

State / National

Hands-on training is needed

China could double oil output

United Press International
DALLAS — China could double its daily two million barrel oil production capacity within 10 years, John F. Mason of Princeton, N.J., said before an oil exploration session at the four-day World Oil and Gas Show & Conference in China.

China, which exports most of its excess oil to Japan, has reserves that have not been touched, and industry is making a major effort to increase production, Mason, an oil exploration consultant said.

The country has more than enough equipment to get the job done, although "they might be a little slow to get the hands-on training to use that equipment," Mason said. "They've got all the literature, but it takes more than reading a book to know how to drill an oil well."

Most of the drilling equipment in China is purchased from the United States, he said, though the

country has been limited by foreign exchange constraints.

Mason said senior engineers, geologists and vice ministers in the Chinese government were largely educated in the United States. However, during a 15-year period geologists and engineers were trained in the Soviet Union, a situation he claims is causing senior Chinese officials some worry.

Mason said there were "major boo-boos" in Russian technology. For example, "in the Russian idea you find an oil field and immediately begin to waterflood it." He explained that technology exists to trace the water as it moves underground and the Russian method leaves a lot of oil trapped beneath the soil.

During the last 10 years, however, the Chinese have sent

large numbers of junior engineers and geologists to American and European universities.

"As they learn to use the tools they've got they will be as competent as we are," said Mason. He noted the U.S. Geological Survey had signed agreements to bring groups of 20 to 30 Chinese geologists and engineers to the United States for four-month study exchanges.

'Pied Pipers of Fraud' to take turns in prison

United Press International
CHICAGO — A Michigan man and his ex-wife, dubbed the "Pied Pipers of Fraud," will take turns serving time in prison for a phony apartment-search scheme that bilked millions of dollars from people in five cities.

Jack Wine, 43, of Bloomfield Hills, Mich., and his ex-wife, Susan DeSutter, 38, of Farmington, Mich., were sentenced Monday in federal court for cheating 8,000 people of an estimated \$500,000 in the Chicago

area alone.

Wine, his wife and eight others pleaded guilty to charges of setting up a rental search operation in Chicago in March 1976 under the names Landlord Listing Center, Renters Assistance Center and Robinson Home Rentals.

Wine and DeSutter were the key figures in a nationwide rental search scam operating in Detroit, Washington, Houston and Atlanta, prosecutors charged.

For fees ranging from \$40 to \$100 they promised to find suitable rental apartments, falsely telling clients the payments were refundable if they came up empty-handed, prosecutors charged.

Wine was sentenced to three years in prison and ordered to pay \$4,000 restitution. He will begin serving his term after Dec. 21.

DeSutter serves her six-month term in prison, so they can take turns caring for their two daughters

Story told of American test-tube tot

United Press International
NEW YORK — America's first test-tube baby, a "perfect 9" named Samantha Steel, was born in England on Oct. 2 to a couple that had been childless for 11 years, the Ladies Home Journal says.

The Journal, which obtained the copyright story and pictures for its January issue, paid an undisclosed fee to the parents, Jon and Laurie Steel, as well as to test-tube pioneer Dr. Patrick Steptoe, who delivered the baby at his Cambridge clinic.

Doctors who rated Samantha according to the Apgar score — a 1-to-9 rating to determine if a baby has imperfections — gave her a perfect score.

The Journal said Jon Steel's first words, after watching his wife's Caesarean section, were: "Samantha's here. Laurie, she's perfect."

The Steels came home in November and are living on the West Coast, the magazine said, but editors would not disclose the location because of a pact to protect their privacy.

Steel, a veterinarian, and his wife, a violinist, had been childless 11 years because Mrs. Steel suffered an infection that damaged her Fallopian tubes, the Journal reported. Doctors told the couple that Mrs. Steel would never be able to conceive normally.

Steel was studying in England when the couple first heard of Steptoe and his success with in-vitro fertilization, a process in which an egg is taken from the mother-to-be and combined in a laboratory dish with sperm taken from the father-to-be. The fertilized egg is then inserted into the mother's uterus where the fetus develops.

The in-vitro (literally translated as "in glass") fertilization was performed for the Steels by Steptoe, who worked with researcher Robert Edwards to develop the procedures used in the birth of the world's first test-tube baby — Louise Brown, born July 25, 1978, in England.

The picture on the Journal's cover of mother and daughter was taken just five days after the birth. Under arrangements made last June, Journal editor Myrna Blyth said the Steels were paid a "not large" sum for pictures and story rights to the birth. When asked if the amount was larger or smaller than \$20,000, she would not answer.

Blyth also refused to say how much Steptoe and the Steel's doctor received for an accompanying bylined article in the Journal. She described the amount to Steptoe as a smidgeon.

This year might be the turning point for test-tube babies, Edwards said, in the British science journal called Nature. He said 15 to 20 would probably be born in the United Kingdom and Australia.

A dozen medical centers in the United States are beginning to try the procedure. The first was at the Eastern Virginia Medical School in Norfolk, where a successful pregnancy was announced in May 1981 with delivery expected in January.

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