BROAD PARTY MASSES MUST BE TREATED CORRECTLY

Shanghai City Service in Mandarin 2300 GMT 26 Feb 68 B

[WEN HUI PAO article from TIYU CHANPAO (PHYSICAL CULTURE FIGHTING JOURNAL): "The Broad Masses of Party Members Must Be Treated Correctly"]

[Text] How to correctly treat the broad masses of party members is a question of extreme importance insofar as an improvement in party-people relations and smooth rectification of party organization are concerned. The CCP is a great, glorious, and correct party of the proletariat, created and led by Chairman Mao. With the exception of a handful of renegades, special agents, and capitalist-roaders who have wormed their way into the party, the majority of party members are good or comparatively good. This is the basic assessment of the ranks of party members. It is wrong to negate the mainstream or to confirm it abstractly while actually denying it.

In rectifying party organization, we must thoroughly criticize and repudiate the revisionist party-building line advocated by China's Khrushchev and deal a relentless blow to the handful of class enemies who have wormed their way into the party. We must also continuously educate and assist the majority of party members to carry on the revolution.

The performance of party members within our own unit in the movement has not been satisfactory. We have unanimously fallen below standards. In fact, owing to the influence of the revisionist party-building line advocated by China's Khrushchev, many party members committed mistakes of one sort or another. Some deceived members even took the wrong side during the great cultural revolution. However, it is a misconception to believe that all of these party members are bad. Chairman Mao has taught us that "We must not confine our judgment to a short period of time or a single incident in a cadre's life, but should instead consider his life and work as a whole." Chairman Mao also taught us that whereas "mistakes are inevitable the important thing is to correct them expeditiously."

A wrong attitude maintained by some persons is that concentrated efforts should be made to relentlessly expose party members. In rectifying party organization, we must proceed from ideological education to help the masses of revolutionary party members to combat self-interest and repudiate revisionism through study classes on Mao Tse-tung's thought and heart-to-heart talks, thereby enabling them to wipe out once and for all the pernicious influence of revisionism disseminated by China's Khrushchev in his theories on the "dying out of class struggle," "docile tools," "interparty peace," "being a party member is being an official," and "backwardness of the masses."

Bearing this in mind, the masses of party members must adhere to the principle of "unity-criticism-self-criticism-unity" and concentrate their hatred on the handful of capitalist-roaders within the party. Under no circumstances should we aim the spearhead of struggle at the masses of party members or merely struggle against rank-and-file party members in the attempt to rectify party organization.

In handling the question of party members, we must also eliminate the pernicious influence of factionalism and anarchism. We should never judge a party member on the basis of our sentiments or on the interests of our own groups. Moreover, we must be resolute in the rectification campaign without any fear of retaliation. Nor should we adopt the attitude of negating and suspecting all. Taking the interests of the party as the starting point, we must thoroughly implement party policies. While dealing a telling blow to the handful of class enemies, we must patiently help the masses of party members improve their class consciousness and actively participate in the revolution. This particular point is extremely important to leaders of the rebel groups which have just taken over.

It must also be pointed out that, in order to better carry out party rectification and further improve party-people relations, the party members' attitude toward the education of and assistance to the revolutionary masses, as well as to themselves, is also very important. Party members who have made mistakes in the past should not wait any longer to correct their errors. The longer they wait, the more dangerous it may become. The handful of party members who have made serious mistakes must undergo self-criticism.

We are convinced that current rectification of party organization and the strengthening of party building will definitely insure the struggle for all-around victory in the great proletarian cultural revolution.