

Editorial

At no time since the early days of the Communist régime, has so little hard information been available on the state of the Chinese economy. The sessions of the National People's Congress used to be the occasion for the publication of extensive figures on industrial development and the national budget. But the communiqués issued at the end of the November 1963 session were even more laconic and uninformative than the one which followed the 1962 session. Clearly the task of the economist attempting to study the Chinese economy is made very difficult; but equally clearly the need for authoritative assessment of what sparse facts there are becomes even more pressing under these conditions. It is with this idea that we have asked a number of leading specialists to examine various aspects of China's recent industrial growth. We are very much indebted to Professor Choh-Ming Li for his considerable editorial advice in preparing this special issue.

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