

UNINTERRUPTED REVOLUTION

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OUR revolutions have occurred one after another. From the seizure of nationwide political power in 1949, we went on to the anti-feudal land reform and the movement for agricultural co-operation right after the land reform and to the socialist transformation of private industry and commerce and of handicrafts. Socialist transformation in these three main fields, which was a socialist revolution in the ownership of the means of production, was basically completed in 1956. It was followed by a socialist revolution on the political and ideological fronts last year. By and large, this latter revolution can be wound up before July 1 this year. But there will still be problems, and it will be necessary to go on solving them each year for a considerable period of time through the full airing of views and the introduction of reforms. What we need now is a technological revolution so that we can catch up with or surpass Britain in 15 years or a little longer. China's economy is backward and its material base weak. As a result, we are still not in a position to take the initiative and feel mentally constrained, and in this respect we are not yet liberated. We need to exert ourselves. Then after five years we shall have a little more initiative; ten years from now, we shall have greater initiative; and 15 years on, when we have more grain and steel, our initiative will be greater still. In revolution as in war, we must set new tasks immediately after each victory. This keeps both the cadres and the masses full of revolutionary zeal and helps curb conceit. Anyway, there is no time for conceit. With new tasks pressing, everyone's attention is set on how to complete them. Our aim in proposing a technological revolution is to get everyone to study science and technology. The Rightists say that we are petty intellectuals incapable of leading big intellectuals. Others say that we should adopt a policy of "buying off" the veter-

an cadres, paying them a sum of money and telling them to retire, because they know only how to wage war and carry out land reform and know nothing of science and technology. We must exert ourselves, we must study and carry through to the end this great technological revolution which history has bequeathed us. This question should be discussed among the cadres; a cadre conference should be called to discuss what other capabilities we have. In the past we had certain capabilities, we were able to wage war and carry out land reform, but now these capabilities are not enough. We must acquire new ones and become well versed in professional work, in science and technology, otherwise we cannot possibly exercise effective leadership. In *On the People's Democratic Dictatorship* which I wrote in 1949, I said: "The serious task of economic construction lies before us. We shall soon put aside some of the things we know well and be compelled to do things we don't know well. This means difficulties." "We must overcome difficulties, we must learn what we do not know." Eight years have elapsed. During these eight years, one revolution has succeeded another, preoccupying everybody's attention, and many have not had the time to study science and technology. From this year on, while continuing to complete the socialist revolution on the political and ideological fronts, we should shift the emphasis in our Party's work to the technological revolution. We must call the attention of the whole Party to this matter. Party committees at all levels may hold internal discussions first and make it clear to the cadres, but for the time being no publicity should be given it in the press. We can play it up after July 1, because by then the rectification campaign at the grass-roots level will be almost over and the attention of the whole Party can be shifted to the technological revolution. Politics is apt to be neglected with a shift to the technological side, so we must stress integrating technology with politics.

This is one item in *The 60 Points on Methods of Work* (Draft) written by Comrade Mao Zedong.