

he saw a wide range of consumer goods of the highest quality, but obviously the great mass of the people of China were not yet in a position to buy them.

Regarding Chinese exports to Canada, Chinese officials realized that they would have to adapt their production to meet the requirements of the North American and European markets and they were apparently prepared to do so.

Mr. Sharp's trip produced the announcement about tentative agreement on a series of exchanges in cultural, scientific and sports fields between the two countries.

In the area of cultural exchange, the Chinese agreed to discuss arrangements for sending an exhibition of recent archaeological finds to Canada in the second half of 1973. The collection has been described as a national treasure for the people of China, with international historical importance. In return, Canada will send China an exhibition of Eskimo prints which has toured the Pacific area. The Chinese approved a proposal to send an acrobatic troupe to Canada.

#### Scientific missions

In science and technology, the Chinese accepted an invitation to send a team of scientists to Canada. Their interests will cover a broad range of scientific fields including particularly biology, chemistry and physics. The Chinese also agreed to send a team of experts to Canada to study the petroleum industry. In return, at least two Canadian missions to China have been worked out. A Canadian petroleum group will visit China in 1973 and in the same year a group of Canadian agricultural scientists will make a separate Chinese tour.

In medicine, the two countries agreed to an early resumption of the Bethune medical-exchange program, which had earlier been suspended. The program, commemorating Dr. Norman Bethune, previously provided for an annual exchange of two doctors, the Canadian nominees to be chosen by McGill University and the Chinese by the University of Peking. The two sides discussed the desirability of further exchanges of medical delegations.

In sports, officials of the Canadian and Chinese sports federations meeting in Peking at the same time as Mr. Sharp's sessions with Chinese leaders agreed in principle on an exchange of volleyball, table tennis, hockey and gymnastic teams. The two sides also reviewed possible exchanges in basketball, figure skating and soccer, as well as the exchange of coaches, films and literature.

Mr. Sharp and the Chinese Foreign Minister discussed possible student and teacher exchanges and agreed that such exchanges would be mutually beneficial. The subject will require much further discussion before any formal program can be worked out.

The proposed air link between China and Canada was merely touched on during Mr. Sharp's talks since full-fledged negotiations were already under way. The Chinese indicated they were anxious for negotiations to proceed quickly. These talks, conducted in both Peking and Ottawa, have since resulted in a Sino-Canadian civil air agreement announced in mid-October. Direct flights between the two countries are expected to begin early in 1973.

#### Pride in results

The general impression left with Canada's External Affairs Minister after his official talks and his tours through city and countryside was of a people and a leadership proud of their accomplishments in industrial and agricultural spheres. This was a feeling present in a peasant's home outside Canton, in a bicycle factory in Shanghai, in a crowded department store and in the upper echelons of the administration — a feeling of pride in the results of mass effort. "What you remember is this spectacle of vast areas of cultivated land — cultivated so carefully; there isn't a square foot of arable land that isn't being used. You see people planting, harvesting, fertilizing to the limit — and probably the greatest accomplishment of this regime is to have removed the threat of starvation . . .," Mr. Sharp said.

The Chinese were ready to engage in self-criticism and to hear criticism from outsiders. "At the end of any visit or any occasion, the Chinese who was in charge will ask: 'Well now, have you any criticisms or any suggestions . . . ?' The pilot of your plane, the cook, the head of the commune — they always end by saying: 'Well now, you've been around, have you any suggestions or criticisms?'"

Mr. Sharp said he was impressed with the range of Premier Chou En-lai's mind and his knowledge of the nuances of Sino-Canadian relations, although the External Affairs Minister did not hesitate to differ vigorously with the Premier on some aspects of international affairs. As to Canadian affairs, Mr. Sharp added with a smile: "The only thing I had to correct him on was that he accepted the American version of the War of 1812."

*In peasant's home,  
in bike factory —  
pride in results  
of mass effort*

— Murray Goldblatt