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DISCUSSES FACTORS IN LAND-REFORM PROGRAM;
CHANG REPORTS ON AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY IN EAST CHINA

PEASANTS ORGANIZATIONS TO BE REORGANIZED -- Peiping Jen-min Jih-pao, 16 Jul 50

In the prosecution of the land reform, three important factors must be kept under control:

1. Peasants' Organizations

Experience in land-reform work in Honan indicates that after the preliminary propaganda work has been started, the peasant's organizations should be overhauled. This is particularly necessary in the agricultural associations. By such reorganization, it is desired to establish the agricultural associations firmly on the old foundations and expand them with a pure leadership having the basic class consciousness necessary for the expansion of the power and class activity of the peasants. In this reorganization, exclusiveness should be eliminated. The organizations should be bold enough to take in large numbers of middle-class farmers and women, always maintaining the principle of chief reliance upon the poor farmers and farm laborers. Those with unorthodox ideas on the matter of classes should be resolutely cleaned out. Where corruption and factionalism exist among the peasants, they should be corrected by criticism and self-criticism. Thus, stability and unification of the agricultural associations may be secured. In connection with the reorganization it would be well to hold a political election for cadres, such election to be conducted in a democratic manner by the village committees. Any cadres re-elected would continue to serve. This would afford an opportunity for democratic education for the masses and serve as a test for the cadres. The main purpose of this procedure is to give the agricultural associations the benefit of the people's direction when carrying out the land-reform program.

2. Classification of Peasants

In Honan, four steps were taken in making up the classifications: discussion, classification, review, and approval. No rule-of-thumb method of determining an individual's classification will do. It must be worked out after

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50X1-HUM

full discussion of each case; and the result must be approved by the ch'u authorities with the right of appeal.

3. Act According to Law

Before confiscation or requisition of property, a meeting of the people's delegates should be convened to take the following preliminary steps in preparation:

a. Make the people understand what may be divided and what may not be divided for redistribution. The five types of property that may be divided are land, implements, work animals, village buildings, and surplus grain. Property that may not be confiscated includes commercial and industrial real estate, original estate property, and floating capital. Maltreatment and slaughter may not be employed and the interests of the middle-class farmers may not be injured.

b. Elect a confiscation and requisitioning committee.

c. Prepare to meet opposition from landlords or attempts on their part to damage their property. In most cases, if careful consideration is given to individual circumstances, the matter can be handled by tactful consultation. Obstinate obstreperous landlords may be turned over to the people's courts for handling.

CHANG K'E-HSIEH REPORTS ON PROGRAM -- Shanghai Ta King Pao, 20 Jul 50

Chang K'e-hsieh, chief of the Department of Agriculture and Forestry of the Military and Administrative Committee of East China, has rendered the following report on the agriculture and forestry program of the department for the first half of 1950.

The East China Regional District, exclusive of Taiwan, embraces more than 297 million mou and 96 million peasants. Of this area, about one third is old liberated territory where land-reform has already been achieved, and enthusiasm for production increases each year. In the newer territory, where the bandits have been expelled, rent reduced, and oppressors opposed, the people are also active in producing. However, because of long oppression, wars, and natural calamities, they produced in 1949, a little less than half of the prewar amount, that is, only 40 billion catties of grain and one million piculs of cotton. We received an order to increase the grain output by 3.2 million catties and to increase the cotton acreage by 15 million mou, bringing the cotton production up to 3,800,000 piculs. The Central government also invested and lent 240 million catties of rice, while the East China Finance and Economics Committee set our production goals.

Meetings were held to make concrete plans to attain these goals, calling on the masses to work hard for economic restoration. In spite of the disasters last winter and this spring, difficulties have been overcome by relief and mutual help, and spring and summer operations have been carried on. Details on how the agricultural program was executed are as follows:

1. Water Conservation

Water control and conservancy had been neglected and repairs were urgently needed. The Central government put in 15 large irrigation canals, lent 20,000 water wheels, and opened 20,000 wells. The people were encouraged to do the work, while the government gave loans and technical assistance under the formula, "People do, government helps." Work of this kind has gone on at 23,000 points in Chekiang. In south Kiangsu some 3,000 water wheels have been powered by charcoal, gas engines, and dyke repairs have been made at 1,700 points. Shantung has made 20,000 water wheels and opened 20,000 wells. Anhwei has made repairs at 2,120 places. It is estimated that about 13 million mou have been benefitted.

- 2 -

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50X1-HUM

2. Use of Fertilizer

While the use of commercial fertilizer has decreased, on the whole collected fertilizer has increased. A 60-percent increase has been noted in the eastern part of Shantung. In the Kian' nan area, south Kiangsu, peasants have added muck and offal to the fields. In Chekiang, the increase has been onefold to twofold. The Central government and banks have helped out with loans.

3. Pest Control

Efforts have been made to prevent damage by insect pests and plant diseases. Last year, Kiangsu and Chekiang provinces lost 1,500,000,000 catties of rice because of insects, and 10 to 50 percent of the wheat crop because of yellow rust. This spring, some 100 experts were trained and 25 prevention stations were set up. About 680,000 catties of dusting powder and 10,000 machines have been brought into use.

In April and May, anti-insect campaigns were organized, beginning in Fukien and coming northward into Chekiang and Kiangsu. Students were sent out to the villages to cooperate with local officials in arousing the populace. In 30 districts around Fu-chou, 480,000 moths were caught and 537,000 eggs destroyed; in Chekiang, 7,720,000 moths and 22,300,000 eggs; and in south Kiangsu, more than 170 million all told. In north Kiangsu and Shantung, locusts appeared in June, but the people destroyed them before they became a plague. The chief factors in such campaigns are psychological and moral; and these campaigns show how much latent power there is in the working classes.

4. Seed Selection

People have been encouraged to select good seed. Seed committees have been set up everywhere to work with farm experiment stations, and 480,000 mou have been set apart for rice seed plots, with 12,000 mou for other seeds. Good wheat seed to the amount of 17,800,000 catties was purchased and this year seed selection and contests have been pushed.

5. Special Products

For cotton planting, 15,200,000 mou were assigned and despite difficulties this quota has been met. This year 280,000 piculs of good cottonseed were bought and 33 good seed stations established. Of 880,000 mou of controlled cotton fields 490,000 were planted with new seed, to the delight of the farmers. For hemp, 780,000 mou were assigned and this quota has been exceeded. Of high-quality silkworm eggs, 840,000 sheets were lent in Kiangsu and Chekiang. By improved methods the expected yield of 270,000 piculs was brought up to 360,000 the capacity being 420,000. The Central government set the price this year at $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 piculs (of rice?) per picul (of silk?), which made the people more assiduous.

6. Stock Raising

There has been a shortage of farm animals, but no widespread pestilence. This year, 880,000 head received injections. In Shantung, some veterinarians vaccinated 1,500 in a day, which is a record; and 3,460,000 cubic centimeters of serum were prepared for use. Various districts have adopted plans for preserving work cattle, and most places have prohibited slaughtering.

7. Afforestation

The aim here is protection and extension of forests. In the older districts, through popular committees, destruction of forests has ceased; but, in the newer areas, some destruction still occurs, so protection is an important matter. For the whole region, a quota has been set of 159,150,000 seedlings to be raised.

- 3 -

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50X1-HUM

A quota of 80,850,000 trees are to be planted on 755,000 mou in the hills. The Central government has invested 12½ million catties of millet in forests and incomplete figures show 70 million seedlings have already been started. The work must be pushed during the present rainy season.

8. Labor Organization

Organizing labor for mutual help has become an established custom in the older districts, with more than 50 percent of the force already organized. Many women have been drawn into these activities, thus increasing their efficiency. Difficulties due to shortage of labor have been overcome this spring. Poor families among the martyr [those persecuted by Nationalists], soldier, and labor groups have thus been assured of spring tilling, through others' help.

A final problem is that of work during the second half of the year and plans for 1951. The masses must be organized into preventive and productive work. Harvesting, winter plowing, and training of cadres in leisure time must all be planned for. Concrete programs must be arranged by local officials. To be effective, prevention of insect pests must be on a year-round basis. North of the Yangtze River, anti-insect chemicals have been put into wheat fields on a large scale. Older districts are calling for labor-hero conferences and exhibitions, which the newer areas may also well emphasize. Selection of good seed must be stressed, especially as regards cotton.

Plans for next year must be laid carefully, with an 8-10 percent increase of grain in the older, and 5-8 percent increase in the newer areas, and a goal of 4 million piculs of raw cotton.

We must overcome all defects and difficulties.

INCREASES AGRICULTURAL AREA -- Hong Kong Wen-hu. Pao, 22 Jul 50

Kalgan, 20 July (Hsin-hua) -- The 1950 plan to clear 545,000 mou of wasteland for production in the eastern sector of the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region is progressing satisfactorily. During 1948, 661,000 mou of wasteland were made productive. In 1949, some 2 million additional mou were cleared and have increased the total grain yield by 150,000 tons. The agricultural area in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region was increased to 13,963,000 mou in 1949.

The projected increase of grain yield by 82,000 tons, during 1950, has already been fulfilled by 50 percent. In Cha-ch'i-t'e Banner alone, farmers cleared 54,900 mou by mid-April, surpassing the original plan by 12,700 mou. The expected yield of grain per mou from the newly cleared wasteland is 150 catties.

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- 4 -

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