

Vol. 26, No. 13

March 28, 1983

BEIJING REVIEW

北京周报

A CHINESE WEEKLY OF
NEWS AND VIEWS

- Third World Role in Global Economy
- Population and Employment



At the Daqing Oilfield

LETTERS

"Events and Trends"

I like reading the articles in "Events and Trends." Although those articles are brief, they cover important news. They are short and pithy, clear and definite. The topics are diverse; the contents, sweeping and the subjects, all encompassing.

I read carefully the article "Mexico is hard up economically" (Spanish edition, issue No. 50, 1982) and I was also fascinated by Peng Zhen's report on the draft of the revised Constitution in the "Articles and Documents."

Jose Luis Diaz Mira
Madrid, Spain

"Zhao discusses Sino-US relations" and "Zhao meets US journalists" in "Events and Trends" (issue No. 7) gave a good and clear picture of the essential issues involved.

The Dutch press and television presented a different painting; that of a perfectly reasonable US and rather vague or meek China. Once again, *Beijing Review*

proved to be indispensable to a "block-stricken" reader. This also was so for your article on Surinam ("7 attempted coups in 3 years," issue No. 7).

Y. M. Van der Hoeven
Lopik, the Netherlands

"Spiritual Civilization"

I was impressed by the article entitled "Two Spiritual Civilizations" in your November 22, 1982 issue (No. 47). It is gratifying to learn that China is stressing socialist culture and ethics for the optimality for one-fourth of the human race.

I hope you will continue your efforts for people to have the proper outlook in life and to have the right awareness for morality.

As a scholar imbued with ideals and ideas, I would like to see fine examples respected, loved and emulated in China. Unfortunately, I have noticed the credo of "money is be-all and end-all in life" in the minds of the world people. They have forgotten the true meaning of life, i.e., to contribute to humanity.

When I lectured in China last summer, I modified the Equation of Happiness (published by *World Economic Herald* in Shanghai, 1981). I wish to add spiritual civilization to the following:

$$\text{Happiness} = \frac{\text{m.c.} + \text{s.c.}}{\text{desire}}$$

(m.c. = material consumption
s.c. = spiritual civilization)

Francis Shieh
Upper Marlboro, Md., USA

I am interested in several topics raised in "Socialist Spiritual Civilization" (issue No. 40, 1982). It may be the most important article I have read, as it deals with problems which are even more acute in West European countries. Here I allude to some Marxist political parties in Western Europe which publicize socialist civilization but pay attention almost exclusively to material matters. They ignore that it is impossible to build a socialist society without socialist morality. Some parties have propagandized that socialist civilization is merely material civilization, and spiritual civilization is less important.

X. Salvador Ribadomar
Cambados, Spain

Grain Problem

Articles dealing with grain problem in developing countries interest me. The article (issue No. 47, 1982) advanced facts which are well-thought-out analysis. I agree with your view of the future, but I lack confidence in a short-term solution.

The gap between the poor and rich countries is still widening.

Beijing Review is fascinating and reinforces others' views.

Maurin Georges
Crest, France

Understanding China

Beijing Review is important to us who have not had the chance to visit China. Through your magazine, we learn of the geography, history and development of the People's Republic of China. In short, we can understand China's territory, residents, past, present and future....

Kamabu M. Jerome
Kivu, Zaire

Yugoslavia and China

The most important articles for me are the ones about the friendship between Yugoslavia and China. Our two old countries have friendly relations.

Ivan Slothanfr
Belgrade, Yugoslavia

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Distributed by **CHINA PUBLICATIONS CENTRE** (Guoji Shudian)
P.O. Box 399, Beijing, China

BEIJING REVIEW

Published every Monday by
BEIJING REVIEW
24 Baiwanzhuang Road, Beijing
The People's Republic of China

Vol. 26, No. 13 March 28, 1983

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Distributed by China Publications
Centre (GUOJI SHUDIAN),
P. O. Box 399, Beijing, China

Subscription prices (1 year):

Australia A.\$12.00 USA US\$13.00
New Zealand . . NZ.\$14.00 UK £6.80
Canada Can.\$15.00

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Population and Employment

Policies and measures to effectively solve these two social problems are indispensable to China's modernization programme. The eighth article in our "Chinese-Type Modernization" series (p. 17).

Daqing Today

The Daqing Oilfield, the biggest of its kind in China, has continued to display a hardworking and enterprising spirit. All enterprises throughout the country are encouraged to emulate and learn from the Daqing example (p. 23).

Third World Role in Global Economy

The increasing importance of the developing countries in the world economy shows that economic development of the third world is essential to the future prosperity of the world (p. 13).

US Isolated in the UN

Washington can blame no one but itself for its growing isolation in the UN. The Reagan administration has repeatedly opposed the third world countries on a number of world issues (p. 12).

Changes in Rural Areas

About 100 million peasants in China have switched from grain production to other occupations, a sign that China's traditional farming is moving in the direction of modern agriculture. This has also brought substantial increases in the peasants' cash income (p. 5).

When One Enters Middle Age

Adapted from a novellette by Shen Rong which won a national top prize in 1981, the feature film *At Middle Age* depicts the discrepancy between the important contributions of middle-aged intellectuals and their poor working and living conditions—a social problem which has already attracted the attention of China's leadership (p. 28).



Young workers in Daqing.

Photo by Zhou Youma

NOTES FROM THE EDITORS

A Sino-US dispute

In your opinion, how can the dispute between China and the United States on the Huguang Railways bearer bonds* be settled? It seems that if China appears in court, or entrusts lawyers to make clear China's position in court, the issue would not be difficult to resolve. Why have you categorically rejected such a solution?

China is a sovereign state and should not appear in court.

Sovereign immunity from the jurisdiction of any foreign court is a long-established, universally accepted principle of international law which China incontestably enjoys. It is in violation of the principle of international law and the United Nations Charter that a US district court named the People's Republic of China the defendant, issued a summons to the Chinese Foreign Minister and, ignoring the fact that the Chinese Government had delivered a number of notes to the US Government reiterating China's consistent position on this issue, actually made a "judgment by default" against the People's Republic of China, ruling that the Chinese Government should pay the plaintiffs.

The argument that "foreign countries do not enjoy absolute sovereign immunity" mentioned in the US State Department

* See "China Rejects US Court Ruling," *Beijing Review*, issue No. 8, p. 8, and "US Court Trial Violates International Law," *Beijing Review*, issue No. 11, p. 24, for reports on the Huguang Railways bearer bonds issue.

statement has not been generally accepted and is not a universally recognized principle of international law. The domestic act adopted by the United States to change its attitude on absolute sovereign immunity has no legal effect on other countries. Foreign states have no obligation to accept another country's domestic law which violates international law.

Furthermore, the so-called Huguang Railways bearer bonds were issued in 1911 by the Qing government with a view to obtaining loans from a consortium of foreign banks on the pretext of constructing the Guangdong-Hankou Railway so as to maintain its reactionary rule. It also is a long-established principle of international law that odious debts are not to be succeeded to.

After long years of arduous struggle, the Chinese people overthrew the old regime and established a new government. It is with full moral and legal grounds that the Government of New China neither recognizes the foreign debts (including bonds of all kinds) incurred by the defunct Chinese governments, nor accepts obligation to repay them.

Every country has its own political system. That the United States adopts the system of three-branches of power and of independence of its judicial organs is its own business. But, according to international law, only the US Government represents the United States in external relations. It is inconceiv-

able for the Chinese Government to deal with the legislative, judicial and administrative departments of the United States separately, still less that it should accept the unilateral judgment of a US court on a dispute between the two countries. Any disputes between the two countries can only be settled through diplomatic channels and the Huguang Railways bearer bonds case is no exception.

The Chinese people cannot accept the US request that China act according to US judicial procedures. Why should China appear in court or entrust lawyers to explain its position in court? The Chinese Government has made representations to the US Government on a number of occasions and its position is clear. We maintain that a US court has no jurisdiction over a sovereign state.

The Chinese Government has made clear to the US Government that should the US side, in defiance of international law, attach properties of the People's Republic of China in the United States, the Chinese Government reserves the right to take measures accordingly.

Both China and the United States should be sincere and take real steps to show it if they really wish Sino-US relations to continue to develop. We hope that China's sovereignty and the feelings of the Chinese people are truly respected, and that all factors detrimental to Sino-US relations are eliminated as early as possible.

— International Editor Mu Youlin

Fewer grain-growers in rural areas

Profound changes are taking place in the rural areas where China's peasantry, 80 per cent of the nation's 1,000 million people, used to engage in grain production.

In the last few years, about 100 million peasants in China have switched from grain production to other lines of production such as poultry and fish breeding, farm and sideline products processing, small industrial undertakings, transportation and commerce.

Among these, approximately 30 million peasants, or 10 per cent of the total labour force in rural areas, are employed in small factories and enterprises.

About 17.6 million peasant households, or 10 per cent of

the total number in China, have switched from farm work, part-time or full-time, to animal-husbandry, flower-growing, fish-breeding or other specialized lines. In the suburbs of Shenyang, capital of the northeast Chinese province of Liaoning, 14.6 per cent of the peasant families specialize in pig raising.

Large numbers of able-bodied peasants have entered the service trades, such as supplying seeds and fodder, providing agrotechnical advice, servicing farm implements and transportation.

About 1.27 million peasant households are engaged in private commerce.

While significant changes are taking place in China's agricultural labour force, rational readjustments have been made in the last few years in the nationwide acreage sown to grain.

In the 1978-82 period, the nation's total grain-growing acreage was cut by 6.67 million hectares while the acreage sown to cash crops increased by 4.53 million hectares. Despite such readjustment, the nation's total grain output did not decline.

In 1982, the increase in grain production was close to the total increase of the previous three years. A number of peasant households that specialize in grain have produced high grain yields.

The readjustment of the labour force has brought about measurable increases in the peasants' cash incomes. According to incomplete statistics from the State Statistical Bureau, the

total sum of cash incomes for the peasants in 1982 was 12.3 per cent more than in the previous year. The annual average increase of the peasants' cash incomes in the last four years was 6.9 times the figure in the previous 26 years.

Such historical changes in the Chinese rural areas, according to some agro-economists in China, indicate that Chinese agriculture is steadily moving towards specialization and socialization. They also show that China's self-sufficient or semi-self-sufficient agricultural production is shifting to large-scale commodity production and traditional farming is growing into full-fledged modern agriculture.

New law protects sea life

When the "Law on Marine Environmental Protection of the People's Republic of China" went into effect on March 1, the State Bureau of Oceanography sent three ships to patrol China's territorial waters.

The law regulates environmental pollution caused by coastal projects, oil prospecting and exploitation and discharge of pollutants along the coasts and from marine vessels.

It applies to all vessels, drilling platforms, aircraft, submersible devices, enterprises, institutions and individuals engaged in navigation, prospecting and development of natural resources, production, scientific research and other activities in China's territorial waters.

China has a long coastline and many islands. The exploi-



A commune-run factory in Hubei Province.

tation, utilization and protection of marine environment and marine resources are of great importance to China's economic construction. However, in recent years the coastal pollution has increased to varying degrees and marine resources in some bays and gulfs have been seriously damaged.

Since 1974 the bureau, together with other departments concerned, has conducted a large-scale investigation of pollution along the coast, establishing some 4,700 monitoring stations. Investigators examined 450,000 square kilometres of water and collected more than one million pieces of data.

After it completed the overall investigation, the bureau began continuous monitoring of several key areas, including China's Bohai Sea and the Yellow Sea coasts. The pollutant in these areas is oil, and waste discharge from ships and offshore oil refineries.

The State Council has urged coastal industrial and transport enterprises to control marine pollution by transforming technological processes and establishing water-oil separation equipment. These measures have substantially reduced the total volume of oil now discharged into the Bohai and the Yellow Seas. The content of oil in the water of the area has approached national standards.

According to Qu Geping, Director of the Environmental Protection Bureau under the Ministry of Urban and Rural Construction and Environmental Protection, the state plans further economic and administrative means to strengthen environmental protection.

In the next five years, the state will strengthen its environmental protection system with

specific environmental standards and powerful monitoring, supervision and managerial organizations.

International tourism discussed

The China International Tourism Conference, which closed early this month, was seen as an opportunity to expand contacts and co-operation between tourism circles in China and other countries and to further strengthen friendly exchanges between the Chinese people and peoples of other countries.

Nearly 1,000 participants from 45 countries and regions took part in the conference. At the meeting, State Councillor Gu Mu assured that China would continue its policy of opening to the outside world and stepping up tourism development. He encouraged Chinese tourism authorities to learn from the advanced and useful experience of other countries.

Robert C. Lonati, Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization, told the conferees, "Over the past millennia, China has acquired not only knowledge and wisdom but also a host of art treasures which today inspire universal admiration and merit all our attention."

He saw the meeting as an "opportunity to discover China as it truly is, not only to relish its exquisite treasures and tourist attractions, but also to heighten our awareness of its soul, its hopes, its concerns and its desire for brotherhood."

Twenty tourism officials from foreign countries and Xianggang (Hongkong) and Aomen (Macao) also spoke at the conference. They elaborated on a variety of problems of the tourism industry.



Representatives of foreign tourism agencies try out the comforts of a yurt on display in the exhibition hall.

Han Kehua, Director-General of the National Tourism Administration, told the conference that China's tourist industry has developed a great deal since 1978 when the policy of opening up to the outside world was adopted.

In 1982, travel services and other departments in China accommodated about 1.5 million foreign visitors, overseas Chinese tourists and compatriots from Xianggang, Aomen and Taiwan.

More than 100 cities and areas are open to foreign tourists with accommodations for more than 90,000 people at one time. Special departments or disciplines for tourism have been set up in four institutions of higher learning to supplement China's one tourism college. At present,

48 tourist hotels are under construction and another 14 will be built soon.

Han estimated that by 1985 China will be able to provide accommodation for 2 million tourists a year, the services will be improved greatly, with some

better hotels achieving top world standards.

During the conference, business talks were conducted between Chinese and foreign tourist representatives and a considerable number of agreements were reached.

ly, greet customers with a smile and never become angry with persistent questions; punctuality and safety should be an important criterion in transportation; and medical personnel should treat the patients like their own kinsfolk and constantly upgrade their skills and professional morality. This proposal is being implemented in many localities.

Second 'socialist ethics month'

This March is China's second "socialist ethics month," a time to overcome bad social habits, improve the environment and better morals.

During last year's successful ethics month, it was decided to designate every March a "socialist ethics month." In this way, society can make special efforts to eliminate harmful practices and improve social conduct and human relations.

This year's activities are being unfolded around learning from examples. This theme reflects that this March is the 20th anniversary of Chairman Mao's inscription "Learn From Comrade Lei Feng," a young PLA soldier who died while on duty in 1962. And for the last 20 years his spirit of wholeheartedly serving the people has been an inspiration for promoting unity and mutual help. As Hu Qiaomu proposed at a Beijing meeting on March 5, people should strive to be new Lei Fengs of the 1980s.

China's newspapers have been giving prominent coverage to exemplary deeds of people in all trades and professions. Zhu Boru, a PLA regimental officer, has helped support 10 people and saved seven lives. He said: "Some people often complain that today's social conduct

is poor. I think it is pointless to complain of others' coldness, rather one should heat others with one's own warmth."

Zhang Haidi, who had a spinal vessel tumor at the age of five and is now a paralytic with no feeling from chest downwards, has attracted special admiration. She has valiantly fought her disease and persisted in her studies, thus acquiring various skills. She has tutored other young people so that they could pass the college entrance exam. She studied acupuncture enabling her to treat thousands of patients suffering from paralysis, and she also learnt to repair radios and TV sets.

Representatives of nine advanced work units in the fields of commerce, transportation and medicine (including the Tianqiao Department Store in Beijing and the passenger-train unit of the Urumqi Railway Bureau) proposed that young people of China's trades launch an emulation drive to improve service. Their ideas included that sales clerks in commercial establishments should be friend-

ly, greet customers with a smile and never become angry with persistent questions; punctuality and safety should be an important criterion in transportation; and medical personnel should treat the patients like their own kinsfolk and constantly upgrade their skills and professional morality. This proposal is being implemented in many localities.

During this month, environmental sanitation and tree planting have been organized and free convenient services have been available in some places. Over 4,000 youths in Guangzhou set up stalls to trim hair, cut out garments and repair bicycles, household appliances, motorcycles, clocks and watches. Some even made home calls to fix water taps and electric lights free of charge or at reduced prices. Community service units from public health and judicial departments also have provided streetside medical checkups and legal advice.



Zhang Haidi (left) and PLA officer Zhu Boru.

Landslide hits Dongxiang County

A massive landslide occurred on March 7 in Dongxiang Nationality Autonomous County in northwest China's Gansu Province.

Stone and earth hurtling down Sale Mountain killed more than 270 people and injured 22; more than 200 people who had been evacuated escaped.

At 17:40 hours on March 7, a mass of mountain — 60 million cubic metres — suddenly slid 1.6 kilometres southward. Houses and other buildings over a three-square-kilometre area were buried under rubble and destroyed. The landslide blocked the road from Guanghe County to Dongxiang County and the Nalesi River. It destroyed a small reservoir, more than 200 hectares of farmland and three villages.

The loess of the landslide spread out, leaving a fan-shaped hill 60 metres high and 1,600 metres across.



A survivor who was cutting tree branches on the northern slope when the landslide occurred said that he grabbed a tree trunk when he felt the shock. He was tossed more than 1,000 metres south before he sensed what had happened.

According to Li Honglian and three other scientists from the Lanzhou Institute of Glaciology and Cryopedology, who surveyed the disaster area, the major cause of the landslide was the action of underground water. The geological feature of the area shows that the top stratum is composed of quaternary loess and under it is the tertiary clay. Between the two is a water-bearing stratum, from which subterranean water oozes to the surface to form springs. In recent years, the subterranean water flow increased and softened the clay stratum. This serves as a lubricant between the loess and the clay strata, thus reducing the "friction coefficient" of the clay stratum. Eventually, the loess stratum collapsed, sliding along the clay stratum.

Four landslides occurred in the area in the decades before and after liberation. Such landslides also took place in Yunnan Province.

Crevice were found on the peak a year ago and in early March people heard the mountain rumbling. The commune evacuated 57 peasant households from the area, but most people were busy with spring ploughing and ignored the warning.

After the disaster, a vice-governor of Gansu Province went to the area to direct the rescue and relief operations of more than 10,000 People's Liberation Army soldiers, public security personnel and medical workers.

The Gansu provincial people's government has allocated 300,000 yuan (about \$150,000), 65 tons of grain, 200 cubic metres of lumber and 20 tons of chemical fertilizer to help the people in the area re-

build their homes and restore production.

Hu Yaobang meets Yugoslav delegation

Hu Yaobang, General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee, met with the Yugoslav Government Delegation led by Mijat Sukovic, Vice-President of the Federal Executive Council, in Beijing on March 17.

Hu said that the third meeting of the Sino-Yugoslav Committee for Economic, Scientific and Technical Co-operation had enhanced economic co-operation between the two countries. The co-operation would progress year after year, he said.

Hu said: "Friendly relations of co-operation between the two countries in the political field will surely grow, as will economic co-operation. We have full confidence in this."

The protocol of the third meeting of the Sino-Yugoslav Committee on Economic, Scientific and Technical Co-operation was signed the same day.

Foreign Ministry press briefing

What the Vietnamese authorities' proposal for a group dialogue between Viet Nam, Laos and the ASEAN is simply a rehash of old ideas, said Qi Huaiyuan, Director of the Information Department of the Chinese Foreign Ministry, at a press briefing on March 22 in Beijing.

China's representation to US over arms sales to Taiwan

Chinese Foreign Ministry has made a representation with the US Government over its planned quotas of arms sales to Taiwan for fiscal years 1983 and 1984 as proposed by the US State Department to Congress recently.

The Foreign Ministry pointed out that these quotas greatly exceed the level of US arms

sales to Taiwan in recent years and are at variance with the stipulations of the Sino-US Joint Communiqué issued on August 17, 1982.

The figures released by the US for its planned arms sales to Taiwan will reach US\$800 million in 1983 and 780 million in 1984.

tion of China's family planning policy through research and education, in organizing medical workers and scientists for research on contraceptives and in making contraceptives easily available in China. As a result, China's population natural growth rate dropped from 20 per thousand in the 1950s to 14.5 per thousand in the late 1970s while the average life expectancy rose from 36 years in 1949, the year China was liberated, to today's 68 years.

In a recent interview, Qian Xinzong said he was gratified by his selection, calling the honour evidence of the United Nations' concern and support for China's population policy.

Although China has achieved successes in popularizing planned parenthood, he pointed out, it is still faced with the arduous task of further slowing down the population growth rate. He listed four concrete tasks:

- convene a national conference in September to commend individuals and collectives who have performed meritorious deeds in publicizing family planning;

- formulate regional population plans which relate China's population growth to its economic and social development;

- draw up laws on family planning and infant protection within two years; and

- expand exchanges with foreign countries in this field.

CORRECTIONS: In our last issue, p. 8, caption for the illustration should be replaced by "Manuscripts of two letters by Marx, including one to Matilda Betham-Edwards."

In the same issue, p. 23, right column, sec. para., 14th line, "West Germany, 1.9. . . ." should read "West Germany, 4.9. . . ."

UN awards China's population drive

This is just another version of Vietnamese persistent attempt to use a so-called regional conference or international conference for Southeast Asia to resist the UN resolution and the declaration of the international conference on Kampuchea, he said.

On the second round of Sino-Soviet consultations, Qi said it proceeded in a frank and calm atmosphere between March 1 and 15 in Moscow.

He said that China's principled stand on removing the obstacles to Sino-Soviet relations is firm and known to all.

This round of consultations was useful, he added. The two sides agreed that the third round of consultations would be held in Beijing, and the date would be set through diplomatic channels, he said.

Qian Qichen, China's special envoy and Vice-Foreign Minister returned to Beijing on the same day.

Qian Xinzong, Minister in Charge of the State Family Planning Commission, and Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi are the winners of the 1983 UN population awards, said a UN announcement on March 18. The awards will be presented in June at the UN headquarters.

The population awards, which will be effective annually beginning this year, were established in 1981 by the UN General Assembly to commend individuals, groups or organizations for outstanding contributions to population control. This year, the recipients will be presented a citation, a gold medal and a cheque for 12,500 US dollars.

A UN Population Award Committee official said that Qian Xinzong was chosen an award winner for his achievements in facilitating the adop-

OPEC

Price and production agreement

Faced with a worldwide oil glut, the ministers of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) conducted seven days of intensive consultations in London and agreed on March 14 to lower the price and limit production, thus averting a price war.

OPEC, which was founded in 1960, has helped defend the economic rights and interests of third world countries and oppose plunder by international monopolies. Since October of 1973 OPEC has gradually raised the price of its benchmark crude oil from US\$1.8 a barrel, the unreasonable price of the 60s, to the 1980 pinnacle of \$42. While high oil prices stimulated production, they drove down oil consumption. This, compounded by the extended economic depression in the capitalist world, has led to an oil glut and a drop in prices.

Reducing the oil supply is the only way to maintain the current oil price, but this requires all OPEC members to restrict output. A year ago OPEC reached an understanding on the limitation of production, but some members of the OPEC did not observe the agreement due to domestic economic difficulties. The oil glut and the increased oil production of the non-OPEC countries undermined efforts to maintain the \$34 a barrel price. On February 18 the British National Oil Corporation cut its crude oil price and following this, Nigeria, a member of the OPEC, felt forced to reduce its oil price.

The OPEC members discussed the oil price and production quotas at the London conference in order to defend OPEC's right to control the oil price which they won in 1973.

Twelve members of OPEC advocated lowering the oil price; only Iran resolutely opposed any reduction. However, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and other Gulf oil-producing countries had a dispute with Nigeria on the premium for light, high-quality crudes. The Gulf countries wanted to drop the oil price of their benchmark crude oil from \$34 to \$30 a barrel. This would have required Nigeria to increase its recently lowered price, as it was charging \$30 for its light, high-quality crude, but a benchmark price of \$30 plus a premium of \$2 would have raised the price to \$32 and put Nigeria at a competitive disadvantage with North Sea oil priced at \$30.5 a barrel. Libya and Algeria, also producers of high-quality crude, faced similar problems. Through the consultations the Gulf countries agreed to compromise: The benchmark price is set at \$29 and the premium is revised to \$1.5 a barrel, but Nigeria is given a temporary exemption to maintain its present price.

*Middle East***The Lebanon negotiations**

NO breakthrough ensued from US Secretary of State George Shultz's recent separate consultations in the United

States with Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salem and Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir. The goal of these consultations was to reach an agreement on limiting production, Iran asked Saudi Arabia to reduce its oil production and allow Iran to raise its output quota. This request was supported by the majority of the OPEC members. The ministers at the conference agreed that Iran's production quota would be increased from 1.2 million barrels to 2.5 million, a figure somewhat below Iran's request but agreeable to it. Saudi Arabia consented to decrease its oil production and be a "swing" country, increasing or reducing its oil flow in response to worldwide supply and demand.

Venezuela also pushed for a larger production quota, arguing it now has a foreign debt of \$30 billion, the largest of any OPEC member. Venezuela's limit had previously been fixed at 1.5 million barrels per day though its output was actually more than 2 million bpd. At the meeting Venezuela asked to raise the limit to 1.83 million bpd. A compromise was worked out and consented to by Venezuela; its quota is 1.7 million barrels.

OPEC has maintained itself through this severe test and succeeded in preserving the organization's unity. If members carry out co-ordinate actions, OPEC will surely survive this difficult period.

—Ren Yan

sultations was to overcome the deadlock in the ten-week-old tripartite negotiations on the withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon.

During the consultations, Israel tried hard to maintain its presence in Lebanon. Meanwhile, Lebanon was firm in maintaining its territorial sovereignty, rejecting any Israeli military presence. Washington was displeased with Israel for its excuses to delay its troop withdrawal. However, the US displeasure has only found expression in words.

Troop Withdrawal and Reconstruction

Eight years of warfare have inflicted huge losses on the Lebanese people, whose hopes and aspirations are peace, reconciliation, prosperity and unification. President Amin Gemayel, who took office last September, has put forward two major tasks: Withdrawal of all foreign troops from Lebanon and reconstruction. He stressed that only when all alien troops pull out, can the Lebanese people devote maximum efforts to rebuilding their own country. The crux is the complete departure of all Israeli troops.

President Gemayel said that the United States is the only country which has the capability to settle the Lebanese question and hoped that Washington would force Israel to withdraw all its troops. So one month after his inauguration, he visited the United States and talked with US President Reagan about the issues of Israel's troop withdrawal and Lebanese reconstruction. He accepted Reagan's proposal for negotiations with Israel while insisting that the United States be a party to the talks.

The United States hopes to make Lebanon a breakthrough

in implementing Reagan's Middle East peace plan, thus consolidating US strategic interests in this region. The Reagan administration has favoured the evacuation of all foreign troops from Lebanon and promised assistance to rebuild Lebanese armed forces, thus enabling the Lebanese army to control all the territory of Lebanon when foreign troops pull out.

Seek Peace, Not Compromise

President Gemayel recognizes that his country is a small one with weak military forces, so it should not be involved in military confrontation with a US-backed Israel. The issue of Israeli occupation and the disputes between the two countries, he maintains, can only be settled by peaceful negotiations.

However, Israel, which realizes its military superiority and advantageous position of occupying a large part of Lebanon, has raised demands in negotiations which, if implemented, would infringe upon Lebanese sovereignty and harm the relations between Lebanon and the rest of the Arab world.

The Israeli authorities are trying to dismember Lebanon and crack a hole for economic penetration into the Arab world. Some Lebanese Christians have gone along, proposing that Lebanon obtain the immediate withdrawal of Israeli troops at all costs even if this means the Lebanese Government must sign a peace agreement with Israel.

President Gemayel has defied foreign and domestic pressures and resolutely pointed out that Lebanon needs peace, not compromise. He maintains that Lebanon will not concede an inch of land or allow any foreign troops to occupy Lebanese

territory. Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salem recently told a news conference that 95 per cent of Lebanon's exports go to the Arab world and "we cannot sacrifice that for a 2 per cent import or export with Israel." He explained that Lebanon cannot afford open borders with Israel; "we are not going to close 22 borders and open one."

Since last December, Lebanese, Israeli and US negotiators have held 22 rounds of talks on withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon. Lebanon has firmly maintained its principled stand and ruled out any compromise of Lebanese sovereignty and territorial integrity. They also have insisted on the principle of not undermining their relations with other Arab countries, especially economic and trade relations.

Part of the Arab World

Faced with Israeli pressures, Lebanon has reiterated its stand that Lebanon is a member of the Arab world. This is a fundamental component of Lebanese foreign policy. Soon after his inauguration, President Gemayel paid a successful visit to Saudi Arabia and Morocco. Lebanon has kept close contact with other Arab countries while undertaking dialogue with Israel. Lebanon has paid special attention to its relations with Syria and Palestine Liberation Organization and has sent special envoys to Damascus and Tunis to hold talks with leaders of Syria and Tunisia concerning the evacuation of Syrian and PLO armed forces from Lebanon.

The Lebanese Government promised that it will continue to support the PLO after it signed an agreement on the withdrawal of Palestinian

troops from Lebanon. The Lebanese President said that the Palestinians should decide their own destiny and that of Palestine territory. He expressed his support for setting up a Pale-

stine state, and guaranteed that Palestinian refugees in Lebanon will be protected by the Lebanese Government as long as they abide by the country's laws.

— *Rui Yingjie, Gong Zhengxi*

The only "nay" was cast by the US representative.

- On the Mideast question, Washington has consistently supported Israel's policy of aggression and expansion and opposed recognizing Palestine's right to self-determination, thus aggravating the unstable situation.

- By backing the racist South African regime in order to protect its own interests there, the US has obstructed the road to Namibia's independence.

All these acts have alienated the US from third world nations. However, instead of blaming itself for its humiliating isolation, Washington misdirects its anger at the UN, accusing it of being a "bureaucratic" institution controlled by Marxists and used for staging "class war" against the US and US companies.

When testifying at the Senate Appropriations Committee on March 9, Jeane Kirkpatrick, US ambassador to the UN, proposed that future US aid to other countries should be tied to their support of US positions in the UN. Washington should let those aid-receiving countries know, she said, that they could not condemn the US on Monday, vote against America on Tuesday and Wednesday, and then ask for US aid and support on Friday and Saturday.

Such US intimidation and pressure will only further strain the relationship between Washington and the third world, but some in the Reagan administration seem unaware of the present changed world.

— *Chen Yicun*

The United States

Increasingly isolated in the UN

THE Reagan administration's obstinacy in repeatedly taking positions opposed to those of the third world has increased the US isolation in the UN.

The US in the recent years has assumed the following postures:

- On March 10 this year, the White House declared an exclusive economic zone of 200 nautical miles and extended US mining rights to a region covering about 4 million square miles of waters adjacent to the US, Puerto Rico and overseas territories. This major action was taken to resist the Law of the Sea Convention which the Reagan administration refused to sign last December on the ground that some of the convention's provisions contravene US interests. The March proclamation, which indicated that the US Government is only willing to implement those stipulations of the convention which it regards as beneficial to its interests, insulted the more than 120 nations that have signed the treaty.

- At the 37th UN General Assembly last year, the majority of the developing countries, in particular the Group of 77, strongly appealed to Washington to take an active attitude towards the global dia-

logue so that negotiations could be held at an early date and North-South economic relations could be improved by the establishment of a new international economic order based on equality, justice and mutual benefit. The Reagan administration, however, turned a deaf ear to this appeal and fabricated excuses to postpone talks.

- Last December 18, the UN General Assembly passed by a vote of 146-1 a proposal banning all countries from exporting goods harmful to people's health and environment. The proposal had been put forward in the light of the fact that the United States had exported to third world countries 2.4 million poisonous children's garments which were illegal in the US domestic market. This despicable US action aroused worldwide indignation, but when the proposal was put to vote, only the US said "No."

- Earlier, at a World Health Organization meeting, it was the US alone that opposed the adoption of an international standard for the selling of baby food.

- In November 1981, the UN passed by a vote of 105-1 a treaty which provides that countries return to their rightful owners the ancient artifacts they looted from other nations.

Developing Countries' Role in World Economy

by Chen Licheng and Tan Shizhong*

- While still more or less dependent on the developed countries, most developing nations are gaining greater economic independence, making it more difficult for foreign capital to maintain its monopoly over their economies.
- With growing economic strength and co-operation, the developing nations are beginning to play a greater role in the world economy and are struggling to create a new international economic order.
- Rapid economic development of the third world is essential to the further development of the world economy as a whole.

PRIOR to independence, most developing countries were colonies or semi-colonies whose economic lifelines were controlled by foreign capital. Under imperialist oppression and exploitation, their economic development was lopsided, their levels of productivity low. They were the raw material producers and commodity and investment markets for foreign businesses. After World War II, as they gained their political independence, a number of developing countries moved towards building their own domestic economies. Their achievements over the past 30-odd years have wrought important changes in the international economic position of the developing countries.

Economic Sovereignty

In order to rid themselves of imperialist economic control, the independent developing countries have gradually abolished the special privileges of the imperialists, have regained sovereignty over their customs and currency, and over leasing, mining and ownership rights to their natural resources. They have nationalized mines, banks, communications, utilities, foreign commerce and other important sectors of the economy formerly controlled by foreign capital. The UN Research Centre of Transnational Corporations found that during the 1960-76 period, 71 developing countries had nationalized 1,447 foreign enterprises, 521 of which had been

owned by British capital, 342 by American, 146 by French and 438 by other foreign firms. As these developing countries begin to exercise control over their own economies, they are determining and implementing plans and policies that serve their own economic development according to the needs and aspirations of their own peoples.

Because the developed countries control the main components of world industry, finance, trade, science and technology, the developing countries are still subject to many kinds of imperialist exploitation. However, the forms of exploitation have changed greatly. Most of the former extra-economic forms of plunder no longer exist. Today, foreign capital and international trade constitute the main forms of exploitation. To solve the problem of insufficient development capital and backward technology, many developing countries, after independence, adopted policies encouraging foreign investment. Exploitation by foreign investments no longer is imposed by force on colonies, but is a sacrifice made by the developing countries to better develop their own national economies. At the same time, the trade between a developing nation and a developed nation is an economic relationship between two sovereign states, in which the exploitation of the developing nation by the developed nation takes place through exchanges of unequal value. This is different from the direct plunder of their colonies by the former colonial powers.

These changes, of course, do not mean that foreign capital has little effect on developing

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countries. It does indeed exert a powerful influence on some developing countries. But on the whole, as the indigenous economies of the developing countries grow, the importance and influence of foreign capital gradually decrease. Furthermore, since the developing countries have gained economic sovereignty, most have already gained control over their own economic lifelines and thus, these nations can no longer be monopolized by foreign capital as they were in the past.

Real Economic Power

Because imperialism and colonialism had severely impeded the growth of the productive forces of colonial and semi-colonial countries, the developing countries were very backward when they gained their independence.

After many years of effort following their independence, not a few developing countries, have achieved a gratifying degree of economic development. During the period 1960-70, the yearly average growth rate of the total value of production of the developing nations was 5.9 per cent, surpassing the 5 per cent growth rate of the Western developed nations and shattering the predictions of Western economists that colonies that broke away from their colonial masters would not be able to develop. During the world economic slowdown of the 1970-80 period, the growth rate of the developing countries fell to 5.1 per cent, but this was still higher than the 3.3 per cent growth rate of the Western developed nations. Because the rate of economic growth of the developing countries was faster than that of the Western developed nations, the proportion of the total value of the world output produced by the developing countries increased from 9.5 per cent in 1960 to 15.1 per cent in 1978. The total value of the industrial output

of the developing countries rose from 11.1 per cent of that of the capitalist world in 1960 to 15.4 per cent in 1979; the proportion of world exports and imports of the developing nations rose from 19.7 and 18.2 per cent, respectively, in 1970, to 27.3 and 22.2 per cent in 1980.

With the growth of their economic strength, the developing countries have played an increasingly greater role in the world economy. This was most evident in the impact on the world economy of the oil struggle of the developing nations in the early 1970s. When the oil exporting countries, with support from other developing nations, used the "oil weapon" to embargo oil exports to those developed countries supporting Israel, they also nationalized oil enterprises controlled by foreign capital, regained the right to set oil prices themselves and raised oil prices drastically. This severe blow to the economies of the West precipitated and aggravated the Western economic crisis of 1974-75, from which followed the fall in the economic growth rate, the rising inflation and unemployment, and stagflation of the West, ending the "golden age" of Western economic development. This demonstrated fully that the developing countries could no longer be ignored as a power in world economic development. This has also strengthened their confidence in their own ability to struggle.

The influence of the developing nations on the world economy is also demonstrated by the increasing dependence of the developed nations on them. For example, the developed countries account for two-thirds of the world's oil consumption, but 75 per cent of their oil needs are imported from the developing countries. The developed nations are even more dependent upon the developing countries for strategic metals. The economic, political and military policies of the developed nations are closely related to these needs. One economist has pointed out that if there were a "crisis" involving the supply of just one kind of strategic material, such as chromite, more than one million Americans might well lose their jobs. Even more important is the fact that following the independence of the developing countries, the developed countries can no longer plunder their raw materials at will or monopolize the supply and price of raw materials as they did when the developing countries were their colonies. Thus a raw material "crisis" that would influence their development could occur rather easily, especially in light of the increasing scarcity of mineral resources. This is the reason for the

A tyre plant in Argentina.



growing intensity of the fight over raw materials by the developed nations and the deepening sense of "crisis." One might even say that without the developing nations, the economies of the developed nations might well crumble. Of course, for historical reasons, because of the economic needs of the developing countries and because of the monopoly of the world markets by the developed nations, the developing countries are still dependent on the advanced countries in such areas as investment, technology and trade.

In addition, the developing countries are already beginning to challenge the developed nations in certain economic areas. This is especially true of those "newly industrialized" countries which, with an ample labour force and inexpensive prices, are taking advantage of favourable conditions to export large quantities of finished industrial goods. Their industrial products are already sold on the international markets, and most are sold on the domestic markets of the developed nations. In order to protect those less efficient industries that are raw material or labour intensive, that cannot compete with products exported from the developing countries, the developed nations adopt various measures to limit imports. The very fact that the developed nations adopt protectionist measures to limit the import of manufactured goods demonstrates that the developing countries are no longer simply markets for the developed nations, but in some fields have already begun to compete with the developed nations in selling manufactured industrial goods.

Making Themselves Heard

After World War II, the developing countries achieved independence one after the other and began to have a voice in international political affairs. But they still had no say in the field of international economics. Thus, while expanding their control over their own economies and strengthening their economic power, they have used international forums to demand justice, to condemn imperialism and to promote economic development beneficial to the developing countries. In this way they strive to have a bigger say in international economic affairs.

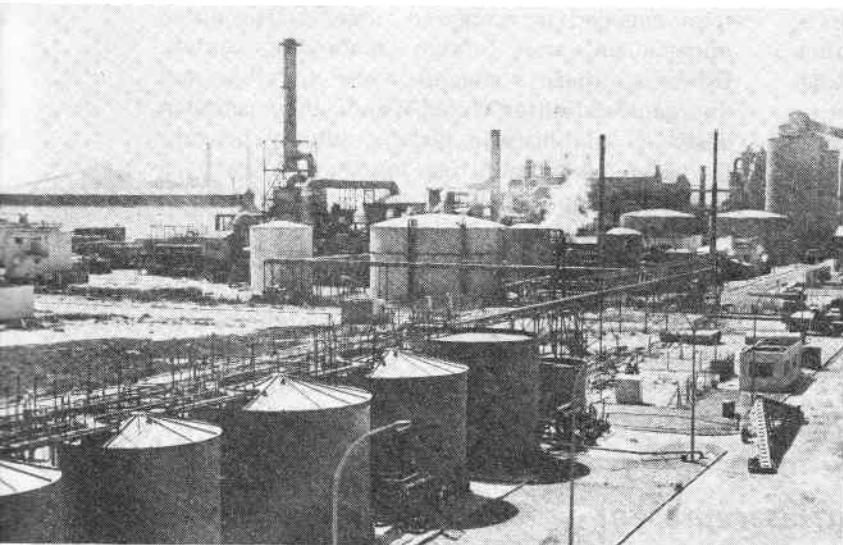
Organize for Strength. Before World War II, a small number of independent developing coun-

tries engaged in economic struggles to oppose imperialism and foreign monopoly capital. However, these struggles were sporadic and unorganized. After World War II, their common destinies and historic tasks gradually brought the developing countries together. The 1955 Bandung Conference of Asian and African Countries initiated ideological preparation and mobilization for the anti-imperialist, anti-colonialist struggle in both the political and economic arenas. This conference strengthened the internal unity of the developing countries. In the 1960s and 70s, in order to improve their unfavourable positions in the international raw materials markets for agricultural and mining produce, some 20-odd organizations of raw material producing and exporting nations were formed, including organizations for oil, coffee, cocoa, peanuts, copper and natural rubber. At the same time more than 20 regional and

The developing countries represent the hope for the future prosperity of the world.

subregional economic organizations were established, such as the Latin American Economic System, the Andean Pact Organization, the Economic Community of West African States and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. These organizations brought the developing countries together and strengthened their bargaining position with the developed nations. The Group of 77, organized in 1964 at the first UN Trade and Development Conference, has made important contributions to broadening the scope of the united struggle in the international economic arena, to opposing superpower hegemonism and exploitation by the multinational corporations and to protecting the rights and interests of the developing countries.

Collective Self-Reliance. The developing countries have learnt from experience that the struggle against imperialism and hegemonism must be backed by a lot of real power. In 1974, the Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the Sixth Special Session of the UN General Assembly for setting up a new international economic order proposed strengthening mutual economic, trade, financial and technical co-operation among the developing countries, mainly on a preferential basis through individual and collective actions. In January 1976, the third ministerial conference of the Group of 77 adopted a resolution calling for strengthening economic co-operation among the de-



Gabes, new chemical fertilizer city in Tunisia.

veloping countries. In February 1979, the summit meeting of the Group of 77 and non-aligned countries wrote the spirit of promoting collective self-reliance into the Arusa Declaration. Guided by this spirit, the developing countries strengthened their co-operation in the fields of trade, finance, manpower resources, science and technology. The South-South Co-operation Conference held in New Delhi, India, in February 1982 also had a major influence on promoting economic co-operation among the developing nations.

Seeking Common Ground. For historical reasons, various contradictions exist among the developing countries. If these contradictions are not well resolved, they can affect the broader interests of the common struggle against imperialism and hegemonism. The developing nations realize this, so they emphasize their broader common interests, seek common ground on major issues and reserve differences on minor matters, stress mutual understanding and accommodation, show concern for the economic interests of other countries by working together on the basis of equality and mutual benefit and endeavouring to speak with one voice. An excellent example of this was the oil struggle of the 1970s. The developing nations supported and helped the oil-exporting countries withstand the pressure of imperialism. After the victory of the oil struggle, the oil-exporting countries in return allocated large sums of money to help those developing countries which had the greatest economic problems. In their subsequent struggles, although the developing nations often had differing viewpoints, they

generally spoke with one voice. This is one of the major reasons for their growing voice in matters of the world economy.

Fighting in unity, the developing countries have emerged as a powerful force in the struggle to oppose neo-colonialism and establish a new international economic order. Since the 1970s, after years of negotiations, the developing nations reached agreement on the question of a common fund for a comprehensive commodity plan. The International Rubber Agreement is already in effect. Agreements also have been concluded or are about to be concluded on the UN Code of Conduct on Transnational Corporations, the International Code of Conduct on

the Transfer of Technology, the Convention on a Code of Conduct for Liner Conference, and the UN Convention on the Carriage of Goods by Sea. These are, of course, still a long way from meeting the demands and goals of the Declaration and Programme of Action of the Sixth Special Session of the United Nations. Through consultations between the developing and developed countries, the North-South Summit Meeting was held in Cancun, Mexico, in October 1981 to exchange views on the question of worldwide negotiations. However, the fact that the North-South talks are still stalemated shows the great difficulty and complexity of the struggle to achieve a new international economic order and the necessity for the developing countries to further co-ordinate their actions and struggle in unity.

The Search for Prosperity

The world economy has already moved from a stage of rapid development into a period of slow development. The developed nations are currently deeply concerned about the present economic stagflation. Many Westerners are now less optimistic about the future of the world economy. Some see no way out of this problem and have lost hope altogether. Not a few more enlightened Westerners suggest that the only way to preserve the capitalist system is to seek worldwide prosperity by giving aid to the economic development of the developing nations. Although this view bears the stamp of the Western monopolistic bourgeoisie, it does reflect to a certain degree a historical trend. The future development of the world economy

(Continued on p. 25.)

Population and Employment

by Ren Tao and Yue Bing

CHINA's socialist modernization drive is confronted with two major social problems: population and employment.

Since the 1970s, the nation's policy of controlling the population growth has yielded remarkable results. The natural growth rate plummeted from 26 per thousand in 1970 to 10.7 per thousand in 1980, which meant 68 million fewer births in 10 years. The once uncontrolled population growth was initially brought under planning.

Nevertheless, population still remains a major problem in China's social development. Whether it can be properly solved has an important bearing on the success of the modernization drive.

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zation drive and the improvement of the people's living standards.

The issue of employment goes hand in hand with the problem of population. Prior to 1978, China had a huge contingent of job-awaiting young people, putting tremendous pressure on the nation. This problem has been alleviated to a large extent, thanks to the correct government policies over the last few years. But it has not been completely solved.

Foreign reporters have covered these questions extensively. Some say it is "unlikely" that China can solve its population problem. Others conclude that the modernization drive will result in "massive unemployment."

Reliable conclusions can only be drawn by reviewing the present situation on those two fronts and the policies of the Chinese Government.

Population Policy Guidelines

Current Situation. According to the third national census, on July 1, 1982, China had 1,008 million people on the mainland, who made up approximately 22 per cent of the world population. This was an increase of 460 million people over 1949, the year of liberation, when China had more than 540 million people. The growth of Chinese population in the 32 post-liberation years was 3.6 times the 128 million increase in the 109 years between 1840 and 1949.



A county leader in Sichuan Province pins red flowers as a sign of honour on children from one-child families, 98.5 per cent of which have been given one-child certificates.

The startling population growth in New China is attributable in part to social stability and the improvements of living standards and public health which boosted the birth rate and considerably reduced the mortality rate.

On the other hand, it is also attributable to the once prevalent one-sided and mistaken understanding of the question of population. For two decades, many people regarded the rapid population growth as a law of socialist development and stressed that "the more hands we have, the easier we get things done." Thus, we took no effective measures whatsoever to curb the growth.

The rapid population growth has affected the accumulation of state construction funds and engendered difficulties in employment, education, housing and transport. It has hindered improvements in the people's livelihood.

Moreover, people born during the two baby booms of the late 1950s and 1960s are now coming of age for marriage at the rate of 13 million couples a year; this may well result in a third baby boom if solid steps are not taken to forestall it.

According to demographers, if each couple had two children from now on, the nation's total population would surpass 1,300 million by the end of this century. The increase would continue for some 70 years, and by the year 2050 China would have over 1,500 million people which would be an unbearable burden on the nation's resources.

The Chinese Government is devoting tremendous energy to solving the population problem.

Two Kinds of Production. This policy guideline is to tightly control the growth of the population while emphasizing material production. At

the time of mapping out plans for economic development, we must also formulate plans for population growth. In carrying out the economic plans, we must adopt effective measures to enforce the population plans so that the population growth co-ordinates with economic development.

Controlling Population and Ensuring the Births of Healthy Babies. This is the general principle of China's population policy. Therefore, the government has proposed: An increase in the rate of one-child families, control over second births and elimination of third births for the next two or three decades; prevention of birth defects and scientific nursing methods to be advocated nationwide along with late marriage and late child-bearing.

Population Planning. While pressing on with the modernization plan, we must also reduce the population growth rate in the coming years, so that by the end of this century the total annual industrial and agricultural output value will be quadrupled and the population will be less than 1,200 million.

Popularizing Family Planning. Unplanned parenthood accelerated population growth in China. Drawing on this lesson as well as the experiences gained in popularizing family planning since the 1970s, China has made family planning a basic national policy.

Family planning is being understood and accepted by more and more people across the land. To date, over 100 million couples of child-bearing age have adopted birth-control measures.

Sixty per cent of new borns are first births, higher than the 58 per cent envisaged in the Sixth Five-Year Plan. The rate of first births has surpassed 90 per cent in the three municipalities of Beijing, Shanghai and Tianjin.

Table I

China's Population Plan

Year	1980	1981-85	1985-90	1991-2000	1981-2000
Average annual natural growth rate (%)	10.7	below 13	below 11	below 7	below 9.5
Population size at the end of period	982.55 million	1,060 million	1,120 million	1,200 million	

Table II

Population Growth in China

Year	Total population (million)	Birth rate (‰)	Mortality rate (‰)	Natural growth rate (‰)
1949	541.67	36.0	20.0	16.0
1957	646.53	34.0	10.8	23.2
1965	725.38	38.1	9.6	28.5
1970		33.6	7.6	26.0
1975	919.70	23.1	7.3	15.8
1979	970.92	17.9	6.2	11.7
1981	996.22	20.9	6.4	14.5

In Changzhou, an east Chinese city with 500,000 residents, 99.4 per cent of the couples with one child have decided not to have a second child. In Shandong, China's third most populous province, 1.95 million of the 2.2 million couples with one child have received "one-child family" certificates.

All these bear witness to China's remarkable achievements in family planning; they also counter scepticism and pessimism on this issue.

There are difficulties in popularizing family planning. The work has proved to be most difficult in rural areas where many peasants still believe that "a roomful of children means good luck" and that boys are superior to girls because they keep the family name alive.

After the rural contract system in production was implemented on a household basis, some peasants wanted more children, especially boys, so as to increase the family labour force.

These problems pose a grave challenge to the popularization of planned parenthood.

The government and people's organizations are doing everything possible to counter outmoded ideas and concepts.

In January, China's month for publicizing family planning, many places used tables of population and production growth to prove the national and personal benefits of family planning as well as the harmful effects of unplanned parenthood.

Other measures are also being adopted to ensure family planning. For instance, when peasants sign contracts with production teams, they are also required to sign contracts for family planning. Awards and preferential treatments are given to one-child families, especially those with girls, and economic penalties are meted out to those who refuse to practise family planning.

"We do not believe that the adoption of the production responsibility system in the rural areas needs to clash with family planning," said Qian Xinzhong, Minister in Charge of the State Family Planning Commission. "The peasants can be convinced to respond to the government call so long as we show them the reasons and continuously sum up and popularize new experiences gained in the family planning work."

In the final analysis, a reduced population growth conforms with the goals of the production responsibility system. It also helps improve the peasants' living standards.

It should be pointed out that the Chinese peasants have participated in revolutionary wars and construction under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party for decades. They can see problems politically, are conscious of the interests of the nation and will take the overall situation into consideration.

Therefore, they will undoubtedly support family planning when they understand its benefits and when related practical problems are solved.

Serious Unemployment Impossible

Employment Situation. Job opportunities were plentiful in New China before the mid-1960s. In the 1950s, the more than 4 million unemployed who were left over from the old society were all properly placed; and by the mid-1960s, as soon as young people joined the labour force, they were assigned jobs.

The employment problem in the last few years was one aftereffect of the "cultural revolution" (1966-76). During that period, the economy suffered severely and many channels for employment were branded "capitalist" and blocked.



Liu Changshun, a self-employed restaurateur in Harbin, recently was commended as a model worker for his good service and reasonable prices.

The problem was compounded after 1976 by the return of large numbers of urban middle school graduates who had lived in the rural areas for many years doing physical labour along with the peasants. For a time, millions of youths were waiting for jobs in Chinese urban centres.

The Third Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee at the end of 1978 cancelled the policy of sending middle school graduates to the countryside and encouraged every effort that contributed to solving youth unemployment. A few years of work have solved the problem for the most part.

The issue of employment now under discussion concerns the task of finding jobs for more than 3 million urban young people annually and seeing that more than 20 million rural youngsters are engaged in productive work every year. All these youths are new entrants into China's labour force.

Some people hold that modernization and unemployment are the twin offspring of social development and that the modernization drive in a populous country like China will inevitably result in massive unemployment.

It is true that unemployment emerged in the course of modernization in many capitalist countries. In the last few years, in particular, unemployment grew from bad to worse in the West as a result of the world economic recession.

In socialist China, however, the modernization drive will never cost the people their jobs, still less give rise to a huge contingent of jobless.

Unemployment is a disease inherent in the capitalist system. In China there are difficulties in achieving full employment for our huge population, but when we formulated our plans for modernization we took into full account our actual conditions, including the huge population. (See "Chinese-Type Modernization (2): Its Nature and Characteristics" in our issue No. 2, 1983.) Modernization will improve people's material and cultural lives nationwide. Thus, we should, and can, prevent serious unemployment from emerging in China.

40 Million People Given Jobs. China's ability to place many job-seekers in recent years shows that unemployment can be solved by implementing correct policies (see Table III).

In the last six years over 40 million urban job-awaiting people were employed in the nation. This means that almost all urban residents who were awaiting jobs, including those left over from the "cultural revolution" and those who were new to the labour force during this period, are now working.

By the end of 1982, only 3.04 million people, or 2.6 per cent of the total labour force in urban areas, awaited jobs. Over 80 per cent of them were middle school students who graduated in autumn that year and who were not anxious to find jobs because many of them were preparing for college entrance examinations. The others did not have jobs either because of poor health or because they wanted better positions than they had been offered; their problems could be solved with the development of the modernization drive.

As an added benefit, the expansion of employment has reduced the number of people supported by each employed person (in addition to himself) in urban areas from 4.15 in 1949 to 0.73 in 1982. In Shanghai, China's largest city, each employed person now supports only 0.5 person.

Table III

Employment Situation in China (1977-82)

Unit: 1 million people

Year	Number of people newly employed			Total number of people who needed jobs	Year-end number of people not yet employed	% of job-awaiting people in the total urban labour force
	Total number	Of this				
		Getting jobs assigned by state	Employed in collective units or by themselves			
1977	5.00	2.00	3.00			
1978	6.00	2.00	4.00	11.31	5.31	5.3
1979	9.02	1.95	7.07	15.38	6.36	5.5
1980	9.00	2.48	6.51	13.09	4.09	3.6
1981	8.00	1.99	6.03	11.05	3.05	2.6
1982	over 6.20			over 9.20	3.04	about 2.6

The statistics of 1982 are incomplete ones.

New Policies. The new employment policies are much more effective than their predecessors.

In the past, the distribution and deployment of the labour force were monopolized by the state. Under the new policies, the government labour departments still provide some positions but the job-awaiting people may also organize themselves into collective undertakings or engage in self-employed jobs. These changes have helped open up new avenues for employment.

Other important factors in China's employment successes include changes in the structures of ownership and industry. The government supports the growth of collective and individual economy, increases investment in light industry, and energetically promotes the development of commerce, food servicing industry and service trades that were neglected for a long time. These have generated large numbers of jobs. Foreign friends revisiting China are impressed by the vast changes taking place in the streets of cities and towns, where once deserted sidewalks are now lined with small eateries and vendors' booths, all bubbling with activity.

The government has also conducted initial reforms of the secondary educational system, converting a number of middle schools into secondary vocational schools where the students learn the skills required in future work.

Employment in Next Few Years. According to the Sixth Five-Year Plan (1981-85) adopted



In Boxian County, Anhui Province, members of an agrotechnical service company organized by rural educated youths irrigate wheat fields for local peasants.

last December, 29 million people will be placed in jobs during the period. Eleven million additional people will be employed in state organs and enterprises, another 11 million in collective enterprises in cities and towns. The number of self-employed workers will increase by 1.5 million, and 5.5 million people will enter state and collective units to replace those who retire. A total of 29 million people will be newly employed in the five years. By the end of 1985, nearly all those entering the urban labour force for the first time will be placed.

What will happen after 1985? "There will be no problem at all in arranging jobs for the urban labour force provided that population growth is held in check according to plan and that the scale of economic construction keeps expanding," according to a leading member of the state labour department.

Employment of the Rural Labour Force. China's current rural labour force is more than 320 million and it is growing by more than 20 million a year. In contrast, the nation has only 100 million hectares of farmland, which averages out to 0.3 hectare per able-bodied peasant. Obviously, farming alone cannot solve the problems of agriculture, nor can it provide enough jobs for the rural labour force.

To properly place rural labourers, the state has instituted major reforms of rural economic policy and management system in the last four years (for details, see "Chinese-Type Modernization (3): The Way for Agriculture," in our issue No. 4, 1983). These reforms have created many production opportunities for the rural labour force and created many new job opportunities.

Approximately 100 million peasants have now shifted from grain production to other lines of operation, such as fish and poultry breeding, processing industries, transporting farm and sideline products, commerce and service trades.

One more outlet that holds immense promise for rural surplus labour lies in China's vast mountainous regions. These areas account for 69 per cent of the national territories and are 6 times as large as the total acreage of farmland. They abound in natural resources which have yet to be fully tapped.

The Tiantong People's Commune in Zhejiang Province is a good example of the potential in these areas. The commune is located in the mountains and has a 4,000-strong labour force. In the past, the peasants were not allow-

ed to develop a diversified economy and most able-bodied commune members had to work on the farm plots, a meagre 0.04 hectare per capita. About one-third of the labour force was not properly utilized.

In recent years, with prohibitions removed, commune members have actively developed forestry, animal husbandry and small industry. With so many things to be done, the commune now feels it has a labour force shortage.

The ongoing rural reforms suggest the rural employment problem will be solved with the development of a diversified economy and commune- and brigade-run industry, the mushrooming of economic entities integrating farming, industry, commerce, the expansion of commodity production and the general prosperity of rural economy. □



JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

(A quarterly in Chinese)

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Subscription rates: RMB 0.80 yuan per copy, RMB 3.20 yuan a year.

Postage: Ordinary RMB 2.20 yuan a year, airmail RMB 8.20 yuan a year.



Daqing Oilfield Today

by Our Correspondent Ding Yaolin

Daqing is not carrying out ultra-Left policies. Its spirit of hard work and continuous progress is commendable. This oilfield, which has played a vital role in China's oil industry for over two decades, has produced more than 50 million tons of oil annually for seven consecutive years. It is contributing to the socialist modernization of China and still is a pace-setter in industry.

IN industry, learn from Daqing" was a major theme in the Chinese press (including *Beijing Review*) prior to the downfall of the gang of four, but it has seldom been mentioned since then. Naturally, the question arises: Are ultra-Left policies being promoted by the model Daqing?

A circular issued by the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party in December 1981 addressed the issue. It affirmed Daqing's spirit of self-reliance and hard work and its basic experience in building and managing a modern enterprise. "Daqing is worthy of the name of advanced model on China's industrial and transportation front."

But what does Daqing look like today and how has it changed? With these questions in mind, I recently travelled to the Daqing Oilfield in southwestern Heilongjiang Province.

Living Conditions

Saertu, which in Mongolian means the place from which the moon rises, was formerly a small town. Now it is at the heart of the Daqing Oilfield and serves as the administrative and cultural centre of the city of Daqing.

Upon leaving the railway station, I was struck by the cleanliness of the city, the breadth of its avenues, its rows upon rows of residential buildings and its landscape. This metropolis of 760,000 people also has built 10 big buildings in the past two years, including a children's palace, a library, a children's park, a gymnasium and a department store. It was hard to imagine that a few decades ago here lay a vast expanse of wilderness.

When I met Ms. Li, an engineer in the urban planning bureau, I immediately inquired: "Have the earthen houses built by the early oil pioneers all been pulled down?"

"Most have," she replied. Earthen houses had become evidence of the harsh conditions in the early stage of developing the oilfield and a symbol of the spirit of hard struggle of the Daqing people. "Now, these houses have fulfilled their function but the spirit of hard work will continue," she declared.

In 1978 when Vice-Chairman Deng Xiaoping went to Daqing for an inspection, he proposed transforming Daqing into a beautiful oilfield. Subsequently, urban construction was accelerated in accord with the principles of "promoting production and improving living conditions" and "keep surface construction clear of the underground oilfield." Plans have been drafted for six small satellite towns and the construction of four is in advanced stages. In addition, the municipal government has allocated 100 million yuan annually to build 400,000 square metres of residential housing. Already 581 apartment buildings have been constructed and more than 20,000 households have moved into new accommodations.

Stable and High Output

Since 1976, Daqing has fulfilled its annual target of 50 million tons of oil, half of China's total. The oilfield has altogether produced 610 million tons of crude oil, creating a wealth of 57,000 million yuan, and has thus contributed more than any other single enterprise to China's socialist construction.

As time goes by, natural reduction in production of this old oilfield is inevitable, but the oil workers have tried by every possible means to compensate for the reduced production. First, they have made detailed investigations of the underground geological structures, oil extraction techniques and surface storage and transportation methods and studied related foreign data. Second, they have improved exploitation techniques and methods for



A new look of Saertu District in Daqing city.

tapping the oil reserves. For instance, they have drilled more infill wells in the old oil-producing areas and adopted the methods of separate-layer water injection and oil well fracture. Third, they have stepped up exploration and put new wells into production.

In the years 1977-81, Daqing's workers drilled 133 per cent more than the total for the 16 years between 1960 and 1976. In addition, they built a reservoir and a waste-water treatment plant, fractured and transformed 2,179 oil wells and put 708 new oil and water wells into operation.

The above-mentioned measures have not only maintained the annual oil output at 50 million tons for the past six years, but also produced an additional 5 million tons. At the same time, they have increased the stratigraphic pressure and controlled the trend of higher water content in the oil.

The year 1982 was the seventh successive year in which Daqing overfulfilled its annual target of 50 million tons of crude oil.

"Iron Man" Spirit

In the early 60s, Wang Jinxi, a well-known labour hero in Daqing, got the nickname "Iron Man" for his spirit of fearing no hardship and working tenaciously to overcome difficulties. The first oil well sunk by the No. 1205 Drilling Team he headed and the slush pit into which he and his co-workers jumped to stop a blowout have been preserved for posterity. His pledge, "I will do what I can to build a big oilfield for the country even if I live 20 years less," still inspires people to work hard for socialist modernization.

Never Forget Hard Struggle. The material conditions now are better than in the 60s but the

spirit of hard struggle must not be discarded, explained Fu Guangcheng, vice-chairman of the Daqing city people's congress. The drilling workers work all the year round in the fields and the oil extraction workers tour the wells day and night, regardless of the cold. If they did not work with a will but instead yearned for a leisurely and easy life, Daqing could not continue for a single day.

People rumoured in 1979 that cadres would be the first to move into the 400,000 square metres of newly built residential quarters. However, the city Party committee decided that veteran workers who took part in the big campaign to build the oilfield and scientific and technological personnel should get priority and not a single leading cadre should have the privilege of living in these new apartments. In the two years that followed, another 800,000 square metres of residential buildings of better quality were constructed. Many thought they would go to the cadres this time. Again, they were assigned to the workers and technicians.

A story is told about how a relative of a worker made a complaint to the city government because her family was not given a new apartment. However, when she arrived at Mayor Wang Sumin's home and saw the conditions Wang lived in, she withdrew her objections.

Finally, last August some cadres, including Wang Sumin and other old and physically weak cadres, began to move into new housing. Daqing's cadres maintain the tradition of being the first to bear hardships and the last to enjoy comforts.

Seeking Truth From Facts. When I visited the "underground palace" of Daqing's academy of scientific research, I saw that detailed materials and records were kept since 1960, providing an

analysis of each oil well and extensive geological maps of each oil extracting team.

The exploitation plan of Daqing was drawn up on the basis of substantial geological material and other related data and after scientific analysis, explained Zhang Binkui, vice-chairman of the city science commission. Through experience over the last 20 years, the cadres and workers have fully understood the importance of science and attach importance to data collection and analysis. Every day, there are at least 300,000 items of data sent to the academy by various oil well groups.

There are 25 scientific research academies or institutes in Daqing which have utilized advanced oil technology and trained engineering and technical personnel. These research and educational facilities are thoroughly grounded in the realities of the oilfield, and from 1960 to June 1982 obtained satisfactory results in 38,800 separate research and technology projects. Many have been highly appraised by foreign experts at the recent international symposium in technology of oil exploitation.

Carrying Forward the Revolutionary Traditions.

The number of veteran workers and veteran cadres who took part in the big campaign to build the oilfield is decreasing in Daqing as

some are being transferred to new areas and others are retiring. The proportion of young workers is increasing and many people are worried about Daqing's tradition.

The unhealthy tendencies caused by the 10-year turmoil can be seen in Daqing, admitted Zhang Jingkun, Party secretary of an oil extraction team. Young workers account for 80 per cent of the 85 people in his team. Among them there are those who fight, gamble and steal, as well as people who commit economic crimes. However, Zhang is confident that these problems will be solved by meticulous political and ideological work, the guidance, help and example of veteran workers in conjunction with strict enforcement of the rules and regulations and an education in the legal system.

Well leader Wang Youquan, 59, has helped train more than 80 young workers. Through setting personal example and giving education, he has helped change some backward workers who have today become backbone members in production. Wang is proud that his former trainees today include team and well leaders, national advanced model workers and personnel who have been sent to help in other provinces. Wang Youquan emphasized, "The 'Iron Man' spirit is an heirloom and we are determined to pass it on from generation to generation." □

(Continued from p. 16.)

depends to a large degree on the economic development of the developing countries.

The developing countries constitute about three-fourths of the world's population and occupy about three-fifths of the world's land mass. They are rich in mineral resources. In addition to their abundant oil reserves, their production of more than 20 major strategic metals are important to the world economy. At present the developed nations are in the process of transferring a number of labour intensive industries to the developing nations while they themselves concentrate on high technology and science intensive industries. As this trend develops, the need of the developed nations for rare metals also increases. Thus, in a very real sense, the future development of science and technology in the developed nations depends to a very large degree on the production and supply of strategic metals by the developing countries.

It is even more important for the economies of the developed countries and of the world that

the developing countries provide large markets. The markets of the developed nations are becoming saturated. Although the needs of the developing nations, being economically backward, are not great, as their economies develop their various needs will increase greatly. Furthermore, because the developing countries have such large populations they represent much greater markets than the developed nations. Whether in trade or in the export of capital, the future of the world economy rests entirely on the rapid development of the economies of the developing nations.

The developing countries not only represent a great potential for economic development, they are determined to eradicate their poverty and backwardness as quickly as possible. If the developed countries aid the developing countries with funding and technology, the enormous potential of the developing countries for rapid economic development will be realized, which in turn will push forward the economic development of the entire world. This is why the developing countries represent the hope for the future prosperity of the world.

OPINION

Computer industry development

THE development of modern information technology based on electronic computers is exerting an ever greater influence on China's contemporary economy, science and social life, and is serving the strategic goal of quadrupling the gross annual value of industrial and agricultural production by the end of this century.

China has used various types of computers to solve key problems concerning oil prospecting, oil-well distribution and exploitation plans. In recent years, the Ministry of Railways has used computers in trial-runs for dispatching freight transport for 1 per cent of the nation's total freight volume. Computers have also begun to play a role in agriculture. For example, computers have been trial-used in the automatic irrigation system of the Sanmen Gorges along the Huanghe River, in regional agricultural planning, in weather

forecasting, in predicting rice blast and wheat scab, in analysing information on grain resources, etc. These trial-runs have produced good results.

The use of computers in modern management is an even more urgent task. In a country as large as China, computers are essential for the huge numbers of calculations necessary to manage and balance the national economy.

Rapid development of the computer industry requires a

rational and co-ordinated internal relationship among its various links — the study, production and application to technical services of computers. While continuing to do research on and manufacture large computers, China should increase the production of small and mini-computers since these are the most widely used in the technical service industry. To accomplish this purpose, careful planning and organizational co-ordination are necessary. Practical technical policies, economic measures and regulations must also be formulated and implemented.

— "Guangming Ribao"

LIFE

Four university students from one peasant family

LI Shaofu, a member of the Goujie commune in Yiliang County, Yunnan Province, reports that four of his children have gone to college.

"My eldest child, Li Xinhua, who graduated in 1980 from the physics department of a normal school is now teaching at a normal school. Before enrolling in college, she had only finished the second year of junior middle school. She passed the college entrance examination by studying on her own.

"My second child, Li Xinrong, was admitted to the Architectural Engineering Institute in Chongqing in 1977. Last year he passed the graduate school exam and is studying for a master's degree. My third child, Li Xinde, who graduated from the physics department of Yunnan University last year is now teaching at the Yunnan Forestry Institute. My fourth child, Li Xinyi, was admitted to Chengdu Geological Institute last year.



A booking clerk at Shanghai Railway Station uses a Chinese-made computerized ticket terminal.

Priority examination cards for the elderly

A TOTAL of 2,200 people aged 70 and over have received "priority examination cards" from the Yangpu District Hospital in Shanghai. From now on, they can have physical checkups at the hospital without waiting in long lines. The doctors make house calls on those elderly who have difficulty moving around.

This method was initiated by the Kongjiang Red Cross Hospital. The hospital's Youth League branch recently organized young medical workers to go to the neighbourhood and give medical treatment to the childless elderly and members

of revolutionary martyrs' and army men's families. In the process, they heard the elderly's complaints about difficulties in obtaining medical treatment. Because it often took over one hour to stand in long queues waiting their turns, medical treatment was delayed. With the support of the hospital leadership, the young medical workers called on the elderly in their homes and issued each a "priority examination card." This method was immediately popular and now all elderly at 70 and above have received "priority cards."

— "Wen Hui Bao"

"Commune members far and near regard the fact that four of my children have gone to college as an item of news. Some even ask: Was the Li family's ancestral grave built on a dragon's arteries and veins? (The dragon, a colossal animal of ancient Chinese legend, symbolized the emperor during feudal times. There was a superstition that good fortune came to anyone connected with a dragon. — *Ed.*) How on earth could the location of one's ancestral grave influence the life of later generations? The reason why my four children went to college was that in the past few years my children and I have understood that the future of our country needs peasants like us who will learn and master science and technology. So when my children took part in productive labour, they also studied diligently. I could not teach them myself, so although my family was short of labour, I had to send them to school. That is why I am not as rich as some of my neighbours. Their mother and I had

to do more household work so that they could devote themselves to studying.

"Although I have not rebuilt the house nor purchased additional furniture in the past few years, yet I feel I am living a happy life. When the cadres praise me for being far-sighted, I reply: 'Oh, no, it wasn't I. It is because the Communist Party emphasizes investing in intelligence for the four modernizations. I could never have done it on my own.' Therefore I always tell my children that they must not fail to live up to the requirements of our times and that they should devote the abilities they have acquired to the people."

— "Yunnan Ribao"

TIDBITS

Wang Maoyin in Marx's works

IN a footnote to "Money, or the Circulation of Commodities" in *Capital* (Chapter III,

Part I, Volume I), Marx mentioned a debate on currency in China's history.

The debate took place between 1853-54 during the reign of Emperor Xianfeng of the Qing Dynasty. Wang Maoyin, Vice-President of the Board of Revenue and Population, opposed a proposal to mint copper coins in large denominations.

During the debate, Emperor Xianfeng was in favour of coining this devalued currency. He and his ministers mistakenly held that the value of metal currency was determined by the state and that the people could not violate it. At the time, the capitalist commodity economy was not developed in China. Wang Maoyin understood that "the state may determine the value of the currency, but cannot impose restrictions on the prices of commodities."

To counter devaluation which results from issuing unconvertible metal currency, Wang suggested that a limited amount of convertible banknotes be issued. The emperor not only refused to accept his suggestions, but dismissed him from office. The outcome was: "What Wang said all came true and the metal currency in large denominations became invalid."

This footnote by Marx indicates that there is an economic law governing the relationship between currency and commodities, which is independent of man's will. Marx affirmed the correct view of Wang and jeered at the self-indulgent rulers who knew nothing about the objective laws of economics.

— "Wenwu Tiandi" (*World of Cultural Relics*) No. 3, 1982

CINEMA

'At Middle Age'

A middle-aged woman lies on the bed in a special care unit, her face paper white and her eyes blank.

Her husband in his 40s is reciting some lines from a poem by Sandor Petofi to her with tears in his eyes:

I wish I were a rapid stream, . . .

If my love

A tiny fish would be,

She's frolic

In my foaming waves.

He has recited this to her before and each time it has moved her. This time she can only move her lips to respond as tears run down her face.

She is near death.

The scene is from the feature film *At Middle Age*, a cinematic adaptation of a novelette by Shen Rong. Lu Wenting, an overworked ophthalmologist, is hospitalized with an arrhythmic heart problem.

The plot touches on a sensitive social problem of today—

treatment of intellectuals. The novelette was controversial when it was published in 1980. Some criticized the writer for giving too much space to the bad conditions of intellectuals and thus painting a dull picture of people's lives since the downfall of the gang of four. However, the majority maintained that the story faithfully showed the loyalty of the middle-aged intellectuals while portraying their lives, their hardships and wishes. Thus, the author drew society's attention to those irrational phenomena and evoked the concern of the public for the intellectuals. The novelette won a top prize in 1981 as one of China's best and subsequently the author rewrote it into a film scenario for the Changchun Film Studio.

Since the film was released it has won public acclaim and was also awarded a Rooster Award by a panel of film artists and critics.

The main character is Lu Wenting who for 18 years works with dedication in a hospital. Since promotions based on competence did not exist during the "cultural revolu-

tion," Lu is still a resident with a low salary though her skills are equivalent to those of a head surgeon. Further, Lu, her husband, son and daughter live in a 12-square-metre room. The household chores which her husband shares are an excessive burden to her already weighty hospital work.

One day she receives a call from a kindergarten asking her to come to collect her sick daughter. Momentarily she imagines how her daughter is crying for her, but when she sees needy patients and their extended hands she does not leave work until all patients are treated.

At lunchtime, her son returns home from school. Having no food at home she gives him some money to buy something for himself. After sending him back to school and leaving her sick daughter in the care of a neighbour, she returns to work.

One morning Lu performs three operations: rectifying a strabismus for a girl, transplanting a cornea for a peasant and extracting cataract for a vice-minister. Her concern and



Left: Lu Wenting contemplates her hard life. Centre: Lu Wenting encourages a patient to be brave. Right: Jiang Yafen and her husband stop at Lu's room to say good-bye.

Rooster Awards

The third Rooster Awards for Chinese films were recently presented in Beijing. *At Middle Age* and *Camel Xiangzi* (*The Rickshaw Boy*) were acclaimed best feature films.

The Rooster Awards are sponsored by the Chinese Film Workers' Association and have been selected annually since 1981 by a panel of prominent Chinese film artists and critics. As 1981 was the year of rooster according to the Chinese lunar calendar and as the rooster which crows is viewed as an appropriate symbol for the one hundred schools of thought to contend in film production, the prizes were designated Rooster Awards.

The best director award went to Wu Yigong for *My Memories of Old Beijing*, a feature film adapted from a novel by Lin Haiyin, a Taiwan authoress. Pan Hong, who played a dedicated doctor in *At Middle Age*, and Siqingaowa, who acted a shrewish role in *Camel Xiangzi*, were winners of the best actress awards. In the categories of performances in supporting roles, Niu Ben for his part in *The Herdsman* was acclaimed best and Zheng Zhenyao won for her performance in *My Memories of Old Beijing* as a kind servant.

No awards were granted for the best scriptwriter and the best leading actor as the judges decided no worthy candidates existed.

need her, and she has a lot to accomplish. I can't let her die."

The female lead Pan Hong, 28, spent time in hospitals after she was cast as Lu Wenting to acquaint herself with the real situation. She carefully studied the actions and emotions of the medical profession. She watched how doctors handled patients and how emergency cases of heart troubles were treated. She said: "I like this character very much. I have merged my feelings with those of Lu Wenting." Her performance won her a Rooster Award for outstanding actress in a leading role.

The male star in this film is Da Shichang, about 40. Using a similar approach, his acting reaches the height of his young career.

equal treatment of all is evident. On her way home she becomes so sick that she cannot walk.

While in the hospital Lu Wenting receives a letter written by her best friend, a fellow doctor who is leaving with her husband to reside in Canada. "Forgive me! This is all I can say to you now. I'm leaving, but I'm leaving my heart with you, with my dear homeland. . . . We'll come back." Thus the brain drain, a result of poor implementation of the Party's policy towards intellectuals, is given a human face though fortunately by the time the film was released the problem was already being dealt with.

The film is a testimonial to socialist human beings like Lu Wenting and to their devotion to the people. It also pictures the conditions of intellectuals which do not correspond to their contributions. It calls for solutions.

The film ends with Lu Wenting being discharged from the

hospital. The writer Shen Rong explains the ending: "She shouldn't die, for the people

ENTOMOLOGY

Insect migration routes pinpointed

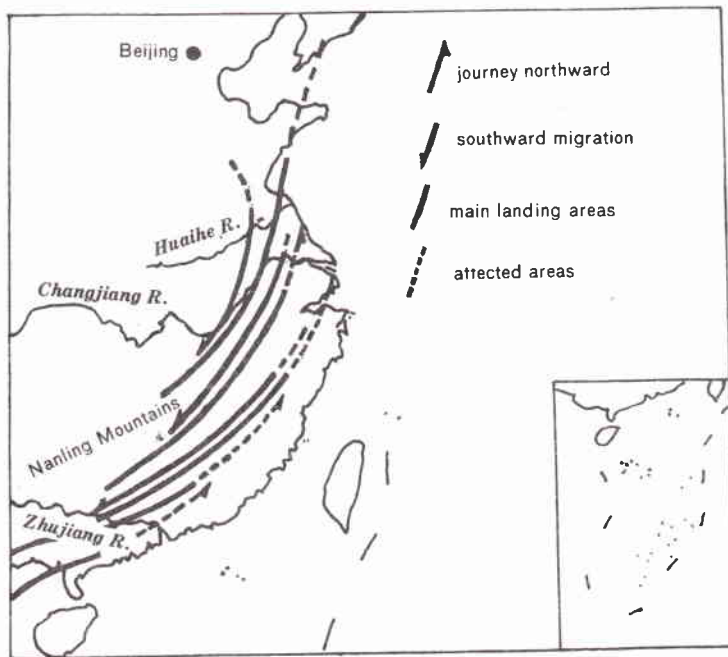
In order to facilitate pest control, Chinese scientists have carefully mapped the migration routes of rice leaf rollers, rice plant hoppers and other harmful insects.

In spring, these insects drift along with warm atmospheric currents arriving in China from the seas in Southeast Asia. They settle in Guangdong Province, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and in areas north and south of the Nanling Mountains, the watershed between the Chingjiang and Zhujiang Rivers. As temperatures rise the insects set out on a further journey northward. While most only go as far as the Yangtze River and Huaihe River basins, some continue to northeast and north-

west China. When the weather starts to turn cooler, the insects begin migrating southward, in swollen hordes. By early autumn, they infest the rice-growing areas south of the Changjiang River and around October, they are in areas north and south of the Nanling Mountains again.

Rice leaf rollers and rice plant hoppers propagate rapidly and bring great damage to agricultural production. Experiments by scientists show that rice plant hoppers hamper rice growing in the milking period or cause drying and lodging of the rice plant, which can reduce output from 45 to 80 per cent.

A prediction system has been established which spans China and takes Nanling as the key area. Backed by a network of survey and prediction stations, scientists have pinpointed the route by following specially marked insects and netting



Migration routes of rice leaf rollers and rice plant hoppers.

them in the air and on the seas. Shanghai scientists, for example, fixed nylon nets one metre in diameter and a set of moth luring lamps on cargo-passenger steamers that sail a regular Shanghai-Dalian route to catch rice leaf rollers and other insects. Thus information to each year's migration routes is collected and entomologists can accurately forecast the number of insects, the migration routes and time, their landing area as well as the expected damage.

Methods for pest control have been developed, including improving crop systems and cultivation methods and introducing more pest-resistant strains and better insecticides.

SEISMOLOGY

Automatic system

China's first automatic seismological observation and data processing system has gone into operation.

The system is the basic part of the telemetric seismological

regional networks that China is establishing in Shanghai, Beijing, Kunming, Chengdu, Lanzhou and Shenyang. The Shanghai network performed well during a trial run of more than a year. The other five networks are now being developed.

Each telemetric seismological network is composed of an earthquake-monitoring system, a quake-indicator observing system, a data telegraphing and telemetering system, a data-processing and storage system, a time-regulating system and a power supply.

The quake-monitoring system of each network is equipped with surface and deep-well seismographs with magnifying power ranging from one to hundreds of thousands and the frequency ranging from 0.005 hertz to 20 hertz. The system can pool, record and process 117 routes of seismic signals.

Within a short time after the shock waves reach the observation stations from an earthquake in China or abroad, the system can determine the basic

parameters of the quake and record its findings.

The quake-indicator observing system can periodically produce controlling signals to start or stop the operation of meters and instruments at field observation stations, which can automatically observe and telemeter various geophysical and geochemical signals concerning earthquakes. The signals include the changes of the intensity of geomagnetic field, the apparent earth resistivity, the content of radon in underground water, the crystal stress, the faulting of the land, air temperature, atmospheric pressure and others. The maximum capacity of the system now is: collecting, telemetering, arranging and processing 1,200 signals from 40 field stations.

The data gained by the field stations can be quickly telegraphed or telemetered to its regional network centre. The data processing system at the centre include computers, seismic triggers and map-making instruments. The centre can quickly process and store in various forms large quantities of data.

A high-precision digital clock station and a coding remote-sensing regulation device at each centre provide a time standard for the whole system and automatically regulate time for all its field stations.

The whole automatic seismological observation system was approved at a six-day meeting organized by the State Seismological Bureau. Experts said, that the concept and the design requirements for logic and functions of the system meet advanced standards.

Most of the equipment for this system including computers were designed and made in China.

Humour In China

Cartoons by workers



Long-distance call.

by Liu Keqin

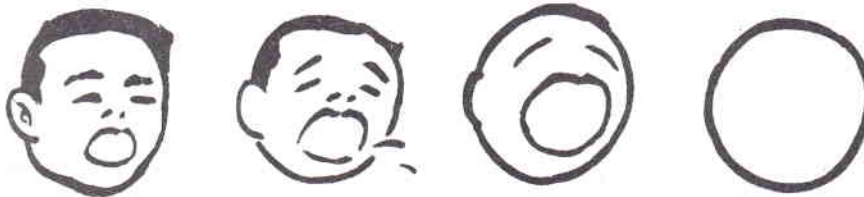


You're a model worker,
this is nothing to you!

by Wang, Guanglu

Taking their subject matters from everyday life, the works of amateur cartoonists who are workers often have a distinctive humour different from those of professionals.

Gongren Ribao (Workers' Daily) has a special section called "Workers' Art" which publishes drawings and paintings by workers. In the past 30-odd years, the paper has published more than 400 issues of these, and many well-known worker-cartoonists have had their start in these pages. Not long ago, *Gongren Ribao* published an album of these cartoons and also helped organize an exhibition of cartoons by workers and office employees of five cities.



A real big mouth.

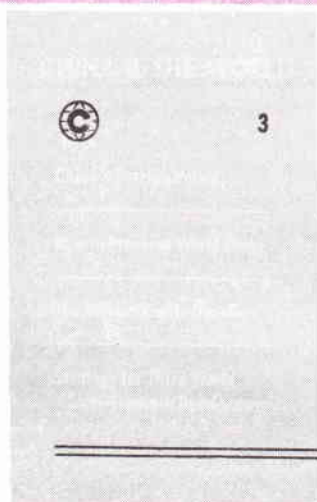
by Li Songchang

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CHINA & THE WORLD

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Published by: BEIJING REVIEW
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Distributed by: CHINA PUBLICATIONS CENTRE (Guoji Shudian)
P. O. Box 399, Beijing, China