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PRC STATE COUNCIL BULLETINS

No 19, 30 JUL; No 20, 10 AUG 1986

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PRC STATE COUNCIL BULLETINS

No 19, 30 Jul; No 20, 10 Aug 1986

Beijing ZHONGHUA RENMIN GONGHEGUO GUOWUYUAN GONGBAO [PRC STATE COUNCIL BULLETIN] in Chinese 30 Jul, 10 Aug 86

[This volume contains selected translations from the PRC STATE COUNCIL BULLETIN. Items marked (previously published) and (previously covered) have appeared in other JPRS or FBIS publications, and are cross-referenced wherever possible.]

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Beijing STATE COUNCIL BULLETIN in Chinese No 19, 30 Jul 86 p 583

[State Council Circular on the Approval and Circulation of a Report of the State Education Commission and the Ministry of Finance on the Reform of the Present System of Grants for Ordinary Tertiary School Students (8 July 1986)]

(Guofa [0948 4099] (1986) No 72)

[Text] The State Council has approved the "Report on the Reform of the Present System of Grants for Tertiary School Students" submitted by the State Education Commission and the Ministry of Finance, which is hereby circulated to you in the hope that you will implement it in the light of the actual situation.

The reform of the system of grants for ordinary tertiary school students is part and parcel of the reform of the educational structure. The aim of the reform is to urge the students to exert themselves, aim high, study assiduously, and develop in an all-round way morally, intellectually, and physically, and to produce more and better qualified people. All localities and departments concerned must effectively strengthen leadership and conscientiously do a good job of this reform.

We are going to try out a system of scholarships and student grants at selected spots this year. Afterward, we will sum up experience and gradually popularize the system. The specific methods of trial implementation and the steps shall be worked out by the State Education Commission and the Ministry of Finance.

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CSO: 4005/410

MINUTES OF RURAL WATER CONSERVANCY SYMPOSIUM

Beijing STATE COUNCIL BULLETIN in Chinese No 20, 10 Aug 86 pp 609-611

[Minutes of the Rural Water Conservancy Symposium (Summary)]

[Text] In the afternoon of 9 June, Comrade Tian Jiyun [3944 4764 0061] presided over the meeting which heard the report of the rural water conservancy symposium convened by the Agricultural Research Office of the Central Secretariat and the Ministry of Water Resources and Electric Power and studied the question of how to implement CPC Central Committee Document No 1 and further strengthen rural water conservancy.

Comrade Qian Zhengying [6929 2973 5391] said in his report that the many rural water conservancy projects completed in the three decades since the founding of the PRC have played a remarkable role in promoting social and economic development in the rural areas, in increasing our ability to fight flood, drought, and other disasters, and in improving the ecological environment. At present, rural water conservancy is faced with two major problems. First, many water conservancy projects have become old and out of repair and are diminishing in returns. Second, there is an acute shortage of water resources.

In view of the problems now confronting rural water conservancy, Comrade Qian Zhengying proposed in his report that the following measures be taken: First, we must enhance our understanding, further strengthen leadership over rural water conservancy, and do a better job in managing and utilizing the existing rural water conservancy projects. Second, a system of labor accumulation should be instituted. In general, each rural labor force must devote between 10 and 20 working days each year to repairing and transforming water conservancy projects in his or her township or county. Third, an effort must be made to increase the levels and channels of funding for water conservancy construction, and to have the water conservancy capital construction funds and agricultural water charges in the localities restored to the 1980 level as quickly as possible. Fourth, a system of grassroots-level water conservancy services should be set up and put on a solid footing. Districts and townships should set up water conservancy management centers. Where water conservancy facilities are scarce, full-time personnel may be appointed. Fifth, water conservation should be taken as a long-term basic policy of the state. Unified water resources administration should be set up at different levels. Efforts to grasp water conservation must be continued in the industrial sector and in cities. Industrial departments must produce water-saving equipment and products to meet the needs for water conservation.

In agriculture, development must be geared to the needs of water conservation, and efforts must be made to coordinate the drainage areas and prevent dyke leakages. Piping and irrigation by spraying and dripping should be popularized, and water charges per mu should eventually be replaced by charges according to consumption. Sixth, the method of using and managing rural water conservancy subsidies should be improved, and the practice of advancing part of the funds before winter begin should be restored so that wintertime overhauling of rural water conservancy projects can be carried out in time.

The meeting held that China had made tremendous achievements in the agricultural sector since the 3d Plenum of the 11th CPC Central Committee, and that the whole world marveled at our achievements. Agricultural output topped 800 billion jin and showed an average annual increase of 30 billion jin. The major cash crops also saw increases by a big margin. The years of stalemate have come to an end. This change has come about mainly because the line, principles, and policies since the 3d Plenum of the 11th CPC Central Committee and the restructuring of the economic system and the relations of production in the rural areas aroused the enthusiasm of the vast number of peasants for production. At the same time, this was also largely due to the important role played by our water conservancy construction over the years. Without these water conservancy projects, such achievements would have been unthinkable. If we are to further develop agriculture and increase agricultural output to the region of 850 billion and 900 billion jin during the "Seventh 5-Year Plan" in order to meet the growing needs of agricultural consumption, we must increase the stamina of our agricultural development. This is a strategic question. Without new methods and measures, it will be very difficult to make further advance merely by living off our past gains.

The meeting held that in order to increase the stamina of our agricultural development, we must do the following: First, we must persist in reform and better the measures of rural reform. Second, we must further rationalize the pricing of agricultural products and improve the policy of procurement and marketing. Third, we must rely on science and carry out scientific farming. Fourth, we must increase agricultural input, an important aspect of which is to strengthen rural water conservancy construction. In recent years, the returns of our rural water conservancy projects have been gradually diminishing rather than increasing due to insufficient input and poor repair and management. We must pay attention to agricultural input. On the one hand, we should gradually launch some new rural water conservancy projects in keeping with the financial and material capabilities of our country. On the other hand, we must properly manage the existing facilities and guard against sabotage so that they can play a better role. This is a task of primary importance, and all localities must attach importance to this and grasp the work effectively.

After some studies, the meeting reached the following decisions through consultation:

1. On the question of grassroots-level water conservancy administration: In principle, districts and townships where there are a lot of water conservancy facilities should have their own special management organs and personnel to act as agents of county water conservancy bureaus. Whether

these organs be called "centers" and "groups" is to be decided by each province in the light of local conditions. The personnel required should, in principle, be picked from among the existing district or township water conservancy staff rather than publicly recruited. The quota required should be credited against the quota for workers' wage stipulated by the state. Where conditions merit their running as enterprises, water conservancy units may be run as such and obtain their funds from water charges and other income. Where such conditions are indeed absent, fixed subsidies payable by other water conservancy units may be obtained with the approval of the county authorities. Shortages in funds may be partially met with subsidies for small-scale farmland water conservancy construction projects. Water charges must be reasonable and used properly. The present methods for the application of subsidies for water conservancy construction are to be studied and revised by the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Water Resources and Electric Power.

2. A system of labor accumulation is to be instituted for the development of rural water conservancy. We must fully bring into play the strong points of our rural areas in having a huge labor force and continuously improve the agricultural infrastructure by means of labor accumulation. A locality may determine, in the light of need and possibility, the number of workdays each labor force must devote to rural water conservancy construction each year.

3. Water conservancy departments going into diversified undertakings is a good thing. It is the right direction to follow because it can kill many birds with one stone.

This will not only enable us to create more social wealth and supply more commodities to the market, but will increase the economic vitality of the water conservancy departments and create employment opportunities. This is not the same thing as party and government organs going into business. Each province must clearly stipulate what units can go into diversified undertakings and what kinds of projects can be undertaken. The number of years set for tax exemption may be suitably extended with prior approval.

4. On the question of water conservation: Some places in China are already faced with or will soon face water shortages. This is an extremely serious problem. We must be resolute and come up with ways to deal with the situation as quickly as possible. We must step up publicity and urge the whole society to take the matter of water conservation seriously. In the rural areas as well as in the countryside, in the industrial sector as well as, in agriculture, measures for water conservation must be taken on the technical economic, and political plans. At the same time, efforts must be made to prevent the pollution of water sources. Provinces, prefectures, and counties must decide on the relevant competent departments as quickly as possible to strengthen the unified management of water resources. Specific methods of handling compensations for irrigated land and agricultural water sources being taken up by urban, industrial, or agricultural construction may be worked out by the Ministry of Water Resources and Electric Power in conjunction with the departments concerned.

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