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OBJECTIVE LIMITATIONS AND SUBJECTIVE MOTIVE POWER

[Following is a translation of an article by Shih Tung-hsiang (施東向) in Hung-ch'i, No. 16, 15 August 1959, pp. 28-30.]

Man is capable of understanding the objective world and of recreating the objective world. Animals merely passively adapt themselves to their surroundings while man consciously places himself in opposition to the objective world, adapting himself to nature but also changing nature. He thus leaves the traces of his own labor wisdom on nature. Of course, animals also function in nature by their instinctive activities such as rats boring holes and bees making beehives. However, as Marx said, even the worst architect is superior to bees. The architect is superior to bees because his work is conscious and purposeful activity. That is the subjective motive power which only man possesses.

Man can set the goal of his labor and work in his concept beforehand, and, through practice, achieve his pre-set goal. This talent of man was developed step by step in human history. The process of this development is also the process of the continuous enhancement of man's scientific knowledge of objective work. Following the development of the natural sciences and knowledge, man becomes more sure and more effective in his labor and production to recreate the world. That is to say, man's subjective motive power in this connection has become more developed. Life in society is inseparable from man's conscious activities.

However, for a long time man did not really know the objective limitations of the historical development of society, or even the existence of the objective limitations which require scientific understanding in this connection. Therefore, in past ages, people who took the stand of the reactionary classes and possessed subjective wishes which ran counter to objective limitations regularly came to grief in the face of reality. Even those who took the stand of the progressive classes, owing to their inadequate knowledge of the objective limitations, had to be subjected to many restrictions in developing their subjective motive power.

Marxism was the first to expose the objective limitations of the history of society. With Marxism, the masses of people led by the proletariat are capable of understanding and making use of the objective limitations of social development and crushing the old world and building a new one. We should say that the birth of Marxism created a new era for men to develop their subjective motive power. And our present era

of building up socialism is the era of men's subjective motive power and is being developed to an unprecedented degree.

Speaking of subjective motive power, we must have a clear idea of its relation to objective limitations. They are the two sides of a contradiction. One is the objective process which does not change according to man's will. The other is man's activities in accordance with his own will. Subjective motive power can only be fully developed on the basis of understanding and depending on objective limitations. The division and separation of the two sides will surely result in one or another kind of error.

It is, of course, wrong to exaggerate subjective motive power and think that man can transcend all objective limitations and "do as he pleases" or even think that objective limitations can be "eliminated" or "recreated." For man's activities to attain the present goal, and for the subjective motive power to be well developed, they absolutely cannot run counter to the objective limitations. If you violate the objective limitations, they will "fall out" with you.

Subjective motive power is always inseparable from certain anticipation. Only by anticipating the result of action and detecting the tendency of the changes of things can man's action be conscious. How can this be attained? Objective things have their own limitations; failure to grasp objective limitations means absence of scientific anticipation. Deeper understanding of objective limitations means better scientific anticipation, less blindness in practice, and greater subjective motive power. Therefore, in order to develop subjective motive power, we must strive to obtain scientific knowledge of objective limitations and earnestly study Marxism.

However, this absolutely does not mean that man must have a complete understanding of all aspects of future things before he acts. While correct action must be guided by correct understanding, correct understanding has to be gradually perfected and developed through practice. Failure to understand this truth not only does not benefit the development of subjective motive power but also restricts it.

Therefore, subjective motive power, first of all, pertains to practice. In order to raise the efficacy of scientific anticipation, we must depend on new practice as well as existent scientific knowledge. We can only understand the limitations, but not yet understand and perfect and enrich existent understanding, through the display of intrepidity in the face of difficulties and hardships in practice, incessant exploration, incessant accumulation of experiences, and absorption of lessons.

In On Practice, Comrade Mao Tse-tung pointed out, "Practice, understand, practice again, understand again -- this is the cycle which goes round and round forever. The content of every practice-understand cycle reaches a comparatively higher degree." That is to say, through practice, understanding is continuously enhanced, and the continuous enhancement of understanding, in turn, continuously enhances practice. This process of continuous enhancement of practice and understanding is the process of the continuous enhancement of subjective motive power.

In regard to the relations between objective limitations and subjective motive power, a mechanical materialistic viewpoint of them would also be wrong. It is true that man's actions cannot violate objective limitations. However, one would err in adopting mechanical materialism if one thinks that man's actions have been regulated rigidly by objective limitations. Therefore, in the face of objective limitations, man can only passively obey and cannot take any positive action, since this is the tendency of idolizing objective limitations.

People adopting this viewpoint in actual work will surely be prone to demoralization and slackening of efforts when confronted with difficulties. They will lack the courage to overcome difficulties and confidence in the power of the masses. They can only see temporarily unfavorable factors and refuse to seek ways to complete their tasks and overcome difficulties. They do not know that, since man can understand objective limitations, it is also possible for him to use objective limitations to serve himself to varying degrees. Many objective limitations are "so lofty and untameable before they are grasped by man. Once they are grasped, they serve man so docilely and fully develop the subjective motive power of the masses. The strength is invincible, and man is entirely capable of becoming the master of nature and society. Therefore, Lenin said, "The outcome of undertakings depends on man. This is a truth which workers and peasants should commit firmly to memory." (Complete Works of Lenin, Vol. 26, page 386.)

Subjective-understanding should correspond to objective reality. This is the requirement of materialism. However, we are dialectical materialists. Our task is not merely to explain the world but, more important than that, to recreate the world mobilely in accordance with the limitations. Of course, man's actions in recreating the world are always subject to certain restrictions. For instance, man cannot pull himself up in the air by his hair. However, some men, such as athletes, can jump higher than people in general after adequate training. By using airplanes, man can make himself fly in the skies thousands of meters above the ground and some day can even fly into outer space free from gravitation.

Such things were unimaginable in the past, but are now being or will be performed. This does not mean that man has or will transcend objective limitations. It means that man's ability to make use of objective limitations has grown. The objective limitations that exist, exist outside man's consciousness. However, man himself has to make efforts to nurture the talent of using objective limitations.

Man has to rely on certain material conditions as the stage of his activities. However, on this stage, what role he can play and what a play he can put on, in other words, the success or failure of things that man does by making use of the objective limitations, depend on man's subjective motive power. Why is it that production brigades and plants with the same objective conditions register entirely different achievements? Why is it that, on the same stage and with the same property, Mei Lan-fang and other famous opera stars achieve extraordinary effects

with their performances? Can one deny this is due to subjective motive power?

We object to those who utterly disregard objective limitations and perform their work according to their subjective wishes. However, we must see that within the confines of objective limitations, the scope of man's activities is vast and man's ability to make use of objective limitations can be continuously enhanced through effort. In the perspective of the long-term history of man, the development of subjective motive power is infinite.

In actual work, our Party has always adhered to this Marxist principle: when certain objective conditions have been acquired, the subjective motive power of the masses becomes the decisive factor. The general line of "marshall all the go-getting spirit to build up socialism with the utmost stress on quality, quantity, and speed" characterizes this principle. When the hundreds of millions of our people throw themselves into the sweeping and contagious revolutionary enthusiasm and the red-hot socialist construction, the ambition and moral courage which demand that the picture of "utter poverty" of our country be changed will be the great motive power for recreating the objective world. In urban as well as rural areas everywhere, signs of bursting vitality and zeal are seen. "Human determination will overcome destiny" has become the universal conviction. Therefore, we hear such brave words as "Let the mountains bow their heads; tell the rivers to make way." The great leap forward since 1958 is the result of the full development of the revolutionary positivity of the masses.

Lenin said, "Marxism is different from all other socialist theories. It skillfully combines two features: on the one hand, it analyzes objective situations and the course of objective progress with an utterly cool and scientific attitude. On the other hand, it determinedly acknowledges the significance of the revolutionary perseverance, revolutionary creativeness, and revolutionary initiative shown by the masses. At the same time, it also acknowledges the significance of the revolutionary perseverance, revolutionary creativeness, and revolutionary initiative shown by individuals, groups, organizations, and political parties who are adept at exploring and establishing liaison with certain classes." (Lenin: On Marx, Engels, and Marxism.) It would be wrong to fail to recognize, or adopt any other attitude towards the revolutionary perseverance, creativeness, and initiative of the masses.

It is our mission to bolster up all the revolutionary go-getting spirit and lead the masses in the march forward, to breakaway from all the feeble and passive sentiments, and to link the highly-developed revolutionary courage with the practical scientific attitude so as to better develop the functions of the subjective motive power. Under the guidance of the Marxist scientific concept, and in close reliance on the masses, we will be ever victorious!

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CONSCIENTIOUSLY DEVELOP SOCIALIST LABOR EMULATION

[Following is the translation of an article by K'ang Yung-ho (康永和) in Hung-ch'i, Peiping, No. 16, 15 August 1959, pages 13-19.]

Under the socialist system, the laboring people have shaken off the enslavement and oppression of the exploiting classes and have become the masters of the state. In the past, labor was regarded as a lowly undertaking. In order to accelerate socialist construction, the liberated masses are courageously performing creative labor. The socialist system enables labor activeness and creativeness to develop fully. The development of enthusiastic labor emulation is an important method of mobilizing the multitudes and of developing their labor enthusiasm for the building up of socialism.

Shortly after the establishment of the socialist system in the world, Lenin pointed out the great significance of labor emulation in the building of socialism. He said, "Socialism will not only not strangle emulation, but will, for the first time, unprecedentedly create and utilize on a large scale the possibilities of emulation to draw the genuine great majority of laborers into work so that they may give expression to their abilities, show off their skills, and develop their genius."

He also pointed out, "Now with the socialist government in power, our task is to organize emulation." (Complete Works of Lenin, Vol. 26, page 378.) Actual practices in the USSR, China, and other socialist countries have proven that Lenin's observations on labor emulation are entirely correct.

Since the Liberation, under the leadership of the Party and following the triumphant development of the socialist revolution, labor emulation in this country, linked with large-scale mass political movements, is developing from strength to strength. The labor emulation engaged in by the multitudes of workers guaranteed fulfillment and over-fulfillment of the production and construction plans throughout the years. In the production climaxes of 1952 and 1956 and the great leap forward in production in 1958, labor emulation performed great functions.

The patriotic campaign for increasing output and exercising economy in 1952 was a further development of labor emulation which developed in the immediate post-liberation period. Through various democratic reforms and a series of political movements such as the "resist the United States - aid Korea" movement, the multitudes of workers had their political consciousness greatly raised. They strengthened their sense of responsi-

bility as the masters of the state and preliminarily set up the socialist labor attitude. In production they dug for potentialities, short cuts, laid down plans for increasing output and exercising economy, and vigorously propagated advanced experiences, thus bringing the mass production movement to a climax. The labor emulation of this period was already shaping up as a mass movement on a national scale. It exerted a great effect in the basic upturn of the national financial and economic situation during the period of economic resuscitation, the victory of the "resist the United States - aid Korea" struggle and the preparations for the country to enter into the phase of planned economic reconstruction.

Following the commencement of the First Five-Year Plan, labor emulation continued to penetrate deeper into the elevation of techniques and technical innovations. Leadership and organization of labor emulation was further strengthened. In 1956, the socialist transformation of privately-owned commerce and industry and the victory of the cooperative movement of agriculture and handicraft further liberated the productive force of society. Encouraged by the victory of the socialist revolution on the economic front, the multitude of workers, guided by the principles of more, fast, better, and economical, developed the booming movement of advanced producers. In this movement, the advanced pushed the backward and the backward tried to catch up with the advanced. Mutual assistance, mutual learning, and mutual complement focused the emulation on the elevation of the productive power of the entire society, giving an important guarantee to the fulfillment of the First Five-Year Plan ahead of schedule.

In 1958, on the basis of the great victories scored in the struggle against the rightists and the national rectification movement, and under the glorious illumination of the Party's general line for building socialism, a magnificent great leap forward in production emerged. The multitudes of workers, encouraged by the general line, broke down superstitions and emancipated their thoughts. They developed a sky-high revolutionary go-getting and creative spirit and extensively developed "emulate the advanced, compete with the advanced, and catch up with the advanced" activities. They threw themselves into technical reforms and technical revolution, and, in the enterprises, the "two participating, one reform, and three couplings" system was implemented, marshalling the activeness of all personnel of the enterprises to serve the great leap forward.

This gave clearly-defined objectives, more lively form, and a richer content to the 1958 labor emulation. The 1958 labor emulation not only contributed to the great leap forward in production in that year, but also provided abundant experiences and laid down a solid mass foundation for the continued leap forward in this year.

The general line of the Party for building up socialism proclaimed in 1958 is the light house which illuminates all work. It has given clearly-defined direction to the socialist labor emulation. The general line asks people to bolster up their spirits and, on the basis of

according respect to objective limitations, to fully develop subjective motive power. It asks people to create the material economic foundation needed for building up socialism with the utmost regard for speed, quantity, and economy.

According to the requirements of the general line, the organization of labor emulation means the organization of the activeness of the advanced, medium, and backward among the masses so that they will link hardy work, solid work, and skillful work, and link study of advanced experiences and the development of creativity. That means that we should continuously raise productivity, continuously lower the cost of products, and fulfill and over-fulfill the production plans in accordance with the specified quality, quantity, and variety. Good organization of our labor emulation would enable emulation work to develop healthily and penetratingly and become truly a good form of implementation of the mass line. The vigorous development of the mass movement in guiding production would really become an effective organizational measure for the implementation of the general line.

This is the year of a continuous leap forward. Since spring, socialist emulation under various names has been organized in many regions, industrial departments, and enterprises. After the Seventh Plenary Session of the Eighth Central Committee of the Party, the broad masses, in response to the call of the Party, enthusiastically and solidly launched the campaign for increasing output and exercising economy. In this campaign, the broad masses further linked hardy work and skillful work. While bolstering up their go-getting spirit and developing bold thinking and doing, they also emphasized respect for science and adherence to the necessary regulations and systems. In order to welcome the great tenth anniversary of the founding of the nation, the broad masses are now pushing the campaign for increasing output and exercising economy to a new climax. On various production and construction posts, they compete with each other in go-getting spirit, tenacity, skills, and measures. They support and assist each other. They are determined to show outstanding production results and fulfill and over-fulfill the state plans in order to celebrate the Tenth Anniversary of the founding of the nation.

In order to have the current campaign for increasing production and exercising economy develop more healthily, the following experiences are worthy of our utmost attention.

1. Firmly Grasp the Important Link of Emulating the Advanced, Learning from the Advanced, and Overtaking the Advanced

In the emulation, by channeling the labor enthusiasm of the masses into emulating the advanced, learning from the advanced, and overtaking the advanced, the emulation will be endowed with infinite vitality and will develop continuously from strength to strength. In the development of production of society, advanced production techniques will always replace backward production techniques, and advanced production norms will always replace obsolete production norms. The emulation of emulating

the advanced, learning from the advanced, and overtaking the advanced will accelerate this process of production development and make the advanced production levels of the few advanced producers become the production levels of the entire nation.

Comrade Liu Shao-chi, in his congratulatory remarks on behalf of the Party's Central Committee before the Conference of the Nation's Advanced Producers in April 1956 said very explicitly, "In the last analysis, the history of human society is the history of production and the history of producers. Production is perpetually in a state of development and change, with new production techniques perpetually replacing old production techniques. Therefore, in any era and in any production department, a few comparatively advanced producers always exist. They adopt comparatively advanced production techniques and attain their norms. Eventually, the original production levels of the few advanced elements becomes the production levels of the entire society and the production of society is thus raised." Therefore, it is of great importance to the advance of our socialist construction that we should firmly grasp this important link of emulating the advanced, learning from the advanced, and overtaking the advanced.

The speed of transforming the production level of the few advanced producers to the production level of the entire society depends on the nature of the social system. In the old society, due to the obsession of the ruling class for profit and their cruel exploitation of the workers, the extension of advanced techniques and advanced norms usually brought catastrophic consequences to the working masses. On top of that, there were the cut-throat competition between the capitalists and the maintenance of the utmost secrecy of techniques from each other.

Therefore, the process of the transformation of the level of a few advanced producers to that of the entire society was very slow. In the socialist system, with the elimination of class exploitation, the development of the production of society and the interests of the producers are entirely compatible. The advanced experiences, skills, creations, and inventions of the advanced producers are propagated and extended without restrictions. On the contrary, they are being extended through various methods and organisms.

The emulation of emulating the advanced, learning from the advanced, and overtaking the advanced is a good form for the extension of advanced experiences and techniques. This emulation demands that, while commending the advanced, all means should be exploited to encourage the people to learn and make use of the advanced producers' experiences and techniques, to actively urge the backward to overtake the advanced, and the advanced to help others to overtake themselves.

At the same time, the advanced are urged to become even more advanced. The organization of the wave of enthusiasm of emulating the advanced, learning from the advanced, and overtaking the advanced among the masses of workers will easily transform speedily the production level of the minority of advanced producers into the production level of the entire society. This mass struggle for the elimination of the backward

and overtaking the advanced is the motive power of the continuous progress of our socialist economy and we must set great store by it.

While developing the emulation of emulating, learning from, and overtaking the advanced, we must help the broad masses to appreciate the fact that, in production, there are bound to be advanced and backward. When the average producers and units in general have overtaken the advanced producers and units, new advanced producers and a minority of advanced units emerge. In new conditions the difference between the advanced and the backward will take shape. This process of new differences replacing old differences is infinite and the disappearance of every old difference and the formation of every new difference will invariably urge our production to take a forward step.

Once we understand this truth, then we will see that, in the emulation, sometimes one group of people and certain units will be in the fore, and at other times another group and certain other units will forge to the forefront. This is a normal phenomenon which invariably comes into being in the development of production. The important question is: whoever is ahead must become arrogant and must assist the laggards in catching up. Those who are behind must not be discouraged and must learn from whoever is in the front and try their best to catch and outstrip the advanced. This kind of mutual study and concerted efforts in raising the standard will result in the attainment of the goal of our emulation: continuously pushing the production of society in its forward march.

In the campaign of emulating, learning from, and overtaking the advanced, we must guide the workers in paying attention to quality control while they are striving to increase output. The quality of production and the completeness of the lines of products directly affect national construction and the people's livelihood. Only by the over-all completion of production tasks according to the quality, quantity, and variety specified can we satisfy the needs of national construction and the people's livelihood. Therefore, in the emulation campaign, it would be erroneous to pursue quantity at the expense of quality. Education must be strengthened in this connection to prevent it.

In the campaign of emulating, learning from, and overtaking the advanced, we must also note that not only must we emulate those who have attained the highest production goal under the same or similar production conditions, but we must also emulate those who are just a little more advanced than we; that is, anyone who has one single skill should be our objective for emulation. In learning from the advanced, we must have humility and learn what the merits of the others are to make up for our own shortcomings. Anything that is advanced cannot be letter perfect and immaculate. We must not be fastidious about its individual shortcomings, but must help in overcoming these shortcomings. In overtaking the advanced, we must be ambitious enough to set the target to the highest. At the same time, we must have the perseverance to advance steadily and gradually -- overtaking first one and then another.

II. We Must Vigorously Pursue Technical Revolution and Technical Reform

Technical revolution and technical reform are important means of promoting expansion of production and of raising productivity. In order to insure the continuous expansion of production and the continuous elevation of productivity, we have to have a continuous technical revolution and technical reform. Therefore, the socialist labor emulation campaign must make technical revolution and technical reform its focal point. In the campaign for increasing production and exercising economy, we must mobilize the masses to link hardy work, solid work, and skillful work, to link the sky-high go-getting spirit with the scientific and analytical spirit. We must guide and encourage the masses to cudgel their brain and be resourceful in pursuing technical revolution and technical reforms so that the emulating campaign will continue perpetually and healthily and the masses will struggle in high spirits for the completion of the current year's production tasks.

While vigorously pursuing technical reform and technical revolution in the labor emulating campaign, we must have a well-fixed goal. With a well-fixed goal, we will not waste the vitality of the masses and will be able to gain the expected results in the shortest possible time. In pursuing technical reform and technical revolution, we must take into consideration the different characteristics of the various production departments and units in setting as their targets the following: improving equipment, tools, product designs, technology, and practices, in creating new products, in utilizing new raw materials, in seeking new substitutes, and in forsaking heavy physical labor. We must walk on our own two legs and link the solution of the crux of current production with drawing up long-range plans.

On the one hand, we must take a practical approach and explore all resources for breaking the key problems of current production and overcoming the weak links in production in order to complete the production tasks according to the state plan. On the other hand, we must make long-range plans and pave the way for an even greater leap forward in the future. Whether it is the solution of current production problems or making long-range plans, we must implement the general guiding principle of accomplishing more economically and speedily.

In vigorously pursuing technical reform and technical revolution, we must adhere to the principle of "boldly mobilizing the masses and putting everything to experiments." We must continue to mobilize the masses to break down superstitions, to emancipate their thoughts, to think boldly, do things boldly, and make rational suggestions boldly. Only by so doing can we shape up a wave of enthusiasm for the mass-type technical reform and technical revolution in which everyone cudgels his brain and everyone makes reforms.

At the same time, production techniques and business management all embrace scientific problems and must respect scientific principles and adopt scientific methods. Therefore, the inventions, creations, and major reforms in the technical revolution and technical reforms must

be subjected to repeated experiments and appraisals. Once the experiments are successful and approval is given after appraisals, we may then incorporate them into production and later extend them gradually.

In pursuing technical revolution and technical reform, we must have mutual assistance, cooperation, concerted efforts, and collective wisdom. The coupling of the leading cadres, technical personnel, and workers during the great leap forward last year is a very successful method which is valid on a long-term basis. This is a method of the mass line which links politics with techniques and theory with practice. It should be extensively used.

In pursuing technical revolution and technical reform, we need the necessary technical knowledge and certain production experiences. Without such knowledge and experiences, the smooth development of technical revolution and technical reform will be greatly affected. Therefore, it is absolutely necessary to learn new techniques and gain experiences in the case of new workers and is also of importance to veteran workers. In learning techniques, such methods as learning in spare time, learning while detached from production, and learning while participating in production may be adopted in the light of different situations and requirements. The signing of master-apprentice contracts, experienced workers helping new hands, visits to factories, demonstrations and technical mutual assistance are old tried and tested methods which may be extensively adopted. In addition to learning techniques, we must strengthen the cultural studies of the masses of workers in order to enable them to better grasp scientific knowledge and play greater roles in the technical revolution and technical reform.

III. Political Ideological Work Must Be Strengthened

Political ideological work is the soul of all work and is the fundamental guarantee of the victorious progress of all enterprises. The emulation campaign, being an extensive mass movement, needs all the more to pay attention to political ideological work. The strength or weakness of political ideological work decides the scope, depth, and effectiveness of the emulation campaign. A firm grip on ideological work will boost the labor enthusiasm of the working masses higher and higher and the achievements in production will surely be outstanding. Slackening of ideological work will not only result in failure to attain the expected goals, but will also end in our getting lost.

All the activities of the emulation campaign must be conducted under the guidance of communist ideology. The communist ideology of the communist masses cannot grow up by itself. We have to educate the working masses continuously and awaken and raise their communist consciousness in accordance with the Marxist-Leninist principles and theories and the Party's policies and directives. We have to make use of major international and internal events, directed at the major ideology of the workers, in conjunction with the current production tasks and practical problems of production. We have to explain the situation and what lies

ahead repeatedly and clearly so that they will understand that " a few years of hardship will result in happiness forever." We are struggling to build communist society today, and in the future we shall be heading towards communist society.

That is the over-all rule and the tendency of the development of human history, and nobody can stop it. The working class, the broad working masses, with such a bright future and who are occupying a leading position in the country should courageously complete this historical mission. Imbued with this lofty ideal, the workers will have infinite confidence and determination to perform labor and will link current labor with these lofty ideals. They will, through the activities in the emulation campaign, lay the material and spiritual foundations for the completion of the nation's socialist construction and the future transition to communism. In the emulation campaign, extensive publicity to the feats of advanced production units and producers and the establishment of the goals for emulation have a positive function in awakening the working masses' communist ideological consciousness and they must be earnestly pursued.

In pursuing political ideological work among the workers during the emulation campaign, we must rigidly draw the demarcation line between the communist ideology of the working class and the "survival of the fittest" ideology of the bourgeoisie. Socialist labor emulation is entirely different from capitalist competition -- between the two there exists a distinction in principle. In the socialist emulation, both parties are comrades to each other and, through mutual encouragement, support, assistance, and studies, they achieve a general elevation and continuous progress. In capitalist competition, the two sides are enemies of each other. They are obsessed with profit for themselves at the expense of others, and unless they can beat the other side, they cannot have a monopoly.

In the emulation campaign, unless communist ideology occupies and consolidates the entire front, the capitalist concept of "the survival of the fittest" will infiltrate at the opportune moment and propagate its influence. This means that we have to strengthen our leadership in the emulation campaign and seriously analyze the ideological status of the masses in the various emulation activities and, through criticism and self-criticism of a mass nature, mop up the influence of the bourgeois concept and consolidate the ideological positions of the working class. Plugging all the loopholes through which all non-working class concepts might infiltrate and propagating communist concepts are the regular tasks of political ideological work.

The emulation campaign is a production movement of a mass nature and also an ideological movement of a mass nature. The process of the emulation campaign is the process of the advanced continuously triumphing over the backward. Through the emulation campaign, not only are the discrepancies between the advanced norms and techniques and the backward norms and techniques publicized, but the struggle between the advanced and conservative concepts is also made more explicit. The clear-cut

contrasts between the advanced and the backward which appear in the emulation campaign will often prompt people to ask themselves: we are all masters of the country and have the same or similar conditions. Why is it that others are in the front and I am behind? Why are his products of such a high quality but mine include rejects and second-rate products? Why have other units saved so much funds? Why have our units wasted the state's wealth?

This kind of self-education and self-criticism on the part of the masses will bring out their inner power to overcome shortcomings and try their best to shake off the backward and forge forward. Therefore, the leaders should make good use of the emulation campaign to provoke self-education and self-criticism on the part of the masses. They should carefully analyze the causes of backwardness and derive experiences and morals from it and seek ways to overcome the backwardness. Thus, the top-to-bottom education and the masses' self-education will be linked.

IV. Strengthen the Organization and Leadership of the Emulation Campaign

The emulation campaign is an extensive production movement of a mass nature. It must have strong leadership. With concentrated leadership, the large-scale emulation campaign of the masses can develop in the well-fixed direction. Like other work, the emulation campaign must be conducted under Party leadership. In all situations, Party leadership should come first of all. Under the unified leadership of the Party, administrative offices, all labor unions, and the Youth League should divide the workload and cooperate with each other and perform much concrete organization and leadership work. As for organizing the emulation campaign, I have already accumulated many experiences which should be exchanged, summarized, and crystallized.

In order to organize thousands of people to take positive action for the common goal of socialist construction, we need much meticulous work. Unless organizational work is performed meticulously and penetratingly, the emulation campaign cannot be spectacular or solid. In the great leap forward of last year, the leadership assigned tasks and methods to the masses and organized the masses for airing their opinions freely and engaging in free debate, for putting up wall posters, for the "two participation, one rectification, and three couplings," the big mobilization, the big inspection, the big summarization, and the big appraisal. That has proved to be effective and successful. In organizing the emulation campaign, these methods should be fully utilized.

The emulation campaign is the concrete expression of the communist labor attitude of the masses. The greater the labor enthusiasm of the masses, the more concern the leadership should show for the masses. In order to better labor conditions and strengthen labor safeguards, they should show concern in the masses' livelihood, improve the community dining halls, nurseries, and cultural and recreational activities, and strengthen the management of the dormitories so that the masses can

eat well, sleep well, and rest well, so that they will contentedly work at production and exert themselves in the emulation campaign. In the campaign, the principle of "distribution (of daily necessities) according to labor" should be carried out rigidly and material awards for work should be adequately stressed.

In the emulation campaign, the leading cadres should continuously change work styles and associate themselves closely with the masses. They should eat, live, and labor with the masses. They should have a deeper understanding of the masses' ideological status, know the difficulties they encounter in production and livelihood, and help them to solve them. The cadres should set the example themselves and be the first to participate in the emulation campaign as this is a morale booster for the masses. The masses say, "With the cadres going down the sea, we can capture the dragon; with the cadres taking the lead, the leap forward is assured." That is very true.

Comrade Mao Tse-tung once said, "Any socialist economic enterprise should pay attention to the fullest possible utilization of manpower and equipment, the best possible betterment of labor organizations, the betterment of operations and management, the elevation of labor productivity; it should save all the manpower and material power that can be saved, and also launch labor emulation and economic computation to lower costs year after year and increase personal income and accumulated funds.. In this connection, much work has to be done." (The High Tide of Socialism of Chinese Agricultural Villages, Middle Volume, People's Publishing Company, 1956, page 768.) We must determinedly carry out Comrade Mao Tse-tung's instructions and carry out spectacular and solid socialist labor emulation campaigns at all plants, mines, enterprises, every production frontline, and economic frontline, so that we can fulfill and over-fulfill our production tasks with the utmost possible emphasis on speed, quality, and quantity.

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AUTOMATION IN IMPERIALIST COUNTRIES

[Following is a translation of an article by Yang Ch'ung-kuang (楊重光) in Hung-ch'i, No 10, 15 May 1959, pp 45-49.]

In a workshop of a tinned can factory in the United States, identical semi-automatic machines are lined up like a train. The long conveyer belts on the machines are linked together and are wriggling incessantly. At one end of the "train" a female worker rapidly feeds small sheets of tin into the machine with both hands at a rate of 350 times per minute or 21,000 times per hour. At the other end of the "train," tightly-sealed tinned cans leap forth, one after another, without a stop. The thunderous roar and vibration of the machinery send the women workers reeling with throbbing heads. Just when they are about to put down their two hands for a slight rest, the work supervisor, standing behind them with a time chart, would shout out: "Work faster! Work faster!"

The woman worker labors at this kind of man-killing work for nine hours a day. After she has been worn down to a state of unbearable fatigue and semi-paralysis, she is discarded by the capitalists and is replaced by a new worker. This factory, which originally had several hundred workers, has merely a score of workers remaining after it had changed over to automation. Many workers were squeezed out by the new machinery. In the United States, several million unemployed workers in the labor market are awaiting jobs. Owners of factories have no fear that they are unable to find young and strong workers to fill jobs.

In the course of the rapid development of modern production techniques, automation is one of the important achievements. Automation cannot only cut down large amounts of physical labor, but a certain amount of the mental work in production management can be replaced by automatic control systems. Automation can generally boost labor production rate two to ten times higher. Without automatic controls, atomic research could not reach today's level and the construction of atomic piles could not be possible.

However, under the two different social systems, automation has brought two entirely different social aftermaths.

Under the socialist system, the objective of developing production is to meet, to the greatest extent, the ever-increasing material and cultural needs of the people. In the socialist system, the phenomena of man exploiting man and man oppressing man has been eliminated forever, unemployment has been up-rooted, and any technical revolution and technical innovation is for the benefit of the working people. Lenin stated, in commenting on the invention of a method for extracting coal gas directly from the coal strata by the British chemist Na-mu-sai [transliterated from Chinese] that: "Under the socialist system the adoption of this method, which can 'free' tens of millions of miners and other workers from their labors, can immediately shorten the work days of all workers; for example, from eight to seven hours or even a little less. The 'electrification' of all factories and railways can surely make working conditions more in accord with health, enable tens of millions of workers to find relief from the sufferings caused by fog, coal dust and dirt, quickly change filthy and detestable workshops into clean and bright laboratories which mankind deserves. With every home and household equipped with electric lighting and heating facilities, tens of millions of 'women slaves of the homes' will be able to find relief from spending three-fourths of their lifetime in laboring away in dark and dingy kitchens.

Under the socialist system, the widespread realization of automation of production can fundamentally improve working conditions, speedily raise the rate of labor productivity and enable the people to lead an increasingly happier life. Comrade Khrushchev, in his report to the 21st Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, declared that: "In the socialist society, automation not only has an economic significance, but also a great social significance. Under the conditions of automation, we can basically change the nature of labor, elevate the cultural and technical level of workers, and create favorable conditions to wipe out the gap between mental and physical labor; man's function shall resolve into the work of controlling and regulating various kinds of automatic machines and instruments and formulating procedures and systems for technical operations."

In capitalist society, the social achievements in the realization of automation is an entirely different thing. Lenin, in the same article commenting on Na-mu-sai's invention

stated that: "The influence of this revolution upon the whole social life under the modern capitalist system cannot be compared with the influence of this invention which can be produced upon the socialist system.

Under the capitalist system, the 'liberation' of tens of millions of miners engaged in coal mining shall eventually lead to large-scale unemployment among workers and a worsening of the phenomena of poverty and poorer living conditions, while the profits gained from this great invention shall go into the pockets of such people as the Morgans, Rockefellers, Li-ya-pu-shen-ssu-chi and Mo-lo-tso-fu [transliterated from Chinese]." In capitalist society, the worker is the slave of machinery and the dignity of the working people suffers from the greatest harm. The application of automation cannot but crowd out the workers from their labors, throw them out of the factory doors and aggravate and sharpen the dangers of over-production.

Under the capitalist system, the widespread use of automatic and semi-automatic equipment often leads to increased work intensity. Because of the increase in the number of machines under the control of each worker and the accelerated speed of operations performed by each machine, the working conditions of the workers become worse. Basically, automation has aggravated the various contradictions existing within the capitalist society. Marx stated it correctly when he said: "On modern and degraded foundations, any new invention of labor productivity cannot but aggravate social antithesis and intensify social antagonism." (Proclamation at the inauguration of the International Workers' Federation).

In the capitalist countries, technical progress has, on the contrary, gravely endangered the existence and rights of the working people and automation has forced more workers to lose their livelihood. For example: a semi-automatic factory in Cleveland, U.S.A., which produces a thousand radio sets per day, employed 200 workers in 1955. Total automation was put into effect in this factory in 1958 and only four technicians were employed to carry out the work. A plant in Bradford, USA, which adopted total automation in the production and manufacture of solidified gasoline, originally employed several hundred workers. At present, only five workers are employed in producing 650,000 pounds of solidified gasoline daily.

Where did the rest of the workers from these plants go? Those who were "lucky" went into farms and small workshops to take up temporary employment. The majority of these workers could only stand in front of the unemployment relief

office in New York City, at the gates of the Ford Motor Car Company in Detroit and wander aimlessly on the streets of Washington---. Despite the fact that the chimneys of many factories are pouring out thick smoke, the number of unemployed has been increasing instead of decreasing.

It is no wonder that most recently the press, periodicals and radio broadcasts in the capitalist world are discussing more and more about the social effects brought about after automation was put into effect in factories. On 3 March, the British paper News Chronicle carried a news dispatch sent from Washington. The dispatch carried the following caption: "Prosperity (?) Appears Again -- But Machinery Has Stolen Away All the Work." The article admits that: "This shows a kind of new, vindictive phenomena in the United States: At a time when productivity is rising, the number of unemployed is also rising." It also declared that the capitalists "have not re-hired workers, but have actually reduced the number of workers and put into effect large amounts of overtime or have changed over to automation."

The United States Industrial Corporation chairman Schneider told reporters on 9 March that "Among the registered unemployed workers at the present time, the majority are still unemployed and will soon lose all the chances of being re-hired. In fact, their numbers will increase. Technical progress and the growing scope of enterprises have caused such a situation to become inevitable---."

An article published last year by the US magazine New Republic employed real figures to prove that: if in a period of 20 years the entire industrial system in the United States were to adopt a structure of automation with an increase of only five percent annually, then "each year at least three million workers would lose their jobs" and the result will be "absolute unemployment and desolation of the whole economy;" supposing that the rate of automation, according to the present, be adopted, the unemployment created would also be "an enormous figure with the possibility of becoming constant and from the standpoint of results, it can be said that is is absolutely unprecedented."

Following the great increase in the rate of labor productivity, the wages paid for each unit product in automatized enterprises became considerably less than in non-automatized enterprises. This caused an increase in the residual value gained by the capitalists and the workers were exploited a step further. With the insatiable and avaricious quest of the monopolistic capitalists for profit, the trend towards automation in such capitalist countries as the United States, Britain, West Germany, and France showed

rapid progress. This was particularly evident in the United States. According to incomplete statistics, purchases of automatic equipment in the United States totaled 300 million dollars in 1954, between 500 and 600 million in 1955 and reached one billion dollars in 1956.

At the present time, according to vice-president Rether Reuther of the AFL-CIO the movement for accelerated technical progress is continuing, acceleration of the implementation of automation is progressing in the various segments of industry--in the metallurgical, automotive, aeronautical, textile, power and building construction industries of the whole United States."

In the automatized factories, push-button operation have taken the place of a great portion of physical labor and man is supervising complex operation boards through such things as instruments and lights. Thus, according to reason, it should greatly lessen the labors of the workmen; but under the capitalist system, the situation is exactly the opposite. Because of the capitalists' quest for the highest profits and although workers are operating control lights and watching various kinds of instruments to carry out work operations, this type of work can exhaust and weaken a person the same as physical labor due to the accelerated speed of machinery.

In 1956, the New York Times described the working conditions in an automatized American workshop in these words: "Engines assembled on the conveyor belt system in the Ford factory drop off at a rate of one every 12 minutes. Under such a high rate of speed, the worker can only make use of his arms and shoulders in every and any way to fulfill this stringently-regulated operation, thus presenting a living image of that noted role played by Charles Chaplin in the motion picture 'Modern Times.'" The labor productivity council of Europe made public a report by an automation expert of the Renault Motor Car Factory of France which stated: "The work of technicians at the conveyor belts of the automatic machines is considerably more tense than the work normally performed at a medium rate of speed."

Yale University in the United States, in a report concerning research on automation, stated that "new machinery has eliminated painful, hard work but the tension involved in supervising and directing work operations have caused workers to become 'nervous and sensitive.' ----" The capitalist, in promoting the so-called "speed-up system" in the factories, has cause extreme fatigue among workers because of excessive tension. For example, due to the excessive tension among its workers, the Simca Motor Car

Factory in France installed a so-called "gas (oxygen) room" to enable those who become utterly exhausted by this "speed-up system" to regain their sense of perception. In some of the metallurgical industries in France, both hands of the workers were tied to their machines in order that the workers may keep pace with the working speed of the presses.

Under such conditions injuries and accidents among workers increased considerably. In the United States, some 14,300 deaths and 4.35 million injuries have resulted from accidents among workers in 1956. Among them, some two million workers became partially or totally disabled. In France, an average of 607 accidents per hour occurred in 1957 and eight deaths per day resulted from these accidents. In Italy, the deaths resulting from work accidents reached 5,000 in 1956, permanently disabling 159,000 workers and injuring 1.01 million persons. Due to excessive work tension and fatigue, the phenomena of becoming old before one's time has become rather universal among workers.

On 16 March of this year, an article in the New York Times stated as follows: "With regard to unemployed men and women who are relatively older in age, the calendar is one of their enemies. Despite the fact that New York and other states have all kinds of enacted laws forbidding discrimination against age, those who exceed 35 years of age--and even many who are under 35--have not lessened even a fraction their viewpoint that: their greatest obstacles are the years in which they have reached the peak in changes and have learned to the greatest capacity." Even though their techniques have been tried and tested, the capitalists are still unwilling to hire "oldsters" around 35 years of age.

Automation under the capitalist system is also a kind of weapon for the capitalist in opposing the workers' movement. Paul Eunzig, a representative of the British bourgeoisie economists, stated that: "the use of machinery in place of manpower is helpful in paring down and weakening the bartering power of labor unions."

Today, the exploitative measures adopted by the monopolistic bourgeoisie class towards the workers are more unique than ever. The "Scientific" System invented by U.S. engineer Frederick [Tyler?] some 40 years ago to wring blood and sweat obviously has fallen far behind the kind of "scientific" systems which are being implemented today by the monopolistic capitalists. This is exactly as Lenin has stated: "In the capitalist society, the progress of technology and science professes the progress of the art of wringing out blood and sweat." "Technology under the capitalist

system has, from day to day, further developed those social conditions which tend to put the working people into the position of hired slaves."

Automation is like a mirror from which the people can see, once again, the rottenness of capitalist society and the superiority of the socialist system.

The consequences which automation has brought upon the heads of the working class in capitalist countries has attracted widespread attention among labor organizations in those countries and the attention of the international labor organization. The general resolution adopted by the 4th World Labor Congress which was held in October 1957 stated: "Monopolist organizations, due to competition and urged by the rule of seeking still greater profits and the threat of workers' struggles to aggravate capitalist contradictions, are in the process of carrying out modernization and partial automation in industry, commerce and government departments (agricultural mechanization is likewise carried out in certain countries). Its objective is to increase their exploitation of wage workers, so as to reap benefits from their massive investments as quickly as possible. Such a situation produces a great effect upon the level of unemployment. It causes the working man to suffer grave consequences in the aspects of employment, wages, job training, industrial safety and health. The working class must rely upon united action to eliminate the dire consequences brought by technical progress and to halt excess exploitation so as to win a better life and better working conditions."

The working class in capitalist countries, in the face of the frightful consequences of the implementation of automation, are exerting greater effort, strengthening the unity of its ranks and are waging a struggle against oppression and monopolistic capitalism and to strive for a socialist future.

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