WORKERS PROMOTE PRODUCTION IN SHANGHAI

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[Text] Shanghai--NCNA correspondent--In revolutionizing people's thinking, China's great proletarian cultural revolution has proven a powerful motive force for the development of production in Shanghai. Since seizing power in January from the handful of party persons in authority taking the capitalist road, the revolutionary workers of Shanghai have been carrying out Chairman Mao's call to "grasp revolution and promote production" with great spirit. The total January-November output surpassed that of last year by a wide margin in many factories, and a good number have fulfilled the year's plan ahead of schedule. The workers have added a long list of products of advanced world standards to the catalog of output in the machine building, steel, meters and instruments, chemical, and other industries, rallying to a new high the level of Shanghai's industrial science and technology.

Shanghai workers are particularly proud of having far exceeded their target in the printing and publication of Chairman Mao's works, which have gone out to all parts of China and the world. They attribute all their successes to the great thought of Mao Tse-tung. When grasped by the masses, this becomea a veritably inexhaustible force. Speak to any of Shanghai's industrial workers and you will find that their achievements this year have been made in the course of intense class struggle.

Toward the end of last year, the capitalist-roaders were still in power. Sensing their approaching defeat at the hands of the millions of revolutionary rebels who had risen like a tidal wave, they had desperately turned to counter-revolutionary economism. They tried to disrupt the economy of Shanghai, the largest industrial center of China, and turn it into a "dead city."

This scheme boomeranged -- the proletarian revolutionaries of Shanghai counterattacked. In their "January revolution" they took over control of banking. railway traffic, and other branches of work and set up a "frontline command for grasping revolution and promoting production" to direct industrial operations of the city. For a time, the volume of freight going through the port of Shanghai, the biggest in China, dropped and goods piled up on the wharves. But within 10 days after the revolutionary rebels took over, operations began returning to normal. Some weeks later the y launched a campaign to clear the 400,000-ton backlog of goods which had piled up, and they cleared the lot, on top of the current work, in a month. The dockers are proud of this campaign. They call it "an uprising against 400,000 tons." They describe the feats of labor they performed in the campaign and the unstinting help they were given by armymen, young Red Guard fighters, and men and women of many trades. "We went at it with the feeling tht even if the heavens were caving in, we could shore them up. " said one docker. "What could the tiny handful of class enemies do against our united strength, except end up in utter defeat?"

Since then the Shanghai dockers have set one record after another in quick loading and unloading, even during the summer days when the city was hit by the longest hot spell in many years. This year the port of Shanghai has handled more material going abroad as aid, and more foreign trade, than in any preceding year.

After the municipal revolutionary committee was established on 5 February, a gigantic movement of revolutionary mass criticism was set in motion to liquidate the poisonous revisionist influence of China's Khrushchev and his Shanghai agents. Everyone has joined in. The masses have been educating themselves in the movement, learning to distinguish between right and wrong, between the socialist and capitalist ways of doing things. It is this movement, raising the people's class consciousness and revolutionizing their thinking, that has given such impetus to Shanghai's industrial advance.

At the Shanghai shaped steel tubing plant, the workers analyzed and condemned the rotten material incentives method the capitalist-roaders had used there, showing how it was aimed at corrupting working class consciousness and how it handicapped production. They recalled how the plant had self-reliantly, in accordance with Chairman Mao's teachings, surmounted formidable technical difficulties and successfully turned out seamless tubes of many highly complex shapes. Then the capitalist-roaders enforced the principle of "fixing output quotas on the bais of work teams." Rewards were handed out according to team output, each team being allowed to work out its own plans for fulfilling its quota. This turned the workers' attention inward to their own teams. The result was uneven and unsatisfactory use of time and equipment compared with politically-motivated collective work under over-all planning.

Comparing their experience before and after this "fixing output quotas on the basis of work teams," the workers pointed out that this embodied the capitalist principle of material incentive as advocated by China's Khurshchev. "It was a sugarcoated bullet designed to kill our revolutionary, working class initiative, " one worker said in describing it to me.

Production began to soar immediately after this revisionist method was abolished in April, and in the second quarter of the year, total output was nearly one-third more than in the first quarter.

At the Shanghai No 3 steel plant, workers cited the production of tire section steel as an example of the ill effects of another of the "principles" advocated by China's Khurshchev, that of "putting profit in command." The capitalist-roaders had turned down orders for tire section steel because its manufacture involved complex technical problems. It would take time and money in research and was, therefore, considered "unprofitable."

"We proletarian revolutionaries can't take such a narrow view," the workers said.
"We must first of all consider not profit but the needs of the country and the people." In fact, with the revolutionary enthusiasm, they have rapidly found the way to turn out several kinds of this steel. Then, at the Shanghai No 4 pharmaceutical plant, the revolutionary workers described how they shot ahead after rejecting the revisionist method of relying on bourgeois "experts" and "authorities."

They recalled that a number of workers had long ago proposed that the plant should produce kanamycin, the new antibiotic for use in tuberculosis and many other diseases. But after consulting their bourgeois "experts," the capitalist-roaders said it would take three to five years to make, and referred to a multitude of procedures which had to be followed according to these "experts."

This year, after repudiating the revisionist line, young workers and technicians of the plant set out to produce the antibiotic. They studied Chairman Mao's "On Contradiction" and other works to guide their research and, in a few months, succeeded not only in making kanamycin but in putting it into mass production. Similar achievements were quoted at Shanghai's meters and instruments enterprises. The output of this industry is expected to reach an all-time high this year.

Chairman Mao has said that "the masses have boundless creative power", and all over Shanghai I heard stories of how, in accordance with Chairman Mao's teachings, they are boldly searching out new ways of technical development. Already they have produced 25 new types of machine tools of high efficiency and excellent performance, yet costing less than similar old types. This was after the rebel workers in the machine-building industry flayed the capitalist-roaders for their "crawlism," or "going-it-slow" policy. in the development of technique.

A common feature in Shanghai's factories is the living study and application of Chairman Mao's works. This is now a mass movement of unprecedented proportions. While analyzing and repudiating revisionism in all its various manifestations, the workers study Chairman Mao's works every day and regard his teachings as their supreme guide in all their work. A worker of the Shanghai micro-bearing plant quoted to me the saying that is now on everyone's lips: "Sailing the seas depends on the helmsman; making revolution depends on Mao Tse-tung's thought." He added: "Armed with Mao Tse-tung's thought, we workers can work wonders."