

# China Reconstructs

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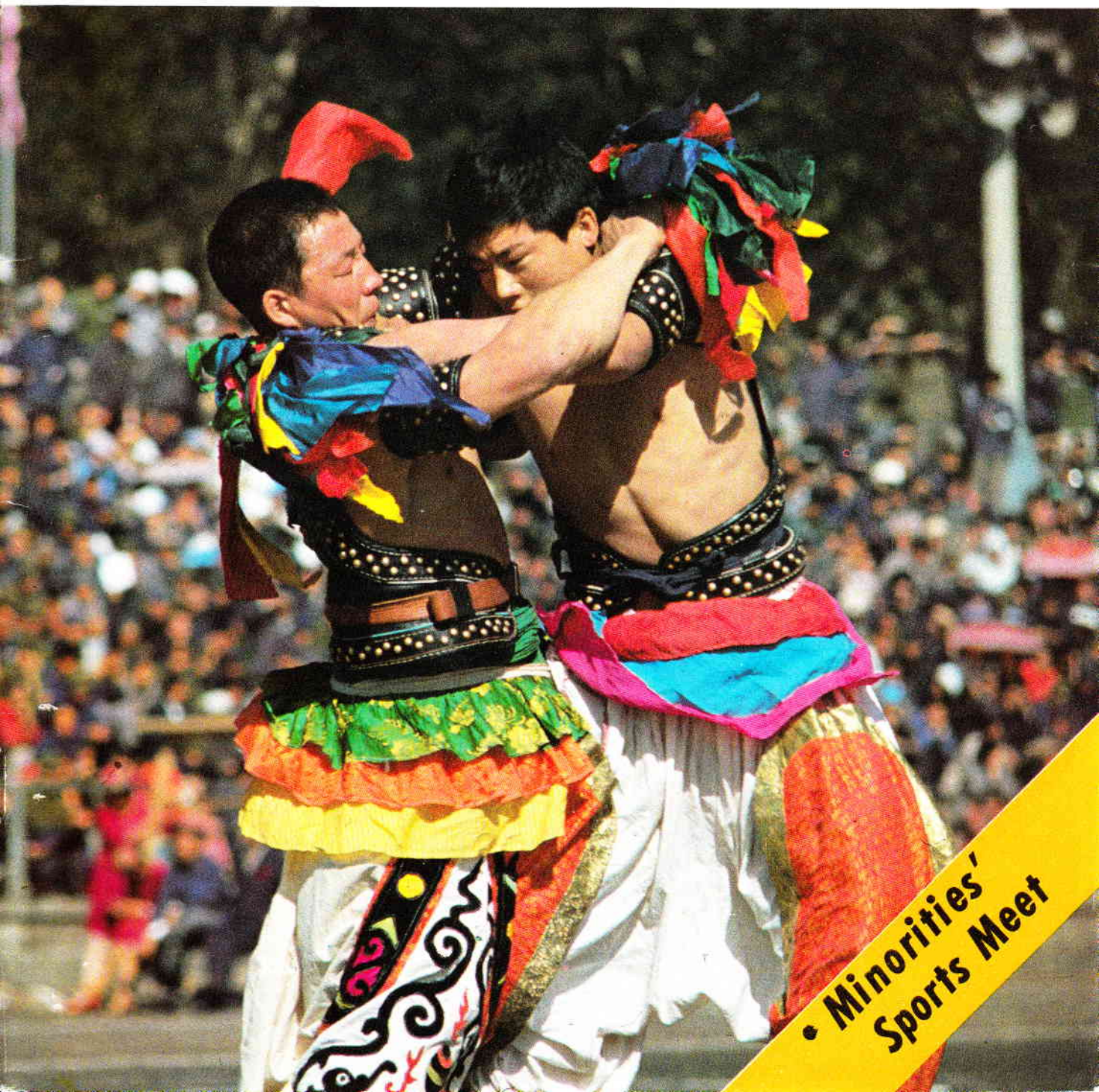
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• Key Decisions on China's Future

• Menuhin's Chinese Students

• TV Dramas



• Minorities' Sports Meet





Rewi Alley revisits Shandan, where he led the Bailie School. *Zhou Youma*

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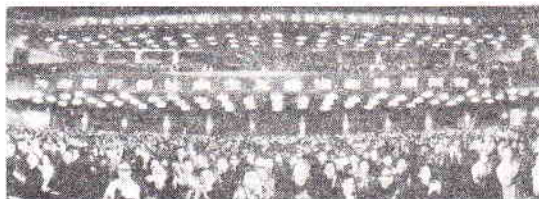
DECEMBER 1982

## CONTENTS

<b>Politics</b>	
Key Decisions on China's Future	14
<b>Economy</b>	
Power Transforms a Province	30
Manager Lu Dongming of Mindong Motors	27
Beautiful Skins, Fine Furcraft	34
How Developed Cities Help Remote Areas	36
Bamboo	20
<b>Sports</b>	
Skills, Thrills and Beauty: Minorities' Traditional Sports Meet	7
Women's Football Makes the Grade	58
<b>Arts</b>	
TV Plays Hew Close to Life	4
Fanciful, Whimsical Children's Art	60
New Development in Tibetan Painting	65
Sino-Japanese Co-Production: 'A Game Yet to Finish'	53
An Uncommon Partnership	55
<b>History</b>	
'Silk Roads' of the Sea	47
<b>Friendship</b>	
'Speak with Your Hearts' — Menuhin and His Chinese Students	18
Louvre-Versailles Paintings Travel to China	38
Reunion at Rewi Alley's Shandan School	24
<b>Across the Land</b>	
Ancient and Modern Metallurgical Center	66
The Hanging Monastery	40
Changbai Nature Preserve in the Northeast	43
China's First Turkey Farm	39
<b>Things Chinese</b>	
Winter Bamboo Shoots	23
Recovering the Red-Purse Carp	51
<b>Columns and Specials</b>	
To Our Readers: A Year-End Letter	2
Postbag	3
Do You Know? Nature Preserves in China	45
Sketchbook	46
Chinese Cookery: Simmered Chicken with Chinese Mushrooms	72
Legends and Tales from History: Murder Plot; Jing Ke and the King of Qin	69
Language Corner: Lesson 24	
Eating Zongzi	70
<b>Front Cover:</b>	
Mongolian wrestling at the Minorities' Traditional Sports Meet.	

Huo Jianying

## Articles of the Month



### Key Decisions on China's Future p. 14

Report on the Chinese Communist Party's 12th National Congress and the important work it did.

### TV Plays Hew Close to Life p. 4

TV dramas are relatively new in China, very popular and much-discussed: How they're doing and what they're showing.

### Minorities' Traditional Athletic Meet p. 7



National minorities in China have their own vividly colorful traditional sports, displayed for the first time at a countryside meet.

### Silk Roads of the Sea p. 47

The story of the ancient sea silk trade, which dated earlier, reached more countries and may have had greater historical significance than the better-known Old Silk Road by land.

### Menuhin and His Chinese Students p. 18

World-renowned violin maestro Yehudi Menuhin, visits China with the four young Chinese students he chose to study in schools he founded.



### Rewi Alley Revisits the Bailie School p. 24

Reunion at the industrial school he helped to found in Gansu province 40 years ago recalls how it turned destitute children into technicians for the new China, and how today it trains people for the petroleum industry.



## A Year-End Letter

**A**FTER finishing the main work on this last issue, we dropped into our correspondence room. Looking at the stacks of readers' mail that had arrived in the last few days, bright with the vivid postage stamps of many countries, we found ourselves wanting to write a homey family letter to you — our family of readers.

As it happens, two women members of our staff who have been dealing with mail from you for some thirty years had just come back from a week in the famous scenic mountain resort of Lushan south of the Changjiang (Yangtze) River. While there, they took time to find and buy some local varieties of the colorful traditional paper-cuts and other small craft articles that we sometimes enclose when we write you. A short time earlier, a reporter who had gone out on a story in a national-minority region of the southwest did the same thing. These thoughtful acts, out of the immediate "line of duty," were indications of our staff's personal feelings for our readers.

During the past year, we've received thousands of your letters. Many were from old friends who have long kept contact with us. More were first-time letters. Virtually every one was encouraging and helpful. We thank you all. We publish a small part of them in each month's "Postbag." And we apologize to you for not answering personally every one, or for tardy answers — there just aren't enough hands.

You have sent us comments, suggestions and criticisms — all are welcome. Written in many languages, they generally breathe friendship for the Chinese people and solicitude for our magazine. Some compliment us on making progress in reporting on the realities of China. Other readers share their own impressions of visits here. Quite a few say that *China Reconstructs* helps them understand China better.

**T**O all of you we say — our effort is to continue the tradition of truth enjoined on us by the founder of our magazine, Soong Ching Ling (Mme. Sun Yat-sen) who at the end of her long life devoted to China's and the world's better future was named Honorary Chairman of the People's Republic of China. And whatever progress we've made is also due to inspiration and supervision by our readers.

Among criticisms we have received is one from a Tunisian reader, "It's hard to conceive that everyone is content and everything is rosy anywhere." We are, in fact, optimistic. And at the same time we try to convey our problems. But we will heed this reader's warning to avoid over-simplification. Some people

write us that only more depth in articles will satisfy them. Others want more sprightliness and interest. We think the two are not in contradiction and will try to be lively yet not superficial. Some readers say rightly that while our color pictures pass muster the black-and-whites are badly printed. Some readers' suggestions have been promptly adopted. Others have been distilled into our whole work.

**T**HERE have been some complaints about our distribution. This is, in fact, a weak link. Our magazine is not easily available, or can be obtained in too few places abroad. Even right in China, some visitors find it hard to buy — or to subscribe conveniently where they stay. If you find it difficult to place a subscription wherever you may be, send it to us or to our general distributors in Beijing (see inserted subscription slip).

We are inaugurating, from the start of next year, our new North American edition which will ease and speed distribution in the U.S. (where it will be printed) and in Canada. It will contain some special pages of immediate interest to readers there.

"*China Reconstructs* brings China closer to us," a reader writes. We will try to live up to this comment. It accords with our purpose — to make friendship and understanding grow between the people of our country and those of the whole world.

Life and work in China have been more exciting and spirited in the months since September, when the 12th Congress of the Chinese Communist Party made vital decisions described in this issue. In November China's National People's Congress adopted a new Constitution and our country's Sixth Five Year Plan. The building of a modern socialist society is on track and accelerating. There will be closer unity with all friends and well-wishers abroad, and between *China Reconstructs* and its readers in the common cause of progress and peace.

Please keep writing, and a Happy New Year to you all, and may it bring you and your families all that you wish for.

The Editor







## Two 30th Anniversaries

The members of the Australia-China Friendship Society, New South Wales Branch, wish to extend congratulations to *China Reconstructs* during your 30th anniversary year. It is especially pleasing for us as this year is also our 30th anniversary. The aim of the society is to develop friendship between the Australian and Chinese people. The society has a center in Sydney where there is a small library including a complete set of CR. They are a very valuable source of information. Regular meetings are held each month when films on various aspects of life in China are shown. Many of our members have visited China on tours organized by members of the society on a voluntary basis.

JOAN K. DWYER

*Elizabeth Bay, Australia*



Thirtieth anniversary banquet, May 14, 1982. Left to right: Bill Liu, Arthur Locke-Chang, foundation members, Australia-China Friendship Society (NSW) and Jeff Cuinane, National President, Australia-China Friendship Society.

## China Is Open to Foreign Tourists

Many Western papers try to tell us that there is nowadays a growing xenophobia, or morbid dislike of foreigners in China. The leading article in the September issue of *China Reconstructs* makes it clear that China is still opening her door to every bona fide foreign tourist, but will send away anyone who tries to smuggle the unwanted and unneeded into China; no one can object to that, no one can blame China for protecting herself against Western bad habits.

TORGNY LINDGREN

*Uppsala, Sweden*

## Personal Touch Lacking

Your magazine is well produced but lacks the personal touch as regard to improvement of the people before and after the great revolution. Facts and statistics are all very well but let's hear from the people themselves about the improvements to their individual lives, include photographs and memoirs to help the world understand, through your magazine, the great advance and improvement of Chinese socialism.

Your article in the May issue about industrial readjustment in Tianjin was most interesting and clearly outlined the new industrial policy and the need to eradicate past mistakes in planning. I look forward to more articles on this theme.

GEOFFREY PEASE

*Frome, England*

## Self-Critical Approach Good

As a comparatively new subscriber I have followed your magazine regularly for just a few months, but I must say that I am very much impressed by the way you Chinese can present your country to foreigners. I especially like your present attitude towards the undoubtedly many social and economic problems you have to face for the time being; problems are really to be discussed, not to be ignored. I think that such a self-critical approach to life will truly help China on her way to progress and development.

JUHA JANHUNEN

*Helsinki, Finland*

## Pay Attention to 'Silent Articles'

In my opinion, your colored pictures, especially those in the magazine, are not successful. Articles about central China's new power grid, an offshore drilling platform and the rural areas in Hunan in the August issue, for instance, should be illustrated in black and white, while the pictures of the Huangguoshu Waterfall and the Qianlingshan Park should be in color.

The subjects are good and of great variety. But the "Humor" column is not properly selected on the ground that people in different countries live in different ways. The front and back cover pictures showing natural beauty are original. On the whole, you should make better use of the space and give more attention to pictures, which are thought to be "silent articles."

SAMIR ABD-EL-FATTAH  
MOHAMMAD

*Alshin-Garbeyah, Egypt*

## Credibility Gains

I appreciate your magazine's emphasis on your country's people as I believe

that true wealth is measured in human happiness and that China has enormous and probably unrivalled potential in this area.

The credibility of *China Reconstructs* gains immeasurably from the inclusion of articles of a self-critical nature admitting failures and shortcomings intrinsic in all human undertakings.

L.E.D. CAMPBELL

*Lane Cove, Australia*

## China's Educational System

I read with much interest "Achievements Through Self-Study" (April 1982). Certainly, this structure of China's education system is very good to adhere to.

Generally, your publication is very valuable to me, and if our country adopts such a system, they will improve upon our economic aspects. We are just making some alterations.

LARRY D. HAYFORD

*Sekondi, Ghana*

## More About Chinese Women

Because of the enormous changes for women in China, I would find interesting interviews and stories about women, their work, their domestic duties and problems about child care.

CONSTANCE M. JONES

*Ottawa, Canada*

## Speaks Through Facts

I just love your magazines. As Comrade Huang Hua rightly stated on January 20 this year, *China Reconstructs* is appreciated by readers and has won international prestige. It really speaks through facts. Through your magazines, we converse and we are given a better picture of China's progress and achievements.

Let me take this opportunity to thank you for having sent me the map of the People's Republic of China and an exceptionally interesting calendar showing various paintings of these young promising artists.

JOHNSON MBABAZI AMOOTI

*Hoima, Uganda*

## Be Broader on Nature

I have never seen in my life such an interesting magazine as *China Reconstructs*. Despite the fact that I like to enjoy the beautiful mountains and rivers in your country through your advertisements and stamps, I prefer to know more about your national conditions. Your publication has touched on various aspects of life, but I still hope that you will be able to broaden themes about the natural world, namely, you will report more about animals, flowers and the transformation of nature.

BENJAMIN POVEDA CORTES

*Estacion Ponal Payande, Colombia*

# TV Plays Hew Close to Life

ZHANG HUASHAN and BAO WENQING

WHEN there's a good play on TV often the streets are almost empty, the lights in homes are dimmed, as the Chinese people indulge in one of their favorite forms of recreation. The next day, in office, field and workshop, and

on the bus, the program they have seen will be discussed up and down for veracity and artistic treatment.

Teleplays are still a relatively new thing in China. While TV broadcasts began in 1958, the

family TV set — as differentiated from the workplace set — did not come into its own until recent years as part of the generally improved standard of living. A few TV plays were produced live in the early days but the "cultural revolution" suspended such activity, though documentaries, model operas and televised films continued.

Now producing teleplays is a burgeoning business. In 1980, 103 were made and 118 in 1981, and 1982 promises 160, an average of three new ones per week. Their main theme is everyday life and its problems (85 percent of the productions are of this type) and they steer away from plots featuring the fantastic or brawls, and — after a brief initial burst of them — over-stress on young love. This is in line with guidelines set for the industry that plays should reflect present-day life in a thoughtful and artistic way, deal with the things about which people are concerned, give expression to their feelings and provide encouragement on how to deal with today's problems.

## Poll Favorites

A poll on the best TV plays by the Shanghai daily *Wen Hui Bao* got a hundred thousand replies.

Garnering the most votes was *New Shore*, a sensitive story of a delinquent girl's struggle to re-enter society. The girl, Liu Yan-hua gets in with the wrong people during the "cultural revolution" and becomes a pickpocket at 16. Arrested and sentenced, on her release she is determined to turn over a new leaf. She encounters

ZHANG HUASHAN is a reporter for the Central TV Station, and BAO WENQING for China Reconstructs.

A scene from 'New Shore.'

Zhu Tao







(Left) From 'Out of Love for Her Land.' (Right) The teleplay 'Pilgrimage to the West,' featuring the fantastic adventures of Pigsy, the Monkey King and the monk Xuan Zang, is based on one of the most popular old Chinese tales.

Photos by Zhu Tao and Wang Chongyue

severe social discrimination and is received coolly even by her family.

Though driven distraught by her inability to get a job, when one of the shady characters from her past tries to get her to go back to a life of crime, she refuses. She goes to live in a rural commune, but is not welcome there either. But through her hard work and thoughtfulness, she gradually wins the commune members' respect, and the love of the upright young peasant Gao Yuangang. The drama was commended for calling attention to this problem in society.

Taking second place was the movingly-acted *Out of Love for Her Land*, about a woman doctor who adopts two children orphaned in the revolution. Her fiancé, however, feels that since the parents didn't entrust them to her and had done nothing for her, she has no responsibility for them and they should be cared for by the state. The doctor's own experience in escaping death by sheer chance makes her feel that her life is not hers alone but belongs to society, so she persists, and even prefers to break off relations with her fiancé if he does not want to share care of the children.

Other highly-praised plays are *A Hotel's First Day* (third prize) about how a new Party secretary fights discrimination against a peasant staying there; *The Pancake Girl* about a young woman

who over her future mother-in-law's objections leaves her position as leader of several units to go out and sell pancakes on the street to find out what's wrong with business in that line; *The Spotless White Handkerchief* about how Song Ching Ling supported two orphans of the revolution whom she meets until they can be sent to Yan'an; and *Bonus*, which makes fun of the idea that when one person in a department makes an innovation by himself, it must be shared out through his department — a custom left over from the ultra-equalitarian ideas of the "cultural revolution" which in fact undercuts the aim of giving bonuses to stimulate creativity.

### City and Country Life

Other teleplays depict rural life. One is *The Winding Mountain Road* about a young widow whose husband has died in an accident. She continues to work hard for her husband's family, storing up money for his younger brother's marriage. When the latter seems crippled after injury in a fire, his fiancé leaves him. He realizes that he has come to love his widowed sister-in-law and they are married.

Presenting vivid images of new socialist people were *Are You a Party Member?* (an old Communist who exposes bribery to cover up

for a railroad accident) and *A Capable Daughter-in-Law* (a young woman who has led her commune brigade in another village to prosperity with the new policies, when elected in her husband's village, has to overcome her husband's objections that she will offend some people who have been doing things the old way).

*The Prism of Life* tells a different fictional episode each time about life in the city, centered around consideration for society and others as promoted by the civic pride and courtesy campaign.

### Serial Programs

Several stations are now producing TV series. The eight-part *The Story of Xiaqiu* by the Guangzhou station made quite an impression in the cities. It is based on a novel of the same name written in the late 40s by Huang Guliu, who was born in Vietnam and grew up in Yunnan and Hongkong. It tells about a young boy undergoing the vicissitudes of life in Hongkong in the 1940s. He gets involved with thieves a number of times until he finds that the suitcase he has stolen for his "boss" was that of his father, coming back with the savings of more than a decade of hard work abroad. Xiaqiu has other adventures which eventually lead him to an anti-Japanese guerrilla base.



During a break in filming, the director of 'New Shore' talks with the cast about the story's meaning.

Zhu Tao

The first four photographically beautiful parts of a planned longer series give a picture of the childhood of the great writer Lu Xun and his native Shaoxing. Among the historical and traditional teleseries was the well-loved *Wu Song*, an episode from the famous novel *Outlaws of the Marsh* about Wu Song and his fight with a tiger.

### Video from Abroad

The central TV station and those in Shanghai and Guangzhou have translated and dubbed a number of foreign TV series. From Britain were *Darwin*, adaptations of Dickens' *David Copperfield* and *The Old Curiosity Shop*, Hardy's *Mayor of Casterbridge* and British productions of *Madame Curie* and

*Anna Karenina*. Other series included the Yugoslavian *Names on the Blacklist* about an anti-fascist underground group, and *Nameless Heroes* whose main character is a journalist in Seoul during the Korean War acting as an undercover agent for the North. The adventures of *Sugata Sanshiro*, a fictional late 19th century Japanese judo champion, held Chinese audiences spellbound for many weeks in the Japanese series of that name. The United States has been represented by the two series *Garrison's Raiders* and *The Man From Atlantis*, and the TV movie *Houdini*, among others. From France there was Balzac's *Cousin Pons*, from Norway Ibsen's *A Doll's House*, from Pakistan three TV plays and from India *Ananda*.

These, particularly the literary classics, have proved very popular with the Chinese audience. However the breaking into buildings and other vividly presented exploits of *Garrison's Raiders*, a fictional group of American soldiers in Italy during World War II, were felt to have an undesirable effect on some Chinese young people who might detach these acts from their

anti-fascist context. The series was stopped halfway through.

### Great Possibilities

China has rich resources for TV dramas. Thirty-four stations (in every province and autonomous region and some cities) have facilities and staff for producing them and the best originating locally are transmitted nationwide. Today 10 million sets are in use. Their number, though growing rapidly, is still small in relation to China's population, but they serve an estimated 100 million viewers. TV is viewed as a form of mass education. In 1982 a separate Ministry of Broadcasting and Television was set up. A dozen TV newspapers and magazines in various parts of the country circulate in 10 million copies under names like *TV Weekly*, *TV Programs*, *Literature and Art on TV* and *Popular TV*.

To lead the way in getting better programs an advisory TV Play Art Committee composed of noted artists was recently set up.

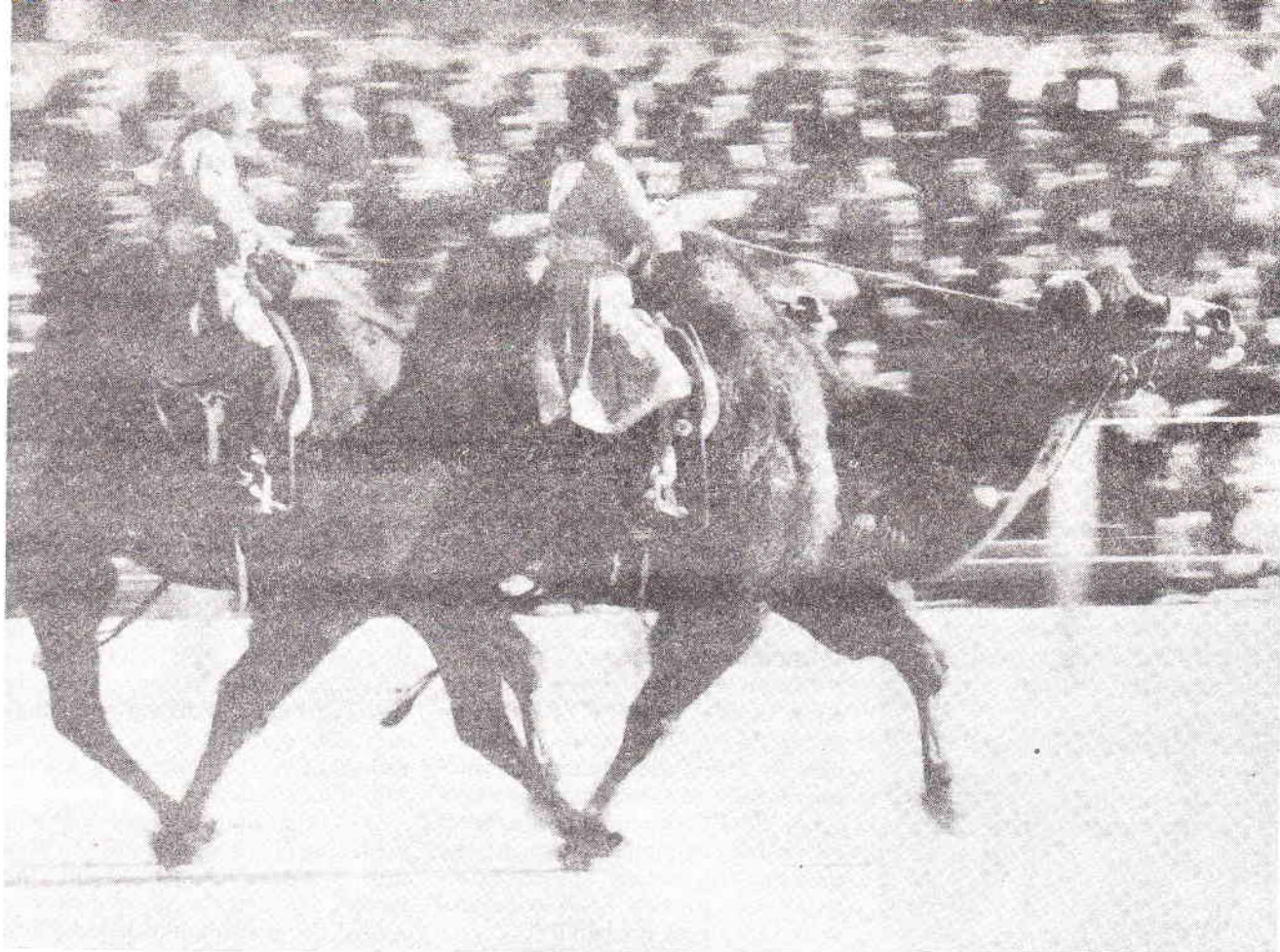
Dramatizations of the famous classical novels *Pilgrimage to the West*, *A Dream of Red Mansions*, *The Romance of the Three Kingdoms*, *The Scholars*, and *Strange Tales of Liao-zhai* are in production or being planned. □

At a Shanghai TV station, a technician monitors the sound and picture as a teleplay is broadcast.

Yang Putao







Mongolian competitors in a 3,000-meter camel race.

Skills, Thrills and Beauty:

## Minorities' Traditional Sports Meet

RAO FENGQI

**C**OLORFUL pageantry, exciting competition and rich entertainment characterized a special Minorities' Sports Meet held last September in Hohhot, capital of the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region. Attending were 1,000 athletes representing China's 56 national minorities.

Most of the standard events usually featured at athletic competitions were nowhere to be seen at Hohhot. Instead there was a great variety of traditional sports—camel and horse races,

RAO FENGQI is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs specializing in athletics.

archery, wrestling, martial arts, kite-flying, and other items reflecting the life and customs of minority peoples.

### Bull Wrestling

Han Haihua, a young man of the Hui nationality, whose tradition is Muslim, entered the arena clad in a purple and red cloak with a white hat on his head and leading a bull with gaily colored decorations draped over its back. With the finery laid aside, Han got down to work. Warming up with a series of movements similar to the martial arts, he began to goad the bull until it charged him.

With perfect timing, Han seized the bull by the horns and started to wrestle with the angry animal. By twisting the horns and putting his shoulder to the bull's jaw and neck, he soon forced it to kneel. Then, with practiced skill, he tossed the bull over on its back.

Han is 28 and from Zhejiang province, on China's east coast, where he is a factory worker. Bull wrestling is an old and popular pastime of the Hui people during festivals and holidays. Han began practicing the sport when he was still a child. Fighting a bull bare-handed requires not only courage and strength, but a great deal of



dexterity and coordination — all of which Han has in abundance.

### Camel Racing

Since ancient times the Mongolian people have been famous for their horsemanship and archery. At the meet in Hohhot they demonstrated still another popular Mongolian sport — camel racing.

One usually associates camels with endurance rather than speed, and it is surprising to see that they

can actually run as fast or faster than horses. The strongest can reach a speed of 30 kilometers an hour. As they lope along the track in groups of a dozen or so, their big, soft hooves make almost no sound.

The winner of the 2,000-meter race was a woman rider named Temmurhuhen from Altan banner (a "banner" is the equivalent of a county in Mongolian areas). This banner is one of China's major camel-raising areas. Its 251,000 head make up 60 percent of Inner Mongolia's total. Camel racing is a very popular traditional sport there, particularly at the annual Nadam Fair, a mass gathering combining a trade fair, sports and entertainment.

Camel races are closely connected with the economy and society of the Mongolian people. In addition to speed and endurance, racing camels are expected to have good, thick hair, high humps, and an attractive appearance, so the breeding of racing animals contributes to general knowledge and skill in animal husbandry.

Young people of courting age like to show off their skills in this sport, for a good rider is considered to be a capable herd tender, and therefore a good potential marriage partner. Temmurhuhen (whose name means "iron girl" and who won the 2,000-meter race) would seem to bear out the belief that a winning rider is also likely to be an expert herder. She and her husband raise 170 head of camels known for their sturdiness and thick hair.

### Basket-on-the-Back

People of the Gaoshan nationality live in eastern Taiwan province and in Fujian, the coastal province nearest Taiwan. At the meet in Hohhot, young people from Fujian demonstrated a popular local game. The girls stand side by side in a row, baskets with narrow-mouthed openings on their backs. The boys line up about five meters behind them. Using sandbags covered in bright cotton prints as "balls," the boys try to toss them into the baskets of the

girls immediately in front of them. Each is allowed twenty tries, and the one who makes the most baskets is the winner.

An old Gaoshan legend tells of a clever and beautiful girl who was admired by many young men. To stop the arguments over her hand, she took a basket on her back and declared that whoever could toss a ball into the basket would be her future husband. With a little dodging and maneuvering, she made sure that only the ball thrown by her own true love reached its mark.

The game has become a hilarious part of Gaoshan courtship rites. After the autumn harvest each year, the unmarried young women put on their backs exquisitely decorated baskets made by their parents. Walking and singing, they eye the young men who follow after them carrying a supply of betelnuts.

If a girl likes a boy, she will walk slowly when he is near to give him a better chance to hit the basket. If, despite her maneuvers, a boy she doesn't like manages to score, she'll throw his betelnut out of the basket, and he has to find another partner.

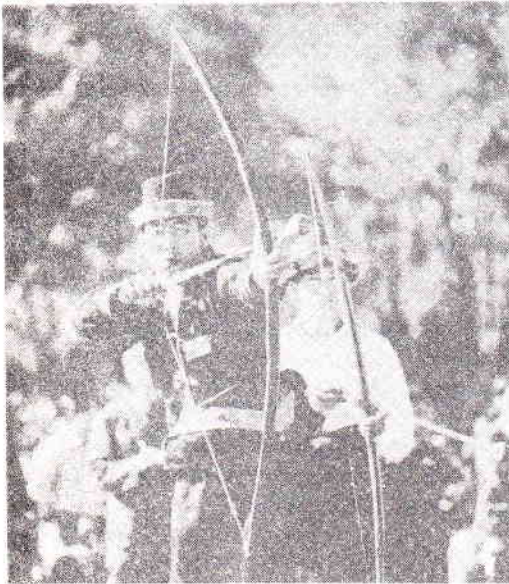
### 'Singing' Arrows

Archery is popular among a number of national minorities, but the Tibetans have a special version in which the arrowhead, carved of wood with holes in it, makes a pleasant whistling sound when the arrow is shot.

At the meet in Hohhot, a Tibetan delegation treated spectators to an authentic Tibetan archery contest, which back in Tibet is accompanied by grand ceremonies. The archers are summoned into the arena by the sound of a horn. Each drinks a cup of wine, and then the competitors march to the shooting ground while singing the "Arrow Song."

The archers are divided by lot into two groups, and each is allowed two shots in the preliminary rounds. The best in each group then compete until there is a winner, who is presented with a *hada*, or ceremonial scarf. The losers

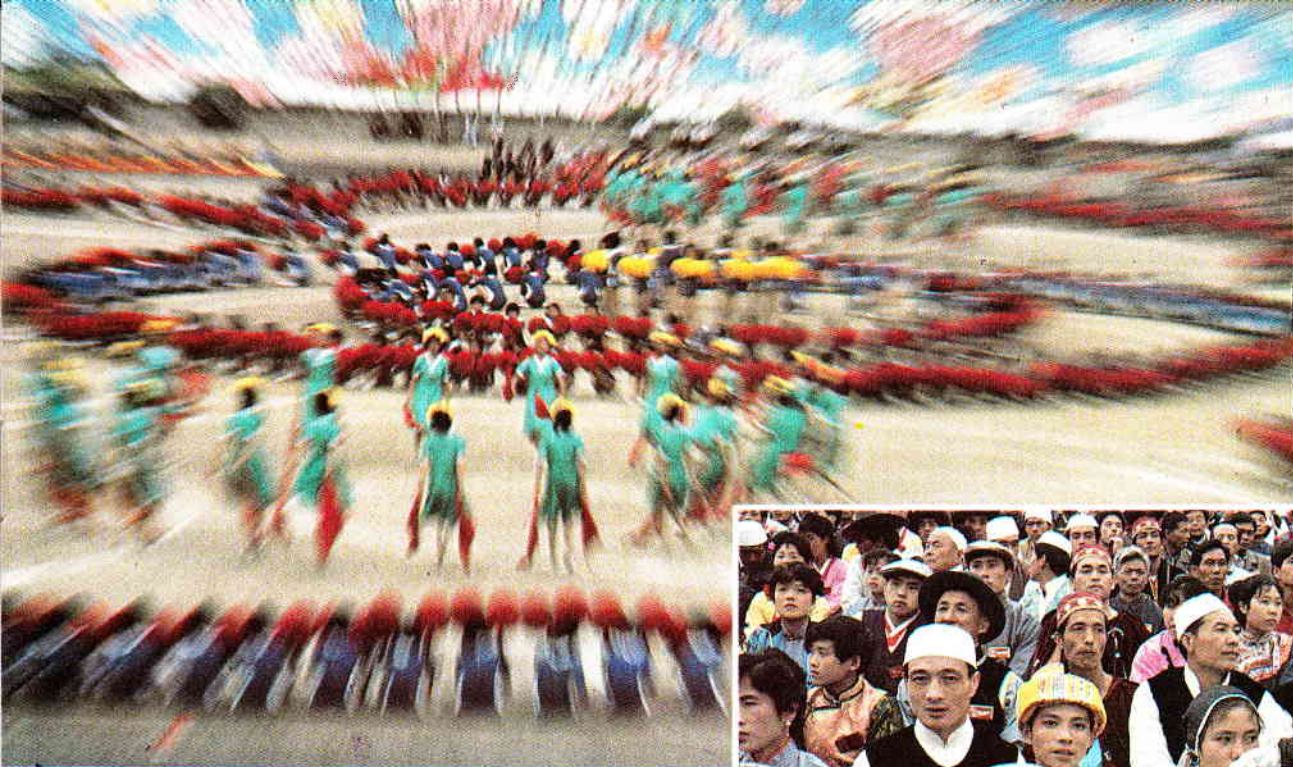
The Tibetans' 'singing' arrows.



A Kergez feat, picking up a silver coin at the gallop.







Mass calisthenics.



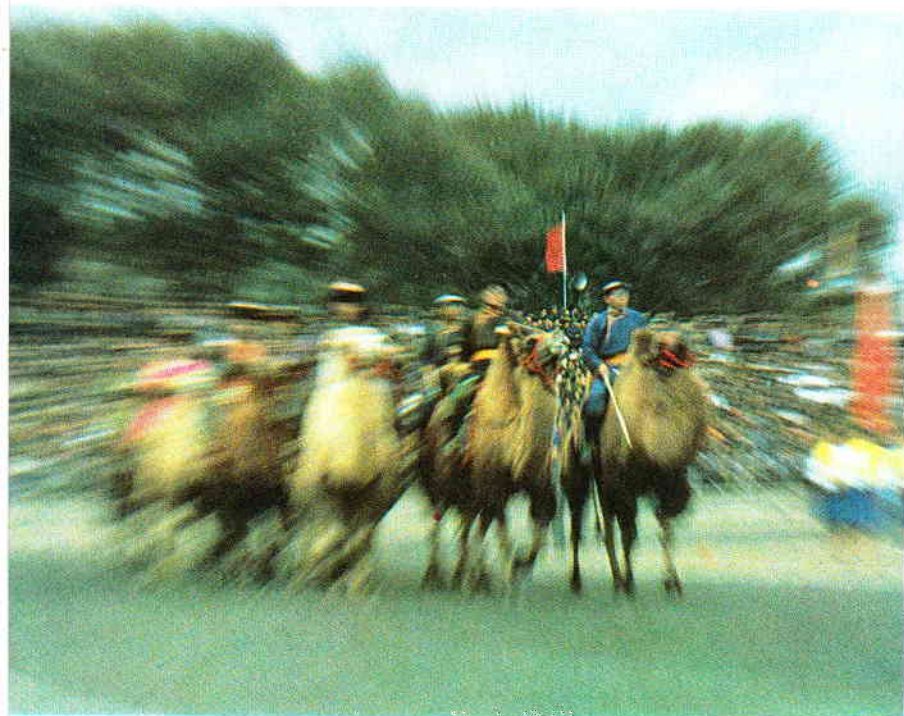
Athletes young and old.

Lisu archer.



Hui bull-wrestling.





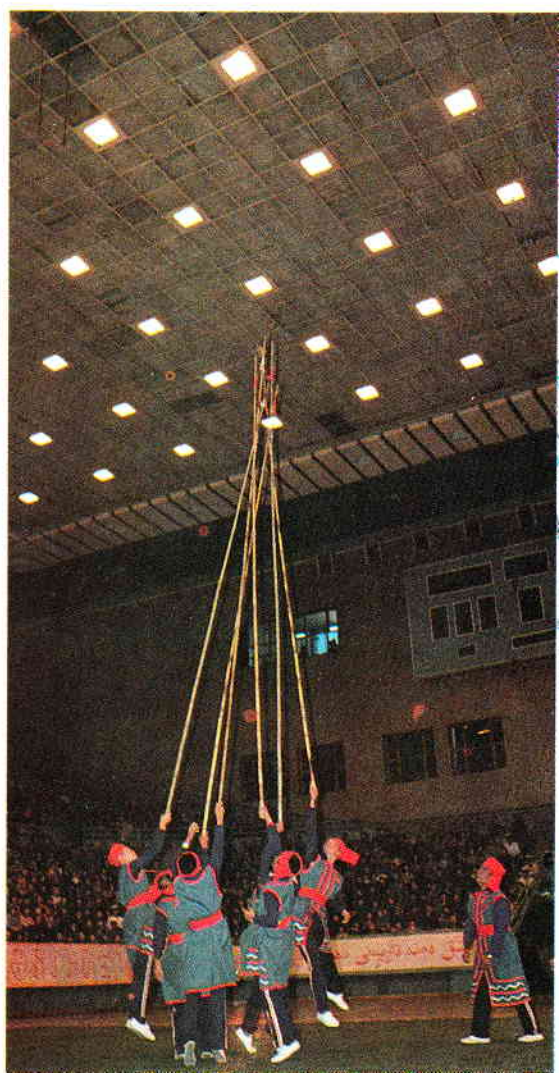
Mongolian camel team marching into the arena.



Tu dagger combat.



Kazak girl-chase.



Ball game with bamboo poles, Gaoshan nationality.





Tibetan-style tug-of-war.

Yi bell dance.



Fencing with colored cudgels by the Miaos.



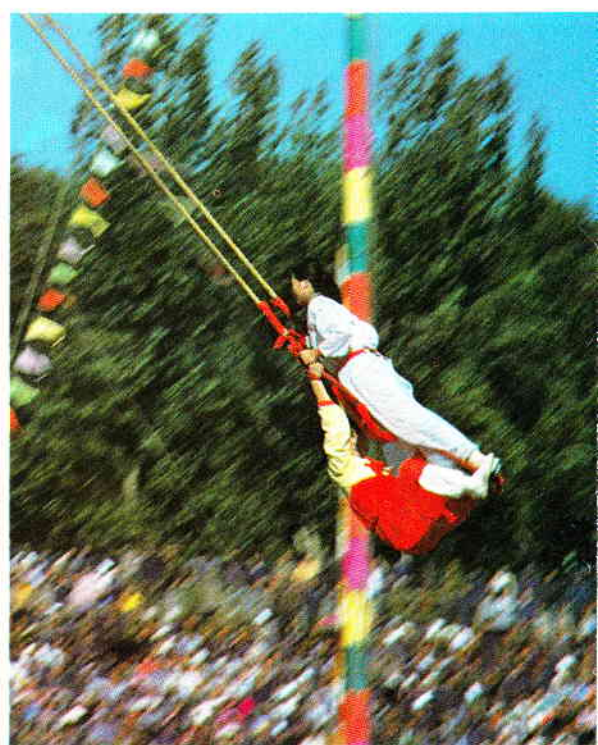
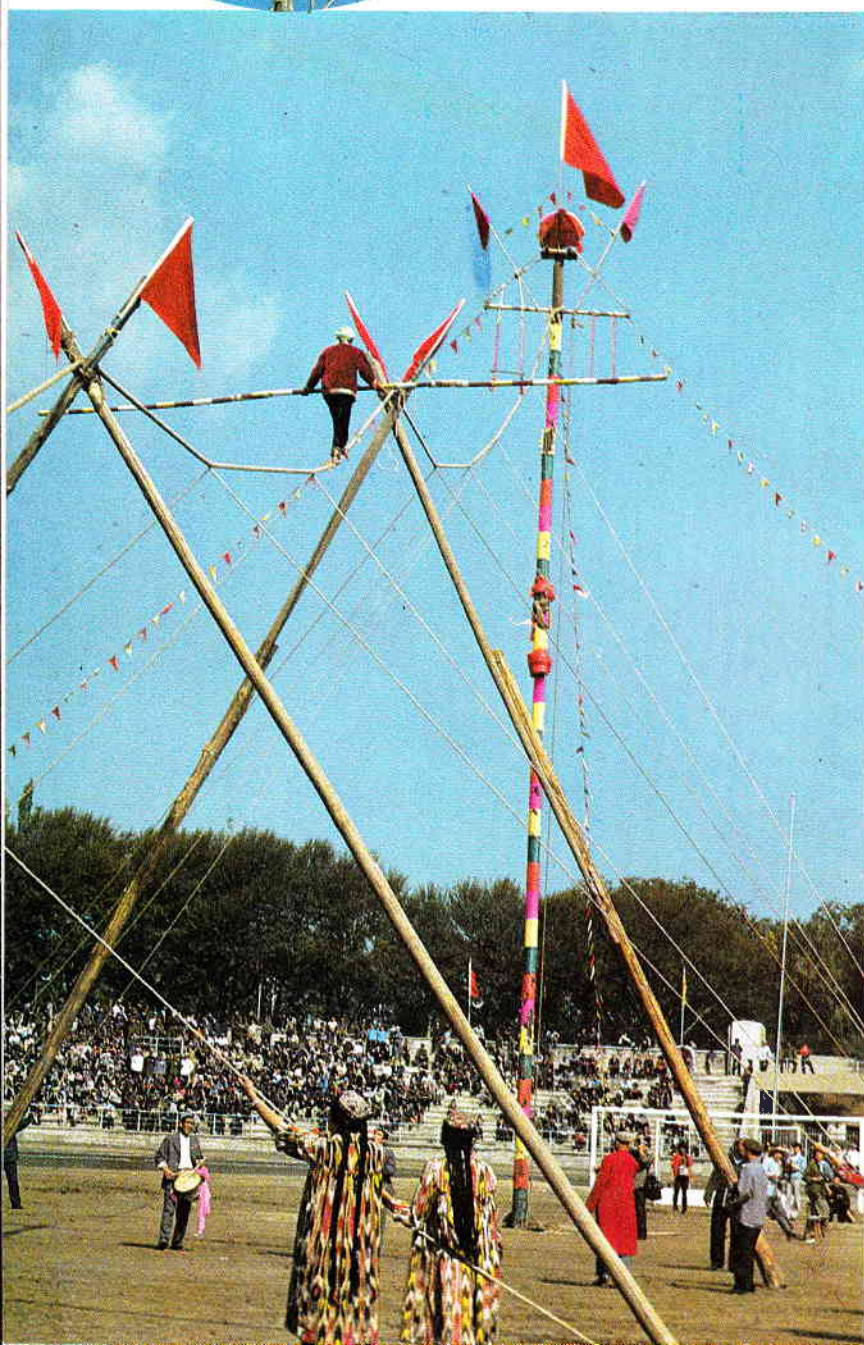




Tightrope walking by Uygur entrants.



Li bamboo-pole jump.



Korean swinging.



Calisthenics on a moving wheel, a Tu nationality specialty.

Photos by Huo Jianying



must drink strong beer in a toast to the winner. The contest ends with a song and dance of congratulation.

### Pole Climbing

This lively sport is a tradition of the Miao nationality. On top of a 13-meter tall smooth pole is hung a drinking gourd and a piece of meat. To reach the summit, contestants must use only their hands and feet — they cannot allow their bodies to touch the pole.

Those who make it to the top take a bite of meat and a sip of wine from the gourd, then slide down head first, somersaulting to the ground before they reach bottom, and landing on their feet. The one who completes the whole sequence the fastest is the winner.

Such pole climbing, it's said, can be traced back to a Miao hero who led an uprising against slave owners. After his death the Miao people erected a tall wooden pole in front of his tomb. People climbed it to leave offerings of meat and wine, and as young men liked to show off their skills, it became regularized into a sport.

On festive occasions the contests are highlighted by the music of *lusheng* (reed pipes), and people sing and dance around the pole in high spirits. The competitors are often unmarried young men intent on impressing the young women they admire, and stories are told of rivals stealthily oiling the pole to eliminate their opponents.

### Ball Tossing

The origin of this game has been traced back to the Song dynasty (960-1279) in China. Today it's very popular among the Zhuang nationality (of the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region in the far south), who demonstrated it at the meet. Among the Zhuang it is usually a competition between young men and women.

Fastened on top of a 10-meter pole is a one-meter-square board with a 10-centimeter-diameter hole in the center. Two lines, one of young men and one of women,



Shooting a basket, Gaoshan style.

Photos by Huo Jianying and Rao Fengqi

form in front of the pole, and the ones at the head of the line start the competition. It takes a great deal of skill to get the 6-cm. ball through the hole in the board (the round ball is filled with beans and sand and covered with embroidered cloth).

The contest may last a whole day, and is accompanied by much laughter and good-natured teasing. Skillful young men may be presented with embroidered balls by young women as courtship tokens, while losers are "paraded" before the public.

### Tightrope Walking

One of the most breathtaking events at the meet was the tight-rope walking performed by Uygur athletes of the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region in China's far west.

A thick rope 80 meters long is stretched from the ground to a 30-meter high post. The performers, holding wooden poles for balance, walk the rope to the top to the sound of drums and horns. As they proceed up the rope, they startle the audience with amazing acrobatics — kneeling, lying or jumping on the rope, even donning blindfolds for some tricks.

One of the most famous of Xinjiang's rope walkers is 70-year-

old Sidik Aixim, who has been performing for over 60 years and who coached many of the competitors at the meet, including 53-year-old Nur Aixim and Memet Tursun, only 13. Sidik Aixim himself is descended from three generations of rope walkers.

An old Uygur legend explains the origin of the sport in this way: Long, long ago, the region now called Xinjiang was ravaged by a devil living on a mountaintop. The people hated him to the bone, but could find no way up the mountain. Then a young man managed to climb the mountain with a rope, battled the devil and destroyed him. In memory of this, and to toughen the bodies and spirits of the younger generation, the Uygurs created their sport of rope walking. □

### CORRECTION

Oops, our history slipped a cog last month. In the tale of the traveling diplomats, paragraph 1, on the two main choices of the age, should read:

to go along with the powerful State of Qin, which wanted to absorb the other six main states to the east (called the horizontal alliance) or to unite the other states to oppose Qin (a vertical alliance). Su Qin advocated the latter, and Zhang Yi the former, . . .

# Key Decisions

## 中国共产党第十二次全国代表大会



An overview of the delegates.

**I**N SEPTEMBER the Chinese Communist Party held its 12th Party Congress — widely seen as one of the most important in its history, marking a new turning point in China's long march toward becoming a modern socialist society. The congress climaxed a process which began after the fall of the gang of four in 1976 — a searching re-examination of the past and the charting of a new course for the future.

Delegates approved a new Party Constitution, and endorsed a program of socialist modernization which was to be further discussed and concretized into national policy, plans and measures by the National People's Congress, China's highest state authority, in its November session. The Party Congress elected new leading bodies and approved structural changes in the Party. The policies laid out at the congress aim at summarizing historical experience and creating a new situation in the economic, political and social life of the country, and in the relations between the Party and the people.

### Central Task — The Economy

The socialist modernization of China's economy was identified as the primary national task of the present period. The ultra-Leftism of the past which had for some two decades hampered the development of the productive forces was firmly repudiated. An ambitious economic goal was approved by the congress — the quadrupling of China's gross agricultural and industrial output value by the end of the cen-

Comrade Deng Xiaoping sets the keynote in the opening address.



Hu Yaobang delivers a Central Committee report assessing the past and the present and charting goals for the future.



Li Xiannian gives the closing speech of the congress.





# on China's Future

## STAFF REPORTER

tury, from 710 billion yuan in 1980 to about 2,800 billion yuan in the year 2000. Per capita income will also go up in rough proportions.

Unlike some past plans, this one is firmly based on a realistic appraisal of China's current conditions and potential for the future. The realization of this overall objective would require an annual average increase of 7.2 percent in gross output value. (From 1953 to 1981, despite many setbacks, the growth rate was 8.1 percent annually.) For the 6th Five-Year Plan (1981-85), growth is projected at a modest 5 percent figure, and for the 7th Five-Year Plan (1986-90) 6 percent or slightly higher.

During this decade of the 1980s, the aim is to lay a solid foundation for future growth: to strengthen significantly agriculture, energy resources, transport and communication; to reorganize industries and upgrade productivity and efficiency; to raise the levels of science, technology, and overall education. This foundation will allow the decade of the 1990s to be a period of vigorous economic takeoff, with a growth rate of 8 percent or more. China should then come into the front ranks among the world's countries in terms of gross national income and output of major industrial and agricultural products.

Individual incomes and the living standard would increase several times over, though these would still be rather modest compared to those in the developed countries because of China's huge

population. And an important component of these plans is holding down the rate of population growth, since failure to do so would seriously inhibit these plans. The goal is to keep the population within 1.2 billion by the end of the century.

## Culture, Ethics and Education

Party leaders reiterated at the congress that material growth must be accompanied by the development of what China calls "socialist spiritual civilization," a term that includes socialist ethics and ideals as well as education, science, art, literature and culture in general. During the "cultural revolution," ultra-Leftist ideas led to an underestimation of the importance of education, science and culture, and discrimination against intellectuals. That same period resulted in great confusion between right and wrong, an increase in opportunism and self-seeking, and serious damage to public morality.

Congress resolutions emphasized that the bad effects of the "cultural revolution" and an upsurge of feudal ideology have by no means been eliminated. And, with China's increasing openness to the outside world, various bourgeois ideas and decadent lifestyles have also crept into Chinese life. Corruption, self-seeking and other activities harmful to socialism are to be combated, including the abuse of power by those in positions of authority. The strengthening of public morality and of the socialist legal system will help guarantee the success of this struggle.

In this connection, another major national task is the building of a high level of socialist democracy in every sphere of life — political, economic, cultural and social. Linked with this is the need to strengthen the socialist legal system, which was previously incomplete and was so badly violated during the "cultural revolution," so that democracy and justice are institutionalized and codified.

Newly elected Party General Secretary Hu Yaobang (right) and veteran leader Ye Jianying on the dais.



Premier Zhao Ziyang (right) and Comrade Chen Yun during a break in the proceedings.





Newly formed high Party organ, the Central Advisory Committee, holds its first official session.

### The Party and the People

According to the new Party Constitution adopted at the congress, the Communist Party is the leading force of the country and the people, but its members are forbidden to place themselves above the people. No Party member, from leading bodies down to the grassroots level, can violate the law and the Constitution of the People's Republic. Members are in fact required to set a special example in obeying the law and Party discipline and in their ethical behavior. These requirements will be enforced by a central Disciplinary Commission and corresponding ones at lower levels.

In light of the serious lessons learned in the period just before and during the "cultural revolution," the new Party Constitution emphasizes that all Party organizations from the central down to the primary level must strictly observe the principles of democratic centralism and collective leadership combined with individual responsibility. All forms of a personality cult are strictly forbidden, and the activities of Party leaders must be supervised by the whole Party and the people. Those who attended the congress were struck by the lively, democratic discussion of all issues considered by the congress — a good sign of the Party's determination to abolish undemocratic practices.

To insure that all Party members measure up to the rigorous, and strengthened, standards on what they should and should not do, an all-round rectification process will start in the second half of 1983 and will last about three years. The 39 million Party members will by stages and in groups undergo a period of education and examination, and then be re-registered. Special safeguards are specified to prevent this from being the kind of "purge" in which good people are framed or attacked by personal enemies. Instead, it will be a searching process of criticism and

self-criticism in which the masses of the people will be asked to participate. Only those who show no effort to measure up to standards will be expelled from the Party.

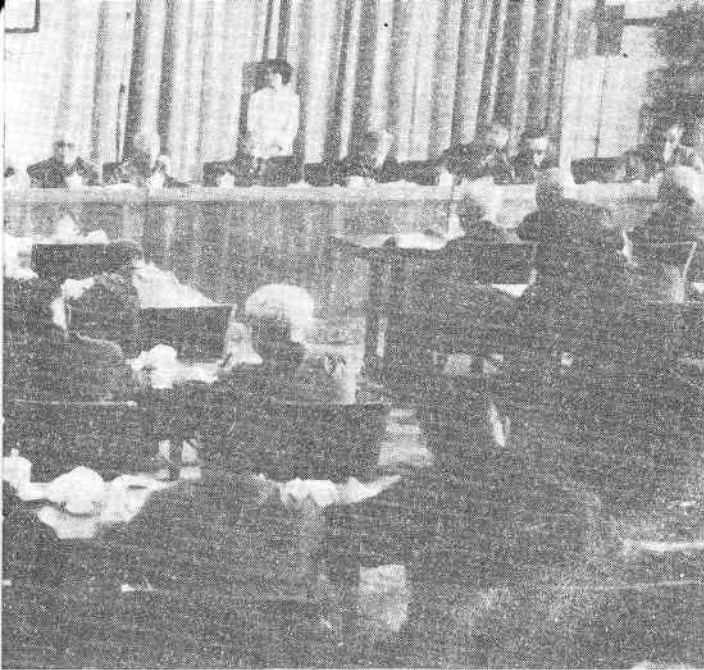
### Party Reorganization

The new Party Constitution abolishes the title of Party Chairman; instead the post of general secretary of the Party Central Committee is restored. He or she will be responsible for convening meetings of the Political Bureau and its Standing Committee, which lead the Party between its congresses, and will preside over the work of the Secretariat. Hu Qiaomu, a member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee, stated, "Obviously, convening and presiding are different roles. Such an organizational system will help prevent the recurrence of over-concentration of personal power and arbitrariness of a single person."

A new Advisory Commission to the Central Committee was established (similar bodies will soon be set up at the provincial level). The members will be old cadres with rich experience politically. The commission will help solve the problem of transferring power from the older to the younger generation in an orderly way, while allowing older members to contribute to the Party and the country when age makes it advisable for them to lay down the burdens of everyday leadership.

The promotion of younger, professionally and technically educated members to leading posts is of the greatest importance for the future, and was reflected in the composition of the newly elected Central Committee. Of its 348 elected members and alternate members more than 60 percent are newcomers. More than two-thirds of these newcomers are under 60 years old, the youngest being 38. The number of those with professional educations has in-





creased from nine in the 11th Central Committee to 59 in today's Committee.

The purpose of the central Discipline Inspection Commission, already set up, and similar bodies at lower levels, will be to strengthen Party discipline and work style in the coming years and to ensure that the Party's best traditions are restored, strengthened and further developed.

### Foreign Relations

The 12th Party Congress strongly reaffirmed certain basic principles in China's relations with other countries and peoples. A primary principle is independence and self-reliance economically and politically. The Chinese people, the congress declared, treasure friendship and cooperation with the world's peoples and with other countries, and will not deviate from the policy of opening to the world in trade, technology and other mutually beneficial fields. These contacts will expand. But they will

**Representatives to the Congress from Taiwan and Fujian provinces visit Zhongnanhai, site of the leading organizations of the Party and government.**



do so on the basis of the social gains, independence and equality won through hard struggles and not in ways that impair it. The People's Republic has shown by its actions that it will never attach itself to any big power or group of powers, or yield to the pressure of any power, the congress emphasized.

In developing its relations with other countries, China has consistently been guided by the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence — mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity; mutual non-aggression; non-interference in each other's internal affairs; equality and mutual benefit; and peaceful co-existence. In no circumstances, the congress pledged, will China herself seek hegemony, and she opposes all forms of hegemonism in world affairs.

The congress also reaffirmed that the Party's relations with other Communist or working-class parties internationally are based on strict principles of independence, complete equality, mutual respect and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

Great stress was laid on the fact that socialist China belongs to the Third World, and shares with other Third World countries similar problems and tasks, and a common destiny. No matter how powerful or prosperous China becomes, she will stand with the countries of the Third World in the international struggle against imperialism, hegemonism and colonialism. As the economy grows, the Chinese people will steadily expand friendly cooperation and exchange with the peoples of the Third World.

In an opening speech to the Party Congress, Deng Xiaoping outlined three major tasks for the 1980s — to build up socialism; to achieve national reunification, including Taiwan province; and to oppose hegemonism and defend world peace. The 12th Party Congress has laid a firm basis for achieving those goals, and for the longer term goals of building China into a modern, prosperous country noted for its democracy, culture and ethical values. □

*How all these principles and policies are to be reflected in governmental action will be described in a later issue, after the National People's Congress.*

**Delegates of China's minority nationalities, who were well represented.**

*Photos by Xinhua*





Yehudi Menuhin and Zhang Le-yi perform the Vivaldi 'Concerto in D Minor for Two Violins.'



With Menuhin at the podium, young Jin Li performs Beethoven's 'Violin Concerto in D Major.' Zhang Shuicheng

## Menuhin and His Chinese Students

# 'Speak with Your Hearts'

HAN LI

ON HIS visit to China three years ago, the world-renowned violinist Yehudi Menuhin listened to the performances of young Chinese violin students at his master class in the Central Conservatory in Beijing. Impressed with their talents, he offered four students scholarships at the two European schools which he founded.

In 1980, 10-year-old Lu Szuching from the Central Conservatory middle school and 11-year-old Jin Li from the Shanghai Conservatory middle school entered the Yehudi Menuhin Music School in London. Jia Hongguang and Zhang Le-yi, two older students from the Central Conservatory, were enrolled in the International Menuhin Music Academy in Gstaad, Switzerland.

This fall Menuhin came to China once more, bringing with him nearly 52 students and teachers from his schools to perform in Shanghai and Beijing. Among the group were the four young Chinese. Their series of five concerts in

Beijing delighted audiences and were technically at a very high level. I was particularly impressed by the progress of the Chinese students.

The Beethoven *Violin Concerto in D Major*, performed by Jin Li, is known as a very difficult piece. The work demands deep thought and perfect skill. Under Menuhin's baton, young Jin calmly and with refined care led us into the depths of the music. It was hard to believe the performer was only 13, and he received a standing ovation. Peter Renshaw, principal of the Yehudi Menuhin Music School, later said to me, "Jin Li is a boy of few words. When he performs, he always thinks of the music, never the expected effect on the audience."

Every musical piece performed by the students seems to feature this "calm reflection and delicate technique." The audience was enraptured by a rendition of *Variations on a Theme of Frank Bridge* by the modern British composer Benjamin Britten given by the school's string ensemble. Playing with great ease, the children

communicated naturally with conductor Peter Norris without becoming merely his tools. This quality of independent thought and interpretation succeeded in bringing across the difficult message of Britten's modern music to the audience, and was also evident in the rendition of Brahms' *String Sextet*, performed together with Menuhin.

I LEARNED something of these schools' special techniques of developing musicianship when I visited the Yehudi Menuhin Music School in London in March this year as leader and coach of the Chinese quartet participating in the Portsmouth String Quartet International Competition.

The school is located in a woody suburban area outside of London. Along the corridor walls are paintings done by the students in their art classes. In a large storage room are period costumes, props and masks for student productions of both spoken and musical dramas. The school curriculum includes music theory and composition, culture, history, languages, chemistry and other academic subjects.

HAN LI is director of the Violin Teaching and Research Group of the Central Conservatory of Music.





Lu Szu-ching solos with the backing of the Central Philharmonic Society.

The dormitories on the second floor are warm and homelike, and principal Peter Renshaw says that a major point about the school is its family feeling. An eye-catching picture on a wall seems to epitomize the school's emphasis on independent thought: A small monkey squats cupping its lower jaw with both hands, eyes looking upward. With a mallet held in its tail, it taps its own head. The caption reads, "Do Your Own Think."

I have visited music schools in the Soviet Union and Finland, but this school in London impressed me most. In its intimate atmosphere, children are encouraged to develop the ability to think independently, while at the same time they are nurtured with rich cultural knowledge. Thus their artistic creativity is kindled.

**T**HE International Menuhin Music Academy, located in the

small town of Gstaad in Switzerland, combines study with performance opportunities for students at the college graduate level. Head teacher Alberto Lysy is as strict with them as if they were mature musicians. To correct even small faults, a student often has to practise five or six hours a day for several months. No program can be staged until students have completely mastered it.

Jia Hong-guang and Zhang Le-yi, together with their schoolmates, have formed one of the best chamber orchestra groups in Europe. They have traveled extensively in France, Italy, Portugal, West Germany, Austria and Argentina to give performances. Everywhere they went, Lysy saw that they became acquainted with the local cultural traditions — the big pipe organs in an Italian cathedral, the monument to martyrs in Spain, historical relics in Portugal and the folk music of Argentina. This tasting of other cultures has enriched their artistic imagination.

"The children have lived up to the highest expectations they have of their own capacities, and you and I of their talents," Menuhin said in Beijing about the four Chinese students. To illustrate this, he told a small story about 19-year-old Zhang Le-yi which happened one weekend not long after she arrived in Gstaad.

It was a sad day for Menuhin — he had just received news that his sister had died, and he had to return to London early next morning. On that Saturday evening, Menuhin asked Zhang to play for him a short violin piece by Vivaldi. She played the notes correctly, but did not really understand the back-

ground and style of the work. They talked about the piece, Menuhin sang parts of it, and then he asked her to play a few bars for him early the next morning before he left.

In the morning, to Menuhin's joy, Zhang not only played the music with real feeling, but played from memory the entire piece — meaning that she had stayed up the whole night working on it. "It is as if the children carry a great wealth inside their hearts ready to come out when you have given them the right channel," Menuhin says.

**M**ENUHIN constantly asks of his students "speak with your hearts." Their performances are



Menuhin accepts the title of honorary professor of Beijing's Central Conservatory. Photos by Zhang Jingde

indeed not emotionless demonstrations of skill, but genuine singing from the bottom of their hearts through their fluent music.

Not long ago, I received a wonderful gift from Menuhin — a record of Bach's *Concerto for Two Violins* played by himself and Jin Li. By happy coincidence, 50 years ago when Menuhin himself was only 12, he recorded this same music with the world-celebrated Romanian violinist Georges Enesco.

Three years ago Menuhin said, "Twenty years from now the world's best violinist will be Chinese." He is helping to make this dream a reality with intense care, love and generosity. □

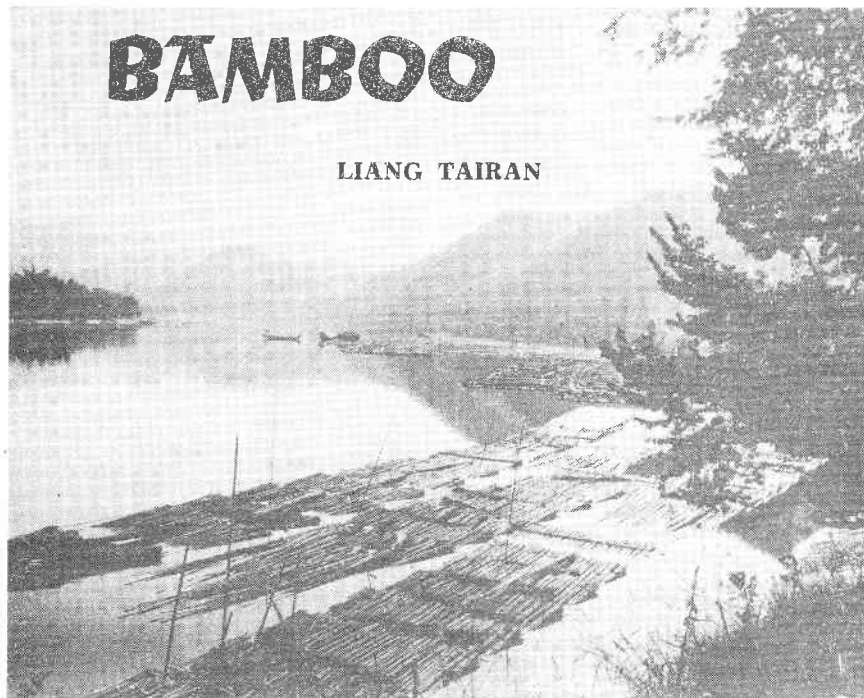
Teachers and students of the International Menuhin Music Academy perform at an informal gathering with Chinese musicians in Beijing.





# BAMBOO

LIANG TAIRAN



Bamboo river rafts.

Shen Chubai

A fifth of the world's bamboo grows in China—300 varieties in a total area of 20,000 square kilometers. One can hardly travel anywhere in the country without seeing bamboo being used in some fashion.

## A Thousand and One Uses

Bamboo is used most extensively south of the Changjiang (Yangtze) River. Almost every house has things made of it—beds, chairs, cases, baskets, brooms, chopsticks, even hats. It is used in building houses and fences, for hanging bridges over mountain streams and river rafts. Green and graceful bamboo adds beauty to villages, scenic spots and historical sites. Sturdy groves strengthen dykes along the rivers.

Exquisite carvings and articles intricately woven of bamboo strips make inexpensive arts and crafts items. Peasants cut the tough outer layer of the bamboo into thin strips and cleverly weave them into baskets, vases, even lifelike

**LIANG TAIRAN** is an engineer in the Ministry of Forestry.

animals. Segments are made into pen holders and tea caddies decorated with engraved pictures of landscapes, flowers, birds and animals. Bamboo is used in Chinese musical instruments such as flutes and reed horns.

Succulent bamboo shoots find their way into delicious banquet dishes or are dried for later use. The leaves are made into a medicine that reduces fever, and a fluid secreted from its joints can alleviate nausea.

No one knows how long China has used bamboo. About 6,000 years ago the Chinese character 竹 (*zhu*, or bamboo) was carved on pottery of the neolithic Yangshao culture. In Zhejiang province 4,000 years ago there were bamboo baskets. Before the invention of paper, Chinese characters were written on bamboo slips, the earliest so far discovered dating from the Warring States Period (475-221 B.C.). In the 2,000-year-old Dujiangyan water conservation project, still in use in Sichuan province, bamboo crates filled with stones were used to block water in the building of dykes and dams. Pipes of bam-

boo fed water to farmland. During the fifth century A.D., the inner parts of the bamboo were beaten into pulp and used for making paper. In the 10th century bamboo pipes were used for firelocks (an old form of igniting mechanism for guns).

Traditionally, bamboo has been both a symbol of good omen and of unyielding character. Through the centuries poets and painters have taken it as their theme. For example, Zheng Banqiao (1693-1765), a well-known artist in the Qing dynasty, wrote a poem on one of his paintings: "Strongly grasping the green mountains and rooting itself in rock crevices, the bamboo stands firm in thousands of storms and winds from all directions."

## Many Varieties

Most bamboo grows in southeast Asia, warm and moist in climate and often swept by monsoons. South and southeast China—the area below the Changjiang—lie within this zone. Luxuriant groves of many different varieties cover great stretches of land.

Two major species do well in China, one in the tropical and subtropical zones, crowding in clumps from underground rootstocks, and one in the more temperate zones which grows from the joints of a long horizontally creeping rootstock and forms scattered shoots.

In the Jin dynasty (265-420), Dai Kaizhi mentioned some 70 varieties in his *Bamboo Register*. Among the 300 varieties in China today are many rare or unusual ones such as the towering *mao* bamboo, the straight "water bamboo," the graceful "phoenix-tail" bamboo and the slender purple bamboo. On Hainan Island is a vine-like bamboo that often stretches 30 meters through the tropical forest.

The spotted bamboo (*Phyllostachys bambusoides* f. *tanakae*) has yellow-brown spots on its stems and branches. It is said that King Shun (who is supposed to have lived sometime before the 21st century B.C.) died on an inspection tour of Cangwu in today's





The leaves of the sweet bamboo (*Phyllostachys flexuosa*) are a favorite subject of Chinese traditional art, each leaf being formed by a single brushstroke.

Zhang Shuicheng



Towering 'mao' bamboo (*Phyllostachys pubescens*) grows so much as 20 meters in three months.

Zhang Shuicheng



According to an old legend, the marks on spotted bamboo (*Phyllostachys bambusoides* f. *tanakea*) were from the tears of a king's favorite concubines when they heard of his death.

Li Weiquan



The vibrant colors of golden-yellow and jade-blue bamboo (*Bambusa vulgaris* var. *striata*).

Zhang Shuicheng



The fat stems of Buddha bamboo (*Bambusa verticosa*).

Zhang Yanqi



Grove of 'mao' bamboo in Anji county, one of China's major bamboo-growing areas.

Shen Chubai





Articles for daily life and work woven from bamboo are found all over China's countryside.

*Shen Chubai*



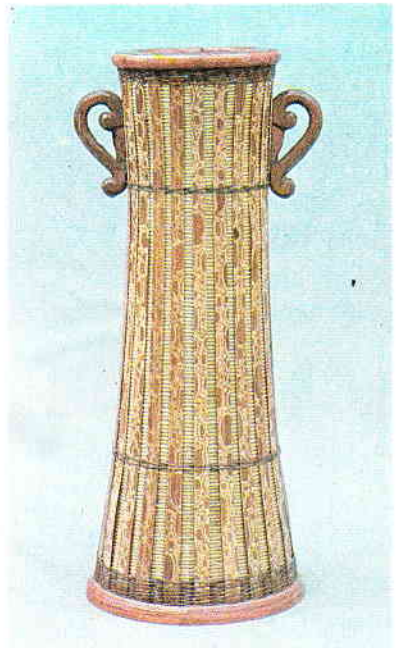
Life-like crane modeled in bamboo.

*Zhang Shuicheng*



Bamboo desk lamp.

*Zhang Shuicheng*



Bamboo outer covering for a vase.

*Zhang Shuicheng*



A bamboo container made in the shape of a bamboo shoot.

*Zhang Shuicheng*



Round fan woven of thin bamboo strips.

*Zhang Shuicheng*



Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region in the south. His two concubines heard the news as they arrived at Dongting Lake in Hunan province. Their tears of grief fell on bamboos growing on Junshan Hill by the lake—and the stems have remained spotted to this day. The species is rare and the site is now a nature preserve.

### Planning Growth

Bamboo is important economically because it grows rapidly, matures early and gives a high yield. *Mao* bamboo grows 20 meters high in three months and is ready for cutting in four to six years. The yield per hectare may reach 30 tons a year. Its growing period is only half to two-thirds that of ordinary timber, while its yield is double.

In 1949 the government, forest research institutes and bamboo growers began to expand the areas planted to bamboo. In the late 50s, research institutes started trying to grow southern varieties in north China. They first chose sunny mountain slopes in the Huanghe (Yellow) River valley where plenty of water was available. Finally they succeeded in acclimating the *mao* bamboo from the Changjiang area to the north. It has even been successfully grown in Liaoning province in the cold northeast. Today bamboo is found as far north as 40° latitude. Beijing alone has 20 varieties.

A special scientific research organization under the forestry department now works on bamboo cultivation. It publicizes advanced growing methods and the prevention of diseases and pests. It maintains a number of bamboo nurseries and gardens such as the one at Zhongshan University in Guangzhou, a grove in the Hangzhou botanical garden, and a garden at Henan Agricultural College.

In Anji county, Zhejiang province, one of the major bamboo growing areas, the Chinese Academy of Forestry Sciences has set up a 15-hectare bamboo garden containing 100 rare varieties for study, research and teaching. In

## Winter Bamboo Shoots

**B**AMBOO shoots that spring up in winter have been cultivated in Fu'an county in eastern Fujian province since the Ming dynasty, according to local annals. They grow in a 40-kilometer area along the Fuchun River where the soil is slightly acid and contains the right minerals and organic components.

Bell-shaped, the lower end like a horse's hoof, the shoots are tasty, and contain 2-4 percent sugar, 0.2-0.3 percent fat, 2.5-3 percent protein and a variety of vitamins.

Fu'an county's mild climate and plentiful rain help produce abundant crops. The county's bamboo-shoot growing area is 84 percent of the province's total and the yields are 200 tons a year.

**I**T USED to be very difficult to preserve and export the shoots because their tenderness easily turned tough overnight. This problem was solved when the county built a cannery in 1980. Immediate processing of the fresh shoots retains the original flavor and freshness.

The county now has 13 canneries processing mushrooms, lichees, longans, plums, loquats and other fruit. These are exported through the nearby harbor in eastern Fujian. □

the early 70s the Guangdong Province Forest Research Institute developed a new hybrid bamboo—*chengmaqing*—by crossing the tough and tensile *Bambusa parviriabilis* with the quick-growing high-yield *Sinocalamus latiflorus* and the soft and flexible *Bambusa textilis*. The new strain, high in yield and quality, with firm and flexible properties, is used in building houses and making rope. It matures in half the time of ordinary varieties.

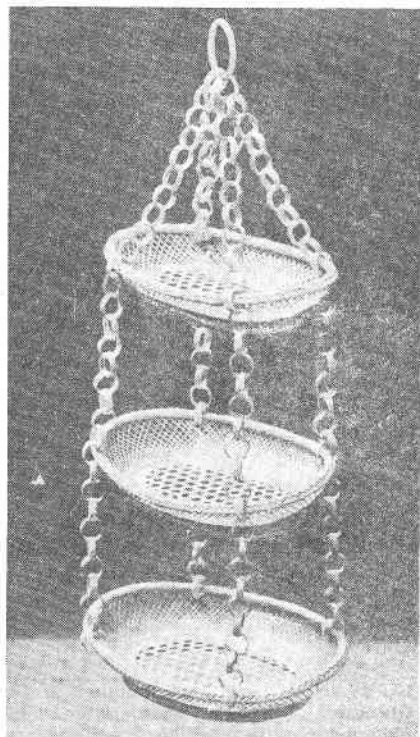
The uses of bamboo continue to expand. Formerly burned as firewood, it now goes into hundreds of products from plywood and plastics to furniture and other durable articles. In the rural areas it has long been used in building houses. In the minority nationality areas of the south, such homes often have the cultural characteristics of their builders.

To extend the use of bamboo, construction departments are studying its mechanical properties. Modern building construction often uses it for scaffolding. Aquatic springboards are made of it. Reinforced concrete using bamboo

instead of steel rods is an interesting new development. □

Hanging bamboo baskets.

Zhang Shuicheng





# Reunion at Rewi Alley's Shandan School

LU WANRU

The Bailie School at Shandan in northwestern China was the most noted of the schools set up many years ago by the Gung Ho (now spelled Gong He) movement—the Chinese Industrial Cooperatives in whose founding foreign friends like Rewi Alley, Edgar Snow and Nym Wales, his wife at the time, and others played a large part in the late 1930s. Its purpose was to help the Chinese people's war effort against Japanese invasion by organizing large numbers of small industrial units and by bringing technical knowledge and awareness of the war's anti-fascist aims to the people of the vast hinterland. Its contribution to the liberation of China and the subsequent building of a better life was also very great—as this account of a recent Shandan reunion reflects.

**L**AST June 5, in the dazzling midsummer sun of Lanzhou in the Gansu Corridor in northwest China, a group of people, Chinese and foreign, gathered around the present grave of the young Englishman George Hogg (Ho Ke), one of Rewi Alley's early co-workers in the Bailie School at Shandan, and sang an old song:

*Combining learning with production,  
We both live and study at Bailie,  
Weaving, tanning, making steel and machines. . .  
Don't give in to backwardness,  
nor give up hope,  
Make the spirit of cooperation grow,  
Lay the foundation for building New China!*

Most of the people at this Shandan reunion were grey-haired but with eyes that sparkled with youthful vitality. Standing quietly behind them was the school's old headmaster and founder, New Zealander Rewi Alley, now 85, and Dr. Bob Spencer and his wife who had worked in the school's clinic

for three years. The song carried people back to the memorable days of Shandan and made poignant their love for the song's author, George Hogg, who had dedicated his life to the school and died there of tetanus on July 22, 1945.

In the 1950s the school was shifted to Lanzhou and Rewi went to Beijing. The school was renamed the Lanzhou School for Petroleum Technicians. Although he has revisited the school at Lanzhou three times, this time Rewi met over 100

alumni. The joy of reunion and talking over the past and present filled everyone's heart.

## School for China's Future

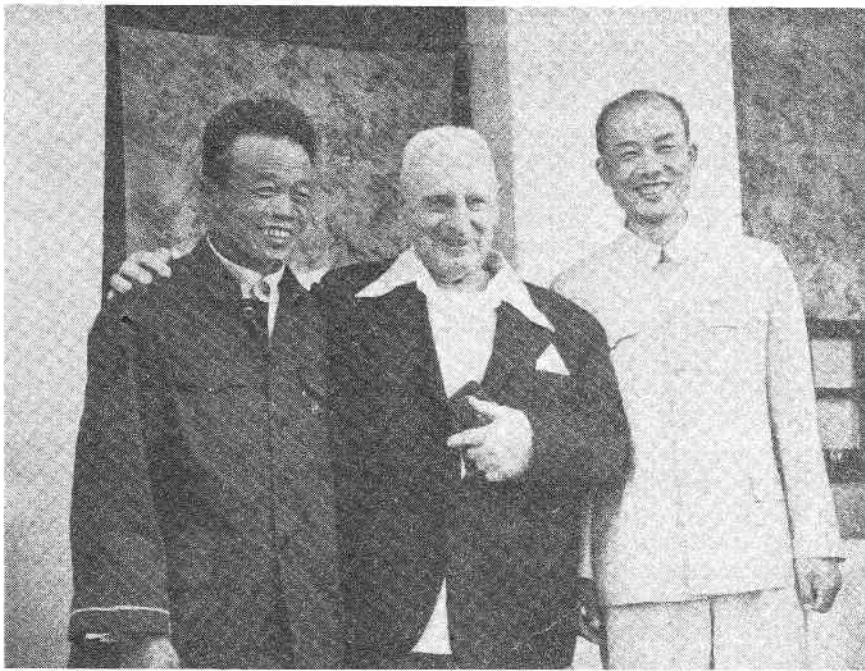
In 1944 Shandan was a small town of about 30,000 people on the edge of the Gobi Desert—a place “under three feet of dust when it is dry and endless mud when it rains.” Rewi's intention in establishing the school in Shandan was to keep away from the enemy's attention and prepare boys to take part in building the New China that was coming.

Here in this poor and backward town was the simple honesty of the rural people he loved and their incalculable potential. In the undernourished peasant children in rags who fought courageously for a living on the loess plateau, Rewi found the “real gold of China,” the country's most precious resource. “It is people who will create a new world,” he said,

Dr. Bob Spencer speaks at the school's 40th anniversary celebration.



**LU WANRU** is a staff member of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries.



Rewi with adopted son Nie Guangpei (right) and one of his favorite students, Cao Baicheng.

chinery, geology, transportation, communications, medicine and education. The alumni were proud to say, "Daqing in the northeast, Yumen in Gansu — wherever there are oilfields there are Bailie students."

Most of the students who graduated during Rewi's time are now engineers, doctors and other technical personnel. Some are leaders in Party and government departments. They are people who have high revolutionary devotion, a strong resistance to hardship, are able to solve practical problems and live a life of simplicity and frugality. They are close to the masses and today can be found in the center of China's drive to modernize.

### Shandan's Alumni

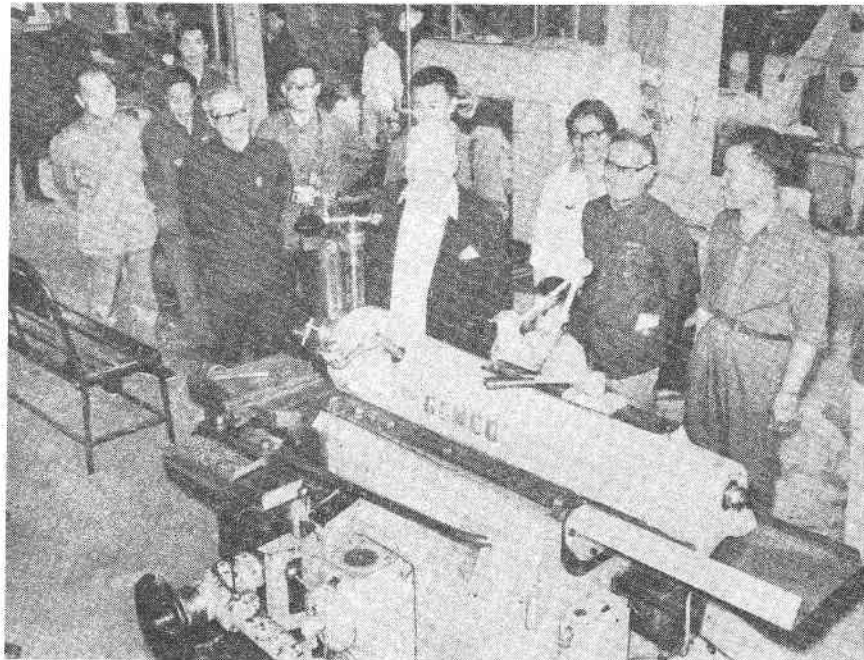
Wang Yanyi, whom Rewi called "a gallant lad" in Shandan days, is

"and here was the kind of tough, unspoiled youth who with training could be depended on for the work we hoped to help them be able to do."

Rewi Alley had never been afraid of difficult conditions. His devotion in training builders of China with knowledge, practice and creativity demonstrated the farsightedness and wisdom of the great internationalist that he is. To him, happiness is to turn dreams into reality through creative work — "the joy of seeing two blades of grass grow where but one grew before." This was the kind of satisfaction he lived for during his nine years in Shandan. His dreams of educating a new type of people finally came true in New China.

### The Fruits of Teaching

The school's reunion was in reality a review of its achievements. Duan Shimo, who presided over the celebration, is today vice-president of the Lanzhou school. He is one of two orphans Rewi Alley adopted in the 1930s and sent to Yan'an during the anti-Japanese war. The two were



Touring a school workshop.

among the first young people he trained for the revolution.

According to Duan, over 4,000 technicians have been trained at Lanzhou since it began. They are now working in petroleum, ma-

now director of the imported technology headquarters and vice-secretary of the Party committee of the Sichuan Petroleum Management Bureau. He still remembers how Rewi taught him to swim. He



was only 14 and scared of the water. Rewi would give him a slap on his behind and push him into the water, then jumped in himself and teach him the basic strokes. "You can only learn to swim by getting into the water," he would say.

Zhang Bingkui, a skinny undernourished kid who had begged his way a hundred kilometers to get his education at Shandan, came to the reunion from faraway Heilongjiang province. It was Rewi Alley who gave him a new life. After liberation the Party sent him to university and he is now a grade-8 engineer and vice-director of the science and technology committee of the Daqing oilfield. He has been abroad many times and has contributed much to the exploration of oil in China.

Cao Baicheng was a ten-year-old refugee from a flooded-out village in Henan province. An American in UNRRA sewed his name and address on his ragged jacket and sent him as a "parcel" to Shandan, asking Rewi to take care of him. After he finished school he became a tractor driver at the Huang-

yangzhen State Farm at Wuwei in Gansu province. He has trained hundreds of tractor drivers and has now settled down there.

Fan Wenhai was once a boy in charge of the work of the Bailie School's coal mine. After he graduated he made several new discoveries in geological prospecting. For years he worked on the Qinghai plateau at 4,000 meters above sea level and recently retired because of heart trouble. His attendance at the reunion not only reminded him of sharing the good and the bad with Rewi Alley but of continuing the spirit of Shandan today.

Deng Bangzhen, today an outstanding artist, at Shandan was especially keen on drawing. Rewi once held the lamp for this young painter who was on his hands and knees drawing something for a National Day festival. For the reunion, Deng painted a portrait of Shandan's beloved George Hogg.

A fair example of Shandan's students were the four brothers of the Nie family. To them, Rewi was not only their teacher but their father. Their real father was

an underground member of the Shaanxi Party committee. Pursued by Kuomintang agents, he had to be transferred to Yan'an. Their mother, poor and ill, died soon after. So George Hogg and Rewi Alley took the four brothers out of an orphanage and brought them up. When they first came to Shandan, the youngest was only five. After Hogg died, Rewi cared for them all. Already overburdened with the work of the school, now he had also to take care of the children's eating, sleeping, bathing, haircuts, quilts and mattresses.

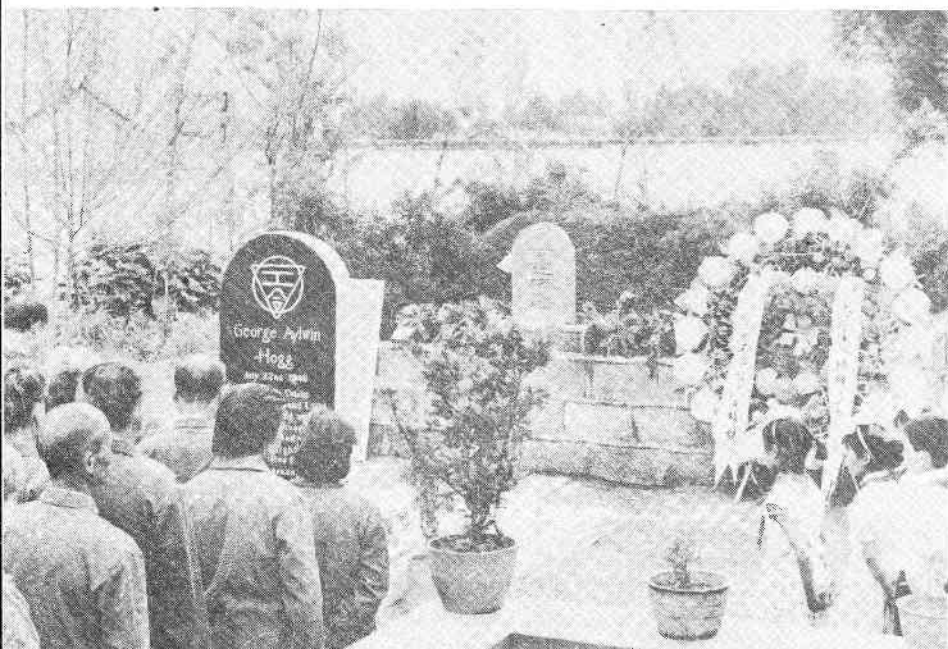
In Rewi, compassion and investment in the victory of China's revolution were combined. He enjoyed being with "his" children. They sat together in the cold evenings eating popcorn and dates roasted on the stove, laughing and chatting. Rewi, near 50 and unmarried, had the warmth and pleasure of a family. These four children, who once sat on his knees with shaven heads and ill-fitting school uniforms, are now all professionals in the life of China, with families of their own.

### Higher Demands

Rewi Alley, a giant in his contributions to the New China, has always been restless for change and never satisfied with past achievements. Happy with the progress the recent reunion highlighted, nevertheless he has higher demands for the development of the school at Lanzhou, successor to Shandan. He is proud of Bailie graduates, who have made outstanding records in serving the people. "It does not matter whether you are called to a high position or just keep on with an ordinary one; to be really big will benefit not only yourself but also all you come into contact with."

This, the highest he always asked of his students, is also his standard for measuring all men. The Lanzhou School for Petroleum Technicians, combining theory with practice, close cooperation and hard work, promotes this principle, preparing young people to help with China's modernization. □

Alumni of Bailie School pay their respects at the grave of George Hogg, one of the founders. Photos by Li Mingze



# Profile of a Factory Manager

## Lu Dongming of Mindong Motors

LIU HONGFA

SEVENTY percent of all the motors of small and medium size China now exports bear the label Mindong. They are widely used in Hongkong and Southeast Asia and sold in Western Europe and South America as well. The growth of the producer, the Mindong Electric Machinery Company of Fujian province, owes much to the energies and abilities of Lu Dongming, its general manager since its inception, and now a vice-governor of Fujian province.

The company had its origins in a small factory, the Mindong Electric Machinery Plant, opened in 1958 during the Great Leap Forward by Fu'an county, deep in the mountains of northeastern Fujian province. It survived the hard years of the early 60s and prospered. In 1979 its ST single-phase motor was awarded a gold medal at a national appraisal of motor quality. Formally restructured under its present name in 1982, the company now embraces eight factories, and its eleven sales departments trade directly with customers abroad.

Though 51, the handsome Lu could easily be mistaken for one of the young technicians in his plant. Alert, energetic, highly-organized, and dedicated to socialist modernization, Lu is the kind of cadre that the Chinese economy and businessmen from abroad will be seeing more of, as more of his type come to the fore and younger cadres follow his style, as they are being encouraged to do.

### 'To Do Great Things'

Lu says he probably takes more after his mother's than his father's

**LIU HONGFA** is a staff reporter for **China Reconstructs**.



Lu Dongming (2nd left) and Chief Engineer Xu Tianjing (first right) visit a workshop to inspect product quality. *Cheng Xi*

side. His father, a bank cashier, was the cautious one who always sought after security; his mother, a strong, capable woman, ran a small fruit business—and the family.

In 1937 when the war with Japan began, six-year-old Lu fled with his family first to Nanjing, then to Chongqing where they settled in a slum with other refugees. His strong will drove him to study hard. After primary school, he passed the demanding examinations for free study in the City Middle School. But in his second year he had to drop out because of illness.

While still in school he developed an interest in radio. He had an older friend who worked in a radio station and often searched the

secondhand stores for radio parts, with which they built a set.

The young Lu returned to Shanghai after the victory over Japan, and re-entered middle school with plans to attend university and then go abroad for further study. He would become a scientist who would do something for humanity. . . .

Then his life, like that of countless thousands, was changed by the revolution. In 1949, right after Shanghai was liberated, Lu, then 18 and in senior middle school, went with 3,000 other young people in work teams to south China. He was elated at the chance to do revolutionary work.

It took his group three months on foot to reach Fu'an county, the poorest and most backward in Fu-





Motor assembly lines. *Chen Zhihu*

jian province. The city boy was saddened to find there were neither highways nor electricity. The people burned rosin for lighting, and a few telephones with hand-cranked generators were the only modern means of communication with the outside world.

### Undeterred

New China was already demonstrating that it could provide active young people with opportunities to develop their abilities and talents. Fu'an county, Lu found, was planning to solve the problem of transportation and electricity. He went to the county officials to apply for permission to start a power plant. "Can

a middle-school student run a power plant?" they asked, but finally he convinced them. He found an old 25-horsepower charcoal-burning generator and some wire only thick enough for telephone use. But in two months he had the apparatus generating power for limited lighting. "The Communist Party has brought us brightness," the local people said.

The shortage of technical personnel in the countryside was a major block and he determined to stay in Fu'an to make up the lack there. After a day's work he would spend much of the night in technical study, often by candlelight after the power went off at 11 p.m.

Rural electrification was much in the air in 1958, during the Great Leap Forward, and Fu'an county started a plant to make electric motors, naming Lu to head it. In Shanghai he bought 6,000 yuan worth of machinery in second-hand stores and rounded up a group of veteran workers who were willing to go with their families to help out in his mountain area. By such means as cutting the silicon steel sheets with hand shears and making a press out of a machine for pressing dough flat for noodles, they produced their first batch of 2.8 kilowatt motors. "What a miracle! Fu'an which used to produce only potatoes now produces motors!" a leader said when Lu presented a sample to the county government.

Lu Dongming, however, was fully aware of the low quality of the product. He made it a policy for plant personnel to continually analyze their motors' weak points in order to make improvements. This care paid off. At a national quality appraisal in Shanghai in 1960, only two out of all the motors submitted were rated first class. Both were from Lu's plant. This brought the comment, "Good machines can be produced with backward equipment!" from vice-premier Bo Yibo, who cited the Fu'an as an example.

"What do you want now?" the province head asked Lu.

"Forty thousand yuan to build a new plant."

He got his new plant. In 1962, after Lu delivered a report "Develop on the Basis of Quality" at a conference of provincial industrial leaders in Beijing, the Fu'an plant was given further assistance from the Shanghai Motor Research Institute.

### A Setback

Just as Lu was beginning to realize his hopes, the "cultural revolution" began. In the general attack against all authority, he, a man without a high school diploma who had started a factory from scratch, was accused of being a "bourgeois technical authority." He was also accused of being a "spy" through confessions extorted from associates who were themselves falsely accused, and for a time was locked up in his own factory.

His wife Chen Youhua, daughter of a Kuomintang general and a nurse in a Fu'an hospital, stuck by him. When they were married in 1958, as no other quarters were available, they had lived for a time in his office, which was piled high with blueprints, books, tools and equipment. On the day after the wedding, according to local tradition, the young couple is supposed to visit the wife's mother. But Lu was in the middle of an experiment, and the understanding Chen went alone. So it was all through the ten years of turmoil. "I couldn't have got through them without her," he says.

The persecutions began to wind down and in 1973 Lu Dongming was asked to be director of production. Discipline in the factory was in a shambles, and though many old workers were unhappy about the situation, nobody had done anything about it. On the first morning he arrived early and sat at the gate quietly watching the workers come on shift. The next day he was early again and warned those who straggled in late not to do it again. On the third morning, after the starting

bell rang he locked the gate and asked those who came late to sign in. Then he published the list of the names. Most of the workers gave him full support. In ten days there was no more lateness problem. Then a thorough cleanup was organized and he led the workers in planting trees and flowers in the yard, so that very soon the plant, which had been in disorder for ten years, looked like a garden.

### **Pulling Things Together**

In 1978 Lu was officially cleared of the old charges and reappointed manager of the plant. With support from the plant's Communist Party committee, he embarked on a series of reforms.

First he restructured the management committee. Then he appointed as workshop heads persons of good professional capability and leadership skills who were known to be enthusiastic about modernization. He asked these people to choose their own section heads, and these in turn reorganized the sections and work groups. He set certain minimums that each shop should achieve in the next three months. If not, the head would be replaced.

To some young workers who were slack in discipline and neglected their duties, he said, "Never mind what you did in the past. If you work hard and make contributions today you can be promoted." Inspired by this, one of them took the lead in setting up in only a few days a new production line which greatly raised output. Lu called a big meeting at which he praised the young man, appointed him a section leader and awarded him with a bonus. Now he has become head of a workshop. It was announced that those who made special contributions would be awarded extra bonuses and other benefits.

A few workers, still under the influence of the years of turmoil, continued to evade discipline and do their jobs poorly. They weren't really earning their bonuses, but the factory had been doling these out indiscriminately anyway. First their bonuses were stopped. Then Lu assigned them to spend their working hours in special "study classes" in which they were led to discuss the factory's importance to the country and the destructive role of their conduct. They began to feel ashamed of being in such a class and, while they continued to draw their wages, they had no

chance at bonuses. So they began to think about their attitude, and when it seemed that they were willing to change, were allowed to go back to the shop floor.

The plant built some new housing for its personnel each year, but Lu, feeling that leaders should not move into new apartments until all the workers had better quarters, for two years after his reappointment continued to live in an old, dark house. As the plant became prominent and Lu had to receive visitors from all over China and abroad, last May the Party committee insisted that he move. He finally took a new two-room apartment on the top floor—not considered the most desirable location.

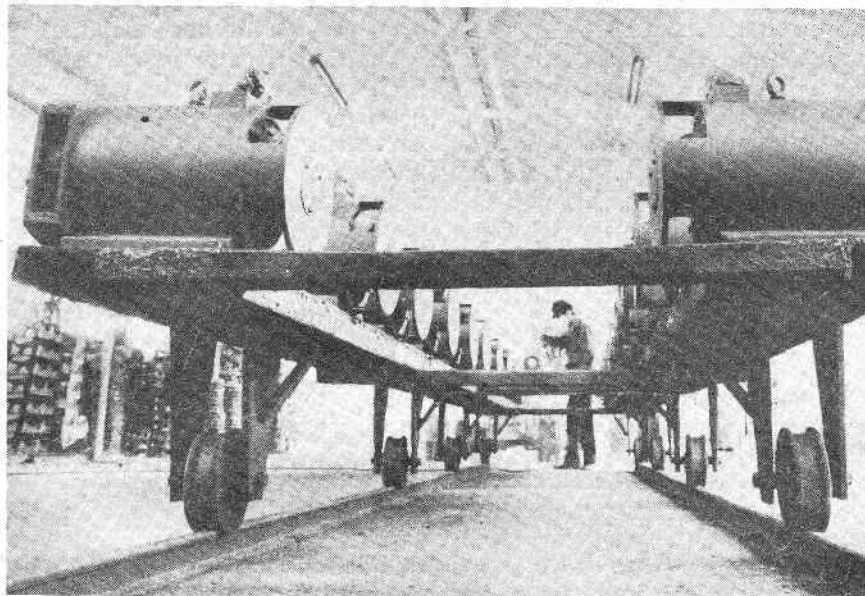
Actions like this have set a tone for the whole of the Mindong Electrical Machinery Company.

### **Three-Pronged Thrust**

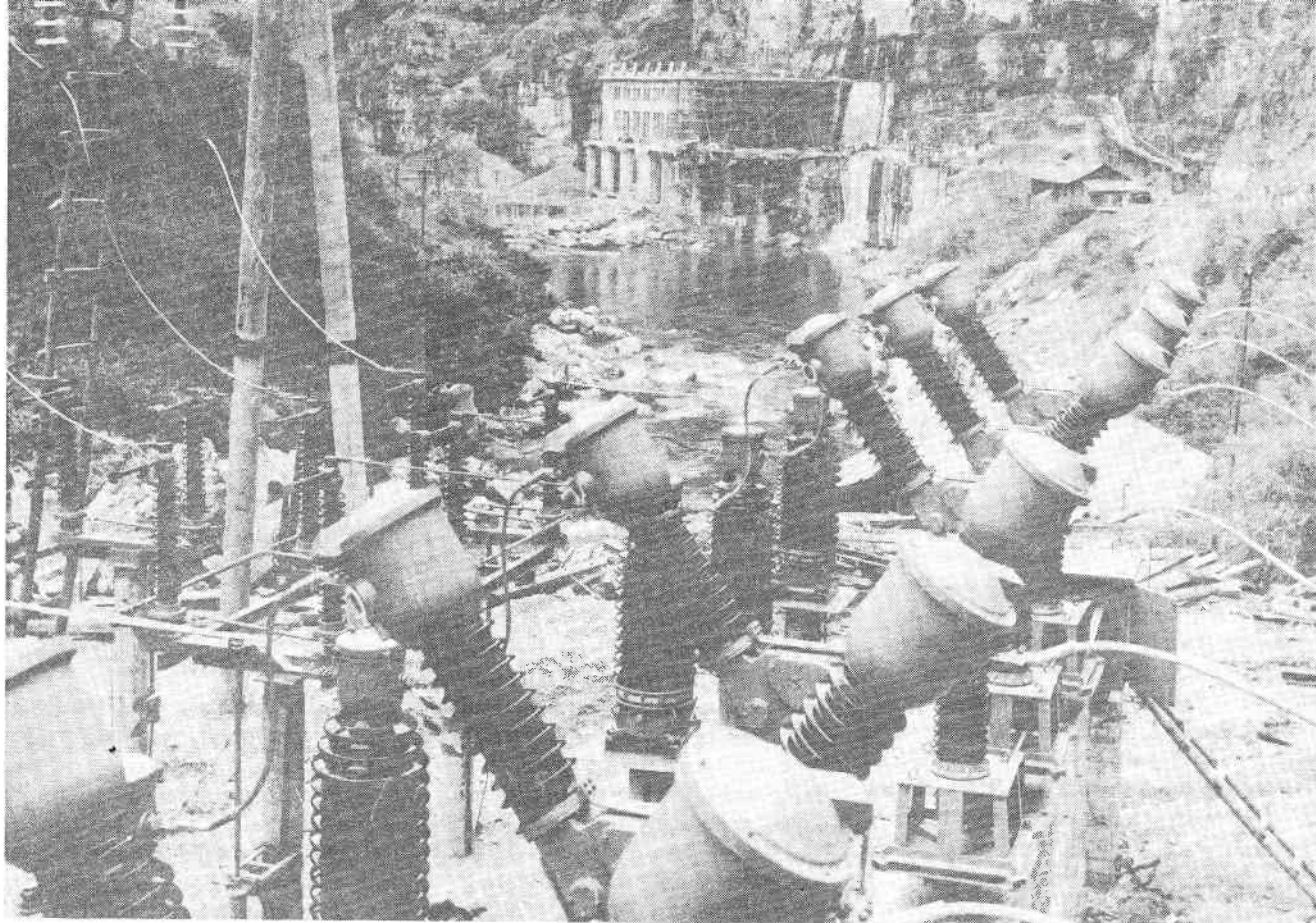
Lu Dongming's contribution to the company has been in three main areas: quality improvement, development and marketing. Efforts on quality in 1978 led to the "best" gold medal the next year. In 1979 the stress was on developing new models and products—26 that year, of which a heavy-duty single-phase motor and a generating and electro-welding power motor have been most welcomed. In 1980 the emphasis was on marketing, with a new department initiated to boost sales in China and abroad. Lu insists that letters be answered in no more than three days, and repairs, replacement and returns be dealt with within a week. In 1981 a group was set up to study trends and products on the world market.

Mindong Electric's output value has gone up by about 50 percent a year since 1978, its volume of exports by 60 percent, and its profits turned over to the state by 57 percent. It has become one of China's most important producers of small and medium-sized motors. □

The rearrangement of a production line worked out by a young worker has improved efficiency greatly. *Cheng Xi*







View from hydro-power station No. 5 down the Maotiao River.

Li Zhusheng

# Power Transforms a Province

ZHOU LIANZHEN and CHEN SHI

**E**LECTRICITY and power grids, developed since 1949, have changed Guizhou province from a poor and isolated area to one of rapidly growing prosperity today.

In the past people called Guizhou a place where there were "never more than three clear days in a row, no more than three square feet of level land and no more than three cents in anybody's pocket." Ancient rulers used to exile criminals there.

But "less than three clear days" means rain and rivers—a potential power capacity estimated at 18,760,000 kw., sixth in China.

"No level land" means mountains—and rich mineral resources,

**ZHOU LIANZHEN and CHEN SHI** are on the staff of the Bureau of Electric Power Industry in Guizhou province.

including 46,200 million tons of coal reserves, the largest field in south China.

Electricity was introduced into the province in 1928, fifty years later than in Shanghai. Now—in one day—the province generates twice as much as it did in the whole year of 1949. It has also begun to transmit power to other provinces. Electricity has brought prosperity to Guizhou.

## Dams for Different Conditions

Guizhou province lies on the Yunnan-Guizhou plateau, a region of widely dispersed limestone karst formations where the water has carved crags and peaks, rock forests, deep caves and pits. This rugged terrain posed enormous problems in harnessing the rivers and building hydro-electric power

stations. Yet the people put their knowledge of local conditions to use and went ahead on building.

The first large hydro-power station was begun on the province's biggest river, the Wujiang, at the site of an old ferry crossing 104 kilometers north of Guiyang, the capital. Here, behind a half-kilometer arch-gravity dam is now a 2,100 million-cubic-meter reservoir ringed by sheer cliffs and overhanging rocks. Entirely Chinese in design and construction, it generates 630,000 kw. of power.

The builders of the Wujiangdu power station overcame a serious geological problem: Under the dam site, lying at depths from 80 to 200 meters, were complicated karst caves—which would make the foundation unstable. In a unique solution, an astounding 82,000

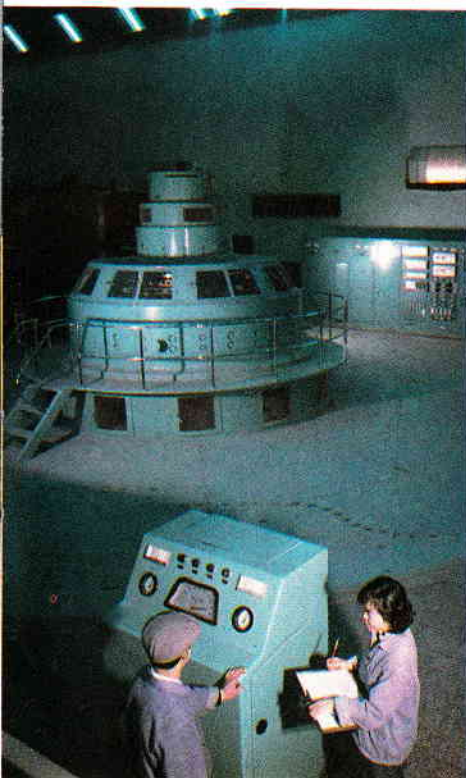




The Xiuwen power station—the third one down on the Maotiao River.  
*Li Zhusheng and Peng Kuang*



Turbogenerators in the Qingzhen thermal power plant.  
*Zhou Youma*



The Wujiangdu power station.  
*Zhou Youma*

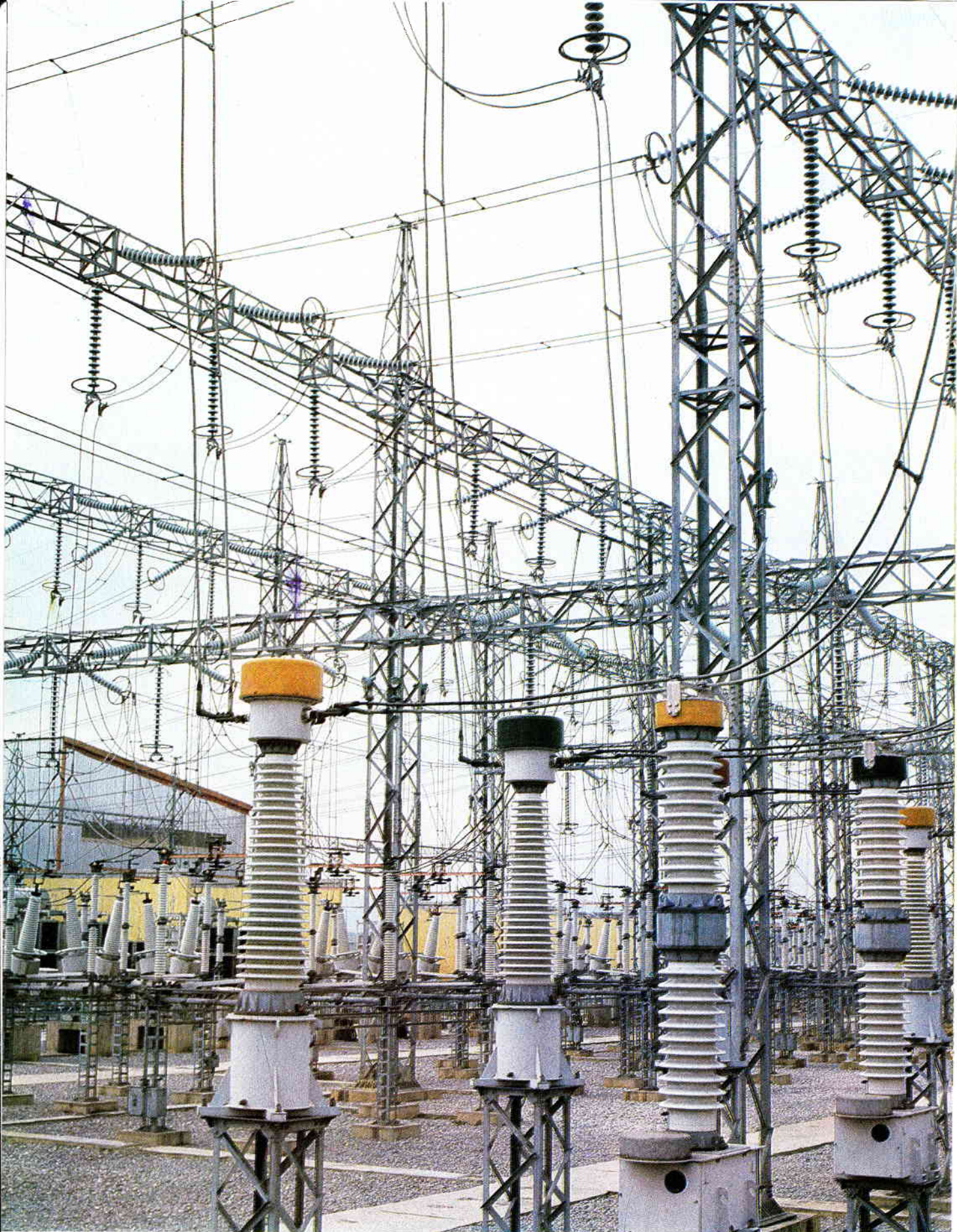


The control room of the Guizhou power grid.  
*Zhou Youma*



Surveying the karst caves to solve the problem of an unstable foundation.  
*Li Zhusheng*





The Jichang station, biggest power hub in Guizhou.

*Zhou Youma*



cubic meters of cement was forced into these caves under high pressure to make a solid base. Tests proved its success and the method has been found useful in other such limestone areas.

The Maotiao River, a tributary of the Wujiang, now boasts six medium-size power stations utilizing a 549-meter drop along its 180-kilometer length. Engineers designed different dams to fit the specific geological formations found at each site. The third station downstream, for example, had to be wedged into a narrow gorge, requiring the dam, power house, water tunnel and spillway to be built almost as a single unit. During the flood season, water pours out of the five sluice gates down over the plant itself. In its second year, a flood of twice the expected volume did no damage.

The fourth station is also unusual. In order to avoid placing the foundation in a 27-meter layer of sand and gravel in the riverbed, the double-curve dam was built on top of an arch bridge resting on the cliffs on either side of the deep valley. The bridge passes the load of the dam down to the solid rock below and on the banks. This kind of construction is rare.

The phenomenon of the six power stations stepped down the Maotiao River has attracted many power engineers and students.

### New Power Grids

For the past five years power capacity in Guizhou has increased 16 percent each year. The capital is now the hub of one of 14 large networks in China. It employs 19,000 scientists, engineers and workers, and transports power from the large hydro-power plant at Wujiangdu, the six medium-size stations on the Maotiao River and six thermal power plants.

The large state-operated stations are not all. Over 5,000 small hydro-power stations have been built in the rural areas with the help of state funds. Two-thirds of the province's 87 counties and towns get their electricity from these small stations.

Nine other hydro-electric stations are being built on the Wu-

jiang River. Together they will produce 1.8 times more electricity than the giant Gezhouba hydro-power station on the Yangtze (see *China Reconstructs*, October 1982). Another large station has been started on the Nanpan River. Thermal power plants are being built for the coalfield areas in western Guizhou. After these are completed, Guizhou will be able to supply 3,500 million kwh. of electricity to other areas.

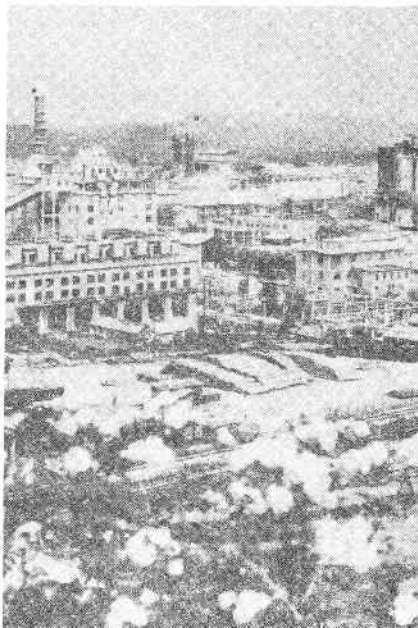
### Brisk Economy

In Guiyang today a large aluminum plant makes use of the province's rich deposits of bauxite. Lack of electricity made this impossible in the past. Large-scale mining was also out of the question. Outside of the capital the province had no industry at all. Roads were rough, buses old. There were no railways, only animal transport. The high mountains and dense forests where minority nationalities live were cut off from the outside world.

Electricity changed all this. Transmission lines and substations fan out from the Maotiao and Wujiang rivers. Mines and factories have appeared. Irrigation and drainage pumping stations dot the landscape. Nearly every house in the villages has electricity. Communes and brigades run small factories.

Guizhou's hydro-power runs this aluminum plant, the biggest in China.

Li Zhusheng



Overhauling a generator.

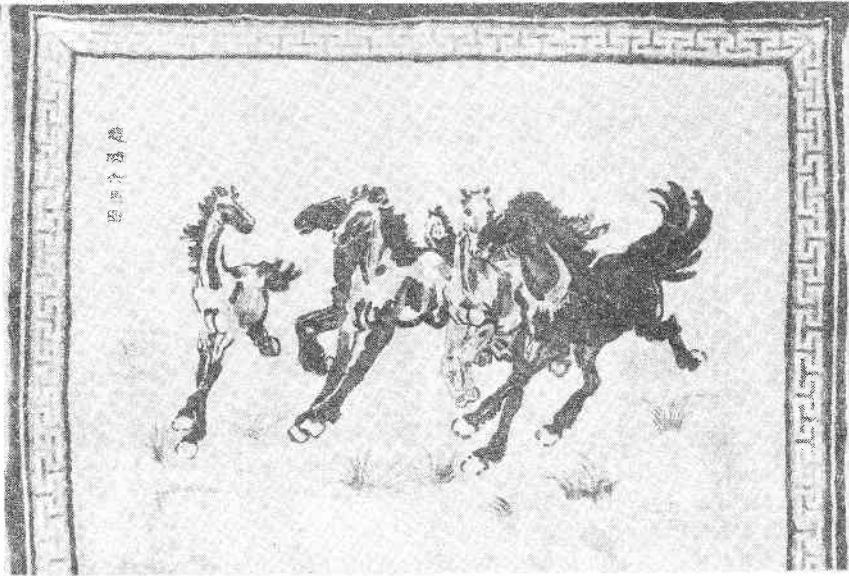
Zhou Youma

This province of a dozen nationalities now has a number of coal mines, metal and chemical plants, and machine-building factories. Light industries such as cigarettes, wine, textiles, paper and tanning have developed rapidly. Agricultural machinery plants and well-equipped repair shops can be found all over the province. Guizhou diesel motors are sold in 46 foreign countries.

Guiyang is now served by four trunk rail lines. A good network of highways aids transport and communication. Tourism has also developed vigorously.

How this has affected individuals can be seen in the daily life of Luo Shize, a peasant of the Bouyei nationality who has a family of seven and lives in Yunwu (Cloud and Mist) Mountain Village in Guiding county east of Guiyang. In the past he was among the poorest in the county. He couldn't afford to buy kerosene for his lamp and in famine years had to pull down his rooftiles to exchange for grain to live on. Electricity has meant better irrigation for the fields, bringing vastly higher yields. Thus both his material and cultural life have improved. The village has electricity for lighting and also for husking grain and milling flour. All the bins in Luo's house are filled with grain and two fat hogs are being raised in his sty. "Life in Guizhou is better," he says with a smile. □





A fur tapestry reproduces the painting 'Six Horses' by famous Chinese artist Xu Beihong.

## Beautiful Skins, Fine Furcraft

LI MING



Cutting out a fur garment.

**R**IDING a plump horse and being warmly dressed in a fur coat that rested lightly on the shoulders

LI MING is on the staff of the Ministry of Light Industry.

(that is, not a heavy sheepskin as the common people wore) were among the status symbols of high-ranking officials in old China. In the Qing dynasty (1644-1911) the

quality of the coat denoted the rank of the official. So Chinese furriers developed high skill, which they still exhibit today.

So valued, in fact, were fine fur coats that there is a story about one in the famous ancient book *Historical Records*. In the third century B.C. when the King of the State of Qin asked a man named Meng Changjun to be his prime minister, the latter presented him with a beautiful coat of white arctic fox, which he regarded as a priceless treasure. Later, influenced by slander against the



A variety of items from a Beijing fur products factory.

new prime minister, the king decided to kill him. Meng asked the king's favorite concubine to intercede for him, but in return she too wanted a coat of arctic fox. Meng got one of his men to steal the king's coat, and he gave it to the concubine. She did what she had promised and that night Meng was able to flee the State of Qin.

Tradition demanded of furriers that they "make fine garments of rough fur, exquisite garments of fine fur, make good use of pieces of fur, and use all the fur materials." This tradition is followed still today, but by adopting new techniques and equipment Chinese

furriers are now producing many new products.

### Old Craft, New Products

The rare blue fox fur has thick, long hair and a pleasing light color. A popular style is a short coat for women of fox fur cut in a W-shape design and sewn together with alternating pieces of soft leather so that fur is saved and the garment becomes lighter. Other garments praised in the international market are coats of sheepskin sheared in a fish-scale design, mink jackets for men and women, and rabbit fur coats for women.

Dogskin is now successfully used to make imitation fox fur. The skin is first dyed yellow. The fur is glossy, the coat light, soft and warm. The quality is much better than ordinary dogskin garments and the price appeals to middle-income people.

Another new product is the large fur tapestry with colorful designs. These are made of fine sheep, dog and calf skins, using the natural color and direction of the hair to form the design. From this, China went to making chair cushions and sofa covers with similar designs. These products sell well abroad.

As China modernizes, her fur industry also has to turn toward the new. The Beijing Fur Products Factory No. 2, for example, the largest of five in the city, exports 200 products, each year adding new varieties. Its profits have increased 50 percent annually for the past three years.

### Better Tanning

Tanning gets rid of the odor of the raw hide and makes it soft and durable. In the past, the tanning was done using mainly mirabilite, salt and broomcorn millet flour. In Inner Mongolia and Xinjiang the herdsman soaked the hides in fermented milk, salt and rice bran. Traditional methods have some advantages but do not completely

eliminate the odor and often leave the fur susceptible to worms. In recent years, however, fur enterprises have made big reforms in their equipment and tanning techniques. Furs are softer and more water-repellent, and the tensile strength greater. Of unstable quality in the past, the products now have approached or reached advanced world standards.

There are 500 key fur enterprises in China. A hundred of them are large-scale and of relatively high technical level. They export to 30 countries and regions.

Fur processing has a long history in Hebei province's Zaoqiang county. According to ancient records, over 3,000 years ago Bi Gan, a prime minister in the Shang dynasty (c. 17th-11th centuries B.C.), had a fur coat made in this county. Today the county still has a high reputation for good fur. Two large factories there have their processing 80 percent mechanized. Some 500 commune production teams also process fur.

### Fur Sources

There are more than 400 species of domestic and wild fur-bearing animals in China. The state pur-

chases 200 million skins each year in four categories: small fine furs such as the sable, beaver, mongoose and muskrat; large fine furs such as the fox and lynx; coarse furs such as the tiger, leopard, goat and sheep; and miscellaneous furs such as the yellow weasel, cat and rabbit.

In order to protect fur-bearing wild animals, however, the country tightly controls hunting and has set aside nature preserves. Artificial breeding is also used to maintain and increase population.

Mink, Persian lamb and fox are the three major furs. Mink has been bred since 1956 and today two million furs are produced annually. China's exports of lambskins and lambskin rugs is 10 percent of total world imports. The silver fox, *wodao* fox, arctic fox and red fox are all found. Among the foxes of northeastern, northwestern and southern Asia, those from the northeast are best, for the pelts are large, the hair fine and the color beautiful, and they are very warm.

Artificial fur, a new product of the chemical fiber industry, is becoming more and more important in China's fur industry, but the use of natural fur shows no sign of lessening. □

Selecting furs for their quality and appropriateness for different purposes is a skill that takes a long time to learn.

Photos by Wu Chuping





# How Developed Cities Help Remote Areas

PENG XIANCHU



Engineer Yuan Baoyuan (center) of Shanghai's Cashmere Sweater Factory No. 1 consults with technicians of a similar plant in Yinchuan. *Wu Wenbiao*

**T**HE Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region in north China, with an area of 170,000 square kilometers, is not only smaller than any other national region (or province) in China, but for some time was also one of the least developed in economy and culture. To hasten its advance, some of the country's biggest industrial cities — Shanghai, Beijing and Tianjin — and Zhejiang province have for a number of years given it energetic support.

In the past three years alone, Shanghai's factories and institutes have provided technical assistance to their counterparts in Ningxia. They have trained 425 of the region's engineers and workers in such fields as textiles, building materials, chemicals, electrical appliances, printing and foodstuffs. They have sent 202 engineers to Ningxia to teach industrial con-

struction and production techniques, and supplied equipment, data and technical material on designing and business manage-

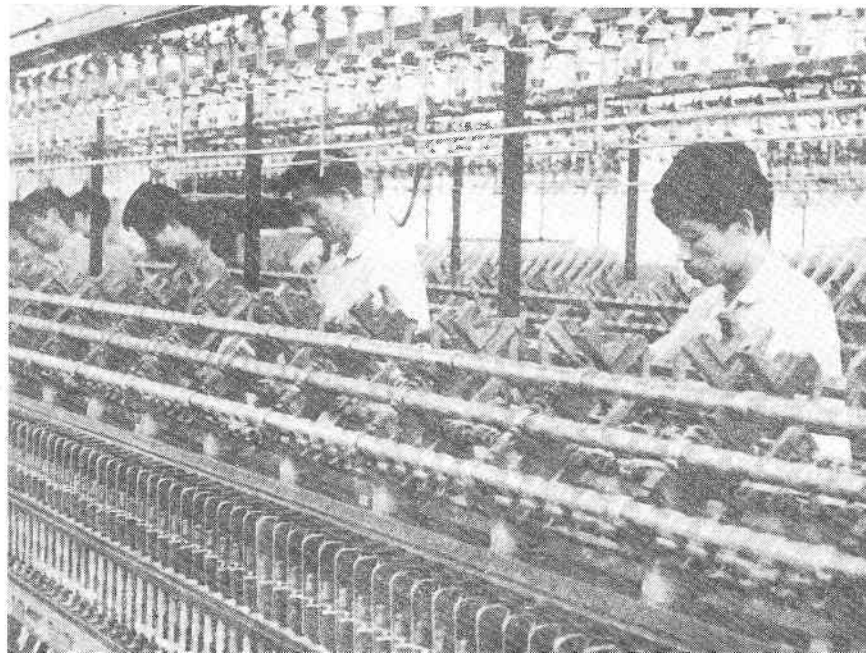
ment. Almost all of this aid was given free by Shanghai industries. Similar big-city assistance is now being extended to education and scientific research.

## Pushing All-Round Growth

Though Ningxia produces much cashmere, formerly it could only be shipped to other parts of the country for processing. But in 1981 the region decided to use some vacant factory buildings for a cashmere sweater factory. The new factory sent 50 workers and engineers to study in a Shanghai cashmere sweater factory. The next year they returned, accompanied by a Shanghai engineer and nine veteran workers, and the machinery was installed. The first job was designing new products, debugging equipment, directing operations and teaching techniques.

Ningxia's first woolen mill had been started in 1978. In 1981 a Shanghai woolen mill sent some engineers, repairmen and operators to help untangle problems with the equipment. One imported steaming machine proved ineffec-

Shen Shunfu (right) and Liu Wenlong (second right), workers from a Shanghai woolen mill, helped install a new spinning machine at Yinchuan's Woolen Mill No. 2. *Lü Chengwen*



PENG XIANCHU is an economic reporter for China Reconstructs.

# **CHINA RECONSTRUCTS**

## **1982 INDEX**



# CHINA RECONSTRUCTS

## 1982 INDEX

Issue  
No.

Issue  
No.

### GENERAL

- 30th Anniversary of China Reconstructs (3 articles) 1  
 In Its Founder's Spirit (Soong Ching Ling) 2  
*Rewi Alley*  
 Population Planning in China 2  
*Liu Zheng*  
 Asian Population and Development (conference interviews) 2  
 Army and People — Helping One Another 3  
*Qi Sumin, Wang Chengsong*  
 Our Thirtieth Anniversary (photos) 4  
 Census Time for a Billion People 7  
*Li Chengrui*  
 Censuses in China's History 7  
 China's Census: Accurate to 0.2 Percent 10  
*Xiao Qing*  
 Radio Peking Celebrates 35th Birthday 11

### SOONG CHING LING

- Soong Ching Ling Remembered 6  
 To Mold the Future (quotation, Soong Ching Ling) 6  
 Soong Ching Ling Residence a Memorial Site (with photo display) 9  
*Chen Rinong*  
 Commemorative Stamps 9

### POLITICAL

- Taiwan Links (photos) 2  
 Streamlining Government Structure 6  
 Constitution to be Revised 7  
 For China's Reunification — New Step Taken 10  
 On War, Peace and Nuclear Weapons (interview with Wang Bingnan) 10  
 China's Stand on Disarmament 10  
 Key Decisions on China's Future (12th Communist Party Congress) 12

### FRIENDSHIP AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE

- Dalian Seamen's Club 1  
*Bao Wenqing*  
 Edgar Snow and 'Red Star Over China' 2  
*Dong Leshan*  
 Snow Is Remembered in His Own Country 2  
*Mary Clark Dimond*  
 Boston Museum Paintings in China 2  
*Shao Dazhen*  
 Marco Polo on Screen\* 4  
*Ying Ruocheng*  
 Ambassadors of Peace and Friendship (Marco Polo interviews) 4  
 On Marco Polo in China 4  
*Xu Shixiong*

- Tenth Anniversary of Edgar Snow's Death 5  
 German Mathematician Leibnitz and Chinese Emperor Kang Xi 5  
*Bai Shangshu*  
 The Chinese 'Orphan' Captured European Hearts 5  
*Ione Kramer*  
 Chu Tunan — Promoter of Friendship 6  
*Zeng Shuzhi*  
 At the Delhi World Book Fair 6  
*Chen De*  
 Rewi Alley's 55 Years in China 7  
*Mei Da*  
 Indian Group Visits Dali 7  
*Gu Zixin*  
 Remembering Old Bonds of Indian-Chinese Friendship 8  
*Dr. B.K. Basu*  
 Two Americans Compare Old and New China 8  
*Edith and Ed Ballin*  
 Lindley's Grave Found 9  
 In Loving Memory of India's Heroic Dr. Kotnis 11  
*Jiang Yizhen*  
 Dr. Menhalal Atal — Internationalist and Friend of China 11  
*Lu Zhijun, Tan Zhuang*  
 Louvre-Versailles Paintings in China 12  
*Wu Guanzhong*  
 Sino-Japanese Co-Production: 'A Game Yet to Finish' 12  
 An Uncommon Partnership 12  
*Wang Yang, Duan Jishun*  
 Menuhin and His Chinese Students' 12  
*Han Li*  
 'Silk Roads' of the Sea 12  
*Chen Yan*  
 Reunion at Rewi Alley's Shandan School 12  
*Lu Wanru*

### NATIONALITIES

- Symposium on Dai Literature 1  
*Fang Dong*  
 Folk Arts of the Oroqen 2  
*Xu Yixi*  
 A Long Road Upward for the Wa Nationality\* 3  
*Fang Dong*  
 Xishuangbanna Today\* 4  
*Fang Dong*  
 Minority People's Arts and Crafts\* 5  
*Lian Xiaocun*  
 The Tibetan Epic 'Gesar' 5  
*Xu Guoqiong*  
 Traditional Tibetan Festivals 7  
*Zhi Exiang*  
 Dai Opera Troupe Creates 'The Peacock Princess'\* 7  
*Qing Xianyou*  
 Landmark Exhibit of Minority Nationality Art\* 8  
*Peng Jianqun*  
 The Bouyei Nationality\* 9  
*Lu Zongling*  
 Minority Drums and Dances 10  
*Zhou Xinghan*  
 Fighting Bulls of the Miao and Dong 11  
*Chen Leqi*  
 Panchen Lama Sees Progress in Tibet 11  
*Zhang Yan, Peng Jianqun*  
 Minority Traditional Sports Meet\* 12  
*Rao Fengqi*

\* With color photos.

Issue  
No.

Issue  
No.

New Development in Tibetan Painting\*  
*Peng Jianqun* 12

### RELIGION

Yonghe Gong, Lama Temple in Beijing\*  
*Zou Ting* 3

Zhaxilhunbu, a Major Monastery  
*Sun Mingzhen* 6

Beijing Catholics Enjoy Renewed Freedom of  
Belief  
*Judy Polumbaum* 7

### ECONOMY

New Trends in Foreign Trade  
*Wen Tianshen* 1

Basic Reforms in the Socialist Economy  
*He Jianzhang* 1

China's Economy in 1981 — and Principles  
for Its Future 3

Income Tax on Foreign Enterprises (interview  
with Liu Zhicheng) 3

Meeting People's Consumer Needs  
*Liu Hongfa* 3

How a Free Market Operates  
*Liu Chenlie* 5

Living Standards Rising (plus chart) 6

The Chinese Economy — Problems and Pros-  
pects  
*Xu Dixin* 6

1981 Achievements (charts) 8

China Exports More Machinery 10

### INDUSTRY

China's Shipbuilding Boom\*  
*Qiu Jian* 1

Tianjin — the City that Needed Water\*  
*Deng Shulin* 2

Panjiakou Reservoir 2

China's Growing Computer Industry\*  
*Peng Jianchun* 2

Meeting People's Consumer Needs  
*Liu Hongfa* 3

Creative Thinking at 'Motor City'\* (Shiyan,  
Hubei)  
*Tu Zhengming* 3

Readjusting the Machine-Building Industry  
*Wu Shuren, Li Chuang* 4

New Petrochemical Complex at Liaoyang\*  
*Wen Tianshen, Peng Jianqun* 4

A Factory That Produces Fish  
*Liu Hongfa* 4

Industrial Readjustment in Tianjin  
*Dell Bisdorf* 5

The Joys and Headaches of a Factory  
Manager  
*Li Chaochen* 5

Chinese Cloth Shoes  
*Xia Gong* 5

New Uses for Rare Earths  
*Li Chuang* 5

Northeastern Heavy Machinery Plant (photos)  
The Furniture Industry  
*Wu Dongyan* 6

Creams, Lotions, Shampoos and All That  
*Xie Xiangying* 7

Central China's New Power Grid\*  
*Chen Shangkui* 8

Energy Resources and Policies  
*Wu Zongying* 8

Life and Work on an Offshore Drilling Plat-  
form\*  
*Wen Tianshen* 8

New Vice-Minister from the Coalfields (Yu  
Hongen)  
*Zheng Huiyou* 8

Developing a Responsibility System in In-  
dustry\*  
*Zhou Yongkang* 9

Minister of Water and Power (Qian Zheng-  
ying)  
*Deng Shulin* 9

The Gezhouba Dam Project — Stage Two\*  
*Deng Shulin* 10

Sporting Goods for Athletes at Home and  
Abroad  
*Wu Dongyan* 11

Wuhan's Steel Rolling Mills — Mastering  
Foreign Technology\*  
*Xu Zhiying* 11

Builders of Gezhouba, China's Biggest Power  
Site  
*Deng Shulin* 11

Huangshi, Ancient and Modern Metallurgical  
Center  
*Peng Jun* 12

Power Transforms a Province\* (Guizhou)  
*Zhou Lianzhen, Chen Shi* 12

Beautiful Skins, Fine Furcraft  
*Li Ming* 12

Lu Dongming of Mindong Motors  
*Liu Hongfa* 12

How Developed Cities Help Remote Areas  
*Peng Xianchu* 12

### AGRICULTURE

Two Rural Factories  
*Peng Xianchu* 2

Country Fairs and Free Markets  
*Wu Yuanfu* 2

The Mushroom Man  
*Wang Mingzhen, Li Yanling* 2

I See Tomorrow (Aiguo Village, Shandong)  
*Sam Ginsbourg* 2

How Shandong's Cotton Output Grew  
*Chen Bijiang* 3

A Brigade's Fishery School\*  
*Zhang Jingming* 3

Understanding About Pigs  
*Mary Sheridan Chen* 4

How a Free Market Operates  
*Liu Chenlie* 5

Birds Trained to Fight Insects  
*Zhang Shen* 5

Genetic Engineering Produces New Rice  
Strains  
*Shi Suoda* 6

Supplying a Big City with Vegetables  
*Liu Tiaoqing* 7

Making Saline Land Fertile  
*Mao Zhicun* 7

Rural Responsibility System\*  
*Peng Xianchu* 8

The Collective Is Alive and Well at Wanyu  
Commune  
*Peng Xianchu* 9

Li Yizhi — Pioneer in Taming China's Rivers  
*Wang Huzhen* 10

Finding the Way to Use Southern Grasslands\*  
*Peng Xianchu* 11

Fishermen Net the Good Life  
*Wang Weizhong* 11

A Suburban Commune  
*Wang Mingzhen* 11

China's First Turkey Farm  
*Zhao Xiaoyun* 12

### TRANSPORTATION

First Railway to the 'Roof of the World'\*  
*Chen Rinong* 1



		Issue No.			Issue No.
Bridging the Yellow River	<i>Ye Qiyang</i>	3	Life Cycle of the Caterpillar Fungus		
Highway Bridges in China*	<i>Xiao Enyuan</i>	6		<i>Chen Mengling</i>	2
County Roads Take You There	<i>Chen Sen</i>	9	China's Forests -- Past and Present		
Better Transport Livens Up a Mountain Area	<i>Zhang Haiqing</i>	9		<i>Wen Huanran, He Yeheng</i>	2
Transportation: Some Facts and Figures	<i>Liu Hongfa</i>	10	Ginseng	<i>An Yichao</i>	3
			A Plant That Bites (nettle)	<i>Liu Jin</i>	4
			Tropical Forest Preserve	<i>Zeng Qingsong</i>	4
			A Floral Village (Tongjia Huayuan)		
				<i>You Shen</i>	5

### PLACES

Hainan, the Treasure Island-II	<i>Wu Dong, Zhi Exiang</i>	1	The Medicinal Herb Angelica	<i>Deng Quanshi</i>	6
Beautiful Huangshan	<i>Peng Xianchu</i>	1	Bird Protection Week		7
The Anymaqen Mountains*	<i>Wang Wenying</i>	2	Bird Island on Qinghai Lake*	<i>Rong Ye</i>	7
Yonghe Gong, Lama Temple in Beijing*	<i>Zou Ting</i>	3	'Golden Floss' Dates		8
Probing the Mystery Lake: Lop Nur	<i>Xia Xuncheng</i>	4	Qing Qing the Performing Panda (photos)		8
The Songshan Mountains	<i>Liu Guoyan</i>	4	Green Garden in the Desert (Minqin county, Gansu)	<i>Deng Quanshi</i>	9
Historic Temple Fair* (Songshan Mts., Henan)	<i>Ri Nong</i>	4	Making China Green*	<i>Yong Wentao</i>	10
Xishuangbanna Today*	<i>Fang Dong</i>	4	Bright Future for 'Hundred-Day Red'* (crape myrtle)	<i>Chen Junyu</i>	10
Past and Present in the Southwest Border Regions*	<i>Fang Dong</i>	5	Bamboo*	<i>Liang Tairan</i>	12
The 'Nine-Splendor' Mountains*	<i>Deng Shulin</i>	5	Recovering the Red-Purse Carp*	<i>Chen Xiaojun</i>	12
Chiang Kai-shek's Hometown Progresses*	<i>Zhen Shan</i>	6	The Changbai Nature Preserve	<i>Zheng She</i>	12
Mount Lushan*	<i>Cai Qin</i>	7	Nature Preserves in China (DYK)		12
'Fairylad' Caverns of Yaolin* (Zhejiang)	<i>Huang Guowen and Tang Qingzhong</i>	7			
Orange Tree Waterfall (Guizhou)	<i>Peng Jianqun</i>	8			
A Park in Guiyang*		8			
Fish Springs of Hunan		8			
Buddhist Sculptures at Yungang Grottoes*	<i>Wen Tianshen</i>	9			
A Trip to Liaoning Province		10			
Harbin: Winter in 'Ice City'*	<i>Zheng She</i>	11			
The Hanging Monastery*	<i>Zhang Shuicheng</i>	12			

### CITIES SERIES

Xi'an Archaeology Shows Progression of the Ages*	<i>He Zhenghuang</i>	2
Thirty Centuries of Xi'an*	<i>Tan Manni</i>	5
Old and New in Hefei*	<i>Deng Shulin</i>	7

### TRAVEL AND TOURISM

Where They Stay in Beijing*	<i>Li Chuang</i>	3
Notes on the History of Chinese Inns		3
Imperial Cuisine at the Fangshan Restaurant	<i>Liu Hongfa</i>	5
American Schoolchildren Tour China	<i>Zhang Zhimei</i>	9

### FORESTRY, HORTICULTURE, ANIMAL LIFE

'Flying Dragon' Is Good to Eat (grouse)	<i>He Zhengyun</i>	1
Protecting Rare Yangtze Alligators	<i>Huang Zhujian</i>	1

Recent Trends in Chinese Writing	<i>Feng Mu, Liu Xicheng</i>	1
Symposium on Dai Literature	<i>Fang Dong</i>	1
A Dance Triumph* (Cui Meishan)	<i>Lu Zhengjia</i>	1
Song: I Love You, China		2
Zhao Yuanren -- Pioneer Chinese Linguist	<i>Tie Ying, Guo Beiping</i>	2
Cultural Notes: Operas on New Themes: Chinese Acrobats*; Traditional Painting Institute Founded		3
From Ballet to Folk Dance* (Zi Huayun)	<i>Wu Jimei</i>	4
The Tibetan Epic 'Gesar'	<i>Xu Guoqiong</i>	5
A Career in Music (Li Guangxi)	<i>Zhang Shuicheng</i>	5
New Film Explores Rural Problems ('In-Laws')	<i>Bao Wenqing</i>	5
'The Flower of Our Frontier Post' (rural culture center)	<i>Bao Wenqing</i>	5
A Westerner Looks at the Chinese Stage	<i>J. Norman Wilkinson</i>	6
Canton Opera*	<i>Peng Shouhui</i>	6
Two Rural Cultural Workers: Devoted to Country -- and Countryside (Liu Keke)	<i>Bao Wenqing</i>	6
Jinshan Peasant Painters and Their Teacher		
Landmark Exhibit of Minority Nationality Art*	<i>Peng Jianqun</i>	8
Cartoon Film 'Three Monks'*	<i>Bao Wenqing</i>	7
Recent Publications (books)		7
Republishing the 'Four Storehouses'	<i>Mou Xiaodong</i>	8

Issue  
No.

Issue  
No.

Sanitation Man a Prize-Winning Photographer (Wu Jiaye)	<i>Chen Xing</i>	8
Chinese Cinema Today*	<i>Ding Qiao</i>	8
Husband-and-Wife Muralists* (Li Huaji, Quan Zhenghuan)	<i>Bao Wenqing</i>	9
'Neighbors' — A Film on the Housing Problem	<i>Bin Wen</i>	10
Ye Qianyu — Noted Figure Painter*	<i>Primerose Gigliesi</i>	10
National Photography Exhibition*	<i>Zhang Shuicheng</i>	10
Recent Publications (books)		11
He Paints Overseas Chinese Homeland Scenes* (Zheng Chengyang)	<i>Qiu Ji</i>	11
New Development in Tibetan Painting* (painting of King Gesar)	<i>Peng Jianqun</i>	12

TV Plays Hew Close to Life	<i>Chang Huashan, Bao Wenqing</i>	12
Fanciful, Whimsical Children's Art*	<i>Zhang Jingming</i>	12

#### ARTS AND CRAFTS

Folk Arts of the Oroqen	<i>Xu Yixi</i>	2
Drawnwork and Embroidery	<i>Wu Yunchu</i>	4
Minority People's Arts and Crafts*	<i>Lian Xiaocun</i>	5
Xiaoshan Lace	<i>Hua Lian</i>	8
Crochet-Craft in Hai'an County	<i>Gao Yuan</i>	9

#### EDUCATION

A Brigade's Fishery School*	<i>Zhang Jingming</i>	3
What does It Cost to Go to School in China? (Do You Know?)		5
Educational Reform: More Vocational Schools*	<i>Wang Yongyao</i>	9
Learning English — Popular Spare-Time Activity	<i>Ye Mei</i>	10

#### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Fighting Back the Deserts	<i>A Fa</i>	1
Studying Tibet's Weather	<i>Chun Yu</i>	1
Probing the Mystery Lake: Lop Nur*	<i>Xia Xuncheng</i>	4
China Constructs Miniature Rockets (photos)		4
The Anymaqlen Mountains*	<i>Wang Wenyong</i>	2
Scientific Trailblazer (Peng Jiamu)		4
A Colder or Warmer World? Zhang Jiacheng		5
The Parapsychology Controversy		6
Genetics Breakthrough: T-RNA Synthesized	<i>Wang Yinglai</i>	8
Shanghai's Science-Technology Fair	<i>Lu Guoyuan</i>	9
He Surveyed the Yellow River on Foot (Yang Liankang)		10
China's Space Science and Technology	<i>Li Linchuan, Tan Aiqing</i>	11

#### SOCIAL

A Chinese Village's 45 Years	<i>Fei Xiaotong</i>	1
------------------------------	---------------------	---

The Fashion Scene in Beijing*	<i>You Yuwen</i>	1
Solving Neighborhood Problems	<i>Zeng Shuzhi</i>	2
A Daughter from Nowhere	<i>Cao Junzhi</i>	4
Past and Present in the Southwest Border Regions*	<i>Fang Dong</i>	5
Festival of the Banners*	<i>Xiao You</i>	5
'Smoke City' Cleans Up Its Air (Lanzhou)	<i>Du Ligong</i>	6
Changes in Chinese Family Structure	<i>Fei Xiaotong</i>	7
The Story of Disabled Soldier	<i>Ma Xinyou</i>	7
Juvenile Delinquency (see also under 'Youth')		11

#### YOUTH

Growing and Changing with the New China	<i>Lin Ping</i>	3
Achievements Through Self-Study	<i>You Yuwen</i>	3
Confident Girl (Liu Hong)	<i>Li Jingtai</i>	4
A Delinquent Transformed	<i>Fu Qiangnian</i>	8
Juvenile Delinquency: Salvaging Young Lives	<i>You Yuwen</i>	11
Reform School: No Locks, Just Love	<i>S.R.</i>	11

#### CHILDREN

Budding Scientist (Fan Xiaohui)		1
Transforming a Maternity and Child-Care System*	<i>Ximen Lusha</i>	2
A Postwoman's Day (writing contest winner)		3
Children Are Everyone's Concern*	<i>Hu Dehua</i>	6
Now I Love Young Swallows	<i>Chen Wei</i>	7
What's New for the Kids?	<i>Wen Wen</i>	9
The Children's Own Newspaper	<i>Jiang Jingwen</i>	10
The Red Scarf Photographer (Wang Yao)	<i>Sun Yunxiao</i>	11
Fanciful, Whimsical Children's Art*	<i>Zhang Jingming</i>	12

#### WOMEN

China's Beloved Baby Doctor (Lin Qiaozhi)	<i>Sa Yun</i>	1
Equal Opportunities for Women — Gains and Problems	<i>Tan Manni</i>	3
Three Women Lawyers	<i>Chen Maodi</i>	3
Minister of Water and Power (Qian Zhengying)	<i>Deng Shulin</i>	9

#### MEDICINE AND HEALTH

China's Beloved Baby Doctor (Lin Qiaozhi)	<i>Sa Yun</i>	1
Transforming a Maternity and Child-Care System*	<i>Ximen Lusha</i>	2
Exercises to Prevent Colds		3
Tibetan Traditional Medicine	<i>Cai Jingfeng</i>	3
Medical Briefs		4



	Issue No.
China's Fight to End Leprosy (George Hatem) Ma Haide	6
Veteran Doctor's Fight Against TB (Qiu Zuyuan) Sa Yun	7
Successes in Arresting Uterine Cancer Wen Wei	8
Rare Surgery Separates Siamese Twins Xu Jufen	9
Health Care Network Serves the People Li Ziying	10
Fighting Liver Cancer in Qidong County Lu Zhenhua	11

### SPORTS AND PHYSICAL CULTURE

International Tournaments: Fencing, Swimming, Water Polo	1
World Champions in Women's Volleyball He Lu	2
Sports Surge in 1981 (titles won)	4
Year's Top Ten Athletes Picked (photos)	4
New Stars in Field and Track He Lu	5
Football Strengths and Weaknesses Huang He	6
Champion and Film Star* (wushu's Li Lianjie) Yi Xu	7
Softball Flourishes in China Xie Kainan	7
Women's Softball Team* Zhong Lei	7
Old People's Long-Distance Running Team Rao Hu	8
Birthplace of Taijiquan Boxing (Chenjiagou) Bu Xueming	8
Badminton World Champions Rao Fengqi	9
Anglers' Club Fishing Contest Yu Youcai	9
Sports Briefs	10
China's Chances at the 9th Asian Games Wen Zhongyu	11
China's Martial Arts* Yan Naihua	11
Sporting Goods for Athletes at Home and Abroad Wu Dongyan	11
Minorities' Traditional Sports Meet* Rao Fengqi	12
Women's Football Makes the Grade Wen Jiao	12

### ARCHAEOLOGY

China's Ancient Weapons* Yang Hong	1
Xi'an Archaeology Shows Progression of the Ages* He Zhenhuang	2
Digging Up an Ancient Copper Mine Xia Nai, Yin Weizhang	3
Ancient Kingdom on the 'Roof of the World' (Kuke) Rinzin Doje, Zhang Wensheng	4
The Thirty Centuries of Xi'an* Tan Manni	5
Restoring Ancient Buildings* Peng Xianchu	5
China's Neolithic Period* An Zhiming	6
Treasure-Trove of Very Early Silks* (Mazhuan-Hubei) Peng Hao	8
'Lost' Ming City, Model for Beijing (Zhongdu) Wang Jianying	9

	Issue No.
Buddhist Sculptures at Yungang Grottoes* Wen Tianshen	9
4,000 Years of Chinese Money* Wang Lianzhou	11
New Finds of Striking Beauty on Show in Xi'an	11
Huangshi, Ancient and Modern Metallurgical Center Peng Jun	12

### HISTORY

China's Great Navigator Zheng He Qing Xianyou	4
On Marco Polo in China Xu Shixiong	4
'Silk Roads' of the Sea Chen Yan	12

### LEGENDS AND TALES FROM HISTORY

The Story of Yi Yin	1
Jiang Taigong — He Fished and Waited	2
A Kingdom Lost for a Concubine's Smile	3
King Mu and the Queen Mother of the West	4
Orphan of the Zhao Family	5
Sun Wu and the Women Warriors	6
Stories Told About Confucius	7
The Duke of Yue's Revenge	8
Loyalty of a Brother and Sister	9
The Return of the Jade	10
Two Traveling Diplomats	11
Murder Plot: Jing Ke and the King of Qin	12

### DO YOU KNOW?

China's Major Holidays	1
About Radio and Television in China	3
What Does It Cost to Go to School in China?	5
About China's Climate	7
Common Courtesies in China	9
Nature Preserves in China	12

### LANGUAGE CORNER

Forms of Address	1
Mending the Fold After the Sheep Have Escaped	2
Seeing a Peking Opera	3
Beijing's Niujie Mosque	4
Cowherd and Weaving Maid	5
Firecrackers	6
Miniature Landscapes	7
Marriage	8
New Year Pictures	9
Learning Chinese	10
Ximen Bao and the River God's Brides	11
Eating Zongzi	12

### STAMPS

Lu Xun Centenary; Edible Mushrooms	1
70th Anniversary of 1911 Revolution; Stone Forest	2
Ancient Coins of China (1st series)	3
International Year of the Disabled; Chinese	4

Women's Team Wins World Volleyball Championship; Year of Dog; Conference on Population Development	
The Twelve Beauties of Jinling from 'A Dream of Red Mansions'	5
Ancient Coins of China (2nd series)	6
The Twelve Beauties of Jinling from 'A Dream of Red Mansions' II	7
Industrial and Agricultural Development	8
Comrade Soong Ching Ling; Medicinal Herbs (2nd series)	9
Fire Control; Cluster of Nine Planets; International Drinking Water Decade	10
People's Musician Nie Er; Discovery of Tubercle Bacillus; Third Nationwide Census; Sable	11
12th Communist Party Congress; Chinese Geological Society; Minerals; Second UN Conference on Outer Space	12

### FOOD AND CHINESE COOKERY

Imperial Cuisine at the Fangshan Restaurant	
<i>Liu Hongfa</i>	5
Pork Loin Soft-Fried in Batter	2
Phoenix Prawns	4
Diced Chicken with Chili Peppers	6
Quick-Fried Sliced Beef in Tomato Sauce	8
Cantonese 'Cha Shao' Roast Pork	10
Simmered Chicken with Chinese Mushrooms	12
Winter Bamboo Shoots	12

### TO OUR READERS

To Reunite China	2
About Our Reporting	3
Learning from History	4
A Constructive Revolution	5
Socialist Clean-Up	6
Sports and Sovereignty	7
Tourists — Domestic and Foreign	8
China's Open Door to the World	9
Milestone 33	10
Our Neighbors and Us	11
A Year-End Letter	12

### CARTOONS AND HUMOR

Issues 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 10

### SKETCHES AND PAINTINGS

(Also see Culture and the Arts and entries marked\*\* under Cover Pictures)

From Noted Artists (Paintings for China Reconstructs' 30th Anniversary)	1,2
Sketches by Ah Lao	1
Dance Sketches	2
<i>Ye Qianyu</i>	5
Sketches of Minority Nationalities	5
Sports Sketches	11
<i>Feng Xiangjie</i>	11
Sketches of Minority Nationalities	12

\*\* Painting or artwork.

### COVER PICTURES

#### Front:

Shipyard Worker	<i>Wang Hongxun</i>	1
Village Nursery, Shandong	<i>Zhou Youma</i>	2
Statue of Tsongkhapa at Yonghe Gong, Beijing	<i>Huo Jianying</i>	3
Marco Polo with Kublai Khan in the TV film		4
Festival of Banners in a Mountain Village	<i>Zhou Youma</i>	5
Ye Wanchang, national champion swimmer, coaches a little girl	<i>Zhou Youma</i>	6
Li Lianjie, martial arts champion, in 'The Shaolin Temple'	<i>Tang Yumin</i>	7
Tibetan Girl** (oil)	<i>Ai Xuan</i>	8
Bouyei girl in batik clothing she made herself	<i>Zhou Youma</i>	9
Fascination (photo prize-winner)	<i>Sun Zhichang</i>	10
Off the Mark!	<i>Zhou Tiexia</i>	11
Mongolian wrestling	<i>Huo Jianying</i>	12

#### Inside Front:

Everlasting Spring**	<i>Qian Songyan</i>	1
Eagle**	<i>Huang Zhou</i>	2
Sichuan Village**	<i>Li Huasheng</i>	3
Manfeilong Pagoda	<i>Xie Jun</i>	4
Anshan Iron and Steel Company Rolling Mill		5
Soong Ching Ling with some small friends	<i>Zhou Youma</i>	6
Grape Harvest in Leyuan Production Brigade, Xinjiang	<i>Li Guangkuan</i>	7
Huangguoshu Waterfall, Guizhou	<i>Zhou Youma</i>	8
Children on the Lawn of Soong Ching Ling's Former Residence	<i>Zhou Youma</i>	9
Yang Liankang, who surveyed the entire Huanghe River on foot		10
The Panchen Lama speaks to Monks and other believers in Tibet's Xigaze	<i>Xie Jun</i>	11
Gesar, King of Linggar**	<i>Collective work</i>	12

#### Inside Back:

Baby with Pigeons*	<i>Jiang Zhuhe</i>	1
Magpie and Plum**	<i>Wang Xuetao</i>	2
Two-Bicycle Balancing Act	<i>Wang Hongxun</i>	3
Two-Sided Embroidery		4
The Fragrance of Rice Permeates the South**	<i>Song Xianbang</i>	5
Wuyu Mountains, Fujian province**	<i>Yang Qiyu</i>	6
Afforestation Campaign Poster**	<i>Han Yang</i>	7

#### Back:

Bohai Offshore Drilling Platform No. 5, built by the Dalian Shipyard	<i>Wang Hongxun</i>	1
Tri-Color Glazed Figurines of the Tang Dynasty		2
Scene along the Keshi River, Xinjiang	<i>He Chongyun</i>	3
Plum Blossoms**	<i>Guan Shanyue</i>	4





tive but the trouble could not be readily found. Shanghai engineer Xue Junchao suspected that the bug was in its assembling. Some objected that since it had been assembled abroad, the problem couldn't be located. Xue insisted and in overhauling the exhaust section found that a part had been fixed in backwards. When this was corrected, the machine worked smoothly. Local workers, happy with this Chinese engineer, commented that it was wrong to have blind faith in everything done abroad being done right.

The Shanghai engineers and workers taught management and technical theory in Ningxia. They helped formulate management systems, operating rules and quality standards. Soon after the Shanghai personnel left, the rate of top-quality products rose to 91 percent.

When it was first built in 1965, a small glass bottle factory in Yinchuan, Ningxia's capital, could only do simple things like cutting glass. In 1981 it began making small bottles for medicines, wine and ink. But their quality was poor. In these years of the readjustment of the nation's economy, what was to be done with the factory? Should it be closed down? No, glass bottles were needed. Moreover, Ningxia brewed beer but had to bring in the bottles from elsewhere. The factory's leaders and workers wanted to make these.

Shanghai gave a hand. In 1981 a glassware and a glass bottle factory there offered to supply blueprints, main equipment and technical training for a beer-bottle plant in Yinchuan. In October construction began. The building was finished and machinery installed in 1982.

When the plant began operating, turning out a million bottles a month, the Shanghai engineers and workers refused to leave until quality reached acceptable standards. Engineer Wang Mingchang said, "Because Shanghai is industrially advanced, we must help the less-developed areas so that the country as a whole develops."

Ningxia continues to bring in industrial technology from other parts of the country. In return it provides fleece, cashmere, coal, chemical fertilizers and medicinal herbs. It also plans joint ventures with those organizations that have been helping.

### Aid in Education

Shanghai and Beijing have also helped Ningxia in education and scientific research. This year Shanghai sent over 12 professors to teach liberal arts, mathematics, structural chemistry, quantum chemistry and the molecular orbit theory. Ningxia has sent 65 of its own lecturers and assistants to Shanghai for further study.

Ningxia has an agreement with Shanghai for the latter to send middle school teachers to help out. In February 1981, 43 of them came, to teach political theory, Chinese, English, history, geography, mathematics, physics, biology and music for two years in 11 middle schools in Shizuishan.

Yu Hongsheng, a geography teacher at one of the middle schools, takes his students to the Huanghe (Yellow) River several kilometers away to show them how to measure the current's velocity. He has each of them bring back a bottle of water to calculate the river's silt content. Sometimes he and his students bike to the Helan Mountains to collect rock specimens and study the geology and lay of the mountains. They have gone into the Tengri Desert to learn about its formation and its control. Yu's method of teaching enthruses his students and provides a good example for the local teachers.

The visiting teachers' salaries are paid by their Shanghai schools. Ningxia pays their expenses, including a winter allowance of 120 yuan and 40 yuan per month for extra costs.

### Helping Science Forward

Other organizations help Ningxia. The Shanghai Research Institute of Microbiology is investigating the possibility of obtaining citric acid from the fermented



Sun Riqi (second left) from Shanghai's Glassware Factory No. 1 is a technical advisor to the Yinchuan Glass Bottle Factory. Wu Wenbiao

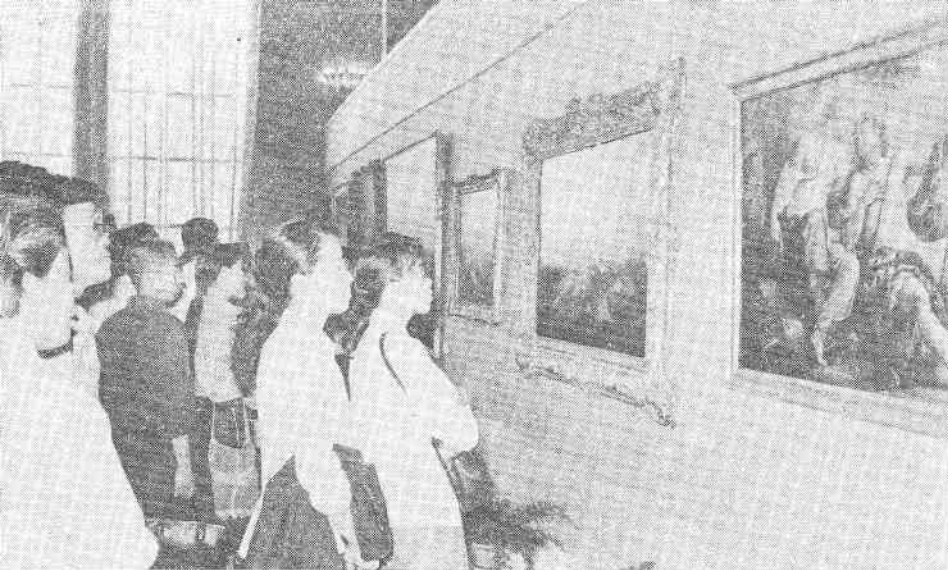


Chen Xiumei (first right), an English teacher on loan from Shanghai, chats with students after class at Shizuishan Middle School No. 1. Chen Siyu

starch of Ningxia potatoes. The Shanghai Pesticide Research Institute and two such institutes in Ningxia are developing a chemical for the prevention and control of a potato disease.

The Shanghai Solar Energy Research Institute and the Ningxia Technological Physics Research Institute are working on a light, inexpensive solar energy stove suitable for use in the rural and pastoral areas of the autonomous region. □





In the exhibition hall.

Cheng Yonghua

## Louvre-Versailles Paintings Travel to China

WU GUANZHONG

THE Louvre and Versailles museums, famed the world over for their exquisite works of art, recently gave to the Chinese public a chance to see some of their original paintings. The exhibition of 78 oils by 61 French masters, shown first in Beijing and then in Shanghai, was an event long awaited by the Chinese art world. On the opening day in Beijing, the nearly 2,000 admission tickets were sold out within an hour. Many people traveled hundreds of kilometers to see these treasures of art.

Forty years ago when I went to study in Paris, I found my way to the Louvre on the very day after my arrival and immersed myself in the sea of art created by the old masters. I could hardly tear myself away. Early this year, when I was in Paris for a few hurried days, my first urge was to see something of the trends in modern art after my 30 years' absence. Nevertheless, I managed to squeeze out some time to visit the Louvre again.

WU GUANZHONG is a member of the council of the Chinese Artists' Association and a professor at the Central Institute of Arts and Crafts.

This palace of the arts remained unchanged, except that the crowds of visitors were larger than ever, and a larger proportion were art pilgrims from all over the world. When I was studying at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts as a young man, after a lecture I would cross the bridge to the Louvre, where each hall became as familiar to me as the palm of my hand. Now, on my return to the Louvre, I was an elderly man with grey hair: but the ageless works of art there seemed to have taken on added lustre with the passage of time.

THE art world and the general public in China are eager to learn more about the art of the West. Sino-French cultural exchange has gradually expanded in recent years, as shown by the exhibition of French 19th century landscape paintings shown here four years ago and the present exhibition. This one contains — according to Jean-Pierre Cuzin, deputy director of the Painting Department at the Louvre — more valuable works of art than any other exhibition sent abroad from the Louvre and Versailles. This is

testimony to the deep friendship between the governments and peoples of China and France.

The works exhibited give a general picture of French painting during the 250 years between 1620 and 1870, the period in which it became differentiated from that of Italy and Flanders and was taking its own path. This stretch of history carried the seeds of impressionism and the subsequent avant-garde modern art, and made Paris the focus of world attention as the cradle of a new art.

FOR sheer number of visitors to exhibitions, China probably ranks among the first in the world. If the creators of these works could hear the various opinions expressed by viewers in this foreign land, they would certainly find them extremely interesting. Many people were filled with admiration for the technique, for the trueness to life of the paintings, and their exquisite detail and beauty. They had long looked forward to seeing some original Western paintings.

Of China's own paintings, the most ancient works are connected with politics and religion. Later, painting gradually became linked with literature and tended toward the depiction of literary concepts. Appreciation of purely visual beauty and the cultivation of noble sentiments through such appreciation were not very widespread. So, many Chinese visitors to the exhibition, from force of habit, looked for plots and stories in the old French paintings as well: What was Poussin trying to show in *The Shepherds of Arcady*? What was the meaning of the words on the tombstone? What was written on the slip of paper in the dead man's hand in David's *The Death of Marat*? Did the broken jug in Greuze's famous painting represent the loss of childhood innocence? But once they understood the stories or themes (and some of these cannot be fully understood) they were willing to appreciate the pictures.

THE many gorgeous canvases at Versailles temper the ornate baroque and rococo decor in that

CHINA RECONSTRUCTS

palace, which though somewhat remote from the Chinese people, perhaps has its parallel in the pursuit of ornamentation by the Qing dynasty court. The portraits of royalty and aristocrats with their sleek ruddy complexions and magnificent attire remind me of the Tang painter Yan Liben's portraits of China's kings and emperors—heavy line drawings in which emphasis is placed on portraying their stately bearing—or Zhou Fang's noblewomen where the quest was for dignity and grace. Much is to be gained today from a comparative study of ancient Chinese and French painting.

SUCH paintings as Chardin's *Benediction* and the Le Nain brothers' *The Happy Family*, which show the life of the laboring people, are more likely to strike a sympathetic chord with the Chinese public, whose life today is still rather frugal and simple. People in art circles, on the other hand, are of course more inclined toward the world-famous masters. They have great admiration for Delacroix's ebullient and dazzling creations, although most of them have seen them only in reproductions. This time they were able to hear the heartbeat of that great romanticist through two of his smaller paintings displayed at the exhibition—*Lion Devouring a Rabbit* and *The Ford to Morocco*.

The Chinese and French people knew very little about each other in ancient times. Today, as contacts and cultural exchanges between them have increased, bonds of mutual affection have been created. Painting is an international language, and it promotes mutual understanding in a most direct fashion. Thanks are due to the organizers of this exhibition for enabling us to see some of the works of the great pre-1870 French masters and for providing us with this eye-opener. Yet, the thoughts and feelings of men of those times and the people of today differ. We look forward to seeing French art treasures dated after 1870 with which we should find more of a common language. □

## China's First Turkey Farm

ZHAO XIAOYUN

UNTIL now in China, turkeys could only be seen in zoos, and hardly anyone had ever tasted this bird used so widely in the West as fresh meat and as a filler in various processed sausages and loaves.

This year, however, the products of China's first turkey farm will appear on many foreign residents' Christmas tables in Beijing, and in the future they may become an important new source of protein for the Chinese people.

Built by the Beijing Municipal Livestock Bureau near Xiaotangshan Hot Springs in 1981, the farm aims to provide the country with 450,000 young turkeys and 200 tons of turkey meat yearly by 1984. One of the great advantages of turkeys is that they grow quite large, providing more meat per bird than most other fowl.

AT the farm, the turkeys are fed a mixture of corn, wheat, sorghum, bean cake, fish meal, minerals and vitamins, varied according to the birds' age. Growing turkeys eat 3 kilograms of feed for every kilogram of weight they put on. The feeding process is highly mechanized.

Breeding is by artificial insemination, the fertilization rate being 90 percent. A female turkey lays about 70 eggs a year. The young are hatched after 28 days of incubation. Because turkeys are very nervous and excitable birds, care must be taken so they are not disturbed by loud, sudden noises or other distractions.

Turkey meat is higher in protein than beef, pork, mutton and chicken, and lower in fat and cholesterol than other poultry. These birds from abroad should be a valuable addition to the Chinese people's diet. □



Turkeys—now on sale in Beijing.

Wu Chuping





A modern artist's visualization of the construction process.

Drawn by Xing Yuquan

# The Hanging Monastery

ZHANG SHUICHENG

**T**HE Hanging Monastery in Shanxi province is known all over China. I heard of it when I was a child. For a long time I thought that a monastery built on the face of a cliff was only a legend or a colorful piece of imagination. A photograph finally convinced me that it existed. But was it accessible? Last May I saw it for myself.

I found it five kilometers out of the county town of Hunyuan in northern Shanxi. Stunned at this wonder built in the 6th century A.D. during the Northern Wei dynasty, I could only stare at it in awe.

Facing the Hengshan Mountains, one of China's five famous mountain ranges, from a distance the monastery looked like a mural painted on the surface of a cliff. As I came nearer, I began to make out its bolder outlines. But not until I was close to its entrance did I feel the real impact of this breathtaking structure. No wonder folklore says that it hangs on the cliff by three strands of horsehair!

**ZHANG SHUICHENG** is a photographer on the staff of China Reconstructs.

**T**HIS small monastery of 40 tiny halls and pavilions was built along the contours of the cliff, using its natural hollows and outcroppings for support. The buildings, seeming to hang in space, rest on timbers jutting out from the cliff, their weight further upheld by beams below, framed somewhat like the half-hull of a ship. Corridors, bridges and boardwalks connect the buildings along the cliff.

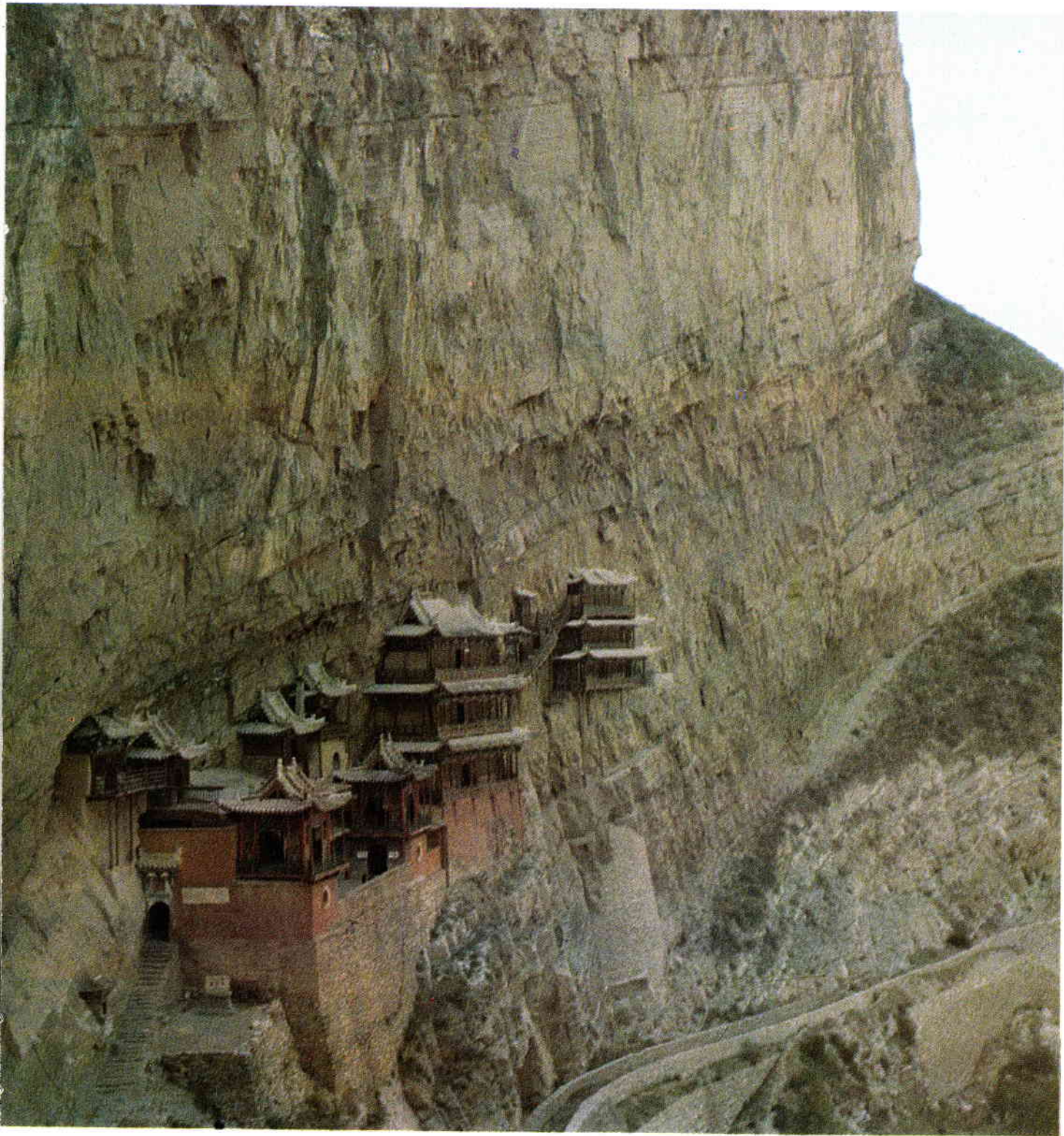
Though varied and dispersed, the buildings seem a harmoniously balanced and unified group. Obviously, daring and bold imagination went into their construction. Yet the monastery still keeps the solemnity and integrity of ancient China's traditional style of architecture.

Because space was limited, the face of the cliff itself served as the inside walls of most halls, and these were further hollowed out to contain the statues of Buddha and his attendants. Winding staircases not only made the buildings more compact but also more interesting—though today this maze often confounds visitors without guides.

Eighty bronze, iron, clay or stone statues are to be found here. The clay sculptures are Tang in style, said to be among the best examples extant. A huge and superbly executed Buddha (Tathagata) carved in relief on the face of the cliff rests imposingly above the monastery.

**L**ACK of roads in ancient times made building temples and monasteries in remote mountain areas difficult enough. Building one on the face of a remote cliff seems miraculous. When the suggestion was made, it is said, most people thought it impossible. But an architect named Zhang agreed to undertake the task. First, prefabricated parts were made at the foot of the cliff, then transported to the top and lowered from above. Builders hung suspended from ropes, each with a loop for the waist and one under his feet. Slowly the unprecedented construction was completed.

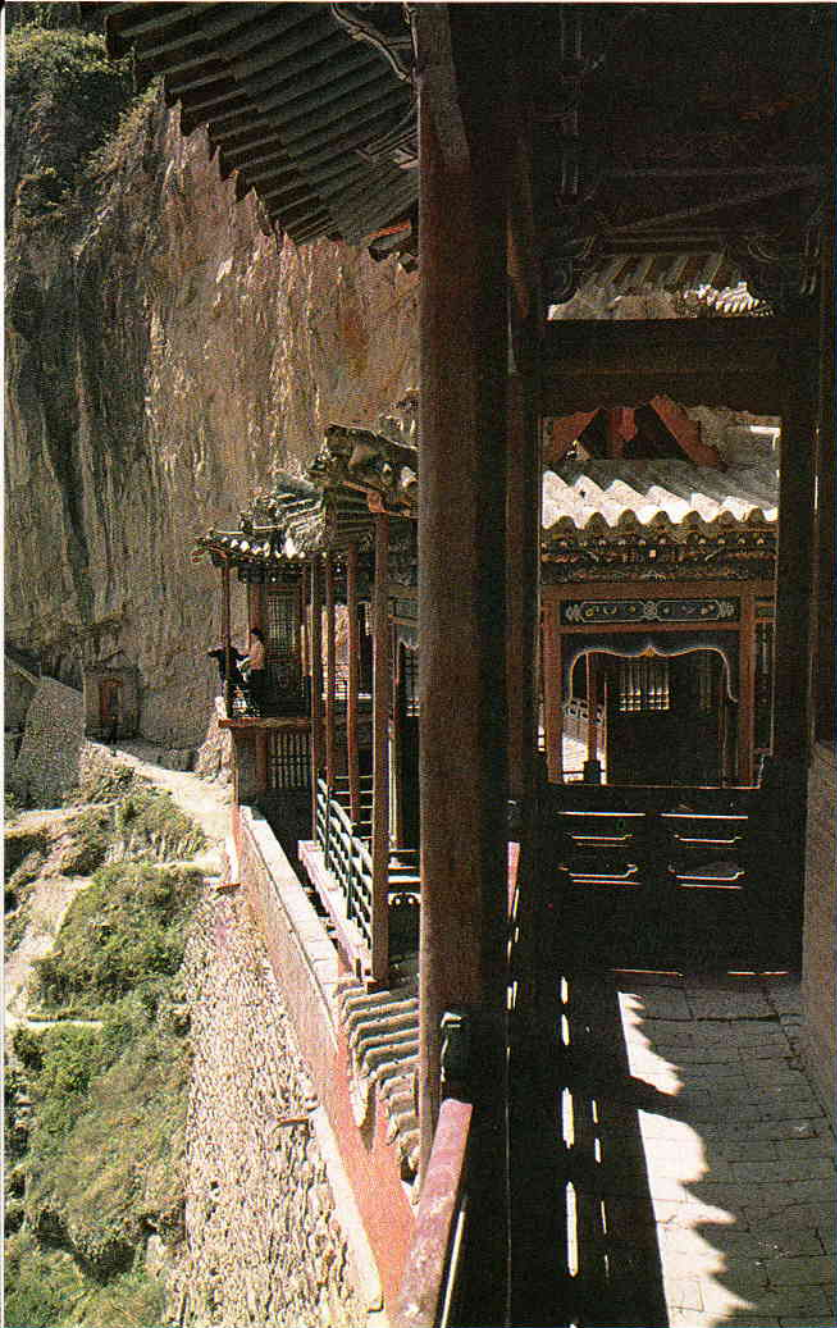
Though attacked by wind and rain, and even earthquakes over the centuries, the monastery still hangs there, a monument to peace and grace. □



The Hanging Monastery.

*Photos by Zhang Shuicheng*





This gaily decorated pavilion affords a breathtaking view down the precipice.

Decorative animal figurines atop a monastery building.



A complex of small and exquisite architectural structures wind along the cliff face.





# Changbai Nature Preserve in the Northeast

ZHENG SHE

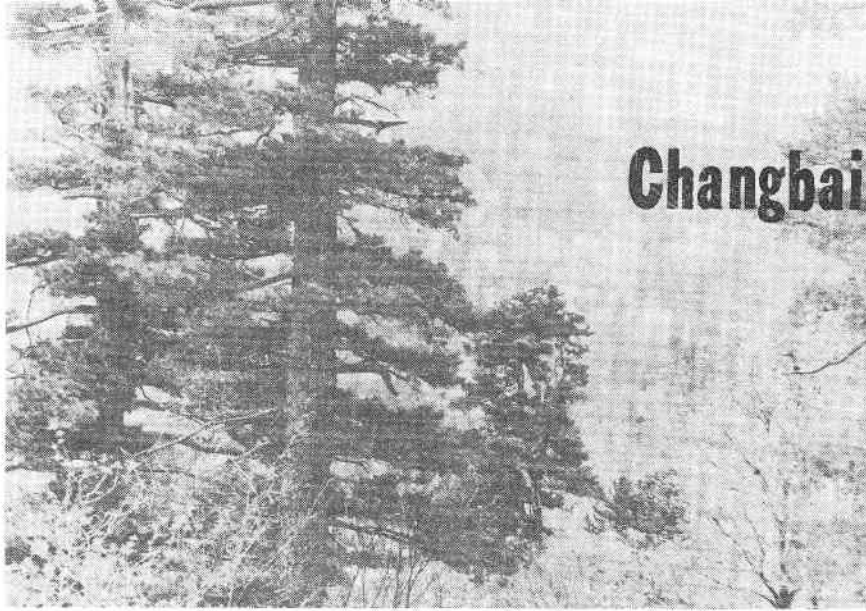
68 meters high. This is the source of the Songhua River.

## Plant Life

The Changbai Mountain preserve is a veritable treasurehouse of plants: the straight Korean pine, the towering poplar, the smooth-grained Chinese linden, the valuable Manchurian ash and the Manchurian walnut. Also the indigenous Changbai pine with a tall, smooth trunk, brown bark and thick coniferous leaves.

There are 80 varieties of such trees. Below their dense shade are bushes which in turn shelter ginseng, gastrodia, milk vetch, fritillaria, the Chinese magnolia vine and other medicinal herbs. There are 900 herb species in the preserve.

At the foot of the mountains is a three-square-kilometer depression caused by a sinking of the earth's surface. Filled with trees a dozen meters high that reach almost to the upper edge of the deep depression, this is called the "underground forest." Surrounding it is virgin forest with great branches overhead and soft soil below, rivulets of spring water and rotted trees — excellent humus for natural forest growth.



The Changbai forest area is immense.

Lang Qi

ONE of China's important nature preserves is an 8,000-square-kilometer area in the Changbai Mountains of Jilin province in the northeast. Here the Songhua, Yalu and Tumen rivers have their origin. It has four different biological zones in which live over 18,000 species of plants, birds and animals, many of them rare. While flowers bloom at the foot of the mountains, the summits are still covered with snow.

China's first nature preserve was set up here in 1960, and in 1980 these mountains were listed as an international biosphere preserve by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

The Changbai Mountains are, among other things, viewed as their homeland by the Manchu na-

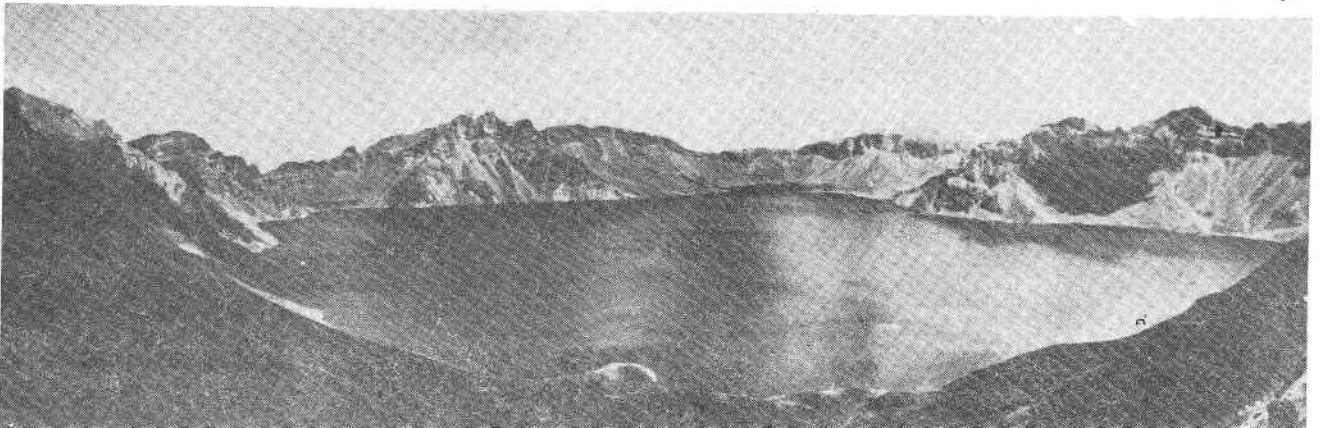
tionality, which ruled China as the Qing dynasty (1644-1911). About Yuan Lake, one of the many in the preserve, they have a legend: In the 17th century, so it goes, a fairy took a bath there and, after eating a red haw carried by a supernatural bird, gave birth to a boy who is honored as the original ancestor of the Manchus.

In the north is crystal-blue Changbai Lake, habitat of the Chinese land salamander and many species of fish.

Heavenly Lake near the Korean border is the largest in the preserve. It rests like a piece of jade in its crater on Whitehead Mountain. Ten square kilometers in size and over 300 meters deep, it is surrounded by 16 peaks whose colorful rocks of grey, brown, yellow and red reflect in the blue water. Through an opening on the north side of the lake the water pours over a precipice to form a waterfall

Heavenly Lake 'like a piece of jade in its crater.'

Xue Qiu



ZHENG SHE is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.





Researchers of the Changchun Geographical Research Institute on a field trip in the Changbai Mountains. *Lang Qi*

On the mountains above the broadleaf and conifer forests is a zone 1,800 to 2,000 meters above sea level. Here, in strong winds and in soil only a few centimeters thick grows the dwarflike, gnarled Ermans birch whose roots are so well developed that they penetrate into the soil under rocks. They grow in clumps of four or five. Blossoming in April and May, azaleas grow well here, even when snow has not completely melted.

Above this zone is the alpine tundra where the climate is so unfavorable that almost no day is clear and windless. Even in July the temperature does not average over 10°C. Only bushes, hardy perennials, herbs and moss thrive there. The Changbai willow sur-

vives in this zone. Though small and gnarled, it has abundant thin branches. Some of these trees are over 200 years old.

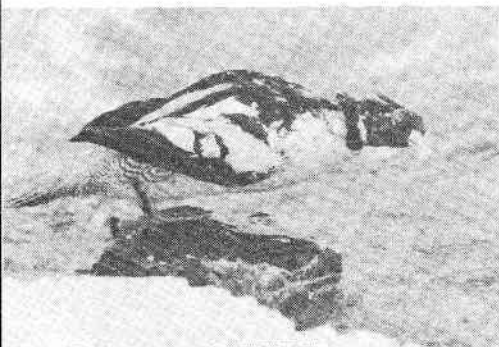
Higher on Whitehead Mountain is a hot spring bubbling up from a dozen outlets. Its water reaches 82° C. Nothing grows here but the Changbai *Ophioglossum vulgatum*, and this seems to be dying out. Little is yet known of its growth and only seven specimens have been found. Forest researchers are protecting them from visitors.

### Wildlife

The Changbai Mountain preserve is home to 50 species of animals, 200 birds, 300 amphibians and reptiles, and many kinds of fish.

**The Chinese merganser, a fish-eating duck native to northeast China.**

*Yuan Zhaoyi*



**Deer's antlers, much prized for medicinal properties.**



The famous Manchurian tiger, with orange, black and white stripes, the largest in the world, makes its principal habitat in these mountains. Local people call it "the keeper of the wild boar" because it often stalks groups of boars, catching those that drop behind or stray.

Sika and wapiti (red) deer roam everywhere. They are valuable in China for parts used in medicines, such as the placenta, tail, veins and antlers.

The sable lives in the mixed broadleaf and conifer forest 900 to 1,600 meters above sea level. Feroocious and swift, it sleeps by day and hunts at night. (Sablè, ginseng and deer antlers are called "the three treasures" of China's northeast.)

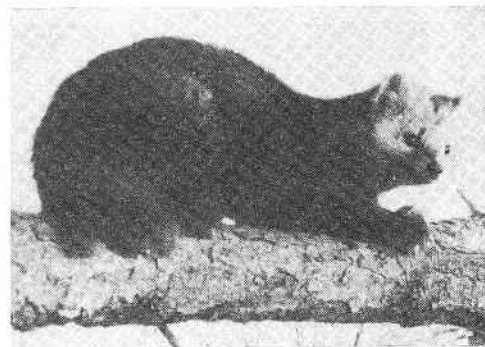
The hazel grouse (also called the "flying dragon") is noted for its white, tender meat. In imperial times it was sent as tribute and gifts to the emperors.

The mountains are full of the beautiful mandarin duck. The male and female appear monogamous (thus to the Chinese they symbolize devoted and loyal love). Each year in March and April they migrate here from the south, laying their eggs in holes in poplar trees beside streams and ponds.

The Chinese merganser, a newly discovered species of waterfowl, is found mainly in China. In early summer it migrates from south of the Changjiang (Yangtze) River to the Changbai Mountains. It nests in weathered trees, is a good underwater swimmer and lives on small fish and insects. Its breeding period lasts from May to July.

**The sable though valued for fur is protected in the nature preserve.**

*Yuan Zhaoyi*



The present vice-director of the preserve's research institute is Chao Zhengjie, 45, an ornithologist who came to the mountains in the early 1960s. His first task was to observe the habits of birds, their characteristics, number, distribution and propagation, and undertake a three-year study of the little-known mandarin duck and Chinese merganser. An ideal base for research, the Changbai Mountain preserve attracts scientists the year round. Today a good ecological balance is maintained in the preserve to provide research facilities for further investigation and study.

### Another Nessie?

One more thing should be told about the Changbai Mountains — though whether it should be mentioned in the category of wildlife remains to be seen.

In August 1980 a rumor spread that Heaven Lake contained a monster. Comparisons with Scotland's famed Loch Ness monster — known as Nessie — were bandied about. The beast was described by some as having a head larger than a cow's. It had a jutting mouth. It had a neck one meter long covered with fur and with a white ring at its base. It had a huge black, shuttle-shaped back, of which the part that could be seen out of water was four meters long.

Twenty people are supposed to have seen the monster on five occasions, though as usual there are no photographs or accurate descriptions. A descendant of a

dinosaur or a plesiosauroidea left over from an earlier geological period? Not likely, for in 1702 the top of Whitehead Mountain blew off in a volcanic

eruption which would have killed any such specimen. Imagination being what it is, the monster is probably an otter or a bear swimming in the lake. □

## Do You Know?

### Nature Preserves in China

WITH vast territory, complex geographical features and wide variations of climate, China has rich resources of flora and fauna. The 30,000 kinds of higher plants and 4,000 types of vertebrates found within her bounds make up 10 percent of the total existing in the world.

A plan to establish 300 nature preserves covering 9.6 million hectares has been drawn up by national conferences under government auspices. An Environmental Protection Law and Forest Law were adopted. Some provinces and cities have enacted their own regulations on natural protection based on these.

By 1981 China had set up 85 nature preserves, totaling 2.2 million hectares. Eleven of them are under the State Council, including the Wolong nature preserve in the Qionglai Mountains in Sichuan province where the giant panda is specially protected, the Changbai-shan in northeastern province of Jilin, the largest in China, and the Dinghushan in Guangdong province, an area of subtropical forest. These three places are also part of the United Nation's "Man and Biosphere" (MAB) study program. Other preserves are under the provinces and autonomous regions.

THESE nature preserves have been set aside to preserve natural ecological systems, natural relics and rare animals and plants. Some were established particularly for certain kinds of animals. The giant panda lives in ten of the preserves. China has eight preserves for birds. Other animals on the state list to be protected such

as the golden monkey, white-headed leaf monkey, takin, north-east Chinese tiger, the *Cervus al-birostris* or white-lip deer, Chinese alligator, black-necked crane and the fish *Acipenser sinensis* live unmolested in different preserves.

Some forests are protected for fossil plants and trees rare in the world, such as the dawn redwood (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*) that has survived glacial epochs, and the cathaya which is called a living fossil. Both exist only in China today. In addition, jungles where *Parashorea chinensis*, water pine, Chinese tuliptree, dovetree, katsura tree and other valuable woods are growing, have been or are to be made into preserves.

MOST of China's nature preserves are multi-purpose. The jungles of the Xishuangbanna area near the Burma border in Yunnan province have one sixth of the total number of higher plants in China — over 5,000 varieties — and half of China's first-class protected animals. Thus it is known as the "kingdom of plants and animals."

The golden monkey, threatened by extinction, still sports on Mt. Fanjing, a nature preserve in Guizhou province. Mt. Wuyi in Fujian province is the best place to collect samples of insects and animals. Mt. Lushan in Jiangxi province with the geomorphic features from the glacial ages of the Quaternary, and the volcanic complex at Wudalianchi in the northeastern province of Heilongjiang are of great value for study. Islands of birds in Qinghai, of snakes in Dalian and the monkeys of Hainan Island each have their unique characteristics. □

Drying ginseng.





**SKETCHBOOK**



A Uyghur nationality matron.  
*Liu Bingjiang*



Old Miao man at  
a local market.  
*Xiao Huixiang*



Tibetan family.  
*Zhu Naizheng*



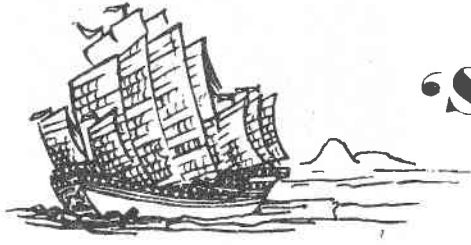
A Miao nationality woman.  
*Xiao Huixiang*



A young girl.  
*Xiao Huixiang*



Xinjiang elders.  
*Liu Bingjiang*



# 'Silk Roads' of the Sea

CHEN YAN

THE colorful history of the Old Silk Road has been celebrated in song and story, but in fact the trade in silk over several sea routes continued and developed over a much longer time, reached a wider area and had greater historical influence. This has been proved by historical studies and archaeological finds.

These sea routes have sometimes been called the "porcelain road" or "silk and porcelain road" to emphasize the role of porcelain in early trade, but export of that commodity by sea began only in the Tang dynasty (618-907), while silk was taken from China by sea as early as the Zhou dynasty (c. 11th century-771 B.C.).

Early accounts say that in 1121 B.C. in the reign of Zhou dynasty

King Wu, Chinese techniques of breeding silkworms and reeling silk began to reach Korea. After the first emperor, Qin Shi Huang, unified China in 221 B.C. by conquering six other states, to escape forced labor, many people of the former states of Qi, Yan and Zhao in the north fled across the Bohai Sea to Korea, taking with them the techniques of silkworm raising and silk reeling. Many silk fabrics also traveled from China to Korea. A great amount of silk was found when, thirty years ago, some 1,000 tombs contemporary with China's Han dynasty (206 B.C.-A.D. 220) were excavated in Korea.

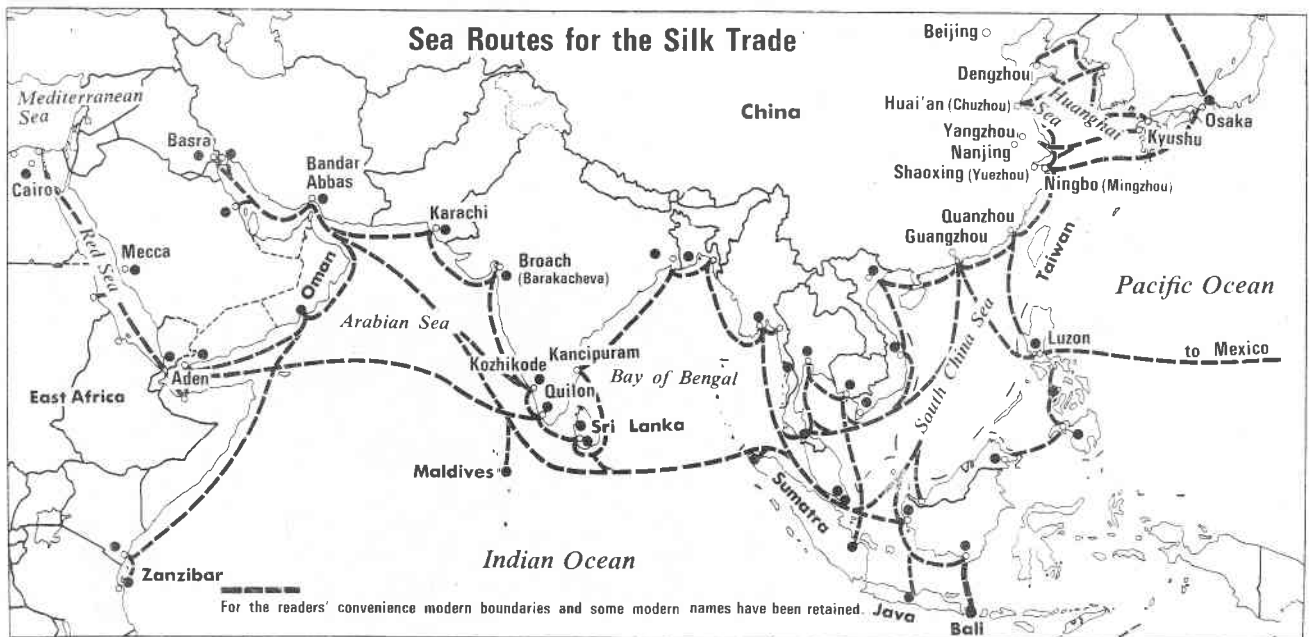
## Silk Goes to Japan

Silkworm eggs were taken to Japan via Korea at least as early as A.D. 199. In 238 during the Three Kingdoms period, the Empress of Japan sent envoys via Korea to China's Luoyang, capital of the Kingdom of Wei, with Ja-

panese cloth and other gifts. King Ming Di of Wei returned the gesture with presents of silks in various colors. This is the earliest record of Chinese silk entering Japan as a diplomatic gift.

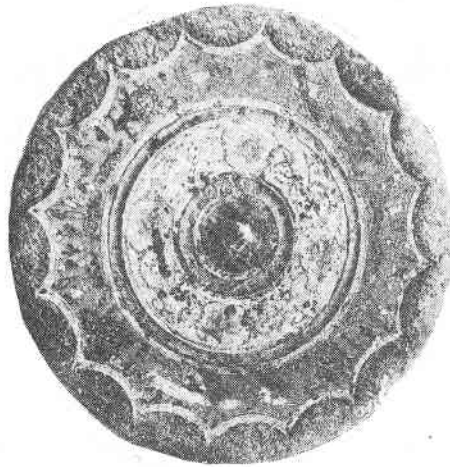
Silkmaking in Japan was promoted by the visit of four women silk weavers and seamstresses sent there by the Chinese government to teach their skills in the fifth century A.D. The route from Japan to China, the earliest known by sea, is described as starting from what is today Osaka, passing the islands of Kyushu, Iki and Isshima, and following along the Korean coast and then crossing the Huanghai (Yellow) Sea to China's Shandong Peninsula. As other routes were added, this became known as the northern silk sea route. These early craft had to navigate close to the coast for safety. Ships coming from Japan could continue south along the Chinese coast and up the Changjiang (Yangtze) River

CHEN YAN is an associate professor of Oriental Languages at Beijing University and council member of the Chinese Society for Historians of China's Foreign Relations.



For the readers' convenience modern boundaries and some modern names have been retained.





Chinese handicrafts such as (a) a Sui dynasty gold necklace set with gems, (b) a painted bronze mirror dating from the Western Han, and (c) a tri-color glazed statue from the Tang dynasty figured in the sea trade with central and western Asia and north Africa.

to Yangzhou and present-day Nanjing.

In the south, as early as the reign of Han dynasty Emperor Wu Di (r. 140-87 B.C.) ships set sail from Leizhou Peninsula (in the south of Guangdong province facing Hainan Island) and passed along the coasts of Vietnam, Thailand, Burma and the Malay Peninsula to reach Kancipuram in India carrying silk to exchange for pearls, gems and other valuables from these countries. They returned by way of Sri Lanka.

#### Traffic to Rome

China's first exports of silk to the west, beginning in the second century B.C., traveled by the famous Old Silk Road, which ran from Xi'an in China through Xinjiang and Central Asia to the eastern end of the Mediterranean and thence to Rome. It passed through the land of the Anxi (Parthians, today's Iran) and in order to monopolize the silk trade with China, they controlled the road. So both China and Rome, a big silk consumer, wanted to find a sea route.

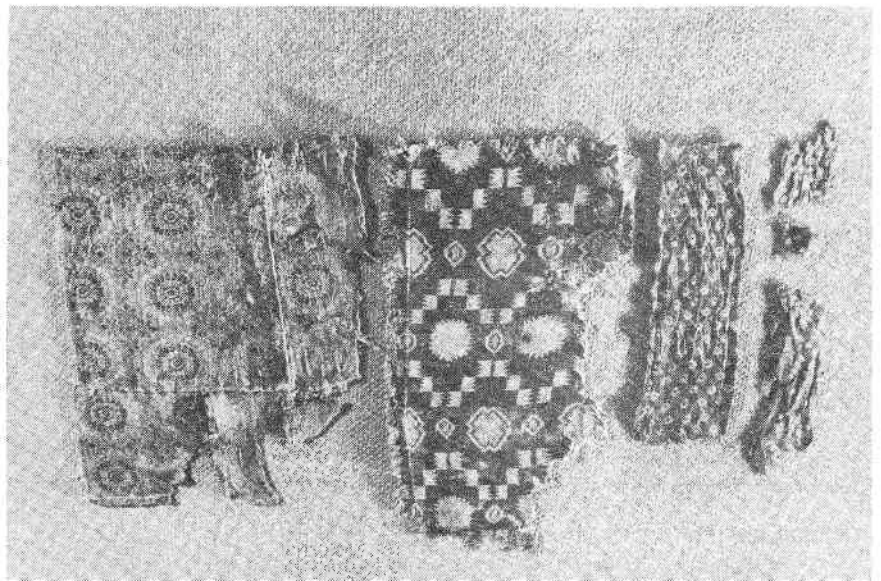
In 97 A.D. Gan Ying was dispatched overland as an envoy to Rome with the aim of finding a sea route. But meeting with no success, he turned back at the mouth of the Persian Gulf.

By 166 A.D. Rome had found a way and sent an envoy to China

by sea. *The History of Later Han* notes that "an envoy sent by Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius arrived on the northern coast of the Gulf of Tonking with gifts of ivory, rhinoceros horn, hawkbill turtles and other things for the Chinese emperor." The book gave no details of the silk trade, but the British scholar G.F. Hudson in his 1931 book *Europe and China* has this to say: "Roman merchants found an all-sea route to China (Tonking, which was then under Chinese control), though it was never brought into regular use. . . . (In) Rome's oriental commerce. . . that silk trade formed an important, yet minor part."

The monk Fa Xian, who in the early fifth century traveled overland to India to obtain a complete set of the Buddhist scriptures, returned to China in 411 A.D. by sea. In a book on his travels he described this route, which began at today's Tamluk in India, and passed Sri Lanka and Java on its way to Guangzhou (Canton). Big cargo ships, each capable of carrying 200 people, came and went regularly, linking China with India and Indonesia. In Sri Lanka, Fa Xian saw fans of white silk placed before Buddhist images by local merchants, therefore we know that not only Chinese silk but fans made of it had reached there. Dur-

The silks desired in many lands, these dating from the Tang dynasty.



ing the sixth century, the Greek traveler Cosmas told how Chinese silk was transported to Sri Lanka in his work *Universal Topographia Christiana*.

Exchanges of gifts began to develop into "silk diplomacy" in the Sui dynasty. In 607 Sui Emperor Yang Di sent his envoy Chang Jun to the State of Kedah on the Malay Peninsula. This was the first time that Chinese had visited this place with a great amount of silk as gifts, so he was greeted with ceremony. A fleet of 30 ships went out to meet him. When Chang Jun left, the King of Kedah sent the prince back with him on a friendly visit. This was the first victory for "silk diplomacy."

### More Direct Route to Japan

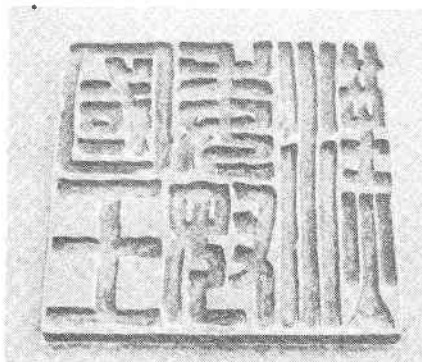
China extended her sea contacts with Japan and Korea during the Tang dynasty (618-907). Japan often sent delegations with gifts of gold, silver, amber and other valuables, and the Chinese emperors returned the compliments with gifts of silk and medicinal herbs, not only for the Japanese emperor, but for his ministers and even the ships' crews. Each man would be given bolts of fabric. In 805 A.D., for instance, 270 persons who came to China received 1,350 bolts of silk. Quite a lot of silk from the Tang and subsequent Song dynasties has been preserved in Japan till today.

Though these activities were described as giving tribute or exchanging envoys, in fact, they were a form of official trade. In the Song dynasty (960-1279) such trade began to be carried on by people beyond government circles. Many Chinese merchants had their own boats and took silk and porcelain to sell in Japan.

The envoys from Japan in their seventh voyage to China in 702 A.D. came by a new and shorter route which crossed the Donghai Sea far south of the Korean Peninsula and made directly for the cities of the Changjiang valley. Ships from Yangzhou, Suzhou or other cities there began using that



Tang-era patterned silk preserved at Shosoin, Japan.



This gold seal, taken to Japan in A.D. 57 as a gift from Emperor Guang Wu Di to a Japanese emperor, was excavated in Fukuoka county, Kyushu, Japan.

route. With favorable monsoonal winds, a boat from Mingzhou (today's Ningbo, south of Shanghai) could reach Japan in three to six days.

### To the Arab World

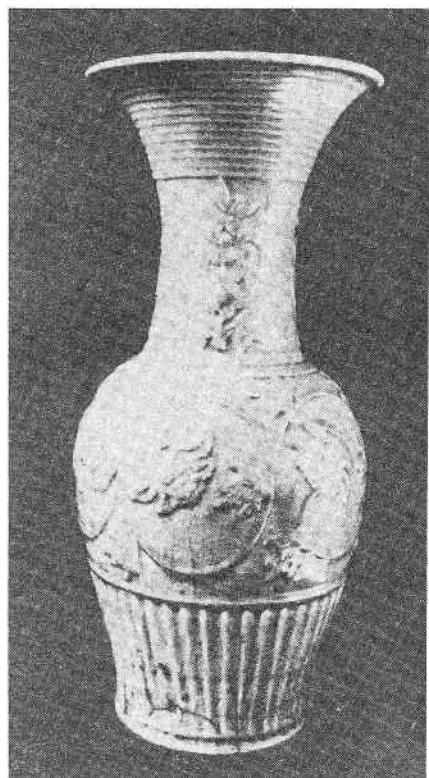
The southern route to southeastern and western Asia was described in detail by the Chinese geographer Jia Dan (730-805) in his *Sea Routes from Guangzhou*. He gave the itinerary of a voyage from Guangzhou to Basra on the Persian Gulf.

The Arab world was one of China's biggest markets at that

time. Not only silks but weavers and technology went there. A Chinese named Du Huan, who was captured by Arabians in a battle in the mid-eighth century, wrote in his *Travel Notes* that there he met two Chinese silk weavers from, as he put it, "east of the Huanghe (Yellow) River," and also saw Chinese silk looms.

So many Arab merchants came to Guangzhou that some opened shops and markets and a special residence quarter called "spice houses" was set up for foreigners. There were 120,000 foreign merchants resident in Guangzhou in 878 when the peasant uprising led by Huang Chao attacked the city, according to *Travel to the East* by the Arab merchant Sulayman. A great many mulberry groves were destroyed as a result of the widespread uprising, and this affected China's silk trade with the Arab countries.

As foreign trade developed during the Song dynasty, more and more copper coins flowed abroad. To put a stop to this, the imperial



Yuan dynasty porcelain vase now preserved in Japan's Seidaigi Monastery.



court in 1219 ordered that goods from abroad must be paid for in silk or porcelain. So these two things functioned as money in trading with foreign merchants, who in turn took them to still more countries.

By the Song dynasty Chinese merchant ships were traveling to Basra, Oman and the coast of east Africa. Along this route in Song times China's famous inventions the compass, gunpowder, paper and printing traveled to western Asia, from whence they were introduced to Europe by Arab and Persian merchants.

### The Ming Ban

Trade of mutual benefit between China and Korea developed rapidly during the Ming dynasty (1368-1644). One proof of it is that in 1393 China imported 9,800 horses from Korea, paid for with 19,700 bolts of silk.

Trying to keep the silk trade with Japan a government monopoly, the Ming dynasty issued regulations banning maritime trade and intercourse with foreign countries. This stimulated silk smuggling for at one time a pound of raw silk brought twenty times more in Japan than in China. There were so many boats engaging in smuggling that the island of Shuangyu outside the port of Ningbo could not accommodate all, and 10,000 smugglers and their craft crowded together. A 1547 record notes that on one instance more than a thousand smugglers' boats at a time, both Chinese and foreign, evaded the official ban.

Increasing quantities of raw silk were transported to Japan in the early days of the Qing dynasty (1644-1911). Over 6,200 Chinese silk boats reached Japan between 1662, when Emperor Kang Xi came to the throne, and 1839, on the eve of the Opium War. Raw silk trade reached its peak, making up 70 percent of China's total volume of exports. For a time the Qing dynasty, too, banned the export of raw silk, but in 1688 it had to rescind the order because the income from silk was needed for buying copper, which China lacked

and wanted badly. After that even more ships loaded with silk went abroad. Each was capable of carrying five tons.

### New Heights with Zheng He

The southern silk route of the sea was greatly extended in the Yuan dynasty. From Aden, ships went further on to Zanzibar and Mogadishu (in Somali), and by way of the Red Sea to Mecca and Cairo so that the silk trade developed in these regions. Wherever the southern route extended, Chinese silk could be found. Wang Dayuan, the famous Yuan dynasty Chinese navigator, related in his book *A Concise History of Foreign Islanders* how Chinese silk was introduced to dozens of countries by the southern route.

Zheng He, the great Ming dynasty navigator\*, exchanged Chinese silk and porcelain for special local products wherever he went. He presented them to kings he visited, and invited officials of these lands to come to China. He led seven voyages reaching as far as the east coast of Africa and visited over 30 countries and all the ports along the Red Sea. On his way back from the fifth trip, he invited envoys from 17 countries to return with him. They naturally brought many gifts for the Chinese emperor, which were recompensed with gifts of Chinese silk. In 1428 Zheng He took 330,000 bolts of silk from a storehouse in Nanjing and brought them to Beijing to have on hand as gifts for foreign envoys. Exports of Chinese silks in this period surpassed any previous time in history.

Zheng He's voyages came half a century earlier than those of Christopher Columbus and Vasco Da Gama. His fleet and ships were bigger, the voyages longer, and larger in scale. On one voyage his fleet of 200 ships took a total of 27,800 crewmen, staff and merchants. Sixty of his ships were large ones, capable of carrying a thousand people. This was the heyday of the silk road of the sea.

\* See *China Reconstructs*' April issue for the story of Zheng He.

Many Chinese merchants from Fujian and Guangdong provinces sold silks in southeast Asia, despite the ban which permitted only tribute trade and official visits like Zheng He's. In 1567 after the ban was lifted, many thousands of Chinese merchants traveled to Luzon in the Philippine Islands. From there, the Spanish colonialists, who had conquered the Philippines in 1565, started their own silk route. Thus Chinese silk was brought to the Americas.

### In the Americas

Galleons carrying 1,200 crates of silk traveled from Manila to Mexico. By the end of the 18th century, silks and other Chinese goods made up 63 percent of Mexico's total volume of imports. From Mexico these goods were disseminated to Peru, Argentina, Chile and other areas in Central and South America and the Caribbean. Chinese merchants followed the flow of silk to the new world and settled there. Mexico City had communities of Chinese in the 16th century.

The Spanish colonies paid in silver. Between 1565 and 1820, silver valued at some 400 million pesos was sent from Mexico to Manila, most destined for China. This is how Mexican silver dollars stamped with the eagle came to be used concurrently with Chinese money as standard currency in China.

In the world market, silk was the only commodity that had no rival. Even powerful colonialists like the Spanish had no control over its dominance in the markets of Manila and Latin America. Their government orders to stop the import of silk and restrict the outflow of silver failed when faced with the great vitality of the silk trade.

This dynamic silk road of the sea brought into contact Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America, linked China with other ancient civilizations throughout the world and promoted cultural exchange, including the dissemination of early Chinese inventions. □



## Recovering the Red-Purse Carp

CHEN XIAOJUN

**A** ONCE-RARE red-scaled fish with a small head, short tail, fleshy body and a fat belly is now raised all over China as a food delicacy. This is the red-purse carp, a freshwater species that originated in Jiangxi province. It gets its name from its purse-like shape. Today 20,000 tons of it, or 30 percent of the province's total output of aquatic

products, are netted every year. Over half of the area's water surface is used to breed it.

The slow-moving carp is highly resistant to disease. It grows rapidly, eats a wide variety of food and has a high survival rate. In the absence of predator fish it is raised easily either in lakes or artificial ponds. It is also used as a decorative fish in park pools.

The fish has been bred in Jiangxi for at least 300 years. It is said that during the reign of the Ming dynasty emperor Wan Li (r. 1573-1620), Yu Maoxue, Minister of the Interior, was rewarded for his meritorious service with a pair of red-purse carp from a pond in the imperial garden. When Yu retired and went back to his hometown in Jiangxi's Wuyuan county, he took these two fish with him and bred them in a stone pond he built especially for them. The species became popular in his and neighboring counties.

Because of unscientific cross-breeding, however, the species degenerated. It became smaller and appeared in many different colors.

During the 1970s a research institute and a hatchery were established in Wuyuan county. In an effort to recover the species, nineteen fish with shape and characteristics closest to the original red-purse carp were selected for breeding. Various institutes and university departments aided the study. Finally in 1979, after generations of selection and purification, a fine variety with good biological and economic properties was evolved. In 1980 the result was awarded a first prize for scientific research by the General Bureau of Aquatic Products.

Today the Jiangxi institute not only supplies the province but ships 200,000 fingerlings to other hatcheries in the country. Some new varieties have been produced by crossing local carp, using this species as the female. One example is the famous Wuyuan-Yuanjiang carp, a hybrid of the red-purse carp and the Yuanjiang River carp in Yunnan province.

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CHEN XIAOJUN is on the staff of the Bureau of Aquatic Products under the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fishery.





After the outbreak of Japan's war of aggression against China, A'ming and his wife Tomoe tell Matsunami that they want to go to China to help the resistance.

The war of aggression by Japanese militarists brings disaster to both the Chinese and Japanese people. Tomoe loses her reason when she learns of her husband A'ming's murder.



Kuang Yishan prefers to lose two fingers rather than play a game of go with an enemy officer.



In spring 1956 Matsunami comes to China with A'ming's ashes. Kneeling before Kuang, he relates the true circumstances of A'ming's death and expresses deep remorse.



# A Game Yet to Finish



Early in the film, Chinese weiqi (Go) player Kuang Yishan (Sun Daolin) starts a game with Matsunami (Rentaro Mikuni) which will be interrupted when Kuang is arrested by a warlord's forces. *Wang Hui*

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A *Game Yet to Finish*, a feature film jointly funded and produced by Chinese and Japanese film-makers, was a smash success with audiences after its simultaneous premiere in both countries in September. This was the first such joint project after resumption of diplomatic relations between the two nations in 1972.

Shot in nine cities and towns in China and Japan over a period of two years, the movie engaged an impressive array of artists and technicians, script-writers, directors and actors from both sides. Below is a synopsis of the film as well as some reflections by Chinese co-producer Wang Yang and co-director Duan Jishun.

---

**I**T IS 1946, a year after the end of World War II. A Chinese man of about 50 stands on the deck of a ship repatriating Japanese nationals. In his pallid face his eyes burn with a strange light. The man is Kuang Yishan, a noted Go player known as "South China's King of *Weiqi*" (the game, originating in China, is commonly known in the west under its Japanese name—Go). Kuang is traveling to Japan to look for his son Kuang Ming. As he gazes over the expanse of sea, scenes from the past float up in his mind. . .

One day in 1924, Kuang arrives in Beijing after a long journey with 8-year-old son Ming. He has been invited by his close friend Guan Xiaozhou to a Go contest attended by the well-known Japanese player Rinsaku Matsunami. Kuang is eager to pit his skills against Matsunami's.

The contest is to take place in the home of a northern warlord, Commander-in-Chief Pang, who first insists on playing a set with Kuang. Unwilling to flatter the warlord by deliberately losing, Kuang beats him, and Pang is so furious he refuses to let Kuang

play against Matsunami. But the Japanese player, who has long held Kuang in respect, arranges to meet him for a match. He notices that Kuang's son, Ming, has a real talent for the game. .

Before the game ends, however, Kuang is arrested by policemen sent by Pang. Matsunami manages to rescue Kuang, but has to return to Japan without finishing the game. Departing, he pleads with Kuang to let him take Ming to Japan for further training. Kuang agrees to send the boy to Japan when he is a few years older.

**K**UANG returns to his home in south China, where he devotes all his energies to teaching Ming. In 1930, he sells family possessions to send his son to Japan.

Ming departs, and soon afterward Japanese troops invade China and ravage the land and people. Kuang's wife and daughter are killed and he himself falls into the clutches of the Japanese





Matsunami's pupil Morikawa (left), drafted and about to be sent to China, tells Kuang Yishan's son Kuang Ming (center) that he will refuse to fight the Chinese people.

colonel Ozaki, who tries to force Kuang to play a game of Go with him by threatening to cut off his fingers.

In defiance and contempt, Kuang brings the blade down on his own hand. Matsunami, who has by this time been conscripted as a private in the Japanese Army, is a horrified witness, but is unable even to give Kuang news about his son.

**B**ACK in the present, Kuang's ship arrives in port. Post-war Japan is a scene of jam-packed black markets. No sooner does Kuang go ashore than he is robbed of his money and knocked down by toughs. Luckily he meets a Chinese doctor named Zhang, who helps him search for his son.

They learn that Matsunami has left the Go academy, his whereabouts unknown, but that his daughter Tomoe has been committed to a mental institution. There they are told by a doctor that Ming was shot by Japanese gendarmes during the war, and that Tomoe, who had married Ming and was deeply in love with him, lost her sanity. Hearing this dreadful news, Kuang faints.

Kuang, Dr. Zhang and several other Chinese ask the Japanese police to clarify Ming's death. The lieutenant who shot Ming declares

that the killing was carried out on information supplied by Matsunami. Clenching his fists, Kuang says in a voice quivering with hate: "I'll kill him. . . I'll kill Matsunami!" His mind shattered, Kuang begins to drink heavily.

Dr. Zhang persuades him to return home only by pretending to have learned that Matsunami has been killed in the Chinese war theater.

**T**HE AUDIENCE then learns the truth of what happened to Ming in Japan after his arrival in 1930. Warmly welcomed by Matsunami and by Matsunami's younger sister and daughter, Sinobu and Tomoe, he soon becomes almost a member of the family. Ming and Tomoe fall in love and are married, and Tomoe gives birth to their daughter Hualin.

After years of intense study Ming wins the title *Tenseiyi* (national champion) from the Japanese Go Academy. Japanese army authorities try to force Ming to take up Japanese nationality, but instead he gives up his title.

Enraged at the Japanese aggression against China, Ming and his wife make plans to go there. Matsunami wants to help, and mistakenly puts his trust in the lies of right-wing official Hashimoto, who betrays the young man. Ming is killed, Tomoe is overcome by madness, and Matsunami himself

is forcibly conscripted into the army.

**A**FTER the birth of the new China in 1949, Kuang's life begins anew. He stops drinking and devotes his energies to training a new generation of Go players for China. In 1956, a Japanese Go delegation visits China. Matsunami, who has taken up the game again, comes with the delegation. Bringing with him Ming's ashes and accompanied by his sister Sinobu and Ming's daughter Hualin, he makes a special trip to south China to visit Kuang Yishan.

With a heavy heart he kneels before Kuang in a gesture of remorse for all the suffering his countrymen have brought to the Chinese people. The true facts about Ming's death are finally told.

The two reunited friends travel to the Great Wall near Beijing, where Matsunami asks Kuang if he still remembers the Go game they started over 30 years ago. Kuang replies: "I've often tried to forget it, but my mind always goes back to it."

On the spot, with the majestic sweep of the Great Wall as a backdrop, the two men whose lives are emblematic of the horrors inflicted on both peoples by Japanese militarists and of the enduring friendship of the ordinary people of China and Japan, resume their old game. □

In 1956 Kuang Yishan and Matsunami, reunited, decide that the Great Wall is an appropriate place to resume their 30-year-suspended game of Go.



## An Uncommon Partnership

WANG YANG and DUAN JISHUN

**I**N the course of shooting *A Game Yet to Finish*, Chinese and Japanese film-makers developed great mutual understanding and respect. They also shared a deep feeling of responsibility toward their work based on their common view of the past and future of the two nations.

We on the Chinese side admired the Japanese film-makers' sense of justice and determination to face the reality of the past. The original scenario written by a Chinese writer concentrated mainly on the personal elements—the friendship between the older generation of Go players, the love story between two young people of different countries, and the tragic experiences of the two families during the war. The nature and details of the Japanese militarists' aggression against China were touched on only lightly.

But Japanese producer Yasuyoshi Tokuma was strongly for tackling these basic matters head-on. "In Japan, militarism is trying to raise its head again," he said. "Young people are influenced by this trend, and don't want to hear about Japanese behavior in the past. Our co-production is to mark the 10th anniversary of the normalization of diplomatic relations between our two countries and celebrate the enduring friendship between our peoples. To do this we should not hide the past—avoiding facts is not true friendship. By reminding young people of the terrible consequences of Japanese



Shooting the film.

Li Qirong



Warm cooperation: Chinese co-director Duan Jishun (left) with Japanese co-director Junya Sato. Xu Xiaohui

aggression in the past, we can help insure everlasting friendship between China and Japan."

Before shooting began, noted Japanese director Junya Sato, co-

director of the film, wrote in an article: "Most joint film projects depict only the good sides of the countries involved. But in this film we are determined not to shut our eyes to the shortcomings and shameful things on both sides. Only in this way can we gain real understanding and genuine friendship." The film-makers' common understanding of those unhappy years is reflected in many hard-hitting, realistic scenes.

**I**NCLUDED in the film is documentary footage of the Japanese seizure of Shenyang in 1931, the 1932 conquest of Shanghai, the attack on Lugouqiao (Marco Polo) Bridge in July 1937, and the Nanjing (Nanking) massacre toward the end of 1937. Many of our scenes were shot at actual sites, such as the old Japanese military headquarters at Wuxi. For scenes of Chinese refugees fleeing occupied Shanghai, we talked with

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WANG YANG, who co-produced the film, is director of the Beijing Film Studio. DUAN JISHUN is a well-known film director.





Relaxing between shots, left to right, actors Sun Daolin, Rentaro Mikuni and Du Peng. Xu Xiaohui

hundreds of survivors of that time. So our shots of the refugees putting up crude shelters and making fires were very authentic, and Director Sato was particularly pleased with the results.

All of us were deeply affected by working on these scenes. One broken-down hut, preserved as a relic of the past, had particular emotional resonance — in it a Japanese soldier had raped a young Chinese girl. We used it for a scene between young Ming and his sister. At the end of a scene in the town of Lili near Suzhou in which Chinese demonstrators shouted “Down with Japanese Imperialism!” our Japanese cameramen broke into spontaneous applause. “This is the common voice of our two peoples,” one of them said.

In our movie, after the Nanjing Massacre the young Japanese woman Tomoe says to her husband Ming, “As the wife of a Chinese, I want to go with you and fight against the Japanese imperialists.” Some of us Chinese wondered how a Japanese audience would react to this speech. Director Sato made a thoughtful reply: “Here we have the question of what real patriotism means. I think anyone

who really loves his country must take a stand against its errors. This is what we must teach young people. Some people in Japan may object. Let them. I don’t want to make just a ‘neutral’ film.”

Two minor characters in the film represent evils of the past from which the Chinese and Japanese people can draw lessons. One is the Chinese warlord Pang, a monster of selfishness and vanity who seems to care nothing for the welfare of the country. But this characterization is straightforward, and Chinese audiences are used to seeing warlords as villains.

A more interesting example is the right-wing, pro-militarist leader Hashimoto. He seems an honest and patriotic person — at least to the Japanese hero Matsunami. But Hashimoto secretly betrays Matsunami’s confidences, and Ming is killed as a result. “In the past,” Director Sato has said, “many were taken in by people such as Hashimoto, and followed them into war. If we don’t learn the proper lessons, people may be fooled again in the future.”

Toward the end of the film there is a scene in which Japanese actor Rentaro Mikuni, playing Matsu-

nami, kneels before old friend Kuang Yishan as a token of shame and repentance over the Japanese invaders’ crimes against the Chinese people. Mikuni, who himself thought of this gesture, performs it with profound feeling. During the shooting not only Sun Daolin, who played Kuang Yishan, but every Chinese present was moved to tears. But, even though our Japanese friends may feel a sense of shame at the actions of their past leaders, the Chinese people make a very clear distinction between the Japanese militarists who caused such horrors and the ordinary people of Japan, who were themselves often victims of the aggressors’ policies.

EVERYONE involved with the film cherishes the memory of the co-workers and contributors who made it possible, and especially four who are no longer with us. China’s famous film actor Zhao Dan, one of the earliest initiators of the film project, was scheduled to play the leading role of Kuang Yishan. He lost a brave battle with cancer before he could do so. Noted Japanese director Noboru Nakamura was also stricken with a fatal illness just before shooting was scheduled to begin. At his bedside were a Chinese-Japanese dictionary, tapes of the film’s Chinese dialog, and the film scenario covered with notes in his own hand. Almost his last words were, “I must go to China.”

We have also lost Fumio Kinbara, one of the earliest promoters of the co-production on the Japanese side, and Li Hua of the Beijing Film Studio, who edited the scenario. Their talents and spirit remain in the film.

Sino-Japanese friendship is truly “a game yet to finish.” It will be developed and consolidated by people in both countries who experienced the unhappy past, and by new generations. It cannot be shaken by the handful who want to revive Japanese militarism, but will grow — as pure as the snow on Mount Fuji and as mighty as the rolling waves of the Chang-jiang (Yangtze) River. □

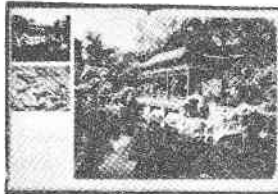
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# Women's Football Makes the Grade

WEN JIAO



Guangdong players dribble the ball toward their opponents' goal area.

WITH Guangdong up against Liaoning in the First National Women's Football Invitational Tournament last August, two Guangdong players executed a dazzling display of ball-handling and teamwork. Zhang Xiaoli, serving a corner ball, kicked it cleanly into position in front of the goal, where teammate Liu Renqiong took over and headed it neatly in for a score. The crowd roared its approval.

Some of those spectators were undoubtedly surprised by the professionalism displayed at that point and throughout the tournament. After all, women's football (soccer) is new in China, and the players have relatively little experience. In 1979 a number of girl students in Xi'an saw foreign women playing the game on TV, and asked the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission to establish some women's teams. The response was prompt, and soon

such teams were springing up all over the country.

But some conservative people were less than enthusiastic, and parental objections kept some girls from going out for the game. Their arguments were that Chinese girls have gentle dispositions and are not as strong as their counterparts in the West. Girls, they said, could not stand the intense training and might too easily be injured. Some warned darkly that women who played football would never be able to have children.

However, the growing popularity of the game among young women and their obvious skill and good health have broken down much of the resistance. Tests conducted on a women's team in Shanghai show that the players sleep soundly, have good appetites and have even gained weight. Their hearts were in excellent condition. National safety regulations have also eased fears of injury — women footballers must wear rubber-soled shoes instead of studded boots, and their matches last 70 minutes instead of the

men's 90. Most people now realize that, far from harming women, football has increased their strength and health.

Some male football enthusiasts — who once laughed at the idea that women could play "their" game — now say they are so impressed with the women's skills that they would not at all mind holding practice sessions with them.

THE televised games of the First National Women's Football Invitational Tournament held in Beijing last August, and featuring ten provincial and municipal teams, helped convince many that women's football had come of age. The matches demonstrated both individual and team strong points. Shaanxi and Guangdong featured both good individual ball-handling skills and fine teamwork, especially in accurate passing. Beijing and Shaanxi had developed fast-breaking attacks. A number of individual players showed they had mastered the fundamentals and also such difficult maneuvers as

A Yunnan player shoots for the Shaanxi goal area.



WEN JIAO is a sports reporter for China Reconstructs.

the sliding kick, header and body-twisting shot.

Women's football has become very popular in Meixian county in Guangdong province, known as "the home of football." In the last two years, 27 women's teams have been organized in the county and 600 girls are involved. In 1980 Meixian began to hold county-wide contests during the Spring Festival. The county's team, mainly girls from the Meixian Overseas Chinese Middle School, has won the Guangdong provincial championship two years in a row. The Guangdong team, second-place finisher at the Beijing tournament, chooses most of its members from the Meixian team.

Football is also popular in the Chuxiong Autonomous Prefecture where many minority nationalities live. Here, many women had played before this was officially encouraged. In 1980 the autonomous prefecture held its first women's tournament. Competing were 24 primary school teams, 18 junior middle school teams and 12 senior middle school teams. Last year a five-province women's invitational tournament held in Chuxiong caused a sensation. Some matches attracted 30,000 spectators. This year 64 women's teams took part in the prefecture games.

The Shanghai women's team is the youngest in the country. Its members range from 13 to 15. The

## Some Rising Football Stars

**S**HAANXI'S Sun Cuihuan, 17, is 1.68 meters tall and a first-year middle school student. She is a key player and a good center forward. Always in high spirits, she has a boy's style of passing, handling the ball and cutting in. She can get off powerful kicks with either foot. Her running distance during a 70-minute match is 3,770 meters, only 1,730 meters less than the men of the country's A teams. In the tournament she netted seven goals, 55 percent of her team's scoring, and was elected an excellent player.

Zhang Zelin, 15, is a backbone of the Yunnan team. When she was a child she learned football with her brother. She uses many breakthrough tactics and coordinates well in team attacks. Her handling of the ball in the opponent's goal area is always a menace to the opposing side. Normally she runs more than 3,000 meters during a game.

**G**UANGDONG's Xiang Jieyi, 18, is a good goalkeeper. She has the long arms necessary for the job. A former volleyball player who changed to football, she is quick-witted and always stays in position. At the tournament she allowed only two goals in the finals play with Shaanxi.

Beijing's Liu Huiying, 17-year-old center defender, used her well-timed sliding kicks many times at the tournament to break up opponents' attacks. She is not very strongly built but it is not easy to break through her defense area. □

city's No. 3 primary school located in the Caoyang New Village, was the first to promote girls' football. The principal is a football fan and long wanted to start the girls at it. Not sure whether the girls would like it or not, he issued two

footballs to each class. The girls responded eagerly and later even challenged the boys. He soon organized Shanghai's first women's football team. Many schools in the city now have teams and the Shanghai Football Association has put women's football on its agenda.

Teams have also been organized in Beijing and Tianjin, in the far northeastern provinces of Liaoning, Jilin and Heilongjiang, and in the Tibet Autonomous Region in the extreme west of China.

**W**OMEN'S football now gets increasing attention in the Chinese sports world. Newspapers give much space to it. Veteran players and noted coaches help out local units. Experienced coaches have volunteered to coach women's teams. The idea is often expressed that China should not lag behind other countries where the sport is developing quickly. Women footballers no longer have to prove anything to anyone — they have arrived. □

Xiang Jieyi, goalie of the Guangdong team, leaps to intercept a ball.

Photos by Huo Jianying





# Fanciful, Whimsical Children's Art

ZHANG JINGMING

THE National Exhibition of Children's Fine Art last summer in Beijing featured some 600 works by young artists ranging in age from three to 14 years old. These reflect, often in a whimsical way, the children's world.

They like spring, the sun, green trees, birds, kites, elephants, giraffes, naughty monkeys and beautiful peacocks. They are also fond of jumping the rubber-band rope, doing handstands and playing football. Their works not only show the way they observe things and set them down on paper, but also reflect the kind of society they are growing up in.

IN *Daybreak*, 3-year-old Feng Dapeng pictured a big lifelike rooster heralding the break of day. In 11-year-old He Rong's *Mi-Mi* (a common name for cats in China), two frisky kittens seem to be playing like two children. *Checkmate* shows a grandfather meeting his match—his grandson—in a chess contest. The little player who takes the offensive against his grandpa might be the artist himself—10-year-old Meng Fancong.

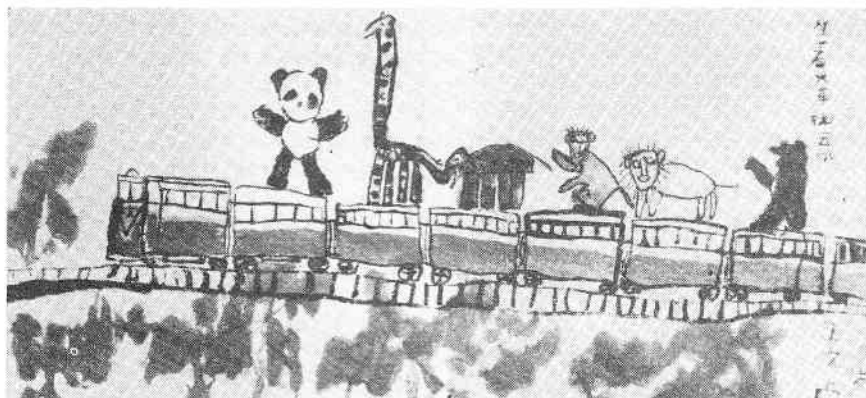
Eight-year-old Jin Weijiong drew five lively children stubbornly climbing poles. Their feeling of exhilaration provides the title, *Now I'm as High as the Sun!* In *Frogs' Sports Meet* by 8-year-old Wang Liang, the frogs struggle to defeat the other side in a tug-of-war. *Kite-Flying Contest* is an imaginative re-creation of an event that could take place in a child's life. Countless colorful kites fill

the sky and gleeful children, the square below. The artist is 12-year-old Zhu Yangji.

In real life an adult camel will never carry its offspring on its

back. But 11-year-old Yu Lu used this impossible scene to show a mother's love for her child. She looks so firm and unshakable that no difficulties and obstacles could stop her advance across the desert.

SOCIAL concern is very much a part of the life of Chinese children and was shown in numerous paintings at the exhibition. Among them were *Tree-Planting Day* by 9-year-old Deng Yuping, and *I'll Help You Up* by Zhu Li, age 6, and Lu Jie's *Don't Hit Birds*, showing that he has taken to heart the teaching that birds should be cherished to maintain nature's ecological balance. □



Excursion Train

Wang Wenzhan, age 5



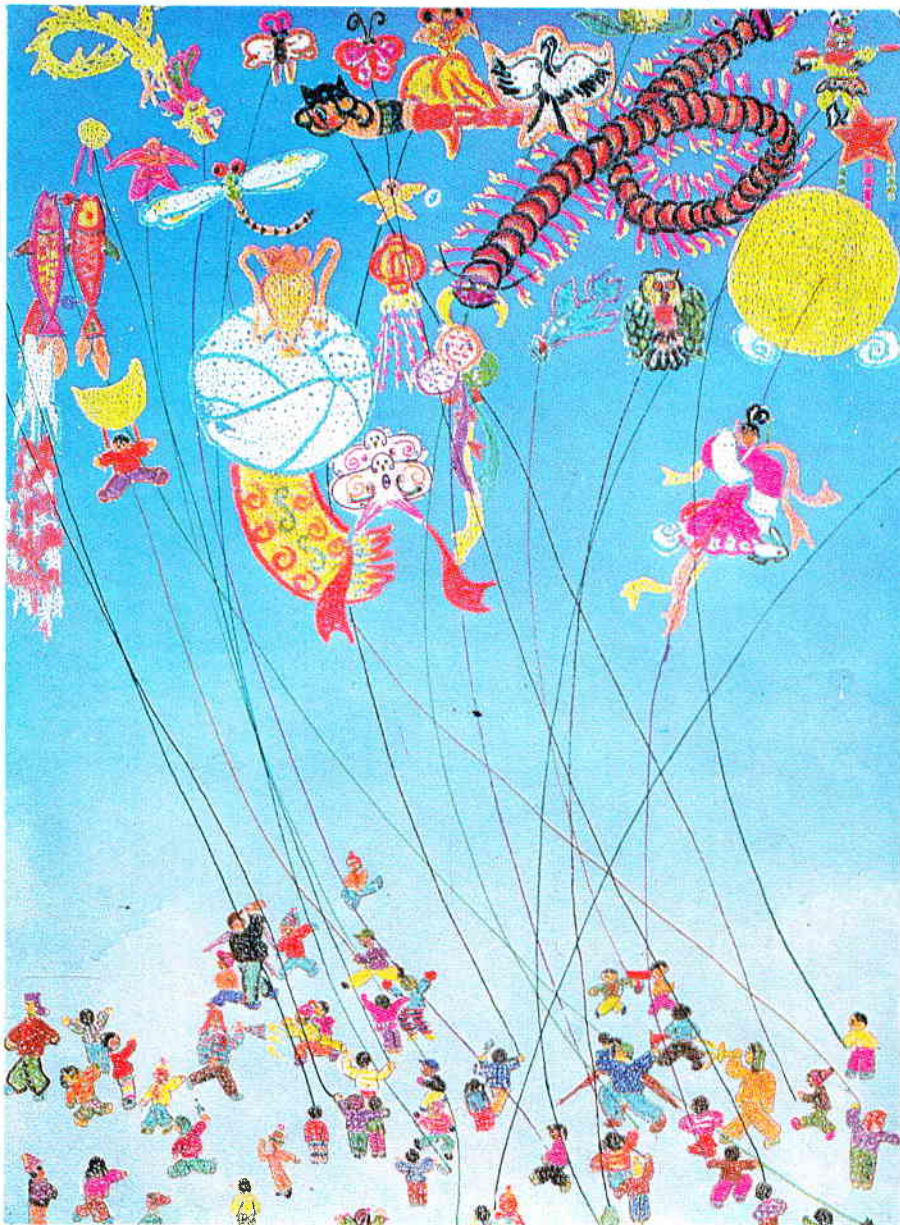
The Effendi (a favorite character in Uygur stories)

Chen Jianyuan, age 9

ZHANG JINGMING is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.



Frogs' Sports Meet  
Wang Liang, age 8



Kite-Flying Contest  
Zhu Yangji, age 12



I'll Help You Up  
Zhu Li, age 6





咪咪  
一九三二年三月  
何嵘画

何嵘

Mi-Mi  
He Rong, age 11

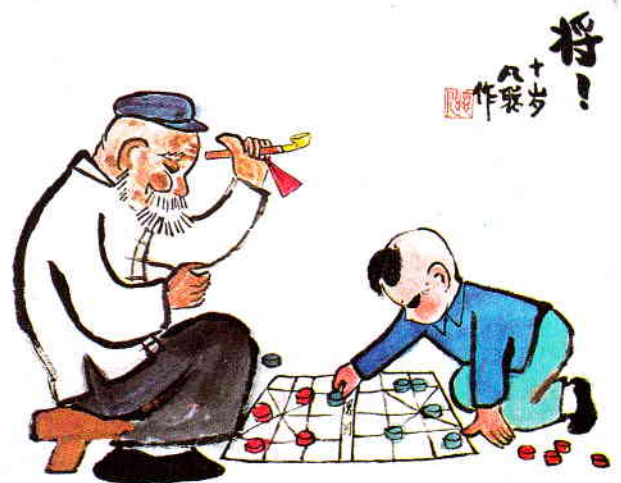


天亮了

二岁画

Daybreak

Feng Dapeng, age 3



将!  
八十岁  
作

Checkmate!

Meng Fancong, age 10





雨平画

Tree-Planting Day

Deng Yuping, age 9

Mother and Son  
Yu Lu, age 11

Don't Hit Birds

Lu Jie, age 7



不要打鸟

路杰 7岁



母子情

于璐画 一九八三年夏





**Gesar, King of Linggar**

Collective painting by: Rinzin Namgyal, Nyima Cering, Yexi Cering, Dawa, Yexi Samdain (Tibetans) and Mei Dingkai, Chen Bingxi, Lü Shuming (Hans).



# New Development in Tibetan Painting

PENG JIANQUN

**R**INZIN NAMGYAL is one of a number of young Tibetan artists who are infusing the traditional styles of their people with new life. Rinzin was born 38 years ago to a peasant family in Luhuo (Zhaggo) county in the Garze Tibetan Autonomous prefecture, Sichuan province.

From childhood he was fond of painting, particularly portraits. He frequently designed the mastheads for wall newspapers at his school. At 14 he was chosen along with a number of other minority nationality students to attend Sichuan's Academy of Fine Arts. There, in addition to theory, he acquired the techniques of woodcuts, oil painting and traditional Chinese painting. After graduation in 1964 he returned home to exercise his skills and to teach amateur painters as a staff member of the prefecture's cultural center at Kangding (he is now vice-head of the center).

His 1974 colored woodcut *Spring Comes to the Grasslands* was exhibited nationally, winning praise from other artists for its lifelike atmosphere and strong Tibetan spirit; it shows oil trucks speeding by a flock of startled sheep. Other paintings followed, some of which won awards and were exhibited abroad: *Morning Scene*, *Fine Situation on the Grasslands*, *New Road in a Mountain Village* and *Singing Cuckoos*.

## Traditional Styles

Tibetan art has a long, rich history, and Rinzin has always wanted

to absorb its essence and make it part of his own style—a goal which his art school teachers encouraged. Early in 1980, under his leadership, seven other painters decided to work together on a special project (Nyima Cering, Yexi Cering, Dawa and Yexi Samdain of Tibetan nationality and Mei Ding-kai, Chen Bingxi and Lü Shuming of Han). They wanted to paint a picture of the 11th century hero-king Gesar (see "The Tibetan Epic 'Gesar'" in the May 1982 *China Reconstructs*) which would incorporate the best of the Tibetan tradition. Before they started, they decided to immerse themselves more thoroughly in that heritage.

Part of their search took them on a two-day horseback journey from Dege county, an ancient cultural center, over snow-covered

mountains to the old Baibung Monastery on a cliff. It was full of glowing murals and colorful patterns on the windows, pillars and beams, which they eagerly copied. At the monastery they met 80-year-old Tonglha Cewang, a skilled artist in the Buddhist tradition. He showed them Buddhist ritual portraits he had done in his younger days and talked with them about Tibetan art and the particular styles of the area.

In a village of Dege county they located three *tangkas*, scroll paintings of figures drawn in gold on a black background. The scrolls have been tentatively attributed to a famous painter who lived in Qamdo. They were made about 40 years ago and were once the property of a local headman.

Rinzin Namgyal and his colleagues on their journey to Baibung Monastery.



PENG JIANQUN is a staff reporter for *China Reconstructs*.



Altogether Rinzin and his colleagues traveled to dozens of towns and villages in nearby counties, talking with folk artists and looking at thousands of murals, paintings, sculptures and examples of folk-craft. They studied books written by old masters of Tibetan art. All of them were enthusiastic about what they found and proud of this fine cultural heritage, which they wanted to incorporate into their own work.

### Portrait of a Hero

The picture of Gesar, measuring 197 by 174 cm., took four months to complete. Under Rinzin's leadership the artists collectively worked out the basic composition and coloring, and painting tasks were divided to let each one use his special skills. The completed portrait shows Gesar, spear in hand, on his wine-colored magic horse. Around him are 18 circles, each a vivid scene of his exploits as described in the epic poem *Gesar*. Thirty of his generals are seen doing battle with monsters. The bottom of the picture shows the Tibetan people's happy life under Gesar's protection.

The artists used the bright, vigorous colors and gold figures on black of Tibetan tradition. They also combined folk designs with the more intellectual style of Buddhist art into a harmonious whole. The content is rich and varied, the composition pleasing.

*Gesar, King of Linggar*, displayed at a spring 1982 national exhibition of minority nationality art, won widespread praise. Critics considered it a fine example of assimilating Tibetan styles and developing them further.

Rinzin Namgyal puts it this way: "Tibetan traditional painting has many expressive techniques; we want to use the best elements of the old forms and infuse them with new concepts."

Before the exhibition ended, the picture was chosen for display at the Spring Salon Art Exhibition in Paris. □

# Ancient and Modern Metallurgical Center

PENG JUN

**H**UANGSHI is a new industrial city on the middle reaches of the Changjiang (Yangtze) River, formed in 1950 through the merger of two small towns—Huangshigang and Shihuiyao. (The city's name is a combination of the first two syllables of the towns' names.) Rich in mineral resources, Huangshi specializes in mining, smelting and manufacture of construction materials.

New as the city is, it carries on an ancient tradition, for the remains of mining and smelting operations dating back almost 3,000 years have been found in the area. One old tale tells how the Taoist priest Tieguaili made a very sharp sword from the iron ore here, which he used to subdue demons. Another says that the forces of the famous national hero Yue Fei (1103-1142) also got from this area the materials for the weapons they used to repel invading troops.

Huangshi and its surrounding region are a true treasure-house of mineral resources, with as many

as 30 different kinds of high-grade ores and minerals, including gold, silver, copper, iron, tungsten, zinc, silica, marble and quartz. A large local copper mine has a dozen associated gold deposits. One hundred small iron mines yield several million tons of ore yearly, enough to supply the city's iron and steel mills, and ship the surplus to other parts of the country. Huangshi's Wuyang brand cement enjoys a high reputation internationally, and its glazed bricks are valued for decoration.

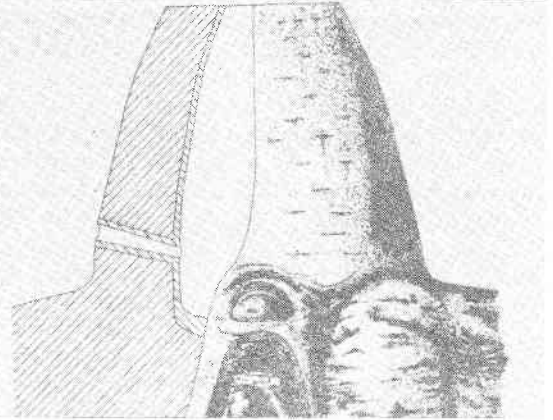
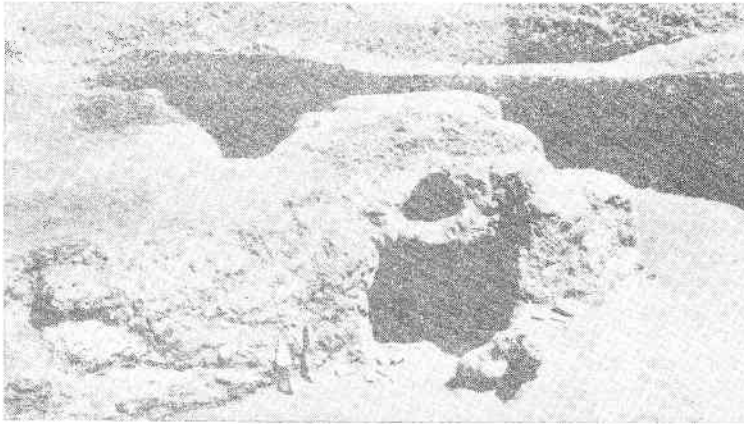
The city's 1980 industrial output value was 250 times the 1950 figure, and over the past 30 years its contributions to the national economy have totalled 5 billion yuan. The population has increased from 50,000 to 350,000, and light industry, commerce, education and culture, health care, transportation and construction have flourished along with the city's primary metallurgical industries.

### Early History

An ancient mining site dating back to the Western Zhou dynasty

PENG JUN is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.





Remains of a copper smelting furnace of the early Spring and Autumn period (770-475 B.C.) and diagram of its original structure.

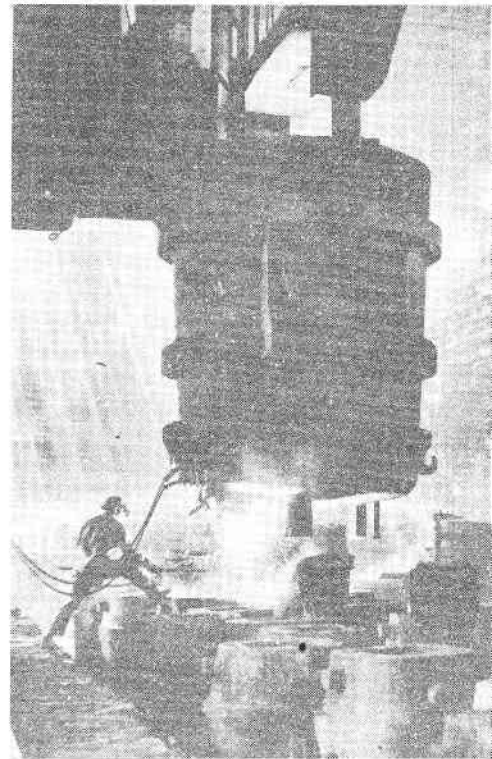
(c. 11th century — 771 B.C.) has recently discovered at Tonglushan, 30 kilometers southwest of the city. Articles unearthed here show that this was an important mining and smelting center more than 2,800 years ago.

Tonglushan is in Daye county, and old county annals describe its rich deposits of copper ore: "The top of the hill is flat. After rain, bronze-colored snow-flake shaped spots appear on its surface." The name Tonglushan means bronze-colored mountains. Tonglushan itself covers an area of 2 square kilometers.

The site of one ancient mine includes a 430-square meter complex of several dozen tunnels which cross one another, the junctures reinforced by large wooden frames.

Found at the site were many of the wooden shovels and rakes used to extract ore, as well as the remains of lifting tools like winches, pails, hooks and straw ropes, wooden drainage troughs and bamboo baskets and poles. From the remains we can see how hard working conditions must have been in the mine, but also how much these miners of long ago could accomplish with their relatively simple tools.

Not far from this ancient mine is an ancient copper smelting works. The old smelting furnace walls were of rammed red clay mixed with pulverized quartz, iron ore, Kaolin and other materials. Beside each was an earth platform with holes on its top and beneath it stone drillers and balls, crushed



Ingot-casting workshop in Daye today.  
Wu Hongxing

Daye's open-pit iron mine.

Yan Yang



iron ore, pottery vessels and other articles for daily use.

The unearthed articles and local earth strata show that the works date back to the early Spring and Autumn Period (770-475 B.C.). A replica of the furnaces, 1.5 meters high and with a top surface of 0.23 square meters, is now in the Huangshi city Museum. There is a trumpet-shaped tuyere through



which air was pumped into the furnace, and on one side an arch-like drain for expelling copper liquid and slag. Simulated tests show that the furnace was capable of smelting more than 100 kilograms of copper in a ten-hour period and of producing metal of 94-97 percent purity.

Seven copper mine pits opened during the Western Zhou and Western Han (206 B.C. — A.D. 24) dynasties and 10 ancient smelting furnaces have been excavated at Tonglushan. This is China's oldest, biggest ancient mining and smelting site, and also the one in longest continual use.

### Tonglushan Today

Tonglushan, which contributed in the past to China's brilliant Bronze Age, has now regained its vigor. Shortly after the 1949 liberation, the people's government sent geological prospecting teams there. In 1959 large-scale exploitation began. Now, in addition to a large copper mine, there are a large iron mine and smaller gold mines. The ancient pits had only begun to touch the riches buried in the earth.

The No. 2 mine is a circular open-pit works 10,000 square meters in area. It was started in 1965 to exploit rich copper and iron resources, and since then has produced 10 million cubic meters of ore. Nearby, more mining areas have been opened up in Longjiaoshan, Tongshankou, Chimashan and Fengshandong. The Daye Nonferrous Metal Company was

established in 1960 near Tonglushan, and uses ore from these mines as raw materials. The company, with seven plants and eight mines, now forms part of one of China's main copper bases, and includes mining, smelting and chemical processing operations.

Entering this smeltery after seeing the ancient furnaces, one's mind leaps across the centuries. The wooden scoop-ladles our ancestors used to pour ore into their primitive furnaces have been replaced by huge iron scoops that can lift three tons of ore at a time. The stone anvils and balls used to grind ore and the earthen furnaces themselves have been replaced by modern steel equipment.

Over the past 20 years the company has produced many tons of copper and a considerable amount of rare metals. Its subsidiary divisions also turn out millions of tons yearly of sulphuric acid, phosphorus fertilizer and other by-products made from the smeltery's gas waste.

### Special Steel Plant

The Daye Steel Plant sprawls over a good half of Huangshi city. Originally it was part of the Hanyeping company opened in 1890 near the end of the Qing dynasty, China's first modern iron and steel complex, which was comprised of an iron works, a coal mine and an iron mine. In the first half of the century, though it managed to produce some iron, it had never succeeded in making standard rolled steel. By 1949 there

were only two small discarded blast furnaces left and 2,800 unemployed workers. In that same year the area was liberated by Communist forces and the company was revived. On October 1, 1949, at the founding of the new People's Republic, the steel works entered a new period of development.

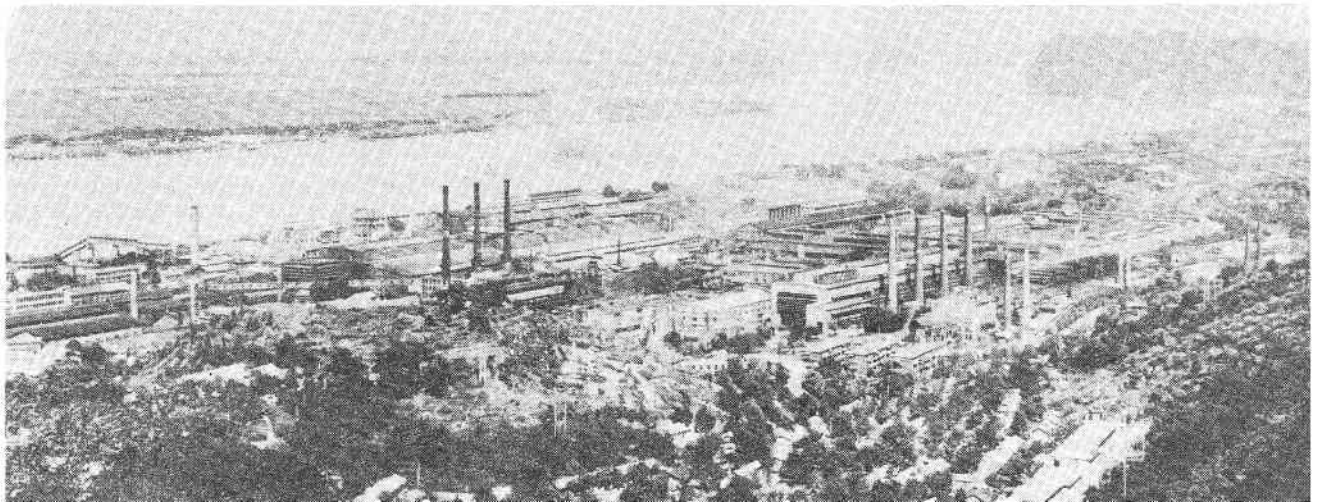
During the first Five-Year Plan (1953-1957), three open-hearth furnaces, five electric furnaces and rolling mills of different size were built here, making it China's first big special steel works.

The plant is now being modernized. Twenty high-smelting point steel furnaces have been added, including vacuum and non-vacuum induction furnaces and electro-slag furnaces. Technological and production processes have been upgraded in the areas of smelting, rolling, forging and cold-drawing of seamless steel pipes. The plant now makes 800 kinds of special steels and 2,000 different types of special-shaped steel used in economic construction and national defense.

Today one-tenth of the daily output of Daye Steel Plant is equivalent to a whole year's output of the Hanyeping company in the old days, and the number of workers and staff has increased 22-fold. In 1979 the plant set up a technical school and enrolls 700 students from among its workers every year. The 2,000 graduates of the school have become the backbone of the company's production force. □

The modern Daye Steel Plant.

Wang Li



# Murder Plot: Jing Ke and the King of Qin

WEI TANG

AS the Warring States period drew to a close, Ying Zheng, King of the State of Qin, later known as the Emperor Qin Shi Huang, pursued with greater verve the program of conquest by which he was to bring all the states under his rule in 221 B.C. By 227 B.C. Qin had conquered the states of Han and Zhao and was threatening the State of Yan to the northeast along the coast.

Prince Dan, son of the King of Yan, didn't think he had much chance of defending his state, so he decided the best thing to do was to get someone to assassinate Ying Zheng. In fact, he had a special grudge against Ying Zheng for he had been captured and held prisoner in Qin for five years before he escaped.

ABOUT this time Prince Dan found a new crony. He was Jing Ke, an adventurer from the State of Wei who in his wanderings had come to Yan. There he mingled with the common people, was always ready to help, and soon gained a good reputation. He and the prince took to each other from their first meeting. The prince decided that Jing Ke was the very person to accomplish his end. Courting Jing Ke's favor, the prince had a luxurious palace built for him and the best food served him. He visited Jing Ke nearly every day and made his favorite chariot available to him.

One day while the two of them were admiring the fish in a pond, a big turtle surfaced. Jing Ke picked up a pebble and threw it at the turtle. So Prince Dan had some gold pellets made just for Jing Ke to throw at turtles.

Another time when they were out hunting Jing Ke happened to remark on what a tasty dish horse liver was. The prince had his best horse slaughtered and the liver cooked for Jing Ke. All this made

a big impression on Jing Ke. He felt he would be willing to do anything for the prince.

QIN TROOPS were massing along Yan's southern border. Prince Dan called Jing Ke in and told him of his hopes for saving Yan by killing the King of Qin.

"I've been thinking about that," said Jing Ke. "The problem is to get access to the king." He asked for two things: One was a map of the Dukang district (now in central Hebei province just southwest of the Beijing capital district), the most fertile part of Yan, which the King of Qin longed to possess. The other: the head of a man named Fan Yuqi, who had defected from Qin to Yan and was on Qin's wanted list. "If I offer these to the King of Qin, he will certainly meet me personally and then I'll have the chance to assassinate him," said Jing Ke.

While the prince prepared a map of Dukang, Jing Ke went to Fan Yuqi's home and told him of the assassination plot. He convinced Fan that giving up his head would be a great service to Yan and afford him a chance to avenge himself against Qin. Fan cut his own throat and Jing Ke took his head. The prince gave Jing Ke a dagger with a poisoned blade and assigned another well-known bravo, Qin Wuyang, to accompany him.

JING KE went to Qin and soon got an audience with the king. But when they got there, Jing Ke's companion lost his nerve. His hands started to tremble. This aroused the king's suspicion but Jing Ke explained that his companion was overawed in the royal presence.

Carrying a wooden box containing the head and the map scroll with the poisoned dagger rolled up inside it, Jing Ke approached the king. When he unrolled the map,



The King of Qin dodges around a pillar to escape his would-be assassin.

Drawing by Li Shiji

the dagger was revealed. As the king stepped back, Jing Ke leaped at him, grabbed him by the sleeve and pointed the dagger at him. The king jerked away and the dagger only tore his sleeve.

The king leaped behind a pillar with Jing Ke after him. Long in fear of his life, the king had ordered that no one could enter the throne room with a weapon, so his retainers were all unarmed. But the king's personal physician tried to get between them with his bag of medicine, which gave the king a moment's respite. The king pulled out his sword and severed Jing Ke's left leg. With a last desperate fling, Jing Ke threw the dagger at the king, but he missed. The guards rushed in from outside and killed Jing Ke and his companion, and the plot came to naught.

FROM this story in Chinese history comes a well-known figure of speech: "When the map is unrolled, the dagger is revealed," meaning that a person's evil intentions are finally exposed. After the incident Qin's forces drove down on Yan. Reaching its capital next year, Ying Zheng forced the King of Yan to have his own son Prince Dan put to death. By 222 B.C. the State of Yan had been completely wiped out by the State of Qin. □



Lesson 24

### Eating Zongzi

小张： 玛利，快 来 吃 粽子。  
 Xiǎo Zhāng: Mǎlì, kuài lái chī zòngzi.  
 Xiao Zhang: Mary, quickly come eat zongzi.

玛利： 粽子？ 样子 真 特别， 象 个  
 Mǎlì: Zòngzi? Yàngzi zhēn tèbié, xiàng ge  
 Mary: Zongzi? Shape really special, like a  
 三角。 怎么 做 的？  
 sānjiǎo. Zěnmē zuò de?  
 triangle. How (is) made?

小张： 这 是 用 苇 叶 包 上 糯 米，  
 Xiǎo Zhāng: Zhè shì yòng wēiyè bāoshàng nuòmǐ,  
 Xiao Zhang: (These) is use reed leaf wrap up glutinous rice,  
 糯 米 里 边 有 馅 儿。 然 后  
 nuòmǐ libian yǒu xiànr. Ránhòu  
 glutinous rice inside have filling. Then  
 煮 熟。 你 尝 尝， 有 一  
 zhǔshú. Nǐ chángchang, yǒu yī  
 (they) are boil done. You have a taste, have a  
 股 清 香 味 儿， 很 好 吃。  
 gǔ qīngxiāng wèir, hěn hǎochī.  
 whiff (of) fragrant smell, very good eat.

玛利： 我 来 中 国 好 几 个 月 了，  
 Mǎlì: Wǒ lái Zhōngguó hào jǐ ge yuè le,  
 Mary: I come China quite few months,  
 没 有 见 到 过 这 种 东 西。  
 méiyǒu jiàndàoguó zhè zhǒng dōngxi.  
 not have seen this kind (of) thing.

小张： 只 有 端 午 节 才 吃 粽 子。  
 Xiǎo Zhāng: Zhīyǒu Duānwǔjié cái chī zòngzi.  
 Xiao Zhang: Only at Dragon Boat Festival then eat zongzi.

关 于 粽 子 的 来 历， 还 有  
 Guānyú zòngzi de láilì, hái yǒu  
 Concerning zongzi origin, also have  
 一 个 动 人 的 故 事 呢！  
 yí gè dòngrén de gùshi ne!  
 a moving story!

玛利： 快 说 给 我 听 听。  
 Mǎlì: Kuài shuōgěi wǒ tīngtīng.  
 Mary: Quickly say for me hear.

小张： 中 国 古 代 有 个 伟 大 的 爱 国  
 Xiǎo Zhāng: Zhōngguó gǔdài yǒu ge wēidà de ài guó  
 Xiao Zhang: China ancient times have a great love country  
 诗 人 屈 原 ( 约 前 340—  
 shīrén Qū Yuán (yuē qián 340 -  
 poet Qu Yuan (c. 340 B.C.-

约 前 278)， 遭 到 陷 害， 投  
 yuē qián 278), zāodào xiànhài, tóu  
 c. 278 B.C.), suffer frame-up, plummet  
 江 自 杀 了。 人 们 为 了  
 jiāng zìshā le. Rénmen wèile  
 into river self-kill. People in order to  
 保 全 他 的 尸 体， 不 被 鱼  
 bǎoquán tā de shītǐ, bú bèi yú  
 protect whole his corpse, not by fish (be)  
 吃 掉， 每 当 农 历 五 月  
 chīdiào, měi dāng nónglì wúyuè  
 eaten up, every at agricultural calendar fifth month  
 初 五 端 午 节 这 天，  
 chū wǔ Duānwǔjié zhè tiān,  
 first five Dragon Boat Festival this day,  
 家 家 户 户 都 包 粽 子，  
 jiājiā hùhù dōu bāo zòngzi,  
 every family (and) household all wrap zongzi,  
 投 到 江 里 喂 鱼。  
 tóudào jiānglǐ wèi yú.  
 throw to river in feed fish.

玛利： 是 真 的？  
 Mǎlì: Shì zhēn de?  
 Mary: Is true?

小 张： 这 只 是 民 间 的 传 说。 也 有  
 Xiǎo Zhāng: Zhè zhī shì mínjiān de chuánshuō. Yé yǒu  
 Xiao Zhang: This only is folk legend. Also have  
 人 考 证 说 屈 原 并  
 rén kǎozhèng shuō Qū Yuán bìng  
 people (do) textual research say Qu Yuan really  
 非 死 于 这 天。 不 过 后 人 把  
 fēi sǐyú zhè tiān. Búguò hòurén bǎ  
 not die on this day. But later people take  
 这 一 天 作 为 他 的 纪 念 日，  
 zhè yī tiān zuòwéi tā de jìniànrì,  
 this day as his commemorative day,  
 反 映 了 对 他 的 爱 戴 和  
 fǎnyǐng le duì tā de àidài hé  
 reflecting toward him love and  
 怀 念。  
 huáiniàn.  
 memory.

玛利： 粽 子 是 什 么 馅 儿 的？  
 Mǎlì: Zòngzi shì shénme xiànr de?  
 Mary: Zongzi is (have) what filling?

小张: 北方人多爱吃枣儿的  
 Xiǎo Zhāng: Běifāng rén duō ài chī zǎor de  
 Xiao Zhang: Northerners mostly like eat jujube

或豆沙的, 是甜的。  
 huò dòushā de, shì tián de.  
 or bean paste (ones), is sweet.

南方的品种丰富。除了  
 Nánfāng de pǐnzhǒng fēngfù. Chúle  
 South's kinds varied. Apart from

甜味儿的以外, 还有肉  
 tián wèir de yiwài, hái yǒu ròu  
 sweet flavored, also have meat

馅儿的。  
 xiànr de  
 filling.

玛利: 你这样说, 我非吃几个  
 Mǎlì: Nǐ zhèyàng yì shuō, wǒ fēi chī jǐ ge  
 Mary: You this way say, I must eat several ones

不可了。  
 bùkě le.  
 certainly.

### Translation

Xiao Zhang: Mary, come have a *zongzi*.  
 Mary: *Zongzi*? The shape is very unusual — triangular. How are they made?

Xiao Zhang: They are made of glutinous rice wrapped in reed leaves. Inside the rice is filling. Then they are boiled. Have a taste, it smells fragrant and is very delicious.

Mary: I've been in China for several months, but I have never seen such things.

Xiao Zhang: They are eaten only at the Dragon Boat Festival. There is also a moving story about their origin.

Mary: Please tell me.

Xiao Zhang: In China in ancient times there was a great patriotic poet, Qu Yuan (c. 340-278 B.C.), who was framed and threw himself into the river and committed suicide. In order to protect his body from being eaten by the fish, on the fifth day of the fifth lunar month, every family made *zongzi* and threw them into the river to feed the fish.

Mary: Is that true?

Xiao Zhang: It's only a folk legend. There are some people who have done research and say that Qu Yuan did not die on that day. But people of later generations took that day to commemorate him. This shows the people's love for him and how they cherish his memory.

Mary: What is the filling made of?

Xiao Zhang: Northerners usually like those with fillings of jujube or bean paste. These are sweet. In the south there are many varieties. Besides those with sweet filling, there are also those with fillings of meat.

Mary: If it's the way you say, I must eat some *zongzi*.

### Notes

#### 1. Dragon Boat Festival.

In Chinese it is *Duānwǔjié* (Initial Five Festival), as it falls on the fifth day (the initial one of three fives in the monthly calendar) of the fifth month according to the Chinese lunar calendar. In English it has come to be known as the Dragon Boat Festival because dragon boat races are also held on that day.

#### 2. When *kuài* 快 does not mean 'quickly.'

This character, which in its common use means 'quickly', is sometimes put into a sentence to indicate cordiality or warmth of emotion. *Mǎlì, kuài lái chī zongzi* 玛利, 快来吃粽子 (Come on, Mary, have a *zongzi*). *Kuài qǐngzuò* 快请坐 (Please sit down).

#### 3. The passive with *bèi* 被.

A sentence in the active voice is changed to the passive by the addition of *bèi* 被. *Wǒ de zìxíngchē bèi tā jièzǒule* 我的自行车被他借走了 (My bike was borrowed by him). *Tā bèi péngyoumen qǐng qù tiàowǔ le* 他被朋友们请去跳舞了 (He was invited by his friends to dance).

In spoken Chinese *ràng* 让 (normally, let) and *jiào* 叫 (normally, ask, tell) are often used instead of *bèi* 被. *Wǒ de zìxíngchē ràng tā jièzǒule* 我的自行车让他借走了.

Note that all the above examples end with the character *le* 了. This little word, called a particle, is added after a verb or at the end of the sentence to show that an action is completed.

To form a negative sentence *bù* 不 or *méiyǒu* 没有 are put before *bèi* 被. *Wǒ de zìxíngchē méiyǒu bèi tā jièzǒu* 我的自行车没有被借走 (My bike was not borrowed by him). *Rénmen xīwàng Qū Yuán de shǐtǐ bú bèi yú chīdiào* 人们希望屈原的尸体不被鱼吃掉 (People hoped that Qu Yuan's corpse would not be eaten by the fish). As the action is not completed, there is no *le* 了.

### Everyday Expressions

- 遭到 *zāodào* suffer, meet with  
 遭到不幸 *zāodào búxìng* meet with misfortune  
 遭到失败 *zāodào shībài* suffer defeat  
 遭到陷害 *zāodào xiànhài* suffer frame-up
- 保全 *bǎoquán* preserve, protect  
 保全性命 *bǎoquán xìngmìng* preserve life  
 保全名誉 *bǎoquán míngyù* protect good name
- 非...不可 *fēi... bùkě* must  
 非去不可 *fēi qù bùkě* must go  
 非来不可 *fēi lái bùkě* must come



## Exercises

1. Answer the following questions in Chinese.
  - 1) Which day is China's Dragon Boat Festival?
  - 2) Why do the Chinese people have the custom of making *zongzi* at the Dragon Boat Festival?
2. Change the following sentences into passive voice sentences.
  - 1) 他借去了我的字典。
  - 2) 他吃了那个粽子。
  - 3) 风刮倒了小树。

3. Read the following passage.

中国农历五月初五是端午节。这天家家户户都包粽子吃。这种习俗 (xísú custom) 已经流传几千年了。

关于粽子的来历，有一段动人的故事。中国古代有个伟大的爱国诗人，名字叫屈原。由于遭到坏人的陷害，投江自杀了。人们为了保全他的尸体，不被鱼吃掉，就在端午节这天包很多粽子投到江里喂鱼，虽然这是传说，但人们把端午节作为纪念屈原的日子，说明对这位爱国诗人的爱戴和怀念。

### New Series Begins in January

In the January 1983 issue we will begin a new series of lessons. They will concentrate on everyday situations such as getting food and clothing, transportation, work, study, travel, and will introduce some information on Chinese culture. It will be useful preparation for anyone hoping to come to China to work or visit, and of interest to others who want to learn everyday Chinese. The series, which is prepared by Huang Wenyan, a teacher at the Beijing Languages Institute, will run for two years.

## Chinese Cookery

### Simmered Chicken with Chinese Mushrooms

(Donggu Men Ji)

- A 1-kilogram (2-pound) fat tender chicken
- 3 slices ginger
- 3 4-cm. scallion sections
- ½ cup dried Chinese mushrooms
- ½ cup golden needles (dried lily flowers — optional)
- ½ cup black fungus (wood ears — optional)
- 1 cup soya sauce
- ⅓ cup sugar
- 3 tablespoons rice wine (or sherry)
- 2 cups vegetable oil for deep-frying
- 4 cups cold water

This dish is made with the Chinese mushroom *Leutinus shiitake* (*P. Hem*) *Singer*, a medium-sized flat mushroom which is noted for its flavor.

Draw and wash chicken and drain.

Put mushrooms, golden needles and wood ears to soak in a little water. Heat oil in a skillet until it bubbles. Brown whole chicken over medium heat. Remove chicken and pour off oil.

Heat 3 tablespoons oil in skillet, add ginger and scallions and stir-fry until you can smell the fragrance. Add mushrooms, golden needles, wood ears. Stir and add

soya sauce, wine, sugar and water. Bring to a boil, add chicken. Boil for two minutes, then simmer chicken over low heat for two hours or until tender enough to be thrust through with a chopstick, but not so that it falls apart when cut. Cut chicken into 3 cm. by 6 cm. strips and arrange on a platter. Scatter mushrooms over chicken. Boil gravy until thick and pour over chicken. Serves four. □

## To Be Published Soon by China Reconstructs

*Life of China's Muslims* (Arabic, already out)

*Stamps of New China* (English)

*Simplified Taijiquan* (Spanish)

*Ancient Chinese Poems* (Arabic)

*Native Towns of Overseas Chinese* (Chinese, 2 vols.)

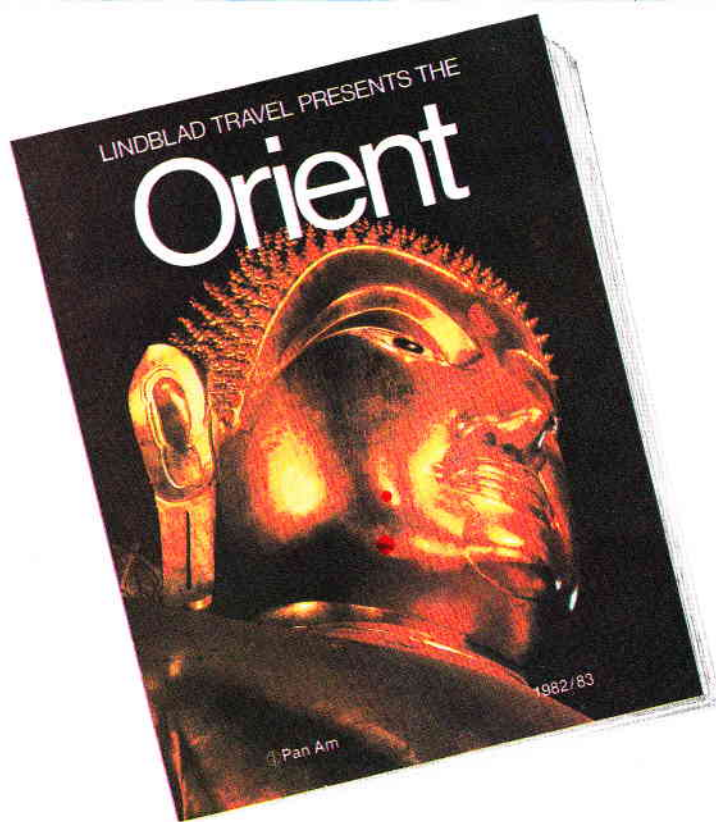
*Back to Our Roots* (Overseas Chinese youth visit ancestral homes, Chinese and English in one volume)



The Wujiangdu power station,  
Guizhou's biggest, with an in-  
stalled capacity of 630,000 kw.  
*Tan Shaomin*







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