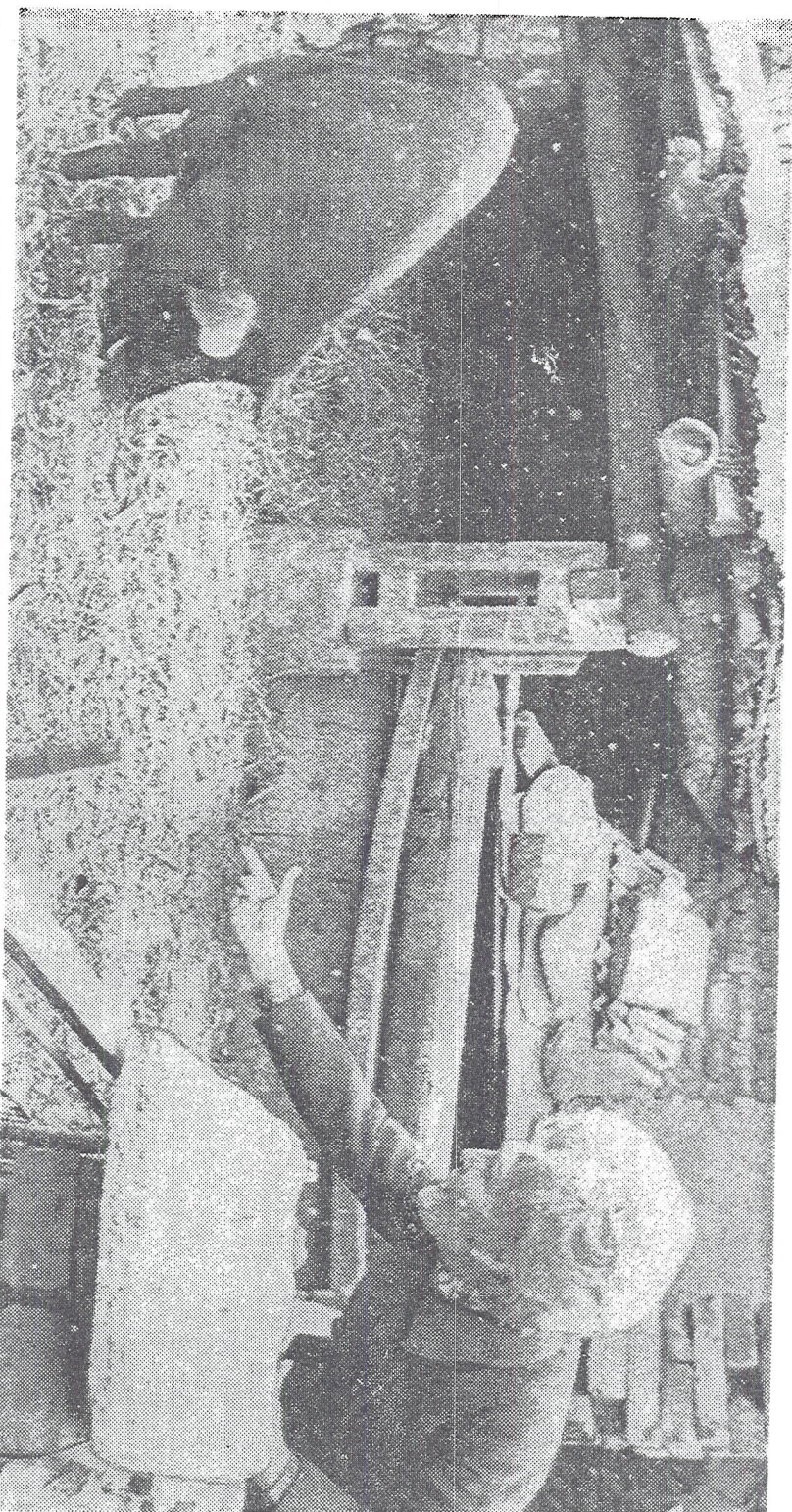


**First Lady
Visits a
Chinese
Farm
Commune**



As a light snow fell, Mrs. Nixon tried to entice a pig. She recalled she once raised pigs herself.

UPI Telephoto

Pat's Day - - Needles, Kids, Pigs

Peking

Wearing a fur-lined coat, Pat Nixon toured a Chinese farm commune today during a light snowstorm.

Mrs. Nixon recalled her own childhood on a farm during the 90-minute tour of the 6000-acre agricultural cooperative near Peking. She was told that progress in growing vegetables, grain and rice was due to the guidance of Mao Tse-tung, the venerated Chinese ruler.

A highlight of her visit was a demonstration of acupunctu-

puncture, the ancient Chinese art of treating ailments by inserting long needles in the body. The subject was a gaunt 68-year-old woman, who lay on a cot in a clinic.

The white-haired woman had nine silver and gold needles stuck in her shoulder, arm and leg to ease a paralysis.

Two young girls administered the treatment, applying the needles to nerve endings as a form of anesthesia.

Mrs. Nixon appeared embarrassed by the sight and

turned away.

"I think it is sort of rude to watch," she said.

But it was all prearranged, and Mrs. Nixon was encouraged to stay. The patient, too, seemed to enjoy the attention. Asked if she knew who Mrs. Nixon was, she nodded, smiled and said "Yes, Nihoa (hello)."

SNOW

It was the first snowfall in Peking since the Nixons arrived three days ago. Mrs. Nixon's hair remained perfectly coiffed despite the snow.

She wore a red wool fur-lined coat, skin-tight black boots with heels, and black leather gloves.

The collective, known as the Evergreen Peoples Commune, has a population of 41,000 and 9100 households. Mrs. Nixon inspected the medical clinic, a primary school, a pig farm, a hot-house and a general store.

APPLAUSE

She rode in a curtained black limousine through the commune where she was briefed by the director and



The commune children applauded Mrs. Nixon and she applauded them

UPI Telephoto

sampled snacks and cups of tea.

At the school, healthy-looking second-graders, wearing gaily colored ribbons on their pigtails, applauded her. Following their smiling teacher who pointed at the blackboard, they demonstrated their knowledge of multiplication, each pupil raising his hand proudly to give the answers.

Mrs. Nixon applauded them as they had applauded her when she entered the classroom, and said through an interpreter "You can tell them hello from all the children in America."

Mrs. Nixon bent down and kissed one little girl and hugged another child as they called out "good-by, good-by," in Chinese.

Then she dropped in on a music class where the youngsters performed a dance for her and sang songs with the words "I love Chairman Mao, our great leader" and "Chairman Mao is leading us forward."

TITLE

Another song was titled "I am a little member of the commune."

In each of the classrooms, bigger-than-life-size portraits of Mao peered down on the children.

When she passed a pig pen, Mrs. Nixon proudly announced that she had once won first prize raising pigs on her farm in California.

Then she visited a family home in the commune where the proud owners showed her the simple way they live.

Mrs. Nixon arranged to visit a glass factory in the afternoon after returning to the guest house for a rest.

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