

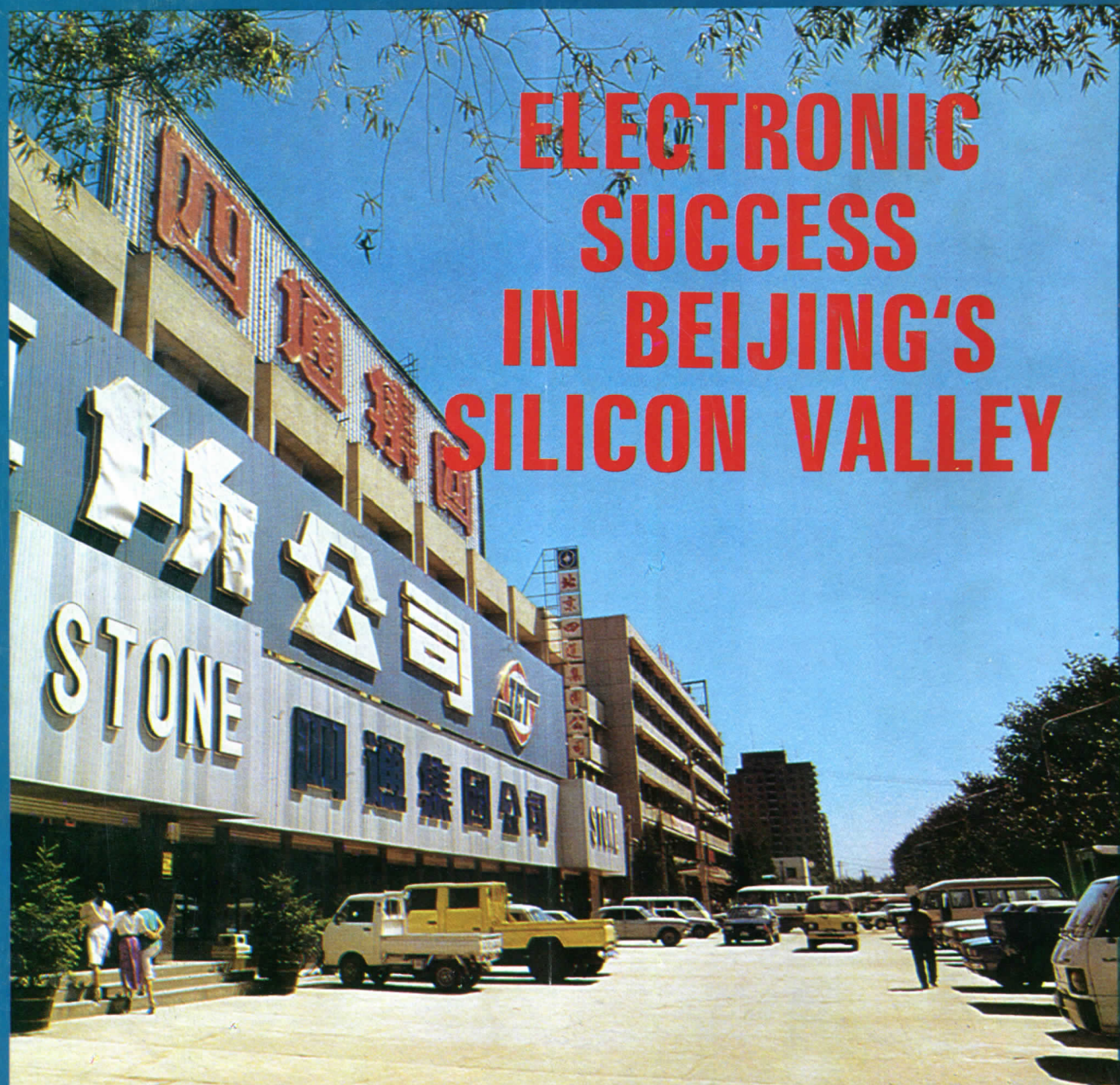
Beijing Review

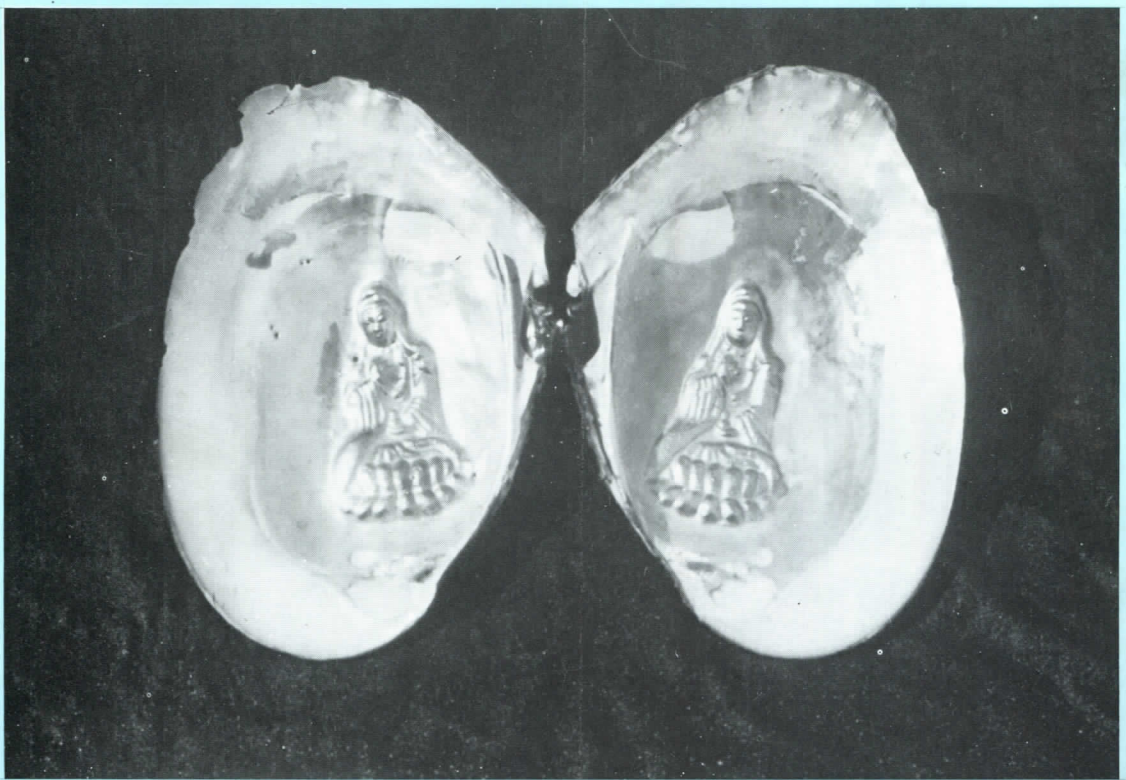
北京周報

Vol. 31, No. 38 September 19-25, 1988

Who Will Be the Next US President?

**ELECTRONIC
SUCCESS
IN BEIJING'S
SILICON VALLEY**





Reliefs of Guanyin Bodhisattva figures in an oyster shell.

Pearls are eagerly sought by many for their beauty and lustre. One of China's pearl production centres where oysters are cultivated is Zhuji County, Zhejiang Province. Here one can find not only pearl-breeding oyster farms but also producers of various kinds of relief figure pictures. This new handicraft is used to create decorative articles and tourist souvenirs.

Photos by Gu Shoukang



Injecting a special solution into an oyster shell to boost the growth of pearl.

A pearl cultivator spreading oysters in a pond.



VOL. 31, NO. 38 SEPT. 19-25, 1988

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Chen Zonglie

China Launches Meteorological Satellite

■ China successfully sent up its first experimental meteorological satellite by a Long March No.4 carrier rocket on September 7. The satellite gathers global meteorological information and transmits the data to satellite ground stations worldwide (p. 5).

KMT Urged to Begin Talks on Reunification

■ Thirty-four KMT leaders headed by Chen Li-fu recently put forward a proposal for reunifying China through culture. *Renmin Ribao* (People's Daily) published a commentary warmly welcoming the proposal. The paper expressed the hope that both sides can initiate co-operation in economic and cultural fields and conduct talks on all matters at an early date either on the mainland, in Taiwan, or at any other place (p. 14).

China's Silicon Valley in the Ascendent

■ Since 1980, group after group of scientists and engineers have quit their secure jobs to found their own electronic businesses on Zhongguangcun Street in Beijing. Now the largest micro-computer and computer components market in China has become China's answer to silicon valley in combining scientific and technological research with trade (p. 15).

A Brief Analysis of US Presidential Elections

■ The fact that George Bush and Michael Dukakis have won, respectively, the Republican and Democratic presidential nomination shows that moderate conservatism and moderate liberalism represent the current mainstreams in the campaign. The two candidates are expected to run a close race, the outcome of which cannot be predicted with any certainty at present (p. 19).

Singapore's General Election

■ The Singapore People's Action Party wins again in the recent general election on its record of increasing prosperity (p. 12).

Published every Monday by
BEIJING REVIEW
24 Bawanzhuang Road
Beijing 100037
The People's Republic of China

General Editorial Office Tel: 8314318
English Dept Tel: 331 5599 Ext. 516
Distributed by China International Book
Trading Corporation (GUOJI SHUDIAN)
P.O. Box 399, Beijing, China

Subscription rates (1 year)
Australia A.\$24.00
New Zealand NZ.\$33.00
UK £13.00
USA US\$24.00
Canada Can.\$23.00

New System of Public Service to Go Into Effect

by LI LI

China is now actively preparing to implement a new system of public service. Starting from next January, all government departments will recruit and promote staff in line with a new series of stipulations concerning the system of public service.

The Ministry of Personnel under the State Council is going through the final examination of the Provisional Regulations Concerning Public Servants and some other related decrees. The regulations include articles on the rights and responsibilities of public servants, classification of posts, examination and recruitment, rewards and punishment, promotion and demotion, training and education, salaries and welfare, retirement and work discipline.

The document has two major themes. First, it gives prominence to competition. The regulations stipulate that in the future, all state organs must recruit public servants through open, competitive examinations. The state will announce the qualifications required, the examination procedures and the methods of recruitment, so as to enable every citizen to have an equal opportunity of applying. Staff will then be recruited according to the examination results. In addition, the promotion of public servants will be based on a comprehensive appraisal of their work, supplemented when necessary by examinations.

Second, the document stresses supervision and management according to the law. The

document includes a series of strict stipulations on public servant discipline, and contains a plan for the establishment of a mechanism enabling the people to exercise direct supervision over the work of public servants. Those found violating this discipline will be severely punished. The statute also embodies detailed legal norms for the management of public servants.

Six auxiliary decrees have been drafted, covering areas including examination and recruitment, routine checks of work standards, rewards and punishment, and salary scale. Plans have also been made to enact another ten decrees on the training of public servants, changing jobs, insurance and welfare.

The Ministry of Personnel plans to establish a comprehensive statutory system over public service within five years.

Since the beginning of the second half of this year, this new system of public service has been tried out in four departments under the State Council, including the State Building Materials Bureau, the State Auditing Administration and the State Environmental Protection Bureau, the provincial governments of Guangdong and Fujian, and governments of eight cities including Guangzhou and Shenzhen. Initially, the results have proved successful.

In August, the first training class for the introduction of the new public service system was held in Beijing. The participants were 106 personnel department direc-

tors from various provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions. They discussed the drafts of the Provisional Regulations Concerning Public Servants and related statutory decrees and suggested several revisions.

Energetic efforts will be made to establish a national public servant training network based on the State Administrative College, an institution of higher learning specializing in training public servants to be built. The network will include several local administrative colleges and various training institutes. These colleges and institutes will devote their attention primarily to training public servants at their posts.

China's current personnel management system came into being in the early days of New China. Its basic functions have been the recruitment, selection and transfer of officials, with its work overseen by Party committees and organizational departments in an universal manner.

The advantage of this system lay in its strong political "cohesive force." But its major defect was a lack of strict, scientific and legal standards of classification for official positions and selecting officials. As a result, it inevitably gave rise to some abuses, such as choosing the wrong person for a job, incompetence and favouritism.

In addition, it failed to offer every official an equal opportunity in applying for vacant posts, and so was not conducive to the intellectual growth of talented people.



Consequently, the old system has fallen ever more out of step with the need for highly efficient government work required by China's reforms. Therefore, the 13th Party Congress pointed out the necessity of establishing a scientifically managed, modern public service system characterized by open competition. It is only through such a system that government functionaries can remain competent, qualified and honest. And it is only with such a system that they can form a powerful and highly efficient government network to effectively manage state administrative affairs.

The establishment and implementation of the new public service system represents a major step in the reform of China's political structure. It is undoubtedly a complicated social project involving the country's few million government personnel. The most important question is how to accomplish the transition from the old system to the new in the shortest possible time.

Therefore, the Ministry of Personnel has worked out a graduated reform plan, starting at the top and working down. According to the plan, the transition for state organs, and provincial and municipal governments will be accomplished in five years. For the county and township administrations, it will take a little longer. ■

China Launches Meteorological Satellite

China sent up its first experimental meteorological satellite from a launching centre in Taiyuan, Shanxi Province on September 7.

The satellite, Fengyun (Wind and Cloud) No. 1, has entered the solar-synchronous orbit, with all meters and instruments functioning normally.

Following its launching by a "Long March No. 4" carrier rocket, it transmitted information in about 15 minutes and its first cloud chart picture in one hour and 30 minutes.

The chart of clouds over the Soviet Union and Asia is clear, said experts at the Beijing-based Satellite Meteorological Centre affiliated with the State Meteorological Bureau.

The Xian Satellite Telemetering Centre and the State Meteorological Bureau are testing the satellite according to plan.

It is capable of telemetering cloud charts day and night, earth's surface pictures, ocean-water color-charts, growth of veget-

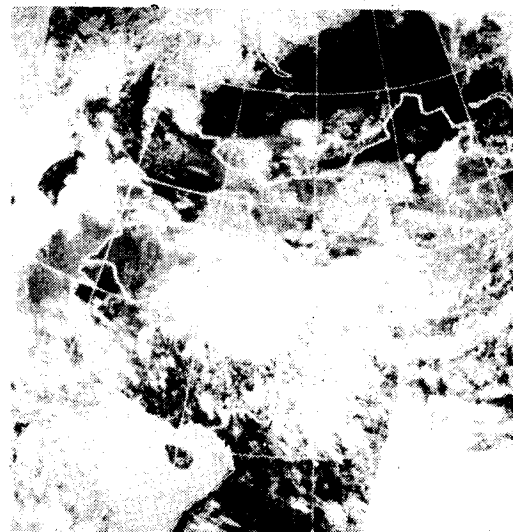
ation, temperatures of the ocean surface, and coverage of ice and snow.

It is also capable of surveying the composition of particles in space.

It is designed primarily to gather global meteorological in-

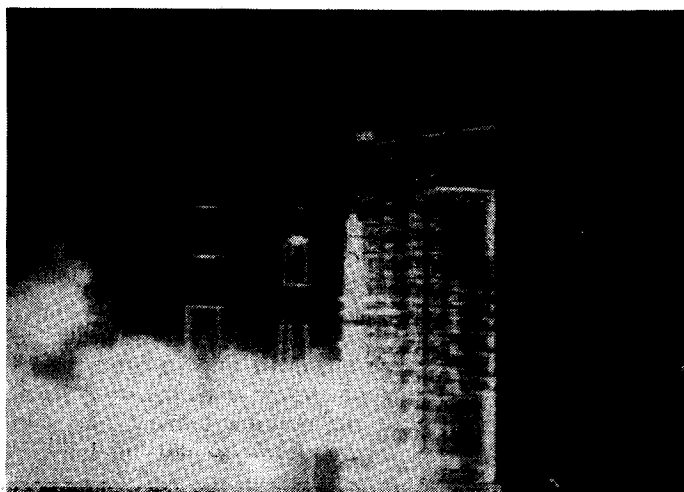
Extensive cloud chart transmitted by the satellite pictures all of China's topographical features.

by Xinhua



China launches its first meteorological satellite by a "Long March No. 4" carrier rocket.

XU ZHIMIN



formation and transmit the data to satellite ground stations worldwide.

Three meteorological satellite ground stations in Beijing, Guangzhou and Urumqi are capable of receiving data from the satellite every day.

The meteorological satellite is the third successfully launched this year by China, and also the 24th since April 1970, when China launched its first artificial earth satellite.

The meteorological satellite, as compared with other types of satellites, has the following characteristics:

Launched by a new carrier rocket. Just like Long March No.3, Long March No.4 is a three-stage one, with a great carrying capacity. The only difference between them is their power installation on the third stage.

Moves in a different orbit. Rotating in a direction opposite to that of the earth, the satellite circles around the earth 14 times a day along the solar-synchronous orbit and twice passes across the sky above all regions except the two poles; in this way, it can obtain high-quality charts and pictures from all over the world.

Observes a broader area. The satellite applies the space technology and remote sensing technology to the scientific study of atmosphere and meteorological survey, therefore, it can observe the surface of the earth as well as the atmosphere from outer space. It also has the advantage of transmitting information promptly and quickly.

China proposes to further raise the function and level of the solar-synchronous orbit meteorological satellite and speed up the development of the earth static orbit meteorological satellite so as to advance the science of meteorology in China, promote the national economy and benefit the people. ■

Zhao on China's Price Reform

Chinese leader Zhao Ziyang said that China must be clear in orientation and take resolute and reliable measures in price reform.

Zhao, General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee, made the remark on September 6 at a meeting with the American publisher Frank Gibney in Beijing.

China will firmly carry out the price reform, Zhao said. But the reform will not proceed in isolation. It will go ahead together with the improvement of the economic environment and consolidation of order within the Party and government. Measures include stopping loopholes in commodity circulation and solving problems related to honesty and openness in Party and government organizations.

He said China faces the major problem of dealing with an overheated economy. Measures must be taken to limit the scale of capital construction and control the speed of economic development. The price reform should keep pace with enterprise reform. The price reform hinges on the efficiency of the enterprises.

The rate of price increases next year will be much lower than that of this year, he stressed.

When talking about reform in urban areas, Zhao said that China allows the existence of a private sector of the economy. Predominantly state-run enterprises will not be turned into private ones, as in some developing countries. But China is going to adopt measures to separate the ownership of state-run enterprises from the power of management and to introduce a stock system with the state stock as the dominant one. Zhao said this is feasible and he is very hopeful about it.

Gibney, co-chairman of the joint editorial review board of a Chinese version of the "Concise Encyclopaedia Britannica," who has visited China every year since 1984, said that compared with a few years ago, China's intellectuals seem to speak more openly. He asked Zhao whether it is true that the Chinese government adopts a tolerant attitude towards writers and artists whose opinions differ from orthodox views.

In reply, Zhao said, "On this question, we stick to two principles. One is upholding the socialist system; the other is following the policy of letting a hundred flowers bloom and a hundred schools of thought contend. This can be applied not only to natural sciences but also to art and literature."

Not long ago, he added, the country's two films "Old Well" and "Red Sorghum" won international awards. In China, some people are in favour of these films and some are against them. The attitude of the Party and the government is not to interfere, but to let the people discuss them freely. Praise of the films is allowed and criticism is permitted too. "Our future policy will be one of less interference," Zhao stated.

Then Gibney asked, "When we met last time, you were premier and now you are the Party's General Secretary. How much time do you spend every day handling economic and Party affairs?"

Zhao said with a smile, "Things were different when I was premier. I do not directly deal with economic affairs, but concentrate on research and investigation so that I can discuss major policy issues with my colleagues at Party meetings."

He explained that now China is going all out with its modernization. "It's quite difficult to distinguish which are Party affairs

and which are related to economic issues. I devote most of my energy to reform matters," he said. "Generally speaking, questions related to reform take up 70 percent of my energy, including my meeting with you since we are talking about the reform." ■

First Secrets Law Made Public

China's first state secrets law was approved at the Third Meeting of the National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee which ended on September 5 in Beijing.

The 35-article law safeguards national security and interests and obliges all state institutions, the armed forces, social organizations, enterprises and citizens to keep state secrets.

State secrets include important decisions on state affairs, activities of the armed forces and national defense construction, diplomatic affairs, secret affairs concerning national economic and social development and science and technology, and activities related to state safety and to the investigation of crimes.

They are divided into three categories: strictly confidential, confidential, and secret. "Strictly confidential" information means disclosure would seriously damage state safety and interests.

No state secrets should be disclosed in press releases, magazines, maps and other publications including broadcasting and video tapes.

Military zones and secret state institutions should not be open to the public without special permission. No documents or publications can be carried or posted outside the mainland without the approval of designated authorities.

Officials taking charge of state

secrets will not be allowed to leave the country without clearance from their superiors. The State Council or other government institutions have the power to block approval to leave if they deem his exit would harm the safety of the country or cause losses to the state.

The law will come into effect on May 1, 1989 and will replace the provisional regulations on keeping state secrets issued in June, 1951.

To strengthen the country's control over state secrets, a new state secrets bureau has been recently set up under the State Council, replacing the former central secrets commission, a senior official in charge of state secrets said on September 7.

He said that China will tighten control over official secrets and impose severe penalties according to law for acts of harming state security by leaking state secrets.

With the increasing international exchanges and co-operation since China opened its doors to the outside world in 1979, various forces in and outside China have increased their efforts to collect information on the country, the official said. Moreover, some Chinese have sold or illegally divulged state secrets to foreigners.

Statistics show that 80 percent of the cases of revealing state secrets in recent years involved providing state secrets to overseas institutions, organizations or individuals, and some of the leaks have severely damaged the country's security and interests.

Though China's central government issued a set of provisional regulations on maintaining state secrets in 1951, the regulations and some relevant provisions in the "Criminal Law", passed in 1979, cannot meet the needs of the current complicated situation, the official said.

According to him, the newly promulgated state secrets law and an additional regulation for punishment of criminals revealing state secrets, which won the nod from the NPC Standing Committee on September 5, provide for heavier penalties on anyone leaking or stealing state secrets.

Those who steal, buy or otherwise illegally leak state secrets in serious circumstances shall be given a prison sentence or even the death penalty, along with deprivation of political rights, the additional regulation stipulates.

No secret, no need to conceal

When discussing the law at the NPC meeting, some members of the NPC Standing Committee said that it is necessary to keep information secret which is confidential or secret, while there is no need for concealing matters which are not secret. For example, they said, the Chinese people should know the things which their leaders tell foreign visitors, and which are allowed to be made public abroad. Sometimes happenings in or connected with China are well known abroad, but the Chinese people know nothing about them, they complained. This phenomenon should be corrected, they said, implying that top leaders should not keep the people from access to information which has been made public overseas.

According to Huang Shunxing, a member of the committee, the limits of secret information and materials should not be too wide, otherwise the reform and openness will be harmed.

Some journalists are worrying that if the law is not carried out properly, say, the scope of secrets is arbitrarily set too wide, it will hinder the process of China's democratization and the policy of *toumingdu* (transparency—Chinese equivalent of the Soviet *glasnost*). Thus, they said, the enactment of a press law is imperative. ■



XUE CHAO

China Hosts the ICFS '88

The 1988 International Congress on Forensic Science opened in Beijing on September 4. Present at the meeting were about 300 legal medical scholars from 27 countries and regions.

China boasts a long history of forensic science. *The Redress of Grievances* written by Song Ci in 1247 is generally recognized as the world's earliest forensic classic.

Today's force more than 7,000 legal medical workers have contributed a great deal to social justice in China.

Can a Millionaire Join the Party?

Should a millionaire be allowed to join the Communist Party of China? It is a question to which the Party has never had to address itself since its founding in 1921. Yet it has aroused wide debate among grassroots Party organizations in northeast China's Liaoning Province.

The discussion focusses on Liu Xigui, a 34-year-old farmer on the rural outskirts of Shenyang, the provincial capital. Nine years ago he contracted an old truck from a local unit, using his own savings plus some loans, and engaged in private transport.

His business flourished. Today

the company has 240 employees and runs a fleet of 49 motor vehicles. His fixed assets are worth 5.2 million yuan (US\$1,400,000).

Although Liu has demonstrated his civic virtues by handing over more than a million yuan to the state in taxes and donating 300,000 yuan to local welfare departments, his application to join the Party has so far not been accepted.

"I'm rather confused about this," mused an official in charge of provincial Party affairs. "Should the Party accept an affluent private businessman or not?"

He noted that members of the Party should be advanced elements of the proletariat, according to the Party constitution. They must not seek personal gain or privileges outside the scope

prescribed by the constitution.

The debate about cases like Liu's has spread to many parts of the country, with interest fueled by the rapid-growing private sector which now totals 115,000 businesses having at least eight employees each.

Hundreds of Party members have written to the provincial Party committee supporting Liu. "The vanguard role of a millionaire, who leads his villagers to fight for common prosperity, is greater than that of someone who is a Party member in name only," wrote an employee of the Datong railway administration in Shanxi Province.

Many have commented it is not fair to reject individual business owners just because they have more private property than others.

However, others argue that

most of the wealth of the rich has been acquired by squeezing surplus value out of the workers they employ. That is exploitation, they claim.

They consider it ridiculous to even imagine that an exploiter controlling large amounts of surplus value could become a communist and devote his life to eliminating the system of exploitation.

The Liaoning provincial Party committee has invited wide-ranging discussion but has yet to come up with a clear-cut statement.

A committee official said the city's Dongling district branch where Liu applied has the right to decide whether to admit him or not.

But the branch itself is obviously divided. A deputy head said that whether an applicant for Party membership employed workers or not was unimportant. His income comes from his own labour and is justified since the central Party authorities encourage the development of private economy in China. ■

Weekly Chronicle (September 5-11)

POLITICAL

September 7

■ Deng Xiaoping, chairman of the Chinese Central Military Commission, tells visiting US Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci that China is a trustworthy and responsible country. China is pledged to modernization and world peace. "That is the starting point from which we raise and solve problems," Deng adds.

Deng expresses satisfaction with what he describes as the "steady development" of Sino-US relations in recent years.

September 8

■ In response to a reporter's question, a Foreign Ministry spokesman says: "We are deeply concerned over visits to Taiwan by the Malaysian Prime Minister and Minister of Trade and Industry."

He says these visits are not in conformity with agreements reached between China and Malaysia upon establishment of diplomatic relations and are not conducive to the development of friendly relations between the two countries.

■ Addressing a banquet hosted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) embassy in Beijing in celebration of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the DPRK, Chinese Premier Li Peng says: "It is the firm policy of the Chinese Communist Party and government to consistently further the friendship between China and the DPRK."

The Chinese government and people will continue to unswervingly support the Korean people in their just struggle for the peaceful reunification and independence of their country.

ECONOMIC

September 5

■ China has become the 13th largest trading partner of the United States with a trade volume amounting to US\$10.4 billion last year, according to the second session of a Sino-US economic co-operation seminar held in Shanghai.

In 1987, about 16 percent of China's export goods went to the United States while US imports from China amounted to US\$5.9 billion, just below the figure for Japan.

September 8

■ A Foreign Ministry spokesman

at a news briefing cites the three principles guiding China's export of military equipment.

First, the export of military equipment should be conducive to enhancement of the just defense capability of the countries concerned. Secondly, it should be conducive to the maintenance and promotion of peace, security and stability in the relevant regions. Thirdly, it should not function as interference by China in the internal affairs of other countries.

CULTURAL

September 7

■ A 17-volume "Collected Works of Leo Tolstoy" will soon be off the press to commemorate the 160th anniversary of the great Russian writer's birthday which falls on September 9.

Eight volumes have already been published by the People's Literature Publishing House. The collection will include all his novels, most of his novelettes, his short stories, tales for children, plays and other writings.

September 8

■ An exhibition entitled "Sex and Its Knowledge" is being held in the largest park in Nanjing, capital of Jiangsu Province, *China Youth News* reports.

This is part of the local government's more open policy regarding sex education. Exhibitions like this have rarely been held in public places before.

SOCIAL

September 5

■ The number of people above the age of 65 in China is expected to reach 73.98 million in 1990; it will reach 86.48 million in the year 2000, 36 million more as compared with 49.72 million in 1982, *Renmin Ribao* (People's Daily) reports.

POLAND

Strikes End, Problems Remain

Although the strikes ended, following efforts made by the Polish government and departments concerned, the government still faces arduous tasks.

With the end of strikes at the Szczecin Port and Bus Depot and the July Manifesto Mine on September 3, life returned to normal in Poland. But problems still remain, as Polish leader Wojciech Jaruzelski pointed out at the two-day 8th plenary session of the Polish Workers' Party, which ended on August 28.

The work stoppages were triggered off by the failure of the price-income policy. Early this year, the Polish authorities initiated a drastic reform of the price-income policy, originally planning to raise prices by 34 percent and incomes by 36 percent. However, resentment was aroused among the people during the first six months when prices rose by 53 percent and incomes by 62 percent.

"The price-income policy failed to reach its goal. On the contrary, it has intensified inflation and destabilized the market," said Wladyslaw Baka, Party Politburo member and Central Committee secretary in charge of economic affairs, at the plenary session.

The strikes, which lasted for 20 days, started in the July Manifesto Mine in Katowice on August 15 and spread to 14 mines, 15 plants, shipyards, and bus depots in Gdansk and Szczecin. The strikers demanded higher pay and official recognition of the Solidarity trade union, which was banned in 1981 when the Polish authorities imposed martial law in the country.

The Polish government considered some of the strikers'

demands reasonable, but nevertheless declared the walkouts illegal under Polish law.

Actually only a small number of workers were involved in the wave of work stoppages and by August 28, 18 plants and mines had ended their strikes. On August 29, walkouts continued in the July Manifesto Mine in Katowice and some shipyards in Gdansk and Szczecin, but they involved only 3,100 workers, who accounted for 0.18 percent of the total number of workers in the country. The 20-day strike wave has caused the country a loss of 49.3 billion zlotys (about US\$105 million).

"The cause of the current difficulties is the faulty economic policy. The demonstrations are a signal that the leadership has made mistakes, weakened its relations with the working class and failed to act promptly in dealing with the problems," Jaruzelski pointed out at the session.

So, during the 20 days of strikes, the Polish authorities actively sought dialogue with the strikers, in contrast with their previous policies in handling strikes. Although they had said they would stop the strikes by mandatory sanctions, they did not do so this time.

Observers in Warsaw believed that the situation in Poland would become worse and that the already-improved relations with the West would be dampened if the authorities took mandatory sanctions. And this would harm the country's economic development.

Polish Interior Minister Czeslaw Kiszczak met outlawed Solidarity trade union leader Lech Walesa on August 31 for talks on preparations for a coming round-table meeting between the government and representatives from all walks of life. These are the first talks between the Polish authorities and the banned Solidarity since the government declared the Solidarity illegal in 1981.

On September 1 Walesa returned to Gdansk with a call for an end to the walkouts and the next day, he drove from his home to Jastrzebie to join strikers in their talks with coal mine authorities. On September 3 coal miners at the July Manifesto Mine resumed work, thus ending the worst strike wave in Poland in seven years.

"Problems still exist" after the end of the walkouts, Jaruzelski said, and the authorities are prepared to solve "the most difficult issues" through dialogues. Observers believe that the round-table meeting will promote the establishment of dialogue. Still, the round-table meeting will confront arduous tasks because the Polish authorities and Walesa have distinctively different positions on the restoration of the Solidarity trade union and other thorny issues.

However, there is no doubt that the majority of Poles hope to carry out economic and political reforms in a stable situation, to develop the economy and to raise the people's living standards through reform.

by Wen Youren



Tripartite Confrontation Shaping Up

A tripartite confrontation is brewing in the Philippines as political parties realign into three major groups.

Due to different stands on some issues affecting the Philippines, two separate alliances are emerging among the political parties of the ruling coalition of President Corazon Aquino, while the opposition parties have just regrouped into a single coalition—the Union for National Action (UNA).

The ruling coalition is divided between the Laban ng Demokratikong Philipino (LDP) on the one side, and the alliance of the Liberal Party (LP), the smaller faction of the Philippine Democratic Party—Laban Party (PDP-Laban), the National Union of Christian Democrats (NUCD) and Bandila on the other. The LDP is envisioned as the single administration party representing a merger of the three largest Aquino-supportive political parties in the ruling coalition: the Lakas ng Bansa (people's power), the bigger faction of the PDP-Laban and the majority of the members of the United Nationalist Democratic Organization (UNIDO).

As a trusted follower of President Aquino, the LDP is expected to become the mainstream force in the ruling coalition. It has won the support of most of the 203 members of the House of Representatives and the majority of provincial governors and city mayors. House speaker Ramon Mitra will likely assume the leadership of the new administration party.

The formation of the LDP is being perceived somewhat as the preparation of several political

personalities in the ruling coalition for their candidacy in the 1992 presidential election. The LDP is scheduled to hold its national convention in mid-September.

The LP-PDP-Laban-NUCD-Bandila Alliance is opposing the formation of a single administration party, arguing that it violates the constitutional provision for a multi-party system. Headed by Senate president and Liberal Party leader Jovito Salonga, the LP-PDP-Laban-NUCD-Bandila Alliance enjoys support from most of the 23 senators.

It has several possible presidential contenders including Jovito Salonga (LP president), senator Aquilino Pimentel (head of the PDP-Laban smaller faction), Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus (NUCD president), and senator Agapito Aquino (Bandila president).

The opposition UNA is composed of the reunited factions of the Nacionalista Party, a faction of the UNIDO, the Grand Alliance for Democracy, the Muslim Federal Party, the Mindanao Alliance and several other smaller parties.

The UNA is headed by vice-President Salvador Laurel, who has just broken away from the ruling coalition. Senate minority floor leader Juan Ponce Enrile, the lone opposition senator, is vice-chairman of the UNA.

As the UNA's 10-point programme of government is seen by some people here as lacking concrete, realistic and popular

provisions, and as some of its members were associated with deposed President Ferdinand Marcos, the opposition coalition has not yet won as many followers as it had expected.

The UNA has two possible presidential contenders: Laurel and Enrile.

The realignment of the political parties is regarded as a move in preparation for the 1992 presidential election when President Aquino finishes her six-year term of office.

To observers of Philippine politics, there seems to be no fundamental difference in strategy and in principle among the three sectors of the political elite. There might be a divergence of views in terms of tactics for dealing with some problems besetting the country, such as how to handle the issue of US military bases in the Philippines.

The LDP and the LP-PDP-Laban-NUCD-Bandila Alliance both support the minimum programme of government of the Aquino administration, but they have differences concerning the military bases issue.

The LDP has taken the "options open" policy of President Aquino on the issue of the US bases, while the LP-PDP-Laban-NUCD-Bandila has been voicing opposition to the retention of US bases beyond 1991 termination of the Philippines-US military bases agreement.

The UNA has called for the retention of the US bases beyond 1991, but subject to several conditions, including the drafting of a new treaty with a ten-year limitation.

News analysts take the emergence of a unified opposition party and a splinter group from the ruling coalition to mean that the Aquino administration now faces a stronger opposition as well as a dissident group from within

while pursuing its domestic and foreign policies and dealing with the various substantive issues

affecting the stability of the country.

by Zhai Shuyao

SINGAPORE

Ruling Party Elected Again

The Singapore ruling People's Action Party, holding a majority of the seats in parliament won during the recent general election, will soon form a new government.

Singapore held its general election on September 3 in which the Singapore People's Action Party (PAP) won 80 out of a total of 81 seats in parliament. Eleven of the MP's were returned unopposed.

The percentage of the winning PAP votes was 61.8 percent, 1.1 percent lower than the 62.9 percent in the 1984 general election.

This is the eighth time in succession that the party has won the general election since its first victory in 1959.

The number of seats it won this time increased from 77 in the last general election to 80, while the number of total seats contested increased from 79 to 81.

Meanwhile, as to the opposition parties, only the Democratic Party came through, winning one seat.

The Workers' Party, the National Solidarity Party, the United People's Front, the Singapore Justice Party, the Pertubohan Kebangsaan Melayu Singapura and Angkatan Islam Singapura all lost out.

The number of opposition candidates involved in this general election was the highest since 1972. The number of candidates run by opposition parties and independents was 75 as against only 51 in the previous polls, representing an increase of 47

percent. Among the opposition candidates, 32 were from the Workers' Party, 18 from the Democratic Party, 8 from National Solidarity Party and the rest were from other parties. In the previous election, the PAP won 77 out of a total 79 seats, while the Workers' Party and the Democratic Party each won one seat.

Since taking power, the PAP, led by Prime Minister Lee Kuan

Yew, has attracted a wide galaxy of talented persons and formed prudent, highly efficient governments which have been implementing a set of practical economic policies.

Singapore, a backward colony 30 years ago, has been built up into a thriving centre of finance, commerce, communications and transport, both sea and air, well known throughout the Far East and other parts of the world. The country's GNP per capita has reached US\$8,000. In 1985 when the country faced economic recession, the second-generation party leaders successfully manoeuvred the country out of its plight in a short time. These are the reasons why the PAP enjoys such great prestige among the people.

The People's Action Party will soon form a new government and as expected, will continue its efforts to increase the prosperity of Singapore.

by LI Yongmin

A street in Singapore's busy shopping centre.



QATAR

Economy Picks Up

After several years' slump, Qatar looks to a bright economic future.

On September 3, Qatar celebrated the 17th anniversary of its independence with great fanfare. Foreign reporters in Doha agreed that on this occasion the Qatari showed growing confidence in their country's economic future. Recently, new building projects have been completed one after the other, including a new gynecological hospital and huge post and telecommunications building. The magazine *Doha* which stopped publication for a time due to the unfavourable economic situation is being revived by the instruction of Qatar Amir Khalifa.

Qatar, a tiny Gulf oil-producing country with a population of about 245,000, was formerly one of the poorest and most desolate regions of Arabia. But the exploitation of large reserves of high-quality petroleum, both onshore and offshore, has transformed the economy. Today Qatar is one of the richest countries in the world in terms of average per capita income.

From 1978 to 1981, the worldwide energy shortage and stable petroleum prices showered Qatar with financial advantages, amounting to an average US\$3.7 billion per year. The petrodollars have been used to finance extensive welfare services, education and development of the country's infrastructure. The government has made ambitious plans for industrialization and urban modernization. Since 1971, it has put medical and health work on the top of its agenda and

launched a series of plans for developing medical service, including free medical care for Qatari. The Qatar government allocates adequate funds to develop education, sending students abroad to study as required by educational conditions at home and inviting foreign professors and scholars to lecture in Qatar. Qatar Amir once said that the reserves of petroleum will dry up some day, but qualified personnel will be on hand for ever. That is the point.

Although Qatar had made marked achievements after its independence, its economy plunged into difficulties at the beginning of the 1980s because of unfavourable changes in the relations between supply and demand on the oil market. As a member of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), Qatar is bound to observe the organization's recommendations on petroleum production levels and pricing. Total output in 1983 was only 107.3 million barrels, and revenues from exported petroleum fell below the 1982 level by 43.7%. For much of 1984, production averaged more than 400,000 barrels per day (b/d). When overproduction and falling prices led to the temporary lowering of production quotas by OPEC countries, Qatar agreed to produce no more than 280,000 b/d, a level which was maintained to 1985. Because of the sharp drop in income from petroleum, 1983 and

1984 saw Qatar's financial deficit reach US\$1.5 billion and US\$1.37 billion respectively.

Economists point out that the favourable turn which appeared last year in Qatar's economy is due to the picking up of oil prices on the international oil market. In addition to this, industrial development other than oil, such as in chemicals, iron and steel, and fertilizer played an important role. Besides, after four years' standstill, Qatar's insurance, finance and real estate began to prosper. Last year the country's GNP reached US\$5.1 billion, a 1.7 percent increase over 1986.

When meeting with foreign journalists on September 3, Qatar Minister of Information Issa Ghanim al-Kawari stressed that the nation's economy is on a solid base and its future is bright. Also he revealed that the country had already begun the development of a tremendous gas field in the north. This project, when finished in 1991, will bring in over US\$10 billion. It is deemed an indispensable measure for coping with the eventual exhaustion of petroleum reserves.

by Chu Qimen



KMT Urged to Begin Talks on China's Reunification

At the first KMT Central Evaluation Committee meeting since the 13th Kuomintang (KMT) Congress, 34 members headed by Chen Li-fu put forward a proposal for the reunification of China, which has attracted a lot of attention from the Chinese people.

The proposal calls for "the reunification of China through Chinese culture." It states that "the reunification of China is the common desire of the people on both sides of the Taiwan Straits and all overseas Chinese, and so its realization is only a matter of time."

The proposal continues, "Chinese reunification must be achieved by the Chinese through their own efforts," and argues that in seeking reunification, it is necessary to establish a common confidence leading to mutual trust, unity will then automatically result.

The foundation for mutual trust should be established via Chinese culture. This should be followed by the joint establishment of "a promotion committee for the country's industrial plan" to develop economic co-operation between both sides before finally proceeding to peaceful reunification through "consultation on political coalition."

Although this proposal contains some inappropriate wording, it favours a peaceful reunification, encourages dialogue, consultation, mutual trust and co-operation, and contains some concrete ideas. It therefore conforms to the people's strong desire for a peaceful reunification and rejuvenation of the Chinese nation. The positive attitude of Chen Li-fu and 33 other KMT leaders for reunification of China is admirable.

Reunification of the country is a historic mission facing all the

Chinese people, and should be fulfilled in our time. To strive for a peaceful reunification, the Communist Party of China has put forward a series of sincere propositions on its own initiative and taken appropriate actions since 1979. These efforts have not only relieved the strained atmosphere across the Taiwan Straits, but have created a good climate for developing normal economic and cultural exchanges.

Following the death of Chiang Ching-kuo, the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party sent a message of condolence. Party General Secretary Zhao Ziyang delivered a speech hoping for political stability, social tranquility and continued economic growth in Taiwan, and a prosperous and contented life for its people.

After Li Teng-hui was elected chairman of the KMT, Zhao Ziyang immediately sent a message of congratulation, expressing the sincere hope that the KMT and the CPC, together with all Chinese, would make efforts for an early reunification of China. In his meeting with US Secretary of State George Shultz on July 15, Zhao said, "There is much common understanding in the political, economic and cultural traditions on both sides of the straits which should facilitate the realization of China's reunification. All these indicate the sincerity of the Chinese Communist Party for this noble national cause."

People on both sides of the straits agree that there is only one China, oppose the independence of Taiwan and favour peaceful reunification. All Chinese have a share in the unshirkable historical responsibility for bringing about a reunification of the country. The peaceful reunification of the

country is in the best interest of people on both sides of the straits.

No political party or faction should put its own interest or view above this higher interest, or present various "preconditions" and obstacles artificially to delay reunification.

Deng Xiaoping, chairman of Central Military Commission, said, "All people who love the Chinese nation should unite in the common effort to accomplish the reunification of the country." In sharing this historic mission, the KMT and the CPC should sit down in a spirit of conciliation and open a dialogue as quickly as possible. All past enmity should be eliminated to reach understanding and, together with all patriotic political organizations and personages, the reunification of the country should be brought about.

As Chen Li-fu and others have said, "China's reunification must be achieved by the Chinese through their own efforts. It is not something that can be achieved through the wishes or assistance of third parties. ... If reunification is hopeful, then limited contact is inevitable."

Without contact, misunderstanding can only increase, and the mountain of ice between Taiwan and the mainland cannot dissolve. Without dialogue, the programme for the reunification of the country can only be delayed or at worst prove unrealizable.

We maintain that as long as talks can begin, every issue can be discussed and solved properly. The KMT and the CPC can take the lead in reaching an understanding on peaceful reunification and putting forward a concrete plan for discussion with the people. We welcome and are willing to consult and co-operate with anyone who offers positive and reasonable proposals for the

peaceful reunification of the country.

With its long history and splendid culture, the Chinese nation has made great contributions to world civilization. This culture has continually been a great unifying force, and it forms an important basis for the establishment of a mutual trust bridging the straits.

The fine traditions of Chinese culture have maintained national unity for thousands of years. Being rooted in the Chinese people, they are the major reason why the Chinese nation has continued to exist despite repeated disasters. And unity has made it possible to carry forward these fine traditions.

In Chinese history, those who have contributed to this inheritance and continued it, have, without exception, persisted in safeguarding the unity of the country.

Both the KMT and the CPC have inherited and aim to carry forward this fine tradition and rejuvenate China. So there is a

common basis for dialogue, consultation and the ultimate reunification of the country.

Developing economic exchanges between both sides is one practical step towards a peaceful reunification. It is praiseworthy that the proposal offered by Chen Li-fu and others contains positive and constructive opinions on this matter.

At present, Taiwan's economy is being remodelled, while the mainland's reform programme is at the crucial juncture of being quickened and deepened. The economies of both sides have their own advantages and disadvantages. This makes it possible for them to supplement each other, and offers a good opportunity for co-operation.

We stand for developing economic relations between both sides of the straits, and maintain that exchanges should be conducted on the basis of equality and mutual benefit. Both sides should draw on each other's strong points and make up each other's deficiencies, to pursue the goal of

common prosperity.

We welcome contact and consultation with Taiwan authorities on Taiwan's participation in the construction of ports, airports, railways, the exploitation of resources on the mainland, the development of an outward-looking economy, high-tech products and the construction of coastal and special economic zones. We hope that both sides can initiate co-operation in economic and cultural fields, and we are ready to conduct talks on these matters with the Taiwan authorities either on the mainland, in Taiwan, or any other place.

The proposal presented by Chen Li-fu and others has reportedly been submitted to the Standing Committee of the KMT Central Committee for review. Chinese at home and abroad will follow this matter closely. If this proposal can be put into effect, it will exert positive influence on the development of relations between both sides and the peaceful reunification of the country.

("Renmin Ribao," September 7)

China's Silicon Valley in the Ascendent

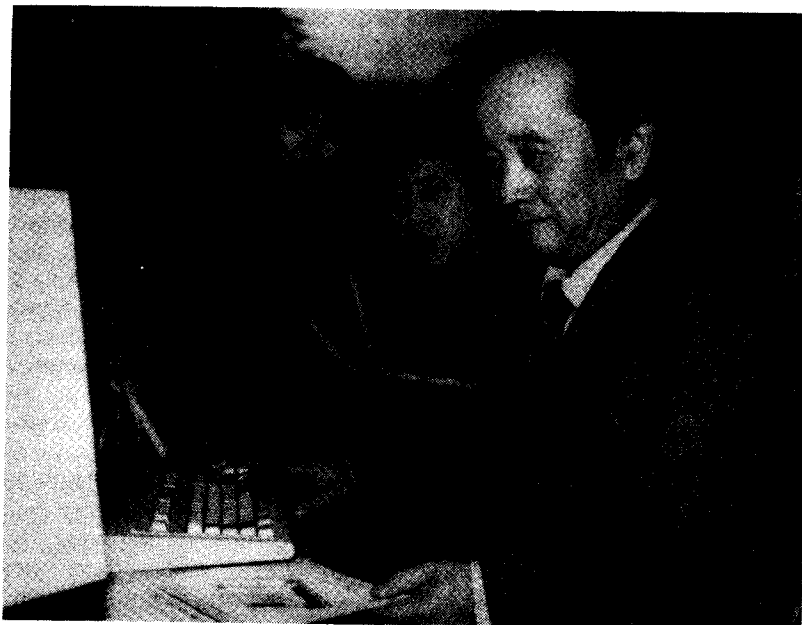
Between 1984 and 1987, over 400 million yuan's worth of computers were bought and sold in the Beijing's Zhongguancun area — China's answer to Silicon Valley — making it the country's largest computer market.

by Our Correspondent Wei Liming

Since the State Council approved the Provisional Rules on the Beijing New-Tech Industrial Development Experimental Zone last May, land prices in the 100 square kilometres around northwest Beijing's Zhongguancun area have soared. Attracted by three years' exemption from tax and

another three years of reduced tax rates, investors have poured in. New firms have mushroomed along the Baishiqiao, Haidian and Zhongguancun roads. An experienced manager estimated there would be 1,000 computer companies in the zone by the end of this year.

This is China's "silicon valley," except the Chinese call it "Zhongguancun Electronic Street." By last May, 150 scientific and technological enterprises employing 3,800 people (including 46 percent scientific and technical personnel) had set up shop. More than 80 percent of these businesses



Chen Chunxian (right), president of Huaxia Co.'s board of directors. SONG LIANFENG

are based in electronics. Between 1984 and 1987 they sold over 400 million yuan worth of computers, becoming the largest micro-computer and computer components market in China.

The electronic street owes its development to the proximity of China's largest academic and research community. The area has 50 institutions of higher learning and 138 scientific research institutes staffed by 80,000 scientific and technical personnel (one-third of whom are senior or middle-level scientists and technicians). Since liberation in 1949, the government has invested over 10 billion yuan in the area, equipping it with first-rate experimental and research equipment.

In 1980 a batch of scientific and technical personnel headed by Chen Chunxian, a research fellow of the Institute of Physics under the Chinese Academy of Sciences, founded an Advanced Technology Development and Service Department. Unprecedented in China, the department was given the task of popularizing technology in the same way that

California's silicon valley had achieved in the United States. This was the embryo for the electronic street.

In 1984, business turnover on the street totalled 18 million yuan. By 1987, however, it had topped 900 million yuan, and some formerly unknown companies with minimal financial capacity had leapt to national fame. There's the Stone Group for example: Founded with a loan of 20,000 yuan by several scientists and technicians who had resigned from the Chinese Academy of Sciences, it has quickly expanded by constantly turning out new products. Headed by General Manager Wan Runnan, its turnover has increased on average by 300 percent a year, and in 1987, it had the biggest sales volume of all China's computer companies.

Rising Star

Next door to the Stone Group, on the busiest section of the electronic street, stands the state-owned computer business, the

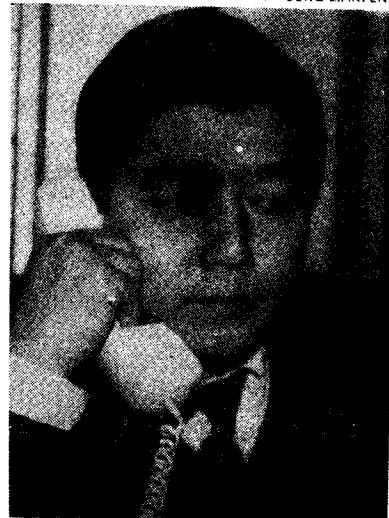
Institute of Computing Technology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (ICT). Of all state-owned computer companies in the area, ICT has been the most successful. Since its establishment in November 1984, its turnover has jumped from 3 million yuan in 1985 to 18 million yuan in 1986 and up to 71.4 million yuan in 1987, proving that state-owned businesses can truly be competitive. Clearly there is no problem with the form of ownership if operation and management are sound. ICT's experience has blazed a new way for the reform of China's scientific and technological structures.

ICT's success lies in factors shared by many businesses on the electronic street: a pioneering spirit, "fist" products, highly efficient management and capable leadership. Unsure of their initial role, however, the institute even sold roller skates when they started, recalled General Manager Liu Chuanzhi. This mistake was immediately recognized and the company's breakthrough came when they decided to collaborate with research fellow Ni Guangnan.

Ni had invented a Chinese character input system applicable

Wan Runnan, general manager of the Stone Group.

SONG LIANFENG



to large computers. Liu and his colleagues assured him they could give his invention the treatment necessary to commercialize it as quickly as possible.

At the time, because most computer operators had little knowledge of English, the many thousand computers imported by China could not be fully utilized. Many were merely employed to demonstrate office modernization. After repeated experiments, a way was found of incorporating Ni's work into micro-computers. The product was named the LX Chinese card. About the size of two books, it can be strapped on to existing hardware and enable computers to be operated in Chinese. In addition, as soon as an operator types a Chinese character, many related vocabularies are displayed on the screen, thus helping increase work efficiency.

Soon after it came into production, the LX card was awarded first prize at a Beijing computer competition. This was followed in 1986 by a prize at a national computer application exhibition, and in 1987 with another from the Chinese Academy of Sciences for technological progress. To date, the product has been updated eight times and is available in three models. Much favoured at home, it has sold well in Hong Kong and Singapore.

To maintain its competitive edge, the company has closely followed global trends. Hearing that IBM had developed new PS/2 micro-computers and put them into trial production in April last year, ICT immediately organized its senior scientists to develop a Chinese-English compatible system and put it on the market. Even IBM voiced surprise at their high speed.

With so many adversaries on the electronic street today, Manager Liu faces huge pressure. But this, he said, has forced his company to make constant progress, and he is full of

confidence for the future. Recently he made the establishment of an overseas-oriented high-tech enterprise his company's objective, aiming to complete the project within 10 years.

A Determined Woman

The success of Syntone Corp. led by Jin Yanjing is conspicuous on the street. Since it was founded in 1984, its sales volume has increased at an average rate of 330 percent a year. In 1987, its per-capita sales volume amounted to 800,000 yuan, putting it first in the area.

Syntone is one of only two joint-stock businesses on the street. Funded by three units who have each contributed 1 million yuan, the company practises a system in which Jin, as general manager, assumes full responsibility under the leadership of the board of directors, thus clearly delineating proprietary and management powers.

Jin graduated from Beijing University's Department of Physics in 1963. A senior engineer, she used to head the applied micro-computer research office of

the Scientific Instrument Factory under the Chinese Academy of Sciences. There she discovered that 500 research results from 117 units had been shelved because of a lack of incentive to apply them concretely. Encouraged by the success of independent companies set up one after another in Zhongguancun, she quit her job to found her own company.

An amiable woman in private, at work her true business sense soon shone through. In 1987, she invested 400,000 yuan in producing 1,000 sets of a national prize-winning anti-interference constant output power source. The decision proved highly profitable, as did her prediction on the prospects of a Chinese micro-computer processing system into which she sunk 800,000 yuan to construct an assembly line.

But Jin is the first to give credit to her staff and the training they have received from the state. Most of them graduated during the 1960s, and are both intellectually accomplished and have plenty of professional experience.

Jin is a strict enforcer of workplace discipline. Whenever she receives a gift, she turns it over to the public and has asked all her

Jin Yanjing showing visiting students around her company.

SONG LIANFENG



managers to do the same—an honest style of work that is shared by many other businesses on the electronic street. One of Syntone's deputy managers was recently dismissed for violating the company's rules.

Jin summed up this ethic: "The name of our company represents our motto: 'Integrating technology with trade for the good of our reputation.'"

An Attractive Business

Under the leadership of Wang Zhenxi, San Huan (Three Ring) Inc., dealing in permanent magnetic materials, now stands head and shoulders above all other businesses on the street.

After graduating from the China University of Science and Technology in 1964, Wang worked with the Chinese Academy of 'Sciences' Institute of Physics, becoming deputy director of its research office and secretary of its academic committee. For a period he worked in the laboratory of Professor Neel, a Nobel prize winner for physics and a noted magnetist. The results of this research made in co-operation with French scientists have been acknowledged by international academic circles.

In February 1984, three months after American and Japanese scientists developed Nd-Fe-B permanent magnetic alloys, Wang and his colleagues also succeeded in developing this magnetic material which can attract metals 70 times its own weight. This event not only changed many magnetic products but also changed Wang's own fate.

Supported and encouraged by President of the Chinese Academy of Sciences Zhou Guangzhao, Wang and a number of young and middle-aged scientists set up the San Huan Inc. in April 1985. Their aim was to establish a large-scale, high-tech, export-oriented busi-



Wang Zhenxi (right).

SONG LIANFENG

ness by integrating scientific research with production, application and marketing.

Wang has paid a high cost for this decision. In the academy he only did research work. Now he has to tackle production and marketing as well. Many of his old colleagues could not understand why he chose this road, and even he has admitted he had to fight his own prejudices against commerce. His worst pangs of remorse for his former academic position came when his schoolmate and colleague Zhao Zhongxian won the Third World Academy of Sciences' physics prize. But, he said, the determination to do his bit for the country compelled him to push on.

As soon as Nd-Fe-B permanent magnetic alloys entered the market, Western countries invested tens of millions of US dollars in studying and developing the material. The EEC organized 58 laboratories from 12 member states to work jointly on the project.

Fortunately for China, its rare earth reserves of the raw material make up 80 percent of the world's total. Formerly it could only sell this raw material at a low price because of a lack of the

appropriate technology. But through the joint efforts of Wang Zhenxi and his colleagues, a complete scientific research and production setup for Nd-Fe-B permanent magnetic alloys has taken shape. The product has already made its way on to world markets.

In September 1985, a sample was sent to the French State Scientific Research Centre and was successfully installed in an extra-large integrated circuit. In October of the same year, the product was displayed at an international high-tech fair held in Birmingham, Britain and was widely admired. The company began to export Nd-Fe-B magnetic steel in the latter half of 1986, and it is now sold in the United States, Britain and Southeast Asian countries.

Wang says the success of the businesses on the electronic street in combining scientific and technical research with marketable goods will help change the thinking of tens of thousands of people, freeing them from many repetitive, inefficient and old-fashioned ways of doing things. He is pleased to be such a pioneer, saying any time of change needs innovators.

An Overview of US Presidential Elections

George Bush and Michael Dukakis have won, respectively, the Republican and Democratic presidential nomination. The results show that moderate conservatism and moderate liberalism represent the current mainstreams in the campaign.

by Pan Tongwen

With Michael Dukakis, governor of Massachusetts, and George Bush, vice-president of the United States, nominated respectively as the Democratic and Republican presidential candidates at the national conventions held separately in July and August, the US primary elections came to an end and a new round of rivalry between the two candidates has begun.

In the Republican presidential race, the battle for nomination was mainly fought between the moderate conservatives and ultra-conservatives.

Altogether six people took part in the Republican presidential race. But, comparatively speaking, they did not put up any fierce fight among themselves. Bush overwhelmed all his rivals after only a few rounds of competition. Only Robert Dole, the Senate Republican leader, and Patrick Robertson, a television evangelist, survived the "Super Tuesday" primaries on March 8 and continued their uphill fight against Bush. But soon Dole announced his withdrawal, while Robertson announced he would stop campaigning (he did not formally drop out until May 16), leaving Bush the one and only actor in the drama. After the Pennsylvania primary on April 26, Bush won a total of more than 1,139 votes needed for the nomination.

Like Bush, Dole is also a moderate conservative Republican. His unexpectedly early loss to Bush was chiefly due to his

failure to put forward any clear-cut policy propositions, poor organizational work and inadequate funds. On top of that, his impetuosity did much harm to his image.

Robertson, a representative of the right-wing religious forces in the Republican Party, was quite successful in the beginning and led others in several states. But he emerged a poor figure from the key "Super Tuesday" primaries and gradually lost momentum.

Most noteworthy was the defeat of Representative Jack Kemp of New York, a pet of the Republican ultra-conservatives and a few years ago widely regarded as successor to Ronald Reagan. Many had predicted that he would be the strongest rival of Bush in the Republican presidential race. The fact, however, was that he had never managed to lead in the primary in any state. This shows that ultra-conservatism, which once had much popular support in the early 1980s, has lost some of its attraction. The defeat of Kemp and Robertson indicates that the ultra-conservative forces are no longer in their erstwhile strong position in the Republican Party. Bush's victory can be attributed to many factors, such as abundant sums of money at his disposal, a better-organized campaign and benefits inherited from Reagan's high prestige. But more important was that he did not go to extremes and emerged politically as a moderate conservative.

Dukakis vs Jackson

The Democratic presidential primary mainly showed up the rivalry between the moderate liberals and ultra-liberals for the nomination.

Altogether seven people joined the Democratic presidential race. Although none of them was well known—the press sarcastically called them the "seven dwarfs"—they engaged in a rather fierce fight and for a fairly long time no one seemed to have an edge over anyone else. Rep. Gary Hart, by holding high the banner of trade protectionism, inspired wide appeal and took the lead in the early period. Senator Paul Simon, an upholder of Franklin D. Roosevelt's "New Deal" policies, was quite successful in several states at first. Senator Albert Gore Jr., known for his conservative stand on defence and security issues, gave an excellent performance in the "Super Tuesday" primaries in the southern states, becoming for a time the focus of national attention. But the one who constituted a real threat to Dukakis was Jesse Jackson, a man with some ultra-liberal ideas.

Jackson also was a contender for the 1984 Democratic presidential nomination. At that time he proposed to form a practically all-black "rainbow alliance" to oppose whites and won support from three-fourths blacks and 5 percent white people, a record next only to that of Walter Mondale and Gary Hart. This

year he expanded his "rainbow alliance" to include lower-middle class whites and called on all the poor to unite in a common fight against the rich. He claimed a nationwide support of approximately 90 percent of the black people and 10 percent of the white (in some states his white support reached 15 percent to 25 percent). His record in the "Super Tuesday" primaries was impressive, second only to that of Dukakis in number of delegates won. Then in the caucuses of the state of Michigan, where the blacks make up only 12 percent of the population, he unexpectedly overpowered Dukakis by a 2:1 edge, bringing the total number of delegates in his favour to nearly equal that of Dukakis. He created a "Jackson phenomenon."

Jackson owed his success largely to the great appeal of some of his policy propositions among some sections of the population. For instance, he won extensive sympathy among the electorate for his call for a stop to the outflow of jobs and inflow of drugs. His proposal that military spending be slashed and the money thus saved be used to extend domestic programmes and establish a universal and complete medical security system, as well as his advocacy of equal pay for equal work to men and women, found many supporters among the lower-middle strata and women. Nevertheless, because, as a black, he suffered seriously from racial discrimination and because some of his policy proposals were unacceptable to many voters, the "Jackson phenomenon" failed to maintain its momentum for long. His loss to Dukakis in the New York primary was soon followed by a series of setbacks in Pennsylvania and other states.

The fact that Dukakis and Bush each defeated opponents within his own party showed that moderate conservatism and mode-

rate liberalism represented the current trends.

Views of Bush and Dukakis

There are few distinctions between Bush's policy proposals and the existing policies of the Reagan administration. His views are as follows: to limit the government's role; to reduce the federal government financial deficit without increasing taxes; to develop science and education to strengthen America's ability to compete; to insist on free enterprise and free trade and oppose trade protectionism; in matters of defence and foreign affairs, to maintain America's power and act from a position of strength; to continue the strategic defence initiative (SDI) plan; to modernize nuclear weapons; to continue participating in world affairs; to persist in US roles on the world economic stage; to continue talks with the Soviet Union; to reach more agreements on arms control; to keep up NATO's strength; to maintain close ties with Western Europe, while Western Europe must bear "fair" national defence expenditures; to strengthen relations with China and continue close relations with Japan; as for the third world, to promote the "forces of reform and freedom," and to support "freedom and democracy fighters."

Dukakis proposes that government must play its due role; to cut down federal government's financial deficits through rigorously enforcing tax rules and regulations rather than sharply reducing domestic programmes; to retaliate against unfair trading practices of other countries while opposing trade protectionism; to struggle for a bright economic future for America and provide economic opportunity for every American in terms of access to a good job, housing, and medical

service; to establish development funds for economically backward zones; to extend reasonable subsidies to farm products and increase minimum wages; to greatly develop science and technology and raise the quality of education to promote economic development; to establish an interlocking relationship of mutual help between government, enterprises and labour to increase America's productivity and strengthen its ability to compete; to clamp down on the drug traffic; on defence matters, to maintain the current level of military expenditure, improve conventional weapons, stop developing new strategic weapons, reduce research expenditures on strategic defence initiative programme and strictly abide by the anti-ballistic missile agreement; to push ahead on talks for overall prohibition of nuclear tests; to go on reducing strategic nuclear weapons after reaching agreement on reducing 50 percent of the total strategic nuclear weapons, and continue talks on conventional disarmament and limiting anti-satellite weapons. On foreign affairs, Dukakis stresses that American foreign policy should reflect the concept of human rights and the American judgements of value; international organizations such as the United Nations should play their rightful role in world affairs; problems should be resolved through ways other than military means; and the US should carry out multilateral diplomacy. Dukakis argues that "real changes" have been brought about by Gorbachev, the opportunity of improving relations between the US and the Soviet Union has arisen and America must seize it and make full use of it; to stress America's relations with Western Europe, while maintaining that Western Europe should assume a fair portion of its own defence costs; to help third world countries and reduce or

remit some countries' debts; to stop the US arms flow to Nicaraguan rebels, and apply strict sanctions against South Africa.

Comparing the views of Dukakis on overall policy with those of Bush, one sees that Dukakis pays more attention to the role of the government and to domestic plans, keeping his eye on "everyone" and on economic and social problems, with less stress on military affairs. He adopts a positive attitude towards disarmament and promises improvement in US-Soviet relations, stresses aid to the third world, insists that the UN should play its due role and calls for resolving diplomatic problems without the use of force.

If Bush is elected as the next president, the current policies of the US government will go on as before. In fact, Bush has already said he would continue the Reagan administration's policies. If the presidency falls on Dukakis, America's policies at home and abroad will undergo some adjustment, but due to objective factors, the adjustment will be limited, at best.

Strong and Weak Points

Bush is more well-known than Dukakis, because he is now US vice-president and has served as chairman of the National Committee of the Republican Party, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, ambassador to the United Nations and head of the US Liaison Office in Beijing. He has had rich, varied political experience and has acquired a broad grasp of diplomacy. For eight years US President Ronald Reagan has achieved a certain level of success, some measure of which may be attributable to Bush. This now provides political capital for him in running his election campaign. In addition, the favourable economic situation

in the United States seems to be holding out, and he can turn this to good account.

He somehow projects an image of weakness and this may be his biggest drawback. Moreover, he reportedly lacks the ability to form his own judgements. That he was involved in Irangate is no longer a matter of conjecture, but what he knows about it has not yet been made clear. This will probably become a target of attack by his opponent. The Reagan administration has recently met with a series of mishaps: Edwin Meese of the Justice Department came under investigation; White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan revealed the secrets of the Reagans; and Reagan failed to force Panamanian strongman Antonio Manuel Noriega to step down. All these have undermined Reagan's image and will adversely affect Bush's chances in the coming presidential race.

Dukakis has been involved in politics for a shorter period than Bush has, and is not as well-known as Bush. He has served as governor of Massachusetts for nine years, but has no experience in diplomacy. This is his weak point. His competence in running Massachusetts is his biggest political asset. During his term of office, the hi-tech industry there has rapidly developed, the financial deficit has been turned into a surplus, the unemployment rate has decreased to one half that of the whole country. Therefore, the "wonder of Massachusetts" has become known throughout the United States. His successes are appreciated by the people. Especially where federal economic issues are concerned, his assets are keenly appreciated. Meanwhile, during the course of the election campaign, he has been calm, prudent and good at using strategy and tactics, often from an invincible position. He has projected a good image among the voters and even some White

House assistants have expressed admiration for him, dubbing him an "experienced politician."

At present, both Bush and Dukakis are making use of their own strong points to attack the other's weak points. Bush flaunts the achievements of the Reagan administration with all his might and calls on the voters to support him on that basis. At the same time he points to Dukakis as just another Jimmy Carter, a liberal, a lavish spender who has had little or no experience in foreign affairs and hesitates to employ US forces abroad.

Dukakis points out that the "rich political experience" of Bush is an empty claim. He criticizes Bush for having done nothing during the Reagan administration, while at the same time exposing the present administration's mistakes and inadequacy, especially its mistakes in foreign policy (e.g. its Central American policy) and its neglect of social problems, such as its failure to help the poor and its inadequate campaign against drugs. He stresses that he can do better. To counter Bush's description of him as Jimmy Carter and Bush's calling on voters to cast their votes according to the Reagan administration's achievements, Dukakis stresses that the campaign is not for the past but aimed at the future of the United States. So, he says, both he and Bush should compete to prove who has the strength, experience and the sound sense of values to lead the United States into the future.

As the campaign progresses, both Bush and Dukakis will be sure to adopt new strategies and methods to undermine and condemn each other.

Current Political Climate

In recent years the US political climate and public sentiment have

changed. The changes are sure to influence the outcome of the elections this year.

Towards the end of the 1970s, conservatism spread rapidly due to the serious stagflation and the marked decline in US prestige all over the world. It was under these circumstances that Reagan came to power. For several years, extremely conservative ideas prevailed widely. However, by the latter half of 1986, these ideas began to show signs of decline. Changes in the political climate have led to changes in the public's attitude towards certain issues, such as the functions of the government. When the conservative trend went up in 1980, those who favoured a "small government" accounted for 54 percent and those who opposed, 32 percent. By now, however, the first figure has dropped to 43 percent while the second figure has risen to 44 percent, the highest since November 1976. A public opinion poll in mid-May showed that not only the youth but wide sections of the voters as well hoped the government would play an increasingly active role. The public have also changed their ideas about what is currently the most serious problem. According to public opinion polls, nuclear arms control was taken as a problem of the greatest importance in 1984, but today, economic and social problems, such as the financial and trade deficits, the weakening of US competitiveness, poor quality in education and the rampancy of drug traffic, are being looked upon as the most serious. People have also changed their attitudes towards the Democratic Party. Recently when asked which party can best deal with the most serious problems, 40 percent of the voters gave the answer: the Democratic Party (only 29 percent named the Republican Party). The Democratic Party has never enjoyed such a

great superiority in this question since 1980.

Recent polls show that most US voters admit Reagan has achieved successes in tax reduction, decreasing the rate of inflation and strengthening military powers, but they are not satisfied with the present situation. They are worried about the above-mentioned current major issues. Just as Richard Nixon said, Americans are feeling uneasy in the present prosperity. This is the current feeling of the voters. Because many voters consider that the Reagan administration has not done well in major issues, they have a common desire for change. According to the recent polls, 60 percent of the voters hope that the next government will not pursue Reagan's policies but will adopt new ones and put more stress on social and economic justice and well-being.

Before March, Bush had been leading Dukakis in the opinion polls. However, by mid-May Dukakis outstripped Bush by 10

to 16 percent, and led in all the constituencies of the United States. Furthermore, it should be pointed out that Dukakis is a newcomer after all; many voters have become acquainted with him for the first time and only in appearance, so their support for him could possibly waver. For instance, the most recent polls show Bush leading Dukakis 6-9 percentage points. So, it is difficult to predict who can maintain a high level of support till November 8.

Judging from the present situation, the next stage in the campaign may prove to be hard for both Bush and Dukakis, and there will not be a wide disparity as in 1980 and 1984. If it turns out that the political climate and the voters' sentiments play a decisive role in the elections, then the result will probably be like that of 1960. At that time Republican President Eisenhower had been in office for eight years and the voters wanted a change. As a result, Democratic candidate John Kennedy defeated Nixon by a slight majority and entered the White House.

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Snow's 'Red Star' Holds Lasting Appeal

Edgar Snow's "Red Star Over China," first published 50 years ago, has won readers from one generation after another to become a classic of the Chinese revolution.

by Our Correspondent Ling Yang

Since its first publication 50 years ago, Edgar Snow's *Red Star Over China* has won readers from one generation after another to become a classic of the Chinese revolution.

In June, the Smedley-Strong-Snow Society of China and the Edgar Snow Memorial Fund Inc. of the United States held a symposium to mark the book's 50th anniversary. Since then, Chinese newspapers and magazines have published many

commemorative and reminiscent articles to mark the occasion.

Personal Memories

"It is not often that a book of reporting becomes a historical event in itself," said Israel Epstein, a veteran journalist in Beijing and vice-chairman of the Smedley-Strong-Snow Society of China.

John W. Powell from the United States said Snow was "the first to tell the outside world the

saga of the Long March and the establishment of the Liberation Area, and his *Red Star Over China* had long been recognized as journalism at its best."

David Crook, a British professor presently teaching in Beijing, said, "I am one of the many foreign friends of China whose understanding of the Chinese revolution and the Chinese Communist Party was enhanced by reading *Red Star Over China* and by its author Edgar Snow."

He reminisced that in 1937, when the book was first published, he was in the International Brigade in Spain. After the International Brigade was withdrawn, he had hoped to go to Yanan and take part in the revolutionary struggle there. He eventually reached the liberated area in 1949 and has since spent over 40 years in China.

Peter Hyun, a New Yorker of Korean origin, told the symposium that "for the intelligentsia in Korea and Japan, it is no exaggeration to say that China today and *Red Star Over China* are almost synonymous." The Korean edition of the book was published in 1985 and has been considered there as the "classic inside account of Mao's China." So far, it has been reprinted seven times.

The Japanese translation of the book by Yoko Matsuoka, a noted Japanese woman writer, has gone through ten editions since its first issue in 1975.

Hyun said that in Seoul or Tokyo, if you say you are about to visit China, an inevitable query is: "Have you read Edgar Snow's

Agnes Smedley and Kang Keqing, widow of Marshal Zhu De, in Yanan in May 1937.

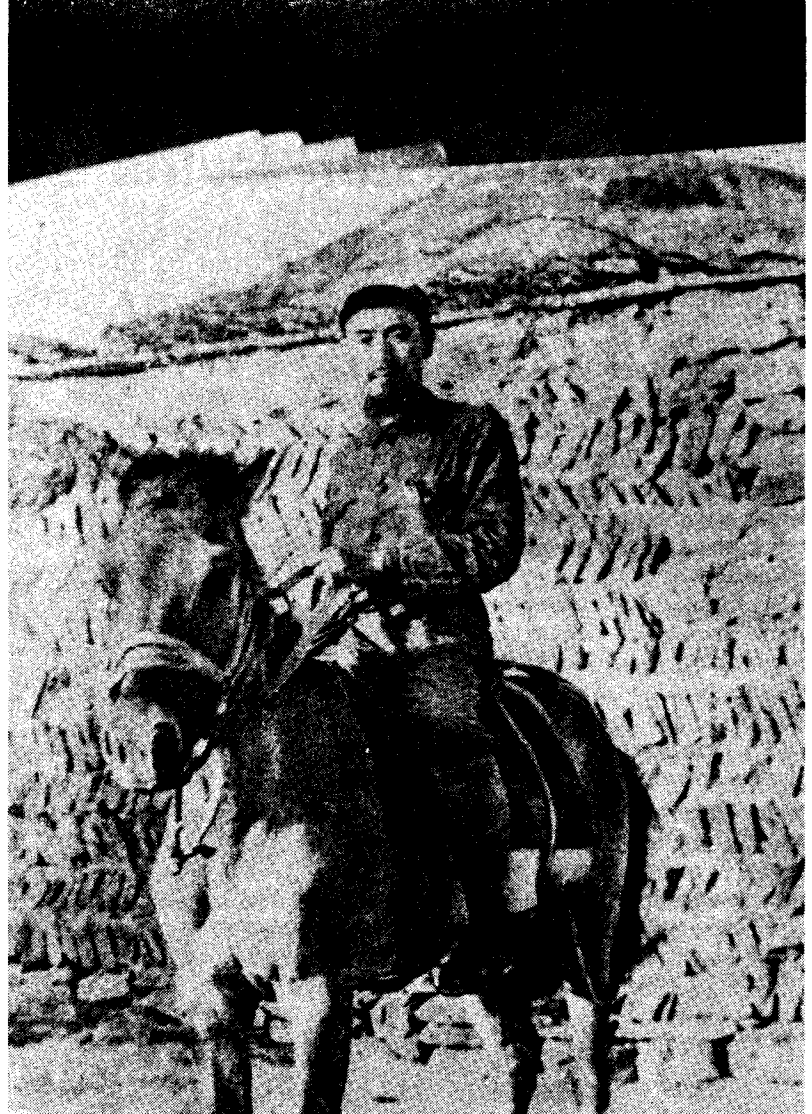


Red Star Over China?” Should your reply be negative—which it usually isn’t—the questioner would urge you to read it “before, during and after your China visit.”

He then related his first encounter with Edgar Snow on a trans-Atlantic flight from London to New York in the autumn of 1968. No sooner had the plane taken off from London’s Heathrow Airport, than Hyun began reading *Red Star Over China*. After a stewardess served cocktails, a handsome grey-haired man sitting next to him said, “What do you think of the book you’re reading?” Without looking at him carefully, Hyun said, “In my view, the book is the finest chronicle of the Chinese Communist revolution—so perceptive, so lively and so lucidly written.” His neighbour warmly offered him his hand and said, smiling, “My name is Edgar Snow, what’s yours?” Immediately, they became the best of friends.

William Q. Wu, from Snow’s hometown Kansas City, stressed no one could appreciate too much the contributions Snow, Agnes Smedley and Anna Louise Strong had made to China in its time of travail when many Chinese despaired for the future. Wu, a Chinese-American neurosurgeon who emigrated to the United States at a young age, said, “Snow reported on the development that no one believed could happen... He gave us for the first time a vision of a grass-roots revolution that promised a future for China—of progress, fairness, equality, idealism, and most of all, hope.”

Chen Yiming from Shanghai recalled how in October 1937, when *Red Star Over China* was first published in Britain, Snow and his wife Helen arrived in Shanghai separately. Chen, then a 17-year-old middle school student, and his sister listened to Snow’s report of his visit to the



Zhou Enlai.

liberated area. He remembered that he drew a sketch of Snow and presented it to him.

In February 1938, Chen recalled, the Chinese edition was published in Shanghai. It had been translated by some progressive intellectuals headed by Hu Yuzhi. Snow had given it his warm support and written a special preface, made some minor changes and supplied a large number of photographs absent from the original version. In his preface, Snow wrote that the stories in the book were indeed written for revolutionary Chinese youths. It was from among them, he said, that many of the most outstanding men and women he had met in his ten years in China

had been drawn.

Chen said the book was the first about the Red Army. It had a red cover. Due to the political conditions in China at that time, however, the book had the somewhat obscure title *Travels to the West*. As an activist with the student national salvation movement then, Chen concluded the book had awoken a generation after generation of young people, arousing their revolutionary enthusiasm.

Scholarly Views

Zhang Zhuhong, a professor of history at Beijing University, pointed out that *Red Star Over*

China provided the first opportunity for people around the world to acquire a real understanding of the Chinese Communist Party and the Red Army.

He recalled that during and after the war, the book had been translated into more than a dozen languages including French, German, Russian, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Japanese and Hindi. With the passing of time, he said, the value of the book has been further recognized. He cited the *Washington Post's* biographical article on Snow after his death on February 15, 1972, which claimed *Red Star Over China* was a classic of 20th century Chinese history.

In Professor Zhang's opinion, Snow's farsighted observations about the revolutionary force of the Chinese people in *Red Star Over China* still holds great value and should continue to promote friendly relations between China and the United States. Therefore, he concluded, people around the world, including the Chinese, will go on to draw strength from the book.

James Bertram, a British writer now living in New Zealand, mailed a paper to the symposium. In it he said, "A remarkably able group of foreign observers were drawn to write on various stages of the Chinese revolution, from Vincent Sheean to Jack Belden, Israel Epstein and beyond. Among them Snow's work is pivotal: he was a supremely capable reporter, accurate in detail, moderate in tone, balanced and sensible in judgment.

Red Star Over China, that splendidly confident title without the question mark publisher might have insisted on, was to prove truly prophetic before a dozen years had passed. Well in advance of his contemporaries, Snow could fairly claim that he had seen the pattern of China's future, and that it worked."

The symposium's participants also dealt with Snow's personal



The Chinese edition of "Red Star Over China" was titled "Travels to the West" to escape censorship. Published in 1938, it contained much new material later incorporated into the English edition.

traits and qualities, his methods as a journalist and writer and the factors for his success.

S. Bernard Thomas, professor of history at Oakland University in the United States, pointed out that the view that America should play an appropriate role in the world was a theme that ran through Snow's thinking, writing and activities. According to Snow, as a powerful capitalist nation, the United States could and should accept and live peacefully and constructively with Marxist-based nationalist social revolution in the world.

Professor Thomas then discussed various aspects of Snow's qualities:

- His independent political stance, adherence to democratic principles and human rights, and intolerance of poverty and oppression;

- A deeply felt sense of humanity—an interest, concern and respect for people at all levels, places and circumstances;

- A strong spirit of internationalism;

- His independent spirit, great personal integrity, and physical,

moral and political courage made him committed to reporting facts honestly;

- He was reasonably well versed in Marxist writings, analyses and concepts, with the complex history of the Chinese revolution, and with contemporary political forces and trends throughout the world;

- He had an intense curiosity to "find out" for himself through first-hand experience and investigation, painstakingly gathering information and constantly revising and correcting his work;

- He was a simple, honest, friendly and likeable man one instinctively trusted.

Larry Pinkham, professor of journalism from the US University of Massachusetts, held that *Red Star Over China* "is of great value to journalism students." He said, "Snow is more than a competent technician. He has a penetrating intellect that enables him to synthesize what he has seen and heard, and thus to find the essential, often hidden, truth in it. Added to that, he has another quality that is evident throughout his work—a deep and abiding sense of humanity. It is these two qualities that make Snow such a powerful and instructive example for American journalism students."

Snow's Associates

To mark the 50th anniversary of the publication of *Red Star Over China*, people naturally remember other people and events related to Snow's historical trip to the Communist-controlled areas.

It has been known for a long time that Snow's trip was arranged by Madame Soong Ching Ling, the widow of Dr. Sun Yat-sen. She entrusted a clergyman named Wang to help Snow enter the "red districts." In *Red Star Over China*, Snow wrote, "I discovered that Wang alone was worth the trip to

Sianfu (Xian)," and "I cannot even now disclose his real name." But who was he? A footnote to the Chinese edition published in 1979 disclosed that his real name was Dong Jianwu.

Dong Huifang, Dong's daughter, made a special trip to Beijing to take part in the symposium. She said that her father told her and her brothers and sisters that Snow was an unforgettable foreign friend, and their talks in Xian were very frank, sincere and harmonious.

Dong Huifang recalled that when she was young she passed confidential letters for Madame Soong Ching Ling, including the proof of Snow's identity for her father.

In 1961, she said, her father learnt that Snow had inquired about the whereabouts of "Wang the Pastor" on his visit to China the previous year. When he

returned again in 1970, her father was seriously ill, so the two old friends had never met since their encounter in Xian in 1934.

In the revised and enlarged edition of *Red Star Over China* published in 1968, it is revealed that Snow did not make his original trip alone. He wrote, "Dr. Hatem entered the Communist district with the author, but asked him not to mention it when he left and wrote of the journey. . . . I agreed to keep Shag (George Hatem)'s whereabouts completely confidential, even from his family." For four months, George Hatem was his companion.

After the journey, Hatem stayed in the "red districts," learnt to speak and write in Chinese and adopted the Chinese name Ma Haide. In 1950 he became a Chinese citizen and senior adviser to the Ministry of Public Health. For over half a century, he has

made outstanding contributions to the Chinese people's revolution and the country's construction.

Activities to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the publication of *Red Star Over China* are still continuing. A composition contest launched by some middle schools in Beijing, Shanghai and Kansas City has ended. Four Chinese and American prize winners (all girls) read their articles at the closing ceremony of the symposium. Another contest, "*Red Star Over China* and Me," sponsored by *China Reconstructs*, a multi-language publication, and several newspapers, is still running.

A young worker in cultural exchange in Beijing said, "Snow taught us a lot. If more people follow Snow's example and report on our reform nowadays, our cause will receive wider understanding and support." ■

Step Forward in Sino-Japanese Relations

by Zhang Xiangshan

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the signing of the China-Japan Treaty of Peace and Friendship and the 16th anniversary of the restoration of diplomatic relations between the two countries. Whether their relations can progress to a new stage after these years and following the recent visit to China by Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita is a major concern of the Chinese people.

Prime Minister Takeshita's recent China visit was his first visit here as the Japanese prime minister in a new era. Shortly after he assumed office, he declared that Japanese-Chinese relations were an important pillar of Japan's diplomacy and that the Japan-China Treaty of Peace and

Friendship would continue beyond the 10 years since its signing. He also repeatedly emphasized that during his China visit he would take the opportunity to further friendly relations between the two countries. Therefore, the Chinese government and people have every reason to expect that his visit will push Sino-Japanese relations to a new stage.

In retrospect, events in the years since China and Japan established diplomatic ties can be seen, on the whole, as developing good relations between the two countries. But there is no need to cover up the fact that there have been some twists and turns in political and economic fields since 1982. In general, problems in the political

field fall roughly into two categories: How to view the history of Japan's aggression against China correctly and how to correctly handle Japan's relations with Taiwan. The question is whether Japan can stick to the stand affirmed at the time of establishing diplomatic relations between the two countries—that there is only one China in the world and Taiwan will return to China.

In the economic field, the major problems are a serious trade imbalance, Japanese restrictions on technology transfers to China and Japan's lack of enthusiasm for investing in China. These problems, particularly the political ones, if handled improperly, will affect and impede development of

the good relations between the two nations. It should be pointed out that while some of these problems have already been resolved through efforts by both sides, others still remain unsettled and the two sides differ in their understanding of them. Therefore, it is absolutely necessary for the new leaders of the two nations to jointly review the course of development of Sino-Japanese relations, reaffirm the basis and principles of their relations, and on this foundation exchange views on how to resolve the existing problems, with the aim of promoting bilateral relations to a new stage.

During his stay in China, Takeshita met with Chinese leaders from the Communist Party and government. During talks with Chinese Premier Li Peng, both sides reaffirmed some basic principles in the relations between China and Japan. These included developing China-Japan friendship not only to benefit both countries but also to promote peace in Asia and the world; stressing the Japan-China Joint Statement, the Sino-Japanese Treaty of Peace and Friendship and the four principles guiding the Japan-China relations as the political basis for developing relations between the two countries and using them as the criterion for settling issues between the two countries. On the two issues—the historical assessment of Japan's invasion of China and Japan's relations with Taiwan—Takeshita took the position of Japan when the two countries established diplomatic relations by reconfirming the talks of the preceding Prime Ministers Kakuei Tanaka and Masayoshi Ohira. The Japanese government should adopt a better stand on the above two problems, but the current difficulty seems to be obstruction within the ruling Japanese Liberal Democratic

Party. In the talks, neither side evaded the issue of the Kokorio dormitory. Takeshita said that the Japanese government attached great importance to this matter and fully understood the Chinese stand. He said that since the Japanese government had been insisting on the policy of "one China," it would of course insist on the same principle in handling the dispute. This can be seen as an impetus to the proper and complete settlement of the Kokorio case in the coming days.

In continuing the open policy and strengthening reforms, China needs and welcomes international economic co-operation, of course including that with Japan. The Japanese prime minister expressed support of China's drive for modernization, saying also that he expected such economic co-operation—aimed at common advance—would continue to develop. So on behalf of the Japanese government, the prime minister declared that Japan would provide China from 1990 with a loan of 810 billion yen and another loan of 40 billion yen without attachment, and extend assistance free of charge for China's environmental protection projects. Both sides have also proposed corresponding resolutions for specific problems in bilateral economic relations.

Owing to the expansion of the home market in Japan, the trade volume of both sides this year will basically reach a balance. Up till now, Japan's investments in China reached only a little more than US\$2 billion, much less than that of the United States. The Sino-Japanese investment protection agreement signed by the Chinese and Japanese governments during Takeshita's visit will be sure to increase Japanese investment in China. Naturally, in order to attract foreign investments, the Chinese side also needs to continue improving its investment environment, including basic

facilities, taxation, and greater efficiency. As to technology transfer, since the Paris-based Coordinating Committee for Export Controls (COCOM) has relaxed some of its restrictions, Japan can now be more open in transferring technologies to China.

To promote this, Prime Minister Takeshita proposed to hold a meeting on technological exchange between Japan and China—a proposal that China welcomes. During his visit here, he spoke highly of China's efforts towards modernization, conveying a clear indication of Japan's positive attitude towards strengthening bilateral co-operation.

The Japanese prime minister also proposed to expand cultural and academic exchanges as one of the best ways to promote mutual understanding. He went specially to visit Dunhuang and Xi'an. China needs to understand fully Japan's history and culture as well as the fundamental changes in Japan after World War II. And Japan, while it should not give up its devotion to China's ancient culture because of the rampant post-war trend to learn from the United States, should also encourage scientific study of contemporary China and New China. This will play an active role in promoting friendship between the people of the two countries and in safeguarding peace.

It is significant that Prime Minister Takeshita dwelt on the topic of Japan's future during his China visit. Having superpower status economically, Japan is advancing towards a major political power. But what kind of a political power Japan exactly wants to be and whether it will become such a military power as a handful of the extreme right-wingers wish are concerns of the Chinese people and the peoples of other Asian countries. Even the United States and European

(Continued on p. 31)

Bridging Chinese and Western Cultures

In the world's rich cultural treasure house, the Chinese culture is distinguished for its richness and long history, and its influence on other countries. The study of sinology now attracts more and more scholars interested in gaining a better understanding of Chinese culture.

Sinological Pioneer is a bi-monthly Chinese magazine compiled and published by the International Academy of Chinese Culture. It is the only magazine published on the mainland for overseas sinologists and those with an interest in China. Since its founding in August 1987, the magazine has attracted the attention of academic circles on the mainland. Many famous scholars contribute articles and essays to the magazine, which offers a wide range of information and research results in many branches of the social sciences.

Sinological Pioneer features columns, such as "Special Expositions," "Digest," "Publication and Conference News," "New Archaeological Findings" and "Catalogue of Essays on Sinological Studies."

It also carries articles and essays covering research in the areas of philosophy, politics, economics, laws, literature, the arts, nationalities, folklore and archaeology, as well as information on recent publications and conferences.

The column "Special Exposition" provides a good coverage of papers by well-known scholars and roundups of the latest information in a particular branch of learning.

The first issue of *Sinological Pioneer* ran an article entitled "On the Confucian Concept of Realm" by Tang Yijie, a professor with the Philosophy Department of Beijing University. In the article the author explained "realm" as that which people attained through moral and educational self-

cultivation, quite apart from "social ideal," or "political ideal." However, Confucianists tried to integrate individual moral cultivation with the social ideal that stressed running the country well and giving people peace and security. Tang saw this as a major flaw in Confucianism which therefore should not be inherited by descendants as a traditional spirit of Chinese philosophy. His view differs vastly from those advocated by the famous Chinese scholars Liang Qichao, Qiong Xiaoli and Feng Youlan.

Issue No. 3, 1987, contained an article by Zhao Guohua of the South Asia and Southeast Asia Research Institute under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. In the article, readers could discover the creative investigations Zhao made into some questions of Chinese ancient culture, and especially his views on combining archaeological and historical studies.

Other articles included "Aesthetics in China Since 1983" (issue No.1, 1987), "Tibetology in China" (issue No.3, 1987) and "The General Position of Chinese Medicine Study" (issue No.2, 1988). Each article offers new information of great interest to readers involved in the study of Sinology.

"Digest," one of magazine's main columns, gathers well-written and useful essays selected from major academic periodicals published on the mainland. "My opinions on Determining the Historical Stages of Chinese Literature" (issue No.3, 1987) raises different opinions on ways to determine the historical stages of Chinese literature. It proposes that the history of Chinese literature should be divided into six periods; primitive simplicity, obscurity, awakening, maturity, reform and the end of old literature.

Another essay "A Brief Review of Artistic Composition in Han Sculptural Portraits Discovered in Nanyang, Henan," carried in issue No. 1, 1987, analyses the artistic characteristics of sculptured portraits of the Han Dynasty (206 BC-220 AD). This art form is considered a unique kind of expression somewhere between painting and shallow-relief sculpture. "On the Origins of Surnames," in issue No.2, 1987, traces the origins and development of Chinese surnames. "Cold Food Festival in the Tang Dynasty," in issue No.3, 1987, deals with folk customs of the Tang Dynasty (618-907). In issue No.2, 1988, the article "Problems of Development, an Academic Dialogue Between Young and Middle-Aged Scholars From Eastern and Western Parts of China," gives an account of the advantages, disadvantages and various contradictions (arising from the current reform of the economic structure) in the use of resources and the distribution of funds in the east and west.

The themes of all these articles centre on current major social problems which urgently need to be solved and heated debate over theoretical problems.

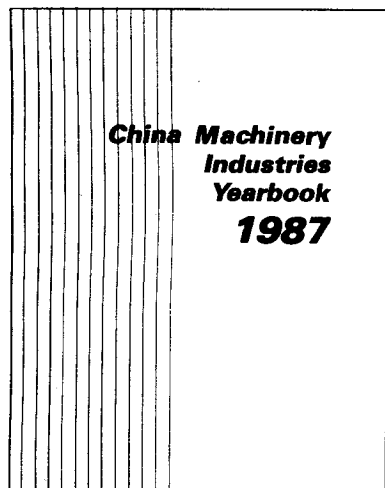
Though only a year old, *Sinological Pioneer* has set off to a good start. Of course, there is room for improvement. Compared with a similar Taiwan magazine *Sinology Study News*, it has less columns, and reports on academic conferences are too simple and general. However, *Sinological Pioneer* gains the upper hand by providing the latest information in all branches of the social sciences, academic papers published on the mainland and a complete catalogue of Sinology papers.

Yang Jing

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Child Labour Causes Concern

"LIAO WANG"

(Outlook Weekly, Overseas Edition)

Some enterprises in China are illegally employing child labourers, and causing ever more primary and middle school students to quit school.

Take Dalian's Ganjingzi District and Xingjin County. About 3,000 primary and middle school students left school last year to work illegally. In addition, more and more students have been illegally hired by firms in Guangdong's Dongguan County and Fujian's Jinjiang County.

The Constitution of the People's Republic of China explicitly states that children are protected by the state, and China's Compulsory Educational Law has an article prohibiting child labour. The state departments concerned have also issued bans on enterprises hiring workers under the age of 16. But in many places, enterprises are more concerned about their own interests than keeping the law. As a result, the illegal phenomenon of hiring child labour has grown in recent years.

Wang Deyi, a member of the All-China Women's Federation Secretariat, has said that child labour infringes upon the rights of pupils, particularly as some types of work seriously endanger children's health. She has appealed to the state, the departments concerned and local governments to work together to publicize the current laws and stamp out child labour.

Child labourers are mainly found in town and village enterprises, family-run workshops and privately owned industrial or commercial firms.

Last year, Hebei provincial government conducted a survey

across four prefectures and cities (including Handan, Cangzhou and Baoding). It discovered 7,400 child labourers in town and village enterprises. In some counties, child labourers made up 10 percent of the workforce, and in some enterprises they amounted to 20 percent. The youngest child found at work was only 11 years old.

According to the survey, a large number of village- or township-run enterprises and family-owned workshops indicated they would like to recruit child labour. In their opinion, a child labourer can be paid low wages, and is both obedient and deft.

Ji Zhijian, a veteran official of the State Education Commission, has conducted many surveys of child labour. Looking at the problem from an educational angle, he said, the present content of courses in both schools and universities does not meet the needs of China's developing economy. A universal problem is that many schools devote most effort to getting a high proportion of students into higher grade schools. But because only a small proportion of students in China are admitted to universities and because the knowledge they acquire there often has no contact with everyday life, education lacks appeal for many people.

Another reason for the small proportion of children entering school and the large numbers dropping out is the backwardness of educational facilities and the shortage of funds and teachers. According to official statistics, 2.8 percent, or 3 million primary school students quit without finishing their studies in China, and of these, 80 percent are girls.

The development of the commodity economy concentrated

people's minds on material benefits, and this has affected children's attitudes. The saying "primary school students earn money, while university students remain poor" is often heard in China's coastal cities.

An old farmer in Guangdong's Dongguan County said sadly that his son would rather work on the land than study at middle school because he found going to school uninteresting. The old farmer can see no way out.

Some experts have argued child labour has emerged because state laws and policies do not tally with the level of social development and the opinions of family heads. In some backward areas, a large number of families are unable to pay for their children's education, so instead they send them to work.

For example, one farmer in Zhejiang's Cangan County has a family of eight. His three daughters all now work in a township-run enterprises, and their annual income accounts for more than 80 percent of the family's total.

With such figures in mind, some township governments view child labour as a convenient arrangement to help the poor.

(No. 24, 1988)

China to Re-employ Skills of the Retired

"RENMIN RIBAO"

(People's Daily, Overseas Edition)

A leading official of the Chinese Scientific and Technological Association said recently that China should strive to re-employ the skills of its many retired technical personnel.

The official said the example of Werner Gerich showed the kind of advances that could be made by exploiting the skills and experience of people whose working

life is supposedly at an end.

Werner Gerich, a retired engineer from the Federal Republic of Germany, proved a great success when he was hired by the Wuhan Diesel Engine Plant.

According to statistics, China now has more than 1 million technical personnel aged 60 or over. Most of them are in good health, and they should not be ignored at the present time when China faces a shortage of qualified scientists, technicians and managers.

In recent years the official said, retired scientists and technicians have formed associations in every part of China. They now number more than 120 with a total of 50,000 members. Often they have arranged for their members to help industrial enterprises solve difficult technical problems.

The official added that although paying attention to the role of retired technicians should prove highly beneficial, other matters such as regulations

varying from one department to another and unclear points in state policy should be attended to.

It is reported that the Chinese Scientific and Technological Association is preparing a document on how best to emulate the model of Werner Gerich and exploit the skills of the retired. Opinions are being solicited from all sides.

(June 23, 1988)

The Old Find Solace In Remarriage

"JIEFANG RIBAO"

(Liberation Daily)

According to recent statistics, there are now around 100 million people in China aged 60 or over. About half of these are bereaved husbands, widows or unmarried, and so, as a survey in Shanghai's Hongkou District revealed, the number of remar-

riages has been increasing yearly.

The emergence of remarriage among the elderly as a major social issue has a lot to do with the changing nature of Chinese families. Because many people's children have left home to start their own families or moved to other parts of China, a lot of elderly people want a partner to share their life with through their twilight years.

There are also those who do not get along well with their families, and so want to leave their children and establish their own independent homes.

Changes in social morals have also encouraged remarriage. Traditionally, bereaved people remained single. Now, however, remarriage of the old is protected by state law and supported by the whole of society.

In urban areas, where most people receive retirement pay, there are few financial barriers to remarriage.

(June 5, 1988)

(Continued from p. 27)

countries are taking this into consideration. During his talks with Chinese leaders and especially in his speech in Xi'an, the prime minister dwelt on the matter, and it was an opportune moment for doing that. He said that the course of history had convinced the Japanese people that the only way out for Japan was through peace. Japan desists from becoming a military power and will make efforts to contribute to the cause of world peace. The Chinese people warmly hope his words will be put truly into practice. Because politics is the concentrated expression of economics, Japan has the objective conditions to emerge as a major political state. The two-polar world system where two

superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, confront each other is being replaced by a multi-polar system which is favourable to world peace. Under such circumstances, Japan's becoming a major political state would be worthy of welcome if it contributed to world peace and development. But even so, it should also be foreseen that with the right of Japan to speak on various world matters increasing and expanding, and with their different social systems, disparate ideologies and different conditions, disputes and friction between China and Japan in the future may possibly increase. However, this is not a matter for worry or disappointment. Only if Japan persists in not becoming a military power and, on the basis of mutual trust and through the

frank exchange of views, it strictly observes the principles of the Sino-Japanese Joint Statement and the Treaty of Peace and Friendship, all disputes and friction can be resolved. Even if some of the questions cannot be settled for the time being, they can be put aside temporarily and not allowed to affect the development of good-neighbourly and friendly relations.

In a word, the Japanese prime minister's visit to China has indeed opened a new chapter in Sino-Japanese relations. Prime Minister Takeshita is noted for "pursuing honest diplomacy." We hope that the new chapter in Sino-Japanese relations will be stamped with this brand of honesty, so that Sino-Japanese relations will advance steadily after they enter the new stage. ■

China's Army Anthem Ratified

The *Marching Song of the People's Liberation Army* was ratified as the army anthem late July, just on the eve of the army's 61th birthday on August 1, by the Central Military Committee. The marching song was previously a song popular during the Anti-Japanese War (1937-1945). It was first performed in the winter of 1939 in Yanan by the chorus of the Luxun Arts Academy as one of the six songs in the *Eighth Route Army Choruses*. Since its debut, the song largely spreaded and became one of the most popular songs in the Anti-Japanese Bases. During the war against Chiang Kaishek, the song was modified to be the *Marching Song of the Chinese People's Liberation Army*. As a matter of fact, it had been called

the army anthem until the founding of the People's Republic of China.

The music was by the well-known composer Zheng Lucheng and the words by Gong Mu, a poet who now is a professor at Jilin

University. Zheng was of Korean origin and came to China in 1933. His first work, *The women's Battle Song*, was written before he arrived in Yanan in 1937. Zheng became a Chinese citizen in 1950 and died in Beijing in 1976. In his lifetime, Zheng had composed about 300 works which were characterized by passionate emotion, simple melody and precise structure. In the 1970s and 80s, several special concerts were given to him in Beijing and his works were greatly acclaimed. ■

Peacock Captivates Audience

Bathed in the morning sunshine, a white peacock steps gracefully onto the stage. She spreads her fan-like tail, shakes her crest, and preens by the side of a river.

This is one of the scenes that captivated audiences as they watched the classic dance, *Soul of the Peacock*, performed by its talented choreographer, Yang

Liping. In 1986, Yang's dance gained her national fame when she won two gold medals, one for choreography and the other for performance, at a national dance competition.

Yang offered a reprise of her peacock dance at a recent solo performance in Beijing. As always, her rendering of the proud, beautiful bird was the

"Fly High, Little Peacock"—A Dai nationality dance performed by Yang Liping (left) and Lu Lanfen.



Yi folk dance "Drizzling Rain."



Jingpo dance "Rice-Pounding Ballad."



Yang Liping as peacock princess in "Zhao Shutui and Namunuona."

Photos by XU XIANGJUN



highlight of the evening.

Dances featuring depictions of peacocks are familiar to Chinese audiences. But Yang's dance outshines all earlier ones. Her blending of techniques of modern dance and traditional techniques of the Dai people, the nationality to which she belongs, in creating her portrait of the stately bird.

The evening's programme of 10 dances included seven which Yang either choreographed individually or in collaboration with other artists. Six were dances of minority nationalities: *Drizzling Rain*, a Yi folk dance; *Fire*, a bold, enthusiastic dance inspired by the Va nationality; *Rice-Pounding Ballad*, a Jingpo dance; *Maqic Footbells*, an Aini dance; *Tremble*, a Dong dance; and another Dai dance, *Tree Colors of Xishuangbanna*: a description of everyday life in one of China's subtropical regions.

Yang was born and grew up in Xishuangbanna, where singing and dancing are traditional pastimes for young and old alike. By the time she was 11, her outstanding dance talent was obvious, and she joined a local song and dance troupe. Her emotional expressiveness, coupled with her technical skill, guarantee continuing success.

Yang is now a dancer with the Central Nationality Song and Dance Troupe. She is also a committee member of the 3,000-member Chinese Dancers' Association. One of her other starring vehicles is *Zhao Shutui and Namunuona*, a historical dance drama based on the Dai legend of a love story between a prince and a peacock princess. But as a result of her many performing tours to other South Asian countries as well as her performances in China, it is Yang herself who has become known as the "Peacock Princess."

by Hong Lanxing

Chinese TV Films Awarded in US

Three Chinese special films for television won prizes at the American Television Film Festival held in Chicago last May. A total of 1,350 TV films from 29 countries and regions joined the festival.

The historical documentary *The First Journey Down the Yangtze River* describes the adventures of Rao Maoshu, the first man to travel down the Changjiang (Yangtze) River in China. It offers a view of the breathtaking landscape along the Yangtze.

The other two prize-winners, *Farmers' Spring Festival* and *Soul of the Village*, have a cultural slant. *Farmers' Spring Festival* reflects the customs of farmers and the activities they take part in during the traditional Chinese Spring Festival. *Soul of the Village* takes audiences to the birthplace of the rich national folk arts and cultural customs of the Guanzhong Plain in Shaanxi Province.

It was at the invitation of Mr. Ed Swanson, vice-manager of the Modern Talking Picture Service of Chicago, that China attended the TV film festival. Swanson said that many American friends were pleased to see Chinese TV films competing in the festival. He said it is an honour to win a prize for one film, but to take three prizes was a wonderful achievement.

The festival marked China's debut in international TV film competition. Jin Minjie, director of the Chinese Television Artists' Association, said the Chinese films presented were recommended and selected by the association. The association is attempting to strengthen co-operation and exchange with other countries and intends to introduce more Chinese films to the world to provide people the

world over with a better understanding of China. ■

Major Fossil Find Unearthed in Desert

A cache of infant dinosaur fossils was one of the major discoveries made this summer by a Sino-Canadian paleontological research team, composed of scientists from various disciplines, in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

The team also made 50 other finds of dinosaurs, nests, and eggs, as well as discovering more than 40 fossils of mammals, turtles, and lizards.

The cluster of infant dinosaur fossils were discovered in an ancient sand dune. The baby reptiles were as big as sheep and have been identified as *pinacosaurus*, a type of ankylosaur or armored dinosaur. Philip Currie, one of the Canadian scientists, said the dinosaurs had been overtaken by the sand, but it is not known whether it was the sand that killed them or whether they had met their deaths earlier. The find is the world's first evidence that the ankylosaurs, thought to be a solitary animal, were actually gregarious.

The fossils will fill major gaps in scientific knowledge about the growth and evolution of the ankylosaur. The other discoveries of nests and eggs will contribute to studies of similar finds in Canada and the United States.

The infants show no evidence of the extensive bony armor and tail clubs characteristic of adults. Currie said: "The skulls are striking in that they still exhibit many of the fine sutures and structures that become obscured in older animals." The team's scientists expect to find more infant fossils when they return to



The baby armored dinosaur fossils found in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region by the Sino-Canadian scientists.

the site in 1989.

The team has also collected the

greatest number of Mesozoic mammals ever from one locality in

Sino-Canadian scientists chiselling a carnivorous dinosaur fossil in the Junggar Basin of Xinjiang Autonomous Region.

WU CHUNZHAN



China, where it is rare to find many species of fossils in one place. The finds included about 20 skulls and one complete skeleton, as well as some unusual four-metre-long burrows made by unknown dune-dwelling animals.

The scientists are attempting comparisons of the environments in which dinosaurs lived in China and Canada. Data show that the ancient environment in which the dinosaurs found this year lived was a sparsely vegetated desert rippled with dunes. Earlier theories have suggested that the landscape was dotted with large, shallow lakes. However, Canadian dinosaurs are not known to have been desert-dwellers.

Despite the differences in the two environments, some of the Chinese and Canadian dinosaurs are closely related, suggesting that there was genetic exchange between Asia and North America.

The team members, who have been continuing a dig which began in the summer of 1987 in the Junggar Basin in Xinjiang Autonomous Region, also uncovered a complete fossil of a carnivorous dinosaur and a sauropod dinosaur. This dig is not expected to be completed until next year because it is so complex; several neck vertebrae and the skull remain buried in seven metres of rock. But this find reaffirms that the sauropod was one of the largest dinosaurs in Asia and perhaps in the world. Other fossil finds include theropods, birds, and many well-preserved chelonians. The team has so far collected 10 tons of fossils.

The major participants in the dinosaur project, which began in 1986, are China's Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology; Canada's National Museum of Natural Sciences, and the Tyrrell Museum of Palaeontology in Alberta.

by Wei Liming



A Xinjiang Stone Man (oil painting).



Ruins of the Hanging Garden of Babylon
(present-day Iraq) (oil painting).



Genghis Khan Tomb in Inner Mongolia
(Chinese painting).

Paintings by Zhao Yixiong and Geng Yukun

Zhao Yixiong, born in Tianjin in 1934, and his wife Geng Yukun, born in Hebei Province in 1935, are professional painters with the Beijing Studio of Art and Calligraphy. These paintings of China and Iraq were made after their Silk Road travels.

ART PAGE



Stone City, in Taxkorgan, Xinjiang (oil painting).