue in the 1983 budget exceeds that for gross industrial and agricultural output value and is to be realized mainly through expanding production and improving economic results.

In order to hasten economic construction and invigorate the national economy as a whole, the state has decided to raise 20 billion yuan for the aforesaid key projects during the remaining three years of the Sixth Five-Year Plan, beginning from 1983. The following methods will be used to raise the funds: increased profit delivery and long-term loans from banks are to account for 6 billion yuan; direct state budgetary expenditures will contribute 2 billion yuan;



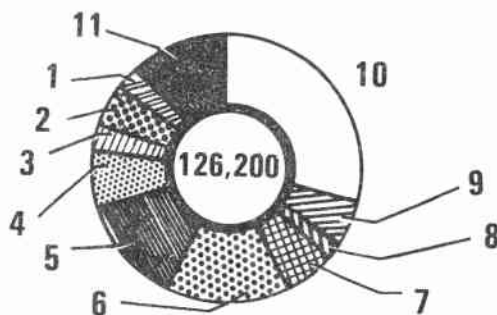
TOTAL BUDGETARY REVENUE FOR 1983



1. Funds raised for key projects in energy and transport
2. Foreign loans
3. Receipt of state treasury bonds
4. Basic depreciation funds turned in by enterprises to the central financial departments
5. Receipts from enterprises
6. Tax receipts

1. General reserve funds
2. Expenditures for repaying the principal and interest on foreign loans
3. Funds for the disabled and survivors of those who die in the line of duty and for social relief and funds for creating jobs for school-leavers in cities and towns
4. Administrative expenses
5. Expenditures for national defence
6. Operating expenses for culture, education, science and public health services
7. Expenditures for aiding rural people's communes and other operating expenses for agriculture
8. Allocations for circulating funds for enterprises

TOTAL BUDGETARY EXPENDITURE FOR 1983



9. Funds for tapping the potential of present enterprises, financing their technical transformation and for subsidizing trial manufacture of new products
10. Appropriations for capital construction
11. Other expenditures

and the remaining 12 billion yuan will be made available through raising "State Construction Funds for Key Projects in Energy and Transport" from the extra-budgetary funds of various localities, departments and units and from after-tax profits of big collectively owned economic enterprises in cities and towns. The three items together will come to an annual average of over 6 billion yuan.

As revenue picks up, total state budgetary expenditure for 1983 will be 12.5 billion yuan more than that estimated for 1982, an 11 per cent increase. After deducting such non-comparable factors as investments in capital construction using foreign loans and investments in new key projects in energy and transport to be included in the plan of 1983, there will be a rise of 6.1 billion yuan in expenditure, or a 5.6 per cent increase. The breakdown is essentially as follows:

(1) Appropriations for capital construction total 36.18 billion yuan, an increase of 5.91 billion yuan over the estimate for 1982. Of this sum, capital construction investment directly provided for in the state budget comes to 19.63 billion yuan, and newly added investment in key projects for energy and transport 6.5 billion yuan (including the 500 million yuan from budgeted expenditure). The two items total 26.13 billion yuan, 6.53 billion yuan over the estimate for 1982. This will mean considerably more construction in energy, transport and other key fields. Moreover, reserve funds for capital construction and investments from stand-by local financial resources total 4.65 billion yuan, 1.02 billion less than the estimate for 1982. Investments using foreign loans amount to 5.4 billion yuan, an increase of 400 million yuan over the 1982 estimate.

(2) Funds for tapping the potential of present enterprises, financing their technical transformation and for subsidizing trial manufacture of new products amount to 6.57 billion yuan. Of this sum, funds for development of technology and trial manufacture of new products are 900 million yuan more than in 1982. Increased production and better economic results in the future will come mainly from tapping the potential of present enterprises, encouraging their technical transformation and adopting advanced scientific and technological achievements.

(3) Allocations of circulating funds for enterprises total 2.25 billion yuan, slightly less than the estimate for 1982. At present, a large

amount of circulating funds has been tied up by state-owned enterprises, and this must be reduced by speeding up their turnover. The above-mentioned budgetary allocations will be used mainly for new enterprises and for increasing reserves of certain materials.

(4) Expenditures for aiding rural people's communes and other operating expenses for agriculture total 7.75 billion yuan, slightly more than the 1982 estimate. Agriculture is a strategic priority in the development of the national economy. Since the adoption of various forms of the system of responsibility in rural production, agriculture and diversified rural economy have grown rapidly and peasant income has increased considerably. The peasants will make more investments in agriculture, but state financial support is still indispensable. The state funds for agriculture will be used mainly to develop grain production, encourage construction of selected projects for forestry, animal husbandry and fishery, undertake agricultural scientific research and popularize new farming techniques.

(5) Operating expenses for culture, education, science and public health services total 20.4 billion yuan, an increase of 1.4 billion yuan or 7.4 per cent over the estimate for 1982. Of this sum, operating expenses for culture will go up by 9.1 per cent, for education by 7.3 per cent, for science by 9.3 per cent, and for public health work by 7 per cent, all being higher than the margin of increase in total expenditures and revenues. More intellectual investment and modernization of science and technology are a key link in China's four modernizations. As the financial and economic situation improves, expenditures for them should grow.

(6) Expenditures for national defence account for 17.87 billion yuan, about the same as the estimate for 1982.

(7) Administrative expenses come to 8.5 billion yuan, an increase of 500 million yuan over the estimate for 1982. The increase will be used mainly for salary payments and operating expenses in the public security, procuratorial and judicial departments.

(8) Funds for the disabled and survivors of those who die in the line of duty and for social relief come to 2.4 billion yuan, and funds for creating jobs for school-leavers in cities and towns 380 million yuan, both items being about the same as the estimates for 1982.

(9) Expenditures for repaying the principal and interest on foreign loans total 5.1 billion

yuan, an increase of 130 million yuan over the estimate for 1982. By the end of 1983, the total of outstanding foreign loans borrowed as part of state revenue will be an estimated 4 billion US dollars.

(10) General reserve funds amount to 2 billion yuan. The draft state budget for 1983 incorporates the guideline of ensuring the needs of major areas while making all-round arrangements. It is a budget that does not leave much leeway. Reaching the budgeted revenues will demand tremendous efforts, and expenditures must be adequately controlled and economy practised.

Strive to Carry Out the 1983 State Budget and Further Improve the Financial Situation

THE year 1983 will be one of crucial importance in carrying out the Sixth Five-Year Plan. To satisfactorily execute the budget of

1983, further improve the state financial situation and do spade work for gradually striking a balance in the next five years between state revenues and expenditures, we must pay special attention to the following aspects:

First, efforts should be made to expand production and tap potential as a basis for increasing state revenues.

Second, financial management in state enterprises should be improved in real earnest as an enterprise is readjusted and consolidated.

Third, we must work within our capability and properly handle the relation between national construction and improving the people's livelihood.

Fourth, we must take vigorous and sound measures to reform the financial and tax systems and step up financial legislation.

Fifth, financial control should be tightened and financial and economic discipline strictly enforced. □

To Maintain World Peace, Hegemonism Must Be Opposed

by "Renmin Ribao" Commentator

UPHOLDING world peace and opposing hegemonism are inseparably interrelated. In the world today, imperialism, hegemonism and colonialism are the major forces threatening the independence and security of individual nations, and the major threat to world peace comes from superpower hegemonism. If hegemonism is not opposed, if the hegemonists are allowed to act truculently, all talk of upholding world peace is meaningless.

Today, as hegemonism has a bad reputation, and opposition to it has become fashionable, even big and small hegemonists now loudly proclaim that they "oppose hegemonism," dress themselves up as heroes opposing hegemonism and accuse others of practising hegemonism. It is thus essential to clarify the meaning of hegemonism.

What Is Hegemonism?

Hegemonism is implementing a policy of aggression and expansion abroad in the attempt to control the world or any one region of the world. To determine whether or not a country is hegemonic, we must look not at the size of its territory, population or military forces, but rather at the nature of its foreign policy. Big countries are not necessarily guilty of hegemonism, nor are small countries necessarily innocent of this crime. The hegemonism practised by small countries can be especially vicious when aided and abetted by superpowers.

The term hegemonism derives from Greek history and originally referred to domination by one city-state over other city-states. Later it

evolved to mean the use of force by some countries to trample on the sovereignty and independence of other countries; to interfere in, control and rule over other states. In the late 19th century and early 20th century, as capitalism developed into its imperialist stage, the imperialist powers scrambled for colonial territories and spheres of influence by forcible annexation and territorial expansion. This scramble resulted in confrontations among several powers for hegemony which ultimately led to the outbreak of the two world wars. With the rise of the national-liberation movement and the break-up of the colonial system following World War II, the old-line imperialism was no longer viable. At this point, one superpower took advantage of the opportunity to gain supremacy over the world. After repeated wars of aggression, however, it exhausted itself and gradually declined. This prompted the other superpower to rise and attempt to take the place of the first. In their mad arms expansion and war preparation to control the world, the two superpowers raced to occupy the world's major strategic territories and grab strategic resources. To preserve and expand their own spheres of influence, they dominated other nations by various means, including outright military intervention and invasion, either with their own troops or by supporting regional hegemonic forces. The hegemonism of the superpowers threatens the independence and security of other nations, and thus threatens the peace and stability of the entire world.

Today's world is very uneasy. In Europe, the two military blocs face each other in grave confrontation, swords drawn. In southern Africa, the South African racist regime and foreign mercenary troops are on the rampage. On the banks of the Red Sea, fighting goes on unabated. In the Middle East, Israel, swollen with arrogance, repeatedly makes armed provocations against its neighbours. In Afghanistan, the Soviet aggressor troops continue to escalate the scale of their bloody massacres. In Indochina, Viet Nam continues its war of aggression against Kampuchea. In Latin America, the tense atmosphere of the Caribbean has made it one of the world's new hot spots. In brief, turmoil appears all around the world. As local wars continue endlessly, the threat of world war

increases constantly. This cannot help but arouse the grave concern of all peace-loving countries and peoples.

Two Absurd Theses

Some people spread the idea that as disputes and conflicts in the world today nearly all take place in the third world, the sources of tension and dangers of war come from contradictions among the third world countries and not from the contention for world domination between the superpowers. This view turns the truth completely upside down. It is true that among some countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America, old historical problems frequently lead to disputes. However, if it were not for the meddling of the superpowers, these disputes could be solved easily and rationally through negotiations based on equality and mutual respect. Even temporarily intense conflicts would not be difficult to resolve peacefully. In fact, behind the disputes among third

world nations, one can always discern the shadow of the superpowers. They always exploit and magnify the differences among the third world nations, sowing discord and using every opportunity to set foot in these countries and regions to fight for larger spheres of influence with the result that disturbances in these regions continue ceaselessly, crises heighten and conflicts escalate. The contention between the superpowers at present takes place primarily in the third world. Thus third world nations are virtually the immediate victims of the superpower scramble for world supremacy. How can the third world nations be blamed for the turmoil and the threat to world peace?

Others offer the thesis that if only the spheres of influence as defined by the superpowers themselves were accepted, the fierce rivalry between them could be avoided and the danger of world war would be reduced. This thesis is equally ridiculous. First of all, this is equivalent to asking the people of all countries to accept the right of the superpowers to maintain their respective spheres of influence, to accept their hegemonist rule over the world. What guarantee would be provided for the independence and sovereignty of other nations?

The only real way to guarantee world peace and international security is to persistently oppose hegemonism.

Furthermore, this thesis is extremely unrealistic. The two superpowers both want to defeat each other and dominate the whole world. The contradiction between them is irreconcilable. Each wants to undermine the position of the other, weaken the other, and gain superiority over the other. It is clear that the contest for superiority, especially for military superiority, is the main content of their hegemonist struggle, and is the major means of their global expansion. Any hope that the superpowers will halt their struggle for supremacy is simply an illusion.

How Can World Peace Be Preserved?

Both historical experience and the reality show that peace cannot be preserved through compromise or begging. The only real way to guarantee world peace and international security is to persistently oppose hegemonism. From the aggressive expansionist actions of the hegemonists it can be seen that none of their moves or actions is isolated from or unrelated to their strategies to obtain world supremacy. Thus, the people of all countries must firmly oppose

hegemonism and not yield an inch. All hegemonists, no matter who or where, must be opposed. Their every strategic plan must be upset. Whenever they violate the sovereignty of another nation or intervene in its internal affairs, the peoples of the world must rise up in struggle against them and force them to retreat. When they use various pretexts to carry out political infiltration, economic exploitation or military domination of other states, we must join together to struggle against them and frustrate their schemes. When they occupy the territory of other nations by force, we must support the invaded nations to defeat their aggressive actions, or tie down their aggressive forces so that they fall into a quagmire from which they are unable to extricate themselves. In short, the people of all countries must become more vigilant, must halt the aggressive expansionist actions of hegemonists, and prevent realization of their aggressive expansionist plans. If the peoples of the world unite, support each other and firmly struggle against all manifestations of hegemonism, world peace can then be preserved.

(Jan. 5, 1983. Subheads are ours.)

Bid Farewell to Yesterday

— A reformatory near Qinhuangdao

by Our Correspondents Zhou Zheng and Liu Bin

Some delinquents are not subject to imprisonment by China's criminal law as their offences are relatively minor. However, if these offenders are allowed to continue, they will probably commit more serious crimes. The Chinese Government has, therefore, adopted measures for education through labour that are intended to deter crimes and help minor lawbreakers transform themselves into useful citizens.

As this aspect of China's reformatory system is not much understood by our readers, we sent two of our reporters to one of the better-run reformatories. Here is their report. —Ed.

SITUATED outside Shanhaiguan at the eastern tip of the Great Wall and at the foot of the Yanshan Mountain, the reformatory is about 20 kilometres from Qinhuangdao, a city of 400,000 people. The reformatory is composed of scattered clusters of red-brick houses enclosed by a low white wall. The wall is pierced by two gates: with the front one opening to a quarry and the back gate to an orchard and a

stock farm, covering an area of 20 hectares. These gates stand open without any armed guard on duty.

The reformatory is a special school for reforming minor lawbreakers. It differs from correctional institutions that take convicted criminals who are sentenced to reform through labour. At the reformatory the inmates are called students and the administrative cadres, mentors.

Students

Miao Wenbo, male, 26, is a construction worker. He lost a permanent job assignment because he refused to work in another location. He did temporary jobs. In 1979 to finance a trip to Beijing and Shanghai with his girl friend, he defrauded his friends of 1,000 yuan on the pretext of buying lumber for them. Previously, he had stolen some items.

Cao Zhihe, male, 21, was detained briefly in 1979 for organizing gang fighting at a time when he still had not been assigned work. In May 1980, Cao happened upon someone who had previously quarreled with him and stabbed him with a sharp weapon.

Wang Yingjuan, female, 20, is a worker, who studied Chinese boxing. She would often quarrel and pick fights. Sometimes in downtown areas, she would provoke group fights that attracted hundreds of onlookers, held up traffic and upset social order.

Yang Lingxiang, male, 50, is an idle peasant. He stealthily felled the trees of a state forestry centre on many occasions. He bought liquor with the money and was often intoxicated.

There are 317 students in this institution, reported Hou Shenglong, deputy head of the reformatory, 42 per cent of whom committed hooliganism; 38 per cent, stealing; 7 per cent, fighting; 5 per cent, swindling; 3 per cent, gambling; and 5 per cent, legal and disciplinary violations and production sabotage. Of the 317 students, 31 are female; 65 per cent are under 25; their average age is 22.



A reformatory near Qinhuangdao.

*We come from all over China;
Here we seem to have returned to our mothers.
Start a new life, we have made up our minds,
Leaving ignorance and fantasy behind.
Be clear of what is right and wrong;
Correct our mistakes, let bygones be bygones.
A returned prodigal is more precious than gold;
"Not let our motherland down" is the determination we show.*

— A Song Composed by the reformatory students

Young people should bear the main responsibility for taking the criminal road but they have been influenced by society. They grew up during the 10 years of turmoil (1966-76). Right and wrong were confounded at that time and these children could not distinguish good from evil and went astray.

Deputy head Hou explained, "Education through labour is different from reform through labour. The latter refers to criminal offenders who are sentenced to detention and forced labour by the people's court, so that they will reform themselves through labour. The process of reforming through labour is a process of administering criminal sentences. On the other hand, those who are educating themselves through labour are characterized by the fact that they have not committed major offences. Their transgressions are light and they do not bear responsibility for a crime. Nevertheless, their actions seriously interfere with social order, production and stability. They probably will commit serious crimes if measures are not taken to check this development. Educating minor lawbreakers through labour is aimed at transforming them into citizens of value to socialist construction. This is an administrative measure to force them to accept education and reform as well as a method for providing them with work."

Reformatory administrative committees have been set up in China's big and medium-sized cities. They are staffed by per-

sonnel from civil administration bureaux, public security bureaux and labour bureaux and they review the cases of people before the latter are sent to reformatories.

With the approval of the First National People's Congress, the Decision on the Question of Education Through Labour was promulgated by the State Council in August 1957. In February 1980, the validity of this decision was reaffirmed and the November 1979 supplementary decision of the State Council on education through labour was promulgated. It specified the period of education through labour as one to three years with one year extension when necessary. Those who have finished their terms in the reformatory should not be discriminated against with regard to employment and education. People's procurators supervise the reformatories.

Environment

Many delinquents come to the reformatory with doubt and fear. They had previous dealings with police and were sent to the reformatory only after other educational methods had failed.

Cadres at the reformatory realize that they must create a good environment to relieve these worries, thereby establishing the students' faith in the Party's policy and the goodwill of the cadres.

In 1981, this reformatory withdrew armed police and dismantled the barbed wire from around the students' dorms. The irritating slogans "Admit your guilt and submit to the law" and "Severe punishment to those who refuse to confess their crimes" were replaced by the motto "Bid farewell to yesterday and completely break with wrong doings."

The physical beauty of the reformatory is not neglected; clean yards and beautiful flowerbeds inspire ease-of-mind.

Men students are divided into three squads and women one squad, each with its own courtyard. The dorms are spacious and bright and some of them have potted flowers. Bunk beds with identical bedsheets and pillow-towels line the rooms, this giving orderliness



Students sewing clothes.

to varied coloured quilts brought by the students. The students are proud of the dorms and beds which they built and made. In a little over a year, 80 rooms of housing have been constructed and students have moved into new dorms, an average of three square metres per person. Most of the cadres and administrative personnel are still living in old buildings.

Life

The reformatory follows the principle of education, redeeming and reforming which puts "education and transformation first and productive labour second."

Each day two hours are for cultural and technical study, while work is six hours. Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings are reserved for political study or meetings; Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday evenings for recreational activities.

The students' schedule is lively and packed. They get up at 5:00 a.m. and go to bed at 9:30 p.m. with a three-hour break for lunch and rest at midday.

Men students engage mainly in quarrying; sometimes they go out to build roads or bridges under contract. Women students do tailoring or process sweaters for factories and sometimes go to sift rocks for cement making. Owing to the rapid development of the building industry in recent years, stone materials have a ready market and the reformatory has removed half

a mountain since its founding eight years ago. The wealth created over these years is one million yuan.

Meal costs (16 yuan per month per person) are deducted from the students' labour income. Since they raise poultry, animals and vegetables, they become self-sufficient in vegetables and some of the meat, thus save a lot of expenditures. Apples come from the 2,000 apple trees and the garden produces eggplants, red peppers, tomatoes, string-beans, cucumbers and other vegetables. The students also raise cows, sheep, hogs, chickens, ducks, geese, rabbits and eat two kilogrammes of meat per month. In addition, pigs or sheep are slaughtered on major holidays.

After the 16 yuan deduction for food, each student still receives a monthly sum of 11 yuan to buy clothes and for incidental expenses.

Two medical workers staff the clinic. The library has thousands of books, newspapers and magazines for the students. On the shelves of the small store are knitted goods, uniforms, sugar, refreshments, canned food, cigarettes and fruit. The store keeps accounts and purchases are charged against the students' pay. Students take an active part in evening recreational activities. They play basketball and chess, exercise on the parallel-bars, knit, read and watch TV (the reformatory has five TV sets). Sometimes teachers and students play bridge together or rehearse cultural programmes. At such times a casual observer would find it hard to distinguish cadres from students.

Sundays are precious; they are holidays. The students who have given a good account of themselves can go to visit their families once every two weeks (boys and girls stagger their holidays off). On other Sundays, the students' families are allowed to visit the reformatory.

On one Sunday 180 boy students went home and the parents of some girl students set out at seven in the morning to make the five-kilometre journey from Shanhaiguan to the reformatory on foot or by bike or taxi.

Study

There are at least six hours of political study every week. To supplement political lessons given by cadres to the students, the reformatory invites veteran workers or peasants to recall their past sufferings and contrast them with the present happiness. Veteran cadres give talks on the revolutionary traditions; procuratorial leaders, on policies; judges, on the legal system; model workers, on how to contribute to the modernization programme; responsible members from the municipal Youth League committee on the fostering of a correct outlook on life; and progressive parents and teachers on their personal experiences. Through analysing the subjective and objective causes for the delinquents' illegal acts, the classes explain the meaning of socialist morality and organize discussion of the question "What if you were a victim?" This expedites the ideological awakening and transformation of the students.

The reformatory's personnel often use minor incidents as educational examples. During the summer of 1981, four students stole nine apples from a nearby production team.

When this was discovered, the cadres did not simply fine the students but instead helped them recognize their mistake and educated them in the importance of honesty. The cadres led the students of the whole squad to make an apology to the peasants and handed the fine over to the production team. This incident made a deep impression on the students and no similar incidents occurred in 1982.

Technical courses including bricklaying, electricity and tailoring are offered mainly for the youths who have not yet been assigned jobs. The students may select courses of study based on their interests. The teachers include both reformatory cadres and skilled workers from among the students. The students learn while working. The aim is for the unskilled to acquire a trade so that they can find jobs upon leaving the reformatory. For instance, several girl students learnt the technique for sewing polyester fibre clothes. After they were released from the reformatory, they were immediately employed as skilled workers by the

The Chinese Government has adopted measures to help minor lawbreakers transform themselves into useful citizens

Shanhaiguan Labour Service Company and thus became valuable technical workers.

Those students who previously held jobs in the state sector have their position retained for them while they are being educated through labour. When they leave the reformatory, they will go back to the organization they came from.

Most of the students take part in cultural study according to their educational level. Classes of both primary school and junior middle school levels are offered in the reformatory. The teachers are cadres of the reformatory. One outside teacher is invited to teach Chinese and at present only this course is opened for lack of teachers.

Democracy and Evaluation

The students maintain a normal practice of democracy at the reformatory.

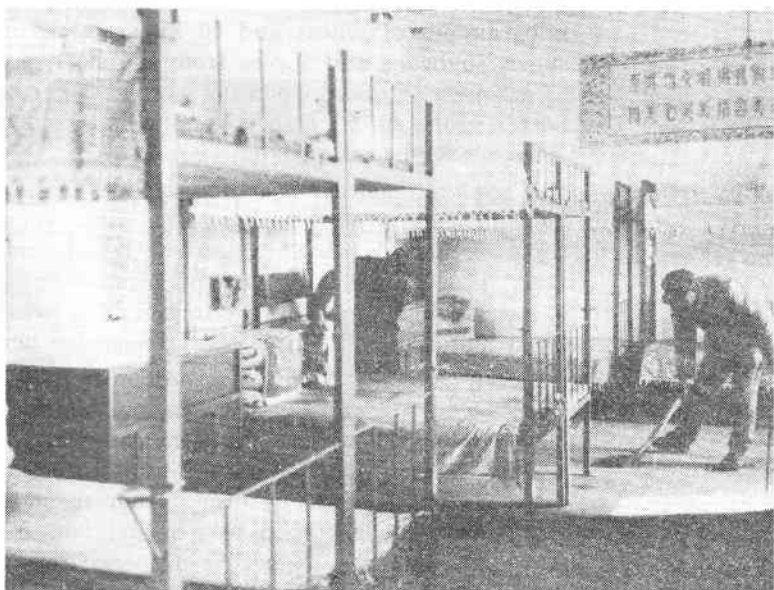
The students elect five to seven representatives to form a student council, which works under the guidance of the cadres. The student council discusses sports meets, evening parties, small purchases, etc., and passes its recommendations on to the reformatory leaders for approval.

All kitchen work is undertaken by students under the guidance of a supervisor. In order to improve their meals, people are elected by squads from among the students to form a mess committee, which reports the students' opinions about meals and draws up measures for im-

provements. Further, students can express their opinions about other aspects of reformatory life by putting a note in the suggestion box.

The reformatory conducts evaluations of the students — a minor appraisal every month, a preliminary appraisal every six months and a general appraisal every year. During the evaluation, the students first make self-assessments of their conduct which are discussed by their classes (about 10 people each). A written report is drawn up which is handed in to the cadres who then write their final evaluations of the students. Those who have not committed a single disciplinary violation in a year have their terms at the reformatory shortened by four months; those who seriously violate discipline and refuse to mend their ways or who try to run away have their length of education through labour in the reformatory extended on a case by case basis.

For example, Ma Mintian, who was sent to the reformatory because he wounded someone in a fight which he provoked, slipped away with several others while dynamiting holes in the mountain in late 1980. They stole chickens and clothing and so Ma's term was lengthened by one year. Later on, with the help of the mentors and through the campaign of the five stresses (stress on decorum, manners, hygiene, discipline and morals) and the four points of beauty (beautification of the mind, language, behaviour and environment) he became determined to reform himself. In 1981 when he was on his way home, he found a watch and handed it in to a local police station. Further in April 1982 when there was a forest fire on a nearby mountain, he was among the teachers and students who rushed to the scene and was later commended for his brave actions. Recently, his term of education through labour was cut by half a year.



Men's dormitory room.

Positive education is stressed at the reformatory. At the end of every year, the reformatory holds a meeting of student activists, at which the leaders congratulate them and send letters of commendation to their work units and families. Not long ago, 20 of the students who

A Changed Person

Lu Huichen, a worker of the Shanhaiguan Standard Pieces Factory, was sent to the reformatory in Qinhuangdao for a year (1975-76) because he engaged in fighting and undermined production. He had been a worker of the Shanhaiguan Leather Tools Plant and was notorious for wild behaviour at work and was therefore nicknamed Lord Lu.

Trust and Concern

After Lu was released from the reformatory, he reported for duty at the machine-building industry bureau. His former factory was reluctant to accept him but the Standard Pieces Factory volunteered.

Before Lu reported for work, the factory's leaders had held a meeting of heads of work teams and shifts to discuss how to treat Lu. They emphasized that since this young man had made mistakes, everybody should help him, welcome him back to work and not give him the cold shoulder.

On the first day, factory director Chen Zheng had a talk with Lu and announced at a meeting three rules: 1. Welcome Lu Huichen to the Standard Pieces Factory; 2. No discriminating against him; and 3. No calling him Lord Lu.

Lu was reticent. He engrossed himself in his work and during lunch time he invariably sat alone in a corner. Some fellow workers noticed that he only ate steamed bread and started to share their food and soup with him.

Lu came early and left late and kept his work area clean. He was commended by the master worker he worked with for the high quality of the parts he punched. Factory leaders watched his progress and praised him publicly.

Some fellow workers decided to help him look for a girl friend. This was not easy as Lu had heavy family responsibilities already with old sick parents and two sisters too young to work. With the aid of his co-workers, he eventually found someone whom he fell in love with and later married.

They lived in harmony and had a baby girl. Everything seemed to be going well when suddenly his wife became paralysed. "One misfor-

had given good accounts of themselves were released from the reformatory ahead of schedule.

Teachers

"We call upon staff members to treat the students as parents do their children; teachers, their students and doctors, their patients," said deputy head Hou Shenglong.

Not only the students are required to observe discipline but strict demands are set on the cadres. Teachers are not allowed to administer corporal punishment, maltreat, satirize, insult, force submission or confessions. Bribes must not be accepted. Further, the staff cannot consume alcoholic beverages inside the reformatory.

What is required of the students must first be fulfilled by the teachers. What students are forbidden to do, teachers must not do.

Three staff members who were found drinking secretly in a dormitory were seriously reprimanded by the head of the reformatory Xiao Yong. He pointed out, "To those law-breaking youths, example is better than precept. Everyone must observe the rules. Working personnel are no exception."

When some students first came to this reformatory, they refused to admit their mistakes. Teachers had heart-to-heart talks with them, giving up their free time.

The story of 27-year-old Shen Lianqin is representative. Shen was twice sent to the reformatory for stealing and associating with hooligans. The second time, she had stolen 500 kilogrammes of wheat and 50 kilogrammes of sugar, soybeans and apples from the stockyard of a railway station. Upon her arrival, she was hostile to the staff members for she feared their disciplinary measures.

The staff neither beat nor scolded her. An older teacher Wang Yuzhen organized everything for her. When Shen came to the reformatory she had nothing except some clothes. Wang arranged for her beddings and a wash basin and bought tooth paste and soap for her.

Half a month later, Wang discovered that Shen was uncomfortable. An examination showed that she was two months pregnant, so Wang accompanied her to a hospital for an abortion. After Shen returned from the hospital, Wang bought food to her and had her stay in bed. The cook prepared special meals, including five eggs a day. As Shen said, "Even my own parents would not have done that."

tune follows another" and shortly thereafter his father died.

Factory leaders had urged him to take his wife to Beijing for medical treatment and offered to take care of his other family responsibilities. Lu was in Beijing at the time of his father's death. So factory leaders sent trade union and workshop cadres and workers to express sympathy to his family members, gave a wreath and helped his family make funeral arrangements.

Lu's wife did not respond to treatment and she also died. During the long hospitalization period, factory leaders allowed Lu to work less than eight hours a day. To lighten Lu's financial burden, the leaders appointed one of his younger sisters to a post in the factory, and gave him an extra allowance for his expenses. Lu's family also moved from their crowded quarters to a three-room apartment.

"Returned Child"

The trust and concern of his leaders and fellow workers has given Lu strength and courage. He no longer feels gloomy about his future. "Life is new."

In July 1976, an earthquake of over 7 magnitude on the Richter scale struck Tangshan in north China, seriously affecting Shanhaiguan over 100 kilometres away from the centre of the quake. Lu and the workshop head were the first to come back to resume production. With their example, other workers also followed suit. Lu also volunteered to take part in the emergency relief squad which transported the wounded from Tangshan to Shanhaiguan.

In March 1977 the factory decided to install an iron chimney over 30 metres long and two tons in weight. An estimate showed that it would require 8,000 yuan for the installation so the workers proposed that they do it themselves.

On March 22, a drizzly day, the crane lifted the chimney half way up. Suddenly one end gave way and it was in danger of falling at any moment. While others stood not knowing what to do, Lu Huichen climbed up the crane disregarding the danger and secured the piece. Work continued until midnight when the installation was completed.

In 1977 Lu was elected team leader and in 1981 was recognized as an advanced worker.

When I had an abortion before, I was treated with callousness and disdain. My buddies did not come around but this time I received concern and care."

Bad experiences had hardened Shen, but the staff's concern changed her. She goes out of her way to do good deeds for others

and works hard. She has been elected class monitor.

Changed for the Better

In 1981, a follow-up was conducted on 204 students who had been released from the reformatory. Of these 76 per cent had given good accounts of themselves, 18.1 per cent behaved reasonably well, 5.9 per cent committed new offences.

Over the past nine years, 800 people who committed minor offences were sent to this reformatory. Through education, redemption and reform, most have been returned to society and the overwhelming majority of them have turned over a new leaf. They have become workshop chiefs, workshift leaders, deputy heads of clinics, and key members of China's work force with 31 cited as advanced workers. Those still in the reformatory are making progress. □



Rehearsing a play after class.

OPINION

Educational reform

REFORMING three aspects of college education is prerequisite for realizing the modernization of science and technology, newly elected CPC Central Committee Member and woman physicist Xie Xide declared.

1. Admission. The present admission system under which "every one is equal before entrance examination marks" is reasonable. But it is not an all-round way to select students simply according to their test scores in one examination, be-

cause quite a few promising youths are overlooked. Therefore, an enrolment system where both examination and recommendations are considered is advisable to ensure enrolling more talented young people.

2. Pedagogy. Current teaching methods are quite rigid, devoid of liveliness. Students know little about how to study or delve into subjects independently. There is great difference in teaching methods be-

tween China and other countries. Abroad few lectures are given at classes but many reference books are assigned to the students. In China, however, students concentrate their efforts only on assimilating what is taught in classes. This limits their outlook and affects the development of their ability to think independently.

3. Curriculum. To train engineers and technicians who will research into frontier sciences, we should strengthen links between subjects and develop engineering, technology and science.

— "Guangming Ribao"

When World War II started

CHINESE and foreign academic circles hold five differing opinions as to the starting date of World War II:

— Hitler's invasion of Poland on September 1, 1939;

— Italy's incursion into Ethiopia in 1935 and German-Italian armed intervention in Spain in 1936 in the West, and Japanese fascists' occupation of Beijing and Shanghai in 1937 in the East;

— Lugouqiao (Marco Polo Bridge) Incident in China incited by Japanese aggressor troops on July 7, 1937;

— Pearl Harbour Incident on December 8, 1941 and the ensuing War in the Pacific;

— Fascist-imperialists' invasion of China, Ethiopia and other countries. Specifically, the September 18th Incident provoked by Japanese aggressor troops in China's Shenyang on September 18, 1931.

The writer agrees with the last view. People all over the world, including Chinese, Ethiopians and Spaniards, waged anti-fascist wars from 1931 onwards. Further, September 1931 through September 1939

saw wars breaking out from the Straits of Gibraltar in the West to Shanghai in the East, involving 500 million people, a quarter of the world population at that time.

— "Henan Shida Xuebao" (Journal of Henan Normal University), No. 4, 1982

LIFE

Reward and punishment

X'iao Wang, a worker of the Changshu No. 2 Yarn-Dyed Fabric Mill in Jiangsu Province, beat up a workmate. Before any action was taken, a letter arrived praising him for saving a drowning child, a deed he had not mentioned to anyone in the mill.

One demerit, one merit, how should this be dealt with? Some thought that criticism should come first and commendation be bestowed only after Wang regretted his misdeed. Some worried that simultaneous com-

mendation and criticism would negate each other.

The factory's trade union held that a man should be evaluated comprehensively. Wang should be praised for not bragging about his good deed, even though he had beaten up a fellow-worker. He should be encouraged to continue virtuous actions and correct wrong ones only through differentiating good from bad.

After discussing the question, leaders of the workshops decid-

ed to criticize Wang so that he would realize that beating up another is a violation of the other's human rights. On the other hand, they praised his communist spirit in saving the child, publicized his deed in the wall newspaper of the mill and broadcast the incident over the mill loudspeakers and awarded him a third class merit citation.

Xiao Wang understood that the leaders and workers had

sought truth from facts, and was affected by the strict and impartial judgments. He admitted his mistake, apologized to the victim and suggested that he be fined through deductions from his bonus. Since these just actions, Xiao Wang has been working with increased enthusiasm.

—“Gongren Ribao”
(Workers' Daily)

PEOPLE

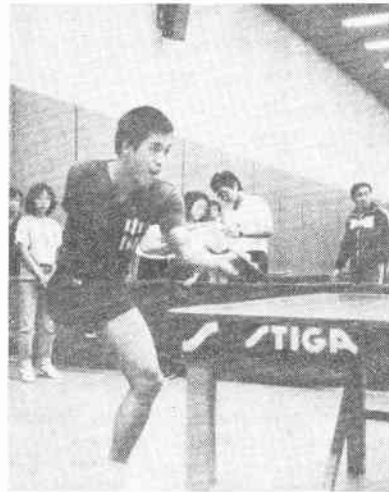
Disabled man bags five golds

AT the Third Far East and South Pacific Games for the Disabled (FESPIC) in Xianggang, Li Chenggang placed first in five events: long jump, table tennis singles, 100-metre freestyle swim, 50-metre breaststroke and 50-metre backstroke.

Li, 24, is an accountant at a sewing factory for disabled workers in the suburbs of Tianjin. When he was one and a half years old, he lost his right arm and leg in an accident. However, his mother did not confine him to bed. She gave him a small stool to use as a crutch. Li thus learnt to move around and he even hopped about playing soccer with other kids.

At school, Li turned down the teacher's suggestion that he skip the physical education classes. He mastered box-horse jump, high jump, long jump, soccer, basketball and swimming. His natural ability and steadfast efforts paid off.

Li has played table tennis for more than 10 years and has developed unique skills that often upset even opponents in normal conditions. Li Chenggang contended during the FESPIC Games at a disadvan-



tage as table tennis was only arranged for athletes of A6 and A8 categories* not for A9 as his condition is defined. Li, however, eclipsed his opponents and won the honours all the same.

Li Chenggang said that he would not rest content living on his own. Rather he is determined to do things as other people do and be worthy of the designation of socialist youth. This might help explain his haul of five golds.

—“Beijing Wanbao” (Beijing Evening News)

* Athletes of A6 category are those who lost one arm and those of A8, one arm and a half.

TIDBITS

Snakes can forecast earthquakes

OF the more than one million kinds of animals on earth, scores are known to be able to forecast earthquakes and snakes come first on the list.

In August 1976, just before the earthquake that shook Songpan and Pingwu Counties in Sichuan Province, many snakes came out of the ground in neighbouring Jiangyou County. On July 28, 1976, an earthquake of magnitude 7.8 on the Richter scale hit Tangshan city in Hebei Province. On the early morning of July 26, hundreds of dumb-struck snakes “congregated” in a ditch near a fish pond of Ninghe County, about 40 kilometres from Tangshan city.

Kang Zhiyao, a teacher of the biology department of Wuhan University, and others have experimented with some 300 snakes under simulated earthquake conditions.

Snakes live underground and are highly sensitive to changes in the earth's temperature. This is especially true with venomous snakes.

When a sudden local release of heat from crevices in the ground sweeps through the snake's holes, the snakes are forced to crawl out of their holes.

The experimenters also experimented with other factors for driving the snakes out of their holes but these proved to be only auxiliary factors for forcing the snakes out of the ground.

—“Science and Future”

THEATRE

Festival for children

Twenty-nine troupes from across China performed 43 newly created programmes during the first children's theatrical festival sponsored by the Ministry of Culture late last year.

The themes of the presentations varied from depicting of modern children's lives to historic stories—some revolutionary, others legendary. Plays, dance dramas and operas (Beijing, Henan, Jilin operas among others) filled the stages. The local operas, which had previously seldom been performed

especially for children, were applauded heartily by the little fans.

Chinese children's play does not have a long history, but it has a tradition of educating children with revolutionary ideas. *Soong Ching Ling and Children*, a drama, *Sanmao Wants to Go to School*, a dance drama, and *The Ginseng Child*, a fairy-tale play, all with thought-provoking themes, were awarded top prizes.

Concurrent with the festival, forums were held on script writing, directing, performing, stage art, music and dance, and every play, opera and dance drama was evaluated. There was general agreement that more careful work was needed

to observe children's lives and study their psychology and interests so as to create theatrical works which inspire children and are enjoyed by them.

China formerly had only three troupes which performed especially for children, the two major ones being the Children's Art Theatre of the China Welfare Institute and China Children's Art Theatre. In the period leading up to the festival, children's theatres and troupes were established in Hebei, Shaanxi, Sichuan and Hubei Provinces and some theatres and local opera troupes added children's plays to their repertoires. Now more than 100 performing groups are presenting children's programmes.

Sanmao wants to go to school

When the curtain rises, it is a chilly morning in old Shanghai. A group of ragged street urchins are wakened by a cold wind. They look around for Sanmao. From under a heap of waste paper a pair of bare feet appears. As the kids

rush to grab them, Sanmao jumps up. Happily, they all embrace. . . . This humorous scene from the dance drama *Sanmao Wants To Go to School* draws hearty laughs from the children in the audience.

Sanmao (Three Hairs) is a character familiar to all Chinese children. He was created by Zhang Leping, a cartoon artist, prior to liberation. Sanmao is loved for his funny appearance—he has only three hairs on his head—and, what is more, children sympathize with his bleak life in the old society.

Sanmao Wants To Go to School was adapted from a cartoon collection *Sanmao, a Waif*. Suffering from coldness and hunger, Sanmao still desires to go to school. However, he is bullied by the Kuomintang police; his only hard-won book was torn and his shoe polishing kit is destroyed. Sanmao resorts to hanging a sign on his neck which reads "WHO WILL BUY ME." After the founding of New China, Sanmao's life changes. Proudly, he carries a new school-bag and enters school.

The 20-minute dance drama, which is simple and smooth, was created by the Song and Dance Ensemble of Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region. It is of both educational and artistic merit.



Right: Liberation comes, Sanmao is going to school.
Left: Sanmao asks who will buy him.



Writer Ren Deyao (left) talking to members of the cast of "Soong Ching Ling and Children."

The festival activities were held in Changchun, Jilin Province, and Nanchang, Jiangxi Province, in the latter half of 1982 and the 13 outstanding items were brought to Beijing for performances.

An awards ceremony was held at China National Children's Centre in Beijing last December and the founding of the Chinese Society of Children's Theatre was announced at this event.

(Continued from p. 12.)

Western Europe. In both America and Western Europe, the rather powerful anti-nuclear armament movements have brought considerable pressure to bear upon the governments. The deepening economic recession and unstable political situation have contributed to making the nuclear arms race an increasingly sensitive issue in many West European countries. In light of this trend, Moscow designed its new proposal to be tactically flexible, offering concessions, but essentially unchanged, in an attempt to put Washington on the defensive and compel the Reagan administration to budge from its prior stand. The proposal was also intended to give a

push to the surging anti-nuke movements in the West, thus sapping West European support for the NATO plan of modernizing its nuclear forces.

For years the United States and the Soviet Union have engaged in a variety of disarmament negotiations, which, unfortunately, have turned out to be nothing but endless quarrels. But while these talks are deadlocked, their arms race gets fiercer all the time. The basic reason for this is that neither sincerely wants to reduce its nuclear arsenal. Their numerous disarmament proposals or plans have all been designed to gain advantage by weakening the other's position.

— Fang Min

BOOKS

A field marshal's life

The Military Career of Liu Bocheng (in Chinese)

《刘伯承军事生涯》

Edited by Yang Guoyu, Cheng Feiqin, Li Anming and Wang Wei

Published by the China Youth Publishing House

Distributed by the Xinhua Bookstores

Price: 0.98 yuan RMB

For the hundreds of millions in China, Liu Bocheng is a household word, the name of a nearly legendary Chinese marshal whose battle-steered military career began decades ago as a rank-and-file soldier. But only recently was the life of this eminent proletarian revolutionary, strategist and military theoretician exhaustively recounted for the first time in a book published by the China Youth Publishing House.

The Military Career of Liu Bocheng, which runs to 220,000 words in eight chapters, begins by acquainting the readers with Liu Bocheng's childhood. He was born on December 4, 1892, the eldest son of a poor peasant family in Kaixian County, Sichuan Province. His father sent the child to a private school, hoping it would lead him to success and prosperity. But just as Liu Bocheng was turning 19, the 1911 Revolution broke out, led by the great revolutionary pioneer Sun Yat-sen. Liu Bocheng joined Sun Yat-sen's rank, imbued with an aspiration for democratic reform and a desire to see China become a prosperous nation with a strong national defence. The

following year he devoted himself to the fight against Yuan Shikai, who usurped the victory of the revolution. Liu lost his right eye in battle in March 1915.

After the Chinese Communist Party was established in 1921, Liu Bocheng was influenced by Chen Duxiu, Zhou Enlai and other outstanding Communists. His decade of military experience convinced him that the old democratic revolution would not succeed, and he saw the light of hope in the Communist Party. He became a Party member on May 13, 1926. Acting on a Party Central Committee instruction the following year, he joined Zhou Enlai, He Long and Ye Ting in launching the August 1 Uprising in Nanchang, Jiangxi Province, in which he served as the chief of staff. The uprising heralded the birth of a new type of people's army in China.

The Party Central Committee sent Liu Bocheng to study in Moscow in 1927-30. He graduated from the High Infantry School and the military academy named after Frunzie as one of the top students. He was appointed the Red Army's General Chief of Staff in October 1932 and in that capacity directed many battles, together with Zhu De and Zhou Enlai. When the Workers' and Peasants' Red Army was forced to leave the revolutionary base area and began the epic Long March in October 1934 because of the then dominant "Leftist" opportunist line, Liu Bocheng was put in charge of closing the rear and covering the central organs' evacuation, and then led an advance party on the arduous trek north.

During the War of Resistance Against Japan (1937-45), Liu Bocheng was Commander of the 129th Division of the Eighth Route Army. Together with Deng Xiaoping, the division's Political Commissar, he led a large-scale people's war in the enemy's rear area and secured a wide anti-Japanese base area which spanned Shanxi, Hebei,



Shandong and Henan Provinces. In 1947, during the War of Liberation (1946-49), Liu Bocheng and Deng Xiaoping correctly implemented the strategy of the Party Central Committee by leading their 100,000 troops across the Huanghe River and marching towards central China, thus unveiling the prologue of the strategic offensive of the People's Liberation Army. *The Military Career of Liu Bocheng* gives detailed accounts of Liu Bocheng's military capability, displayed in a series of important battles.

The book also devotes much space to describing Liu Bocheng as one of the founders of the Communist-led military schools. As early as 1926, he set up a

military and political school and served as its president. After 1950, he did a long stint as president and political commissar of a military academy. Through decades of hard work he helped bring up a vast contingent of military experts for the people's army.

As the biography of an outstanding military talent, *The Military Career of Liu Bocheng* accents how he applied Mao Zedong's military thinking and drew on classic military theories and foreign experiences to formulate strategies and tactics suited to the conditions of the Chinese army. Combining superb resourcefulness and courage, Liu Bocheng manoeuvred his troops so deftly that no hazard could stop his progress. He never lost an opportunity to eliminate the enemy and he always exploited the enemy's weaknesses to best advantage.

Liu Bocheng became a Marxist military theoretician the hard way. As *The Military Career of Liu Bocheng* shows, his knowledge in the military field is encyclopaedic, ranging from Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin to Suvorov, Napoleon and Neiji Okamura. At his finger-tips are also the combined tactics and guerrilla tactics of the Soviet Union, the combat regulations of the United States and Germany, the drill manual of Japan as well as the theories developed by ancient Chinese strategists such as Sun Wu and Zhuge Liang. The book also sings the praises, often combined with graphic examples, of Liu's modesty, diligence and plain living style, which continues to this day.

— Jian Wu

Woodcuts by Liu Xian



Roses.

Born in 1915 in Lankao County, Henan Province, Liu Xian began woodcutting in the 30s. His works have a special quality because they are cut on the transverse section of the wood. They are known for their soft, elegant lines and decorative patterns.



Common Calla Lily.



Lambs.

SHANGHAI PICTORIAL

(in English)



A magazine, keeps you informed on developments in China's largest city, starts publication in February 1983. It will be published bimonthly.

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