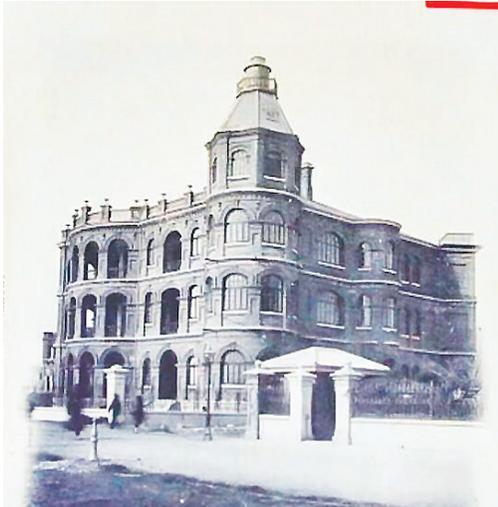


# US Consulate to provide visa services

By Jessie Fan



Old photo of the former American Consulate



The building now serves as Wuhan Talent Exchange Center.

The U.S. Consulate held the celebration for the 10th anniversary of its reopening on Nov. 20 at the Hankou New World Trade Tower. According to U.S. Consul General in Wuhan Jamie Fouss, the new site of the consulate in Minsheng will provide visa services next year to help the people of Central China to travel to the U.S. for tourism, business and study.

Apart from providing visa services, Fouss said the new consulate will have an American cultural resource center called the Wuhan American Center,

"where we will have public lectures, video conferences with professionals and experts in America, American publications and learning resources. This Wuhan American Center will be open to the public for all to enjoy."

Qin Yu, the director general of the Foreign Affairs Office of the Hubei Provincial People's Government, commented that next year marks the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and the United States. "We believe the two sides have brought

prospects of cooperation. We will make concerted efforts with our American friends to push forward our cooperation with full vitality."

During the ceremony, Wuhan civilian history researcher Chen Yong brought his collections of old photos, letters and newspapers, which show the business, trade and culture exchanges between Wuhan and the U.S. in the early 20th century.

New facilities of the U.S. Consulate are currently under construction and are expected to be completed in 2019.

## The 5th Korea-Hubei ECEC held in Wuhan

By Sunny Nie

The 5th Korea-Hubei Economic Cooperation and Exchange Conference (Korea-Hubei ECEC) was held at the Wuhan Westin Hotel on Nov. 20. More than 220 guests attended the conference. At the conference, representatives from Wuhan also shared their experiences during the past years in collaborating with some Korean companies. The conference has developed into an important communication

platform between Korean and Chinese enterprises and the government agencies of both countries since its inception in 2014.

Kim Young Geun, the Consul General of the Republic of Korea in Wuhan, described the relationship between the two countries with an idiom "song mao bai yue (松茂柏悦)," which means one is happy for the success of one's friends. Kim Young Geun said that he

would like to see an expansion of the cooperation between companies of the two countries. "The core strategies of the Rise of Central China Plan, the Development Plan for the Yangtze River Economic Belt, and the Belt and Road initiative have greatly vitalized Hubei Province and have dramatically promoted the cooperation between Hubei and the Republic of Korea," he added.

## Huawei, Tencent and Mi make further investments in Wuhan

By Li Jia & Ma Zhenhua

Artificial intelligence will become a high-end technology for all societies in the future. Tencent, Huawei and Mi, having been attracted by Wuhan's advantages in talent, environment and geographical location, have all begun investing further in Wuhan.

Huawei's research and development center in Wuhan, which started operation in April this year, is the company's largest in Central China. The facility focuses on constructing an optical capacity center and a terminal R&D center. The tested products are made to international quality standards. Tencent's own Wuhan-based research and development center employs 200 researchers. At present, Tencent is working with a hardware manufacturer to build a portable intelligent robot. Mi, on the other hand, uses its Wuhan headquarter primarily for recruitment and training. They are looking to take advantage of the burgeoning tech sector fueled by legions of graduates from Wuhan's higher-education institutes.

## Chinese tangerines exported to Irkutsk via cold-chain

By Wang Wenhan

A train of six cooling carriages, loaded with tangerines, grapefruits and other fruits, set off from the Wuhan Central Station of CR Intermodal on Nov. 22. The first of these special Irkutsk-bound trains is expected to arrive in about 15 days.

Wuhan Asia Europe Logistics Co. Ltd. has been engaging in international railway cold-chain transportation since 2016. In 2017, the xiaoxi red tangerines from Yichang were transported to Russia for the first time by the China-Europe (Wuhan) cold-chain freight train. This year, mangos, grapefruits and other high-quality domestic fruits were added to the cargo. Compared with traditional motor transport, the cold-chain train's refrigerator containers can reach temperature as low as  $-25^{\circ}\text{C}$ .