

To Hell With That Nonsense About "Putting Technique In Command"!

CHINA'S Khrushchov babbled: "In building New China in the future, everyone will be needed to administer the state, then technical work will have a place of first importance," and "as long as one can make himself well versed in a special line of work, he can become a specialist with a reputation and will have everything." For many of us veteran workers there is nothing strange about such talk because, during our apprenticeship in the old society, we often heard such nonsense from the capitalists as "so long as you have technical know-how, you can make a lot of money and hold your own anywhere in the world." China's Khrushchov's twaddle and that of the capitalists are wares poured out of the same mould!

Why do China's Khrushchov and the capitalists speak with one voice in advising us to concentrate on learning technical skills? That is because they both have **dirty ulterior motives**. The capitalists' aims were: First, **they wanted to prolong their exploitation of the apprentices**. Although a worker had actually served his apprenticeship, the capitalists made out that he had not yet learnt his skill and so should continue as an apprentice. The capitalists reckoned that once a worker was allowed to graduate from apprenticeship, he would have to get a wage. Second, the bosses wanted the apprentices to submit tamely to capitalist exploitation and oppression. On the other hand, if they wished to acquire technical know-how, the apprentices had to endure the humiliation of being exploited and oppressed. Third, the capitalists resorted to this underhand tactic of forcing the workers to concentrate on learning technical know-how, because they wanted to induce the workers to stay away from politics. They knew quite well that once the workers joined in the political struggle, they would rise up against capitalist exploitation and oppression and overthrow the reactionary rule of the bourgeoisie.

It was in a vain attempt to liquidate the great leader Chairman Mao's brilliant teaching of "**politics is the commander, the soul in everything**," that China's Khrushchov advocated the absurd theory of "putting

technique in command." He wanted to mislead the young people, get them on the road of striving to become bourgeois specialists—a blind alley—and so train successors for the bourgeoisie.

Chairman Mao teaches us: **"Not to have a correct political point of view is like having no soul."** It is utterly wrong to ignore politics and bury oneself in technical work. To master a technical skill, one has first to put politics to the fore, otherwise one will go to the bad. We workers of the Santiaoshih industrial district deeply realize that Mao Tse-tung's thought is the source of strength and the treasure house of wisdom and that so long as Mao Tse-tung's thought is grasped by the people, every kind of miracle can be performed. Take the situation in our Santiaoshih district for example. In the old society, it took more than 80 years to develop Santiaoshih's industry and yet only a few simple handicraft products could be made. But in the past 18 years since liberation, guided by the invincible thought of Mao Tse-tung, many products up to advanced world standards have been turned out in many of our factories. All Santiaoshih's factories are now moving in the direction of automation and semi-automation of machines and equipment. The high precision products that we have produced have not only given powerful support to socialist construction in our motherland but have assisted construction in the fraternal countries.

The sharp contrast between our own personal experience in two different societies has enabled us to see more clearly the inexhaustible power of Mao Tse-tung's thought. When we workers come up against difficult technical problems, we first of all study Chair-

man Mao's works to find a solution. We value Mao Tse-tung's thought as an omnipotent golden key. One of our Santiaoshih machinery works, on one occasion, received an order to process some big sluice gates for Hopei Province. At sight of these formidable things, we felt sure we would come up against a heap of difficulties. In this situation, we studied Chairman Mao's teaching: **"In times of difficulty we must not lose sight of our achievements, must see the bright future and must pluck up our courage."** Inspired by this teaching, we vied with each other in undertaking the glorious task. Finally we finished the work ahead of schedule and in full accordance with qualitative and quantitative requirements.

In the great and unprecedented proletarian cultural revolution, Chairman Mao issued the great call to **"grasp revolution and promote production."** Warmly responding to it, we use the invincible thought of Mao Tse-tung as a weapon in overcoming many difficult technical problems. This has thoroughly refuted China's Khrushchov's reactionary theory of "putting technique in command."

(by a veteran worker critics' group at a machine foundry in Santiaoshih)

