

## WAR ON BOURGEOIS OLD HABITS, IDEAS URGED

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[WEN HUI PAO 20 January editorial: "Declare War On Old Habits"]

[Text] As the great proletarian cultural revolution is penetratingly developed, the forces of old habits of the bourgeoisie and petty-bourgeoisie are becoming obstacles to the progress of the revolutionary movement. All old ideas, culture, customs, and habits certainly will emerge to wage a test of strength with us. Where will this test take place?

For example, we are criticizing and repudiating the black line on literature and art. However, the "three famous and three high" ideas [famous writers, famous directors, and famous actors; high salaries, high royalties, and high awards] of different categories will arise in the form of self-interest when opportunities permit. There are people who while smashing the black line, want their own private dressing rooms on the grounds that "I am playing the leading role in this drama."

The handful of capitalist-roaders in the party on the educational front have already been dragged out. But the centuries-old traditional ideas in education advocated by the exploiting class paves the way to officialdom; study is above all professions and trades are still exerting influence. This is also exemplified by the fact that some school graduates are dissatisfied with the jobs allocated them.

In the journalistic circles, a number of reporters and editors who follow the old path of depending on experts to run newspapers also manage to wield influence from time to time in an attempt to drag newspapers back to the old line of running newspapers by the bourgeoisie.

We have already incessantly attacked some customary rules and bad habits. But with the arrival of the Spring Festival is it not true that bad habits such as exchanging greetings by presenting gifts, giving extravagant feasts, and early marriage revive? Lenin said: "The habitual forces of tens of thousands of people are the most formidable forces." Why are these such formidable forces? Because the forces of old habits find their grounds in every field. Their influence is very far-reaching. When they invade us we can hardly feel it because they make us feel comfortable being their "prisoners of war." Therefore they are a dangerous enemy in our minds."

Chairman Mao says: "Among the 1.5 million people of the Shensi-Kansu-Szechwan border region there are more than 1 million illiterates, there are 2,000 practitioners of witchcraft, and the broad masses are still under the influence of superstition. These are enemies inside the minds of the people. It is often more difficult to combat the enemies inside the people's minds than to fight Japanese imperialism."

We must fully understand this. We have already struck down the handful of capitalist-roaders in the party. However, if we do not continue to declare war on the forces of old habits, we shall be in danger of losing what we have gained in the revolution. We should not be content with the fact that there are no more people openly suggesting that the dramas "Yang Yen-hui visits His Mother" and "Hai Jui Dismissed From Office" be staged. If we give up the ideological struggle we cannot be sure that someday there will be no people who will stir up an evil wind leading to the emergence of so-called newly compiled historic dramas to be definitely hailed by some people. Even now, theatrical works describing emperors, kings, generals, ministers, scholars, and beauties are not without audiences.

The proletarian revolutionaries, who are determined to carry the great proletarian cultural revolution through to the end should not only rebel against the handful of capitalist-roaders in the party but also rebel against the forces of old habits and thoroughly eradicate the pernicious influence of the revisionist line of China's Khrushchev from all fields. The latter task is even more arduous and complicated than the former. We must maintain high vigilance against the attack by the forces of old habits and continue to launch strong offensives against them.

In the course of struggle-criticism-transformation on all fronts, we should use Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line as the compass to defeat the resistance of the forces of old habits. We must depend on the broad masses, boldly arouse them, vigorously support the revolutionary intellectuals, and support new things among the revolutionary masses to push forward the great revolutionary movement.

Declaring war on old habits is a profound ideological revolution and is by no means a matter that can be settled by a showing of fists. Actions such as "Bombard the Nanking Road" are also by no means revolutionary. We should do a lot of arduous work and make many bold experiments, including vigorously destroying "the four olds" and upholding "the four news;" only by waging a long struggle can we be triumphant.

As best stated by Marx and Engels in the "Communist Manifesto" more than 100 years ago, "the communist revolution is the most radical rupture with traditional property relations; no wonder that its development involves the most radical rupture with traditional ideas."

Proletarian fighters, revolutionary Red Guards, and people who are willing to make revolution, let us hold still higher the massive cudgel of Mao Tse-tung's thought to declare war on the forces of old habits and on all the ideologies of the exploiting class.