

# Revolutionary Committees Show Great Vitality

*The spring breeze of Mao Tse-tung's thought has reached every corner of China. Full of vigour and with great vitality, the revolutionary committees which have come into being stand like red flags flying proudly in the wind. To date, revolutionary committees have been established in 18 provinces and municipalities and in one autonomous region. Vast numbers of units at the grassroot levels too have set up their own revolutionary committees which are revolutionary and representative and enjoy proletarian authority. Here we give readers a brief introduction about how the revolutionary committees at various levels are carrying on their work since their establishment and what new atmosphere they have brought about. — Ed.*

## **Of All the Thousands of Things, Grasp The Basic One**

Chairman Mao teaches us: **"Ideological education is the key link to be grasped in uniting the whole Party for great political struggles. Unless this is done, the Party cannot accomplish any of its political tasks."**

From the very first day it was founded, the Revolutionary Committee of the Rear Hanghin Banner, a county in the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region, has explicitly set itself this basic task: the study, propagation, implementation and defence of Mao Tse-tung's thought and the arming of all the 200,000 people of the banner with Mao Tse-tung's thought. Putting Mao Tse-tung's thought in command of everything and making a success of the revolutionization of the people's thinking are the kernel of politics, the very soul, the very core. When this key link is grasped, the basis of all work is grasped.

On its establishment, the revolutionary committee faced various tasks. It firmly placed at the head of all other work the creative study and application of Mao Tse-tung's thought and the implementation of Chairman Mao's latest instructions. One day last October, after the Preparatory Group of the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region's Revolutionary Committee had relayed to them the latest instructions given by Chairman Mao during his inspection tour of north, central-south and east China, members of the Rear Hanghin Banner's Revolutionary Committee went into action immediately and organized the rural cadres and the mass of commune members to hear these instructions broadcast throughout the banner. That same night, the revolutionary committee also held a meeting attended by its standing committee members to discuss how to carry out these instructions. The following day,

the banner's radio hook-up was used to hold a mobilization meeting. This was followed by a four-level cadres' conference attended by more than 1,400 people. This called on cadres of the towns and rural areas and all commune members throughout the banner to study Chairman Mao's latest instructions sentence by sentence. Members of the revolutionary committee then took the lead in organizing many Mao Tse-tung's thought propaganda teams. These were composed of more than 700 cadres from government organizations and enterprises in the banner. They went deep into the rural areas to propagate and implement Chairman Mao's latest instructions.

Chairman Mao teaches us: **"Running study classes is a good method. You can arrive at a solution of many problems in these classes."**

Now Mao Tse-tung's thought study classes in Rear Hanghin Banner are among the best places for the creative study and application of Mao Tse-tung's thought, for the all-round implementation of Chairman Mao's latest instructions and for promoting the revolutionization of the people's ideology. When problems crop up, the masses willingly bring them to the study classes for solution. In the classes, everyone studies Chairman Mao's teachings and uses Mao Tse-tung's thought to distinguish between what is right and what is wrong and clarify their understanding of things. Many problems have thus been rapidly solved.

With **"fight self, repudiate revisionism"** as their guide, the study classes have carried out education in the struggle between the two classes, the two roads and the two lines among the broad mass of commune members so that they have quickly raised their level of class consciousness and their understanding of the struggle between the two lines.

The broad revolutionary masses have thus made a big stride forward on the road of ideological revolutionization. The idea of devotion to the public interest has been given full play and it has now become a new common practice for everyone to work wholeheartedly for the public good. A great change has been brought about in the people's outlook and everywhere a revolutionary atmosphere of vigour and enthusiasm reigns.

## **"Remain One of the Common People While Serving as an Official"**

Chairman Mao teaches us: **"We Communists seek not official posts, but revolution. Every one of us must**

**be a thoroughgoing revolutionary in spirit and we must never for a moment divorce ourselves from the masses. So long as we do not divorce ourselves from the masses, we are certain to be victorious."**

The members of the Kweiting County Revolutionary Committee in Kweichow Province consist of workers, people's commune members, cadres, young revolutionary Red Guard fighters, revolutionary teachers and medical workers. Ever since they became members of the committee, they have remained at their original posts, maintained close ties with the masses and regularly gone deep among them. They are on the most intimate terms with the people and are completely at one with them.

Climbing mountains and crossing rivers, travelling mostly on foot and carrying their own baggage, members of the leading group go where hardships are great. Wherever they go, they live together with the poor and lower-middle peasants or the militiamen; together, they study Chairman Mao's works and start up campaigns of revolutionary mass criticism and repudiation. On learning that the Dingnan People's Commune was hard hit by hail, Lan Chien-min, vice-chairman of the county revolutionary committee, just back from a 40-li journey, immediately hurried off again through the night to the stricken area. There, using the thought of Mao Tse-tung, he helped boost the morale of the commune members in carrying on production to battle the disaster. The local people commented: "Our leader arrived just at the moment when leadership was needed."

In order to gather the opinions of the masses more extensively, Kweiting County's leading group makes it a rule to hold a meeting every month with responsible members of the revolutionary mass organizations so that the latter can air their views. They handled letters and callers from among the masses themselves and have made the mass reception station an effective channel for keeping contact with the people. Chairman Ho Pao-ching and Vice-Chairman Lan Chien-min of the revolutionary committee come to the reception station every night to get acquainted with all the suggestions sent in. In 1967, they handled 950 such letters or callers, making sure that every case was tackled and every question answered. As a result, 90 per cent of the questions raised were settled. This has effectively strengthened their links with the masses and served to draw wisdom and strength from them.

#### **Participation in Physical Labour Forges Closer Cadre-Mass Relations**

Chairman Mao teaches: "**In a sense, the fighters with the most practical experience are the wisest and the most capable.**" After repeatedly studying this teaching, members of the Revolutionary Committee of the Peking General Paper Mill have gained a still better understanding of the importance of maintaining close contact with the masses. So, with the exception of a few who stay behind to take charge of the day to day work, all the more than 70 members of the mill's rev-

olutionary committee have joined work teams or shifts as full-time workers. Members of the standing committee who are unable to work full time at least devote one or two days each week to manual labour.

In doing so, they are teaching by example. Any problem which crop up is settled in timely fashion through consultations with the masses. Wang Chung-pu, member of the Qianjin Paper Mill Revolutionary Committee is a case in point. Together with the workers he successfully made a coal pulverizer out of old materials. This was done by boldly overcoming difficulties and by self-reliance and without stopping the boilers. This saves the state more than two tons of coal every day and lessens the workers' manual work. The revolutionary committee chairman of the Fifth Mill took the initiative in studying together with the mill's cooks the advanced experience of some naval units in the use of coal. They improved the mill's furnaces and saved large quantities of coal.

In doing physical labour, the committee members work as common labourers and are one with the workers. This helps to forge closer links between the cadres and the masses. It also brings about a fundamental change in emotions and feelings on the part of the cadres.

#### **Strike Deep Roots Among the Masses**

Chinghai's Huchu Tu Autonomous County formed its revolutionary committee in November last year. Ever since its establishment, the committee has attached major importance to work in the countryside. Going deep among the poor and lower-middle peasants, revolutionary committee members have struck roots among the masses.

Carrying copies of Chairman Mao's works and with knapsacks on their backs, the committee members travelling on foot, climbed mountains and crossed rivers to visit the people's communes, production brigades and teams. There, together with the poor and lower-middle peasants they studied Chairman Mao's works, fought self and repudiated revisionism, and tackled the major issue of how to hold and exercise power effectively for the proletariat. They ate, lived and worked alongside the poor and lower-middle peasants. The moment they arrived, they helped their hosts by carrying water for them and sweeping their courtyards, paying great attention to carrying forward our Party's glorious traditions and learning from the P.L.A.'s "three-eight" working style. They arrange with the local Hsinhua bookstore to supply them with many copies of Chairman Mao's works and *Quotations From Chairman Mao Tse-tung*. These they take along with them on their visits to the countryside for the commune members to buy. Fearing neither hardships nor fatigue, they go where the hardships are great. The Xiahe Production Brigade of the county's Jiading People's Commune is tucked away in a deep valley amid high mountain, some

300 li away from the seat of the county revolutionary committee. In the past, not a single cadre had ever come down from the county to visit this brigade. Shortly after the establishment of the county revolutionary committee, however, the committee chairman and two other comrades came here, bringing Xiahe's poor and lower-middle peasants the treasured revolutionary works of Chairman Mao, his latest instructions, and his concern and solicitude for them.

### Having "Better Troops and Simpler Administration"

With the invincible thought of Mao Tse-tung as their weapon, the Revolutionary Committee of Peking's Foreign Languages Printing House has always maintained a firm orientation in the struggle and carried on revolutionary mass criticism and repudiation in depth. At the same time, it has resolutely implemented Chairman Mao's directive on having "**better troops and simpler administration.**" On the surface, the streamlining of administrative structures seems to be merely a question of cadres, but at bottom it is a question of overturning the revisionist management system. This task cannot be fulfilled unless the masses are fully aroused to unfold a mass campaign of revolutionary criticism and repudiation. In November last year, when the administrative structures in the printing house were to be streamlined, the revolutionary committee there mobilized all the cadres, workers and members of the staff to use Mao Tse-tung's thought as their weapon in exposing and denouncing vigorously the revisionist management system and the serious harm caused by an unwieldy organization and a swollen staff. As their political consciousness was heightened and their ideological problems solved, the cadres all demanded that they go down among the rank and file workers. The original more than ten departments were simplified into three offices and half the cadres went to the forefront of production. As a result, the cadres' working style and spiritual outlook took on a new look and a vigorous revolutionary atmosphere prevailed.

Following the streamlining, output went up steadily and reached a new high without parallel in history. In 1967, this printing house overfulfilled the state plan by printing nearly 10 million copies of Chairman Mao's works in scores of foreign languages, a figure surpassing the aggregate total of foreign language editions of Chairman Mao's works printed in the last 16 years since the printing house went into operation. In this way, it supplied the revolutionary people in over 140 countries and regions with this spiritual atom bomb of incomparable power.

### Old and New Cadres Learn From Each Other

Veteran cadres and young new cadres working together in the revolutionary committees learn from and

help each other so that, as Chairman Mao teaches, **the veterans are not divorced from the masses and the young people are tempered.** When the revolutionary committee was established in the Peking Municipal Motor Transport Company, some revolutionary young fighters were elected to the committee. Full of vigour and vitality and fired with tremendous enthusiasm and drive, they were daring in shouldering heavy tasks, worked with great fervour and made great contributions in both revolution and production. But due to lack of experience, some of the new cadres who were accustomed to rough and ready methods, were not good at doing meticulous, painstaking ideological-political work. Others did not have much faith in the old cadres. At the same time, the old cadres were not bold enough in their work and refrained from criticizing the shortcomings that emerged in the work of the new cadres.

After earnestly studying the relevant writings of Chairman Mao, both the veteran and new cadres fostered the revolutionary sentiment of respecting and learning from each other and of helping each other overcome their own weaknesses by acquiring other's strong points.

Whenever Wang Yu-hsiu, chairman of the company's revolutionary committee, ran up against difficulties, the new cadres all gave him encouragement and support in doing his job well. On one occasion, when the company was assigned the task of helping transport in other places, Wang Yu-hsiu was afraid that, as he had only just stepped forward to make revolution, the masses might not listen to him. But to his surprise, as soon as he explained the situation, a new cadre volunteered to take the lead personally in carrying out the assignment and he set out with the transport convoy. Wang Yu-hsiu was deeply moved by the way the new cadres and the revolutionary masses firmly implemented Chairman Mao's cadre policy and actively responded to Chairman Mao's great call to "**grasp revolution and promote production.**" Since then he has worked with greater initiative and a higher sense of responsibility, and co-operated satisfactorily with the new cadres.

When Pu Yu-jun, a worker of Shenyang's Dongfanghong Wood Processing Plant, was elected vice-chairman of the plant's revolutionary committee and put in charge of production, he did not have the least idea of how to do his new job, and especially how to work out the 1968 production plan. At this juncture, Hsing Yu-chi, former first deputy director of the plant and now vice-chairman of the revolutionary committee, took the initiative in helping Pu Yu-jun. With his enthusiastic help, Pu Yu-jun aroused the masses and together with them quickly worked out the year's production plan.