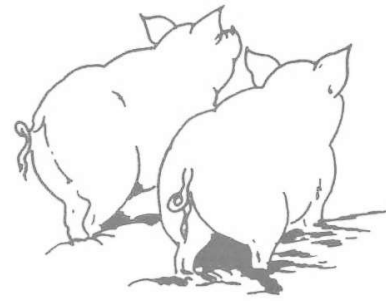


FROM THE EDITOR



The main concern of this issue of TRIPOD is the New Constitution of People's Republic of China, especially articles which may have a bearing on the future of Hong Kong, such as, on "special administrative districts" and the "policy of religious freedom." TRIPOD has interviewed several scholars and religious personages about the ideological, legal, economic, administrative, and religious aspects of these questions. Their different opinions will help our readers gain a broader and deeper insight into the spirit and characteristics of the New Constitution, as well as surfacing some problems involved in implementing it.

Angelo S. Lazzarotto, research associate of the Holy Spirit Study Centre, has done extensive research on article 36 of the New Constitution regarding "freedom of religious belief." He gives a detailed report in this issue. In another article, using an incident from Jesus' life mentioned in the New Testament, Jerome J. Heyndrickx explains to our readers the attitude which Christians should have regarding the complicated situation of the Chinese Catholic Church. The final two articles are interesting reports by Peter Barry and Miss Lucia Lee on travels to Guangzhou and Shanghai.

The Chinese New Year of the PIG is approaching as this issue of TRIPOD goes to press. All the staff and research associates of the Holy Spirit Study Centre wish our readers:

A VERY HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR!

February, 1983