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Cover illustration: The Shanghai to Kunming railway crossing the high part of the Guizhou Plateau in southern China. In the photograph, Carboniferous limestones, which are strong, massive and cavernous, are dissected into a chaotic karstic relief of steep-sided conical hills, typical of those across most of the plateau. The railway is forced to utilize a sequence of tunnels and viaducts through this difficult terrain. At this point it is climbing above the floor of the Shuicheng basin, a recently down-faulted limestone block now floored with a thin veneer of alluvium in which sinkhole development is a recurring problem. Photograph by A. C. Waltham, Trent Polytechnic.
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