

Recommending Two Excellent Articles

THE big-character poster "Where Will Our Lu Hsun Corps Go?" by the Dongfanghong Fighting Group of the Lu Hsun Corps of the Revolutionary Rebel Headquarters of the Shanghai Sports Front, and the article by the commentator of the *Tiyu Zhanbao* "Hail the Big-Character Poster by the Young Dongfanghong Fighters," are two excellent articles. These are good examples of how to creatively study and apply Chairman Mao's works in the course of the great proletarian cultural revolution. They "shoot an arrow at a definite target." They closely integrate the universal truth of Mao Tse-tung's thought with the actual local conditions in the great proletarian cultural revolution. This is something young revolutionary fighters as well as revolutionary veteran cadres in all parts of China should emulate.

The two articles draw attention to the problems that emerge within the ranks of the proletarian revolutionaries and revolutionary mass organizations at this time, when the great proletarian cultural revolution is entering the new stage of seizing power from the handful of persons in the Party who are in authority and taking the capitalist road. These problems are common, and the articles point them out at the right moment and hit the nail on the head. In the final analysis, these problems are "self-interest," "individualism" and a bourgeois world outlook.

The young fighters of the Dongfanghong Fighting Group point out in their poster: "The great proletarian cultural revolution is a great revolution that touches the people to their very souls. It is not just 'a revolution to dismiss people from office.'" Merely dismissing people from office "would make this great proletarian cultural revolution just a formality, with the result that the revisionists would be dismissed organizationally, but not ideologically. The soil for the growth of revisionism would remain. When one counter-revolutionary revisionist was overthrown, another would rise and even we ourselves might follow the bourgeois reactionary line." This is very well expressed and very profound! All comrades should think deeply about this.

They also point out the correct method of solving these internal problems, that is: struggle while carrying out rectification; study Chairman Mao's works conscientiously and consciously use Mao Tse-tung's thought as the weapon to carry out rectification of working style so as to correct erroneous ideas within our own ranks.

Hiding nothing, they make open self-criticism. They make a clean breast of their own ideological problems and sincerely welcome criticism from the masses. In their relations with comrades-in-arms and fellow revolutionary fighting groups, instead of blaming and attacking each other, they help one another in a comradely way. They solve problems by faithfully following Chairman Mao's formula of "starting from the desire for unity, distinguishing between right and wrong through criticism or struggle and arriving at a new unity on a new basis." This is an education movement in Marxism-Leninism, Mao Tse-tung's thought within the ranks of proletarian revolutionaries. This is exactly what we want to advocate vigorously.

We believe that all mass organizations of the genuine revolutionary Left, by creatively studying and applying Chairman Mao's works, will be able to solve these ideological problems by themselves, free themselves from "self-interest," temper themselves to become more determined, and rapidly grow in political understanding.

Following Chairman Mao's teachings, these revolutionary young fighters have correctly raised at the right time the problems that exist in their own organizations, and have suggested methods to solve them. This fact again proves the correctness of the idea of "letting the masses educate themselves" and "letting the masses liberate themselves," proposed in the 16-point decision of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party concerning the great proletarian cultural revolution, an idea which is in sharp opposition to the bourgeois reactionary line.

"Let the masses educate themselves and liberate themselves." This is historical materialism and historical dialectics, and a universal Marxist-Leninist truth.

During this great proletarian cultural revolution which touches people to their very souls, it is even more necessary to let the masses "educate themselves and liberate themselves." This is an important component part of the proletarian revolutionary line represented by Chairman Mao.

In units where power must be seized, the position of proletarian revolutionaries changes after the seizure of power. Hence the question of how they should treat the masses under the new conditions. In their treatment of the masses, they must adhere to letting the masses educate and liberate themselves. It is not allowed to let a minority do everything for the masses which the latter should do themselves, still less should they suppress the masses.

Old China was a country with a vast number of people of petty bourgeois background. The emergence of some petty bourgeois and bourgeois thinking in the ranks of mass organizations of the Left is quite in conformity with objective law. There is nothing surprising about this. The question is, in dealing with the revolutionary masses we should give them active

and continual guidance with proletarian thinking, patiently and wholeheartedly help them correct their wrong ideas, raise their proletarian class consciousness, and intensify their revolutionary qualities, scientific approach and sense of organization and discipline. This is the correct attitude to be adopted by leading cadres who resolutely stand for the proletarian revolutionary line represented by Chairman Mao.

If we close our eyes to the fact that the revolutionary young fighters are correct in their general orientation and seize upon their errors and defects, exaggerate them at will, and attack these young people, then we will be placing ourselves on the opposite side in the great proletarian cultural revolution, and in opposition to proletarian revolutionaries.

Revolutionary young fighters! We must prove ourselves worthy of the proletariat and our great socialist motherland, put words into deeds, conscientiously and ceaselessly remould our world outlook with Mao Tse-tung's thought, and carry out the great proletarian cultural revolution still better.

("Hongqi" commentary, No. 4, 1967.)