Guide for Chinese Communists

Asian Situation And Trends

Restructuring Beijing’s Machine-Building Industry
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Document: Guide for Chinese Communists

The 12-point "Guiding Principles for Inner-Party Political Life," a major document for restoring Party traditions and strengthening discipline (p. 11).

Science Conference

A national meeting of 1,500 scientists to review past achievements and give a new boost to scientific activities (p. 3).

The Lei Feng Spirit

A campaign is afoot for young people to emulate Lei Feng, an ordinary soldier whose selfless service made him a national hero in the early 60s (p. 4).

Asian Situation and Trends

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Anna Louise Strong Commemorated

Beijing marks the 10th anniversary of the passing away of Anna Louise Strong, a progressive American writer and good friend of the Chinese people (p. 5).

Novelettes With a Message

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New Impetus

"Springtime for science has come!" This was what the late famous scientist and poet Guo Moruo said to hail the National Science Conference held two years ago. Science and technology in China which had been seriously undermined have since then gained a new life and begun to make new advances.

This can be seen from the Second National Congress of the Chinese Scientific and Technical Association held between March 15 and 23 in Beijing. The 1,500 outstanding scientists of various ages all displayed their confidence and vitality in working with one will and contributing their wisdom and talent for realizing the modernization programme. Their avowals have won high appraisal and support from the Party Central Committee.

The recent congress was convened under the following circumstances:

Since the nation began criticizing the gang of four, more and more people have acknowledged the following viewpoints — science and technology are productive forces, scientists and technicians are a section of the working people and knowledge means strength. But still there are a number of people who have not paid enough attention to science.

The Party’s general line for the new historical period calls for a road of economic development which suits the situation of China and brings faster and more economical results. This will enable the country to lay in the 80s a solid foundation for its modernization. Obviously the modernization of science and technology is the key to the modernizations of agriculture, industry and national defence. This demands that the Party strengthen and improve its leadership in the work of science and technology.

In his report to the congress, the famous 78-year-old physicist Zhou Peiyuan, acting chairman of the Chinese Scientific and Technical Association, called on the 85 organizations attached to the association to be advisers to the Party and government in modernizing science and technology.

The other main tasks of the association are: increasing academic exchanges, popularizing scientific knowledge, discovering and training scientific and technical talent and developing academic communication between China and other countries.

During the congress, scientists, technologists, professors, engineers and worker and peasant renovators swapped experiences and discussed academic problems with each other. Some delegates raised significant suggestions. For example, Qian Xuesen, the well-known physicist on dynamics, suggested that no administrative barriers should be set between research institutes, colleges or factories so as to broaden the vista of scientists and technologists, that research workers should lecture in colleges and professors should help solve problems in factories.

The congress elected Zhou Peiyuan chairman and Pei Li-sheng, Qian Xuesen, Hua Luogeng, Qian Sanqiang and 11 others vice-chairmen of the national committee of the Chinese Scientific and Technical Association. It also adopted a new constitution for the association and passed an appeal calling upon all association members to make suggestions for carrying out the modernization programme.

Comrade Hu Yaobang’s Speech.
The newly elected General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party Hu Yaobang addressed the closing ceremony of the congress. He expressed his resolute support for all the ef-
forts spent by the scientists and technologists in realizing the country's modernization.

He said that the Party Central Committee's call—march on science—should be turned into the actions of the Chinese people and into an important part of their daily lives.

He outlined three measures for mobilizing the people to push forward China's science and technology:

1. Build the ranks of professionally competent cadres who follow the socialist road;
2. Train large numbers of new people and reserve forces in the scientific and technical fields;
3. Give full Party support for scientists and scientific and technical workers to display their talents.

"While aiming at building a highly developed socialist material civilization, we also set the goal at achieving a highly developed socialist spiritual civilization," Hu said. "We want to scale the three heights of spiritual civilization. They are the height of ideology and theory, the height of science and technology and the height of art and literature."

He called on cadres to study technology and acquire knowledge of management. On behalf of the Secretariat of the Party Central Committee, he invited scientists to be their teachers. Hu said: "History will once again show that our Party cadres are able to learn things that they do not know at the present time." (Excerpts of the speech will be published in our next issue.)

**POLITICAL**

**Carry Forward the Lei Feng Spirit**

Lei Feng, a P.L.A. soldier, was a national paragon in serving the people wholeheartedly in the early 60s. Once again he has become an example for people to emulate today. Thanks to the efforts made in recent years by the Party, the army, the Communist Youth League and the schools to step up education of the youngsters and establish good social morals, this new atmosphere is spreading.

Lei Feng, an ordinary soldier of a unit stationed in Fushun, northeast China, died in 1962 while on official business at the age of 22. During his short span of life, he always helped others and worked for the good of the people without the least thought of his own gain or loss. People find in him the embodiment of the communist spirit, morals and ethics.

On March 5, 1963, Chairman Mao and Premier Zhou called on the people to learn from Comrade Lei Feng. Then a nationwide movement to emulate Lei Feng arose and grew. It educated and inspired the youngsters to cultivate ethics still better.

But owing to the turmoil for a dozen years or so, the revolutionary image of Lei Feng was distorted and the Lei Feng memorial hall in Fushun city was closed down. Socialist morality and values were corrupted: many youngsters lost their revolutionary ideals and some even went down the road of wrongdoing.

In recent years, the movement to learn from Lei Feng was started again. In the Shenyang Units of the People's Liberation Army, 27,000 learn-from-Lei Feng activists and a large number of advanced collectives appeared last year. This has promoted the revolutionization and modernization of the army units.

For example, 25-year-old Chen Banjun, a political instructor of a P.L.A. machinegun company, studied and worked hard. He took special care of the fighters, did a lot for the good of the...
Comrades Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai, Chen Yi and others held Anna Louise Strong in high esteem. On her 80th birthday, Chairman Mao hosted her at a dinner and spoke highly of her.

Deng Yingchao became acquainted with Strong in Wuhan in 1938, not long after the outbreak of the War of Resistance Against Japan. She remembers Strong with deepest feelings of friendship and sincere admiration.

In 1885 Strong was born in a pastor's family in Nebraska. Since 1925, she had visited China six times. She came to live in China in 1958. During her life she had reported on the great cause of the Chinese people's revolution and construction in six books and 69 issues of Letters From China. She died in Beijing in 1970 and was buried in Babaoshan Revolutionary Cemetery.

In his speech at the meeting, Chu Tuan, Vice-President of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries, pointed out that prior to the normalization of relations between China and the United States, Anna Louise Strong had played the role of a bridge between the Chinese and American peoples and had worked to her last breath for American and other peoples' understanding of China.

American friend Ruth Coe also made a speech at the meeting.

To commemorate the occasion, the Beijing Library organized an exhibition of her works and manuscripts. Renmin Ribao carried several signed articles in her memory.

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people and was commended on many occasions. He died last June while carrying out his mission. The Military Commission of the C.P.C. Central Committee conferred on him the title "A cadre of the Lei Feng type."

Lu Shicai, a model army physician, was recently commended by the Military Commission of the C.P.C. Central Committee as an outstanding representative of the Lei Feng spirit. His deep devotion to his comrades, his boundless sense of responsibility in his work and his inspiring deeds serve as an educational example for young people.

In Beijing, the Communist Youth League on March 4 sponsored a "Learn-From-Lei Feng Day" during which 30,000 middle and primary school students, flying their Young Pioneer banner, took to the street to do people good turns. A teacher said: "The Lei Feng spirit which teaches the children to love labour and the people is being restored."

On March 5 this year, the Lei Feng memorial hall was reopened after it was renovated. Thousands upon thousands of workers, peasants, soldiers and youngsters went there for a visit. A youth wrote this in the visitors' book: "Lei Feng is our example. Socialist modernization needs people like him. We should learn from him and live as he did, so as to build up our great motherland."

Recently, the General Political Department of the People's Liberation Army and the Central Committee of the Communist Youth League successively called on the whole army and the youngsters of the whole country to carry on learn-from-Lei Feng activities in a sustained and far-reaching way in the new socialist period.

Commemorating Anna Louise Strong

The 10th anniversary of the death of Anna Louise Strong, a progressive American writer and faithful friend of the Chinese people, was commemorated on March 29 at a meeting organized by the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries.

Soong Ching Ling attended the meeting and a speech by Deng Yingchao was read out.

Anna Louise Strong, Deng Yingchao said, was born in the United States but died on the soil of China. She was the pride of both the Chinese and American peoples and a symbol of their friendship. The Chinese people would never forget their old friends who had contributed to the Chinese revolution and construction.

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FOREIGN RELATIONS

President Mobutu in Beijing

President of the Republic of Zaire, Mobutu Sese Seko, has completed his third successful visit to China (March 24-31), during which he held talks with Premier Hua Guofeng. The two leaders exchanged views on international issues of common concern and on bilateral relations between China and Zaire. Both sides held the identical view that the international situation has now become more turbulent and more critical and that the chief danger to world peace comes from hegemonist expansion and aggression. They expressed their belief that their successful talks would greatly push forward the friendly relations between both countries.

Meeting with President Mobutu, Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping said, "It is not accidental that our relations have remained so good." China and Zaire are countries of the third world. Their friendship and cooperation will live on since they are based on similar experiences in the past and on a common destiny.

In his speech at a banquet given in his honour by Premier Hua Guofeng, President Mobutu pointed out that the economic and technical co-operation between Zaire and China is extensive and full of vitality. He said that Chinese respect for Zaire's ideas is a sure guarantee for sincere, lasting co-operation between two equal partners.

During his visit, the Governments of China and Zaire signed a cultural agreement. President Mobutu and his party also paid their respects to the remains of Chairman Mao Zedong at his Memorial Hall where they laid a wreath before the statue of Chairman Mao. The ribbon was inscribed: "In deep memory of the great and respected state leader Chairman Mao Zedong." The delegation also visited the exhibition in memory of the late Premier Zhou Enlai.

Unite to Thwart Soviet Strategic Plan

Prevent the International Situation From Becoming Worse.

"So long as we strengthen our unity and constantly frustrate the hegemonists' strategic plan, the international situation can be prevented from becoming worse!"

Premier Hua Guofeng stressed this point at a banquet in honour of visiting Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko on March 24 in Beijing. He went on to say that as the world entered the 1980s, the international situation developed not in the direction of greater stability and detente but of greater turbulence and tension. The basic reason for instability in the world lies with the Soviet Union's growing efforts to pursue hegemonism. The invasion and occupation of a third world and non-aligned country—Afghanistan—not long ago marks a new stage in the Soviet Union's global strategic plan.

He said, "In its efforts to outflank and encircle and finally seize Europe, the Soviet Union has long since regarded the African continent, which has rich natural resources and holds an important strategic position, as an object for plunder. It has tried to sow dissension by all means among the African countries to undermine their unity, unscrupulously carried out intervention and subversion against them and gone so far as to use mercenary troops to occupy and dominate sovereign states in Africa.

"These facts have been an eye-opener for the people, enabling more and more Africans to see the true features of Soviet hegemonism. They have adopted different means to resist its expansionist efforts, frustrating its hegemonistic conspiracies in Africa just as the people of other parts of the world have done."

Premier Hua paid tribute to the Zairian people for smashing two invasions by mercenary troops, thus safeguarding their state sovereignty and territorial integrity and upsetting hegemonism's strategic plan to dominate the central part of Africa and seize the continent from the middle.

"With this victory, the Zairian people have made an important contribution to safeguarding the security of Africa and maintaining peace in the African continent and the whole world," Premier Hua said.

Soviet Goal Set. When Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping met with a delegation from the Japanese paper Yomiuri Shimbun led by Tsuneo Watanabe, a member of its Board of Directors and Chairman of its Editorial Board on March 29, he said that the Soviet Union has set the long-term strategic goal of seeking world hegemony, which it would never give up. "The Soviets do not have to go through parliamentary debate and can swing into action immediately when the opportunity arises," he said.

Vice-Premier Deng added: "All of us must have a sober understanding of the Soviet goal, and unite still more closely to frustrate its strategic plans for world hegemony."
British Defence Secretary's Visit

China and Britain hold that it is imperative for them, proceeding from their respective circumstances, to make every effort to strengthen their defence capabilities in order to cope with the threat from hegemonism and to make a contribution to the maintenance of world peace.

This view was expressed by Vice-Premier Wang Zhen and visiting British Secretary of State for Defence Mr. Francis Pym when they held talks on March 24 in Beijing. They also had a wide-ranging exchange of views on the world situation and other issues following the Soviet armed invasion of Afghanistan, and reached identical or similar conclusions.

Both sides expressed the hope that the friendship between the peoples and armed forces of China and Britain would be further strengthened, and that the bilateral economic co-operation and trade between the two countries increase.

At a banquet in honour of Mr. Pym and his party, Vice-Premier and Minister of National Defence Xu Xiangqian expressed his appreciation of the untiring efforts of Britain and other West European countries which have built up their defence to safeguard their security against the menace by hegemonism.

When Premier Hua Guofeng met with Mr. Francis Pym and his party, he said that the constant contact between government and military leaders of China and Britain and Mr. Pym's visit to China would surely strengthen further the friendship and co-operation between the peoples and armed forces of both countries.

Mr. Pym and his party arrived in Beijing on March 23 and went to Shanghai on March 26 to preside over the opening ceremony of a British aviation equipment exhibition.

In the first two months of 1980, housing with a total floor space of 3.78 million square metres was under construction in Beijing. This was an 83 per cent increase over the corresponding period last year. The new apartment houses will be equipped with central heating, telephone booths and gas. Shops and primary and secondary schools will be built simultaneously with the living quarters.

In Beijing 2.82 million square metres of new housing space for 50,000 families were completed last year. The planned floor space this year will be over 3 million square metres.

Total floor space built for urban housing in the nation this year will exceed that of 1979, according to a decision made by a housing conference called by the State Bureau of City Construction in mid-March.

Last year, 4 million residents in cities, towns, and industrial and mining areas moved into new housing and the total floor space completed was 56 million square metres, or one-tenth of the total built in the 30 years since liberation.

The housing conference decided that the building of urban housing will be speeded up. In addition to the living quarters built with direct state investments, enterprises, departments and individuals are being encouraged to build houses on their own.

Factories making prefabricated parts and concrete structures are being built in Beijing, Shenyang and Wuhan. By 1982, these factories will provide prefabricated parts for houses with a total floor space of 3 million square metres.
Asian Situation: Developments and Trends

STEPPED-UP Soviet aggression and expansion and the people’s struggle against this constitute the basic factors determining the general situation in Asia in the years of the 80s.

The Kremlin’s Next Objective

The Soviet aggression and expansion in Southeast and West Asia is a major step to pursue its global strategy. Since the mid-70s Moscow has intensified its southward drive into unstable and vulnerable Asia and Africa to outflank Europe on two sides. Soviet support for Vietnamese aggression in Kampuchea and its direct invasion of Afghanistan are apparent indications that the Middle East and the Pacific region are linked together in Moscow’s strategic plans.

It has been widely predicted that the next objective of the Soviet Union is to expand into Pakistan and Iran as a springboard to advance on the Middle East and the Persian Gulf, break through the “soft belly” and obtain access to the Indian Ocean. Moscow is taking advantage of Hanoi’s domination of Indochina to subdue China to pincers attack from north and south, to threaten Southeast Asia and to contain U.S. influence in the area. The Soviet Union is stepping up military deployments in the Far Eastern part of its territory and on Japan’s four northern islands in an effort to achieve strategic supremacy. Its use of Da Nang and Cam Ranh in Viet Nam and military bases in the Middle East has enormously strengthened its strategic position in the vast region extending from the Far East to the Indian Ocean. Moscow is premeditating the seizure of the Strait of Malacca at the right moment to place the passage between the Pacific and the Indian Ocean under exclusive Soviet control.

The Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan and the emergence of an “Indo-Chinese Federation” with Soviet backing have subjected their neighbours, especially Thaialnd, Pakistan and Iran, to the immediate threat of aggression by the greater or lesser hegemonists. These omens of Moscow’s further expansion in Asia have surprised the region as never before.

State leaders and the mass media in Asia are concerned that the Afghan incident might be repeated on this continent which they hold could become an important scene of Soviet expansion in the 80s.

Reactions

Being confronted with the threat, more and more Asian countries are directing the spearhead of their struggles to safeguard national independence and sovereignty against Soviet expansionism. Resisting the threat by the big and small hegemonists, the ASEAN countries are resolutely supporting the Kampuchean people in their just struggle. The Islamic countries are against the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, as are most countries in South Asia. In order to cope with threats from the north, Japan is further strengthening its military alliance with the United States, beginning to improve its defence capabilities, intensifying diplomatic activities in the Middle East and the Pacific region, and strengthening friendly ties of co-operation with China.

The Soviet expansion in the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean has posed a threat to areas vital to the United States and the West. In order to safeguard their interests, the United States and West European countries are further strengthening their military presence in the Indian Ocean and the Pacific and seeking closer relations with Asian countries by increasing offers of support and aid. Some Asian countries have also asked the United States and
Western Europe to assume more definite responsibilities in regional defence. The United States has offered aid to Pakistan and is planning to establish "a regional security structure" to block the Soviet Union from thrusting southward into the Indian Ocean. In the Far East and Southeast Asia, the United States is endeavouring to form a new line of defence to contain the Soviet Union through the strengthening of the U.S.-Japan alliance and the reaffirmation of the treaty between the United States, Australia and New Zealand.

**What Is Moscow Up To?**

The present Asian situation is unfavourable to Moscow’s move for further expansion. This may compel it to make this or that change in its expansionist tactics in Asia, an important part of its global strategy. In order to soften the people's resistance in Afghanistan and Kampuchea, less denunciation throughout the world and undermine the joint efforts of the United States, West European and Asian countries, the Soviet Union may resort to "political solutions" to legalize the prolonged stationing of Soviet and Vietnamese troops in Afghanistan and Kampuchea and their support for the puppet regimes. At the same time, by creating new upheavals around Afghanistan and Indochina, the Soviet Union will exert pressure on the countries there to change their stand against Soviet hegemonism. It can be predicted that there will be more Soviet military forces deployed in the Indian and Pacific oceans and U.S.-Soviet rivalry and confrontation in the region will become even more acute.

— "Renmin Ribao" Observer, March 27.

**Who Has Violated the Olympic Spirit?**

Some 50 countries have announced their boycott of the Summer Games to be held in Moscow in protest against the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan. Not long ago 12 countries met in Geneva to discuss organizing an international sports meet as an alternative to the Moscow Olympics.

The Soviet leaders are disturbed by the growing international boycott and have charged that such actions violate the rules and spirit of the Olympic movement. This is a preposterous accusation, for it is the Soviet Union itself that has violated the rules and spirit of the Olympic movement.

As everyone knows, friendship and peace are the main content of the Olympic spirit. The rules of the Olympic movement were drawn up according to this spirit and they have won worldwide recognition. When the Soviet Union made its bid to sponsor the forthcoming Summer Olympics, it publicly promised to uphold the Olympic spirit and abide by the Olympic rules. In 1976 Brezhnev sent a message to the International Olympic Committee and the participants of the Montreal Games vowing that the Soviet Union "supports and will continue to support" the modern Olympic movement. The Soviet Government even gave such a guarantee to the I.O.C. However, it is obvious to all that the Soviet "promises" and "guarantees" are merely empty words designed to deceive people. Soviet actions in Afghanistan have trampled underfoot the Olympic spirit.

Moscow's efforts to hold the Summer Games are designed to use the Olympic peace and friendship banner to beguile the world public as well as to make this banner serve its global strategy of world domination. With tongue in cheek, Brezhnev claimed that Moscow would give a new impetus to the concept of friendship and peace at the 1980 Olympic Games. As Soviet tanks rumble over Afghanistan, it is clear what "new impetus" Brezhnev has given to the Olympic movement.

Brezhnev and company's attempt to use the Olympic movement as a cover for their hegemonic designs is nothing new. In the 30s, Hitler shouted about friendship and peace while using the 11th Olympic Games in 1936 to deceive people and draw their attention away from the Nazis' feverish preparations to launch a world war.

This piece of history has kept the world on the alert. Today, more and more countries and people have come to see the true features of the Soviet hegemonists from their aggression in Afghanistan. The tragic
events of 1936 must not be repeated. To boycott the Moscow Olympics and put a stop to Soviet aggression in Afghanistan would really contribute to the safeguarding of the rules and spirit of the Olympic movement.

— Shi Jingzu

Zimbabwe

A Good Beginning

Report From Salisbury

The outward appearance of Salisbury is the same as it was before and the people are living a normal life. However, things are gradually changing. Salisbury, the seat of government of the old regime, has become the capital of the new-born Republic of Zimbabwe. A blueprint for the new and independent Zimbabwe is being mapped out and urgent problems of the country are being thrashed out in the capital. A new chapter has thus been opened in the annals of this southern African country.

Pressing Tasks. Priorities are being given to pressing problems such as land and refugee resettlement. Prime Minister Robert Mugabe emphasized at a press conference that his government must proceed quickly to acquire land for resettling the refugees. There is enough land — unclaimed or not fully utilized — to be distributed immediately to the refugees in the country.

It is reported that the Zimbabwean refugees number about 790,000. But up to now, only 35,000 of them have come back to the country for resettlement. Therefore, the task is an arduous one.

In the first week after the formation of the new government, Minister Eddison Zvobgo of Local Government and Housing and Minister Sydney Sekeramayi of Land, Resettlement and Rural Development inspected the refugee camps in the suburbs of the capital. Standing on the top of a car in the scorching sun, they spoke to more than one thousand refugees. They found out what the refugees were complaining about and dealt with problems that had to be solved immediately. Those who have visited the refugee camps can easily comprehend why the new government put the refugee resettlement on the agenda.

Army reorganization is another issue which has drawn public attention. A spokesman of the department concerned indicated recently that with the friendly co-operation among the three army units, the work is going on smoothly. Prime Minister Robert Mugabe made it clear long ago that the Selous scouts and the auxiliary forces would be disbanded and the police force would be independent of the combined operations command so that it may maintain public security and social order as it did traditionally. Rhodesia's security forces announced that they would stop calling up recruits.

Prime Minister Mugabe told newsmen not long ago that he had been informed by the commander of the former combined operations command that reforms would also take place in the command. The Prime Minister noted that there must be changes in Zimbabwe; otherwise the government would not be new in any sense. Nevertheless, any changes have to be practical, with full consideration of the technical forces now available and other factors.

Satisfied With the New Government. Among the 250,000 whites in Zimbabwe there are many with foresight. We have spoken to some professionals who told us that they could see a good number of talented and capable ministers in the new cabinet. Their words showed that they were satisfied with the government and hopeful about it. Some prominent businessmen expressed their wish to co-operate with the new regime. Naturally, many whites still found it necessary to "wait and see."

In his speech "The Beginning of a New Era for Zimbabwe," delivered a few days ago, Minister of Information Dr. Shamuurira asked the whites in his country to think about how the white community would share its skills, resources and economic power with the indigenous population. He held that the native Africans and whites should be equal.

Every long journey starts with the first step. Many problems cry out for solution by the government. Yet, just as a Salisbury newspaper pointed out in a commentary, "there has already been a good beginning." The Zimbabwean people are moving into the future with full confidence.

— Xinhua Correspondents

Xia Ze and Ying Qian

Beijing Review, No. 14
Guiding Principles for Inner-Party Political Life

(Adopted at the Fifth Plenary Session of the 11th C.P.C. Central Committee)

THE Third Plenary Session of the 11th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China decided to shift the focus of the Party's work on to socialist modernization. In the new historical period, we must conscientiously uphold the Party's rules and regulations, establish a good Party style of work in real earnest, strengthen and improve the Party's leadership and create a Party-wide and nationwide political situation in which we have both democracy and centralism, both freedom and discipline, both personal ease of mind, liveliness and unity of will, stability and unity. Only in this way can we give full play to the revolutionary enthusiasm and activism in work of the broad masses of Party members and unite with the whole Party and people of all nationalities in the country to successfully fulfil the great tasks of realizing the four socialist modernizations.

But owing to victory in the revolutionary struggle and the Party's position as the ruling political party in the whole country, some comrades became conceited and complacent. Owing to imperfections in the democratic centralism of the Party and state, and owing to the influence of feudal and bourgeois ideas, unhealthy tendencies, such as isolation from reality and the masses, subjectivism, bureaucratism, arbitrariness and privilege seeking somewhat developed within the Party. At the same time, because of the shortcomings and mistakes in guiding inner-Party struggle, normal inner-Party political life was impaired to a certain extent. During the Cultural Revolution in particular, Lin Biao and the gang of four, out of their needs in usurping Party and state leadership, took advantage of serious

April 7, 1980
mistakes made by the Party at that time, feverishly engaged in feudal-fascist, anarchist and factionalist splitting activities, wilfully trampled underfoot the Party's rules and regulations and abolished the Party's leadership. As a result, Party organizations, the Party spirit of the membership, and the Party's fine traditions and style of work were seriously impaired. Since the overthrow of the gang of four, thanks to the great efforts of the Party Central Committee to rectify the Party style and discipline, the Party's fine traditions and style of work have been revived. But extensive education and complicated struggle are still needed in order to heal the wounds inflicted on the Party by Lin Biao and the gang of four. With a view to completely restoring and further developing the fine traditions and style of work of the Party, improving its democratic life, safeguarding its centralized leadership, strengthening its unity, consolidating its organization and discipline and enhancing its fighting capacity, the Party Central Committee, proceeding from the present situation of the Party, re-issues to the whole membership the following guiding principles for inner-Party political life.

(1) Adhere to the Party's Political Line And Ideological Line

Adhering to the Party's political line and ideological line is the most fundamental among the guiding principles for inner-Party political life. The basic contents of the political line put forward by the Party Central Committee are to unite with the people of all nationalities throughout the country, mobilize all positive factors, work with one heart and one mind, go all out, aim high, and achieve greater, faster, better and more economical results in building a modern, powerful socialist country.* This Marxist-Leninist line that reflects the supreme interests of the people of the whole country must be firmly carried out by comrades of the whole Party.

The ideological line is the basis upon which the Party formulates and carries out its political line. The Party's ideological line calls for persisting in the socialist road, the dictatorship of the proletariat, the Party's leadership and Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought. The essential points of the dialectical materialist way of thinking and method of work which the Party has consistently advocated are to proceed from reality in all cases, integrate theory with practice and seek truth from facts. Lin Biao and the gang of four for a long time distorted and tampered with Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought, violated its essence, departed from the criterion of practice, regarded every word of Comrade Mao Zedong as truth, as law and dogma, and thus seriously trammelled people's thinking. It is therefore necessary to emphasize doing away with blind faith, emancipating the mind, taking practice as the sole criterion for testing truth, conscientiously studying the new conditions and solving new problems. Only thus can we develop Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought and truly defend and uphold the great banner of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought.

To uphold the correct political and ideological lines, it is necessary to oppose two erroneous tendencies:

First, it is essential to oppose ossified thinking and the practice of proceeding in all cases from books. The idea that once something is written in a book it cannot be changed, whatever is not in books cannot be mentioned, cannot be done, is an anti-Marxist idea, a tremendous obstacle to the implementation of the Party's political line. In taking stock of the situation, considering problems and handling affairs, we must proceed from objective reality, combine the fundamental principles of Marxism-Leninism with current developments at home and abroad and with the concrete practice of socialist modernization; we must integrate the Party's line, principles and policies with the specific conditions of our own regions and units and

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* The official formulation of the Party's political line will be that stated in the General Programme of the Party Constitution which will be adopted at the 12th National Congress of the Party.
engage in realistic study so as to solve the various theoretical and practical problems which arise in the course of the current revolutionary struggle and modernization.

Second, it is essential to oppose and repudiate the erroneous views and revisionist trends of thought that negate the socialist road, the dictatorship of the proletariat, the Party's leadership and Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought. Socialism is the only correct road that will lead China to prosperity and strength; the dictatorship of the proletariat is the guarantee for victory in socialist revolution and construction; the Party is the force at the core leading the entire Chinese people in accomplishing the four modernizations; Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought is the theoretical basis guiding our revolution and construction. In the struggle for the four modernizations, we must steadfastly adhere to these four fundamental principles.

(2) Uphold Collective Leadership, Oppose the Making of Arbitrary Decisions by Individuals

Collective leadership is one of the highest principles of Party leadership. Party committees, from the Central Committee down to the grassroots, must follow a system of combining collective leadership with division of labour and individual responsibility in accordance with this principle. All major issues touching on the Party's line, principles and policies, on the planning of important tasks, on the major appointments, removals, transfers of cadres and other questions on the handling of cadres, on important questions involving the people's interests, and on matters which leading organs at higher levels assign to lower Party committees for collective decision— all these issues, on the merits of each case, should be submitted to the Party committees concerned, to their standing committees or secretariats, or to the leading Party groups for collective discussion and decision, and no individual is allowed to make arbitrary decisions.

Under no circumstances is it permissible to replace the leadership of Party committees and their standing committees by any other form of organization.

Within the Party committees, the principle that the minority is subordinate to the majority must be strictly observed in deciding issues. The relationship between the secretary and the members of the Party committee is not one between superior and inferior; the secretary is a member on an equal standing with other members of the Party committee. The secretary or the first secretary should be good at concentrating the committee members' opinions, and is not allowed to make a practice of "what I say goes" or behave in a patriarchal manner.

There should be mutual support, mutual understanding and close co-operation between the leading members. All committee members should consciously safeguard the prestige of the collective leadership of the Party committee. While carrying out criticism and self-criticism, they should uphold principles and make criticisms with the aim of helping others.

In discussing major issues, the Party committee should allow the committee members to speak out freely whatever they wish to say. If differences arise during the discussion, the Party committee should take the opinions of the minority into serious consideration but avoid endless discussion which does not reach a decision and thus holds up the progress of work.

Upholding collective leadership does not mean diminishing or negating the role of the individual; collective leadership must be combined with division of labour and personal responsibility.

In division of labour with personal responsibility, the secretary or the first secretary should shoulder the principal responsibility for organizing the activities of the Party committee and handling its day-to-day work. The important role of the secretary or the first secretary in the Party committee should not be scaled down or denied under the pretext of collective leadership.

It is necessary to understand and handle the relations between leaders, Party, class and masses correctly according to Marxist principles. Publicity in relation to leading members should be realistic and no unprincipled glorification of them is allowed. It is impermissible to praise leading members of the proletariat in the sycophantic terms used by the exploiting classes, nor is it permissible to distort history or cook up facts in publicizing the contributions of leading members. There should be no celebration of the birthdays of leading members, nor should they be sent gifts or congratulatory messages. No memorial hall should be built for any living person, and not too many such halls should be built for late leaders. No street, place, enterprise or school should be named after a leading member of the Party. Except for diplomatic occasions, when a leader is out
on official business it is forbidden to organize welcomes and send-offs, put up slogans, beat drums and gongs and hold banquets in his honour.

(3) Safeguard the Party's Centralized Leadership and Strictly Observe Party Discipline

Democratic centralism is the Party's fundamental principle of organization. By pushing an ultra-left line and practising anarchism, Lin Biao and the gang of four sabotaged both democracy and centralism; both freedom and discipline. This pernicious anarchic influence has not been eliminated to this day. For this reason, it is necessary to seriously reiterate the principle that "the individual is subordinate to the organization, the minority is subordinate to the majority, the lower level is subordinate to the higher level, and the entire membership is subordinate to the Central Committee." Every Party member should take the safeguarding of the Party's centralized leadership and strict observance of Party discipline as the principle guiding his own words and deeds.

All Party members, especially members of the Party committees at all levels, must firmly carry out the decisions of the Party committee. They may reserve whatever dissenting views they have or state them to the Party committee at a higher level; but before the Party committee at their level or a higher level makes any change in the decision, they must unconditionally carry out the original decision except under special emergency conditions in which serious consequences will immediately arise from its implementation.

Decentralism must be opposed and prevented.

If there are dissenting views on matters concerning the fundamental interests of the Party and state, or major political questions of theory and policy that affect the overall situation, they can be discussed on appropriate occasions within the Party. But when and how these should be discussed in the newspapers and magazines should be decided by the Party Central Committee. The Party's journals should unconditionally publicize the Party's line, principles, policies and political views.

Every Party member or Party leader must handle his personal affairs according to the principle that the Party's interests stand above everything else. and consciously accept the assignment, transfer and arrangement of work given him by the Party organization.

Every Party member must strictly guard Party and state secrets and fight resolutely against the practice of divulging Party and state secrets.

All Party members, especially leading cadres at all levels, must be models in observing the state laws, labour discipline, work discipline, and communist morality.

Party members must at all times and in all cases pay attention to the overall interests of the whole Party, the state and the people, and educate the masses in the spirit of giving consideration to the overall situation.

(4) Uphold Party Spirit and Eradicate Factionalism

As a unitary combat collective composed of the advanced elements of the proletariat, the Party must uphold its solidarity on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought and oppose all forms of factionalism and factional activities that undermine the Party's solid unity.

Organizing secret groups within the Party is a criminal action of splitting and subverting the Party.

Factionalism is incompatible with the proletarian Party spirit. Going in for factionalism and forming factional setups to pursue selfish interests are manifestations of extreme individualism of the exploiting classes and of anarchism and reflect within the Party, the guild mentality of the feudal classes and small producers.

There are no open factionalist cliques within the Party at present, but factionalism still exists among cadres and Party members who were fairly deeply affected by Lin Biao and the gang of four and some are even engaged in factional activities.

Party organizations at all levels and all Party members must uphold Party spirit and wage unremitting struggle to eradicate factionalism. Serious disciplinary measures must be taken against those who persist in factionalism and refuse to mend their ways despite repeated admonition. Such people should not be admitted into the leading bodies: they must be removed if they are already in leading posts.
favouritism. Party members should be loyal to the Party's organizations and principles, they should not pledge loyalty to any individuals. No one is allowed to regard the Party's cadres as his private property, nor is he allowed to turn the lower-level cadres into his personal appendage.

(5) Speak the Truth and Match Words With Deeds

Loyalty to the cause of the Party and the people, honesty in words and deeds, being an honest person and being open and aboveboard, these are the fine qualities that a Communist should have.

Party members should be honest and frank, they should not conceal their own mistakes, thoughts or views from the Party organization.

It is necessary firmly to oppose the way of bureaucrats and politicians and the practice of the philistines - exchange of flattery and favour, boasting and touting, obsequiously complying with the humours of the leaders, bartering away principles, grasping at opportunities for self-advancement and asking for fame and position from the Party.

Party members should at all time and in all circumstances respect facts both in regard to themselves and to others and make truthful report to the Party on the situation. Party discipline must be enforced upon those who practise fraud and thus cause great harm to the interests of the Party and the people, those who seek honour and position through deception, those who conceal their serious errors and achieve their personal aims by lying, and those who connive at and induce and coerce their subordinates to tell lies. Those who are not afraid of retaliation and who dare to tell the truth in defence of the interests of the Party and people should be commended.

(6) Promote Inner-Party Democracy, Take a Correct Attitude Towards Dissenting Views

Promotion of inner-Party democracy requires first of all that Party members are permitted to present differing views and engage in thorough discussions of matters so as to bring about a situation in which one can say all one knows and say it without reserve. Those who have made mistaken statements or written erroneous articles - due to their mistaken understanding must not be punished for vio-
The practice of wilfully putting such political labels as “abandoning the Party standard,” “poisonous weed,” “bourgeois,” and “revisionist” on matters of understanding, wilfully calling them issues of a political nature between ourselves and the enemy, not only impairs normal inner-Party political life and gives rise to ossified thinking but is inapt to be utilized by anti-Party careerists and disrupts the democratic order of the socialist state. A check must be put to this practice.

(7) Guarantee That the Party Members’ Rights Are Not Encroached Upon

Party organizations at all levels must effectively safeguard the rights of Party members. Encroachment on Party members’ rights is a serious violation of Party discipline.

Party members have the right to take part, at Party meetings and in Party journals, in discussions on formulating and implementing Party policies; and also the right to criticize any Party organization or individual at Party meetings. Party members can put forward at Party meetings their differing views on the Party’s principles, policies and resolutions and can submit verbal or written reports on these to Party organizations at all levels up to the Party Central Committee. The Party organization should welcome criticism and proposals from Party members and encourage them to put forth their creative ideas and views on promoting the cause of socialism.

Party members have the right to propose removing or replacing cadres who have committed serious mistakes and refuse to correct them or who are incompetent.

With regard to the handling of cases concerning themselves or others by the Party organization, Party members have the right to put forward their statements, appeals, accusations and defence at Party meetings or to Party organizations at higher levels right up to the Party Central Committee. Both accuser and accused are forbidden to bring false charges against one another. Whoever does this must be dealt with seriously according to Party discipline and state law.

Any decision made by a Party organization on the appraisal, verdict and punishment of a Party member must be made known to the member concerned. When a decision on punishment is to be adopted, the Party member concerned, except in special circumstances, should be asked to attend the meeting. The Party
organization should listen carefully to and consider the opinions of the Party member. If the Party member concerned has dissenting opinions, the decision of the Party organization and the opinions of the Party member should be reported to the Party organization at a higher level for examination and approval.

(8) Give Full Expression to the Voters’ Wishes in an Election

A competent leading body enjoying prestige among Party members and the masses can be established only through genuine democratic elections within the Party.

Party organizations at all levels should, in accordance with the Party Constitution, call regular general membership meetings and congresses. Party committees at all levels should be re-elected at a specified time. There should be replacements of a definite number of congress and committee members at each session. Full scope should be given to democracy in an election so as to give genuine expression to the voters’ will. The lists of candidates should be drawn up by Party members or their representatives in the course of full consultations and discussions. In the election, the number of candidates should be greater than the number elected; or the candidates may be first chosen in a preliminary election in the same way and then enter the formal election. Basic information about the candidates should be made known to the voters. Secret ballots should be adopted in all elections.

It is impermissible to stipulate that a certain person must be or must not be elected.

When the Party congresses at all levels are in recess, the Party committee at a higher level can appoint, remove or transfer responsible members on the Party committee at a lower level according to the needs of the work.

(9) Fight Against Erroneous Tendencies, Evildoers and Evil Deeds

Party organizations at all levels should give full play to their role as a combat bastion, lead the rank and file and the masses to resolutely expose and crack down on counter-revolutionaries, grafters and embezzlers, criminals and serious law-breakers.

It is necessary to seriously criticize and fight against such erroneous tendencies as factionalism, anarchism, extreme individualism, bureaucracy and privilege-seeking.

It is essential to criticize and struggle against malpractices, erroneous ideas and reactionary trends of thought.

Party members, especially leading cadres at all levels, in their struggle against erroneous tendencies, evildoers and evil deeds, should display a dauntless revolutionary spirit and dare to step forward, unafraid of offending others, of hurting their feelings or of being attacked and persecuted.

(10) Adopt a Correct Attitude Towards Comrades Who Have Made Mistakes

In inner-Party struggle, it is necessary to adopt the principles of “learning from past mistakes to avoid future ones, curing the sickness to save the patient” and of “unity-criticism-unity” in dealing with comrades who have made mistakes so as to achieve the aim of clarifying ideas and uniting the comrades. This is our Party’s fine tradition. As for those comrades who have made mistakes, it is necessary to appraise their merits and demerits from an historical and overall point of view, and not to totally negate a person as soon as he makes a mistake. One must not get tangled up in problems which arose in the past but have been clarified or haggle over mistakes that were made in the past but have been corrected. Having clarified the facts, one must make a concrete analysis of the nature and seriousness of their mistakes and, with an enthusiastic and comradely attitude, help them understand the causes for their mistakes, point out the way to correct these mistakes and encourage them to make necessary self-criticism. One should have faith that the majority of erring comrades can correct their mistakes and one should create necessary conditions for them to correct their mistakes and continue to work for the Party.

In analysing the mistakes committed by a comrade, it is necessary first of all to make a strict distinction between the two types of contradictions which are different in nature. One must not describe an ordinary mistake in work or a mistake in understanding as a political mistake; nor must one describe an ordinary political mistake as a mistake in political line; or mix up a mistake in political line which is still in the nature of inner-Party struggle with a question of a counter-revolutionary nature involving attempts to subvert the Party and the socialist state. As to conspirators, careerists and counter-revolutionary double-dealers who attempt to subvert the Party and the socialist state, their contradiction with the Party and
the people is one between ourselves and the enemy. But such people are very few in number. It is necessary to distinguish between those who follow their higher-ups or principal leading members in committing a mistake of political line and those who engage in subversive activities aimed at usurping Party and state leadership.

In inner-Party struggle, it is impermissible to wage ruthless struggle and deal merciless blows. Within the Party, it is impermissible to transcend Party discipline and violate state law in dealing with Party members. It is absolutely forbidden to solve inner-Party problems by resorting to feudal-fascist means such as those used by Lin Biao and the gang of four. It is strictly forbidden to use the so-called method of "ferreting out and struggling" against people, to resort to personal insult and personal persecution or to obtain confessions by inducement and compulsion.

It is necessary to be very prudent in handling a person's case. If, for the time being, it cannot be determined whether a contradiction is one between ourselves and the enemy or one among the people, the case should be handled as one among the people. Prudence is all the more necessary in handling a case which involves deciding that the contradiction is one between ourselves and the enemy, expelling the person concerned from the Party and relegating the case to the judicial department for disposition. Under no circumstances is it permissible to implicate innocent family members or relatives of the person involved.

Those comrades who have erred should sincerely accept criticism and education from the Party organization and comrades and disciplinary actions taken against them. They should learn from their mistakes, conscientiously correct them and improve their service to the Party. Those who commit serious mistakes but refuse to admit them and persist willfully in making trouble should be punished more heavily.

(11) Accept Supervision From the Party And the Masses; See That Privilege-Seeking Is Not Allowed

Leading cadres at all levels are the servants of the people. They have only the duty of serving the people diligently and conscientiously and no right to seek privileges either politically or in respect to living conditions. Providing leading members with certain reasonable conveniences and ensuring their safety in accordance with the needs of work is necessary; but it is absolutely impermissible to seek privileges in violation of the regulations.

In our country, people differ only in the kind of work they do, and are not classified into superior and inferior, high and low. No one is a lowly slave or an exalted aristocrat. The idea of those who regard their power as something free of all restrictions belongs to a moribund feudal "special privilege" mentality, and must be criticized and corrected. Party members and cadres should regard the urge to seek privileges and personal gains as the greatest disgrace.

It is necessary to uphold the principle that everyone is equal before the truth and before Party discipline and state law. There must not be any special Party members who are not bound by the restrictions of Party discipline and state law and who place themselves above the Party organization. It is absolutely impermissible for Party members to abuse their functions and powers in pursuing their own selfish interests.

No leading cadre is allowed to transcend the limits of power given by the Party organization, or to encroach upon the power of a collective or an individual. All Party members are comrades and comrades-in-arms on an equal footing; leading cadres of the Party should treat others as equals. They must not think that others should comply with whatever they say, whether correct or not, still less should they put on official airs and go in for reprimanding and rebuking others. If problems in work arise at
the lower levels as a consequence of the shortcomings and mistakes of the leading members at the higher levels, the higher authorities should take the initiative to shoulder the responsibility for the lower levels and should first of all make self-criticism.

Leading cadres at all levels must maintain and carry forward our Party's glorious traditions of hard struggle and sharing joys and sorrows with the masses. It is necessary firmly to overcome the abominable tendency existing among some leading cadres to seek special treatment for themselves and their family members. It is forbidden for leading members to wilfully approve the use of public funds and materials in violation of financial and economic discipline. They are forbidden to use their position and power to seek preferment for their family members or relatives in regard to such matters as enrollment in schools and colleges, transferring from one to another, promotions, employment and going abroad. The use of public funds for banquets, gifts and residences for leading members in violation of rules and regulations is forbidden. It is impermissible to mix public and private interests, use public service for private gain, appropriate and squander state and collective property under any pretext or by any means.

Leading Party cadres at all levels must consciously and strictly observe the regulations regarding their living arrangements and at the same time pay more attention to educating their children. Those who have violated regulations in these matters and who refuse to mend their ways despite criticism and education must be punished according to Party discipline.

No leading cadre is permitted, in violation of the Party's organizational principles and criteria for the selection of cadres, to promote his family members or relatives to leading positions. He must not allow them to overstep their authority and meddle in Party and state affairs, nor should he place them in key posts on his staff.

In order to maintain close ties between the Party and the masses of the people, and see to it that the leading Party cadres and Party members who are the people's servants do not turn into lords sitting on their backs, it is necessary to strengthen supervision by the Party organization and the masses over the leading Party cadres and Party members. This requires adopting a method which includes combining supervision "from bottom to top" and "from top to bottom" and from both "inside the Party" and "outside the Party."

It is necessary, on the basis of steadfastly following the mass line, to establish and improve the whole system for the examination, review, award and punishment, rotation, retirement and dismissal of cadres. Application of this system should bring to light the genuine distinction between cadres' merits and demerits, and between who should be commended and who should be punished, so as to encourage the advanced and spur on the less advanced.

Leading cadres at all levels should, at regular intervals, listen to the opinions and comments of the Party members and the masses in their own units. Party organizations at all levels should attach importance to the criticism and opinions expressed by the masses, in their letters or during their visits, about the leading cadres and Party members.

Every Party member, whatever his post, must be assigned to a Party organization and take part in its activities. Party committees at all levels and their standing committees should call regular "meetings of democratic life" to exchange views and carry out criticism and self-criticism.

(12) Study Hard and Become Red and Expert

To accomplish the arduous tasks of the four modernizations, it is necessary to train and foster a mighty contingent of cadres who persist in the socialist road and who have vocational knowledge. It is also necessary to boldly promote to leading posts middle-aged and young cadres (including Party and non-Party members).
On Reforming the Economic Management System (III)
by Xue Muqiao

This is the third and concluding part of an article by the noted economist Xue Muqiao. The first part "Why Reforms Are Necessary" and the second part "Reforms in the Management of State-Owned Enterprises" appeared in issues Nos. 5 and 12 respectively. — Ed.

Reforms in the Management Of the National Economy

ReFORMS in the enterprise management call for reforms in the management of all aspects of our national economy (planning, circulation of materials, commerce, labour and wages, prices, etc.).

Reforms in managing the national economy centre on two problems.

Division of Power Between Central and Local Authorities

In reforming the management system of the national economy, we must first of all clearly define the limits of power between the central and local authorities under the principle of "separate management at various levels under unified leadership." One outstanding issue in the relationship between the central and local authorities is how to carry out reforms in the financial management system.

Up till now, the bulk of the taxes and profits from various enterprises are turned over to the Ministry of Finance by the financial organs at various levels. In consultation with the provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions, the ministry works out a budget for their reve-

who fulfill these requirements so that they can develop their strong points in work and overcome their weaknesses. This is an urgent and important political task placed before the whole Party.

Party members must be vanguard fighters in accomplishing the four modernizations and strive to be red and expert. "Red" means having a firm and correct political orientation and upholding the four fundamental principles; "expert" means learning and mastering professional knowledge for accomplishing modernization and becoming specialists and experts in their own fields of work.

In order to improve and strengthen Party leadership over the modernization programme, it is essential to raise the cultural, scientific, technical and vocational attainment of all Party members to a much higher level.

All Party members must, in accordance with the requirements for proletarian vanguard fighters, set strict demands on themselves, assiduously study and grasp Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought, steadily raise their level of political consciousness and ability to work for the four modernizations so as to make still greater contributions.

The Guiding Principles for Inner-Party Political Life embody the important rules and regulations of the Party. All Party members should diligently study and consciously abide by them. They should conscientiously examine their work and style in accordance with the requirements of these principles. Leading bodies at all levels and leading cadres of the Party should take the lead in carrying them out. Party members who violate these guiding principles should be criticized and educated and, in serious cases, punished according to Party discipline, up to expulsion from the Party.

Party organizations and commissions for inspecting discipline at all levels should make regular check-ups on the implementation of these principles; the commissions for inspecting discipline should draw up reports on their findings to the Party congresses or the Party committees.

(A slightly abridged translation.)
nues and expenditures. The revenues left to the local governments are scanty, just enough to meet their necessary administrative expenses, and a small amount for construction purposes or for the operation of various undertakings.

The Ministry of Finance allocates most of the investments in capital construction to other ministries under the Central Government, which in turn allocate specified amounts of money to provinces and enterprises for specified purposes. Funds for the operation of various undertakings are allocated in the same way. If and when the funds allocated to a certain local unit for construction or for operating certain undertakings are found to be overlapping and a waste, and the local government wishes to divert the money to other purposes, the central ministry concerned is sure to take back the money.

A local government which increased its financial revenue by its own efforts in general has to hand the excess amount over to the Central Government. The local authorities thus tend to become indifferent to their financial revenues and expenditures, making little effort to increase revenues or cut down expenditures, nor do they have the power to make readjustments on discovering expenditures that were overlapping and wasteful.

With a view to effecting reforms in the financial system, a revenue-sharing system was introduced on a trial basis in Jiangsu Province several years ago. Under this system, a fixed proportion (to remain unchanged for a period of three years) of Jiangsu's revenue is left to the disposal of the province while the rest is handed over to the Central Government. Since this measure was put into effect, the province's revenue has registered a marked increase. In 1976 which saw a general decline in national revenue, Jiangsu nevertheless continued to enjoy a marked upswing. In the following year, 1977, when the nation's revenues began to pick up, Jiangsu achieved another marked increase over that of the year before.

According to a recent decision of the central authorities, as from this year the "Jiangsu experience" will be applied on a trial basis throughout the country. Meanwhile, another measure is now under consideration, to be adopted when conditions permit. This measure envisages a division of revenues between the Central Government on the one hand and the provincial (or municipal, autonomous region) governments on the other (specifying the categories of tax levies that should go to the treasury of the Central Government and those that are to go to the local coffers, stipulating that the profit of an enterprise is to go to the authorities which exercise control over it). In this way each local government may be able to achieve a balance of financial revenue and expenditure on its own, with larger expenditures when there is more revenue and smaller when there is less. When this measure is introduced, local governments will have greater power over their finances.

After this division of power between the central and local authorities, all major construction projects will still be financed by the Central Government in a unified way, while the local governments will build the required ancillary items. The local governments should use their financial resources to first of all support agriculture, then to finance technical innovations of the existing industrial enterprises and develop necessary local industries and communications; part of the local revenues should be spent on building schools, hospitals, stores, housing estates and other projects for collective welfare. In the past, local governments, with their limited financial resources, lacked the means to support technical innovations in the existing industrial enterprises as well as the means to carry out
necessary urban development, and could not do much in establishing conveniences or facilities for improving people's livelihood.

As facts have shown, a construction project undertaken by a local government needs less investment and yields returns more quickly than one undertaken by the Central Government because the local government is in a better position to tap potentials in the immediate vicinity. For this reason, the construction of small and medium-sized items should, generally speaking, be entrusted to local governments or combines.

Of course, the demarcation of the limits of power over financial affairs between the Central Government and the local governments alone will not solve all the problems. There are still a host of contradictions that need to be ironed out. For instance, even after Jiangsu has tentatively applied the new revenue-sharing financial system and has in a way extended its own power, its own financial and material resources are still very limited, so it can only look after its own needs and will possibly reduce its support for other areas. Jiangsu has a fairly developed machine-building industry and is in a position to export its products to other provinces. But to meet the needs of other provinces, it has to invest more; when investments are made by the upper levels, the supply of raw and other materials, fuel, electricity needed in making the products for other provinces will also have to be solved. Failure to do so, will affect the economic co-operation between Jiangsu and other provinces.

The southern part of the province (embracing the cities of Suzhou, Wuxi and Changzhou) has very close economic ties with Shanghai; many industries run by cities, counties or even people's communes in this area often fulfill orders from big Shanghai factories or process goods for them. When the power of planned management rests mainly in the hands of the local government, it is very likely that this existing relationship of co-operation and geographical specialization will be harmed. This, obviously, is unfavourable to our socialist modernization.

Again for instance, the discrepancies in industrial development among the various provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions are very large and so the industrially less developed areas are in dire need of help in economic construction from the more advanced areas. Hence, contradictions arise not only between the central ministries on the one hand and the provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions on the other, but also among the latter administrative divisions themselves. These contradictions are generally manifested in pressure from the industrially advanced areas for more power of self-management, while the less advanced, or backward areas press the Central Government for unified management and allocation of products. The same contradiction exists between places producing major items like steel products, timber, cement and coal and places which buy these items: the former asking for more power for the local authorities, the latter pressing the Central Government for unified allocation of these items. This being the case, it is not always easy to reach a consensus, although the related state organs have repeatedly discussed this problem of making reforms in the system of planned management.

Specialization and Co-operation

The root cause of the problem lies mainly in the contradiction between the managerial system and the objective needs of economic development. Up till now, our economic management is mainly carried out through different administrative systems, levels and areas. This artificial separation of power does not conform with the objective laws of economic activities and makes it impossible to fully utilize the role played by market and the law of value in the service of the socialist economy. Accordingly, reform of the existing economic management system not only calls for resolving the question of the relationship between the central and local authorities and between the various departments and localities, but, what is more important, also postulates more power and responsibility for enterprises, emphasizing the management of economic affairs by economic organizations rather than by administrative bodies. No department or locality is allowed to undermine the unified socialist market through administrative measures.

Here, specialized companies and combines established to meet the needs of specialization and co-operation are more ideal forms of economic organization. They can conduct economic activities that transcend trades and localities among the various enterprises within their own sphere or among different companies.

Take an iron and steel complex for instance. It should not only exercise unified management
over mines and coking, iron smelting, steel making and steel rolling mills, but also manage plants manufacturing equipment for the industry and even related research institutes and designing offices, agencies supplying raw and other materials, firms engaged in installing and repairing machinery and equipment and those marketing products. The same is true in the case of a chemical industry complex. It must also exercise management over plants making chemical fertilizers, chemical fibres and petrochemical works, research and designing institutes, plants which manufacture machinery for the industry and companies which supply raw and other materials or market the various chemical products.

Research and designing institutes (like companies, factories, and supply and marketing organizations) should be run like enterprises. They carry out research programmes or make designs entrusted them by the various companies and factories and are paid for it. To encourage technical innovations, when there are application of important new technology and successful trial production of new products, the state should grant the parties concerned patent rights or considerable cash awards to cover their research expenses and the costs of trial production and to provide for some material gains.

When such a measure is adopted, the research into new technology and the trial manufacture of new products can count on the support of the combines and specialized companies, which will quickly apply them in production. The introduction of this measure can also straighten out things as they now stand, for many research and designing institutes, heavily staffed with scientists and technicians and spending a great deal of money, have in the long past failed to achieve substantial results.

There should be specialization and co-operation within industry itself as well as between industry, agriculture and commerce. For instance, a tobacco company must not only take care of the manufacturing of cigarettes but also cultivate a number of tobacco plantations, be in charge of purchasing tobacco leaves and curing; in this way it can guarantee the supply and quality of the raw materials used. Similarly, textile companies should concern themselves with the production and purchasing of cotton, wool, silk worm cocoons, flax, hemp, and chemical fibres; they may also organize these tasks in a unified way. In the case of factories making goods for export, they too should integrate their production with the supply of raw materials and the sale of goods abroad.

At present, however, raw materials, production and marketing are being handled by the agricultural, industrial and commercial departments respectively. This method of separate management hampers improvement of the quality of products as well as efforts to meet market needs with a greater variety of goods and patterns. We must be resolved to change the existing management system and set up specialized companies or combines integrating supply, production and marketing into one.

There has been a rigid division of labour between industry and commerce with the commercial department being the sole agency for purchasing and selling industrial goods. Its damaging effect is obvious. Recently, the State Council has encouraged the commercial departments to selectively purchase goods of fine quality; as a result, the contradiction between industry and commerce has developed further. Because commercial departments are afraid of piling up inventories, they reduce the purchase of many types of goods needed on the market. As factories are not allowed to market their own products, light industrial mills in many places have been forced to reduce production.

In the light of this situation, selectively...
purchasing goods by commercial departments must go hand in hand with the marketing of products by the industrial departments themselves. Some factories or industrial departments may set up their own agencies to market products which the commercial departments do not purchase. For the convenience of consumers, factories should set up agencies to market certain products and take on responsibility to repair them. New products are better to be marketed by the producer itself because this helps it to gather more information about market needs and improve its products.

In foreign trade, the old practice according to which the producer has no direct contact with foreign clients and the foreign trade departments handle everything, must also be changed. A producer must not only take part in business talks with foreign clients, but also have a part in the signing of contracts, share part of the foreign exchange earned by the foreign trade department and also share commitments signed in the contracts. Some producers, subject to approval by the higher level, may directly contact foreign clients for co-operation, such as processing goods for foreign clients who supply the raw materials. Foreign trade departments are responsible for offering these producers advice but are not entitled to monopolize all the business transactions.

**Administrative vs Economic Means**

With reform of the economic management system under consideration, discussions are taking place among many comrades on regulating production through planning and through market, and on the question of whether to run economic affairs by administrative methods or by economic methods. The real difference between the two cannot be explained in a few words, but I would like to cite several practical examples here.

**Investment in capital construction may be made in several ways:**

1. The state provides the money while the unit concerned applies to the state for all the construction expenditures and uses the finished project without making any repayment. This is an out-and-out administrative method.

2. The financial department appropriates money, the bank handles the money and the unit concerned pays for the use of the finished project. This is a combination of administrative and economic methods.

3. The bank alone issues a loan, the unit using the finished project pays back the principal with interest; as an alternative, the bank makes the investment and shares the profit with the enterprise concerned. These methods are entirely economic.

In the past we employed the first method; in future we are going to employ the second method in the case of fairly large capital construction items, and the third for carrying out technical innovations and items requiring a small investment.

As to the circulation of products, one can also follow a number of methods:

1. Capital goods are allocated by the state according to plan and consumer goods purchased and marketed in a unified way through state-owned commercial channels. This is an administrative method.

2. Important capital goods which are distributed in a unified way by the state and handled by the central ministries are supplied according to fixed quotas, and the users buy these products from specialized companies according to their quotas. Other capital goods may be bought freely. Staple consumer goods are purchased and marketed through state-owned commercial channels in a unified way and are rationed to the consumers. Those outside this category are marketed by the pro-
ducers themselves with the consumers free to choose what to buy.

3. The system of providing supplies in fixed amounts and quotas can be abolished and replaced by free purchases.

At present, we can only employ the second method for it is not yet possible to completely do away with the system of providing supplies in fixed amounts and quotas, but we can gradually reduce the scope within which this system functions. Only when products are in great abundance and supplies fully ensured can we use the third method, that is, the method of making full use of the role played by the market and mainly using the law of value for regulating supply and demand when they are in a state of disequilibrium.

The management of production through planning can be divided into two kinds: direct planning (issuing instructions) and indirect planning (making suggestions). In the past, there was direct planning in the sphere of the economy owned by the whole people and in principle indirect planning in the sphere of the collectively owned economy, though in the latter case, indirect planning was as often as not replaced by direct planning. In future, while it is strictly prohibited to force plans on collectively owned units, a great deal of direct planning can also be gradually replaced by indirect planning in the case of the economy owned by the whole people, namely, ensuring the realization of state plans through consultations and various economic policies.

Tasks of Economic Management Organizations

Is it all right to abolish the administrative organs dealing with economic affairs after administrative orders are replaced by economic methods? The answer is no. Since the administrative organs will no longer handle the actual business, its structure can be greatly simplified and its personnel reduced in number. Still, they are shouldering heavy tasks in giving leadership and the state will increase, not reduce, their responsibilities as leading organs.

The planning commissions at all levels will continue to draw up long-term and yearly plans for the national economy and for maintaining overall balance of the national economy. When direct planning is replaced by indirect planning, it does not follow that people concerned may or may not carry out these plans. All plans must be followed without fail; the question now is

the method used in carrying out the plans. They shall be carried out through consultations, by adopting economic measures, with the help of the role played by market and the law of value, and by management according to objective economic laws. In carrying out plans, indirect planning is more complex and more difficult to handle than direct planning; it calls for a higher theoretical level and more professional know-how on the part of the economic personnel.

The economic commissions and construction commissions at all levels as well as the departments in charge of production should coordinate the economic activities among the different trades, the various companies and the various enterprises (including units engaged in capital construction), help them fill the gap between supply, production and marketing, give them guidance in the direction of development to make sure that all these activities conform to the state plan. Together with the financial department, the bank and the price control organ, they should work out various economic policies and measures to ensure the realization of the state plan.

The financial departments and the bank should control the turnover of funds and circulation of money throughout the country, exercise their powers to examine and supervise the economic activities of various enterprises,

Newly promoted deputy chief engineer Gu Deji (middle) of the Shanghai Iron and Steel Research Institute.
especially their financial transactions, and see
to it that the funds are rationally divided up
among the various regions. The departments
in charge of labour and materials should study
the rational use of manpower and material re-
sources to prevent waste.

In short, all organs in charge of economic
affairs must do things according to economic
laws and work out more ways to do a good job
of running economic affairs.

Beijing Restructures
Its Machine-Building
Industry

In 1978, Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjin and
Liaoning Province started to restructure their
industries on a trial basis along lines of specializa-
tion and co-operation. Two more provinces,
Sichuan and Jiangsu, joined in the experiment
the next year. Following investigation, the af-
filiation of some enterprises was readjusted,
more than 400 specialized companies (or
general factories) founded, and 24 ex-
perimental corporate companies (general
factories) established. Some preliminary ad-
varces have been achieved. But restructuring
industry involves a series of complex and deli-
cate changes in the existing management sys-
tem and policies. More work by way of ex-
perimentation will be carried out.

The following article provides some infor-
mation about this. — Ed.

SINCE April 1978 the machine-building
industry in Beijing has undergone a tenta-
tive process of restructuring according to the
principle of specialization and co-operation.

Problems

Beijing started to develop its machine-
building industry in 1949 after liberation. It
now has 1,283 plants and 566,000 workers and
staff members. It is capable of making machines
of almost all categories and is of considerable
magnitude, consisting mainly of over a dozen
branches making machine tools, heavy-duty gen-
eral machinery, mining machinery, generators
and equipment, electric motors and appliances,
electric wires, bearings, motor vehicles, farm
machinery, instruments and meters. It has be-
come one of the sinews of the machine-building
industry not only in north China but throughout
the country.

But as a whole, the industry is rather back-
ward in technology and management, and its
products are not very up-to-date. There are
more problems in management, relatively
speaking.

The main problems here are: too many
leading bodies above, scattered management,
most of the enterprises consisting of the "uni-
versal" type, and overlapping production. These
cause considerable waste of the productive
forces.

For instance, the whole city had 13 factories
making electric motors and they belonged to
ten different bureaus, districts and counties.
Every year they produced medium-sized and
small motors with a capacity of 970,000 kilo-
watts. Ten of these factories produced small
motors of five models simultaneously. This led
to few variety, poor quality and low efficiency.

One more outstanding example involves
three plants in the city's eastern suburb, one
making cranes, another making building ma-
chinery and the third making machines for
general purposes. These three factories were
conterminous with one another, covering an
area of 700,000 square metres and employing
altogether 7,700 people. They all produced cranes,
20-ton dumping trucks and excavators—
moving machines of similar structure which in
many ways used the same kind of technology.
Because they belonged to three different de-
partments, they could not co-operate with one
another in production in spite of their prox-
imity. Thus, each of them had its own casting,
forging, metal processing, heat treatment and
tool shops.

Restructuring

Work done in the last two years includes:
• Factories formerly belonging to various
city districts are now differentiated according
to products and placed under the separate
leadership of the municipal bureaus of machine-
buidng, meters and instruments and farm
machinery, or of the city auto industry
company.

• Readjustment and restructuring have
been carried out within each branch according
to the principle of specialization and co-opera-
tion. The 146 enterprises under the Bureau of
Machine-Building, for instance, formed 18 companies and general factories, including an engineering machinery company, a general machinery company, a machine-tool company, an electric machinery general plant, a fork-lift general plant.

- Universal plants have been transformed into specialized plants to organize production in an economical and rational way and expand productivity. The three factories in the eastern suburb mentioned above, for instance, have been reorganized on a preliminary basis, into 17 specialized plants and two workshops directly under the engineering machinery company, and put under its unified management.

- Four specialized companies or general factories (including an electric machinery general plant and a fork-lift general plant) have been formed on a trial basis. More such companies and factories with independent economic accounting will be established when more experience has been gained.

**Results**

It has not taken long for this experiment in restructuring Beijing's machine-building industry to show initial results.

Before the sewing machine industry was restructured, there were eight plants under six different districts, counties and bureaus making these machines; the productive forces were not brought into full play. After the establishment of the sewing machine general factory and 11 specialized factories under it, the productive forces have been better tapped (see table). In two years sewing machines increased by 145,000, which exceeded the total increase in the previous eight years.

The 1979 total output value of the four corporate general factories run on a trial basis was 29.4 per cent higher than that of 1978; profit increased by 36 per cent. In the corresponding period the total industrial output value of Beijing as a whole, however, registered only a 10.3 per cent increase; profit amounted to only a 10.2 per cent increase.

Restructuring along the line of specialization has helped improve methods of management. Small D.C. dynamos produced by a factory in Xuanwu District were always below standard in the past. After reorganization, with the factory merged into the electric machinery general plant, it is getting better technical advice and so the quality of its products has greatly improved.

Through restructuring, the division of labour among enterprises was readjusted to make it more rational and the production of goods needed by the market has been expanded. The whole city formerly had 17 factories manufacturing products made of galvanized sheet. Only eight remained after the reorganization as the other nine were shifted to the production of metal parts of badly needed furniture.

The present work of restructuring Beijing's industry has involved mainly readjustments inside the various companies and general factories. Readjustment transcending different trades and companies will meet with more difficulties; how to define the limits of power between companies or enterprises and the state is a problem that needs to be solved.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sewing Machine Industry Before and After Restructuring</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Year</strong></td>
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<td>Number produced</td>
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<td>Quality assessment (%)</td>
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<td>Profit (yuan)</td>
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<td>Cost (apiece)</td>
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April 7, 1980
**Kite Festival**

The clear sky above the Summer Palace on the western outskirts of Beijing was dotted with kites on March 16. More than 20,000 people—nearly double the normal Sunday crowd—streamed into the park to enjoy the kite-flying festival which featured 100 kites of different designs and craftsmanship.

Most of the kites were designed and fashioned by their flyers. Some designers have more than 30 years of experience. Hu Kuiming, for instance, is a retired worker whose family has produced expert kite-makers for three generations. Fei Baoling, a bank clerk, has entered some of his butterfly, swallow and monkey kites in an arts and crafts exhibition at the United Nations. Li Binsheng, the 55-year-old cartoonist, also designed a kite for the fair. Amateurs, too, brought their kites to the park. Among them were a 70-year-old retired worker, the oldest participant in the festival, and many teenagers, teachers and workers.

Kites of every type could be seen that day at the Summer Palace. Creatures from natural life were well represented. Swallows, butterflies, dragonflies, phoenixes, hawks and gold fish were constructed to simulate the actual movements of the animals or insects they were patterned on. There were also kites of theatrical figures. Everyone recognized the monkey king and other characters from classical novel *Pilgrimage to the West*. Liang Shanbo and Zhu Yingtai, lovers from a Chinese opera who died after their marriage was obstructed by their feudal families, were also faithfully portrayed on kites. Even kites bearing the images of the renowned Beijing opera actors, Mei Lanfang and Cheng Yanqiu, could be found.

Kites with sound devices caught spectators’ attention, especially when the wind picked up, for they emitted pleasant sounds. Other novel kites included a 20-metre centipede and a 3-metre swallow.

Kite flying is a popular sport in China and has a long tradition as well. Two thousand years ago, during the Spring and Autumn and Warring States periods, kites were used as an instrument for reconnaissance. Later, kite flying became a popular sport first in the imperial court and then among the common people. Cao Xueqin, author of the great classical novel *Dream of the Red Chamber*, was a skilled kite maker and flyer. A treatise he wrote on the subject entitled *The Craftsmanship of Kite-Making in the North and South* is still treasured today by those in the sport.

At a kite exhibition held the same day at the Summer Palace, enthusiasts could examine more closely the construction of the kites being flown overhead. Beijing kites can be roughly divided into two types: the hard-wing variety which is built on an immobile frame; and the soft-wing model with removable wings. The more sturdy-framed kite can be flown in gale force winds and reaches an altitude of 500 metres, while the soft-wing kite is more fragile and is commonly made in the form of a bird or insect.

**Aid to Taiwan Fishermen**

Four coastal reception stations in Fujian Province provided aid and shelter to 1,147 fishermen from Taiwan last year.

Many of the fishermen had sought shelter from typhoons; others were towed into the reception stations with engine trouble or came under their own steam when crewmen had fallen ill.

The reception stations provide fishermen with board and lodging while they receive medical attention and their boats are repaired. All services are free. If they have relatives on the mainland, officials will help them make contact and provide them with transport and money to visit their home districts.

The Fujian provincial government has asked local fishermen to aid Taiwan boats in distress and has provided special facilities to help crews when they come ashore. This is in line with the message to Taiwan compatriots issued by the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress, which calls for the reunification of Taiwan with the mainland and an end to tensions.
People in the News

Dilbair, the 21-year-old woman Uygur singer, gave an excellent solo performance not long ago at the concert hall of the Central People’s Broadcasting Station. Beijing audiences and musicians have been impressed by her performances of folk songs of Chinese national minorities and extremely difficult solos, as well as by her good tonal quality, a loud and clear voice, her wide range of tone and vivid feeling.

Born in Kashi (Khulug) in Xijiang, she was very fond of songs and musical instruments when she was a child. In 1976 she was admitted on the basis of an examination to the Xijiang Song and Dance Troupe from the countryside where she had settled after graduating from senior middle school.

Under the strict guidance of her teacher, Dilbair gradually developed her own unique style of singing by combining the singing of folk songs with that of West European classical songs. She is learning to employ both Chinese and foreign singing techniques, such as lyric soprano, opera soprano and coloratura soprano in her performances.

Electricity From Wind

Since 1978, China has been studying the utilization of wind energy to generate electricity. The largest generator of this type has been installed on Sijiao Island, off the east coast of China, south of Shanghai and has been operating for 2,000 hours.

This location was selected because there is a steady wind over the island for at least 300 days a year. Usually a gentle breeze is sufficient for generating electricity and with a stiff breeze, the unit operates at a peak capacity of 18 k.w. It can supply electricity for the desalination of sea water, the running of pumping stations, the lighting of local residences. This helps develop fishing industry.

Designed and installed by the East China Electric Power Designing Institute and the Zhejiang Hydropower Designing Institute, the unit is composed of a propeller windmill, a gearbox, a governor and a generator.

This process of using wind to generate electricity has an added benefit of being pollution-free. Now more than 300 small generators turned by wind, each with a capacity of 100-250 watts, have been installed on the grasslands of Inner Mongolia.

April 7, 1980
More Medium-Length Novels

A noticeable literary event of 1979 was the appearance of more medium-length novels. A work of fiction running to around 50,000 words was rare until last year when more than 40 appeared in literary journals.

This development can be partially attributed to the upsurge in short stories, which have made headway in the areas of subject matter and realistic presentation in the last three years. Having gained their basic training in plot and characterization through short story writing, many young writers felt ready to go on to the medium-length novel, which gives them greater scope for describing social life and developing ideas and characters.

Stimulus was provided by the rapid increase in magazines that carry long pieces. Of the 130 literary magazines now being published in China, around a dozen were added in the past two years. The most prestigious ones are Shoukuo (Harvest) published in Shanghai; Dangdai (The Contemporary), Shiyou (October) published in Beijing; and Huacheng (Flower City) published in Guangzhou.

These medium-length novels throb with the pulse of our times, focus on the acute social problems which people are concerned about and express the writers’ views. Some authors are also experimenting with new techniques.

With Bolshevik Salute by Wang Meng describes how a young cadre, who was promoted in the early 60s, was wrongly charged as a Rightist in the anti-Rightist campaign in 1957. Though he experienced many difficulties over a 20-year period, he retained his firm faith in the Party and in the revolutionary cause. In presentation, the novel marks a departure from the chronological order of telling a story, which is still dominant in full-length and medium-length novels. The author used flashbacks to juxtapose events covering three decades so as to heighten the essential relationships.

Cold Spring by Wang Xiyan, like some other works, makes good use of cinematic techniques by combining long shots, close-ups and symbolic scenes and of first person narration.

A Legend About Tianyun Mountain by Lu Yanzhou, Ah! by Feng Jicai and Meet at the End of the Tunnel by Liu Junmin all contain carefully developed but quite novel plots.

Another feature of the new medium-length novels is the artistic presentation of characters. Authors do not attempt to evoke, but take pains to show, the complexity of their characters.

In the Tenth Bullet Hole by Cong Weixi, a reinstated public security bureau chief orders the arrest of his son upon the approval of the procuratorate. This bureau chief is shown both as a father who takes pity on his son and as a principled Communist who puts the interest of the people first.

Most of the works in 1979, rather than elaborating on the process of carrying out a task or struggle, try to mirror through the description of everyday happenings the changes in the interrelations among people and their attitudes. In this way the writers bring out the characteristics of a historical period.

These works have outstanding people as well as “middle characters,” people with shortcomings, as their main characters. While revolutionaries figure largely in these works, younger people, thinking and militant, are also described at length.
LETTERS FROM READERS

Boycott of Moscow Olympics

With great interest I read *Beijing Review*’s reportage about the boycott of the Moscow Olympics. We, the German people, know deeply what it means when a country seeking hegemonism at home and abroad and standing in opposition to peace sponsors the Olympics.

At the 1936 Olympic Games held in Berlin, athletes of practically all countries in the world extended a salute to Hitler while parading by this Nazi dignitary. This indicated their support for him and helped build up his image. Three years later, the man launched World War II.

In a certain sense, the Berlin Olympics were a prelude to the Munich Agreement, an attempt by tolerance to appease Hitler and an action to neglect his crimes. To boycott the Moscow Olympics is to serve peace, that is to say, to promote sports and a just and peaceful competition.

Walter Brahler
Frankfurt/M, West Germany

You wrote in *Beijing Review* No. 7 that the aim of the Olympic Games is to promote peace and friendship.

I think it is correct to boycott the Moscow Olympics until the Soviet invaders withdraw from Afghanistan. I also think it is correct to prevent any attempt to use the Olympic Games to tolerate aggression. But does this have anything to do with the nature of the games? My opinion is that both in history and at present, the Olympic Games have nothing to do with peace and friendship.

For the imperialists, the Olympic Games are first of all a means to build up their strength by competition. This was deliberately exploited by the German fascists in 1936.

To boycott the Moscow Olympic Games is a way of supporting the Afghan people, but that doesn’t mean one has to adhere to the aim of the Olympic Games. I think it is correct to put the matter in this way.

Lethar Hensel
Koblenz, West Germany

I Have Come to Understand China

I must admit frankly that because of my own ignorance of China, I used to have, to say the least, an unfavourable impression of China. I once believed that China was a country which closed itself off from religion, modern culture and other ideologies. After reading *Beijing Review*, I have come to understand that China is a great country. Its present leaders serve the people’s interests wholeheartedly. Contrary to what colonialists would have us believe, there are places of worship in China for Catholics, Moslems, Protestants, and members of the Orthodox and other churches. In fact, the colonialists tell us that China is a communist state, where life is hard and people are forced to work for the state. I am glad to find that what your magazine tells me is just the opposite.

Kyalangilwa Muyengo
Bukavu, Zaire

Emancipation of the Mind

With regard to the article about emancipation of the mind ("Chinese Literature and Art: Our Lessons and Tasks Ahead" *Beijing Review*, No. 50, 1979), I think that the Communist Party of China is applying Marxism-Leninism with the highest degree of correctness if it carries out the policy on literature and art as described in the article. As Comrade Mao Zedong said, Marxism is not a dogma but a guide to action.

Arturo Angulo
Tumaco, Colombia

Doctor Norman Bethune

Your article (in issue No. 5) about Doctor Norman Bethune is very good. I admire him very much.

Bernard Jablak
L’Hermilage, France

Culture & Science and Other Columns

The stories in the columns of *Culture & Science*, Books and The Land & People leave room for improvements in terms of width and depth. Their subject matter should be more comprehensive. There isn’t enough content in the column The Land & People. China has many great men and a rich culture which interest us. As for the column Books, besides the general introduction of a book, there should be introductions of the chapters and the price should be fixed in European currencies.

Jaime Duranques Solé
Barcelona, Spain

Traditional Chinese Calendar

A Romanian reader, Victor Eschenasy, wants to know about the traditional Chinese calendar and if it is different from the Greek calendar and connected with Buddhism. Following is a simple answer:

The traditional Chinese calendar was used in China before the 1911 Revolution. Its characteristics are: The length of each month, which contains either 30 days or 29 days, is established in light of the astronomical phenomenon of the moon’s waxing and waning. The regular lunar year has 12 months containing 354 or 355 days, 10 days and 21 hours shorter than the solar year. So, an intercalary month, the 13th month, is added every three years. The lunar year is divided into 24 points to show the change of the four seasons, which are very important for agriculture. Therefore, the traditional Chinese calendar is called "the agricultural calendar."

The ancient Greek calendar has 12 months containing 354 days — similar to the traditional Chinese calendar. The odd-numbered months have 30 days each and the even-numbered months 29 days. The traditional Chinese calendar and Buddhism belong to two different categories and are not related to each other.

— Ed.
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