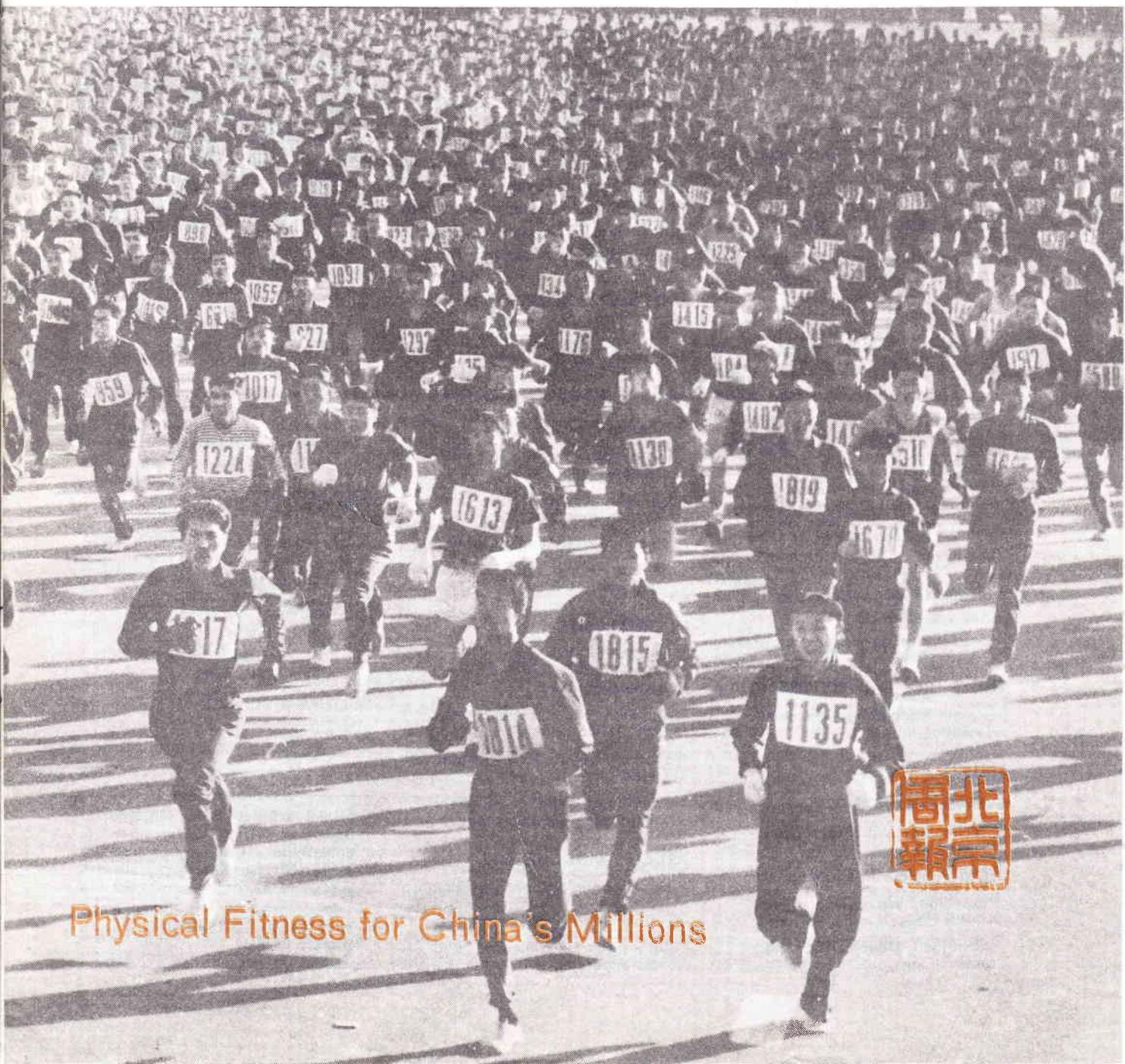


BEIJING REVIEW

China's Tasks for 1983
Outlined by Hu Yaobang

Socialism and Inflation



Physical Fitness for China's Millions

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Hu's Instructive Speech

A slightly abridged translation of a speech by Hu Yaobang at the Central Committee session held soon after the conclusion of the 12th Party Congress. He outlines tasks for the Party and state in 1983 (p. 15).

Science and Technology

At the recent National Science and Technology Awards Conference, Premier Zhao Ziyang called attention to four major questions concerning scientific progress and economic construction (p. 5).

China and the World

Chen Zhongjing, President of the Institute of Contemporary International Relations, discusses China's strategic goals in foreign affairs (p. 18).

Pakistan President's Visit

Pakistan President Zia-ul-Haq's brief but fruitful visit to China has further strengthened the relations between the two countries (p. 8).

Sino-Indian Relations

In meetings with delegations from India, Deng Xiaoping and Zhao Ziyang indicated China's strong desire to solve the Sino-Indian boundary issue and develop bilateral relations (p. 9).

Independence for All CPs

Deng Xiaoping and Marchais agree on a major principle governing inter-Party relations: Let each Party look after itself; there should be no interference from other Parties (p. 9).

Inflation in China

According to well-known economist Luo Gengmo, post-

liberation China has had three bouts with inflation. He shows how the nature, causes and outcome of such inflation differ from those in the capitalist countries (p. 20).

Popular Sports Activities

This special feature describes how physical culture and sports have flourished in People's China. Chinese boxing, other traditional martial arts, and the minority nationality sports are all covered (p. 23).



The 1982 round-the-city race during the Spring Festival in Beijing.

Photo by Wang Hongjun

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Rural Population

Can China's rural population growth be controlled now that the production responsibility system has been introduced in the rural areas?

Since the introduction of the production responsibility system in China's rural areas, and particularly since "fixing output quotas for each household" was instituted as the main form of the responsibility system, the peasants have been given greater power in farm management and the principle of more pay for more work is now implemented in a better way. The peasants' enthusiasm for work has risen and this has spurred the rapid development of production.

An improved life, however, contradictorily fed some peasants' desire to have more children so as to have more labour power in the future. Moreover, there is the influence of traditional concepts such as "more children, more happiness," "branching out of the family tree" and "bringing up the children today in order to have someone to rely on in old age," and so forth. All this has resulted in a return to high birth rates in some places.

China's rural population accounts for 86 per cent of the country's total. Records over the years show that the birth rate and the rate of multiple children families in the rural areas are 50 per cent higher than in the cities. If our country's population is to remain lower than 1,200 million at the end of this century, we must effectively reduce rural population growth. The realization of this goal depends upon implementing the

policies of encouraging each couple to have only one child and ensuring better mother and child care.

It is not easy to persuade the peasants to accept the idea of one couple, one child. But it is possible to do so.

In Shandong and Jiangsu — China's two provinces with the highest density in population — the percentage of first births of total births had reached 76.9 and 72 respectively in 1981, and the rate in northeast China's three provinces of Liaoning, Jilin and Heilongjiang all surpassed 70 per cent. It is estimated that if the rate of all the other provinces, particularly the populous southeastern provinces, can be gradually stabilized at 70 per cent, and the second-birth rate is kept at less than 30 per cent, and third births eliminated, we can keep our population within 1,200 million by the year 2000.

The experiences of Shandong, Jiangsu and other provinces suggest that effective control of rural population growth can be realized if the family planning programme is implemented through the efforts of the basic collective economic organization — the production team. Along with the contracts for output quotas, contracts on family planning are also signed between the production teams and the peasant households. This "double contracting system" provides that both parties have certain obligations and duties, and outlines methods of awarding bonuses and honours. Special offices are set up by the local governments, the communes and production brigades

or, in some places, special people are assigned to help formulate birth control plans and work out measures to encourage and supervise their implementation.

The most important task is to conduct patient and detailed ideological education among the peasants, helping each family understand that the government's population policy of fewer but healthier children conforms to the long-term interests of both the country and the peasants themselves. This will help them consciously abandon the traditional concepts of "more children, more happiness" and of "regarding boys as superior to girls." Simultaneously, several forms of honours and material rewards are given to families who adhere to family planning. The only child is ensured paid social welfare benefits and priorities for medical treatment, enrolment in kindergartens and schools and in employment. In addition, family planning information is publicized among the child-bearing couples and contraceptives are supplied free of charge. Women's and children's health care are to be strengthened so as to ensure the healthy development of the next generation.

The backward economy and lack of welfare facilities in many rural areas hinder the elimination of the thinking of "bringing up the children today in order to have someone to rely on in old age." But the development of rural socialist economy and the increase of public accumulation funds and public welfare funds will help the growth of social security facilities such as "home of respect for the old," for those old people who can no longer work and have no one to look after them.

LETTERS

On the 12th Party Congress

Building Socialism

I would like share with your thoughts about Chairman Hu Yaobang's report to the 12th Party Congress (issue No. 37).

I have learnt from the report about your hard work which brought about successes in the period from the smashing of the Jiang Qing counter-revolutionary clique to the convocation of this Party Congress, and about the serious harms caused by your mistakes after the founding of the People's Republic, particularly during the "cultural revolution." The report exposed and corrected these mistakes, repudiated the cult of personality and pointed out the mistakes made by your great leader Chairman Mao Zedong during his later years, while it defended and defined the scientific nature of Mao Zedong Thought and the historical role of Comrade Mao Zedong. Thus, an excellent situation is taking shape where workers and peasants are determined to build up China. I think this is being accomplished in the spirit of always viewing problems objectively while not neglecting the subjective factors.

I hope that the 1,000 million Chinese people will become well-off and the Chinese Communist Party will co-ordinate energy resources, the economy and politics

Such measures will help the progress of the family planning programme.

Over the past 30 years, our country has traversed a tortuous road with regard to population — from blind population growth to the present planned control. Today we are still paying for the serious consequences resulting from the two baby booms of the mid-1950s and 1960s. This historical lesson is prompting the whole nation to work jointly to make our family planning programme a success.

— Economic Editor Jin Qi

and carry forward the four modernizations, including the modernization of science and technology, and build socialism through self-reliance.

Yukio Otani
Hyogo, Japan

Spiritual Civilization

I am delighted with the excellent situation in which your Party is carrying out the socialist modernization as reported by General Secretary Hu Yaobang. I am particularly interested in the third and fourth sections which stress that while working for a high level of material civilization China must also strive to build a high level of spiritual civilization. Therefore, it is necessary to develop socialist democracy in order to ensure and support the building of these two civilizations.

I have thought for a long time that bureaucratism is like a borer on the body of a lion. It is important to eliminate bureaucracy. This is especially so for those countries which have overthrown the system of exploitation and are undertaking socialist construction.

While working for a high level of material and spiritual civilizations, I also ardently hope you will attain a high level of democracy and demonstrate the tremendous successes of socialism in practice.

Yaichi Osodo
Tokyo, Japan

Revolutionary Report

I think your issue No. 37 was extraordinary, especially in political content. Comrade Hu Yaobang's report is profound, revolutionary and educative.

Long live the 12th Party Congress of the Chinese Communist Party!

Long live all the delegates and the Party Central Committee!

Long live the Chinese people who are working for the four modernizations and striding towards communism!

Long live Mao Zedong Thought!

Simoes Luis
Paris, France

Bright Future

The report "Create a New Situation in All Fields of Socialist Modernization" was great — it is the future of China and that future is very bright.

Li Huaixin's woodcuts (issue No. 36) are excellent and meaningful.

Frances H. Jacobsen
Hayward, Calif., USA

On Disarmament

We have received your magazine *Beijing Review* by courtesy of Radio Peking for the first time and many friends have read it. They find it interesting and informative. We are interested in the two columns: International — Reports and Comments and Articles and Documents.

We particularly appreciate the article "China's Position on Disarmament" (issue No. 25). Huang Hua, head of the Chinese Government Delegation, expounded China's stand on the immediate end to arms race and opposition to the manufacturing of the neutron bomb. We likewise oppose these and anything that will destroy humanity. We hope to get more detailed reports on China's technical education, culture, science and agriculture. We are fascinated by your magazine.

Nkulu-Mweze
Shaba, Zaire

On Content

I have read your weekly and I find it informative and interesting. I think your column "International — Reports and Comments" is excellent and the reader can get international information quickly.

I also like "Culture and Science" for it is so knowledge-full. It would be improved if some more information about new inventions is added to it.

As a whole it is really an excellent weekly with very knowledgeable and informative columns.

I think it would be more attractive if its title is multicoloured and a few colour photographs added.

The photographs published in your weekly are not very good nor clear.

Paras Channa
Karachi, Pakistan

Beijing Review, No. 44

SCIENCE

Technology Will Make Economy Tick

China's ability to quadruple its annual industrial and agricultural output value by the end of this century depends on its progress in science and technology. This was pointed out by Premier Zhao Ziyang recently.

Addressing a national science and technology awards conference held in late October, Premier Zhao specified a guiding principle for China's economic construction: develop science and technology in order to boost the national economy. He said that every department engaged in national economy must stress achieving technical progress so as to gradually shift production to a new technological basis.

China, he said, needs to plan and build more technically advanced factories, but the modernization drive can hardly succeed in such a vast country as

ours by building a few modern factories alone. The old factories must be technically transformed, while all new factories should be equipped with the most advanced technology available and regularly be updated with more sophisticated technology.

The Premier also said:

— Scientific and technological work must be geared to the needs of economic construction. The primary task of research is to study key scientific and technological subjects that will help produce the maximum benefits in economic development. With this as the guiding thought, all departments concerned must determine their tasks of scientific research and readjust the system and technical force of research, in addition to improving the system of examinations and the awards policy.

— Scientists and technicians should be rallied to take part in planning for future work with the focus on solving key problems. While drawing up a 10-year national economic develop-

ment programme and a long-term plan for the development of science and technology, specific plans should also be mapped out for the development of the various trades and localities and the technical transformation of major enterprises. Scientific and technical workers should participate in all such planning.

— Efforts should be made to enhance the enthusiasm of enterprises in raising their technical levels. Under the current economic system, enterprises tend to ignore the needs of the market and technical progress. These two drawbacks should be overcome in the process of economic restructuring and readjustment.

Of the more than 1,000 scientists and technicians attending the conference, 552 received awards for outstanding performance. The prize-winning items — 428 inventions and 124 natural science research results — include China's major inventions in the past 10 years and the major results of research in the natural sciences over the past two decades.

Most of these achievements were the results of co-operation between several departments or regions. Some involved the coordinated work of dozens of institutions and hundreds of people.

Fang Yi, Minister in Charge of the State Science and Technology Commission, gave the opening speech at the conference and Wu Heng, director of the national committee for the assessment and recommendation of inventions and scientific results, gave a detailed report on work procedures.



Wan Li (third from left) and other Party and state leaders giving certificates to prize-winning scientists and technicians.

Old Principle Reaffirmed

The principle "let a hundred flowers blossom and a hundred schools of thought contend" must be upheld in scientific and cultural work, Hu Qiaomu said recently.

Speaking at a national conference on long-term planning in philosophy and the social sciences, Hu Qiaomu, Honorary President of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and concurrently Member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, said that this principle was not included in the new draft Constitution because it is not a legal term. However, its omission does not mean that the principle has changed.

The Party reaffirms the necessity to guide science and art in accordance with their own laws of development, a process Hu likened to encouraging horticulturalists to cultivate their gardens. Efforts must be made to protect the socialist "hundred flowers garden," he said.

The fundamental task for philosophy and the social sciences in China is to study and find solutions to the important theoretical and practical problems that have arisen in the modernization drive, Hu said. Every discipline of the social sciences, he said, can be directly applied and should therefore be vigorously developed. For instance, research workers in economics can co-operate with an enterprise and a department or even a region and jointly study the ways to improve enterprise management, raise productivity and increase economic results. Other branches such as law, sociology, history, ethnology, linguistics and archaeology should also integrate research with practical work.

The popularization of the social sciences is just as important as the study of the basic and applied sciences, and should be a major task for the workers of the social sciences.

Hu Qiaomu emphasized that in order to promote socialist spiritual civilization, the people should be educated in history, ideals and morality, discipline and the legal system, and every field has rich theoretical contents. Alongside such education, the scientific criticism of various erroneous thoughts should be conducted.

The conference was convened jointly by the Department of Propaganda under the Party Central Committee and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. More than 170 representatives from various parts of the country exchanged views on fulfilling the tasks of philosophy and the social sciences during China's Sixth Five-Year Plan (1981-85) and raised tentative proposals for the development of the social sciences during the Seventh Five-Year Plan (1986-90).

POLITICAL

Expelling Wrong-Doers From the Party

Several leading Party members who turned to crime were expelled from the Party and punished since the nationwide crackdown on illegal economic activities early this year.

Li Zhenhua, secretary of the Party committee of Baofeng County in Henan Province, and his wife Wang Yulan, a Party cadre, were among the latest examples. Abusing their posi-

tions and power, the couple pocketed 11,000 yuan from illegal liquor sales, bribes and appropriating state and collective property. They were expelled from the Party upon a Henan provincial Party committee decision and arrested according to law.

Sun Xiaoquan was another leading Party member who was ousted and sentenced to four years of imprisonment. He illegally took possession of a dozen valuable pieces of cultural relics, Chinese paintings and calligraphy by taking advantage of his position as deputy director of the Hangzhou city Party committee's propaganda department and head of the city's cultural bureau.

Citizens of Haifeng, a county in Guangdong Province's Shantou Prefecture, cheered when Wang Zhong, the notorious county Party committee secretary and revolutionary committee chairman, was stripped of his Party membership and sent to prison by the judicial organs. As leader of Haifeng's anti-contraband work, he stole large quantities of seized smuggled goods including wrist-watches, cassette tape-recorders, electric fans, bicycles, expensive drugs and other articles.

How did these people turn into criminals after decades in the service of the revolution and the people? The answer lies in their failure to see capitalist society in the right perspective and to resist the corrosive influence of the ideology of the exploiting classes. They succumbed when they were dazzled by the novel foreign things that streamed in after the Party Central Committee adopted the policy to expand economic exchanges with foreign countries while stimulating the economy at home. They forgot their lofty aspirations

and their political integrity as Communists and began to hanker after personal gains. This led them to run afoul of state law and Party discipline, causing great damage to the Party and the people.

Although these cases make the point that some Party members are apt to fall prey to "sugar-coated bullets," (decadent bourgeois influences), more importantly, they are painful reminders that for a considerably long time criminal activities have not been effectively curbed. There are still loopholes in China's economic management system and in the related rules and regulations, which criminals can take advantage of. Moreover, Party organizations in some areas were so inept that they did not intervene and take timely and effective measures to deal with the law offenders.

Compared with the whole Party membership of 39 million, the number of such wrongdoers is only a tiny fraction. Yet their crimes are significant enough to arouse the concern of the whole Party from the Central Committee to grass-roots organizations, for they have a bearing on the style of the Party. While punishing the criminals according to discipline, Party organizations in many areas have restructured themselves and devoted much effort to educating their members.

ECONOMIC

Electrified Double-Track Railway Line

China's first electrified double-track railway line was

open to traffic recently. This is yet another step in meeting China's increasing transport needs.

The 235-kilometre-long railway line starts in the west at Taiyuan, capital of Shanxi which is China's leading coal-producing province, passes through Yangquan, a major anthracite-producing city, and ends in the east at Shijiazhuang, capital of Hebei Province. The first 120-kilometre section from Shijiazhuang to Yangquan opened in September 1980.

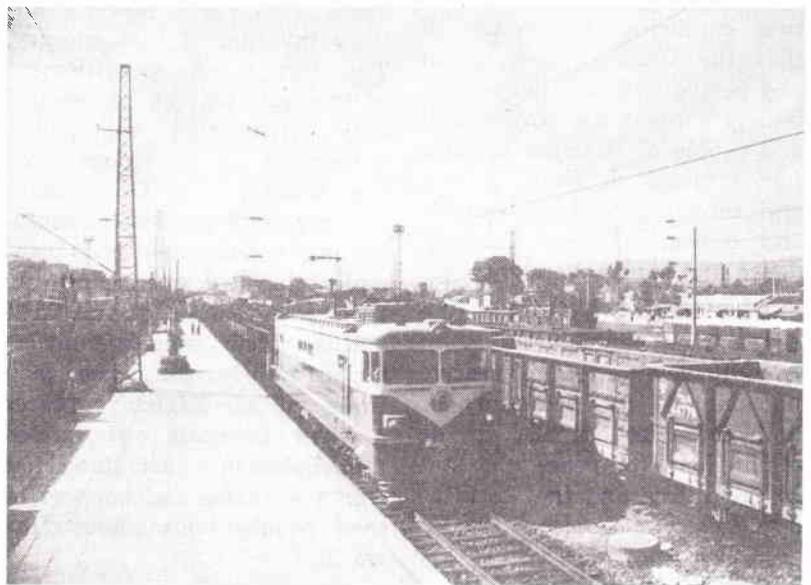
Experts estimate that with the completion of the entire line, freight volume will be doubled and 30 million tons of coal can be transported out of Shanxi annually.

In his report to the 12th Party Congress, General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee Hu Yaobang stressed that improving transport and communications is one of the strategic tasks in developing China's national economy. They are a weak link which adversely af-

fects the modernization drive. Over the last 30 years, the volume of freight has increased more than 30 times, but the length of railway lines only by 2.3-fold. As a result, the number of bottlenecks in the railway system has increased and the transport capacity of some key sections is only 50-70 per cent of demand.

Over the years, coal production of many areas has increased rapidly, but the coal cannot be shipped out because of the inadequate transportation. At the same time, many factories and enterprises cannot operate at full capacity because of lack of coal or other fuel.

To improve this situation, the railway ministry has, since 1978, concentrated its manpower and financial and material resources on the construction of 18 new railway lines which are designed to improve coal transportation. By 1981, 14 railway lines with a total length of 1,371 kilometres had been completed and opened to traffic. In addition, 762 kilometres of double-



An electrified train passing through the Yangquan station.

track railway lines have been laid, and another 527-kilometre-long electrified railway lines are being constructed.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

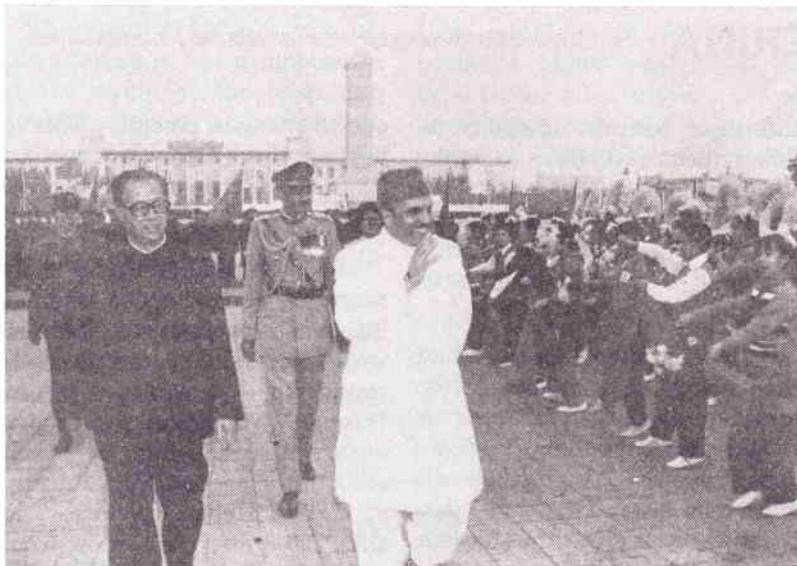
Pakistan President Visits China

General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and Begum Haq paid an official visit to China from October 17 to 23. Premier Zhao Ziyang held talks with the President and Comrade Deng Xiaoping and Hu Yaobang, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, met with him on separate occasions. The talks and meetings proceeded in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. The two sides exchanged views on a number of international issues of common interest and on the development of bilateral relations, and reached comprehensive identity.

Bilateral Relations. Premier Zhao Ziyang expressed satisfaction with the steady development and consolidation of friendly relations between the two countries. He reiterated that the Chinese Government and people will, as always, resolutely support the government and people of Pakistan in their just struggle to resist threats and interference from outside and defend national independence and state sovereignty.

Zhao Ziyang said that the development of Sino-Pakistani friendly relations is conducive not only to the prosperity of both countries but also to the maintenance of peace and stability in Asia and the world as a whole.

President Zia-ul-Haq praised the friendship between the two



President Zia-ul-Haq greets the children at the welcoming ceremony.

countries. He pointed out that this friendship is not aimed against any country, but is established on the principle of peaceful coexistence. Such friendship will help enhance the struggle of the third world for a new international order.

The Questions of Afghanistan and Kampuchea. Zhao Ziyang said: Over the past year, the international situation has become even more turbulent and unstable, and the Afghan question remains unsolved. He pointed out that the Afghan question stems from a superpower's military invasion of that country. Therefore, a genuine settlement of this question can be reached only when that superpower withdraws all its troops from that country. The Government and people of Pakistan, upholding justice and adhering to principles, have worked tirelessly for a just solution of this issue and provided generous humanitarian aid to the more than three million Afghan refugees now in Pakistan. He added that Pakistan's just stand has won the praise and support of the people throughout the world.

Zia-ul-Haq said: The solution

of the Afghan issue lies in creating conditions in Afghanistan so that the Afghan refugees in Pakistan and other countries can return to their homeland decently and safely. This can be realized only when all foreign troops are pulled out of Afghanistan.

He said: In Kampuchea, as in Afghanistan, internationally acknowledged principles are trampled on, and regional stability and peace have been undermined. Kampuchea, a non-aligned country, is suffering under military intervention. We demand that all foreign troops withdraw from Kampuchea.

Pakistan-India Relations. Zia-ul-Haq said: Pakistan wishes to establish unstrained relations with India. To strengthen mutual trust, Pakistan has suggested a non-aggression agreement. He said that Pakistan will do its best to conclude such an agreement.

The Middle East Question. President Haq strongly condemned Israel's invasion of Lebanon. He stressed that the Middle East issue should be solved in a fair and comprehensive way. Israel must withdraw from all the oc-

cupied territories, including Jerusalem, and let the Palestinian people exercise their rights and establish their own state on their homeland. We support the eight-point plan adopted at the Fez Summit of the Arab countries.

During President Zia-ul-Haq's visit, an agreement on the establishment of a joint committee for economic, trade, scientific and technical co-operation between China and Pakistan was signed in Beijing.

President Zia-ul-Haq also visited Xian, Guilin and Shanghai.

Deng and Marchais on Party Relationship

Deng Xiaoping on October 25 said that the socialist revolution and construction in a country should be carried out independently by the communist party of that country.

"A foreign party is bound to fall into mistakes if it tries to interfere or make indiscreet criticisms," he added.

Deng Xiaoping, who is a Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and Chairman of the Central Advisory Commission, made the above remarks at a meeting in Beijing with the delegation of the French Communist Party Central Committee led by General Secretary Georges Marchais.

A foreign party can never match the Communists of a given country in grasping the internal situation and problems

of that country, Deng Xiaoping said. "And, when mistakes are made, it is up to the Communists of that country to sum up their experience and correct their mistakes," he said. "This is the only sure way of doing it."

"We didn't do well enough in the past and we have summed up our experience in this respect," he said. "We don't agree with the French Party on certain issues. But, to disagree is one thing and to interfere and make indiscreet criticisms is another. This is a matter of principle and it is better to establish inter-party relations on this principle."

Deng said the victory of the Chinese revolution was won by the Chinese Communists, whose outstanding representative was Mao Zedong, because they had thought things out for themselves and mapped out their strategies and tactics in line with the actual conditions in China.

Georges Marchais said he agreed with Deng Xiaoping on what he said about the principle governing inter-party relations. "This is also our position," he said. "We are all responsible for the deterioration of relations among Communist Parties."

Marchais said the French Communist Party has learnt two things from its experience: One, there is no "model" for socialism and each party should build socialism according to the actual conditions in its own country; two, all parties are independent and responsible only to the working class and people of their own countries.

"However," Marchais said, "differences should not be ob-

stacles to the establishment of fine relations and views can be exchanged calmly. We are still brothers despite our differences."

Referring to the divergences between the Chinese and French Parties, Deng said to Marchais: "Let bygones be bygones. We should all adopt a forward-looking attitude. We are satisfied with your talks with Comrade Hu Yaobang."

Marchais said that he was very pleased with his visit. "We are satisfied with the political talks between our two Parties which helped promote mutual understanding of each other's policies and resulted in a broad-ranging agreement. We are also satisfied with our tour of other parts of China."

Chinese Leaders on Sino-Indian Relations

Deng Xiaoping, Chairman of the Central Advisory Commission of the Communist Party of China, on October 22 told a visiting delegation from the Indian Council of Social Science Research that there is no mutual threat between China and India. The only issue between them, he said, is the boundary question which is not difficult to settle so long as both sides take reasonable measures.

Deng Xiaoping said both China and India are not insignificant countries in the world. "What I mean is that the two countries have a combined total of 1,700 million people, over one-third of the world's population. We are close neighbours. In the 1950s, we co-operated very well. We should be on friendly terms, increase ex-

changes and promote friendship and mutual understanding," he added.

The delegation was led by Gopalaswami Parthasarathi, Chairman of the Council. He served as the Indian Ambassador to China during 1958-1961.

Parthasarathi said that further development of Indian-Chinese friendship is very important. "It is not only in the interests of the two peoples but is in the interest of peace and stability in Asia and the world over," he noted. He expressed the hope that the relations between the two countries would be as good as in the 1950s.

In meeting with a delegation from the India-China Society led by B.N. Pande, President of the Society and a member of Parliament, on October 23, Premier Zhao Ziyang said that the Chinese Government wishes for an early settlement of the China-India boundary question and that China is optimistic about the prospects for developing the relations between the two countries.

Pande said that Prime Minister Indira Gandhi is enthusiastic about furthering the relations between India and China and settling the boundary question between the two countries. He added that it is her hope that all pending problems between the two countries can be solved in our generation rather than left to the next generation.

Relations With Angola Clarified

The spokesman of the information department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China issued a statement on October 22 concerning the nego-

tiations on the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Angola. The statement reads:

China and Angola have recognized each other. At present, the representatives of the two governments are holding friendly discussions in Paris on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. The Chinese side wishes to point out that some people abroad have spread the allegation that China is still giving aid to the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola. Such allegation is entirely groundless. In the period when the Angolan people were fighting against colonial rule, China gave assistance to the People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, and also the Angolan National Liberation Front. Since Angola won independence, China has ceased its aid to all the three organizations. It is our hope that after the establishment of official diplomatic relations, China and Angola will make concerted efforts to develop their friendly relations in accordance with the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence.

Chinese Ambassador to The US Lodges Protest

In his meeting with Thomas P. Shoemith, Acting Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia and Pacific Affairs on October 18, Chinese Ambassador to the United States Chai Zemin lodged a protest against US senior officials' presence at the so-called "national day" reception given by Taiwan's "North America Affairs Co-ordina-

tion Committee" in the United States.

Chai Zemin quoted reports in Taiwan newspapers, *China Times*, *Unity*, and *Metro Chinese Journal*, that William P. Clark, Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, and some other high-ranking US officials were present at the "October 10 national day" reception held in Washington on October 5. The reports also said that William Clark expressed congratulations on behalf of President Ronald Reagan.

Chai Zemin pointed out that this was a grave incident that ran counter to the Sino-US Communique on the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations and the recent joint communique between the two countries. He said it was actually an attempt to create "two Chinas" or "one China, one Taiwan."

He said that as the incident took place not long after the issuance of the Sino-US joint communique and at a time when the US side had repeatedly declared it would honour the communique, it could not but arouse the grave concern of the Chinese side.

Chai Zemin also noted that five states and nine cities in the United States had recently announced October 10 as the "day of the republic of China" and government officials in some states and cities had participated in "October 10" celebrations.

All this, he pointed out, was not accidental and the US State Department bore unshirkable responsibility for it.

The Chinese Ambassador demanded that the US Government take effective measures to prevent the recurrence of such incidents.

UN Should Play a More Effective Role

AS the speeches at the 37th UN General Assembly Session indicate, a pressing issue that commands world attention is how to improve the United Nations and strengthen its role.

UN Secretary-General Javier Peres de Cuellar in his recent annual report pointed to the alarming succession of international crises which have brought the world close to anarchy. He urged that the function and role of the United Nations as the world's primary institution for maintaining international security be strengthened, as stipulated in the UN Charter. His reasonable and just proposal has won support from many member nations.

The Challenge the UN Faces

People are concerned about the present state of the United Nations because in this turbulent world it is responsible for maintaining peace and promoting international co-operation. The international community expects it to uphold justice, thus making contributions to safeguarding international security, bettering human welfare and mediating international disputes. However, whenever world peace and security were breached and a turbulent international situation called for UN intervention, the world organization was made impotent by some influential forces which obstructed its efforts to protect their own interests. The cases of Kampuchea, Afghanistan, Namibia, Lebanon, disarmament and global negotiations are illustrative.

Although the overwhelming majority of the member states demand an end to hegemonism, expansionism and racist rule so as to maintain international security and defend the UN Charter, and a series of UN resolutions have been passed despite obstructions, these resolutions have not been implemented. Many of the 139 items on the current session's agenda are old issues left over from previous UN sessions.

The challenge the UN faces is a reflection of the contradictions and confrontations in the present-day world. On the one hand, the third world, the medium and small countries and the world's people as a whole want to see world peace and international security maintained, the right to national independence and survival guaranteed, and all major international problems reasonably resolved. On the other hand, hegemonist, imperialist, colonialist and expansionist forces try to maintain their privileges and vested interests by all means, including even the use of armed force to jeopardize world peace and infringe other nations' independence. The two superpowers, in particular, have always tried to place themselves over and above the United Nations and have ignored the desires of the majority of UN member states and UN resolutions. Whenever they find the UN Charter and the norms of international relations have become obstacles to their actions and interests, they do not hesitate to trample

them underfoot. Facts show that those obstructing a solution to the Kampuchea and Afghanistan problems, a settlement of the Lebanon and other Middle East issues, are precisely those who created these problems.

Great Changes in the UN

Since the UN Charter was declared effective on October 24, 1945, the UN has travelled a path full of twists and turns and undergone tremendous changes. Its membership has increased from 51 nations to 157, with the third world countries now making up two-thirds of the total. Its functions and scope of activities also have expanded from just maintaining international security to include programmes for development, population planning, environment protection, employment, trade, resources utilization, food and agriculture, water conservancy, health, meteorology, outer space, and programmes concerned with women, children, youth, the aged and refugees.

The participation of a great number of third world countries in the United Nations has resulted in a significant change in the balance of power in the world body. In the 50s and the early 60s, the UN was but a voting machine manipulated by a few major powers. Since 1970 the imperialists, hegemonists and expansionists no longer have been able to do as they wished in the organization; they cannot impose their will on the other countries who are the majority. The UN arena has become a rostrum from which the third world countries speak out against aggression

and hegemonism. The two superpowers are increasingly isolated. They feel uneasy with this change, which mirrors the altered balance of power in the UN and the historical development in the postwar world.

But it must not be overlooked that the superpowers, though no longer able to manipulate the UN as they wish, still are trying to maintain their hegemonic position by bringing pressure to bear upon the UN, using vetoes indiscriminately, engaging in private deals outside the UN, refusing to implement UN resolutions, and other dubious means. While one superpower obstinately prevents a fair and reasonable solution to the Kampuchea and Afghanistan issues, the other superpower is protecting the Israeli aggressors in many ways. That is the main reason why the UN is confronted with some serious difficulties and its role in world affairs is limited.

Strengthen the UN

The history of the past 37 years reveals that the United Nations can perform its duty and play its assigned part only if it can free itself from the major powers' manipulation, utilization and interference, if its resolutions can be carried out, and if it can apply effective sanctions in cases of actions that breach international peace and security.

All the UN member nations, big or small, should have equal rights, and they must abide by the purpose and principles of the United Nations and have their actions restricted by UN resolutions passed by a majority with the aim to oppose aggression and support peace. They must not act as despots, ignoring the UN Charter. In the present circumstances, it is necessary for the United Na-

tions to resolutely resist and oppose superpower hegemonism so as to play a bigger role in maintaining world peace and international security.

The more tumultuous the international situation, and the more seriously threatened are world peace and international security, the more important and pressing becomes the task of strengthening the United Nations. Every UN member state, by its actions, will show whether it sincerely desires peace and supports the United Nations.

As a member of the United Nations and a permanent member of the Security Council, China is willing to stand with other third world countries and strive together with them to strengthen the position of the third world in the UN and to bolster the role of the world organization.

During his meeting with the UN Secretary-General in August, Deng Xiaoping said that there are a great many more third world countries in the United Nations than before and that this change must not be underestimated. "The United Nations should play a bigger and better role than before."

We believe that so long as the great majority of UN member nations unite and wage a resolute struggle against any forces menacing world peace and international security both inside and outside the United Nations, this organization can overcome the difficulties it faces and play its proper role. Any attempt to go against this world trend and to weaken the United Nations will fail.

— "Renmin Ribao" Commentator, October 23

Situation in Lebanon

WHEN Lebanese President Amin Gemayel left Beirut for the United States, France and Italy on October 17, the government sent troops to tighten airport security. The tense atmosphere indicated that although the turmoil caused by the Israeli invasion in June had eased somewhat, the crisis in Lebanon has not passed.

Foreign Troop Withdrawal

In his speeches at the UN General Assembly and in the United States, Gemayel said that the purpose of his visit was to carry to the international community "the hopes and aspirations of the people of Lebanon after nearly a decade of suffering." He referred to the urgency of the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon and the need for a comprehen-

sive programme of reconstruction so that his country can regain its sovereignty.

As Gemayel noted, the continued presence of foreign troops in Lebanon is the main cause of the continued tension in Lebanon. There are many international armed forces in Lebanon. The UN peace-keeping forces remain along the Lebanese and Israeli border. In Beirut there are troops of the United States, France and Italy who returned at the beginning of October. Some 70,000 Israeli troops still occupy a large tract of land in the south along the Beirut-Damascus Highway. There are also 25,000 Arab peace-keeping troops, consisting mainly of Syrian troops, and 6,000 Palestinian soldiers in the Bekaa region and Tripoli.



French troops of the multinational force return to Beirut.

The Lebanese Government says that the UN peace-keeping force and the multinational force of the United States, France and Italy should remain and be strengthened because they can help restore an effective Lebanese control over the area. It has asked other foreign armed forces to withdraw from Lebanon immediately. Upon taking office, Gemayel reiterated this demand and called for the withdrawal of all Israeli, Palestinian and Syrian troops. No progress on this question has yet been made because the Israeli authorities have insisted that the remaining Palestinian armed forces must withdraw first, and also that a so-called "secure" area in southern Lebanon must be established before their invading troops will withdraw. Syria has said that its troops will not withdraw until the last Israeli soldier leaves Lebanon. The Palestine Liberation Organization wants to discuss the question of its troop withdrawal only with the Lebanese Government.

Another reason for the turbulent situation in Lebanon is opposition among the domestic

armed factions. There are many religious factions within Lebanon, each with its own armed forces, each occupying a portion of the country. The presence of foreign troops in Lebanon has complicated the situation.

Reorganize the Social Order

Shortly after his inauguration, Gemayel announced that he first wanted to clear the capital of illegal foreign troops, and then extend government control to other areas outside of Beirut. Beginning on October 5, government troops swept through West Beirut, searching for weapons, suspected criminals and illegal aliens. It is reported that they have seized several hundred tons of ammunition and large numbers of weapons, and have

detained thousands of people. Muslim organizations in Lebanon have said that by searching West Beirut but not Christian Phalangist-controlled East Beirut, the government troops were politically biased.

Gemayel has pinned his hopes for the unification and stability of Lebanon upon the United States which now considers Lebanon as part of its Middle East strategy.

During his stay in Washington, Gemayel met with Reagan and both sides agreed on the prompt withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon. They also discussed the reconstruction and enlargement of the Lebanese army and Lebanon's economic rehabilitation. The United States stressed the need for international economic assistance for Lebanon's reconstruction. It did not promise new economic aid. A high US official said that the United States would give Lebanon no more than 100 million dollars in aid.

The situation in Lebanon is closely tied to that of the Middle East as a whole. Because the United States still refuses to recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Lebanon is still a long way from permanent stability.

— An Guozhang

The Mafia in Italy

IN the rising Italian movement against Mafia terrorism, some 100,000 people from different parts of Italy on October 16 gathered in Palermo, capital of Sicily, to demonstrate against Mafia violence. On the same day, President Alessandro Pertini presided at the ceremony

unveiling a statue of General Carlo Alberto Dalla Chiesa, who had been assassinated in a Mafia ambush in downtown Palermo on September 3. The Italian authorities held a solemn funeral for the late general, and the Parliament has recently approved an anti-Mafia law.

General Chiesa was one of Italy's foremost anti-terrorist leaders. Last May he was appointed Prefect of Palermo to co-ordinate police and administrative efforts against the Mafia that had murdered more than 100 people in Sicily since last January.

Centre of International Drug Traffic.

The Italian Mafia is a criminal organization engaged in assassinations, extortion and drugs. Sicily has now become the centre of the international Mafia drug traffic. The heroin manufactured by the Mafia totals several billion US dollars yearly. It is reported that successive battles over control of the Sicilian drug trade have occurred among Mafia factions in recent months. This is one of the reasons for the increased number of murders in Sicily.

General Chiesa was assigned to Sicily last May to fight the gangs of Mafia drug pushers. A Reuter report said that General Chiesa had discovered new proof of the connections between the Mafia and the Sicilian commercial community, and that he was writing a report on the collaboration among businessmen, drug pushers and well-known Mafia figures. Clearly, the assassination of General Chiesa was not fortuitous.

Infiltration of Government and Business.

High-ranking Italian officials consider the Mafia a more dangerous opponent than other terrorist groups. The organized criminal activities of the Mafia have penetrated the inner circles of both government and business.

Another Mafia enterprise is embezzlement. Not long ago, a large amount of public funds earmarked for urban construction was embezzled or diverted to other purposes. This finally

ended up in the pockets of the Mafia. Clearly, the Mafia has bought over local government officials and planted its members in banks and credit institutions. When General Chiesa took office last May, he received a report from the Ministry of Finance. The report revealed that some 3,200 businessmen and public officials (security personnel) had accumulated large personal savings accounts, and had living standards that far exceeded their incomes.

The murder of General Chiesa shocked the entire nation. The Italian Government has taken this case very seriously, just as it did the assassination of the former Italian Prime Minister Aldo Moro by the Red Brigades in 1978. The Italian authorities emphasize that the Mafia is a nationwide problem, and that all political forces in the country must unite to fight it.

— Zhang Hua

Bangladesh-India Relations Improved

BANGLADESH Chief Martial Law Administrator Ershad's official visit to India from Oct. 6 to 7 and his friendly talks with Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi have improved the formerly strained relations between the two countries.

Economic Relations

During Ershad's visit, the two countries signed a memorandum of understanding on two issues. The first was for an area of India's land known as Tin Bigha to be permanently leased to Bangladesh so as to satisfy Bangladesh's need for a passageway to its two enclaves within India. The other was for the setting up of a joint economic commission.

From July to September this year, India lent Bangladesh 100,000 tons of its imported US and Canadian wheat to ease Bangladesh's grain shortage. India currently exports US\$73 million of goods to Bangladesh each year while importing US\$12 million of Bangladesh products. The establishment of a joint economic commission is bound to improve economic co-

ordination and co-operation between the two countries.

Ganges Water

The issue of sharing water from the Ganges River took a prominent place in the two countries' talks. The 1977 agreement on this issue, to expire on Nov. 4, had never fully resolved this problem. Since India built the Farakka barrage which diverts water from the Ganges just before it enters Bangladesh, the latter has been seriously short of water. This has affected its industry, agriculture, transportation and people's livelihood.

Ershad told newsmen that the two countries have agreed to seek an understanding within 18 months. Meanwhile, they will continue to share the Ganges water in accordance with the 1977 agreement.

In the three years before Ershad came to power, the two countries had failed to thoroughly resolve the Ganges water problem despite repeated negotiations. But efforts by Ershad to improve relations are beginning to bear fruit as his visit to New Delhi indicates.

— Li Wenzheng

Hu Yaobang's Speech at First Plenum Of 12th Party Central Committee

(September 13, 1982)

SINCE we are not prepared to hold any plenary sessions or work conferences of the Central Committee this winter and next spring, I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to give some opinions on future work on behalf of the Secretariat, mainly on work for 1983. You are requested to take this into consideration.

First, conscientiously organize the whole Party to study the documents of the 12th Party Congress. It is imperative in this study, first of all, to grasp the essence of the documents and then to unify our thinking by integrating this study with some relevant basic theories of Marx, Lenin and Comrade Mao Zedong.

On this basis, we should try our best to integrate the study with the realities of the localities, departments and units and to solve some problems that can now be solved.

If the study is really grasped well in the coming half a year or so, between now and next June, it will surely play an important role in helping Party members, Party cadres in particular, to raise their understanding of the Party's fighting programme, their ideological consciousness and their confidence in our cause. At the same time, through study, certain mistaken ideas and malpractices inconsistent with the spirit of the documents of the 12th Party Congress will be overcome to some extent. Therefore, the study of the documents of the 12th Party Congress must be grasped as a matter of

prime importance after the conclusion of the congress. Efforts must be made to do this work well and proceed to establish a good style of study.

Second, competently and thoroughly restructure the administration. The result of the elections for the leading central Party organs conducted by the 12th Party Congress and this plenary session is, in a broad sense, also a restructuring and a most important one.

With regard to the streamlining of departments under the Party Central Committee and the State Council, readjustment of leading bodies of the ministries and their subordinated bureaus and organizational structures has been basically completed.

This work seems to have progressed rather smoothly and successfully. Of course, further efforts are still needed

for the training of cadres in rotation, the defining of the functions and powers for every ministry or department, the resolutions of some problems existing in relations between various departments and the fulfillment of other tasks related to restructuring. We have exchanged views with comrades from various provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions and reached a consensus that, in light of the experience of the central departments, reform of all institutions in the provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions can be achieved.



The Sixth National People's Congress is scheduled for May or June next year and deputies to the congress should be elected in various areas in March, April or May of 1983.

Therefore, reform of institutions at the provincial, municipal and autonomous regional levels and prefectural and city levels ought to be done sooner rather than later, because we have gained some experience and don't expect any big trouble; it will be no good if this work is delayed. If this work is started this winter and completed in the first half of 1983, the Party committees at the provincial, municipal, autonomous regional, prefectural and city levels will be able to rely on their own efforts to complete the reform of institutions at the county and commune levels in the winter of 1983 or the spring of 1984.

Thus, the reform of institutions throughout the country, as the first component in the reform of the entire administrative system, will be completed in the spring of 1984. With this done, we will be able to have greater initiative in work.

Comrade Deng Xiaoping once said that this work is also a revolution. If this work is done well, we can reach the goal of readjusting and strengthening leading cores at various levels, simplify unwieldy and overstaffed organizations, promote a large number of outstanding and young cadres, train functionaries on the job in rotation, raise work efficiency greatly and make progress in overcoming bureaucracy. It is necessary to rely mainly on leading comrades of the various provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions to personally grasp this work and do it well. We have suggested to comrades in many provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions that we send people to help in the work and they expressed their full agreement. The Secretariat had the idea to transfer some comrades from among members of the Central Committee, the Central Advisory Commission and the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, as well as from among retired cadres at the vice-ministerial level. This will help these comrades to broaden their horizons and acquire fresh experiences.

Third, we should earnestly consider how to best consolidate the Party. The 12th Party Congress called for such consolidation. This has had strong repercussions at home and abroad and accords with the wishes of the people.

This is a major event and since we have announced it, we must put it into practice and

do it well. It will give a great impetus to changing the Party's style if we firmly grasp the study of the documents of the 12th Party Congress, especially a conscientious study of the new Party Constitution article by article, successfully carry out the reform of institutions and the replacement of 'cadres, continue administering blows to economic crimes and handle in good time a number of major and important cases which are already under investigations. But all these cannot replace the consolidation of the Party.

Since our Party is so large, has such a broad scope of work and so many accumulated problems, and since we have both positive and negative historical experience in consolidating the Party, the Secretariat believes there should be meticulous preparation, guidance and organization of the new Party consolidation scheduled to start next year.

Some pilot projects should be taken at the central level as well as in the provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions this winter or next spring.

On this basis, an improved document on consolidating the Party will be drafted. It is expected that the document will probably be worked out after the conclusion of the National People's Congress held in May or June of next year or, at the latest, next autumn.

It will be one of the central items on the agenda of the Second Plenary Session of the 12th CPC Central Committee. After the plenum, the work will be done in stages and groups. We plan to finish Party consolidation throughout the country over a period of three years beginning from the autumn of 1983.

Fourth, never slacken our efforts in economic work. Measurable improvements have been achieved in China's economic work since the Third Plenum of the 11th Party Central Committee and many reforms have been undertaken which have boosted the growth of the national economy. The economic situation this year is rather good. It is estimated that both the economic results and the rate of development will be better than anticipated. However, our comrades working in the economic sectors and from the various provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions are keenly aware that we still face many problems and difficult tasks. For instance, the industrial and transport and communications fields have great potential, but the situation in which some departments pass

the buck to each other and dare not undertake responsibilities has not been fundamentally changed. The reason for this, in the final analysis, is that they haven't come to grips with many problems and, above all, that they don't have a clear picture of conditions at the grass-roots level nor are they resolute enough to solve these problems in a down-to-earth way. It is high time that we made up our mind to completely change this situation. Industrial and transport and communications enterprises should continue their efforts to consolidate themselves and conscientiously popularize the economic responsibility system so as to improve the economic results.

Commercial enterprises should strive to popularize all forms of economic responsibility system, open up more channels to facilitate the economic interflow between the urban and rural areas and expand the unified socialist market.

Enormous progress has been made in agriculture in the last few years. Many formerly backward areas, communes and production brigades have doubled their output value in a matter of one or two years; and not a few better-off places have also doubled their output value in three or four years. Most heartening is that many counties, communes and production brigades have achieved a faster rate of development over the last couple of years. This is mainly attributable to their vigorous efforts in implementing the economic responsibility system and in developing a diversified economy, while paying due attention to grain production. But there are still problems. The leadership in many other places should further emancipate their minds and widen their horizons. The Secretariat holds that Party organizations in the agricultural field should boldly mobilize and guide the peasants to expand production in all possible ways while ensuring the fulfilment of grain targets so that they can become better-off more quickly. This should be regarded as a central point by leading comrades at all levels, particularly those doing rural work. When the 800 million peasants become better-off through their own labour, agriculture will supply more raw materials to industry, industrial products will enjoy a bigger market, and the construction funds and state revenues will increase more rapidly. This is bound to be one of the most powerful motive forces promoting industrial development. Whether in industry or agriculture, the leading cadres should convince the masses of the importance of technical transformation.

All in all, our economic growth will undoubtedly be better each year than the one

before provided that we are good at making investigations and studying and earnestly solving the problems in our economic work. If we can get these things into order the next two years, then beginning in 1984, the central authorities and the provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions can devote their major efforts to searching for ways and means to gradually revamp, in an all-round way, our systems of education, labour, wages and prices. This, plus the nationwide Party consolidation and the overall improvement of the public standard of conduct and social order, will enable us to approach the target set forth by the 12th Party Congress for a fundamental turn for the better in the financial and economic situation, in social morality and in the Party's style by 1986, the year marking the 10th anniversary of the overthrow of the gang of four.

Finally, I would like to emphasize that the future of our Party and state in the next five years hinges on us who collectively form the new central leadership and the new combat headquarters. It is my belief that all members of this collective are aware of the heavy responsibility history has entrusted to us.

Can we shoulder this important responsibility without failing? Our answer is, "Yes." We have many favourable conditions. First, we are now more experienced in leading our work, drawing in particular on the successful experience gained since the Third Plenum of the 11th Central Committee which was marked by the close and harmonious relations in the central leading collective and its adherence to the principle of democratic centralism. Our Party organizations at various levels have become more militant as a result of the readjustment of the leading bodies and the restructuring of institutions. Second, we have some veteran revolutionaries at the helm. Third, a Central Advisory Commission has been set up recently, which will provide very helpful political assistance and advice to the Central Committee; and the newly strengthened Central Commission for Discipline Inspection is also expected to play an even bigger role in safeguarding Party discipline and rectifying Party style. With these favourable conditions, the present central leading collective not only can assume its heavy historical responsibility, but should do even better than its predecessor.

(A slightly abridged translation of the speech which appeared in "Renmin Ribao," October, 22.)

Opposing Hegemonism and Safeguarding World Peace

An important task facing the Chinese people and the people of the world is to oppose hegemonism and safeguard world peace. Chen Zhongjing, President of the Institute of Contemporary International Relations and professor of Beijing University, offers his views on this issue. The major points of this article have been published in "Renmin Ribao." — Ed.

Question: What are China's strategic goals in foreign affairs?

Answer: Our whole Party and all our people must join together with a common purpose to create a new situation of comprehensive socialist modernization. This new situation includes the establishment of a strong economy, spiritual civilization, socialist democracy and legal system, and national defence, as well as doing a good job of Party building and in foreign affairs. One of the major strategic goals of China's foreign policy is the defence of world peace and to strive for an international environment conducive to long-term world peace under which we may devote all our energies to socialist construction. We shall, of course, not fear or shrink from a war should aggressors impose it on us; we shall be fully prepared for such an eventuality.

Q: What is the rationale behind the proposal that we must oppose hegemonism and safeguard world peace?

A: The "General Programme" of the Constitution of the Communist Party of China adopted at the 12th Congress of the CPC explicitly states: "The Party's ideological line is to proceed from reality in all things, to integrate theory with practice, to seek truth from facts, and to verify and develop the truth through practice." This also is our guideline for resolving new issues in international affairs, for devising and implementing our foreign policies by scientifically evaluating historical experiences and examining current realities.

Although the joint struggle of the international united front against fascism eventually defeated Germany, Italy and Japan in World War II to change the destiny and history of all mankind, the cost in lives and property lost was enormous. The military and civilian deaths of the countries involved totalled 55-60 mil-

lion, including nearly 40 million from China and the Soviet Union. Military spending and property losses amounted to about US\$1,400 billion (*Encyclopaedia Britannica* 1980 and *World Encyclopaedia* of the United States, 1974). In Japan, then under the rule of militarism and regarded as one of the aggressor nations, some 670,000 military personnel and civilians died in the air raids. By the end of 1945, Japan's economy had reached a state of total collapse (*One Hundred Years of Turmoil* by Shigeru Yoshida).

This period of history, though several decades in the past, remains fresh in our memories. Today, while the remnants of the old colonialist system have not yet been totally eliminated, the hegemonic superpowers have become a new threat to the peoples of the world. Due to the contention between the superpowers, the danger of a world war is growing ever greater. This is the most harsh reality of the present world. The important task of "opposing hegemonism and safeguarding world peace" is by no means put forward as a subjective whim, but derives from the realities of the world strategic situation confronting us today.

International political commentators and strategists put forth differing views on the current world situation. Some hold that no world war will occur in the immediate future because both the Soviet Union and the United States are unwilling to engage each other directly in war. Wars today often are local ones or those among small nations and these then become the superpowers' testing grounds for new weapons. Others hold that a future world war will be a nuclear one, that once it occurs, both sides will perish together. Thus the Soviet Union and the United States dare not wage war, but adopt a policy of brinkmanship which is confined to nuclear deterrence or nuclear threats. Still others think that there is a possibility that the Soviet Union and the United States will reach a tacit agreement or compromise, identifying their respective spheres of influence. Nevertheless, during the 37 years since World War II, local wars have erupted continuously. Today, from Kampuchea and Afghanistan to the Persian Gulf and Lebanon, the conflagrations of war blaze fiercely. These local wars would have been

impossible without the rivalry of the superpowers. In some wars they intervene directly, while other wars are conducted through the lesser surrogates of their hegemonism, or are backed and instigated by them indirectly. Still other wars are exploited by them sooner or later. As the contention between the two superpowers mounts, the danger that local wars will escalate into a world war increases. Will the third world war really be a nuclear war? Not necessarily. It may well be a conventional war. In his report to the 12th Congress of the CPC, Comrade Hu Yaobang said explicitly: "We are against the world war being fomented by the superpowers and also against all the local wars of aggression which they instigate or back." In short, the increasing intensity of the worldwide contention between the superpowers is the main source of instability and turmoil in the world today and the greatest menace to world peace.

Q: Is it possible to preserve world peace? Is it necessary to oppose hegemonism in order to preserve world peace?

A: Yes, it is possible to preserve world peace. The ingredients that lead to war are increasing, but so are those for preventing war. All forces for peace, for preventing war, must join together.

We Chinese Communists have never concealed our political viewpoints. We have always stated them clearly. The phrases "oppose hegemonism" and "safeguard world peace" are closely interrelated. Peace cannot be obtained by begging. War cannot be prevented by making concessions. To really and effectively defend world peace, powerful measures must be adopted and rigorously pursued to oppose hegemonism. One of the important overall means of opposing all expressions of hegemonism and expansionism is to upset the strategic plans of the superpowers. In every area of the world, we must oppose the superpower practice of hegemonism. Whichever superpower practises hegemonism harder and more aggressively, we must oppose that superpower more and, first of all, upset its strategic plans for hegemony. If all the people of the world join together and fight resolutely, it will be possible to preserve world peace.

Q: What is your estimate of the role played by the third world in safeguarding world peace?

A: The emergence of the third world on to the international arena after World War II is a primary event of our time. Today, it is the

third world that suffers most from hegemonism and it is the third world that is most concerned about preserving world peace. The past history and the current position of the third world have made it the main force opposing hegemonism and defending world peace today. This is a fact independent of man's will. The foundation of the forces opposing hegemonism and preserving world peace is the unity and solidarity of the third world. Warning against and adamantly opposing any and all schemes of the superpowers to divide the third world is one highly important means for upsetting the strategic plans of hegemonism.

Q: How is economic construction related to the preservation of world peace?

A: In his opening speech to the 12th Congress of the CPC, Comrade Deng Xiaoping said that of the three major tasks of our people in the 1980s, "Economic construction is at the core of these tasks as it is the basis for the solution of China's external and domestic problems." This is a very important principle. A number of third world countries are actively developing their national economies, so that they can back up the political independence they have already won with economic independence. Among the third world countries, both political unity and solidarity, and economic co-operation must be strengthened. In his report, Comrade Hu Yaobang referred especially to "South-South co-operation" and rated it very highly, noting that such co-operation is "of great strategic significance." China too must greatly develop its economy, to better share the important duty with other third world countries of opposing hegemonism and safeguarding world peace, to make a greater contribution to the world community. Incidentally, two foreign journals published articles six months ago, one of which stated that China is an extremely poor country which does not "possess any strategic significance," while the other said that China is "not a sheep but a tiger." In any case, we should strive to quadruple the gross annual value of industrial and agricultural production by the year 2000, an increase to about 2,800 billion yuan. Of course, there will be people who will say that this would still be a rather low figure in terms of per-capita income. But, per-capita income isn't everything in evaluating the national strength of a country, particularly a big country. It is most important to consider its overall economic scale, characteristics and development potentials, and also its capacity to

mobilize its people and direct the use of its resources. The superiority of our socialist system lies in the fact that we can plan and allocate our total resources in an overall way. But, first of all, it is we ourselves who must make a realistic, analytic, thorough and fairly accurate estimate

of the development of our national resources. Then we shall have a firmer basis of confidence for pursuing a truly independent foreign policy, by which we may fulfil our noble international duty of opposing hegemonism, of safeguarding world peace and promoting human progress. □

Theoretical Discussion

Socialism and Inflation

by Luo Gengmo

Does inflation really exist in socialist China? Chinese economists hold differing views. Some say no, pointing to the fact that over the past 32 years since the founding of the People's Republic in 1949 prices have risen at an average rate of less than 2 per cent per annum. But most maintain that China does occasionally experience inflation, though the nature, causes and outcome of inflation in China, they say, are categorically different from those plaguing the capitalist countries. Luo Gengmo, an eminent economist, explains his viewpoints in this article written exclusively for "Beijing Review." — Ed.

CAN the currency of a socialist system undergo the kind of inflation and devaluation endemic to that of Western capitalist nations? This new but important question, in socialist economy cannot be answered by a simple "yes" or "no." Its scientific answer will require a thorough analysis and study of the reality of socialist economy.

Inflation: Two Different Kinds

The history of China's socialist economy and of its currency, the Renminbi (RMB), during the past three decades or so, suggest two points: 1) that inflation and currency devaluations may, under special circumstances, occur briefly, raising the general level of market prices; but 2) that such inflationary tendencies are by no means inherently cyclical or inevitable, as they are in the West. What is the reason for this?

Currency, in both socialist and capitalist nations, is issued solely by the state and not freely

convertible symbol of value. When the volume of currency issued exceeds the needs of the market, it becomes devaluated, resulting in price increases. However, the economic causes behind inflation in a socialist country are distinctly different than those in a capitalist country.

Periodic economic crises are inevitable in the capitalist countries. This is attributed mainly to the capitalists' exploitation of the products of the workers' surplus labour and their limited domestic and international markets. Through the state's additional issuance of non-convertible banknotes to make good financial deficits, the monopoly capitalist groups will then create a temporary false prosperity on the market, thus shifting the crises on to the people at home and on to the dependencies abroad.

In a socialist country, inflation derives mainly from temporary subjective errors in policy guidelines and planning. Under the system of the socialist ownership of the means of production and economic planning, inflation can be controlled and losses to the people kept to a minimum. Thus the nature and consequences of inflation in a socialist country are fundamentally different from those in a capitalist country.

Inflation in New China

Inflation has occurred three times since 1949.

The first inflation came in the form of four consecutive major price fluctuations during the

period from February 1949, when Tianjin was liberated (followed by Shanghai three months later), to February 1950, after which prices were basically stabilized. This inflation may be excluded from my discussion of inflation under China's socialist economic system, because it was, after all, the after-effect of the old society and also contained special wartime financial factors.

We shall analyse here only the two inflations that took place in peacetime following the basic establishment of the socialist system: one in the 1960-61 period and the other, now on the decline, of the past two years. These two inflations, though separated by longer intervals of time than any in the capitalist world, should not be overlooked. But did they indicate an inherent recurrent cycle? And were they the inevitable products of the socialist system itself? To answer both these questions, it is necessary to locate the causes for these two inflations.

After the First Five-Year Plan (1953-57) surpassed its goals, we committed "Left" errors in formulating our work guidelines. The 1958 movement to establish large-scale people's communes with a high degree of public ownership outpaced the growth of the rural productive forces and actually damaged them. At the same time, the "great leap forward," a movement centring around drastic increases of iron and steel, resulted in shortages

of agricultural and light industrial products, thus dislocating the market balance between purchasing power and the supply of commodities. During the three years of economic difficulties between 1959 and 1961, state expenditures surpassed revenues and excessive banknotes were issued. This led to New China's second inflation in the 1960-61 period.

This inflation, occurring one decade after the establishment of the People's Republic, was caused not by any factors inherent to the socialist economy itself but by serious mistakes committed in planning and handling such relationships as that between accumulation and consumption. These mistakes resulted from a lack of experience in socialist economic construction and from subjective thinking divorced from the reality. The fact that they could be corrected within the framework of the socialist system itself was amply borne out in the ensuing three years (1962-65) when we succeeded in stabilizing prices through a series of measures for readjusting the national economy.

During the 10-year period of the "cultural revolution" (1966-76), political upheaval never came to an end and the national economy was on the verge of collapse. After the gang of four was toppled, conditions began to improve, but the aftermath of those years still affects our economic life today. The "Left" errors in 1977-78 resulted in the stockpiling of large amounts of both equipment and investment. All this adversely affected state revenues.

The financial situation was further aggravated by the following essential additional expenditures. State purchase prices for farm produce were raised in an effort to narrow the price differential between industrial and agricultural products; wages were raised twice in 1977 and in 1979; and then delayed payments were made to victims of frameups, false charges and wrong sentences during the "cultural revolution." These expenditures, though necessary economically and politically, gave rise to huge deficits which could be met only by issuing more currency. Hence the third inflation. Like the previous one, it was the result of political interference and of improper handling of work in specific fields.

The foregoing analysis shows that inflation in New China is fundamentally different from that of the capitalist countries. Our inflation does not originate in the socialist economic relations; rather, it is the result of "Left" guide-

Changes in the Retail Price Indices in China

(In years when the changes were relatively large)

<i>year</i>	<i>percentage</i>
	(1950=100)
1951	112.2
	(1959=100)
1960	103.1
1961	119.8
1962	124.4
	(1978=100)
1979	102.1
1980	108.1
1981	110.7

(Statistics provided by the State Statistical Bureau)

lines and subjective errors such as unrealistic planning. This indicates that we can prevent inflation by learning the lessons of our past experiences.

Restraining Character

Temporary inflation in China is of a restraining character, which can be explained by the following three points.

First, we can bring prices down and stabilize the currency shortly after inflation begins to appear. We may not be able to prevent inflation from happening again, but we can gradually reduce its frequency and make it easier to overcome.

Second, not all prices in China rise in times of inflation. On the contrary, price increases can be avoided or minimized and the scope of inflation limited by rationing certain staple necessities at fixed prices at the very beginning of the inflation. This is possible under our socialist system because the contradictions of interests among the state, the collective and the individual are non-antagonistic in nature, and because of the strength of the state economy.

In the 1959-61 period, for example, while special restaurant dishes and luxury confectioneries were sold for high prices the entire population was put on grain, coal and cotton-cloth rations at stabilized prices. This not only ensured the basic livelihood of the people, it also helped greatly to stabilize the market.

Third, after inflation comes under control, the general price level and especially the prices of the items important to the national economy and people's livelihood will generally come back to or approach the pre-inflation levels. In this way it is possible to prevent losses in bank savings and the treasury bonds of the people. This policy is of strategic significance in curbing inflation. It can be implemented only in a socialist country where the people are the masters; no capitalist country in the world would, or could, implement it.

Treasury Bonds Do Not Represent Potential Inflation

In the West the issuance of bonds or treasury notes always means a potential inflation. Is this the case in China? My answer is no.

Averaged Mixed Retail Prices of Major Necessities

year	grain yuan/ton	vegetable oil yuan/ton	sugar yuan/ton	cotton cloth yuan/metre	coal yuan/ton
1952	201.6	860	960	1.03	19.8
1959	220	1,180	1,143	1.11	19.2
1960	227	1,210	1,273	1.20	20.0
1961	231	1,393	1,264	1.31	25.3
1962	229.4	1,471	1,279	1.54	25.3
1978	294.8	1,646.6	1,450	1.60	30.8
1979	298.4	1,689.6	1,452	1.60	31.3
1980	307.2	1,713.6	1,477	1.58	31.4
1981	337	1,967	1,492	1.59	32.6

(Statistics provided by the State Statistical Bureau)

Most of the treasury bonds issued in China in the recent two years have been mainly purchased by localities and enterprises from the part of surplus they retained as a means of sharing the burden of the national financial difficulties. Some have been bought by workers, staff members and other people voluntarily from part of their incomes or bank savings. These bonds are not allowed to circulate on the market. By contrast, consortiums of large banks in the West monopolize the issuance of public bonds and use them as reserves against which they issue large sums of banknotes, while also reselling them on the securities market. It is well known that socialist China does not today tolerate any such Western speculative financial practices, nor will they ever be allowed in the future.

It is for this reason that in China treasury bonds can have no inflationary potential, either directly or in a disguised form; they can only play a supplementary role of withdrawing currency from circulation and of curbing inflation. The stabilization of currency value is achieved mainly through our continuing efforts to restore and develop production. □



China: Sports for the People

Physical fitness and sports are becoming a national obsession. While Chinese athletes are being cheered for their achievements in international competitions, the health of all the Chinese citizens continues to improve. In this special feature, we review how these have been achieved and give special coverage to China's martial arts and national minority sports and report on the curative effects of "qigong" and "taijiquan," two traditional forms of exercise. — Ed.

Improving People's Health

by Dong Nianli, director of the department of mass sports activities of the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission

THE popularization of sports has brought New China remarkable achievements in international sports competitions.

Prior to 1949, not a single gold medal had been won by China; but in the three-plus decades since then, 249 world records have been chalked up and 74 world championships won by Chinese athletes.

Tremendous Popularity

The Chinese Government attaches great importance to mass sports activities. In 1952, Chair-

man Mao Zedong said: "Promote physical culture and sports and build up the people's health." At an Administration Council meeting in 1954, Premier Zhou Enlai pointed out: "Health is one of the major conditions for the gradual transition to the socialist society."

One-third of the Chinese population now take part in regular physical exercises. Basketball, table tennis and swimming are popular everywhere. Over 90 million people have reached national standards for

athletic training for their age group in such sports as running, rope skipping, swimming, high jump, long jump and discus and shot-put throwing. In the northernmost province of Heilongjiang, 1.4 million youths, one-third of the province's total, are enthusiastic skaters or skiers. Half the populace in Dongguan County in south China's Guangdong Province go swimming regularly.

With the popularization of participatory sports and improvement in nutritive and hygienic conditions, the life expectancy of the Chinese people has risen from an average of 35 years for both sexes to 66.95 years for males and 69.55 years for females. Gone for ever are the days when the Chinese were called "the sickmen of the East."

However, the development of sports activities among the masses is uneven, and much remains to be done in some villages, especially those in remote areas.

Organizers

The Chinese people's enthusiasm for sports can be attributed to many factors, but one is the well-run organizing bodies.

The State Physical Culture and Sports Commission was set up in 1952, and it soon had branches in provinces, prefectures and counties. The Ministry of Education, the All-China Federation of Trade Unions and the Communist Youth League Central Committee have established departments concerned with physical culture. These organizations sponsor sports activities and mobilize people to participate. In factories and mines, the trade unions have been active in such endeavours, while



Winter swimming in Anshan, Liaoning Province.



A roller-skating rink built by a production brigade on the outskirts of Tianjin.

in communes staff members often organize sports.

The work of the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission is assisted by the All-China Athletic Federation, which was set up in 1949 as China's biggest non-governmental sports organization with its branches in all the cities. The China Olympics Committee, established in 1979, is responsible for implementing the principles of the World Olympics and organizing sports activities and competitions.

Mass Enthusiasm

The government concerns itself with the whole nation's physical culture and sports and also rallies others to take up this cause.

In Taishan County, Guangdong Province, volleyball is so popular that every village has a court. All the communes and production brigades have their own teams (financed by the collectives). Since 1979, the county has built or refurbished 2,040 volleyball courts, 10 of which are floodlit courts capable of

accommodating 4,000 to 8,000 spectators. One-fourth of its population (250,000 persons) play volleyball.

Four years ago, 20 long-distance runners in Beijing raised money and set up a "Long March Long-Distance Running Team." The team organizes a cross-country race every

month. Today, this team has 300 members dispersed in all of the city's districts.

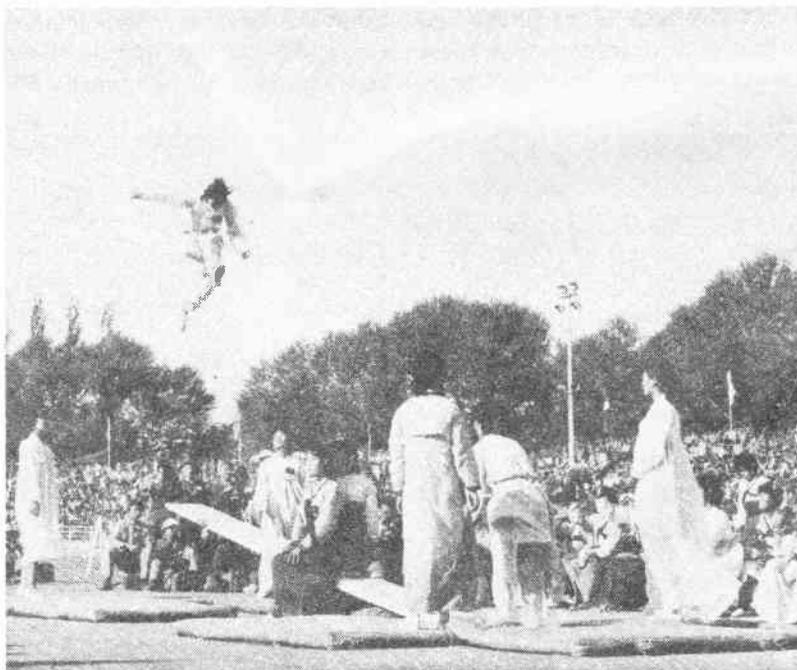
The 10,000-member Senior Citizens' Sports Association in Shanghai is another example. Paying one yuan for annual membership dues, members can take part in all sorts of sports activities sponsored by this association.

Varied Activities

The government advocates a variety of sports and physical exercises to suit people of different ages and professions.

To Radio Music. The government stipulates that in every 8-hour workday in a state organ or factory, 10 minutes in the morning and in the afternoon should be devoted to exercises accompanied by music which is broadcast over radio stations.

For Workers. Specific exercises have been designed for colliers, textile workers, iron and steel workers and sales clerks to help them relax and prevent occupational ailments. Coal miners.



Spring-board jumping, a favourite sport of women of the Korean nationality.

for example, often have to stoop while working underground, so exercises were designed for them to flex their waists and knees to ease the strain on their lumbar muscles.

For Students. Students in China are required to do exercises in the morning and during recesses from the day they enter primary school until they finish their second year in university. In addition, they have physical education classes and take part in extra-curricular sports activities. The government has also designed "eye-sight protecting exercises," whereby the students massage around their eyes, close their eyes and look into the distance. Doing these twice a day has proved to be an aid to maintaining good vision.

For Toddlers. Kindergarten children in China are divided into age groups and taught how to crawl, walk and jump. They also learn how to climb up wooden structures and play on see-saws, merry-go-rounds and slides.

For Senior-Citizens. The elderly particularly like chess and bridge, travel and jogging. In Shanghai, 20,000 senior citizens have participated in 72 sports competitions since 1978.

Traditional Exercises. *Wushu*, which embraces Chinese boxing and swordplay, and *qigong*, which includes many kinds of deep-breathing exercises, have long been popular. There are dozens of schools of the martial arts and nearly 100 kinds of weapons used in swordplay. The advantage of these exercises is that they can be practised all year round, indoors and out. China's minority nationalities also have their own sports.

Sports Competitions

Local and national sports competitions are held through-

out the nation. There are also sports games for army men, students, minority peoples and the handicapped. In 1981, grass-roots trade union organizations in Shanghai sponsored over 27,000 sports games with 500,000 participants.

These sports games help to improve the skills of the participants and the national levels. Further, many people who originally stayed away from the games are now determined to get in shape.

Cangzhou—The Home of "Wushu"

by Our Correspondent Dai Yumiao

AT dawn, the clatter of weapons could be heard. Along the Grand Canal and in the city proper, thousands were yelling "yo-ho" as they practised Chinese martial arts. It was an ordinary morning in Cangzhou, a small city in Hebei Province's Cangzhou Prefecture.

Wushu, Chinese martial arts, was introduced into Cangzhou in the Han Dynasty (206 B.C.-220 A.D.) by banished rebels. Many of the exiles who swelled the population of this area were skilled in Chinese boxing and swordplay and they practised regularly. They drew multitudes of onlookers who were eager to learn the martial arts. Gradually *wushu* became part of the life of the local inhabitants.

Wushu consists of two major categories, Chinese boxing and swordplay. While over 20 schools of Chinese boxing are prevalent in Cangzhou Prefecture, weapons like spears, halberds, sticks, multi-section whips and hooks are used there.

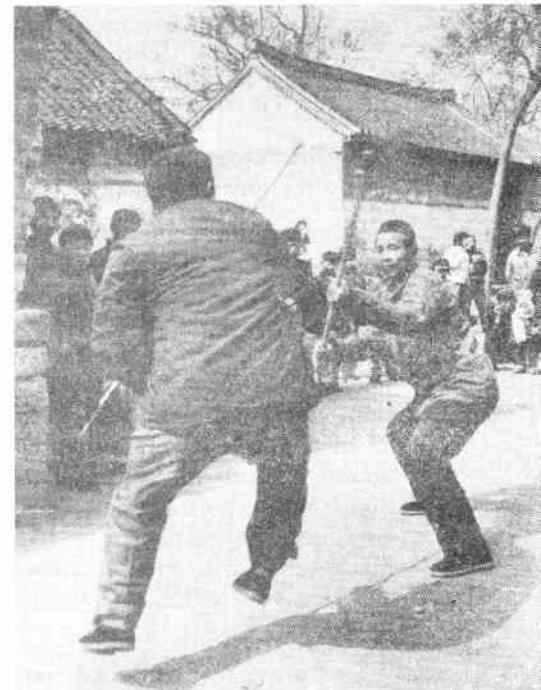
A Local Obsession

Chen Fengqi, 77, is a member of the *Wushu* Society of Hebei Province. He began learning Chinese boxing when he was 11 and swordplay at 13. "After I'd learnt the ropes, I was invited to coach some folks in neighbouring villages," he said. Over the years he has

trained 200 people and at the national *wushu* competition in 1979, he won a gold medal for the *lianshouquan* — a school of boxing characterized by continuous hand movements.

Despite his age, he looks youthful and still works in the fields. For decades, he has regularly carried out his *wushu* workouts.

In Mengcun 80 per cent of the 7,000 villagers practise *wushu*. Every morning and evening the



Chen Faxi (left), a master in Shaolinquan, flailing away with a peasant.

village's threshing grounds are thronged with *wushu* coaches and their students.

Wu Lianji, the village's 35-year-old head coach, began learning Chinese boxing from his father, a famous master, at the age of eight. After a decade of training he became competent. Now he coaches two spare-time training classes: one for primary and middle school students, the other for the advanced.

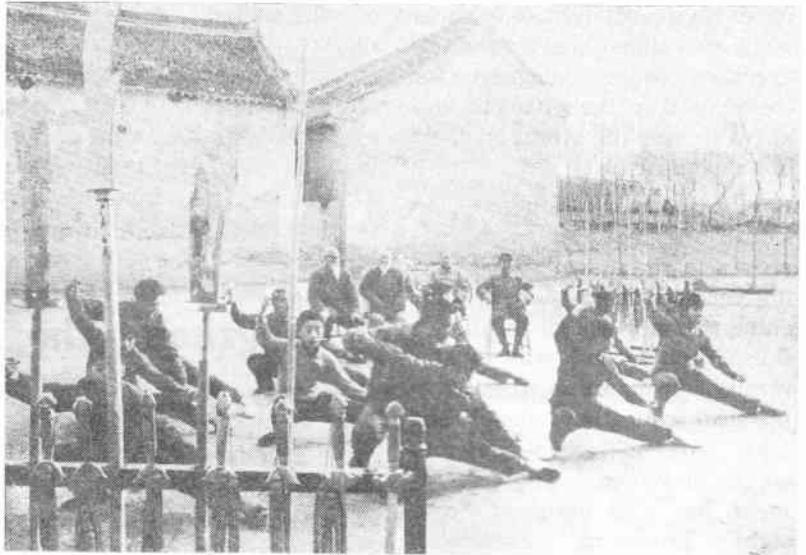
In Cangzhou many women participate in the martial arts but Liu Xiuping of Xinxian County is extraordinary as she has mastered *bajiquan*, eight-aurora boxing, which is both strenuous and difficult. She began her study of *bajiquan* at eight. Many other girls dropped out, but she, encouraged by her father, persisted. Under his watchful eye she trained hard and long, twice a day. In 1980, Liu Xiuping, then 18, became the envy of other young women when she won a gold medal for *bajiquan* at the national *wushu* competition.

Fit for Action

Wushu keeps people fit and ready for any emergency.

Zuo Qingjia, a guerrilla leader in Yanshan County during the War of Resistance Against Japan, was captured while recuperating from a wound at home. He was tortured and then, while unconscious, locked in a watch tower, his hands bound behind his back. That night when he regained consciousness, he managed to free his hands, force open the door and flee. He credited this escape to *wushu*.

The previous-mentioned veteran Chinese boxing master, Chen Fengqi, had his adventure too. When he was 74, he was



A scene in Henan Province's Wenxian County, known as the hometown of shadow boxing.

driving a cart to haul chemical fertilizer. The road was ice-covered and suddenly the cart began to slip into a deep ditch beside the road. He jumped, landing safely six metres away on the other side of the ditch.

Passing on the Skills

The home of Li Zhiyun, deputy head of the Cangzhou *Wushu* Society, is veritably an arsenal with one of the walls covered with all sorts of weapons. In his six decades as an expert in *wushu*, he has trained 200 disciples. With the help of two of them, he has compiled an illustrated book on Chinese boxing and is working on a swordplay manual.

Another of Cangzhou's masters in Chinese boxing, Guo

Ruixiang, has finished a book on *miaodaoquan*, a kind of swordplay.

Han Junyuan, an expert in the martial arts, has trained all his children. His third son, Han Zhide, won a gold medal in 1975 for *piguquan*, cleaving and hanging boxing, at a *wushu* championship in Nanjing and captured the title again in 1980. Last year, another son, Han Zhiguang, won the title in the same event at a national *wushu* competition.

His 6-year-old grandson began learning *wushu* two years ago and is already skilled. It is amazing to see this little boy flailing away, until his father, Han Zhide, gives the order to stop. The grandson proclaimed, "When I grow up, I'm going to win gold medals."

Traditional Exercises in Beijing

by Our Correspondent Zhao Funian

EXERCISES like *qigong* and *taijiquan* are traditional in China. Such exercises not only help people keep fit, but also can be used for physical therapy.

Fifty-four-year-old Xia Xiaoyu, editor of the Chinese Children's Publishing House, had been sick for more than 20 years. She had rheumatoid arthritis and rheumatic heart disease and

was frequently on sick leave or worked half days. Though she was given the best medical treatment, she was often bedridden. As she grew older, her medicine ceased being effective and in 1975 she developed coronary heart disease and cerebral arteriosclerosis.

In late July 1977, she placed her hope on traditional Chinese exercises. She began learning *taijiquan*. Being determined, she practised hard.

After four years she recovered her health. Thrice she took part in athletic meets for seniors sponsored by the Beijing municipality and won a gold medal in *taijiquan*. Now she is fit and energetic, and has even travelled on business to Sichuan without feeling tired.

Lin Feng, a cadre of the United Front Work Department of the Chinese Communist Party's Central Committee, is 56. At the end of 1979, he was hospitalized for myocardial infarction. An examination showed the inferior and post walls of his heart had remote and extensive necrosis. After three days of emergency treatment he was out of danger. When he was discharged from the hospital, he felt he was no longer his old self.

Beginning from September 1980, he took up *qigong* at a

coaching station in Zhongshan (Sun Yat-sen) Park in Beijing. He didn't lay much hope on exercise but he just had a go at it. After two months of training, he felt better both physically and mentally and a cardiograph confirmed that his heart had improved remarkably. Encouraged, he has since practised three times a day, rain or shine, and he has had no recurrence of his heart problem and feels quite fit.

These two examples are not exceptional. Beijing statistics show improvement in over 90 per cent of the aged, weak, sick or disabled who practised one of these two exercises.

Coaching Centres

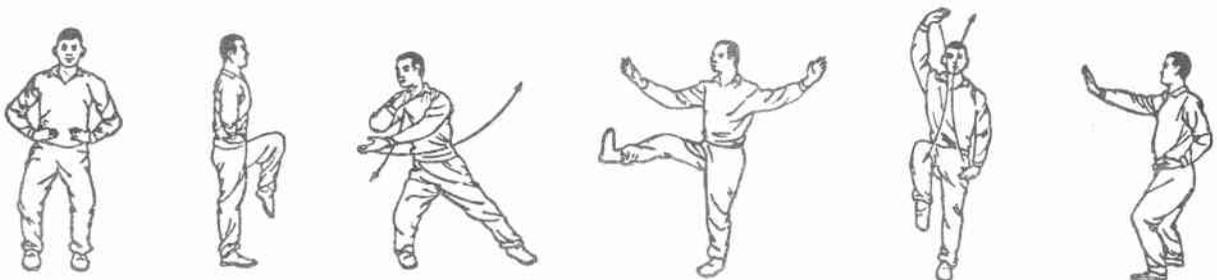
There are 2,000 types of *qigong* and six schools of *taijiquan*. To popularize these traditional exercises, the Beijing Wushu Association set up the first *taijiquan* coaching centre in 1974. Now there are 161 centres with nearly 1,000 coaches and about 300,000 people have learnt these exercises. The *qigong* coaching centres were first set up in 1979 by the Beijing *Qigong* Research Society. At present, Beijing has 61 centres, 440 coaches and about 20,000 students every year.

These centres are scattered all over the city in parks and other locations. For example,

at the Working People's Palace of Culture in the centre of the city many elderly practise the slow-moving gymnastics under ancient cypresses. Wang Yufang, a famous *qigong* expert and adviser to the Beijing *Qigong* Research Society, is one of the 20 coaches there. There are many learners, some are on business trips to the capital. They learn the exercises during their spare time so that they will be able to do them alone when they return home.

Qigong and *taijiquan* are part of China's ancient culture that has continued into the modern era. Chinese *qigong* dates back more than 4,000 years and its theory was expounded during the Spring and Autumn and the Warring States Periods (8th-3rd centuries B.C.). There are different views as to when *taijiquan* developed. But all agree it existed by the latter half of the Ming Dynasty (15th-16th centuries).

The reasons for *qigong*'s exercise and curative effects are still questions for study. *Qigong* experts hold that *qi*, literally breath, exists in all human beings. *Qi* comes from fresh air people breathe and the food they consume. In practising *qigong*, some maintain that adjusting posture, controlling breathing and regulating the nervous system enrich the *qi*, thereby making for a healthier



A sequence of taijiquan movements.

person. In scientific terms, therefore, *qi* can be seen as people's resistance to pathogenic bacteria and their recuperative powers. *Taijiquan's* principles are the same as *qigong*, but it

strings together movements providing a continuum of motions. These traditional exercises are not strenuous and are suitable for the elderly, weak and sick.

Physical Culture of the National Minorities

by Our Correspondent Li Li

THE traditional recreational activities of China's 55 national minorities still enjoy great popularity.

Productive Activities Generate Sports

Many traditional sports are the offspring of productive activities.

Camel-Racing. The Mongolian herdsmen on the northern plateau are not only expert archers, horseback riders and wrestlers but also are camel racers.

Camels are plentiful in Alxa League, Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region. Nearly half of China's 600,000 camels are in

this desert area and they are the main means of transport and the predominant livestock.

In old times camel-racing took place in winter when the animals were plump and sturdy. A camel that ran beautifully and fast reflected well on its owner. Later on, camel-racing became an integral part of all festive occasions and was a form of amusement enjoyed while on long journeys.

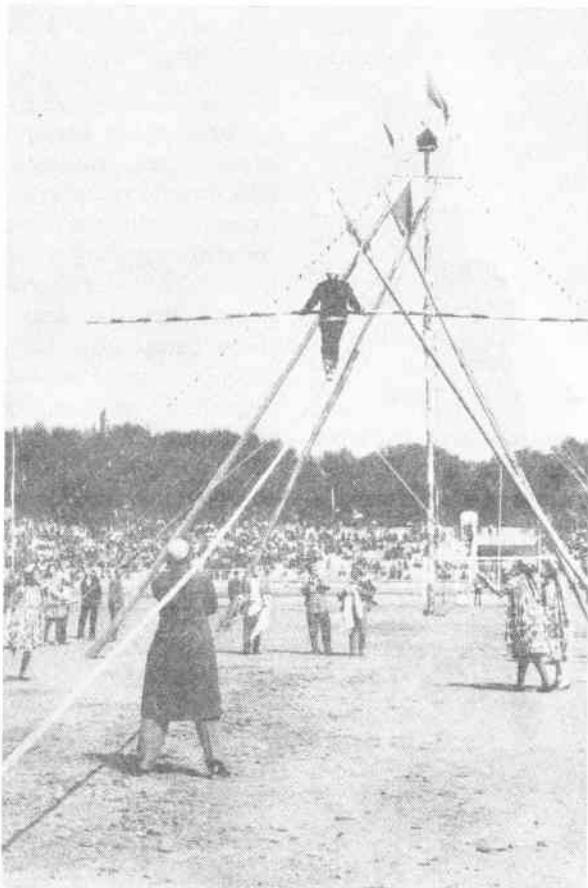
The camel race has developed a set decorum. The riders wear their best clothes and camels are decked out with red cloth tied to their bridles. The race is exciting and is always followed by a ceremony which includes drinking buttered tea, presenting *hada* (silk scarves) and being blessed.

National Character

National minorities in northern China mostly inhabit the grasslands and deserts, while in the south many farm mountain areas. Surrounded by nature's different beauties, China's minorities have developed distinct national characters. Their traditional sports express these qualities.

Picking Up Silver Coins. In north China, the sports of the national minorities are almost synonymous with horses. Horse-racing, horsemanship contests, picking a lamb, and wrestling on horsebacks — all are exciting but the favourite sport of the Khalkhas of Xinjiang is picking up silver coins while on horsebacks.

This contest has a legend to go with it. Long ago, there was a tribal chieftain with a beautiful daughter. She was an excellent equestrian and wanted to pick the best horseman for her spouse. One horse-racing



Walking on a rope, a classic sport of the Uygur nationality in Xinjiang.

day, she put a gold earring wrapped in a piece of silk on the ground, and the riders were asked to pick it up. One thousand riders raced by before the 1001st rider on his white steed picked it up. He thus won the heart of the girl and this sport was born.

"Picking up silver coins while on horsebacks" which tests the bravery and toughness of herds-men is very popular among the Khalkhas youth. Silver coins are put into a deep pit on the race ground. The horses gallop to the pit from a distance of 50 metres and the rider tries to scoop up the coins. The winners are selected based on the speed of the horse, the neatness in pickup and the number of successful passes.

Music, Dance and Recreation

Recreational activities often blend with music and dancing, thus being entertaining and also good exercise.

Drum Dance. Drum dance is a popular activity among the Miao nationality in western Hunan. The participants dance to the drumbeat in prescribed patterns. The movements which imitate gestures in daily life such as combing, cooking, milling, weaving, sowing and harvesting change numerous times in one dance as the beat speeds up and slows down.

The drum dance originated among primitive tribes and became widespread during the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). Drum dance is a must for every Miao youth.

Fun and Courtship

Many traditional recreational activities are social events. They are occasions for young men and women to meet and choose their future spouses.



Axi Jumping in the Moonlight, a folk dance of the Hani nationality, which blends dancing, music and sports into a harmonious whole.

Throwing Silk Balls. A traditional game of the Zhuang nationality in southwest China, throwing silk balls was already popular back in the Song Dynasty (960-1279).

When the game begins, a 10-metre-long pole with a ring on the top is raised and equal numbers of boys and girls stand on both sides. The game begins with antiphonal singing. The girls throw the stuffed silk balls which are attached to long ribbons through the ring and the boys shoot them back. Those who throw accurately are winners. Playing this game together provides young people a chance to meet. If a young man has a liking for a young woman he will give his headdress to her. The girls too can take the initiative by presenting boys with their beautiful balls as tokens of affection.

The traditional recreational activities of the national minorities are part of China's cultural heritage. The Party and government are concerned with them. Some events are listed to be taught in local schools. The national minorities love their sports and these events receive great applause at local and national sports meets. □



SPORTS

**The Sixth World
Gymnastics Cup**

China's gymnasts captured seven gold, two silver and four bronze medals at the Sixth World Gymnastics Cup, topping the previous best record for Chinese gymnasts in major international gymnastics competitions. The four-day meet closed on October 25 in Zagreb, Yugoslavia.

In the men's individual combined event spellbound audiences watched China's 19-year-old Li Ning take the gold medal and 21-year-old Tong Fei the silver with 59.45 and 59.10 points respectively. Li Ning performed superbly, receiving the maximum of 10 points on the horizontal bar, his first full score and the only full score in that event. Yuriy Korolev of the Soviet Union took third place.

Soviet competitors took the top honours in the women's in-

dividual combined event. Olga Bicherova and her compatriot Natalia Jurchenko were joint winners with a total of 39.45 points each. China's gymnast Ma Yanhong placed fourth with a total of 39.25 points.

In the men's individual events, China's Li Ning again performed excellently. He captured five gold medals in floor exercise, pommel horse, rings, vaulting horse and horizontal bar by scoring 19.80, 19.85, 19.80, 19.725 and 19.90 points respectively. He also placed third in parallel bars with 19.70 points.

China's gymnast Tong Fei took one gold medal in horizontal bar with 19.90 points. He placed third in floor exercise, rings and vaulting horse with scores of 19.60, 19.65 and 19.625 points respectively. Tong Fei also came in fifth in pommel horse and parallel bars by scoring 19.50 and 19.65 points respectively.



Li Ning receives the cup.

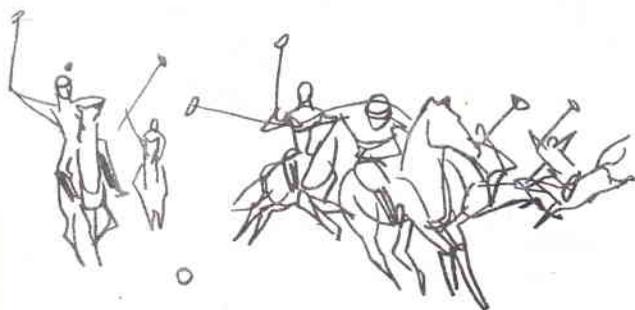
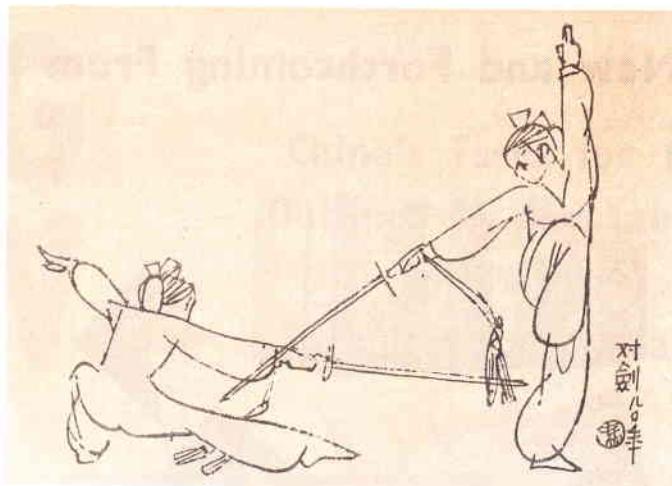
In the women's individual events, Soviet gymnasts Natalia Jurchenko won the gold medal in the balance beam. China's Wu Jiani was the runner-up in that event. GDR's gymnast Maxi Gnauck took the gold medal in the uneven bars while China's gymnast Ma Yanhong placed fourth because of mistakes in her performance. Soviet gymnasts Olga Bicherova and Natalia Jurchenko were joint winners in the vaulting horse event. The former was the floor exercise event champion.

Twenty men and 17 women gymnasts from 11 countries participated in the Sixth World Gymnastics Cup. They qualified for this competition through their performances in the individual and individual combined events at the 21st World Gymnastics Championships held last November in Moscow.

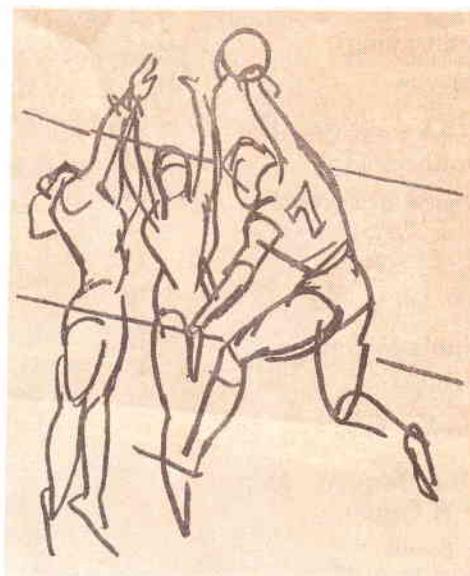


From left to right: Gao Jian (coach), Tong Fei, Li Ning, Li Yuejiu and Chang Jian (coach).

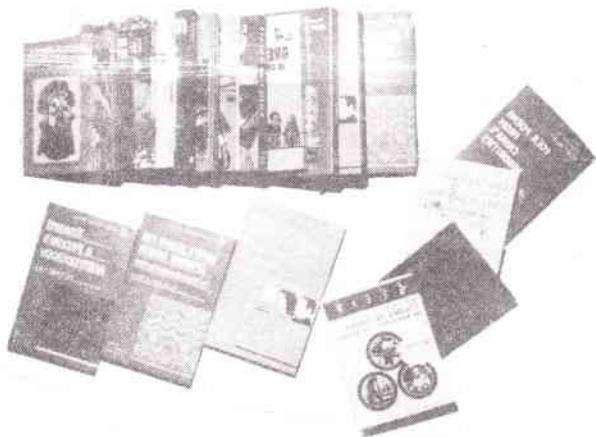
*Sketches
by Feng Xiangjie*



A native of Shanxi born in 1941, Feng Xiangjie graduated from the Department of Arts of Shanxi University and later became an art editor of the *Zhanyou Bao* (Comrades-in-Arms Paper). He is now the art editor of the magazine *Xintiyu* (New Physical Culture). His sketches of athletes capture the energy and grace of their movements in simple, skilful strokes. His works include *Selected Water Colours by Feng Xiangjie* and *Sketches on Sports*.



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