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- COMMUNIST CHINA -

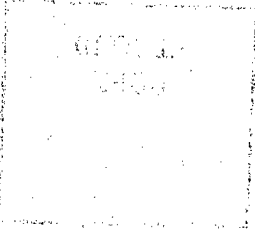
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PENETRATING POLICY EDUCATION FOR A BETTER
AND MORE THOROUGH IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY

- COMMUNIST CHINA -

[The following are translations of unsigned articles in the Jen-min Jih-pao, Peiping, 18 August 1960, page 7, as reprinted from the Anhwei Hsu yu Shih, No. 8, 1960 and the Shantung Hsin Lun Yu, No. 15, 1960.]

People Should Be Confronted With Policies;
Policies Must Be Earnestly Implemented

We must follow the Party's policies in all our endeavors and maintain the Party's policies as our criteria. Deviating from the Party's policies would mean action without direction, resulting in errors. Comrade Mao Tse-tung has said to us: "The basic responsibilities of the Communist Party leadership are to understand situations and to derive from them a basic policy. The first part requires a thorough understanding of the world and the latter involves the changing of the world." Policies are weapons to change this world but the changing must depend on the strength of the people. Therefore, in order to correctly implement the Party's policies for the deliberate purpose of reaching this goal of reformation, it is necessary to confront the people with the Party's policies before the people can be persuaded to work earnestly for the realization of the policies.

Policies are part of the superstructure and serve the economic foundation. During the Socialist construction period, the policies of the Party are the concentrated will and desires of the people. Because they are a reflection of the interests of the people, they thus become the policies of the Party. To confront the people with the Party's policies will undoubtedly release the people's self-consciousness and spur them on to more initiative. Once the people take up the initiative themselves, they will be united in a common desire to do better work and raise production.

But some people believe that the energy of the people

is quite sufficient and that as soon as the Party calls, the people will respond. To these misguided few, there is no need to educate the people in Party's policies. Such a point of view is definitely incorrect. From the political and welfare points of view, there is all the more reason why we should be more concerned about the people when they display strong determination and dynamic energy.

During the Great Leap Forward movement, the situation developed with intensifying speed. In order that the people's trend of thought could be adapted with the fast developing situation, it was necessary to conduct continual ideological education and policy education. As soon as the people are confronted with the policies, they will be able to understand better the policies of the Party, regardless of the different situations. The clarification of the policies will enable the people to perceive more distinctly the situation as well as the direction of the goal. They can, thus, steadily upgrade their degree of political consciousness and preserve the sky-rocketing energy for better work.

The policies of the Party have always been down to earth and have emanated from a practical point of view. The Party's policies can practically meet the needs of the nation as a whole. The interests of the collective as well as the individual, the welfare of the nation as well as the provinces, the feasibility of long range proposals as well as the immediate plans all blend together harmoniously in the Party's policies. To present these policies directly to the people and to earnestly implement these policies are the best ways to handle and resolve the internal relationship between the people. A revival of the active factors may add to the satisfactory feeling and genial spirit amongst the people in their daily productive routine.

However, some people tend to think that the implementation of policies is the sole responsibility of the cadres and not of the people, as if the people and the policies are independent of each other. This point of view is obviously incorrect. The basic interest of the people and the building of Socialism are one but there may exist some forms of conflict between the people as a nation and the people locally; between the collective versus the individual and between the long term versus the immediate interests. One of the more important functions of the policies is to handle and resolve these contradictions. Thus we can see that the policies and the people are closely interrelated.

When the people are confronted with the policies and when these policies are earnestly implemented, the people can be educated to correctly understand the relationship between the collective, the individual and our national interests. Then they may realize that to implement the Party's policies is to satisfy the individual's correct needs and that correct implementation can only bring goodness to the individual. Only then, will the people happily and willingly accept the Party's policies, actively defend these policies and supervise their implementation.

The policies must be formulated according to the needs of the masses and the desires of the collective group as these are the problems of the people. To confront the people with the policies and let the people be benefited by the realization of such policies is the scientific method of leadership as prescribed by Chairman Mao. We must work hard to present these policies directly to the people and determine to implement these policies earnestly by criticizing the erroneous points of views associated with this problem. Only by doing so can we hope to accomplish our mission successfully and at the same time guarantee the continued great leap of the Socialist construction program! (From Anhwei Hsu yu Shih editorial, No. 8, 1960)

Introduce the Propaganda on the Party's Policies with Fanfare

The policies of the Party are the embodiment of theory and practice. Comrade Mao Tse-tung summarized the correct leadership of the Party as "from the people and to the people", "assemble and persist". "From the people" and "assembling" are the formulation of the Party's policies according to the opinions and needs of the people, their experiences and their level of consciousness; plus the practical conditions, with the Marxist position, points of view and method as guidance. Comrade Mao Tse-tung has said, "Public opinion and the experiences of the people must be the foundation for our policies because the people can teach us a lot of things. It is our responsibility to listen to the people; to learn and understand from their experiences, desires and criticisms. We may then be able to conclude what their needs are in general, summarize these needs into policies and hand it back to the people". In other words, the policies of the Party are actually the summary of the theories on the practical experiences of the people. It could, on the other hand, used as a guide for the people.

For a thorough implementation of the Party's policies, it is necessary to organize a nation-wide propaganda campaign on the Party's policies so as to present these policies directly to the people. Even after the formulation of the policies and in their implementation, the Party must still rely on the people. It is only through the initiative of the people that the satisfactory implementation of the Party's policies can be best guaranteed.

Comrade Liu Shao-chi has said, "All the work of our Communist Party is the work of the people. No matter how correct our policies may be, without the direct support and the persistence to struggle to the very end on the part of the people, there is no way to realize these policies. Therefore our whole structure is dependent on the people and their consciousness as well as their initiative. To be independent of the people's consciousness and initiative is to labor in vain as nothing can be accomplished. But when we depend on the people and when the people are earnestly conscious and possess initiative, under the correct leadership of the Party, all the magnificent work of our Party will shine in glorious success."

Since the Party's policies are advantageous to the people and are based on the summary of the people's own actual experiences, why is there a special need for this propaganda campaign for the people? There are a few reasons behind this campaign:

1. The people are not machines. They are all endowed with logical minds. Only through propaganda and explanations can they be made to understand the policies of the Party, and only then will they sincerely support these policies and struggle for the realization of these policies.

2. As we have already pointed out, the Party's policies are the embodiment of theory and practice. Although the Party's policies are based on the practical experiences of the people, it can only be a summary of these experiences. Therefore, before the launching of this nation-wide propaganda campaign, the specific purpose of which is to penetrate deeply among the people with explanations, it is impossible for the people to understand these policies. There is an urgent need for propaganda so that the people may be confronted with the Party's policies. If the people of a certain area lack the experience in some phase, it may be advisable to have the people go through a typical experiment before the propaganda apparatus arrives. In this manner, after some minor differences are ironed out, the Party's policies can become the policies of the people.

3. The degree of political consciousness among the people differs. When we implement the Party's policies, we must take into consideration this practical point of view. If the people's degree of consciousness does not measure up to the requirements of the Party's policies, it is necessary to convince the people with patience. Under no circumstances should the people be ordered around. Comrade Mao Tse-tung has said, "In every type of work, it is incorrect to order as this exceeds the understanding of the people. Forced acceptances are often contrary to the voluntary wishes of the people. To forcefully carry out an order is a disease of impatience. We comrades cannot expect the people to understand everything that we have learned. In order to determine whether the people truly understand the policies and voluntarily decide on action, we must go among the people and observe. By doing so, we can avoid forceful acceptance. If there should be some well meaning comrades who do not understand this simple theory, and act against the natural course, they will meet with certain failure."

Unfortunately, we have comrades who do not understand this theory. They dare not participate boldly in this "propaganda with fanfare" to explain to the people the Party's policies. Some of them explain to the people what they think is appropriate without presenting the complete policies, while others only carry out propaganda when they are giving out something to the people but withhold propaganda when they are asking something of the people. According to them, the explanation of the Party's policies can only lead to more difficult work. These signs of distrust in the people are completely mistaken. Our Party's policies are based on a broad representation of the desires and will of the people.

In other words, the policies serve the interest of the people. When the Party gives the people something, it will naturally be of benefit to the people but even if we demand something of the people, it is only because of necessity and for the benefit of the people. Therefore, if the policies are explained explicitly to the people, there is no doubt that the people would be moved to implement the policies with greater enthusiasm and initiative. Drudgery will turn into easy work and simple jobs will become pleasurable pursuits. (From the Shantung Hsin Lun Yu, No. 15, 1960)