

Tenth Consecutive Rich Harvest in Sight

FOLLOWING a steady rise in major crop production for nine years up to 1970, China will reap its tenth rich harvest in a row this year.

Last year's total grain and cotton output topped all previous records. All-round increases have been registered in the production of summer crops and early rice on a large acreage in 1971, with total output exceeding last year's. Joyful commune members are now harvesting the ripe autumn crops, and cotton and other late autumn crops are growing well and promise a good harvest.

People throughout the country have conscientiously carried out the policy of "taking grain as the key link and ensuring an all-round development" this year. While concentrating on grain production, they have made great

efforts in developing a diversified economy, gathering in bountiful harvests of all industrial crops and attaining all-round development in agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, side-line occupations and fisheries. Production of rapeseed, tea, fruit, cocoons, sugar-bearing crops, tobacco and others is better than last year. There also have been notable successes in afforestation. Afforested areas for 1971's first six months have expanded by 35 per cent over the same 1970 period. A considerable growth in animal husbandry is reported. According to incomplete statistics from 14 major fishing areas, the fish catch in the first half of the year rose by over 10 per cent compared with the corresponding period last year and big advances were made in seawater and freshwater fish breeding and in raising other aquatic products.

China's succession of rich harvests results from the efforts by commune members and cadres in studying and applying Mao Tsetung Thought in a living way, implementing Chairman Mao's revolutionary line and deepening the mass movement to learn from the Tachai Brigade in agriculture. At the Tenth Plenary Session of the Party's Eighth Central Committee in 1962, Chairman Mao put forward the Party's basic line for the entire historical period of socialism. In 1964 he issued the great call "In agriculture, learn from Tachai." Following Chairman Mao's great teachings, people in the rural areas carried out the socialist education movement on an extensive scale.

Especially through the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, Chairman Mao's revolutionary line has penetrated deeper into the hearts of the people and the renegade, hidden traitor and scab Liu Shao-chi's counter-revolutionary revisionist line has been roundly criticized; the dictatorship of the proletariat has been constantly strengthened and the collective economy of the people's communes has become more consolidated; the poor and lower-middle peasants, other commune members and cadres at all levels are steadily raising their consciousness of class struggle and the struggle between the two lines and increasing their enthusiasm in grasping revolution and promoting production. All this has stimulated the continuous growth of China's agricultural production.

Since the beginning of 1971, rural Party organizations at various levels have acted on Chairman Mao's



Gathering coconuts on China's Hsisha Islands.



Comrade Lu Wen-pin, deputy secretary of Hsinshengku Brigade Party branch in Shensi Province's Yenchuan County, studying *The Foolish Old Man Who Removed the Mountains* with young people.

teachings to read and study seriously, carry out education in ideology and political line in a deep-going way, press ahead with the extensive self-education movement to criticize revisionism and rectify the style of work, combat arrogance and self-complacency and deepen the mass movement of learning from Tachai. This has helped in laying the ideological foundation for winning this year's rich harvest.

With the deepening of the movement to learn from Tachai, Tachai's experiences are being spread widely over the rural areas and a large number of outstanding units with farmland giving high yields have come to the fore. Many communes and production brigades now average grain yields of over 1,000 *jin* per *mu*. Production of summer crops and early rice in Shanghai and Chekiang Province rose steadily this year. Grain output in Kwangtung, Peking and Tientsin in the first half of the year was bigger than that of the same 1970 period. Some areas which had low yields because of frequent natural disasters boosted their output and entered the ranks of the advanced units. Shantung, Honan and Hopei Provinces which had long suffered from grain shortages in the past have had another rich harvest of summer crops this year, following initial self-sufficiency in grain last year.

Carrying on the revolutionary spirit of "self-reliance" and "hard struggle," rural commune members and cadres have, since last winter and this spring, touched off a new upsurge in farmland water conservancy

capital construction centred on building or rebuilding farmland to guarantee high stable yields in the event of drought or waterlogging. Projects under way in various locales are bigger and faster than in previous years. Relying on the collective strength of the people's communes, people in Shantung Province have, in accordance with local conditions, transformed mountains, improved soil, harnessed rivers and sunk wells. In one winter-spring period alone, the province added more than 8.8 million *mu* to its acreage of farmland which ensures high stable yields regardless of drought and waterlogging, and irrigated areas were expanded by over 9 million *mu*.

In response to Chairman Mao's call "The Haiho River must be brought under permanent control!",

Hopei's peasant-workers, having completed dredging the main river courses of Haiho's southern system, continued their battle last winter to harness the northern system in co-ordination with the people of Peking and Tientsin Municipalities. Working hard in a winter-spring period, they completed work on the new Yungting River and the Peking Paiwu River.

New advances have been made in the country's mass agro-scientific experiments. Popularized and adopted in extensive areas, some new techniques and new experiences have played a prominent role in increasing the output of crops. An upsurge in the mass drive for agricultural mechanization is sweeping the country. Over 90 per cent of the counties in China have built farm machinery plants which also do repairs. A good number of counties have set up county-commune-brigade networks for making and repairing farm machinery. Local industries serving agriculture have also made big progress. All this has created the conditions for this year's rich harvests.

In attaining this in 1971, cadres in various places, carrying forward the Party's fine style of maintaining close ties with the masses, have gone to the countryside to engage in farming. They have carefully summed up and popularized advanced experiences and conscientiously carried out the series of Party principles and policies for work in the rural areas. This has brought the masses' enthusiasm for socialism into full play.