



In a Peking shop, Pat Nixon inspects a teacup. She bought 12.

—AP Photo

The Impact of Pat

HANGCHOW — (AP) — Pat Nixon has been winning friends and influencing many people in China.

"It's as if she has been here a long time," one Chinese said. "She meets people so naturally, in a relaxed and informal way."

With a smile, a handshake and time for small talk with anyone wherever she goes, the First Lady has charmed her way through to the hearts of many Chinese who have had little contact with Americans in the past quarter of a century.

Looser

Mrs. Nixon has proved herself to be able to meet the Chinese with more aplomb and less stiffness than her husband.

She has had a well-filled schedule, visiting a Chinese kitchen, a peoples' commune, a glass factory and a children's hospital while the President met China's leaders.

Mrs. Nixon dressed informally and simply as she followed the agenda of activities planned for her without her husband.

Summing up her hosts, Mrs. Nixon has told reporters, "They have been so kind to us, so friendly. They have extended themselves and been so considerate. They have tried so hard to make everything pleasant for us."

Stoical

In snow or extremely cold weather, Mrs. Nixon has been as stoical as her husband in disdaining hats and sometimes gloves. On Wednesday, she tramped around the Evergreen People's commune outside Peking bareheaded despite a steady snowfall.

Next day, she accompanied her husband to the high-altitude Great Wall and again she was hatless — although many newsmen

chronicling the event wore fur caps with ear flaps tied under their chins — in a bitter wind.

At the commune, Mrs. Nixon marveled as she saw the ancient Chinese medical art of acupuncture.

Dozen Needles

A 68 year old woman lay on a cot in the commune hospital with nearly a dozen needles in her left arm and leg. Through an interpreter, she told the First Lady needle treatments had restored her from an invalid state, occasioned by numbness of the limbs, and that she had resumed cooking for her household.

"It didn't look painful," was Mrs. Nixon's somewhat awed appraisal.

In the second-grade class of the commune's school Mrs. Nixon took a seat with the children while a small group danced and sang. This was a highlight of the trip. The children grinned, their enthusiasm genuine. The whole class joined in several rousing choruses and Mrs. Nixon beamed.

Up 3 Floors

At the Peking glassware factory, Mrs. Nixon trudged up three floors and waded young girls at work making small flowers and animals. She spent about a half hour, talking individually to about 40 workers, patting them on the shoulder, asking about their work and complimenting them on it.

She always seemed to have a nice word at the right time. Ushered into a large room where girls were assembling bouquets of glass flowers, she said: "All the pretty girls working on the pretty flowers."

She invited Chao Mei-yun, chairman of the revolutionary committee that runs the factory, to visit Washington.