

A Red Banner of the P.L.A. in Helping the Left

Joint editorial note by "Renmin Ribao" and "Jiefangjun Bao" on the following report states:

The great proletarian cultural revolutionary movement at the Peking General Knitwear Mill gives a fine example of implementing the proletarian revolutionary line of our great leader Chairman Mao and following out his strategic plan.

Unit 8341 of the People's Liberation Army, which has been helping the Left at the mill, has shown itself to represent a red banner in this work.

We must learn from the comrades of Unit 8341 and from the revolutionary workers and staff members at this mill. We must emulate them in carrying out Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line, in closely following his great strategic plan and in carrying the great proletarian cultural revolution through to the end, with the profound class feelings of boundless loyalty to our great leader Chairman Mao.

THE great proletarian cultural revolutionary movement at the Peking General Knitwear Mill sets an excellent example in carrying out the proletarian revolutionary line of our great leader Chairman Mao and in following out his strategic plan. Holding high the great red banner of Mao Tse-tung's thought, the personnel of Unit 8341 supporting the Left at the mill have carried out Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line by tirelessly propagating Mao Tse-tung's thought, taking a firm grip on ideological and political work, and unswervingly trusting and relying on the masses. The proletarian revolutionaries and the revolutionary masses at the mill have earnestly studied Chairman Mao's works and resolutely carried out his instructions. After they studied the important instructions Chairman Mao gave during his inspection tour of north, central-south and east China, they quickly brought about a

revolutionary great alliance in the mill, established a revolutionary committee and launched a mass campaign to repudiate the top capitalist roaders in the Party and to carry out the tasks of struggle, criticism and transformation in their mill.

Persist in Propagating Mao Tse-tung's Thought, Unswervingly Trust and Rely on the Masses

Since they entered the mill on June 26, 1967, the personnel of Unit 8341 have acted in accordance with Chairman Mao's teachings, and held to the following principles in helping the Left:

Vigorously propagate Mao Tse-tung's thought, and do thorough and painstaking ideological and political work;

Do not commit oneself in a hurry, but strive to unite the two opposing groupings step by step if on investigation they both prove to be revolutionary mass organizations;

Learn from the masses of workers. Do not be afraid of making mistakes and correct them if there are any. Pay attention to the well-being of the masses.

The personnel of Unit 8341 have at all times kept in mind Chairman Mao's teaching: **"Ideological education is the key link to be grasped in uniting the whole Party for great political struggles."** They have never departed from this teaching in their work of helping the Left.

They believe that the fundamental task in helping the Left is to arm the masses with Mao Tse-tung's thought so that they will always be loyal to our great leader Chairman Mao, Mao Tse-tung's thought and his proletarian revolutionary line. Those engaged in helping the Left are first and foremost propagandists of Mao Tse-tung's thought. Experience has proved that in the course of helping the Left, the key link to be grasped is the creative study and application of Chairman Mao's works even though the situation may change in a thousand and one ways and may become highly complex. They have firm trust in the immense power of Mao Tse-tung's thought and are firm in their belief that the masses act according to what Chairman Mao says. Therefore, they have resolutely persisted in propagating Mao Tse-tung's thought among the masses whatever the difficulties, and have guided the workers to solve their problems in accordance with Chairman Mao's teachings. With unequalled revolutionary zeal, they have promptly, widely and fully transmitted Chairman Mao's latest instructions and the fighting orders of the proletarian headquarters to the masses. They have organized the revolutionary workers and staff members to study and apply Chairman Mao's works in a creative way by taking as their guide Chairman Mao's latest instruction **"fight self-interest, repudiate revisionism,"** and linking their study with their ideological problems and the realities of class struggle. They have carried out ideological and political work patiently and in a thoroughgoing way, and propagated Mao Tse-tung's thought wherever possible—in the workshops, in the workers' residential quarters and among the workers' families.

With the help of the armymen, the revolutionary workers and staff members at the mill have carried to new heights the mass movement for the creative study and application of Chairman Mao's works. They have actively created conditions for this study, by starting a study campaign, instituting and strengthening a regular system of daily study, organizing teams for disseminating Mao Tse-tung's thought, running classes for studying it and so on.

They have made it a daily practice to study Chairman Mao's quotations together in front of Chairman Mao's portrait before starting work and after the day's

work they gather there again to "report to Chairman Mao."

Placards inscribed with quotations from Chairman Mao have been put up in the workshops. In passing work on to the next shift, workers also recommend suitable quotations so that the new shift can guide their work with appropriate teachings of Chairman Mao.

The masses of the workers have launched a campaign for the study of Chairman Mao's "three constantly read articles" in an effort to remould their world outlook and make revolution in the depth of their beings. In order to follow Chairman Mao's great strategic plan closely, they are also studying Chairman Mao's other works and his latest instructions conscientiously in an effort to get a thorough grasp of the theory, line, principles, methods and policies formulated by Chairman Mao for carrying on the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat. It is as the workers sing: "Our mill has become a big classroom for studying Mao Tse-tung's thought; a never-setting red sun has risen in our hearts!"

Chairman Mao teaches: **"In order to attack the forces of the counter-revolution, what the revolutionary forces need today is to organize millions upon millions of the masses and move a mighty revolutionary army into action."** In accordance with this teaching, the moment the personnel of Unit 8341 reached the mill, they placed great importance on promoting a revolutionary great alliance and guiding the workers and staff members to unite against the enemy. They are firm in their conviction that all revolutionary mass organizations want to act according to Mao Tse-tung's thought and that they can indeed gradually unite on the basis of Mao Tse-tung's thought, as long as ideological-political work is done effectively.

When the armymen first arrived, the two opposing mass organizations in the mill were still at loggerheads and engaged in endless "civil wars." Instead of hastily proclaiming support for one side or the other, the armymen began a thorough investigation.

Their findings showed that both groups were revolutionary mass organizations and both had the correct general orientation in the revolutionary struggle. They actually differed only on certain minor issues.

So the armymen decided to adhere to the principle of "helping the Left but not any particular faction." They gave firm support to every word or deed which conformed with Mao Tse-tung's thought and Chairman Mao's great strategic plan and refused to support anything to the contrary, irrespective of the organization concerned.

At the same time, they patiently guided the masses in correcting their shortcomings through creative study and application of Chairman Mao's works. Though quite a number of people labelled this as "compromise," the armymen persisted in acting in accordance with

Mao Tse-tung's thought and refrained from supporting one group and repressing the other. They thus prevented aggravation of the antagonism between the two opposing groups.

To promote an alliance between the two groups, the army-men did ideological and political work among the leading members of the two mass organizations at the same time as they publicized among the masses Chairman Mao's teachings about the revolutionary great alliance.

They got everybody in both groups to study Chairman Mao's *On the Correct Handling of Contradictions Among the People* and the Decision of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party Concerning the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution. In this way they enabled leaders and masses to distinguish friend from foe, get a firm grip on the general orientation of the struggle, unite themselves to strike at the enemy and concentrate their hatred on the handful of capitalist roaders in the Party represented by China's Khrushchov.

The army-men also helped members of both groups to get together to study Chairman Mao's works, and to hold joint meetings for revolutionary mass criticism and repudiation, to recall their past sufferings and trace the source of their present happiness, and to study production problems. As a result, antagonisms gradually disappeared and favourable conditions were created for realizing the revolutionary great alliance.

After the great alliance was forged on the basis of workshops, shifts, brigades and offices, the army-men organized successive classes for members of both groups to study Mao Tse-tung's thought.

At the same time, they widely publicized the advantages of the revolutionary great alliance and the evils of factionalism, thus enhancing the workers' proletarian Party spirit and discrediting petty-bourgeois factionalism, and consolidating the revolutionary great alliance ideologically.

Those workers and staff members who had said that the army-men were "compromising" now paid tribute to them for their clear-cut stand in truly supporting the masses of the Left and carrying out Chairman Mao's revolutionary line to the letter.

Our great leader Chairman Mao teaches: "**Communists should set an example in study; at all times they should be pupils of the masses as well as their teachers.**"



A Mao Tse-tung's thought propaganda team of P.L.A. Unit 8341 helping the Left in the Peking General Knitwear Mill. They are singing for a workshop songs of quotations from Chairman Mao.

Members of Unit 8341 assigned to help the Left knew that a correct approach to their relations with the masses was a question of fundamental attitude, a cardinal issue in implementing Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line.

Commanders and fighters declared: "The working class is naturally our teacher. We should always remain pupils of the revolutionary masses." Instead of sitting high above the masses, they went deep among them, studying, working and fighting self-interest and repudiating revisionism along with them and conscientiously emulating the noble qualities of the working class.

Instead of lording it over the masses, the army-men served as their counsellors and boldly aroused them to make progress in both revolution and production under the guidance of Mao Tse-tung's thought.

They often canvassed the masses for comments and criticisms and took the lead in fighting self-interest and repudiating revisionism, working hard to revolutionize their own ideology. They were not afraid of making mistakes in their work. When they made mistakes, they honestly and openly admitted them before the masses and promptly corrected them.

Following Chairman Mao's teachings, the army-men paid careful attention to the well-being of the masses. They often spent their rest days visiting the workers and staff members at home, bringing them and their families revolutionary friendship and the great thought of Mao Tse-tung.

The revolutionary workers and staff members at the mill all praise them as "worthy of the name of good fighters sent by Chairman Mao." Through their efforts, the army-men were not only able to forge close ties between the army and the people, but to enhance the level

of ideological consciousness of the workers, staff members and their families and give a powerful impetus to the great proletarian cultural revolution in the mill.

Closely Follow Chairman Mao's Strategic Plan and Thoroughly Carry Out Chairman Mao's Instructions

With the help of the P.L.A. men, the revolutionary workers and staff members at the mill, have, with boundless love for Chairman Mao, closely followed his strategic plan in spite of the obstacles thrown up in their path.

On September 14 Chairman Mao's great instruction was published in the press: **"There is no conflict of fundamental interests within the working class. Under the dictatorship of the proletariat, there is no reason whatsoever for the working class to split into two big irreconcilable groupings."** Five days later, revolutionary great alliances were brought about in this mill. Established in each workshop, shift, brigade and office according to revolutionary principles, they were the result of the determined efforts which the two revolutionary organizations and the masses of revolutionary workers and staff members made in response to Chairman Mao's instruction. A great alliance committee of proletarian revolutionaries was established for the whole mill after full discussion by the two groups.

They took **"fight self-interest, repudiate revisionism"** as their guide as soon as Chairman Mao issued this great call. They studied and applied Chairman Mao's works in a creative way, and used his invincible

thought to mercilessly battle their own thoughts of self-interest and criticize and repudiate the bourgeois reactionary line pushed by China's Khrushchov. By "fighting self-interest," comradeship has developed, unity has been strengthened and the revolutionary great alliance has been consolidated ideologically. An excellent situation now prevails in the mill.

As soon as Chairman Mao's latest instruction concerning the correct treatment of cadres was made public, the mill's proletarian revolutionaries, with the help of the P.L.A. men, went into action to educate and liberate the cadres. They did prolonged ideological and political work to help the cadres, who had made mistakes, take a correct stand towards the masses and themselves, draw a clear line between themselves on the one hand and the capitalist roaders and the bourgeois reactionary line on the other, and return to Chairman Mao's revolutionary line. As a result of this work, the revolutionary committee of the mill was set up on November 11.

Today, the mill is well imbued with Mao Tse-tung's thought. The campaign of "struggle-criticism-transformation" was launched there in the course of criticizing and repudiating China's Khrushchov and the counter-revolutionary revisionist Peng Chen clique for their revisionist line in running factories. With the revolution vigorously developing in the mill, production is rising steadily. The November production results were very good. Many workshops, shifts and brigades have set their highest production records since the mill was commissioned and a new leap forward situation has emerged in production.