

Overall Progress in Industry

by Chi Wei

NINETEEN seventy-one is the first year of China's Fourth Five-Year Plan for developing the national economy. Under the wise leadership of the Party Central Committee, industrial production and construction have seen overall progress in many fields rarely witnessed in the past two decades or so. The situation in both revolution and production is excellent on the industrial and transport fronts.

Emphasis on Mining

One of the outstanding features of this year's industrial production and construction is that the whole nation is paying attention to the basic industries. Among them, stress is being put on the iron and steel industry, especially on mining. Emphasis on mining iron ore has promoted the rapid development of iron and steel production. Progress in the iron and steel industry has led industry as a whole forward.

Chairman Mao has taught us: In developing industry we must "take steel as the key link"; in developing the iron and steel industry, we have to pay attention to mining first and start with getting raw materials. Following Chairman Mao's teaching, China's working class and cadres thoroughly criticized the reactionary principles pushed by the renegade, hidden traitor and scab Liu Shao-chi and other political swindlers in the metallurgical departments. These included the policy of only paying attention to smelting at the expense of mining and steel rolling and the fallacy of "first build plants, then look for ore." After this criticism, enthusiasm for locating and mining iron ore reached a new high. A tremendous mass movement to get more ore has been going on all over China.

Leadership at all levels took firm steps to shift the emphasis in industrial construction to mines, the iron and steel industry and other basic industries. In addition to strengthening leading groups at mines and reinforcing the ranks of their workers and staff members, it also increased capital construction investment in the mines and focused attention on mining equipment production.

Thanks to hard work by people all over the nation, iron ore output has risen rapidly this year. From January to August, it went up 31.4 per cent, pig iron

22 per cent, steel 19.6 per cent and rolled steel 19.1 per cent compared with the same period last year. Iron ore increased at a faster rate than iron and iron output climbed at a speedier rate than steel. This further improved the proportions within the iron and steel industry and gave the industry a powerful push forward.

Unusual Rates of Increase

Expansion of the iron and steel industry has promoted the development of industry as a whole.



Geological team members taking rock samples more than 6,000 metres above sea level.

From January to August, total output value of industry increased 18.7 per cent compared with the same period last year. Coal, crude oil, electric power and railway freight all reached around two-thirds of their annual plans in the first eight months of 1971. Most industrial products will be fulfilled or overfulfilled in terms of their annual plans, and the rates of increase will reach highs seldom seen since the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949.

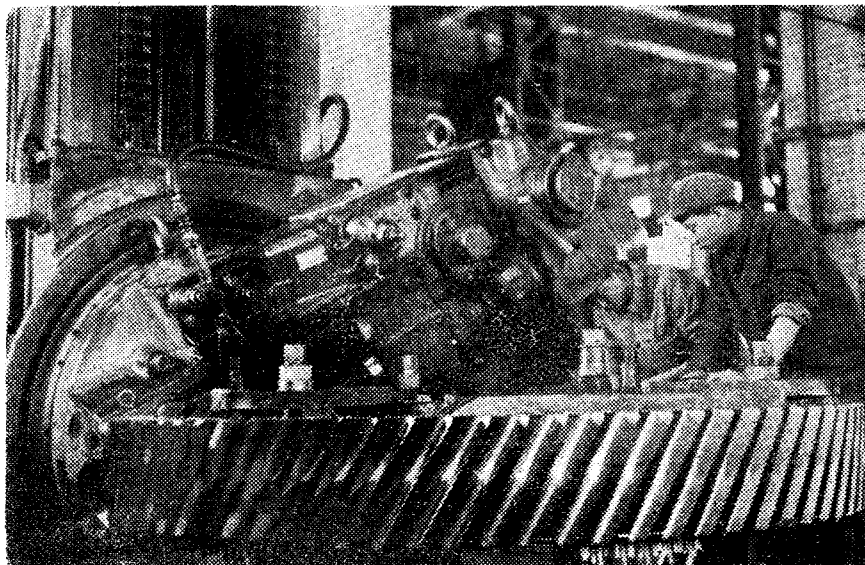
Small and medium-sized local industry is developing vigorously and production capacity has risen at a fast rate. Output of small chemical fertilizer plants and small cement plants now accounts for 40 and 50 per cent of their respective national totals. More than 90 per cent of the counties in the country have set up their own plants to make and repair farm machines. Step by step, a system of local industry serving agriculture is taking shape.

In capital construction great attention has been paid to speedily completing entire projects and building accessory items and projects which will soon be commissioned. The principle of concentrating all forces to deal with important projects was followed in this field. As a result of these measures, capital construction also made rapid advances and many projects went into operation. This provided big production capacity in a short period of time. Between January and August, 62.3 per cent of the planned capital construction investment for this year was fulfilled. Tremendous achievements in capital construction have improved the geographical distribution of China's industry and increased its economic and national defence strength.

Technical Innovations

The mass movement for technical innovations is steaming ahead. China's science and technology made new progress, solving many key technical problems and filling in some gaps in these fields. Incomplete statistics from Peking, Shanghai, Liaoning and Tientsin showed that more than 20,000 new products, techniques, raw materials, equipment and technological processes were trial-produced or introduced in the first half of the year.

Electric workers in Peking, Tientsin and Hunan and Kansu Provinces more than doubled the voltage on 110,000-volt high-tension transmission lines without stopping the current. Successfully trial-produced are a big precision screw thread grinder, a 15,000-kva trans-



Workers of the Loyang Mining Machinery Plant making a hoisting equipment part.

former with water-cooled primary and secondary coils, and a new type of steam turbine generator with water-cooled stator and rotor. All this shows that China's science and technology has reached a new level.

Ideology and Political Line

Fundamentally speaking, industrial construction is a question of ideology and political line. Every success on the industrial and transport fronts is a great victory for Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line.

Since the beginning of 1971, a movement to criticize revisionism and rectify the style of work has been taking place in accordance with Chairman Mao's instruction "Carry out education in ideology and political line." Closely linking practice in the three great revolutionary struggles, workers, cadres and intellectuals conscientiously studied works by Marx and Lenin and studied and applied Chairman Mao's works in a living way. They criticized what Liu Shao-chi and political swindlers like him had peddled, such as idealist apriorism, the theory of productive forces, the theory of human nature and the theory of the dying out of class struggle. This helped them further raise their consciousness of class struggle and the struggle between the two lines and of implementing the general line of "going all out, aiming high and achieving greater, faster, better and more economical results in building socialism" in an all-round way. They deepened the mass movement to learn from the Taching Oilfield in industry.

Facts provide eloquent proof that as long as we firmly carry out Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line we will go from victory to victory.