Making Breakthroughs in Science and Technology
Bright Prospects for China's Agriculture
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Mao Zedong Thought
With adequate historical background, this article explains how Mao Zedong Thought emerged, became enriched and developed during China's revolution and construction (pp. 15-21).

Urban Employment
A recent document outlines policies for creating new jobs in cities and towns. It provides guidelines for employment opportunities in the state as well as the collective and individual sectors of the economy (pp. 21-24).

Promising Agriculture
Although China now averages only one-tenth of a hectare of farmland per capita, the spread of scientific farming plus a policy to diversify the economy indicate bright prospects for agricultural development (p. 5).

Study on Energy Policies
In developing China's energy resources, conventional energy resources will be a priority as will the long-term policy of energy conservation (p. 6).

Modernizing the PLA
Efforts to modernize the armed forces emphasize strengthening military training and developing modern arms and equipment (p. 7).

A Good Step in the Right Direction
The developing countries plan a conference to strengthen their economic relations, now termed "South-South relations" (p. 10).

US Arms Sale
The US arms sale to Taiwan is an intervention in China's internal affairs—questions and answers from the point of view of international law (p. 11).

Higher Education
The minister of education points out that the number of China's college students grew rapidly in the 1977-81 period, at an average annual rate of 18 per cent. Now the stress should be on quality rather than quantity (p. 28).

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China's science and technology are often characterized as backward. But you've called on scientists to make breakthroughs in key scientific and technical problems. How is that possible?

Soon after the new year set in, news came that Chinese scientists had successfully synthesized yeast alanine transfer-ribonucleic acid (T-RNA), a significant achievement in basic science comparable to China's first-in-the-world synthesis of bovine insulin in 1986. The T-RNA synthesis resulted from the concerted efforts of nearly 100 scientific workers from several different institutions.

Generally speaking, China's science and technology are still backward. But we have been able to make breakthroughs in some extremely difficult and advanced technical areas because our technical capabilities in some fields have kept abreast of worldwide scientific developments. In these areas, our research teams are of a considerable size and our experimental means and results in scientific research extensive. It can be said that we already possess the necessary conditions for making scientific and technical breakthroughs and it is time we made an effort to do so.

China's first concrete scientific and technical plan since liberation has not only supplied our national economy with a large amount of scientific and technical achievements, but has also laid the technical foundation for the peaceful utilization of nuclear energy and the development of such new industrial departments as transistor radios and electronic and petrochemical industries. Production of paddy-rice has undergone three main technical innovations, boosting the average per-hectare output from 1,500 kilogrammes in the 1950s to the present 3,750 kilogrammes. An increasingly popular new cotton strain, Lumian No. 1, increased jinned cotton per hectare by 25 per cent. New technology has also boosted the production capacity of textile and other light industries. Successful trial-production of many new materials has put thousands of new products in circulation. We also are beginning to export technical know-hows, including the sale of our technology of breeding hybrid rice to the United States and of our techniques of blast furnace powdered coal injection and dome combustion hot blast stove to Britain and Luxembourg.

China's science and technology are developed mainly in the service of economic construction. Manpower and material resources are concentrated on a number of selected scientific research areas which are expected to yield significant economic results. We emphasize techniques for increasing agricultural production, food storage, preservation and processing, energy exploitation and conservation, textiles, building materials, transport and communications, environmental protection and about 20 others. The scientific and technical teams in these fields are organized to tackle the work systematically, combining the study of basic theory with practical applications, so that results can be used in production as quickly as possible.

To popularize and apply scientific results quickly, it is necessary to gradually reform the economic setup and policies. Support will be given to new products and new techniques, the management system in scientific research will be improved and scientific research institutes will be consolidated.

Scientific research will continue in concert with the import of foreign techniques. In the last few years we have introduced some advanced foreign techniques and equipment, and we will continue to do so in the future.

China has definite policies in developing its science and technology. With the development of our economy, we will attach more importance to education and science, strengthening them year by year. Our production techniques will be raised further over the next 10 to 20 years. With a powerful technological foundation, our national economy will develop at a faster rate than before.

— Economic Editor
Wang Dacheng

Senegambia

Senegal and Gambia have joined to form the Senegambian Confederation. What do you think of this?

Both countries belong to the third world and maintain friendly relations with China. We respect the choice made by the people of the two countries.
"Advanced Science and Improvement of Livelihood"

I fully agree with the article "Advanced Science and Improvement of Livelihood" in "Notes From the Editors" (issue No. 48, 1981). No one should say that it is wrong for the Chinese to develop science and technology regardless of individuals' income level. If China hadn't made great efforts to develop its modern technology, it would most probably, like most countries in the third world, be poor and dependent. Now, at least China is independent. The notion of prosperity is a relative one. But what will become of the much praised prosperity of other countries that is built on the uncheked exploitation of non-renewable resources, for which substitutes are not yet known? The only genuine and permanent way to raise people's livelihood is the further development of science and technology, allowing society to tackle the problem of non-renewable resources. People who expect China to improve the people's income without mentioning any planning and management are only conducting psychological warfare not worthy of a response.

China has already attained the technical level of the 60s, now it should proceed to a higher level.

Planning of science and technology is of primary importance to safeguard the peace policy of the Chinese people.

Mandrara
Antananarivo, Madagascar

A Misunderstanding

The writer of an unsigned article in your issue No. 52 for 1981 regarding the proper treatment of love in Chinese literature summarizes what he alleges to be press comment. He says, in a paragraph entitled "Vulgar Interests," that proponents of "healthy" values and "proper moral approaches" are "particularly critical" of themes like "... love relations between Chinese people and foreigners..." because these are "... corrupt subjects created for the sake of novelty." Such a statement is a misunderstanding of the Chinese press and attributes to it a chauvinist attitude it does not possess.

The position of literary critics is that one may depict Chinese-foreign sweethearts, provided they have some bearing on important aspects of Chinese life, and that stories about them are not produced in disproportionate number. The press has never said that themes of love between Chinese and foreigners are in themselves "corrupt."

Sidney Shapiro
Beijing, China

We agree with the writer of this letter. The article referred to indeed fails to clearly and accurately represent the opinions of Chinese literary critics with regard to themes of love between Chinese and foreign characters. Besides, this article has similar shortcomings in other statements.

Ed.

"Red and Expert"

In the column "Events and Trends" (Issue No. 46, 1981), I learn that you will award degrees to those who have become specialists through self-study. This is indeed a revolution towards the greater good of mankind. But I don't fully agree with the expression "red and expert." Do you mean that science and technology being pursued by scholars who have high expertise but are not socialist-minded should be forsaken? That only people who are red can be experts and become specialists through self-study? Who can prove that provided adequate opportunity, those vocationally proficient but not socialist-minded people might not also become red or very red?

If you intend to guide people along the wise road towards eternal light, please do not discriminate ideologically.

Edouard Nicolini
Marseille, France

Your comments on this report are welcome, but we will clarify our position.

In China it is believed that socialist-consciousness and the idea of serving the people is the motive force encouraging many people to become specialists through self-study. However, no fruits of science and technology will ever be abandoned. It is also believed that "red" or socialist consciousness can be enhanced through education and one's own practice.

Ed.

Students' Education

I always enjoy your special features because they are about the everyday lives of Chinese people. I especially enjoyed the special feature ["Moral Education in the Schools"] in issue No. 49, 1981 because I am a student and I like to learn about students in other countries.

The only suggestions that I have for improving your magazine would be to reduce the number of political and theoretical articles, particularly long theoretical articles.

John G. Megna
Miami, Florida, USA
Five Bases. Three years ago, the Chinese Academy of Science and agricultural departments in several regions picked five counties to do pioneering work in farm modernization. After a comprehensive investigation of the natural resources and the existing economic conditions in these counties, programmes for their agricultural development were mapped out.

The initial results are very encouraging. Two Ningxia counties that border on deserts have seen great improvements after correcting their use of land. A one-sided emphasis on grain production in both Yanchi and Guyuan Counties had allowed a serious encroachment of sands, which in turn decreased the sheep population. Sheep raising is a main source of income in both counties. In the past three years, pastureland has been expanded and farm-land has been cultivated according to scientific methods. The number of sheep in Yanchi has risen from 310,000 in 1976 to the present 600,000, and in Guyuan County, the sheep population has reached an all-time high.

In Hailun County in northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, crop patterns have been readjusted and the economy was diversified with more cash crops. In the past three years, its grain and soybean output has risen 20 per cent annually, total income from agriculture rose 24 per cent, and average per-capita income increased 31 per cent. The average per-capita income last year, including income from sideline occupations, was 220 yuan. By making rational use of pastures, adopting different methods for producing fodder and planting more tree belts, the county has increased the number of sheep.
was disclosed in a recently completed study on the nation's energy policies.

Priority will be given to expanding hydropower, with the goal of increasing the proportion of electricity generated by hydropower stations from the current 19 per cent to 25 per cent by the end of the century.

China's exploitable water power resources are estimated to be 380 million kw, but only 3 per cent have been utilized. At present, coal accounts for 70 per cent of the nation's energy needs.

According to information supplied by the Ministry of Geology, long-term regional survey of coal deposits will begin this year in 13 areas, including eastern Henan Province, the region north of the Huai River, and Sichuan, Yunnan and Guizhou Provinces in southwest China. In prospecting for coalfields, emphasis will be placed on eastern Yunnan, southern Sichuan, eastern and southern Henan, northern Anhui, Xinjiang and Inner Mongolia.

Oil and natural gas exploration will concentrate in seven areas with promising geological conditions for the discovery of these fuels. Work will begin first in the Sichuan basin. In order to provide data for medium and long-term exploration of oil and natural gas sources, extensive seismic prospecting will be conducted in a large area north of the Tarim basin in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.

Energy Saving. Energy conservation is a long-term policy, and adequate measures are being taken to offset the current serious waste of energy resources. The fundamental way to improve energy supply in the rural areas is to construct interlocking energy systems in which the use of firewood, biogas and small hydropower complements one another.

The report recommended that energy systems should reflect a rational distribution of industrial projects and of energy suppliers across the country. In order to reduce the costs of transporting fuel, new energy-consuming projects should be located in close proximity to energy sources, and big energy-consuming projects should not be developed in coastal regions, including Shanghai and Liaoning Province, where energy is in short supply. Nuclear power stations should be built as quickly as possible in areas short of energy supply.

The report stressed that China will continue to implement
the policy of exporting fuels, and that coal exports will increase. China will use foreign capital appropriately and will conduct energy exploitation projects in co-operation with foreign firms in accordance with the principle of mutual benefit.

The 400,000-word report was recently examined and revised at an energy symposium attended by 300 energy experts from all parts of the country. It will be used as a guideline by leading departments concerned when they draw up energy policies and plans for economic development.

50,000 Kilometres of Railways

Railways, vital to China's modernization, are expanding like a spiderweb across the country, connecting the busy coastal areas with far-flung provinces that never before had rail traffic. An average of 800 kilometres of railway have been built every year since the founding of New China in 1949, adding up to a total of 50,000 kilometres by the end of 1981.

Four thousand railway tunnels, 1,800 kilometres in length, and 14,000 railway bridges, totalling 1,000 kilometres, were built.

Before liberation, not a single bridge spanned the Changjiang (Yangtze) River. Now there are four railway bridges and a fifth is under construction. Thirteen bridges extend over China's second largest river, the Huanghe (Yellow), up from two during 1949.

In old China railways were mostly shoddily constructed and the rails were of different gauges. Between 1876 and 1949, only 21,000 kilometres of railways were laid, of which only half could still be used by the time of liberation. Built after the imperialist invasion, these were mostly in the northeast and in areas along the eastern coast.

Since 1949, railways have been extended to the northwest and southwest. Today China has a nationwide railway network linking every province and autonomous region, with the exception of Tibet.

To raise transport efficiency, 8,000 kilometres of railways have been double-tracked, 1,600 kilometres adapted to accommodate electrified trains and 40 railway hubs built or expanded. Preliminary statistics indicate that 945 million tickets were sold in 1981, a sixfold increase over 1950. A total of 1,048 million tons of freight was hauled, a 10.5-fold increase over 1950.

These accomplishments still fall far short of the needs of the national economy. Rail traffic remains a weak link to be strengthened during the period of economic readjustment.

Strengthening National Defence

The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) strengthened its military training in 1981 and achieved fairly positive results:

— It strengthened the training of senior and middle-ranking officers. In order to implement the strategic principles laid down by the Military Commission of the CPC Central Committee, the ground, naval and air forces organized campaign training for senior and middle-ranking officers. In north China last September, the various arms of the ground forces together with the air force and airborne troops conducted military exercises designed to improve their combat skills and ability to solve practical problems arising during an initial battle. In addition, concentrated training for senior officers greatly improved their ability to command.

— The emphasis in military training shifted from countering attacks by the infantry to elimination of tanks and armoured units, from manoeuvres by individual branches of the armed forces to combined operations, and from training soldiers to training commanders.

— Extensive studies of foreign armed forces were conducted.

— A large number of officers were trained. According to incomplete statistics, Chinese military academies enrolled 15,000 more cadets last year than in 1980, and there were 10,000 more graduates from these academies in 1981 than the year before. Nearly 200,000 officers went through training programmes in various units of the armed forces.

New Weapons and Equipment. New technological breakthroughs were made in the development of strategic and tactical guided missiles in 1981. New progress was also made in the development of a synchronous communications satellite.

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Gratifying achievements were obtained in the development of conventional weapons. The performance and quality of aircraft, naval vessels, missiles, tanks, guns and communications equipment were also improved.

A programme for the development of arms and military equipment to modernize the PLA has been mapped out in conformity with China's economic strengths and technological conditions and with the characteristics of the PLA in combat. Efforts are being concentrated on the development and production of new equipment which can be supplied to the army in the next few years.

China is a peace-loving country and it upholds the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence (i.e., mutual respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit and peaceful coexistence). It has neither a single military base nor a single soldier abroad. China is strengthening its national defence in order to combat aggression and military threats, defend the fruits of socialist construction and safeguard peace.

**SOCIAL**

### Anti-Quake Reinforcement Project

Major efforts have been made to protect buildings and people against earthquake destruction across China. The government has allotted 700 million yuan since 1977 to reinforce the buildings and another 200 million yuan have been spent by local governments and the People's Liberation Army.

By the end of 1981, a total of 90 million square metres of floor space had been reinforced.

The anti-quake project started shortly after the Xingtai quake in Hebei Province in 1966 when Premier Zhou Enlai instructed: "The principle in anti-quake work is prevention first. . . . Efforts must be made to protect big cities, big reservoirs, trunk railways and power centres."

However, the large-scale reinforcement project began only after the 1976 Tangshan earthquake which killed 240,000 people and levelled over 90 per cent of the buildings in that north China industrial city. Emphasis is on protecting the supply of water and electricity and centres of transportation and communications, as well as hospitals and homes. Construction workers are organized by the localities and individual units and, like the architects on the projects, are required to go through specialized training before they begin work.

In Beijing, after the 1976 Tangshan quake, the dam of the Miyun reservoir was heightened and widened. The reservoir, which is the city's main source of water supply, has a storage capacity of 4,300 million cubic metres. Strengthening the dam required a full year of labour by 11,000 peasant workers, armymen and water conservancy technicians.

The value of the reinforcement project has been borne out in practice. The Tianjin Electricity Generating Equipment Plant, a Tianjin Heavy Machinery Plant on the same street, which was not reinforced, collapsed during the tremors, killing many workers. Production failed to resume for a long time afterwards.

In addition to reinforcing existing structures, new houses are designed and built according to strict requirements in order to minimize the quake destruction. In Xingtai, new houses built after the 1966 shock remained intact during the November 9, 1981 quake with a magnitude of 6 on the Richter scale. There were no casualties and production went on as usual.
CHINA

In the past five years, 37 large and medium-sized cities have undertaken reinforcement projects under the direction of the office of earthquake resistance under the State Capital Construction Commission which has branches in most provinces and municipalities. Forty additional counties will begin reinforcement efforts in 1982.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Maltese Foreign Minister's Visit to China

Alex Sceberras Trigona, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Malta, paid a friendly visit to China from January 26 to 28. During his stay in Beijing, Premier Zhao Ziyang met and had a talk with him. Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Huang Hua, Minister of Foreign Trade Zheng Tuobin and others held constructive talks with him. The two sides exchanged extensive views on matters of bilateral interest and on international issues of common concern.

Both sides expressed deep satisfaction with the development of friendly relations between the Chinese and Maltese peoples since the establishment of diplomatic relations on January 31, 1972. They maintained that the preservation and enhancement of Sino-Maltese friendly relations conform to the fundamental interests of the two peoples. They also expressed the conviction that with continued efforts by both sides, Sino-Maltese relations which are based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence will grow in strength.

The Maltese side recalled with satisfaction the assistance rendered by the People's Republic of China in various fields, particularly in the construction of the China-Malta Friendship Dock, which symbolizes the long-standing co-operation between the two countries.

The Chinese side reiterated that the Chinese Government recognizes and fully supports Malta's status as a neutral state pursuing a policy of non-alignment.

The two sides also discussed the ways and means to further strengthen their economic and trade co-operation and agreed to exchange delegations for this purpose in the near future.

More Academic Exchanges

Since its founding three years ago, the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences has received more than 1,330 scientists from over 30 countries and regions throughout the world and sent 700 scholars abroad for investigation or exchange visits.

The academy has signed 12 exchange agreements with organizations in Japan, the United States, Australia, Canada, Yugoslavia, Romania, Britain, Italy, Sweden and West Germany. The subjects covered economics, sociology, archaeology, history, literature, languages, religion and journalism.

Several Chinese scholars have been honoured by foreign societies and institutes. Professor Huan Xiang, vice-president of the academy, was elected an academician of the Academy of Sciences of the Kingdom of Morocco. Dr. Fei Xiaotong, director of the Institute of Sociology, was awarded the Thomas H. Huxley Memorial Medal by the British Royal Institute of Anthropology, the highest academic honour in this field. Professor Xia Nai, director of the Institute of Archaeology, was elected a corresponding member of the British Academy. Professor Feng Zhi, director of the Institute of Foreign Literature, was elected an academician of the Swedish Royal Academy of Letters, History and Antiquities.

China-Nepal

The Gorkha-Narayanghat highway in Central Nepal, the fifth highway built with Chinese aid, has been completed and is now open to traffic. Sixty-one kilometres long and with more than 300 culverts, the highway links Nepal's renowned ancient capital of Gorkha, cut off from the outside world for centuries, with the rest of the mountainous kingdom.

Nepalese Prime Minister Surya Bahdur Thapa held an official ceremony on January 11 in celebration of the completion of this highway. Peng Deqin, head of the Chinese economic delegation and Minister of Communications, was present at the ceremony.

After friendly consultation, China and Nepal have agreed to rebuild the Friendship Bridge over the Sino-Nepalese boundary river and repair and restore the section of Kathmandu-Kodari highway from Bababise to the Friendship Bridge. The bridge and that section of the highway were seriously damaged by flood last summer.

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Strengthening "South-South Relations"

MORE than 30 developing countries will be represented at the South-South co-operation conference sponsored by India and scheduled from Feb. 22 to 24 in New Delhi.

The newly coined term, "South-South relations," refers to economic relations among the developing countries. It is an extension of the concept of "North-South relations," which denotes economic relations among developing and developed countries. "South-South relations" encompass two components. The first pertains to economic and technical co-operation among the developing countries. The second addresses the "South-South dialogue"—holding talks and meetings for co-ordinating stances of the developing countries. Though the developing countries have strengthened their co-operation and dialogue by various means during the last few years, the concept "South-South relations" has only recently emerged. It is a particularly sound formulation.

The Tide of the Present Current

The upcoming conference is of primary importance because of the decisive roles which many developing countries are playing today in the international arena. It is in harmony with the tide of the present current.

Some observers believe that strengthening unity and co-operation among the developing countries will also help North-South relations develop in a more rational direction. This would benefit the developing countries, which contain the majority of the world's population, and the developed countries.

During the last few years, the international community has devoted much attention to South-South relations. The Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, which was adopted at the 1974 plenary meeting of the Special Session of the UN General Assembly, pointed out the vital necessity of "strengthening — through individual and collective actions — mutual economic, trade, financial and technical co-operation among the developing countries mainly on a preferential basis."

Since 1974, the developing countries have frequently discussed economic co-operation. They have also made progress towards resolving their diverse opinions and economic differences. Co-operation has been strengthened in such fields as trade, technology, grain, agriculture and energy. Given the present situation in which the old economic order left from the colonialist era has not been fundamentally changed and the deadlocked North-South relations, developing countries must find ways to strengthen their co-operation and promote economic development. The South-South conference will provide an unusually good opportunity for them to achieve these ends.

The Necessity of Holding Global Talks

In addition, the South-South conference will also provide the participants with an opportunity to generate new momentum for the stalled global negotiations initiated last October at the Cancun conference. Mexican President Lopez Portillo and Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, co-chairmen of the conference, appealed in a recent message to each country officially represented at Cancun.

A textile mill built jointly by China and Guyana.
to translate the conference spirit into action by addressing global talks.

Although the majority of the developing countries strongly advocate global talks, they are not in agreement regarding the focus of the talks because of their different economic levels and diverse resources. Some countries believe the talks should focus on urgent problems while others stress long-term fundamental reform.

In the meantime, the developing countries have decided to hold the South-South conference to exchange views, consult each other, iron out differences and co-ordinate their stand. This is a very good step in the right direction.

— Chen Weibin

**US Arms Sale to Taiwan Violates International Law**

The US Government unilaterally announced on January 11 its decision to sell arms to the Chinese province of Taiwan. A spokesman of the Chinese Foreign Ministry has strongly protested against the US decision. In an interview with Radio Peking, Mr. Chen Tiqiang, Professor of the Institute of Diplomacy and Peking University, was asked to give his opinion on the US decision in light of the provisions of international law. Prof. Chen is also Vice-President of the Chinese Society of International Law.

Questions and answers are as follows. — Ed.

**Question.** The question of sale of US arms to Taiwan is very much in the news recently. Both the Chinese and American publics are concerned about the grave consequences of such a sale upon relations between China and the United States. Prof. Chen, would you like to give your opinion on this matter from the point of view of international law?

**Answer.** Well, yes. But before going into the technicalities of law, I wish to point out from the outset that the law is clear as daylight in this matter. Things have come to such a pass, not because of ambiguity in the law, but because there are people in the United States who put their factional interests above national interests and global peace and security among nations.

**An Already Solved Question**

Q. Prof. Chen, you said that the law pertaining to the US arms sale to Taiwan is crystal clear, will you elaborate?

A. Certainly. The whole question revolves around the status of Taiwan. Since the liberation of the Chinese mainland in 1949, the United States had made every effort to create a situation of "two Chinas" or "one China, one Taiwan" or "one China, two governments" in order to perpetuate its hold on Taiwan and to impose on Taiwan the status of a protectorate. This policy has engendered the indignation of the Chinese people.

In the joint communiqué of February 28, 1972 agreed upon by China and the United States in Shanghai, the US side declared: "The United States acknowledges that ... there is but one China and Taiwan is a part of China." This US position was reaffirmed in the joint communiqué of January 1, 1979 between the two countries. The Shanghai Communique put to rest once and for all the question of the status of Taiwan. The 1979 joint communiqué further declared that "the United States of America recognizes the Government of the People's Republic of China as the sole, legal government of China." These two documents make it unmistakably clear that the People's Republic of China is the sole legal government of China and Taiwan is a part of China. Any effort at detaching Taiwan from China would constitute an intervention in the internal affairs of China and a gross violation of her sovereignty.

Q. Does international law address intervention in other states' internal affairs? And how does it apply to the case of US sale of arms to Taiwan?

A. The principle of non-intervention of one state in the internal affairs of another state is a corollary of the principle of sovereignty. A state's sovereignty and independence would be violated and even nullified if other states were permitted to interfere with its internal affairs. Non-intervention is a long-standing principle and it has been repeatedly confirmed by pronouncements of governments, international treaties and authoritative in-
ternal law writers. The United States itself agreed in the Shanghai Communique that "countries regardless of their social systems should conduct their relations on the principle of...non-interference in the internal affairs of other states." The principle of non-intervention is also enshrined in the United Nations Charter, which states that "nothing contained in the present Charter shall authorize the UN to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any state." Though the wording is intended to circumscribe the power of the UN, it reaffirms the principle of non-intervention in the domestic affairs of one state by another.

Legal Opinions

By way of illustration, let me quote sources, especially American sources, to show how indisputable and universally accepted the principle of non-intervention is.

In a letter of January 29, 1842, US Secretary of State Webster wrote: "International law "requires the strict application of the doctrine of non-intervention of any with the domestic concerns of others." Similarly, in a letter of April 28, 1938, US acting Secretary of State Welles wrote: "...it should be borne in mind that in the same degree that we would refuse to permit any interference by foreigners in our domestic concerns, it is not appropriate or proper that we should seek to determine or influence the circumstances of domestic problems in a foreign country by taking any official actions with relations thereto, however peaceful, friendly or well-intentioned." He called attention to Article 8 of the Montevideo Convention of 1933 among the American republics, which declared categorically: "No state has the right to intervene in the internal or external affairs of another."

Charles C. Hyde, one of the most eminent US authorities on international law has this to say: "The term intervention means "the interference by a state in the domestic or foreign affairs of another in opposition to its will." The fight for the reins of government is not in itself internationally wrongful." The illegality of intervention is not "legally altered by reason of the fact that intervention occurs in pursuance of a treaty of guarantee."

"Foreign interference, however invoked, is necessarily directed against a portion of the population of a foreign state and is thus a denial of its rights to engage in or suppress a revolution, or of employing its own resources to retain or acquire control over the government of its own country."

A contemporary American international law writer, Prof. Henkin of Columbia University writes: "Customary international law prohibits intervention generally. By treaty and in various declarations and resolutions of international bodies, nations have unanimously and repeatedly accepted absolute prohibition on 'intervention' in the affairs of other states."

It can clearly be seen from the above that:

1. Intervention is a violation of international law,

2. Intervention includes acts directed against the efforts of a state to retain or acquire control over the government of its own country,

3. The existence of a treaty of guarantee is no excuse for an act of intervention.

These three points squarely cover the case of the US sale of arms to Taiwan. The efforts of the Chinese Government to reunify Taiwan with the rest of the country is a matter of internal concern. US sale of arms to Taiwan impedes the efforts of the Chinese Government.

Some people in the United States tried to justify US action by pleading that the United States is under some kind of "obligation to old friends." Such a pretext can be of no avail because a treaty of guarantee is no justification for intervention. As the so-called "mutual defence treaty" between US and Taiwan has already been terminated, the United States has not even anything resembling a treaty of guarantee to rely on.

Q. Some people in the US argue that the sale of arms to Taiwan is authorized by the US "Taiwan Relations Act," which empowers the President to supply arms to Taiwan. Here we find a conflict between a US municipal law and US international obligation under the joint communiques of 1972 and 1979. Prof. Chen, what do you think is the proper solution for such a conflict?

No Legal Power

A. The law is also clear on this point. Again, American authoritative views are quite unequivocal. For example, US Secretary of State Bayard declared in 1887: "It is only necessary to say, that if a government could set up its own municipal laws (that is to say, national laws) as the final test of its in-
international rights and obligations, then the rules of international law would be but the shadow of a name and would afford no protection either to states or to individuals. It has been constantly maintained and also admitted by the Government of the United States that a government cannot appeal to its municipal regulations as an answer to demands for the fulfilment of international duties."

In a dispute with Cuba in the wake of disturbances in 1895-98, the US Government declared: "A government is not permitted to set up, as a final answer to demands for the performance of international obligations, provisions of its municipal law, either constitutional or statutory. This principle has been clearly established on many occasions.

International tribunal judges are also unanimous in support of the superiority of international obligation over national legislation. In an arbitration between Great Britain and Venezuela in 1903, the umpire declared: "There could be no question that national laws must yield to the law of nations, if there was a conflict." US Chief Justice Taft, who arbitrated a case in 1923, pronounced:

"In an international tribunal, however, the unilateral repeal of a treaty by a statute would not effect the rights arising under it and its judgment would necessarily give effect to the treaty and hold the statute repealing it of no effect."

Legal advisers for the US State Department have summed up US practice in lucid terms. For example, Marjory Whitteman wrote: "In the jurisprudence of international tribunals the principle of the supremacy of international obligations over national law has found repeated expression." She gave us an example. Advisory Opinion No. 17 of the Permanent Court of International Justice decreed that "it is a generally accepted principle of international law that in the relations between powers who are contracting parties to a treaty, the provisions of municipal law cannot prevail over those of the treaties."

International obligations are binding upon the state, not upon any particular branch, institution, or individual members of its government. A state cannot plead its own law as an excuse for non-compliance with international law. There is not the slightest doubt on this point among various nations and international lawyers. Although I quoted only American authorities, the same conclusions are reached by governments and international lawyers of various nations.

Q. Prof. Chen, you said that the United States is under international obligation not to intervene in the internal affairs of China, but does that extend to the obligation of not selling arms to Taiwan, which was not specifically mentioned in the communiques of 1972 and 1979?

**Basic Principles**

A. It is true that the communiques do not specifically mention this particular point, but since the United States had recognized Taiwan as part of China, and the Chinese People's Republic as the sole legal government, the principles of sovereignty and non-intervention, which bind upon her as customary international law as well as special undertakings under the 1979 communiqué, are basic principles which govern all situations not forming subjects of special agreements. Specific questions not provided in special agreements can only be solved by reference to basic principles. The whole system of international law and legal order would be nullified and destroyed, if states were allowed to take actions contrary to basic principles of international law upon the grounds that there are no specific rules of international law on a given subject.

Q. Now Prof. Chen, I think you have dealt quite adequately with the legal aspect of the US sale of arms to Taiwan. Can you recall a comparable case to provide us with some sense of how nations have reacted intervention?

**Alabama Arbitration**

A. Ironically, there is one well-known case in which the United States happened to be the injured party. During the American Civil War, the Government of the United States expressed great resentment against the attempt of the European powers to mediate between the contending parties. On that occasion, the US Secretary of State Seward declared: "The principle of foreign mediation in our affairs cannot be, in any form or under any circumstances, admitted." The US proclamation of a blockade of the southern ports gave the British Government the excuse to declare neutrality and thereby recognize the belligerency of the Southern Confederacy. Even under such conditions, the sale of armed vessels by British firms was considered by the United States to be a breach of neutrality. In the subsequent Alabama Arbitration, Britain was compelled to pay damages for its intervention. The British Government was quit of not having exercised "due diligence" to prevent the sale of ships by private persons. In the present
case, the US Government officially and on its own initiative is authorizing such a sale. The US offence is compounded by the fact that there is no active civil war in existence between the Chinese Government and part of its territory Taiwan, and that the United States is giving military aid to a part of Chinese territory for the purpose of helping it resist the lawful exercise of sovereignty by a government in normal relations with it. The present US Government should heed the advice of Secretary of State Seward who declared that "it seems to be in strict conformity with the prudential principle of international law that nations are equal in their independence and sovereignty, and that each independent state is bound to do unto all other states just what it reasonably expects those states to do unto itself." I hope the United States Government will think twice before going beyond a point of no return and make an effort to come to a reasonable solution through discussion with the Chinese Government.

Cuba

Jose Marti's Last Wish

US President Reagan recently asked Republican Clifton White to take charge of setting up a broadcast station to deal with Havana's anti-US propaganda.

It is reported that this US broadcast station was named after Cuba's hero Jose Marti. Washington's decision provides food for thought.

Jose Marti was a Cuban revolutionary who fought against Spanish colonialists at the end of 19th century. He warned his people that they should heighten their vigilance against their "northern neighbour." Marti believed that the United States, which expressed sympathy towards the Cuban revolution, was intent on replacing Spain. Later, Jose Marti sacrificed his life during the Independence War and unfortunately his last words came true: Cuba became an appendage of the United States after it shook off Spanish colonialist rule.

Jose Marti certainly could not foresee the fact that Cuba would become the Soviet Union's appendage by the end of the 20th century. Under the guise of supporting "Cuba's liberation," the Soviet Union has elbowed its way into this country, and moreover, it is attempting to expand its influence throughout the Caribbean region.

Ironically, the United States is using Jose Marti's name to conduct anti-Soviet Union propaganda among Cubans. If Jose Marti were alive today, what would he think of the manner in which the two superpowers are using his name to attain their own aims?

— Mo Min

Moscow's Allegedly "Peaceful" Tune

The Soviet mass media have recently emphasized the Kremlin's "great efforts" to achieve "security and peace" in the new year. They claim that the Kremlin is trying to achieve this aim by "eradicating all existing sources of military conflicts" and reducing the arms race. The Soviet media have also reported that Moscow wants to emphasize detente and international co-operation in 1982.

However, the Soviet Union has refused to withdraw its armed forces from Afghanistan and the number of Soviet military troops in that country has been increased from 100,000 to 120,000.

Moreover, Moscow continues to abet the "military confrontation" in Kampuchea by supporting the Vietnamese.

According to a report by the Iranian newspaper Islamic Re-

public on January 5, Moscow is pleased to see the Iran-Iraq war continued. This shows that the Kremlin is waiting for a chance to put the "ripening apple" into its basket. (The "ripening apple," according to Khruschev, is Iran.)

In addition, many people are concerned about recent events in Poland and Moscow's military manoeuvres near its border. Despite Moscow's calls for peace in 1982, its actions represent a different tune.

— Tang Tianri
Formation and Development of Mao Zedong Thought

by Ma Qibin, Chen Dengcai and Chen Wei

The necessity of China’s historical development produced Mao Zedong Thought. It came into existence after World War I and the triumphant Russian October Socialist Revolution led by Lenin. This was a period during which the world proletarian revolution developed to a new stage, a time when the Chinese Communist Party was leading the Chinese people in carrying out revolutionary struggles by applying Marxist-Leninist theory.

Mao Zedong Thought emerged during the initial stages of the Party’s formation. It gradually took shape, became enriched and developed as the Party grew increasingly mature. It also guided the Chinese revolution and construction to great successes.

Formation

Between the founding of the Party in 1921 and the First Revolutionary Civil War (1924-27), the Party, still in its initial stage, had a very shallow understanding of Marxism-Leninism and China’s reality and therefore it was impossible for Mao Zedong Thought to take shape.

The period extending from 1927 to the Party’s Zunyi Meeting in January 1935 was crucial to the formation of Mao Zedong Thought.

Tempered in the First Revolutionary Civil War, the Party had experienced successes and failures. After the failure of the Great Revolution in 1927, the Party, faced with counter-revolutionary terror, continued to lead the people in the anti-imperialist and anti-feudal struggle. In 1927, Zhou Enlai and other comrades led the “August 1” Nanchang Uprising, firing the first shot of armed resistance to the Kuomintang. That year Comrade Mao Zedong, at the Party’s “August 7” Conference, set forth the brilliant idea that “political power grows out of the barrel of a gun.” He subsequently led the Autumn Harvest Uprising, and built the Jinggang Mountain revolutionary base together with Zhu De and other comrades.

Large numbers of the Party’s leading cadres went to the countryside to carry out guerrilla warfare. As a result, they acquired firsthand knowledge of the “armed independent regime of workers and peasants.” During that period, the Party, represented by Comrade Mao Zedong, applied Marxist theory to solving actual problems. Displaying immense political perseverance and theoretical courage, the Party struggled against the dogmatic and “Left” adventurist errors committed by the Communist International, Wang Ming and others. During the course of the Chinese revolution, the Party creatively solved a host of important problems concerning the revolution and established effective tactics for seizure of power by armed force. This was an important indication of the formation of Mao Zedong Thought.

Creating the theory on establishing and developing the Red regime and blazing a new trail of a Chinese-type seizure of power by armed force. This required the establishment of “an armed independent regime of workers and peasants,” unifying the peasants’ agrarian revolution, armed struggle, the building of revolutionary bases under proletarian leadership and developing the Red areas in the siege of White regimes. Later on, Comrade Mao Zedong epitomized this road as “encircling the cities from the countryside and then seizing the cities.” This was a new conclusion which had not appeared in the works of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin.

From September 1927 when the troops of the Autumn Harvest Uprising were reorganized in Sanwan, Jiangxi Province, to the Party Congress of the Fourth Army of the Red Army held in Gutian, Fujian Province, in December 1929, the primary questions concerning Party and army building were solved. China’s Red Army is an armed body for carrying out the political tasks of the revolution. Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai and other comrades emphasized that the army be led by the Party and that Party branch be built on the company.
level and non-proletarian ideas within the Party be corrected. At the same time, the fight against the five counter-revolutionary "encirclement and suppression" campaigns started by Chiang Kai-shek in 1930, resulted in the formation of new strategies and tactics for guerrilla and mobile warfare. This was the key to the establishment and development of the Red regime.

Comrade Mao Zedong, in his essay "Oppose Book Worship," first put forward the concept of combining the basic principles of Marxism-Leninism with China's reality. He criticized the dogmatic mistakes of those who continually referred to "books" and those who relied solely on the Communist International or on their superior's "instructions" to solve revolutionary problems. He also presented his famous thesis: "No investigation, no right to speak" during this period.

The Party's Zunyi Meeting in January 1935 corrected the military and organizational mistakes and established Comrade Mao Zedong's leading position in the Red Army and the Party Central Committee. This was a turning point of historic significance.

**Maturity**

In the 10 years between 1935 and 1945, important lessons were learnt from the failures and setbacks, rich experiences were gained in the Chinese revolution, revolutionary forces continued to grow and preparations were made for the seizure of nationwide victory. It was also a period which witnessed additional enrichment, development and maturity of Mao Zedong Thought.

During this decade, the Party surmounted various difficulties, established the anti-Japanese National United Front and independently led the Eighth Route and the New Fourth Armies and the people's anti-Japanese armed forces which carried out a large-scale anti-Japanese guerrilla campaign, built base areas behind enemy lines, foiled Chiang Kai-shek's anti-Communist plots and finally defeated the Japanese aggressors. Because of invaluable experiences acquired during 24 years of struggle and its extensive studies, the Party was able to formulate a line and a set of specific policies suited to China's conditions during the War of Resistance Against Japan. Through the Party's rectification movement and after adoption of the Resolution on Certain Questions in the History of Our Party at the Seventh Plenary Session (enlarged) of the Sixth Party Central Committee in April 1945, the Party's Seventh National Congress was successfully convened and the membership was united on the basis of Marxism-Leninism. Mao Zedong Thought was officially recognized by the whole Party.

1. One of the most important indications of the maturation of Mao Zedong Thought was the comprehensive theory on the new-democratic revolution. This was also a new contribution to the theory of Marxism-Leninism.

Comrade Mao Zedong scientifically presented the relationship between democratic and socialist revolutions. Comrade Mao Zedong pointed out that the revolutionary movement led by the Chinese Communist Party, including the new-democratic revolution and the socialist revolution, had to be carried out in two stages. "The new-democratic revolution is an anti-imperialist and anti-feudal revolution of the broad masses of the people under the leadership of the proletariat," he said. (1939: *The Chinese Revolution and the Chinese Communist Party.*) It is part of the

*The First National Congress of Workers and Peasants held in November 1931, in Ruijin, Jiangxi Province. Mao Zedong was elected Chairman of the Provisional Central Government of the Chinese Soviet Republic.*
proletarian socialist world revolution. Its ultimate goal is socialism and communism, not capitalism.

Comrade Mao Zedong creatively applied the Marxist method of class analysis, dividing China's bourgeoisie into two sections. He also pointed out that the big bourgeoisie (bureaucrat capitalist) was the lackey of the imperialist and the target of the revolution. China's national bourgeoisie was a class with a dual character. For this, it could become an ally in the new-democratic revolution but it could not be the main force of the revolution, much less the leader.

He incisively elucidated the mutual relations between the three basic weapons: armed struggle, united front and Party building. "The united front and armed struggle are the two basic weapons for defeating the enemy," he wrote. "The united front is a united front for carrying on armed struggle and the Party is the heroic warrior wielding the two weapons, the united front and the armed struggle, to storm and shatter the enemy's positions. That is how the three are related to each other." (1939: Introducing "The Communist").

(2) The formulation of proletarian military theory is also a notable hallmark in the development and maturation of Mao Zedong Thought.

Comrade Mao Zedong pointed out the four major characteristics of the Chinese revolutionary war, that is, a large semi-colonial country which had experienced an uneven political and economic development in a great revolution; a strong enemy; a weak and small Red Army; and agrarian revolution. These characteristics determined the guidelines, principle of strategies and tactics of the Chinese revolutionary war.

He systematically established the fundamental principles for the formation of a new-type people's army. "The sole purpose of this army is to stand firmly with the Chinese people and to serve them wholeheartedly," he said. (1945: On Coalition Government.) He emphasized that correct relationships should be established in the army between officers and men, between the higher and lower levels; and a close relationship between military affairs, politics and logistics. Democratic life and military discipline with authority must be emphasized in the army and based on political consciousness. Major attention was devoted to proper relations between the army and civilians, between army and government, and between ourselves and friends. With regard to enemy troops, Mao Zedong also emphasized tactics for demoralizing enemy troops and winning over captives. In addition, he stressed that the armed forces should accept the Party's absolute leadership, and political-ideological work was the lifeline of our army.

A unique set of strategies and tactics for people's war was gradually created. This required the simultaneous use of Red Army regulars and partisan guerrillas. When the enemy was strong while we were weak, our forces used the strategy of protracted struggle. They used quick, decisive campaigns or battles on occasion, concentrating superior forces to wipe out the enemy one by one. In 1945, as the war developed, the Party promptly raised the question of a military strategic shift, that is, a change from fighting mainly guerrilla warfare to fighting mobile and positional warfare.

(3) Another indication of the development and maturation of Mao Zedong Thought was the formulation of a comprehensive theory of Party building.

To build and consolidate the Party organizationally, it is necessary to stress building the Party ideologically, only thus can the Party achieve ideological unity on the basis of Marxism-Leninism. At the same time, it is necessary to strengthen Party building organizationally, persist in democratic centralism, establish strict Party discipline, correctly apply Party policy on cadres, fortify the Party's unity, eliminate unprincipled factional struggle and combat individualism and sectarianism — only by doing so can we build a centralized and unified Party.

During the War of Resistance Against
Japan, the Party created the method of rectification, actively carried out ideological struggle and remoulded itself in the image of the proletarian vanguard. The rectification campaign helped establish the principle of correctly handling inner-Party relationships, through the use of "learning from past mistakes to avoid future ones" and "curing the sickness to save the patient." Rectification also resulted in the adoption of "unity — criticism — unity," which was used to achieve the twofold objective of clarity in ideology and unity among the comrades.

In the Party's prolonged struggles, especially after the rectification campaign and study of Party history, we had fostered the Party's fine traditions of integrating theory with practice, forging close links with the masses and practising self-criticism. These three important traditions are hallmarks which distinguish the Chinese Communist Party from other political parties.

At the Party's Seventh National Congress in 1945, Comrade Liu Shaoqi systematically expounded the scientific theory of Mao Zedong Thought. The congress explicitly stipulated: "The Chinese Communist Party takes Mao Zedong Thought, the unified thought that integrates the theory of Marxism-Leninism with the practice of the Chinese revolution, as the guide to all its work." (The Constitution of the Chinese Communist Party.)

Continued Development

The 1946-57 period witnessed the brilliant victory unprecedented in the history of the Chinese revolution and the continued development and great victory of Mao Zedong Thought.

During this period, guided by Mao Zedong Thought, the Party led the people of the country in the War of Liberation, seized victory in the new-democratic revolution, founded the people's New China, successfully effected the change from new democracy to socialism, basically accomplished the socialist transformation of private ownership of the means of production and, in theory and in practice, completed the arduous task of establishing the socialist system in China—which accounted for one-fourth of the world's population and which was backward economically and culturally.

(I) Seizing victory in the people's War of Liberation, founding the republic of the people's democratic dictatorship.

After the successful War of Resistance Against Japan, the Chinese people were faced with the task of whether to build a bright China or a dark China. Countering Chiang Kai-shek's reactionary policy of "wresting every ounce of power and every ounce of gain" from the people, the Party Central Committee and Comrade Mao Zedong put forward the policy of "giving him tit for tat and fighting for every inch of land." In the face of the truculent Kuomintang reactionaries who were backed by US imperialism and armed to the teeth, Comrade Mao Zedong, with the boldness of a proletarian revolutionary, put forward his famous thesis that "Chiang Kai-shek and his supporter, US reactionaries, are all paper tigers." While stressing the need to despise the enemy strategically, he called upon the Party and the army to tactically take the enemy seriously, to annihilate the enemy's effective forces as the main objective, to concentrate in each campaign a superior force several times that of the enemy, to encircle the enemy force from all sides and to prevent any escapes. In the meantime, the People's Liberation Army grew stronger through fighting.

Mao Zedong created the theory of strategic offensives and guided the strategic decisive war to victory. After our army repulsed Chiang Kai-shek's all-out attacks on key sectors of the liberated areas, the Party Central Committee and Comrade Mao Zedong directed the Chinese
People’s Liberation Army to determinedly launch a strategic offensive and extend the fighting to the areas under Kuomintang rule. Between September 1948 and January 1949, the three major campaigns—Liaoxi-Shenyang, Huai-Hai and Beiping-Tianjin—were launched in succession. Then, under the command of Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai, Zhu De, Peng Dehuai and other comrades, the People’s Liberation Army began to carry out a campaign of pursuit and annihilation. The famous 10 cardinal principles of operation were formed during this phase of the war (see “The Present Situation and Our Tasks,” Part III, 1947, Selected Works of Mao Zedong, Vol. IV).

Under the theoretical guidance of the people’s democratic dictatorship, the people’s New China was founded. After the people’s Liberation War switched over to strategic offensive, Party policies became the key to winning nationwide victory for the revolution. Comrade Mao Zedong drafted a series of documents for the Party Central Committee, comprehensively summing up the general line and policies for the new-democratic revolution and those for agrarian reform.

Comrade Mao Zedong also formulated the theory of the people’s democratic, dictatorship, and led the Party, the army and the people towards the thorough elimination of the counter-revolutionary armed forces. This resulted in Chiang Kai-shek’s defeat and the establishment of state power under the people’s democratic dictatorship.

In his report to the Second Plenary Session of the Seventh Party Central Committee in March 1949, Comrade Mao Zedong made it clear that as nationwide victory was in sight, the Party should shift the focus of its work from the countryside to the cities. He also presented the Party’s basic policies in the political, economic and diplomatic fields after victory. In his essay On People’s Democratic Dictatorship, he summed up the basic experiences gained in the Chinese revolution as “the people’s democratic dictatorship under the leadership of the working class (through the Communist Party) and based upon the alliance of the workers and peasants.” He pointed out that the people’s democratic dictatorship meant democracy for the people and dictatorship over the reactionaries. He suggested that China could reach socialism and communism only through establishing a people’s republic led by the working class.

(2) Successfully effecting the great change from new democracy to socialism.

The Party Central Committee and Comrade Mao Zedong, proceeding from the reality shortly after the founding of New China when the situation was complicated and all neglected tasks were to be undertaken, firmly grasped the central task of restoring and developing production and, relying on the masses’ direct actions, changed the old relations of production and liberated the productive forces. In the short span of three years, we had not only healed the wounds of war so that the restored economy surpassed the highest prewar level, but also organically integrated the tasks of completing the democratic revolution with the preparations for socialist transformation and construction on a nationwide scale.

(3) Creatively opening up a road for socialist transformation which was suited to China.

In the course of organizing the revolutionary transformation, the Party Central Committee and Comrade Mao Zedong put forth a general line for the transitional period. This required a gradual realization of the country’s socialist industrialization and the socialist transformation of agriculture, handicrafts, capitalist industry and commerce. Primary attention was devoted to organizing the nation’s 500 million peasants. The socialist transformation of agriculture was essentially completed in a few years. Along with the victory of the democratic revolution, bureaucrat capitalism, the main body of China’s capitalism, was expropriated. In view of the fact that during the change from democratism to socialism, China’s national bourgeoisie still had a dual character, the policy of “utilization, restriction and transformation” of capitalist industry and commerce was adopted. A broad set of rational transformation measures of state capitalism, which advanced from lower levels upwards, was developed. These included orders placed by the state with private enterprises for processing materials and supplying manufactured goods; the establishment of a state monopoly for the purchase and marketing of the products of private enterprises; the marketing of products of state-owned enterprises by private shops; and joint state-private ownership. A peaceful policy of “redemption” was adopted towards the national bourgeoisie’s means of production which made it possible for China to successfully fulfill the historic mission of changing the capitalist economy without evoking major resistance. As a result, most of the exploiters were transformed into socialist workers living off their own labour. Thus, the idea of buying over the bourgeoisie, which was
envisaged by Marx and Lenin, was for the first time translated into reality in China.

(4) Exploring a new road for socialist construction which was suited to China's specific conditions.

While giving guidance to the socialist transformation of private ownership of the means of production, the Party Central Committee and Comrade Mao Zedong explicitly pointed out that the objective of the transformation was increased productivity and industrialization. This effort proved successful and, as a result, China achieved splendid progress with its First Five-Year Plan (1953-57) for the development of the national economy. In April 1956, in his essay On the Ten Major Relationships, Comrade Mao Zedong, heeding the Soviet experience, pointed out the necessity of correctly handling the relationship between heavy industry, light industry and agriculture. He also pointed out China's need to use agriculture as the foundation for developing the national economy and industrialization.

At the Party's Eighth National Congress held in 1956, Comrades Liu Shaoqi, Zhou Enlai and Deng Xiaoping delivered important reports and Comrade Chen Yun made an important speech. Each of them correctly analysed the changes in China's class relationship, pointing out that the contradictions between China's proletariat and bourgeoisie had been basically resolved. They suggested that the primary task of the people during the new period should be the development of productive forces. They also suggested that the focus of the Party's work should be shifted to socialist construction.

In February 1957, at the Supreme State Conference, Comrade Mao Zedong delivered a speech, On the Correct Handling of Contradictions Among the People, in which he suggested that correct handling of contradictions among the people was needed in order to unite the people of the whole country and to develop the economy and culture. This speech has subsequently become a primary theme in the state's political life. "Our basic task has changed from unfettering the productive forces to protecting and expanding them in the context of the new relations of production," said Comrade Mao Zedong. In the same speech, he presented the policy of "long-term coexistence and mutual supervision" of the relationship between the Chinese Communist Party and the democratic parties. He also presented the principle of "unity — criticism — unity" to be practised among the people; the principle of "letting a hundred flowers blossom and letting a hundred schools of thought contend," which was subsequently adopted in scientific and artistic fields; and the principle of overall consideration and proper arrangement applied in the economy.

During the course of launching the socialist construction in China, Comrade Mao Zedong advanced the theory of strengthening the Party's democratic centralism and set forth the task of technical revolution. Comrade Zhou Enlai offered a magnificent blueprint for building a modern, powerful socialist country.

A New Period

Comrade Mao Zedong applied dialectical and historical materialism to the Party's work and formulated scientific methods of thinking, work and leadership. Their essential points can be summed up as follows: Seeking truth from facts, the mass line, independence and self-reliance. This represented the application and development of Marxism-Leninism within a Chinese context.

During his later years, Comrade Mao Zedong regretfully made mistakes in theory and in practice regarding class struggle in socialist society. These mistakes grew more serious due to his encouragement of a personality cult. These mistakes also gradually impaired the
Party's democratic centralism and the people's democracy.

Careerists like Lin Biao, Jiang Qing and Kang Sheng took advantage of these mistakes. The most serious result was the 10 tumultuous years of the "cultural revolution," which undermined the Party and hurt many people. These mistakes, which ran counter to Mao Zedong Thought as a scientific theory, should be distinguished from Mao Zedong Thought.

Since the overthrow of the gang of four in October 1976, especially since the Third Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee at the end of 1978, a new period has begun for upholding and developing Mao Zedong Thought. The plenary session adopted a series of strategic decisions, including shifting the focus of the Party's work to socialist modernization. This is a great historical period of far-reaching significance. It indicates that ideologically, politically and organizationally, the Party has completely restored the essential principles of Marxism-Leninism. The Party Central Committee has conscientiously rectified the "Left" mistakes made before and during the "cultural revolution," corrected the erroneous precedent of the "two whatevers" (meaning "we firmly uphold whatever policy-decisions Chairman Mao made, and we unswervingly adhere to whatever instructions Chairman Mao gave"), and put things right on various fronts. At the same time, the Party Central Committee has also reaffirmed the primacy of the four basic principles (upholding the socialist road, the people's democratic dictatorship, i.e., the dictatorship of the proletariat, Communist Party leadership, Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought). The Party has also repeatedly stressed the need to use the stand, viewpoints and methods of Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought to study new situations and solve those new problems which develop during the course of practice.

The Resolution on Certain Questions in the History of Our Party Since the Founding of the People's Republic of China, which was adopted by the Sixth Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee in June 1981, summed up the Party's experiences in the 32 years since the founding of the People's Republic. This important document also comprehensively and correctly expounded and evaluated Comrade Mao Zedong's historical role and Mao Zedong Thought.

The resolution clearly pointed out: "Mao Zedong Thought is the valuable spiritual asset of our Party. It will be our guide to action for a long time to come." "It is entirely wrong to try to negate the scientific value of Mao Zedong Thought and to deny its guiding role in our revolution and construction just because Comrade Mao Zedong made mistakes in his later years. And it is likewise entirely wrong to adopt a dogmatic attitude towards the sayings of Comrade Mao Zedong to regard whatever he said as the immutable truth which must be mechanically applied everywhere, and to be unwilling to admit honestly that he made mistakes in his later years, and even try to stick to them in our new activities." "We must treasure all the positive experience obtained in the course of integrating the universal principles of Marxism-Leninism with the concrete practice of China's revolution and construction over 50 years or so, apply and carry forward this experience in our new work, enrich and develop Party theory with new principles and new conclusions corresponding to reality, so as to ensure the continued progress of our cause along the scientific course of Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought.''

Decision on Solving Urban Employment Problem

(Excerpts)

"Beijing Review" carried an article entitled "Prospects of Employment" in the "Notes From the Editors" section of issue No. 2, 1982 and a report about the employment situation in northeast China's Jiamusi in issue No. 44, 1981. Both attracted the attention of many of our readers. Some wrote to ask for more particulars of China's employment policy. Following are excerpts from the Decision on Solving Urban Employment Problem issued at the end of 1981 by the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and the State Council. — Ed.

February 8, 1982
1. Arranging jobs for the young people in urban areas has an important bearing on the national economy.

After the Third Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee held towards the end of 1978, the central authorities decided to open up more avenues for developing the collectively owned economy so as to solve the employment problem in cities and towns. In 1980, a national working conference on labour and employment set forth the following principle: “Under the state’s overall planning and guidance, while the labour departments continue to provide employment opportunities, those waiting for jobs may organize collective enterprises on a voluntary basis or they may individually create jobs.” In the last three years, jobs have been provided for more than 20 million people in the urban areas. Nonetheless, a number of problems remain unsolved. This refers mainly to the fact that some places have put undue emphasis on arranging jobs in already overstaffed state-owned enterprises and undertakings, which is detrimental to the improvement of management.

2. Efforts to generate more jobs should be dovetailed with efforts to readjust the structure of industry and ownership and proceed on the basis of developing the economy and various construction projects.

In the future, emphasis should be placed on creating jobs in the collective and individual sectors of the economy. In China, individual economy of the working people, which develops within certain limitations, is the necessary supplement to the socialist public economy. Given the predominence of the socialist public economy, the various forms of economy and management will coexist for a long time; this is a strategic decision of our Party, rather than an expediency.

3. Strive to operate the urban collective economy efficiently and encourage the job-waiting young people to work in collective enterprises.

Under the state’s overall planning, guidance and support, the collective economy in urban areas should follow the principles of organizing on a voluntary basis, bearing sole responsibility for gains and losses, giving remuneration on the basis of work done and carrying out democratic management. Within a few years, noticeable development should be achieved in the various forms of collective economy.

4. Appropriately develop the individual economy of working people in the urban areas and open up more avenues for people to create their own jobs.

The individual economy of labourers in the urban areas has been restored and made some progress, but it still falls short of the needs of the national economic development. In order to relieve misgivings of cadres, the masses and the job-waiting youths, it is necessary to further readjust policies, give more publicity to Party principles and explain the important role of this economic sector in developing production and creating job opportunities.

Individual labourers are socialist labourers in China. They should be treated the same as workers in state-owned and collective enterprises with regard to their social and political status.

5. The departments concerned should formulate feasible measures to encourage and support collective and individual economies.

The ownership of property, regular business activities and incomes of the collective enterprises and individual labourers should be protected by the law and no department or unit is allowed, without authorization, to interfere in their affairs, transfer their property and resources or swallow them up. They are required to pay taxes and other fees according to state law and the rules and

*The Shanghai No. 1 Knitwear Mill and the city's Siping Neighbourhood Committee jointly set up this knitwear workshop for urban youths.*
regulations of the various provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions. No department or unit is allowed to change them under any other pretext. It is necessary to educate those working in collective enterprises or working individually to abide by state policies and law, accept the administration and supervision by the departments concerned and not to engage in such illegal activities as smuggling, speculating and tax evasion. Those violating the law will be dealt with on their merits.

6. Restructure the economic and labour systems in state-owned enterprises.

One of the drawbacks of state-owned enterprises is the practice of “eating from the same pot” [everyone getting his or her remuneration regardless of the amount and quality of work done]. Another drawback is the “iron rice bowl” practice [once a worker or staff member gets on an enterprise’s payroll, his or her job is permanently secured, no matter how he or she works]. State-owned enterprises should be restructured so as to eliminate the existing problems.

Every perspective worker should be fully examined and priority given to the best qualified. A multi-form employment system should be instituted: some work according to contracts, some on a temporary and others on a regular basis. Labour discipline should be enforced. As to those workers and staff members who violate the law, breach discipline and refuse to mend their ways after repeated education, they should be disciplined or fired. Any decision to fire a worker or staff member should be examined and discussed by the congress of workers and staff members and approved by the trade union organization at the same level.

7. Establish, improve and expand labour service companies.

The various labour service companies organize social labour force, carry out economic activities and perform part of the administrative function for the government labour department. They should be gradually developed into a multi-purpose body capable of organizing economic undertakings, arranging jobs according to overall planning, supplying and administering a labour force temporarily needed by various enterprises and providing job training. Preparatory work should begin for the establishment of the China General Labour Service Company.

As for the labour service companies and the collective units organized mainly for enlarging employment, the departments concerned should give necessary support and help regarding supply, production, marketing, bank loans, business spaces, taxes and funds needed for their establishment. Where appropriate, factories, mines, enterprises, government and people’s organizations may give guidance to and provide work for the job-waiting children of the workers and staff by setting up labour service companies and developing collective and individual economic units which practise independent accounting and bear sole responsibility for gains and losses.

8. Step up vocational and technical training.

Job training should be gradually provided for every urban job-waiting youth before he or she is assigned work. The training should cover both skills and political and ideological understanding and take various forms. Young people are encouraged to enter work-study programmes. Vocational schools and training classes should play an active role in training competent personnel for the collective and individual economy. After finishing training and passing examinations, the trainees will receive diplomas, but are not necessarily given jobs consistent
with their training. When they want jobs, they should take the examinations conducted by various enterprises which employ those who excel in the examinations. They can also be organized to work or find jobs individually.

9. Strictly control the flow of rural workers into cities and towns.

Surplus labour power in the countryside should be locally used to develop a diversified economy, including commune- or brigade-run enterprises.

A good job should be done regarding the management of farms, production brigades, agricultural and sideline occupation centres, employing educated youths, in suburban, afforestation, and industrial and mining areas. Political mobilization should be combined with material incentives to encourage job-seeking youths in urban areas to participate in horticulture, livestock- and fish-breeding so as to diversify the economy. Some enterprises should be transformed into corporations, which integrate farming, industry and commerce, and thus they can accommodate more job-seeking urban youths.

10. Strengthen leadership over employment work in the urban areas.

The broad masses of cadres, especially leading cadres, should take the lead in implementing decisions by the Party Central Committee and the State Council and encourage their job-seeking children and relatives to work in collective and individual economic units and service trades.

Population Development in China
And the World

by Hou Wenruo

China's population development after liberation in 1949 paralleled that of the world following World War II.

(1) Departing from the slow growth which prevailed for a long time, both the Chinese and world population growth mushroomed between the 1950s and the early 1970s, when each hit its historical zenith.

Population experts estimate that the annual average increase for the world population crawled upward at 0.02 per cent for the years 1-1000, 0.1 per cent between 1000 and 1500, 0.2 per cent for the years 1500-1800 and 0.6 per cent during the 19th century.

But suddenly during the decade of the 1950s, the world population’s annual average growth rate “exploded” and rose to 1.84 per cent, peaking at 2 per cent during the 1960s.

A comparable rate of ascent characterized China’s population. Its annual average growth rate hovered around zero between 2 A.D and 1290, and as late as 1849-1949, China’s growth was never more than 0.31 per cent. However, it saw unprecedented expansion between 1950 and 1970, growing 2 per cent larger annually.

(2) The rapid shrinking of the number of years required for population to double provides another apt comparison between Chinese and world population growth. In early pre-history the world population needed one million years to double. During the Paleolithic Period it doubled in 30,000 years. But the time rapidly declined from 1,000 years in the early period of the Christian era to 200 and then 100.

The world population doubled from 1,000 million people to 2,000 million between 1830 and 1930. Then, in only 45 years from 1930 to 1975, the world population again doubled, reaching 4,000 million.

A historical survey reveals that in earlier times China’s population took more than 1,000 years to double from 50 to 100 million. But in a little over 30 years since the founding of the People’s Republic in 1949, the Chinese population increased nearly twofold.

(3) Population reproduction throughout the world experienced remarkable changes between the 1950s and the early 1980s. Developing countries in Asia (not including China), Africa and Latin America, which account for the
majority of the world's population, were characterized by a high birthrate, high mortality rate and consequently, a low rate of increase.

But, as nation after nation won independence during the 1950s and 1960s, their populations retained a high birthrate, while beginning to show a lower mortality rate and thus a higher rate of increase.

Meanwhile, the birthrate in developed countries was dropping, so despite their relatively low mortality rate, most of them showed a low rate of increase, similar to the period before World War II. Some others are also beginning to show this type of population growth.

Historically, China's population reproduced with a low rate of increase due to a high birthrate and high mortality rate. Beginning in the 1950s, China, like most other developing countries, was characterized by a high birthrate, a lowered mortality rate and thus an expanding rate of increase. In 1957, for instance, China's birthrate shot up to 3.4 per cent while the mortality rate dropped to 1.1 per cent, with the natural growth rate of the population as high as 2.3 per cent.

However, since the 1970s, when China began to encourage family planning, the Chinese population has been reproducing somewhat like a developed country, with a low birthrate, low mortality rate and low rate of increase. In 1979, the birthrate and mortality rate decreased respectively to 1.79 per cent and 0.62 per cent, while the natural growth rate of the population plummeted to 1.17 per cent. Such population reproduction is akin to that of the United States, where in 1980 the birthrate was 1.6 per cent, the mortality rate 0.9 per cent, and the natural population growth rate 0.7 per cent.

(4) In the 1970s, the rate of increase continued to contract for both China and the world, as the growth rate of the world's population declined from its zenith. From the late 1940s to the early 1970s, the annual average increase in the world rate stabilized around 2-odd per cent. But it dropped to 1.8 per cent in the mid-1970s and 1.7 per cent in 1981.

The Chinese rate began to descend a little earlier and at a faster pace. The natural growth rate of the Chinese population was 2.6 per cent in 1970, 2.34 per cent in 1971 (when China's family planning campaign began), and 2.23 per cent in 1972. From 1973 to 1980, it dropped further from 2.1 per cent to 1.2 per cent.

China accounts for about 22 per cent of the world population, so a decrease in its rate of population growth has a perceptible impact upon the rate of world population growth. As China's growth rate decreases even further in the future, it will contribute further to slowing down world population growth.

CORRECTION: In our last issue, p. 9, left-hand column, the sixth line from the bottom should read: "Their joy results from their opportunity to play a greater role. Their anxiety results from their recognition that unrest . . . ."

February 8, 1982
Presenting awards to the ten most popular athletes.

**SPORTS**

**China's Ten Top Athletes of 1981**

China's ten most popular athletes were honoured on January 17 at an awards ceremony given by 18 journalism organizations.

The ten were selected in a nationwide poll sponsored by the journalism groups, which drew 252,721 votes during the two-month polling period beginning November last year. The large participation has attributed to the intense interest in sports among the Chinese people.

The ten selected by large margins were:

Sun Jinfang, 27, captain and setter of the Chinese women's volleyball team. She can set up the ball with great precision to different heights and positions according to the technical strengths of the other team members. At the Third World Cup Women's Volleyball Tournament last November, she won the best player and best setter trophies and one of the outstanding player trophies. In this poll, she placed first with 242,966 votes.

Chen Xiaoxia, 19, a diver. Her unique skills earned her the nickname "diving queen of the world," a well-deserved title, according to the chairman of the International Swimming Federation. Chen was the champion of the Second World Cup Diving Tournament held in Mexico. She has been among the top contenders in every competition since 1978. This is the third time that she was voted a national sports favourite. She received 223,298 votes.

Guo Yuehua, 26, a member of the state table tennis team. A right-hander, he is good at loop drives and service. He took the men's singles at the 36th World Table Tennis Championships in Yugoslavia, and was also a member of the world champion Chinese team that competed there.

Lang Ping, 21, the women's volleyball team's ace spiker. Named one of the three best world spikers, her quick, powerful and versatile spikes are always a threat to the opposite side. She, too, was awarded an outstanding player trophy at the Third World Cup Women's Volleyball Tournament. She got 235,453 votes. This was her second year in a row to be voted one of the ten most popular sports stars.
He was selected one of the ten best-liked sports stars last year too. He received 223,008 votes this time.

Rong Zhihang, 34, was named the “soul” of the national football team. He has satisfactorily fulfilled his task of setting the pace for the Chinese team in the World Cup Asia-Oceania qualifying round finals. With 219,509 votes this time, he was selected one of the country’s top ten for the third time.

Li Yueju, 24, is the men’s floor exercise champion at the 21st World Gymnastics Championships in Moscow. He was recruited into a provincial team at the age of 13. In 1974, he captured seven titles at the World Middle School Games held in West Germany. This is his second year in the top ten. He won 214,498 votes.

Zou Zhenxian, 26, captured the triple jump event at the 11th World University Games in Bucharest with a 17.32-metre jump, and ranked second in the event at the 1981 world cup tournament. This is his third time in the top ten. He got 210,461 votes.

Tong Ling, 19, a member of the state table tennis team. She was the women’s singles champion at the 36th World Table Tennis Championships and a member of the world champion Chinese team at the championships. She got 168,421 votes.

Wu Shude, 23, set the world snatch record of 126.5 kilogrammes in the 56-kilogramme category at the Asian Weightlifting Championships in Japan. He, too, was named among the most popular sportsmen for the third time. He got 141,854 votes.

Li Xiaoping, 19, was the men’s pommel horse champion at the 21st World Gymnastics Championships. He got 83,340 votes.

ARCHAEOLOGY

Early Bird Fossil Discovered

A bird fossil was found in the Cretaceous layer (some 130 million years ago) near Yumen, Gansu Province. Remains of ancient bird are a rare discovery in China. Scientists believe that the bird may represent a previously unknown species.

The research is being conducted by the Institute of Vertebrate Palaeontology and Palaeoanthropology. In addition to the fossilized bird, remains of fishes, crustaceans and plants were also collected.

Wu Shude

Li Xiaoping

February 8, 1982
Is China's Higher Education Developing Too Slowly?

MINISTER of Education Jiang Nanxiang pointed out in an article:

China had 392 institutes of higher learning in 1976; now it has 704, an increase of 312 in five years. Enrolment in 1976 was 565,000; now it is 1.28 million, more than double. An even greater number of students, 1.3 million, are studying at radio or TV universities, spare-time universities and correspondence universities. The number of full-time university students increased at an average annual rate of 8 per cent in the 32 years since the founding of the People's Republic; it was 11.5 per cent in the 17 years before the start of the "cultural revolution" in 1966, and 18 per cent in the 1977-81 period.

Now let's look at the situation abroad. The average annual increase rate of US higher education in the 30 years between 1946 and 1976 was 5.33 per cent and only 8.27 per cent during the 1960s, its period of rapid development. Japanese higher education expanded 6.3 per cent annually in the 10 years between 1965 and 1975. In the Soviet Union it was 2.4 per cent in the same period. Thus, not only has China's higher education grown faster since 1977 than at any other time since the founding of New China (including the 17 years before the "cultural revolution"), but it has also grown more rapidly than the United States, Japan or the Soviet Union.

In the last few years institutes of higher learning provided places for only 4 per cent of China's senior middle school graduates. Certain people have inferred from this that the development of China's higher education is too slow. This is unscientific. The optimal size of university enrolment is based on the state's needs and abilities, not on the percentage of senior middle school graduates who are enrolled. Changes can occur in the number of such graduates for one reason or another, and the proportion of graduates entering universities or colleges can vary accordingly. In 1952, university enrolment was targeted at 79,000, but only 36,000 graduated from senior middle school, so the target could not be met even when all those graduates were enrolled. But we cannot infer that 1952 saw the most rapid development in China's higher education.

The growth rate of higher education is to some extent restricted by economic development. The enrolment of students in full-time universities and colleges in 1982 is fixed at 300,000, an increase of 12 per cent over 1981. Such a pace of development cannot be regarded as too slow when the national economy is growing at a rate of 4 per cent.

What warrants our attention at present is not that the rate of growth is too low, but that it is necessary to do a good job in consolidating the existing universities and colleges and improving their quality.

("Beijing Ribao")

PEOPLE

Wheat Expert Liu Yingxing

In October 1981, a Chinese peasant stood at the podium of the Second International Conference on Bio-Intensive Mini-Farming in California, USA and delivered a paper on methods for increasing wheat yields at low costs that was among the most exciting academic reports presented.

When the conference chairman introduced 53-year-old Liu Yingxiang and described his scientific achievements in wheat cultivation, the participants burst into sustained applause.

Although the conference rules limited each speaker to about 30 minutes for presentation and questions, the conference chairman allowed the noted Chinese peasant wheat expert 70 minutes. Following his presentation, many conferees raised questions.
on topics such as how Chinese peasants accumulate and use organic fertilizers and how Liu's experiences were publicized in Henan Province.

Liu was born in Yuetan village of Yanshi County, Henan Province. Before liberation, his village was poor and Liu's family was even poorer. As a teenager he fled from a famine and became a beggar. Later he worked for a landlord as a seasonal labourer.

After liberation, peasants became masters of the land and were provided with opportunities to study science. Liu's experiments began once when he was so impressed with the quality of wheat at a county farm he visited that he took four ears home to cultivate. Three years later, this improved wheat was popularized among all the wheat growers in the village.

Led by Liu Yingxiang, peasants in Yuetan village accumulated a whole set of scientific experiences in wresting high and stable wheat yields across a large area while keeping costs down. They combined traditional wheat production experience with modern science and technology, selected good seeds, engaged in intensive and meticulous farming, adopted rational close planting, used mainly organic manure and appropriately applied chemical fertilizers.

As a result, the village wheat yield increased steadily. In recent years it remained stable around 6,750 kilogrammes per hectare. In some wheat fields, the yield exceeded 7,500 kilogrammes.

The cost for producing each kilogramme fell from 12 fen to four fen (one fen equals 0.55 US cents).

Professors and lecturers of the Henan Agricultural College went to the Yuetan Production Brigade every year to do research and field work and help its members sum up their experiences. With the help of specialists, Liu wrote a number of papers on wheat cultivation.

In the last 30 years, Liu Yingxiang has gradually gained the expertise of an agricultural scientist and has become a vice-chairman of the agricultural commission of the province.

In an interview about his impressions from the conference, Liu said, "Scholars of many countries agreed that China has 4,000 years of farming history and rich experiences. They had great interest in China's organic agriculture and a positive appraisal of its current agricultural policies." Other third world countries, he said, were inspired by China's successful solution of the problem of feeding its 1,000 million people by relying on its own efforts. He also said that many good experiences in agriculture abroad merited China's attention.

("Renmin Ribao")

**LIFE**

**Deputy Army Commander Calls A "Mess Meeting"**

ON the morning of November 3, 1981, at 11:45, when the soldiers of a regiment under the Jinan PLA Units were about to have lunch, every company suddenly received a notice asking for a sample lunch and a copy of the weekly menu to be sent to the regiment's headquarters. Just over 10 minutes later, each company's "simple meal" and 76 different varieties of cooked food were placed on the table of a conference room. The dishes were tasted, assessed and ranked by deputy army commander Yang who was staying in a selected company as well as the regiment's political commissar, a deputy regiment commander, a logistics department head, battalion and company commanders and representatives of the mess squads. Six companies were praised for the quality of their food.

In his closing address to the "mess meeting," the deputy army commander said: "In order to improve our meals and ensure military training, we held this meeting in the form of a 'surprise attack.' Using our appraisal, every unit should affirm its good points and pick out its shortcomings, improve its cooking skills, provide more varieties of food and try to serve better meals catering to the taste of the soldiers. These measures will aid military training."

Those companies which serve poor meals are not resigned to being backward. They said, "This time we lagged behind, but we hope that the deputy commander will examine our meals again."

("Jiefangjun Bao")

February 8, 1982
He Loves This Land

Images of China (in English)
Written by Paul Engle,
Published by New World Press,
Beijing, China, January 1981,
Price: de luxe RMB 3 yuan,
clothbound RMB 1.80 yuan,
Available at the Waiven Bookstore in China's major cities;
distributed abroad by Guoji Shudian (China Publications Centre), P.O. Box 399, Beijing, China.

Many books about China have recently been written by foreign visitors to this land. This example is outstanding and unusual. It is perhaps the only such volume composed mainly of poetry. These eighty-odd poems are mostly short, and they show many different forms of modern English verse. The book's consistent message is admiration and sympathy with China and especially the Chinese people. The main subjects of the poems are people, their human qualities, their joys and sadnesses, triumphs and troubles in China today. Also touched on are art works and interesting places in many parts of this country. The book is remarkable for using diverse styles and subjects to express a unified point of view.

The author Paul Engle is an American poet and professor who has been honoured in his own country for his creative and scholarly works. The present collection of verse was composed during an extensive recent trip around China. Engle has a background of at least one earlier visit here. Having grown up among Mid-Western farmers in the USA no doubt helped him to appreciate the rural life led by 80 per cent of the Chinese people. During the travels that are memorialized in this book the author was accompanied by his Chinese-born wife, who also contributed a preface to the volume.

Nothing in Engle's writing indicates that he is a Marxist or a follower of Mao Zedong Thought. Nevertheless, his empathy with the people of New China is convincing. At the same time, there is little in this author's words that idealizes, romanticizes or sentimentalizes his subjects. These poems have the ring of an honest report on deep impressions and true feeling about Chinese realities.

Paul Engle does not hesitate to question or shrink from ironies and implications of criticism. He does not confine himself merely to praise for everything Chinese. Yet in essence his verses are a celebration of the human wonders of China.

With this approach the poet repeatedly contrasts Old and New China. Thus he helps the reader to see how far China has come in triumphing over feudalism and imperialism while carrying on the struggle to perfect the Chinese form of socialism. Yet we can also learn from his words something about the difficulties still to be overcome on the long road to communism.

Though it deals with serious themes deeply felt, this book is easy to read and delightfully illustrated with Chinese paintings in traditional styles. Foreign readers who have been persuaded by Western miseducation that poetry is difficult, obscure or not for ordinary people may find a new experience in this volume.

Anyone who has not been to this country may well be entranced by Paul Engle's Images of China. With one year of living and working here behind me, I do not know of a more eloquent introduction to this great land and its heroically impressive people.

Any foreigner who wants to comprehend and appreciate China today should read this book. Regardless of ideology or political sympathies, this book is more likely than most to set readers on the road to becoming China lovers. The language of this poetic message is clear, forceful, free, lyrical and vivid. The poems are probingly informative about the huge and elusive reality of China, a national presence as important and vital as any to be found in today's world.

— Hua Luntan
(Val C.A. Valentine)
Huang Yongyu’s Woodcuts

Huang Yongyu, a woodcut artist and a skilled painter in the traditional Chinese style, is of the Tujia nationality. He was born in 1924 in Fenghuang County, Hunan Province. A graduate of a secondary fine arts school in 1941, he is now an associate professor of the Central Academy of Fine Arts.

An illustration for the story book "Languages of Birds and Four-Legged Animals."

With mama.

Children in a forest pré-school.
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