

Comrade V.G. Wilcox Calls On All Members of Communist Party of New Zealand to Study Chairman Mao's Works

New Zealand Communist Review, organ of the Communist Party of New Zealand, in its June issue this year published a report made by V.G. Wilcox, General Secretary of the Communist Party of New Zealand, to the Party's Political Committee in August last year. In the report entitled "Some Important Questions," Comrade Wilcox expounded the tasks of the Communist Party of New Zealand in the excellent revolutionary situation of the world today and called on the whole Party to launch a movement for studying Chairman Mao's works.

Wilcox said in his report: "The first of the questions I refer to is the need to develop our ideological level,

our understanding of Marxism-Leninism, to fit the state of the world and New Zealand now and not as it was some twenty or so years ago. This will, of course, only come fully from practice in the final analysis, but our practice so far shows that we have yet to master the important contribution to our world revolutionary movement and to Marxist-Leninist theory made by the Lenin of our period, Mao Tsetung." "We are in a new period and Mao Tsetung has made a magnificent contribution to it."

"We must use Marxism-Leninism as a living weapon in our hands, one to deal not only with long-range objectives but with everyday policy and struggle."

"The second question to be considered in this report," he said, is "the struggle we are having to develop our organization on correct Marxist-Leninist revolutionary lines so that we can effectively put into practice our decided general political line. Correct organization in our work comes from a correct ideological understanding of the science of Marxism-Leninism and therefore all attempts to raise the general level of our Party must help. However, by now we should have had enough practice and have sufficient knowledge to take correct action."

Wilcox said: "Before proceeding to those aspects on which action now is so important, let us get the general position in perspective. The world revolution is proceeding apace. Sometimes we lose sight of this under the weight of our own problems, but it is a fact none-the-less. We have recently seen great revolutionary upheavals of workers and students in Europe, unprecedented student struggles in North and South America, not to mention some right here in New Zealand and Australia. Overall, the world revolutionary movement is doing very well."

He pointed out: "The People's Republic of China, led by Mao Tsetung, stands at the head of the world revolutionary movement." "By ever-more open acts of betrayal to assist the imperialists, the modern revisionists everywhere are daily revealing to all their real non-revolutionary role."

He said: "Here in New Zealand the crisis of world imperialism is biting deeper every day. Political struggle, anti-U.S. imperialist struggle, is spreading. Among the workers class struggle with action is reaching ever-wider circles of industry. Sections of youth, particularly students, are turning to look at 'politics' for the first time for many a year."

Having pointed out that the Communist Party of New Zealand had scored political and organizational victory over former members who took the revisionist road, he went on to say: "We must, however, realize that the struggle against revisionism did not end at that point. The fight against open revisionism, headed by the leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, continues and will, in fact, intensify as they move to more open betrayal of communist principles, becoming more obviously the agents of imperialism and, in countries like the Soviet Union, enlarging their own imperialist policies under the cloak of Marxist phrases and talk of communism." "This struggle against revisionism is one that must be carried on inside our Party, too. We must be vigilant against all such trends. In the world movement today this

aspect is assuming considerable importance, as we have seen in China, a socialist country where the struggle between two lines within their Marxist-Leninist Party is a very deep and serious one. Through the Cultural Revolution and the resultant mass movement, the line of Marxism-Leninism is winning a great victory, but this conflict is not confined to the Chinese Party — it is present in all the old and new parties and Marxist-Leninist groupings."

He went on to point out the importance of strengthening the ideological education within the Party. He said: "We must, therefore, act now to get both organized and individual study under way without any further delay."

He quoted the Political Committee Report of the New Zealand Communist Party, February 1967: "We do suggest that all members be asked to buy Comrade Mao's pamphlet containing the three articles: 'Serve the People,' 'In Memory of Norman Bethune' and 'The Foolish Old Man Who Removed the Mountains'; and individually study it as a preliminary to what will come with the new look in our organized study." Comrade Mao Tsetung's works, he said, "is based not only on experience in the Chinese Revolution in the past but upon the conditions of the world today and shows the Marxist-Leninist way forward, not just for others but for ourselves in New Zealand."

He stated: "What is the real objective of achieving a correct ideological outlook? It is not to be book-wise in Marxism-Leninism and it is not for the purpose of just talking about it to others. No, it is for use by us now and in the future. An ounce of practice will bring in more new activists and contacts than a ton of theory without practice. Correct Party education will show us why it is vital that we prepare for the future now. It will show us the real nature of imperialism and how it will, before its death, exceed all its viciousness of the past in an attempt to live a little longer. A study of Mao Tsetung's most important works makes this clear and also shows us how to deal with this situation effectively."

Referring to the study of Chairman Mao's works, he quoted the Report of the Political Committee of the New Zealand Communist Party of November 1967: "It is the priority in study, because his works in theory and practice have developed Marxism-Leninism in such a way as to provide the guide to action in this, the dying era of imperialism."

In conclusion, Wilcox called on the Party members to integrate theory with practice in the course of study to solve the problems they come across.