

IMPACT OF CULTURAL REVOLUTION ON PRODUCTION IN TSINGTAO
Tsingtao, NCNA, 28 August 1967

The economy in Tsingtao, the East China textile center, has taken on a new look as a result of the victories in the great proletarian cultural revolution. The total value of Tsingtao's industrial output from January to July this year is 19.9 percent more than that of the corresponding period of last year. All major industrial items have surpassed output targets under the State plan by wide margins.

Compared with the corresponding period of last year, the output of textile goods in the first six months of 1967 increased by 16.8 percent, insecticides -- 100 percent and chemical fertilizers -- 130 percent. Output of bessemer steel and steel material, tires, lathes and bicycles also shows considerable increases. There is a general improvement in quality.

Despite a spring drought, peasants in Laoshan, this port city's only suburban hsien, re-doubled their efforts in field care to reap 10 percent more summer wheat this year than the previous peak. Based on their healthy development, there will be a bumper harvest of autumn crops. The number of hogs in Laoshan has surpassed the all-time record.

Crowded with Chinese and foreign ships, the port of Tsingtao handled more loading and unloading in the first half of this year than in any previous half-year.

Showing interviewing newsmen their "new products of the cultural revolution," factory workers were full of enthusiasm. Workers at the Ssu Fang Rolling Stock Plant invited newsmen to try their new, air-conditioned passenger car made of low alloy steel and plastic. The interior is like that of a passenger airplane. The seats are sofa-type with a wider space between rows for comfort and dinner trays are collapsible. The train, made of lightweight material, is fast (160 kilometers per hour), smooth and comfortable. It is now on the Peking-Tientsin line.

At the Tsingtao Brewery, known in many parts of Southeast Asia for its products, the workers showed newsmen their latest technical innovation -- a sprayer-germicide apparatus. The first of its kind in China, this automatic process controls the fermentation at a temperature that produces beer at its best.

Equipment at the State No. 9 Cotton Mill is the most backward of the State cotton mills in Tsingtao. Here, the workers re-modelled pre-First World War machines to raise the output of fine yarn from 33 to 39 kilograms per 1,000 spindles an hour. The latest cotton prints from this mill have earned the plaudits from the Ministry of Foreign Trade and from abroad.

Tsingtao is one of the earliest cities to seize power in the cultural revolution. Proletarian revolutionaries seized power from the handful of

Party persons in authority taking the capitalist road in the former Municipal Party Committee in January this year. They set up their provisional organ of power, the Municipal Revolutionary Committee of the "three-way alliance" type which is made up of leading members of revolutionary mass organizations, representatives of the People's Liberation Army and revolutionary leading cadres...

In the early stage of the cultural revolution, when the people dragged out the agents of China's Khrushchev in Tsingtao and set up the revolutionary, provisional organs of power at all levels, the aroused revolutionary enthusiasm of the masses enabled production to develop in big strides...

This struggle between two classes, two roads and two lines is extended to every sphere of production. In the spirit of destroying the old to establish the new and eliminating bourgeois influence to foster proletarian ideas, the rules and regulations and other parts of the superstructure that are not in correspondence with the socialist economic base are being liquidated.

At the Ssu Fang Rolling Stock Plant, the workers abolished the old practice of submitting all finished products to the inspector for approval. They said this practice was systematic of the old way of factory management and replaced it with a set of revolutionary measures. Formerly, all finished products had to be passed by the inspector who was appointed by the Ministry of Railways and stationed in the factory. The workers are against this practice because it is not only a symbol of distrust of the workers with a proletarian consciousness, but because of this it restricts their creativeness and hampers technical innovation and invention...

The significance of abolishing the inspector is not in simplifying the process of approving or rejecting a finished product. It signifies that the proletarian revolutionaries have shattered those rules and regulations that restricted their initiative and creativity. Formerly, in many factories the annual and quarterly production quotas of a factory were put into effect by a few persons in authority on the factory's behalf. In most cases, the significance of such tasks in relation to the State plan and socialist construction was not explained to the workers or discussed by them. Their enthusiasm was not aroused...

Armed with Mao Tse-tung's thought, Tsingtao workers now show a spirit of daring to think, speak out and carry out what they think is right in destroying the shackles of the revisionist line and, at the same time, manifest a scientific approach in making technological improvements, improving designs, equipment and tools and using new techniques to solve key problems in their factories.

More important, production tasks are now discussed by the workers so that everyone understands their political significance. Relying on their collective wisdom, the workers study their tasks to find ways and means of solving problems in order to better fulfill these tasks.

For example, at the State No. 9 Cotton Mill, the key problem in production was outdated equipment. But the workers made concerted efforts to re-model the spinning frames made in 1913 to reduce the number of broken ends and increase efficiency. The weavers and dyeing and printing workers also tried their best to increase production.

Formerly, veteran workers with decades of experience behind them in mixing dyes were not encouraged to take part in pattern designing. Today, their experience and creativity help make more beautiful pattern designs. As a result of such concerted efforts in every process of production, finished cotton prints have reached advanced levels and have been praised by domestic and foreign consumers...

Another aspect of the far-reaching impact of the cultural revolution on production in Tsingtao is the establishment of a revolutionary new order. Most factories have set up production command posts in charge of production under the Revolutionary Committee. These command posts have a simple set up. They do away with procedural formalities and increase efficiency. The emphasis is on improving management and cadres' working style so that they will not be divorced from the masses and actual production.

At the Hung Wei Metal Works, for example, the old management, which was at three levels with six sections and a general office, has been replaced by a political section and a production command post under the Revolutionary Committee after the seizure of power. The number of non-productive staff members was reduced from 44 to 16, to reinforce the productive forces. The workers refer to this as the front line production command post.

Another instance of the new atmosphere on the Tsingtao production front is the port which is being expanded by an additional dock with automatic installations. While handling a record total of loading and unloading, the Tsingtao dockers, on their own initiative, built the new dock by voluntary labor. Their ingenious suggestions enabled them to increase efficiency, improve the quality of work and to economize...

The mass campaign to study and apply Chairman Mao's works in a living way is becoming a part of daily life in Tsingtao. People devote an hour to this before they start the day's work. In addition, the workers study quotations from Chairman Mao Tse-tung before and after shifts in order to better use Mao Tse-tung's thought to guide their actions.

The People's Liberation Army stationed in Tsingtao, by sending army men to factories to assist industry and support the revolutionary Left, has spread the splendid tradition of giving first place to politics and everybody doing ideological work. This has promoted the revolutionization of people's ideology.