

WORKING PEOPLE OF THE WHOLE WORLD, UNITE!

KIM IL SUNG

**ON FURTHER
ACCELERATING SOCIALIST
RURAL CONSTRUCTION**

Speech Delivered at the National Conference
of Agricultural Workers
February 7, 1969

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Comrades,

Last year we achieved another brilliant victory in agricultural production.

Our country suffered a long spell of drought, the severest in scores of years, and extremely adverse climatic conditions in all areas last year. In addition, it was a year when the country's situation was very tense, because no one knew when the enemy might attack us. However, all our cooperative farmers and senior agricultural workers were not in the least discouraged by the difficulties they encountered. In pursuance of the policy put forward by the Party at the national conference of agricultural workers last year, they determinedly launched a drive to produce 500 kilogrammes more grain per hectare and worked hard to produce more meat—two tons in respect of every workteam and 100 kilogrammes in respect of every household. Last year the Party and the state paid a great deal more attention to rural work than ever before and actively assisted in the work of farmers.

Because of this, a great many cooperative farms far exceeded the targets set by the Party in the production of grain and animal products.

Of the 3 289 cooperative farms in our country engaged in rice farming, 344 increased the per-hectare rice yield by 500-700 kilogrammes last year, 526 by 700-1,000 kilogrammes, and 469 by more than one ton. Thus, 1 339 cooperative farms in all increased their rice output by more than 500 kilogrammes per hectare.

Great success was also recorded in maize production. Our country has 3 513 maize-growing cooperative farms in all. Of them 453 raised their maize yields by 500-700 kilogrammes per hectare last year, 457 by 700-1 000 kilogrammes, and 326 by more than one ton. So, the cooperative farms which increased maize yields by over 500 kilogrammes per hectare numbered 1 236 in all.

As you can see, last year many cooperative farms overfulfilled the target for increased grain output set by the Party. This is a tremendous achievement.

In the drive for an increased yield of 500 kilogrammes or more of grain per hectare, Pyongyang, South Phyongan Province, North Phyongan Province, Kaesong, and North Hwanghae Province, in particular, set a good example. In Pyongyang, every hectare yielded 1 374 kilogrammes of more rice and 628 kilogrammes of more maize,

and the corresponding figures for South Phyongan Province were 956 and 591. In North Phyongan Province, the figures stood at 635 and 504, and in Kaesong—595 and 631. North Hwanghae Province also produced a large quantity of rice, although its maize yield was somewhat low.

We are very satisfied with the great success achieved in grain production last year. On behalf of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Republic, I express warm gratitude to the farmers of all the cooperative farms which produced over an additional 500 kilogrammes of grain per hectare, and particularly the cooperative farms in Pyongyang, South Phyongan Province, North Phyongan Province and Kaesong, and the cooperative farms in North Hwanghae Province which cultivated rice, and to all senior agricultural personnel.

Last year a drive was initiated of cooperative farms for every workteam to produce two tons of meat and every household, 100 kilogrammes. Here, too, great success was attained. It is by no means easy to produce so much meat in the first year in conditions where stockbreeding foundations are weak and there is a manpower shortage of the cooperative farms. In spite

of this, the cooperative farmers and senior agricultural personnel worked hard to carry out the tasks assigned them by the Party, so that many cooperative farms reached the target of meat production.

In the state-run animal husbandry sector, the employees of the Mangyongdae Chicken Plant made an especially commendable effort. Having been formed recently, this plant had not yet established itself and had little experience to draw on. However, its workers, technicians and office employees overfulfilled the egg production plan set by the Party through a devoted and steady effort.

On behalf of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Republic, I would like to extend thanks to the cooperative farms and their members for the production of more than two tons of meat per workteam and more than 100 kilogrammes per household last year, as well as to the employees of the Mangyongdae Chicken Plant.

Last year cooperative farms across the country worked well for the all-round development of agriculture, and, in particular, Kaechon County in South Phyongan Province distinguished itself. Kaechon County carried out with credit all the Party

assignments for agricultural production, including the production quotas of grain, meat, vegetables and cocoons. This deserves high praise.

I offer my thanks to all the cooperative farmers and senior agricultural personnel in Kaechon County who set an example in the all-round development of agriculture.

All these successes which were achieved in our country areas last year are not by any means accidental. We had already made great achievements in agricultural production in 1967, and last year again accomplished great results. These achievements are attributable to the correct agricultural policy of our Party and the great efforts of all the farming population. This means that a firm foundation has been laid for the continued rapid development of our agriculture and the attainment of new heights in agricultural production in the future.

But we should not be carried away by the successes which we have already achieved. Consolidating last year's performance, the agricultural cadres and all cooperative farmers should work hard to develop our socialist rural economy at a faster pace in the future.

1. ON FURTHER ACCELERATING THE IDEOLOGICAL, TECHNOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL REVOLUTIONS IN THE RURAL AREAS

If we are to continue to develop agriculture at a rapid pace, we must improve the ideological, technological and cultural revolutions in pursuance of the policy elucidated in the *Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country*.

First of all, we should intensify the ideological revolution in rural areas.

The ideological revolution is the most important revolutionary task, which must be given priority in all work. Unless the worn-out ideas which linger in the minds of the cadres and workers in agriculture are rooted out and they are armed closely with the progressive revolutionary ideas of the working class, communist ideas, through the intensification of the ideological revolution, it is impossible to carry out the tasks confronting agriculture successfully or to build socialism and communism.

Although we have so far carried on the ideological

revolution in the rural areas, we still have a long way to go to reform the thinking of the peasants in communism. During the past few days we have attended this conference and heard your speeches and read all the statements of the views you have presented. In the process we have come to realize that the agricultural cadres themselves are not yet sufficiently equipped with the revolutionary world outlook of the working class but are suffering from many ideological failings.

Your principal ideological defect is that you have no correct idea of communism, of how to build communism in the rural areas. Many comrades still do not understand what a communist society is, much less what to do to build communism in the countryside or how to do it. This points to your inadequate knowledge of the substance of the *Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country* advanced by the Party.

The *Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country* is specifically the programme for the building of communism in the rural areas. To carry out the tasks set forth in the theses means fulfilling the tasks of the first stage of communist construction in the country areas, that is, the tasks of the transition period, and this alone will pave the way to communism. Although you

speaking a great deal about the need to implement the theses, you are not yet fully aware of our Party's idea and intention as set out there.

Let me take some examples.

Some comrades have now proposed that the county cooperative farm management committee and the county people's committee should be amalgamated. This shows that you are not yet certain about the reason for the formation of the county cooperative farm management committee and the role to be played by this committee in building communism in the rural areas.

The object of our formation of this committee is to manage agriculture, not by the old administrative methods, but by advanced enterprise guiding methods, namely by industrial methods.

Agricultural production is also a technical process conducted with machines, electric power, chemical fertilizers and agricultural chemicals, like the production of goods which is done with up-to-date machinery and equipment and raw materials in factories. Therefore, it is also essential to guide farm production along technological lines by industrial methods. So far we have often used the term enterprise guiding methods instead of the specific term industrial

methods when referring to the county cooperative farm management committee's guidance of cooperative farms. The reason is simply that our farm production's levels of mechanization, electrification and use of chemicals are not yet so high as to allow us to say it is carried on by industrial methods. The policy formulated by our Party in the theses is to hasten the technological revolution in the countryside to farm with machines, electricity, chemical fertilizers and agricultural chemicals everywhere, and to develop the form of ownership in the rural areas to state, all-people, ownership instead of stopping at converting the private ownership of individual peasants to cooperative ownership. Thus, our idea is to turn all the peasants into advanced agricultural workers without confining ourselves to converting the former individual peasants into socialist farmers.

This is the course by which we mean to proceed to communism in the rural areas. And we formed the county cooperative farm management committee as an important step to hasten this process. Yet, you do not regard this committee as an enterprise like a factory, but consider it an administrative institution for agriculture.

People on the Agricultural Commission are largely

responsible for the fact that agricultural workers at the lower units have this imperfect understanding about the county cooperative farm management committee. They ought to set an example in guiding agriculture by industrial methods and teach their subordinates to understand the situation correctly. But, they themselves have guided agriculture more often than not by administrative and bureaucratic methods in the past, instead of industrial methods, and have trained their subordinates very inefficiently. As a result, little difference could be seen in the work of those at the lower levels between the periods before and after the establishment of the new system of agricultural guidance, and now they have even made this ill-advised proposal to merge the county cooperative farm management committee with the county people's committee.

Yesterday a cooperative farm chairman said that it would be a good idea for the state to raise the price of dried radish slices. This, too, shows that many outdated ideas still remain in the minds of the rural cadres, and that their assimilation of the progressive ideas of the working class still leaves much to be desired.

If the price of dried radish slices has been fixed incorrectly, it should, of course, be put right. But the

problem does not lie in the incorrect price of dried radish slices, but in the backward thinking which still persists in the minds of the management workers of cooperative farms. Their request for raising the price of dried radish slices amounts, in the last analysis, to saying that they will produce them only if the state pays more for them. This is because they still have the revisionist idea that they can make the farmers work only by means of increasing material incentives, and because they have the selfish desire to work, not in the interests of the state and all the people, but in their own interests. This has nothing to do with and even clashes altogether with the progressive ideas of the working class, the communist ideas.

It is true that material incentives are necessary to some extent in enlisting the farmers in socialist construction. But our first consideration should always be with political and moral incentives rather than material incentives. We should persuade the farmers to work willingly for the prosperity of the country and the welfare of all the people rather than for money, for their own benefit, and convince them that this is their duty as socialist farm workers.

Industry and agriculture are the two biggest branches of the national economy, and agriculture is

the social assignment given to the farmers. Just as the workers regard it as their duty to make steel, electricity, motorcars, tractors, fertilizers and fabrics for the country and the people, so the farmers, too, should consider it their duty to produce grain, vegetables, meat and cocoons for the country and the people. If the farmers do not adopt this opinion, but take the selfish attitude of undertaking any work only if well paid and not otherwise, even when it is for the sake of the country and the people, they are fundamentally wrong.

The workers are not concerned about the prices the state charges for the goods they have produced. They say they can work unceasingly for the country and the people if only the state feeds them and provides them with clothes, and consider that the state should decide whether to set prices high or low according to the need. The farmers should also adopt this attitude. But your speeches at this meeting show me that the management workers themselves still do not do so.

The agricultural cadres' feeble attempt to raise the backward cooperative farms quickly, is also striking proof that they are not really aware of the message of the theses put forward by the Party.

At present nearly all agricultural cadres—officials of the Agricultural Commission, the provincial rural

economy committees and the county cooperative farm management committees—are not very concerned about raising the backward cooperative farms, and they are even reluctant to visit these farms. This means that they still retain the old idea of disparaging rural work and that they are not awake to the importance of the abolition of rural backwardness in building socialism.

Rural backwardness is the legacy of a capitalist society. In a capitalist society the exploiting classes deliberately turn the countryside into an unenlightened, unstable and backward place. This is because it is only when the peasants are kept in ignorance and the rural areas are isolated from modern civilization that the landlord and capitalist classes can oppress and exploit them as they please.

As we have pointed out in the theses, the elimination of the rural backwardness left behind by the capitalist society is of great importance in building a communist society.

A communist society is a society which guarantees an equal and contented life so that all can work and live in prosperity. In order to create a wealth of goods which will be enough to afford everyone a life of plenty, some conditions have to be met.

Above all, everybody should work and participate in

production equally. If everyone fights shy of work and society is full of idlers, it is impossible to produce an abundance of material goods. In addition, participation in physical labour alone will go for nothing; everyone should acquire culture and become literate and technologically skilled. It is only when people have mastered modern technology that they will be able to manufacture large quantities of products. Manual labour or handicraft techniques can hardly produce enough material wealth to satisfy the needs of the members of society. And the productive forces can attain a high level of development only when all parts of the country are developed, and not only some of them, and only when all resources of the nation are tapped and utilized to the utmost.

As you can see, the productive forces of the country will develop rapidly and, accordingly, production will increase to give fuller satisfaction to the needs of the working people only if we have no stragglers and everyone becomes cultured and technologically skilled and works equally hard, and only if all parts of the country develop at the same rate without a single area falling behind. This alone will lead us to a communist society, the highest ideal of mankind.

Therefore, as long as laggards, backward rural areas

and straggling villages remain, we cannot proceed to communism.

Of course, the revolution will not triumph by the same process in many areas at exactly the same moment. Because specific conditions differ, some areas may go ahead while others trail behind. Take the world revolution for example. Some countries led the way in winning the revolution and others followed. And there are countries where the revolution has not yet been achieved. This state of affairs will continue for a fairly long time to come.

And as long as even a single country remains where the revolution has not triumphed, we cannot say that the world revolution has been achieved.

This can also be said of our country. In order to build a communist society here, it is necessary not only to accelerate the revolution and construction in the northern half of Korea, but also to carry the south Korean revolution to a conclusion, so that the people of south Korea, taking power into their own hands, become the owners of all means of production and enjoy as happy a life as the people in the north. As long as the people in the north alone are prosperous, we can never say that socialism and communism have been built in our country.

Take the northern half of Korea for example. If only the peasants in South Phyongan Province and a few other lowland provinces are prosperous, communism cannot be attained. Even in South Phyongan Province, if Mundok and Sukchon counties alone are developed while Yangdok and Maengsan counties remain backward, communism cannot be achieved. After all, only when every area and every village, no matter which province and which county they may belong to, progress and everyone prospers, can our country achieve communism.

Therefore, helping the lagging cooperative farms rise quickly and catch up with the advanced farms is not merely a task to raise the living standards of the peasants there, but is a very important duty which is essential for the building of a communist society in our country.

Immediately after the armistice, our Party set the objective of doing away with the situation in which there were impoverished peasants and backward farm villages, and in the theses, too, presented this as an important task in building a socialist countryside, and worked actively for its realization. In consequence, in all parts of our country today the living standards of the peasants have risen to a stage where they cannot be

compared with what they were. In the past many peasants could not even afford to eat regularly. Today, however, no one has to worry about food. The economic foundation of the cooperative farms has also been consolidated more soundly than ever before.

But we cannot rest content with this. A considerable number of cooperative farms still have a weak economic base and their farmers receive a rather small share of income. We must take active steps to help such cooperative farms to rise to the level of the advanced ones without exception.

It is an important principle in building communism to help the laggards forward to become activists and to stimulate the backward units to become model ones, thus ensuring that they all progress. This is our Party's traditional method of work which we had already adopted during the anti-Japanese armed struggle. If there was a guerrilla during that time, who was backward, we made it a rule to live with him and explain his shortcomings to him one by one and educate him tirelessly, thus making a fine revolutionary of him at all costs. And when there was an undisciplined unit which fought badly, we used to visit that unit to solve its problems and sympathetically educate and help its officers and men, so that it became

a model unit, well-disciplined and good at fighting.

If agricultural officials would use this method today, visiting the backward cooperative farms frequently to solve their problems promptly and would give cordial assistance to their management personnel, they would be able to improve the position of these farms quickly. But these officials are not yet enthusiastic about this kind of work. And why is this so? It is precisely because they themselves are unaware of the importance of the work of improving the position of the backward cooperative farms and are not clear about the truth that communism cannot be built without doing this work properly. I think that this is, in the final analysis, due to their ignorance of the essence of the theses put forward by our Party.

At present many agricultural cadres are working in a bureaucratic way, and this is a result of the fact that they have not been revolutionized.

Some agricultural cadres still do not think of visiting and helping the lower units but, sitting in their offices, summon their subordinates every now and then for various conferences, short courses, the preparation of statistics, and so on. So these people are kept overbusy and prevented from attending to their duties properly. For a long time, our Party has been telling senior

agricultural officials to refrain from working in this bureaucratic manner, and to visit the lower units to hold conferences, give short courses or collect statistics at firsthand, if necessary. And it asked them to go out personally to the lower units to draw up production plans for them after making a detailed survey of the actual conditions, instead of giving them out arbitrarily from above. In spite of this, the agricultural cadres still do not renounce the old, bureaucratic pattern.

As you have all heard during the debate, officials of a certain county cooperative farm management committee were so bureaucratic that they even forced the cooperative farms in flat paddy-growing areas, where there were no small oak trees, to raise tussah silkworms. Because the county office made this demand, the cooperative farms had no choice but to take many hands off other work so that they could be given the task of raising tussah silkworms in the mountains which were more than 100 *ri* away. So, some fields were left uncultivated just for a small amount of tussah cocoons, causing a great loss in grain production.

This bureaucratic act is a gross violation of our Party's principle in the management of cooperative farms. When it gave guidance to Chongsan-ri in

Kangso County, our Party demanded that all rural work forces should be concentrated on farm work and that sidelines should be done in moderation, while carrying out crop farming efficiently. In spite of this, they made farmers from the plains stop their farm work and go into the mountains to spend their time driving away crows and raising tussah silkworms. What an absurd thing to do!

This is not the right kind of attitude for people who are going to build communism. Those people are little better than salaried men who are not serving as revolutionaries for the building of communism, but are working for fame and a little money.

True communists—revolutionaries—do not think of fame or reward for their work. In the past our guerrillas fought against the Japanese imperialists in the mountains for as long as 15 years, undergoing untold hardships, but none of them thought of fame and reward. They had no other thought but to fight against Japanese imperialism for victory in the revolution, for the freedom and independence of the country. They considered it the greatest honour to dedicate their lives to the revolutionary struggle. Today, however, our officials claim that they have taken over the revolutionary traditions of the anti-Japanese armed

struggle and that they are copying the revolutionary traits and work methods of the anti-Japanese guerrillas. But they do not do so in their day-to-day activities.

Of course, we believe that all our agricultural cadres, including you comrades here, for their part, want to build communism in our country and to be true to the Party and the revolution. But as is clear from the examples I have just given, you do not yet fully understand the important ideas concerning the building of communism set forth by our Party in the theses, and your minds retain many survivals of the old ideas, such as capitalism, feudalism, revisionism, departmentalism, selfishness and bureaucracy which have no connection with our Party's ideology, communist ideas. The fact that agricultural cadres themselves, not just ordinary peasants, are not clear about the Party's ideology and retain many old ideas like this, shows that there is still a long way to go before the ideological revolution is accomplished in our rural areas.

We should continue to try our best to promote the ideological revolution, and the agricultural cadres, before anyone else, should revolutionize themselves thoroughly.

If agricultural cadres believe that it is only other

people who have outdated ideas and so should be reformed and that they themselves only have the duty to educate and reform others, they are greatly mistaken. They should not only endeavour to educate and reform others, but also strive to clear their own minds of the outdated ideas which remain. In other words, they should wash off not only the grime of others but also their own. At present the agricultural cadres are covered in various kinds of grime. They have capitalist and feudalistic grime, revisionist grime, departmentalistic grime, the grime of selfishness, and bureaucratic grime. If they do not wash themselves promptly, viruses will breed in the dirt. Then these people might contract deadly ideological diseases. Therefore, agricultural cadres should make sincere efforts to wash off their grime quickly and equip themselves closely with the revolutionary world outlook of the working class, to working-classize and revolutionize themselves.

There are two ways for the officials to cleanse and, thereby, working-classize and revolutionize themselves. One is to study well and the other is to be faithful in organizational life.

The Party's policies should be the main subject of their studies. In particular, agricultural workers should make a penetrating study of the *Theses on the Socialist*

Rural Question in Our Country. Many comrades now have a vague idea of the essentials of the theses; they have a superficial knowledge of its contents, simply believing that the theses point out that the ideological, technological and cultural revolutions must be successfully accomplished in the rural areas. This is not enough.

Each and every phrase of the theses put forward by our Party embodies a profound thought. So you must on no account limit your study of it only to reading it through a few times. You must understand its essence correctly by studying every sentence painstakingly, word by word.

The Departments of Information and Publicity and of Agriculture of the Party Central Committee should conduct organizational and political work more energetically to make the message of the theses better known to the agricultural cadres and the peasants.

There are many ways of propagating the theses. At Party schools, schools of working people's organizations, working people's middle schools and mothers' schools regular lectures can be given on the theses, mass lectures and collective discussions can be organized, booklets explaining the theses in easy terms can be compiled and distributed, and calendars giving

visual expression to the ideas of the theses can be printed and given out in the rural areas. And it can also be spread by the method of writing interesting songs about the subjects covered by the theses and teaching them to the peasants. In the past when we were engaged in the anti-Japanese guerrilla struggle we would often spread revolutionary ideas by means of songs, and songs are an excellent way to spread revolutionary ideas.

In future, we must promote the theses widely among the rural cadres and peasants by every possible means so that all of them clearly understand the quintessence of the ideas which it contains.

In addition, the rural cadres should make a concentrated study of recently published Party documents such as the document of the Party Congress, the Ten-Point Political Programme of the Government of the Republic, and the report made at the 20th anniversary celebration of the founding of the Republic, and disseminate them widely among the rural population.

In order to uproot the remnants of the old ideas from their minds, the rural cadres should not only study the Party's policies well but also take an active part in the life of Party organization. Anyone who neglects

organizational life in the Party, is too bigoted to heed another's advice, and begins acting arbitrarily, cannot do away with his ideological defects and will eventually deteriorate. Therefore, the rural cadres should not be afraid of criticism but should allow the widespread practice of democracy so that subordinates can criticize their superiors' shortcomings without being reluctant to do so. This is essential to enable them to eliminate their shortcomings and avoid committing mistakes. If one is unable to wash the grime off one's body by oneself, one must wash it off promptly, even if this means doing so with the help of others.

The rural cadres should also learn modestly from officials of working-class origin in order to working-classize and revolutionize themselves.

At present some rural cadres consider that officials of working-class origin cannot work efficiently in country areas because they are unfamiliar with conditions there, but they are mistaken. It is true that, when they first go to rural areas after working in industrial establishments, they may not be familiar with conditions there for one or two years and may have difficulty in doing their work. But, on the other hand, they have the revolutionary ideas of the working class, the progressive class. They have sufficient initiative

and courage to make a success of their work, and they have also a high degree of organization and are highly demanding. In this respect, officials of working-class origin are far better than those of peasant origin.

A woman, a former factory worker, who has been a cooperative farm chairwoman in Jangjin County, South Hamgyong Province, for a few years now, addressed this meeting yesterday. Her speech, too, showed that an official of working-class origin has a distinctive feature after all. What she said in her speech was fundamentally different from the views of some other chairmen who favoured the amalgamation of the county cooperative farm management committee with the county people's committee or asked that the price of dried radish slices should be raised, and so on. As you all heard, she spoke about fundamental problems, including the problem of mechanizing and electrifying farm work and that of building up the rural nurseries and kindergartens in a more cultured way, which our Party is now striving to solve throughout the rural areas. This single example leaves no room for doubt that if a large number of officials of working-class origin go to the country areas, they will play the leading role in accelerating the ideological, technological and cultural revolutions there.

The rural cadres should learn humbly from officials of working-class origin and working-classize and revolutionize themselves still further. At the same time, they should work hard to working-classize and revolutionize all the peasants.

Throughout the country areas the technological revolution must be in tandem with the ideological revolution.

Of course, the ideological revolution, which is designed to reform the thinking of people along communist lines, is a highly important revolutionary task, and it should naturally lead the way ahead of everything else. But for all that, it is not desirable to stress the importance of the ideological revolution alone and give little importance to the technological revolution. The building of a communist society cannot be done solely through the ideological revolution. In addition, we must carry on the technological revolution without fail. The ideological revolution is aimed at carrying out the technological revolution successfully and expediting the building of socialism and communism still further. It is only when the technological revolution is being carried out successfully that it is possible to promote the ideological revolution more effectively. Therefore,

while intensifying the ideological revolution in the country areas, we shall have to drive ahead with the technological revolution more forcefully.

In order to build a communist society where everybody works with ease and lives happily and prosperously, the agricultural productive forces should be developed considerably by carrying out the technological revolution. If you continue to practise backward farming methods instead of using industrial methods, you will never be able to free the peasants from backbreaking work, nor will you be able to ensure that all working people live well on a good diet.

The problem of feeding the working people on eggs, to take that as an example, is unlikely to be solved until the production of eggs is industrialized. As long as we continue to use the old-fashioned method of raising chickens and producing eggs in the farmhouses as in the past, we cannot produce large quantities of eggs, and the workers and office employees cannot buy them because they are expensive. Suffice it to say that, although our Party emphasized the need to increase the production of eggs and other livestock products for a long time, there was only a small quantity of eggs on sale in the shops, and there was no rapid decrease in their price.

Our Party decided to supply more eggs to the working people in every possible way and worked hard to this end for a few years, building modern egg farms in major cities, including Pyongyang, and in workers' districts. As a consequence, a radical change took place in the production of eggs.

A hen kept in a farmhouse lays 100 eggs or less a year; but in an egg farm the figure is 230-250.

The domestic Korean hens do not lay many eggs because they sit on them through habit. They do this for a fairly long time before hatching them and then foster chicks. This process takes at least 40 days. If a hen incubates twice a year or so, there is not much time left for laying eggs. During the course of a very long time, domestic Korean hens were used to this, and they gradually degenerated into a meagre-laying species. But the hens kept in modern farms do not sit on their eggs. Because incubators are used to hatch the chickens, hens do not even try to sit on eggs but lay them all the year round. At present the capacity of the Mangyongdae Chicken Plant is 70 million and it will rise to 100 million next year. Then this plant, on its own, will be able to provide 100 eggs to every citizen of Pyongyang. We are building egg farms on a similar scale in Sopho and Hadang, which are suburbs of

Pyongyang. When they are completed, we shall be able to supply Pyongyang citizens with sufficient eggs.

In addition, the modernization of egg production has made it possible to raise many chickens using only a small amount of manpower. Automation has been introduced in all operations at the egg farms, from feeding, watering, and the clearing out of droppings to collecting and packing the eggs. All that is required of the attendant is to watch the automatic control panel and make adjustments by means of switches. Thus, one attendant now takes care of 10 000 chickens. In the past, 1 000 households would have been needed to raise 10 000 chickens, if every family kept ten chickens. But now that number of chickens is easily looked after by one person. This alone shows clearly the great power of industrialization and of the technological revolution.

In the future the number of chickens tended by one person will be still greater. The Kangso Chicken Plant has just been built, and once its equipment has been installed, it is said that one person will look after five storeys, in each of which 20 000 chickens will be housed. This means one person will tend 100 000 chickens.

Since one person raises many chickens and produces

many eggs in this way, the cost of eggs continues to decrease. Because of this, there is now the prospect that we shall be able to supply sufficient numbers of cheap eggs to the inhabitants of the cities including Pyongyang and the workers' districts in the not too distant future. This is a direct result of the technological revolution and industrialization in the production of eggs.

The problem of supplying vegetables to the working people can also be solved fully only when their production is put on an industrial basis.

Vegetables require a great deal of water, so you cannot expect a high and dependable harvest if you neglect after planting them in the fields, because they will grow well only if it rains and not if there is no rain. But lay on a water supply and install a sprinkler system, and you will be able to produce large quantities of vegetables. If water is applied for some four hours through the sprinkler system, the fields will receive as much moisture as they would receive from about 15-20 millimetres of rain. Then the vegetables will grow well even without watering for some ten days. Thus, if you water the fields once in every ten days, the vegetables will thrive and the per-hectare yield can be raised tremendously, no matter how long the dry weather continues. Experience shows that if the sprinkler

system is introduced, it is not difficult to produce about 150 tons of vegetables per hectare. To produce this quantity of vegetables without introducing the sprinkler system, three or four hectares of field will be needed. So the introduction of this system is not only an important way of increasing vegetable yield rapidly, but it is also a way of using land sparingly. In the past Pyongyang needed 6 000-7 000 hectares of fields every year for the cultivation of vegetables, but now that the sprinkler system has been introduced, only 2 000-3 000 hectares are enough to meet the citizens' need for vegetables. This means that with the introduction of this system more than 4 000 hectares of land have been reclaimed in Pyongyang, and this is tantamount to a county's land acreage. If we introduce the system in all the vegetable gardens throughout the country, an incredibly large area of land will become available. This land can be planted with grain crops, chufa, or sown to early-ripening potatoes in the spring and then to other crops afterwards. In this way you will be able to increase grain output, to have cooking oil and early-ripening potatoes and to eat noodles.

These few examples alone are enough to show us clearly that the technological revolution in the countryside is indispensable for raising the agricultural

productive forces to free the peasants from arduous labour and solve the food problem of the working people satisfactorily.

Of course, it is not an easy task to carry out the technological revolution in the countryside. But we have all the necessary conditions for forging ahead with the rural technological revolution. We have a powerful heavy industry with the engineering industry as its backbone. The rural technological revolution is impossible unless the country has well-developed industries. The technological revolution itself is aimed at turning the country into an industrial state and industrializing all branches of the national economy including agriculture, and this presupposes the development of heavy industry with the engineering industry as its core. Today our country has a solid industrial base for the production of various types of farm machines, chemical fertilizers, agricultural chemicals and the like, which are needed for the industrialization of agriculture.

Furthermore, our country has no social factors which might interfere with the rural technological revolution.

In a capitalist society the technological revolution in the countryside results in the unemployment of many people and the worsening of the conditions of the

peasants and the workers. Therefore, the peasants and the workers are not in the slightest interested in the industrialization of agricultural production and, indeed, are opposed to it.

But in our country where the socialist system has been established, the rural technological revolution helps to relieve the burdensome work of the peasants, ease the labour shortage, and increase agricultural production to make the working people still more prosperous. So the workers and all members of society, to say nothing of the peasants, are vitally interested in the rural technological revolution and work devotedly to bring it about. In our country today all members of society, including the workers, actively assist in bringing about the rural technological revolution and the state gives unstinted help to the country areas. Under these circumstances, if the agricultural cadres sincerely apply themselves to organizing work carefully in order to carry out the technological revolution, it will make rapid headway in our country.

It is true that, because of our Party's correct policy in the past, considerable success has already been achieved in the rural technological revolution. But we have only taken the initial step in this revolution, and still have a long way to go to accomplish it.

Some comrades think that at present we have such and such a number of tractors per 100 hectares of cultivated land, and if we increase them to such and such a number, the rural technological revolution will be completed. But it is not right to see this revolution as such a simple matter. As is specifically pointed out in the theses, the essence of the rural technological revolution lies in irrigation, mechanization, electrification and the wider use of chemicals. Only when all of these have been accomplished can we say that agriculture has been industrialized and that the technological revolution has been accomplished. The industrialization of agricultural production presupposes that all its processes, though biological, can be accomplished by using machines, chemicals and electricity. Viewed in this light, it is far too soon to say that our agricultural production has been industrialized, and enormous tasks remain to be done for the rural technological revolution.

In accordance with our Party's correct policy, the irrigation programme, the first task of the technological revolution in our countryside, has already been completed to a large extent. Because of this, it was possible to reap a bountiful harvest last year in spite of the severe drought. If we had not established irrigation

works, we would certainly have had a disastrous crop failure. So this is a great victory we have won in the rural technological revolution and is a source of great pride to us.

But we cannot yet say that the irrigation programme has been completed in our country. Although the paddies have been mostly placed under irrigation, the non-paddy fields are not yet irrigated. Only when these fields are also brought under irrigation can we say that the irrigation programme has been completed. And our irrigation projects are aimed at watering not only the paddies but the non-paddy fields as well. However, I think we need not undertake irrigation works on a large scale in future. Of course, irrigation works should be done where necessary. But, provided that the irrigation facilities we have already built are put to good use, it will be possible to water both the paddies and the non-paddy fields lavishly.

At present a great deal of water is wasted. Usually, 10 000 cubic metres of water is used per hectare of paddy field. This is too much. If we use water economically, we can reduce the water consumption per hectare of paddy field to 5 000 cubic metres, and the water thus saved will suffice to irrigate nearly all non-paddy fields.

If we irrigate the non-paddy fields with the water we shall have saved, not only paddy farming but also non-paddy farming will become safe from crop failure for ever and the per-hectare yield of non-paddy grain crops can be raised appreciably. I gave instructions that wheat should be planted experimentally on about 50 hectares of land in Pyongyang and that it should be watered by the sprinkler irrigation system as they do the vegetable gardens. If this is successful, it will be possible to reap not four tons but 7-8 tons of wheat per hectare of non-paddy field. If this experiment works well, the sprinkler irrigation system will have to be introduced as widely as possible from next year. As you see, we still have a great many things to do in irrigation.

Farm mechanization in our country is still at a low level, and we have much to do in this area.

At present, during the busy farming season the peasants go out to the fields at daybreak and come home after dark to sleep, and in the rice transplanting season not only peasants but also workers, office employees and even secondary school children are all mobilized to bed out the rice plants. If rice seeds are sown directly in the paddy fields, there will be no need to use so much manpower. But we are not certain about

the benefits of the direct sowing of rice. And in our country the directly-sown rice crop will not be able to withstand storms. So, out of necessity, the whole nation is mobilized to bed out rice seedlings. We must quickly solve the problem of mechanical rice transplanting.

At any rate, in the plains tractors are used in ploughing and carrying operations now to ease the labour of the peasants considerably, but machinery is not yet available on the steep-sloping land and in mountain areas. We must solve this problem without fail.

Today our country has a very large farm machine production capacity for mechanizing agriculture. In the case of tractors alone, the annual capacity for the production of the *Chollima*-model and the *Phungnyon*-model has now reached the 10 000-unit level, and if sufficient steel is supplied, more can be produced. I asked Comrade Minister of Machine Industry if it would be possible to produce an additional 1 000 units of *Chollima* tractors which you requested recently. He said that this could be done.

In addition, hundreds of small tractors of 16-hp capacity, suited for wide use in the mountain areas, will be produced on a trial basis this year, and from next year they will be manufactured in large numbers. Then

it will be possible to send a great number of small tractors, as well as big ones, to the rural areas.

But farm mechanization cannot be successfully achieved in our country merely by increasing the number of tractors and other farm machines. In addition to this, land development projects must be undertaken so that tractors and other farm machines can operate easily.

In fact, as far as the number of tractors per hectare of farmland is concerned, our country cannot be said to be on a low level even now. But although there are many tractors, they cannot operate in fairly steep-sloping fields and the mountain areas because no land development work has been carried out. They can only enter and work the fields in the plains.

Land development work is urgently required to enable machines to enter the areas not yet accessible to them and to introduce mechanization in all parts of the country.

The purpose of land development work is to enable machines to enter and work all plots of land. In order that this can be done, plots should be enlarged, heaps of stones and the ridges between fields should be removed and terraced fields should be laid out, where possible. Roadways must be laid for farm machines to

enter the plots. At present there is no access road for tractors to enter the paddy and non-paddy fields, and, moreover, they cannot climb the sloping lands. For this reason, many plots are inaccessible to tractors, and if they do succeed in getting into the plots, they do so by bumping their way along places where there are no roads, and so they break down very often. Therefore, good access roads must be laid for the passage of tractors and lorries, and then they must be gravelled and covered with weathered granite and hardened.

Unless we carry out land development work, it will not matter how many farm machines we make and supply and it will be impossible to introduce mechanization. Therefore, our Party envisages large-scale land re-alignment works during the period of the coming Six-Year Plan.

We have not yet undertaken this work on a large scale because we had few heavy machines.

The lands we have inherited from our forefathers are mostly small patches or steeply sloping fields, and we can hardly cope with the huge-scale nature-remaking work of re-aligning these patches into large level plots with spades, pickaxes and A-frame carriers. If land re-alignment is to be undertaken on a large scale in the

future, it is necessary to produce many heavy machines, such as *Phungnyon* tractors, bulldozers, excavators and 10-ton lorries. So the Party is now speeding up preparations to do this.

Such huge-scale nature-remaking projects as land development work cannot be accomplished immediately. But it will not do, either, to sit with folded arms waiting for the supply of large numbers of heavy machines. It is essential to go ahead with land re-alignment step by step with the existing machinery and equipment. Workteams and sub-workteams should accomplish one thing at a time, even if it involves only a few patches at a time, by re-aligning, perhaps, two patches this year and another two patches next year. Then when many heavy machines are available, we should go full tilt into large-scale land development works.

It is advisable to undertake land re-alignment work on a trial basis this year in a few counties. In this way, the necessary experience will be gained as to how many man-days of labour, how many machines and how much fuel are needed for re-aligning how much land and on what type of soil. Based on this experience, we can re-align land on an even larger scale from next year onwards.

If we carry out land development work successfully so as to make all plots accessible to machines and carry out sowing, inter-row cultivating, fertilizer application, chemical spraying and harvesting, in addition to ploughing, mechanically, how much easier the work of farmers will become! It should thus be made possible for one person to cope with 10 hectares of maize fields, 5 hectares of paddies and some 20-30 hectares of wheat fields.

Yesterday we applauded when we heard that on Farm No. 5 one person tended 16 hectares of wheat fields. Of course, this is a fine achievement in the present conditions of our country, but judged by world standards, it can hardly be rated as a high level.

In countries where the rural technological revolution is advanced, one person manages 30 hectares of wheat fields, 15-20 hectares of maize fields and 10 hectares of paddies. Even if we take into account the fact that the use of machines is very restricted in our country because the plots are smaller than in other countries, have steep gradients and are stony, we should reach at least half their level.

The greater use of chemicals must also be promoted more vigorously. During the past few years the production of chemical fertilizer has increased rapidly,

with the result that fertilizer is more readily available, and there has been an increase in the varieties. Therefore, it has become possible to supply the rural areas with a larger quantity of various kinds of fertilizer. But the wider use of chemicals in agriculture cannot be accomplished with fertilizer alone. In addition to fertilizer, large amounts of weed killers have to be produced to free the peasants from weeding, and more agricultural chemicals should be supplied to the country areas to prevent loss due to various insect pests and plant diseases.

We must try to make it possible to farm without weeding operation in the next few years. The state is planning to produce and supply to the agricultural areas large quantities of weed killers, such as 2,4-D, PCP, and Cimadin. We applied the herbicide Cimadin to maize fields on an experimental basis, and no weeds survived. When, in the future, we produce and supply the country areas with large quantities of Cimadin, it will become unnecessary to weed the maize fields. All that will be required will be to bed out humus-pot-grown maize seedlings and then inter-row-cultivate them by machine. In addition, large amounts of weed killers for paddies and other non-paddy fields must also be produced. We should

solve this problem without fail in order to release the peasants from weeding the fields, dripping with sweat in the summer.

We must also accelerate rural electrification. On all cooperative farms, electric power should be used in such operations as threshing, grinding and the pumping of water, and a wider variety of crop-raising and livestock-farming operations should be done electrically.

By following these methods throughout the country, ploughing and inter-row cultivating should be done by tractors; weeds should be killed with herbicides; insect pests and plant diseases should be exterminated with agricultural chemicals; harvesting should be done by machine; and threshing must be done by the use of electricity. In this way we shall end the carrying of loads on human backs as well as manual labour, and the peasants will be freed completely from backbreaking toil, and they, too, like the workers, will have an eight-hour day and enjoy Sunday rest. Only then shall we be able to say that the technological revolution has been accomplished in the country areas and that agriculture has been industrialized.

The agricultural cadres must vigorously promote the

rural technological revolution by using every possible method and by exploring every potential in order to reach this goal.

The most important task for the earlier accomplishment of the rural technological revolution is to rectify the mistaken attitude of senior officials who have little consideration for this revolution and only want the state to solve every problem for them. Our officials still have little interest in freeing the peasants from arduous labour, and do not carry out the technological revolution when they can do so under the conditions provided by the state.

As I said during the meeting, the state sent many tractors and a large quantity of weed killers to the Anak Farm to make it a model farm where rice crops could be raised in a scientific and technological way. If the senior officials of the farm are interested in the technological revolution and organize work carefully, all operations, except rice transplanting, can be done by tractors, and in that case the manpower needed for every hectare of paddy fields can be reduced to 50-60 man-days. According to my personal investigation at Chongsan-ri alone, some time ago, it can be cut down to 60-80 man-days and, if things go well, to a still lower level. However, at the Anak Farm they have not

re-aligned the fields, which they can do if they take the trouble to do so, and in consequence, they are doing a considerable part of the farm work by manual labour and by carrying loads on their backs as before in spite of the fact that they have many tractors. In general, the number of man-days needed for each hectare of paddy fields is still very large.

This is also the case on the Ryongyon Farm. Several years ago we had already assigned its management personnel the task of making it a model of rural mechanization and sent many farm machines and a large quantity of necessary farming materials. In fact, the Ryongyon Farm is located in a flat region and has many favourable conditions for mechanization; and so, with the expenditure of some effort, mechanization can be easily achieved. But the level of mechanization is still very low at this farm.

Our officials are not people who work for a living but are communists fighting for the well-being of the people. In that case, they ought to pay the greatest attention to easing the hard and arduous labour of our working people and make every effort to accomplish this. If it pains you to see the peasants bend their backs while transplanting rice seedlings, weed the fields by hand in the broiling sun and carry manure on their

backs, you will probably not be able to swallow your food easily.

Agricultural cadres must decidedly correct their mistaken attitude of being indifferent to the rural technological revolution, just hoping that the state will solve every problem for them, and must promote this revolution to the best of their ability, by ensuring that creative initiative is demonstrated in every province, every county and on every cooperative farm.

Another important aspect of the rural technological revolution is to fight against the outdated empiricism found amongst agricultural workers.

Agricultural personnel still show a great and incorrect tendency of clinging only to old practices instead of readily believing in agricultural science and of having an aversion to advanced farming techniques.

I am going to give you an example which I think you will find instructive, although it happened a long time ago. Seven or eight years ago we said that if a great deal of fertilizer is applied and the number of plants is increased, maize will grow well. At the time a certain cadre of the People's Committee of South Phyongan Province, who was steeped in the outdated empiricism, said, even before he tried it, that if the number of plants per *phyong* was increased too much, maize would not

grow well, and he suggested a reduction in the number to five or six. We could hardly believe his words, so we went to Kaechon County and told its officials: "When maize is close-planted in other countries, and high yields are obtained, why should it not grow as well in our country? So you must try this." This time, also, some officials did not accept the idea readily. But young workers who were loyal to the Party and open to new ideas accepted it there and then and got down to work boldly as instructed by the Party. Later I visited Kaechon again and found that as a result of introducing the advanced farming techniques as instructed by the Party, maize crops had grown very well, and at Ryongjin-ri, for example, a high yield of 6-7 tons per hectare has now been obtained for years on end.

I should like to quote another example which took place some time ago. Last year I visited the Migok Cooperative Farm, North Hwanghae Province, with foreign guests who had attended the 20th anniversary celebration of the founding of the Republic. The chairman of the farm is a woman who works well. The previous year we had given her instructions to sow the paddy fields with a new variety of rice. So we inquired how things were progressing with the introduction of the new variety. They said that at first they had

intended to sow the new variety in 300 hectares of paddy fields out of a total of 400 hectares, but had been compelled to plant only 180 hectares with the new variety because the elderly peasants had violently objected, clinging to the old practices. In the autumn the plots sown to the new variety yielded 1.2 tons more per hectare than the other plots. Only when they saw this, did the peasants, who had followed the old-fashioned methods, repent and say that all paddy fields should be planted with the new variety from this year, I was told.

Not only the old, but also the young people, and not only the peasants but also many senior personnel suffer from conservatism and empiricism.

In general, as is the case now with the cooperative farms and counties where farming is thriving, their cadres study hard believing in science and try to introduce new farming techniques in every possible way. But as we see on farms or in counties where farming is not going well, their cadres are mostly prepared to retain only the old practices and they pay scarcely any attention to scientific farming.

You should not think it strange that the peasants and cadres are not yet free from the old empiricism. Whenever anything progressive appears, a

conservative idea will block its progress, and it is generally accepted that progress is achieved through a struggle against all kinds of reactionary ideas. This is a law governing the development of society and the revolution. In order to make unimpeded progress in agricultural production, we have to wage a tireless struggle against empiricism and conservatism.

Needless to say, when we mention opposing empiricism, we do not in any way mean opposing experience in general. What we oppose is the tendency to cling to the old practices, refusing to introduce new advanced farming techniques. Of course, past experience can be useful in farming to some extent, but it cannot fit in exactly with the changed conditions of today. It is apparent that our past experience when maize was planted thinly because there was no chemical fertilizer will not hold good in today's conditions when farming is done with large amounts of chemical fertilizer such as potash, phosphatic and nitrogenous fertilizers.

Today's world is a world of science, and this is the era of scientific farming. Under no circumstances should we follow outdated practices; we should energetically introduce advanced farming techniques, or else, we shall have no alternative but to trail behind

other countries for ever.

The most important task in stamping out empiricism and conservatism which are still evident among the peasants and agricultural cadres is to carry out the work of spreading scientific knowledge among them skilfully.

It can be said in this connection that the experience of Kaechon County is very instructive. When planting *aegukphul*, the officials of this county tried first of all to explain to the peasants why it was beneficial to plant it and how to cultivate it. I have heard that they called together all the sub-workteam leaders of the county and showed them scientific films. Because they instructed all the peasants about *aegukphul* in this way, none stuck to the conservative stand or thought ill of it. So, in spite of the bad weather conditions last year when there was a severe drought, they did not lose heart but cultivated the grass by watering it. In this way they reaped a good harvest of 80 tons per hectare. In the final analysis, this is eloquent of the importance of the work of propagating scientific knowledge.

Therefore, we must continue to increase irrigation, mechanization, the use of chemicals and electrification throughout the country areas and introduce the achievements of agricultural science and advanced farming techniques widely, so that the peasants can be

relieved from the hard labour and agricultural production can be developed more rapidly.

Furthermore, the cultural revolution must be accelerated more forcefully in country areas.

In the past considerable success has been achieved in the rural cultural revolution, but this revolution is falling far behind the Party's expectations. Agricultural cadres should make still greater efforts to carry out the revolution.

We must solve some problems in order to carry out the rural cultural revolution.

As a priority, electricity must be laid on in all farmhouses, so that electric light and broadcasts are available to everyone.

Electricity is essential for the peasants to read newspapers or books at night and to listen on the radio to lectures concerning agriculture and livestock farming and also to advanced farming practice, political news commentaries and songs. In particular, it is only when the peasants listen to broadcasts that they will be told immediately, on the very same day, before newspapers are distributed, about everything taking place all over the country, including the speeches and discussions at important meetings held in Pyongyang, and that they will learn the Party's intentions clearly

and quickly. All your debates at the present conference, too, have already been broadcast, so the cooperative farmers who have a radio or a cable radio already know what kind of speech has been made by anyone from their farm, and what has been discussed, and by whom, at the agricultural conference. The peasants can widen the range of their knowledge further and raise their cultural level rapidly only when all their houses have electricity and radios or cable radios so that they can listen to broadcasts. Therefore, one of the most important tasks for the rural cultural revolution is to have electricity laid on to all farmhouses.

For a long time, our Party has been endeavouring to bring electricity to all farmhouses and, as a result, electricity has already been laid on in many rural villages which had none before. But in some mountain recesses which have no electricity yet there are still houses lighted by oil lamps. We should ensure that electricity is laid on in all these houses as well at an early date.

In order to supply electricity to all peasant houses in the mountain areas, it is first necessary to concentrate in one place all the houses which are now scattered through the mountain valleys.

We can see that in mountain districts, houses are

spread widely here and there around the valleys. We cannot afford the necessary cables to carry electricity to each of them. As I said at the plenary meeting of the Party Committee of North Phyongan Province last year, houses a long way from the villages and those which are scattered in the mountain valleys should be rebuilt by concentrating them in places of a suitable size. But it is not permissible to demolish many houses at a time, which would make the peasants share with others. You should rebuild houses one by one and thus avoid causing even the slightest inconvenience to the peasants. The villages should not be too large; it is advisable to have some ten houses in a village or 20 or 30 at the most.

Meanwhile, small generators should be produced and supplied to some mountain districts. For the most part, it is the far mountain recesses which are still without electricity and some of them are very difficult to supply. In such cases, a small power station should be set up at each village to produce power for its own use.

In this way we should rapidly ensure that every farm family in the mountain districts has electric light and listens to radio broadcasts in order to lead a cultured life.

In order to raise the cultural and technical levels of the peasants, it is necessary for them to have access to

newspapers and magazines, as well as listening to broadcasts. To achieve this, the rural areas should be supplied with more copies of various publications, such as newspapers, materials of education in the revolutionary traditions and books of technology and culture.

Measures should also be taken to run mothers' and working people's middle schools in the rural areas efficiently, so as to educate all the peasants. Working people's middle schools and mothers' schools can be run very effectively by using the classrooms of primary and secondary schools while the schoolchildren are on their winter vacation.

In this way we should ensure that all peasants are more firmly equipped with our Party's policy and possess a knowledge of electricity, machinery, fertilizers, agricultural chemicals, soil, living things, health, hygiene and all, and master more than one technical skill.

So that the rural cultural revolution can be carried out successfully, the cooperative farm chairmen and ri Party committee secretaries, above all others, should study a great deal.

One of the most serious shortcomings revealed among the agricultural cadres at present is that they do

not study well. Yesterday I met and talked to a few cooperative farm chairmen, and found their present level little different from last year's. One year has passed, and so if they had studied to a certain extent, they should have changed. But they have not changed.

The peasants expect a great deal from their cooperative farm chairmen and ri Party secretaries and hope that they will organize and guide the work of carrying out the revolutionary tasks arising in agriculture properly. Cooperative farm chairmen and ri Party secretaries should be fully aware of their duties and learn to play the role of master properly in the country areas. To do this they should raise their qualifications constantly. They must study harder and make greater efforts than others to raise their political and working qualifications and cultural levels.

The leaders of workteams and sub-workteams should also study tirelessly to raise their political, cultural and technical levels all the time. In this connection, I consider it necessary to take measures for their systematic studies. At present there is a training system for cooperative farm chairmen, ri Party secretaries or Party cell secretaries, but no school for workteam or sub-workteam leaders.

Some time ago we examined the matter in Onchon

County and found that if we manage it well, we can send workteam leaders, at least, to the county Party school, but it will be difficult to enrol sub-workteam leaders in school. Every county has hundreds of sub-workteam leaders, and the counties have not enough facilities to accommodate them.

I think it will be a good policy to train a large number of teachers in future to give short travelling courses to the sub-workteam leaders. The teachers will have to go to a cooperative farm and give a short course for about a month to the sub-workteam leaders assembled at a school or a clubhouse, before going on to another place to do the same thing there. This will answer the purpose.

The short courses for sub-workteam leaders must always be organized in winter, which is the farmers' slack season. It will be possible to conduct such short courses in turn within about three months from December to March next year.

With regard to this question, further consideration is needed so that reasonable measures can be adopted.

At the same time, it is necessary to build schools well and, in particular, to open branches where schools are too distant and difficult to reach, so that children can study without hardship. In this way, all rural

children without exception should be able to acquire scientific knowledge at school. It will only then be possible to make our farm villages still more cultured in the future.

As we can see in the country areas now, young people who have studied under our system are different from uneducated old people when it comes to doing their work. At the present conference of agricultural workers, too, we find a great difference between the levels of the elders and the young people when we compare their speeches. And if we compare the speeches made at the first conference of agricultural cooperatives after the victory of agricultural cooperation with the speeches at the conference of agricultural workers today, we find wide differences between them. In those days the cultural level of the young people, to say nothing of that of our peasants as a whole, was not very high. But the young people in our country today have all finished secondary, technical or higher technical school, and so possess some degree of scientific knowledge. As I watch them speaking from the rostrum, their level is high. In only about ten years from now, during which we will carry on compulsory nine-year technical education, the appearance of our countryside will change completely.

We should devote a great deal of attention to building up nurseries and kindergartens well in the countryside so as to bring up children even better.

It can be said that nurseries and kindergartens hold a very important position in the cultural revolution, because nearly all the children who are heirs to our revolution are looked after in nurseries and kindergartens, where they learn how to be polite and how to dress neatly, and are taught many other things.

Placing children in the care of nurseries and kindergartens is much better than looking after them at home when it comes to developing the collectivist spirit in them and training them in communist thinking as well. Therefore, Engels considered it one of the important communist measures to bring up all children in state institutions at state expense.

There are nurseries and kindergartens everywhere in our country now, and there our little ones are growing happily, romping about freely, by the favour of the state. In our country now the children accommodated in nurseries and kindergartens and the pupils receiving compulsory nine-year technical education amount to a tremendous number. This fact alone permits us to say that communism has made a good start in our country.

Of course, we still cannot regard all nurseries and

kindergartens as being of high quality. They are inadequately furnished, and much has yet to be provided. But this is not a big problem. Just as your appetite cannot be satisfied by the first spoonful when eating your meal, you cannot complete the furnishing of nurseries and kindergartens right at the beginning. It will do if we strive from now to equip them better.

It is said that at present mischief-makers are saying that children fall ill more often because they are sent to nurseries and kindergartens. This is a complete slander spread by landlords and capitalists, or those who are influenced by them, to disparage our socialist system. In the old days when our peasants were making a poor living under the exploitation and oppression of landlords, their children would often fall ill and be left without a dose of medicine even when they were dying. Today, however, nurseries and kindergartens take good care of them, and if they are even to the slightest degree out of sorts, doctors examine them and give injections. It is ridiculous to say that children fall ill more often today than in former times.

All cooperative farms must take great care so that children will grow well and strong. For this purpose they should see that the rooms of nurseries and kindergartens are warm and keep their surroundings

clean and tidy. In the meantime, the education of the nursery and kindergarten teachers should be enhanced to improve the upbringing of the children. All children will have to be properly trained to cultivate good manners, to dress themselves neatly and to have a collectivist spirit.

In addition, there must be a higher degree of culture in the lives of the peasants.

After all, the main point of the cultural revolution in the rural areas is to raise the peasants' level of political, technical and general knowledge. But, in addition to this, the peasants should also keep their homes and villages clean and tidy and build up the cultural and health aspects of their lives. It is only when there is an improvement in each of these sections that it can be said that the cultural revolution is progressing successfully.

Nowadays some people believe that life is more cultured when women curl their hair excessively and walk around with their faces heavily made up, and when good rugs are spread in one's house. This is a mistaken idea. When we talk about culture in life, we mean organizing one's life amply and neatly and in a cultured and healthy way. One should wear freshly laundered clothes even though they might be of cotton, look neat and trim, and keep one's house clean and tidy

by pasting wallpaper and oiled floor-paper tastefully, keeping the earthen verandah and chimney in good repair, sweeping the yard clean and erecting a fence around the house. This is precisely what is meant by a cultured socialist life.

Nowadays, when we visit farm villages, we still find many houses which are unclean and untidy. In South Phyongan and South Hwanghae Provinces, particularly, houses are kept in a filthy and untidy state. In comparison with South Phyongan Province, North Phyongan Province is a little better, but it cannot be said that even there houses are outstandingly well kept. We always say that even those houses which are to be demolished some day should be kept in good repair, and there is nothing wrong in doing so. One must cultivate the habit of keeping one's house neat and tidy even if one lives in it for only one day.

In some villages there are now many houses which were built a short time ago but have deteriorated because of negligence. After the floods the year before last, we built nice modern houses in Mangil-ri, Mangyongdae District. Last year we visited the village and found many houses dilapidated already in less than a year because of neglect. The oiled floor-papers were all torn in every house so that the bare heated floor was

visible, and many doors were damaged. No matter how many nice houses we may build, they are useless if they are kept badly like this. We must pay particular attention to keeping the houses we have already built clean and taking care of them.

We should build many modern houses in the rural areas so that all farm villages will take on a socialist appearance in the near future. A drive should be started to build 150 000 modern rural houses annually for some three or four years beginning this year. If all rural cadres and peasants join in, this objective will be achieved with ease.

Cooperative farms should have adequate welfare service facilities of different kinds, including bathhouses.

First of all, a mass drive should be initiated to establish a bathhouse in every farm village. It is not very difficult to build a bathhouse. Some comrades think this is possible only if the state supplies the necessary materials, including the piping. But no special material is needed here. Make a little effort, and you can easily build a bathhouse. If fuel is short, indeed, you can set up another oven beside the one for boiling cattle feed and heat water, which you can use in the bathhouse.

While new bathhouses are built, the existing ones

should be used effectively. According to our recent investigation, many workteams still lack bathhouses and, moreover, even the workteams which have them do not use them well.

All cooperative farms should see to it that each village has a public bath so that the farmers can take a bath often.

It is necessary to improve public health services and hygienic work in the countryside.

As I have mentioned, electricity should be laid on in all rural houses to enable the farmers to listen to the radio and read newspapers and magazines and study a great deal so as to raise their level further; nurseries and kindergartens should be established well to bring up children in good health; and life in the rural areas should become more cultured so as to step up the rural cultural revolution.

In order to carry out the rural cultural revolution successfully, the county people's committees should increase their role further. It is one of the most important tasks entrusted to the people's government bodies to promote the cultural revolution in the countryside with vigour. The county people's committees should pay great attention to this revolution and guide the rural population properly so that they

may raise their cultural and technical level and build their lives in a more cultured and hygienic way.

Officials of the county people's committees must visit cooperative farms and help them to achieve success in this work, and when they need to summon their subordinates to organize work, they should not call cooperative farm chairmen but secretaries of the county people's committees. When various tasks such as public health services and hygienic work arise now, many county people's committees summon cooperative farm chairmen continually and give them assignments. They should not do so. By their very nature, the chairmen of the county people's committees are not supposed to summon cooperative farm chairmen, but are expected to do their work with secretaries. The county people's committee chairmen should always call secretaries and assign them tasks pertaining to the cultural revolution, and the secretaries, in turn, should report to the management boards of the cooperative farms about the assigned tasks before they carry them into effect.

It is of great importance to enhance the role of the working people's organizations in carrying out the rural cultural revolution. The Union of Agricultural Working People, League of Socialist Working Youth,

and Women's Union organizations bear the heavy responsibility of promoting the rural cultural revolution. All working people's organizations should endeavour to hasten the cultural revolution in the countryside and the League of Socialist Working Youth, in particular, should take the lead in carrying out this revolution.

2. ON DEVELOPING BACKWARD COOPERATIVE FARMS RAPIDLY

Over the years our Party has always paid particular attention to the question of developing backward cooperative farms rapidly and, through practical work, has created a pattern which can serve as a model in improving the living standards of the peasants in the mountain areas.

Changsong County can be regarded as just such a model.

As you all know, Changsong County is situated in a remote mountainous region, where conditions are all very unfavourable. Some of the good fields which this county had previously had were totally submerged beneath the Suphung Reservoir, and existing plots are

all on steep hillsides with a gradient of as much as 45 degrees and, what is more, they are stony and very unproductive. Even in such unfavourable conditions, the people of Changsong raise good crops and are developing stockbreeding and, by this means, are living as comfortably as others. Every peasant family in this county comes in for a share of over three tons of grain and more than 1 000 *won* in cash. This amount is enough for us to say that the assignment of the Fourth Conference of our Party has been fulfilled.

Even in a mountainous region like Changsong, people live as well as this, so why should they not do so elsewhere? In fact, anywhere in our country the natural conditions are better than in Changsong County. Tokchon or Nyongwon County is called a mountainous region, but it has much better conditions than Changsong; and Sinwon County, South Hwanghae Province, and all other counties with backward cooperative farms at present have also better conditions, or, at any rate, no worse.

Why, then, do people in other counties fail to live well at present?

The main reason is that officials give poor guidance and are halfhearted about the fulfilment of Party policy.

The present prosperity of the people of Changsong

is not due to the fact that the Party and the Government have given them great material assistance, nor is it due to the so-called “providence of God” as the Christians used to say. It is the result of the correct guidance of our Party and of the determined efforts made by the cadres and peasants there to carry out the Party’s assignments.

Of course, we cannot say that the personnel there worked faithfully from the start as instructed by the Party. While personally guiding Changsong County every year since 1958, we taught its officials the ways and methods of work in detail so as to improve things in the county. But at first the province and county were unwilling to accept the assignments we gave them. Since the Party’s monolithic ideological system was not firmly established, they did not fulfil the Party assignments properly, and there it even happened that the peasants butchered sheep which the state had given them to raise. So we appointed local activists to senior posts and dispatched a comrade who had been working faithfully in the Party Central Committee to be chief secretary of the county Party committee so that the work would be improved. After that, Party guidance spread smoothly through Changsong County and the living standard of its farming population began to improve gradually.

It is because of the Party's correct guidance combined with the persevering endeavours of cadres and the population there to carry out Party policy that Changsong County has become a place as developed and good to live in as it is today.

It seems, therefore, that we need not look elsewhere in our efforts to discover the secret of developing the backward cooperative farms. If there was no Party policy for making the mountain people prosperous and no pattern created for this purpose, then matters would be different. But since there is a correct Party policy and a model for it, all that is required of the backward cooperative farms is that they strive to carry out the Party policy after the model of Changsong County.

What is there to imitate in Changsong County's experience? First of all, it is necessary to strive to increase the production of grain and, at the same time, to put great effort into livestock farming so as to increase the peasants' cash income rapidly.

Just to mention sheep alone, they keep as many as 3 600 in Changsong County now. The state gave some sheep to the county, and there were only 200 at first. The people of Changsong did not remain idle, merely expecting help from the state, but they themselves bought many sheep from different quarters. They

raised them well as breeding stock and kept on adding to them. In addition to sheep, many pigs and cattle are also being bred in this county. As a result, they have a large cash income from stockbreeding. Each peasant family gets 450-500 *won* from the earnings of collective stockbreeding and, when the earnings from the private breeding of domestic animals are added, the total income from animal husbandry reaches as much as 600 *won*.

The people of Changsong increase the per-hectare yields of grain crops by putting on the fields manure obtained through raising livestock.

They build cattle sheds and pigsties on hillsides and cut grass to feed them or to spread as litter for them, and after remaining in one place for a few days, build sheds at another place and move there. The manure obtained in this way is spread over the fields to fertilize the soil. Because a great deal of manure is spread and the land is well fertilized, Changsong County produces far more grain now than before, although the fields are on steep slopes and land is washed away by heavy rain. In the past this county produced barely 2 200 tons of grain, and even when we began to give it guidance, it produced only 3 000 tons from 3 000 hectares of land. Today, however, each hectare yields three tons, and

thus the county produces plenty of grain—more than 9 000 tons or three times as much as before.

This increase in grain output is not because the land of Changsong has changed now or because its cultivated land has been increased. Changsong today is just as it was before. It is mountainous and its fields are still on hillsides, and no more land has been reclaimed. If anything at all has changed, it is only the way its people are working.

Moreover, cash income is increased in Changsong County by the cultivation of red pepper and industrial crops. While red pepper and industrial crops are planted in the county, this is not done at the expense of grain production. The per-hectare grain yields have been raised there and the former yields from two or three hectares are now produced from one hectare. Thus, while grain output is increased on the one hand, a little land is set aside for the cultivation of red pepper and the like for sale.

It is said that red pepper does not grow well in other places. In Changsong County, however, two tons of dried red pepper was produced per hectare last year. Changsong's red pepper has gained a name throughout the country, and the people of Pyongyang and Sinuiju are also its customers.

In addition, the inhabitants of Changsong pick wild fruit and earn a good income.

As you see, in addition to increasing grain production, the people of Changsong County have developed livestock farming, cultivated red pepper and various industrial crops, and picked wild fruit. In this way, they have been able to increase both their share of grain and their cash income.

In fact, the peasants there scarcely had any cash income in the past, so their children went about without being properly shod and they were badly dressed. But now that the cash income of the farmers has increased remarkably, all children are well dressed and the general living standards of the people there have risen considerably.

If people in all other counties follow the example of Changsong County and endeavour to implement Party policy as its people have done, they will become prosperous. How many comrades say they would like us to guide their cooperative farms personally. Yesterday, too, a cooperative farm chairman from Songchon County asked us earnestly to visit his farm and give guidance. We hope to find time to visit the place one day. But we cannot visit all cooperative farms in the country, which number several thousands.

The Party Central Committee has already created the pattern showing mountainous cooperative farms how to become prosperous. So, you should work hard to learn from this model without just waiting for our personal guidance. Then, as in Changsong, the farm work will proceed smoothly and the living conditions of the peasants will improve.

Even without our regular personal guidance, Pyoktong, Usi and Tongchang Counties contiguous to Changsong County have worked to model themselves on it, and so in these counties every farm household gets a good share of grain distribution and receives a large sum of cash for its dividend, and the people enjoy a comfortable life.

Pyoktong County is now carrying out a drive to catch up with Changsong County; they say that 3.15 tons of grain and 1 200 *won* in cash were allocated to every peasant household there last year. This county's sheep alone number 2 700. This is some 900 sheep less than Changsong County. If things go well, it will be able to overtake Changsong County next year. If this county makes further efforts, it will be able to catch up with Changsong County in all respects.

We heard that in Tongchang County, though situated in the depths of the mountains, 2.85 tons of

grain and 900 *won* in cash were distributed to each farm household last year. This is very good, considering it is a mountain district. This county has 600 sheep. At present a drive is afoot here to overtake Changsong County. A few more years of sustained effort will enable it to catch up with Changsong County.

These counties, by following the example of Changsong County, have all developed to this extent, whereas others have failed to do so. Taegwan County, although it is adjacent to Changsong County, remained as backward as ever because it had acted conservatively and sung the corrupt song of "Butterflies in Couples" instigated by bad elements in the past. So, the year before last we went there and called the officials together and gave them sound teaching in how to work. Since then the county's economic situation seems to be improving gradually, with the peasants' share of grain distribution increasing a little from last year. If in this county, also, sheep breeding stations and rabbit farms are well established and every family is encouraged to rear such domestic animals as rabbits, sheep and pigs and to keep bees, as we have instructed, it will be able to overtake Changsong County in about three years.

If the inhabitants in the mountain areas work like the

Changsong people, they can improve their living standards easily. There are no grounds to say that it is impossible to improve the living conditions of people simply because they live in mountain areas. Now that there is the example of Changsong County, no one can plead ignorance about methods as his excuse for failing to make people more prosperous. If all rural cadres organize work tactfully and persist in their struggle as instructed by the Party, like the officials of Changsong County, they can turn any mountain area into an ideal place to live.

But, since cadres in mountain counties do not now endeavour to learn from the example of Changsong County, they do not raise the people's living standards.

In North Phyongan Province alone, there are many backward counties including Chonma, and the mountain areas of South Hamgyong Province are also extremely backward. In Sangil-ri and Sangi-ri in Toksong County, South Hamgyong Province, for example, very few domestic animals are raised, so the lives of the people there cannot be improved. This is by no means because these areas lack suitable conditions for livestock farming. It is perfectly possible to raise such domestic animals as sheep there.

The existence of backward cooperative farms and

impoverished regions is due, in the final analysis, to the agricultural cadres paying little heed to the matter of improving the welfare of the farmers in mountain areas and to our officials lacking the sound ideological belief of taking mountain folks along with them to communism. If the mountain dwellers are all to be taken to communism, they should be given ample assistance in raising their standard of living.

In fact, our peasants in the mountain areas are all simple and good. We visited Ryangsan-ri, Taegwan County, North Phyongan Province, to find that all its inhabitants were native to the place, except for one family which had moved in from South Hwanghae Province. They said that though their cash income was meagre, they were all better off than before and that our system was really good. It is true that our farmers are now better off than before, because they are free from oppression and exploitation, eat their fill and are given free education for all their children. But we should not be content with this; we must work very hard to make all highland peasants prosperous.

We have searched for some means of bringing forward the backward cooperative farms and have discussed the matter with many people, and under present conditions it seems that there is no alternative

but to make them engage both in farming and animal husbandry.

The provincial rural economy committees should effectively help the cooperative farms in mountain areas to develop animal husbandry, and the General Bureau of Stock Farming should supply these cooperative farms with sheep as well as pigs of good breed. It is advisable to provide these farms with a great number of sheep in particular. Such domestic animals as pigs and fowls should be raised in the plain areas, and sheep should be raised in the mountain areas. In future, livestock breeding stations must be built up well in the counties of the mountain areas and the young animals produced there should be supplied first to mountain villages, so that every peasant household and workteam will rear a large number of animals. A firm foundation for animal husbandry should thus be laid and each cooperative farm in the mountain areas should be urged to raise large numbers of sheep, pigs, rabbits, fowls and other domestic animals.

When you are instructed to rear a great number of domestic animals, you may worry about feed for them. But if you will just make effort, this problem, too, can be solved. The feed problem can be settled if the cooperative farms in the mountain areas cultivate such

grass as *aegukphul*. Last year we gave instructions to Changsong County to plant *aegukphul* in the fields with a gradient of 25-35 degrees, and it is said that 40 tons were reaped from every hectare. They had no experience because this was the first year, and there was a severe drought. All the same, they produced 40 tons per hectare. So the yield can be increased considerably in the future. Other cooperative farms in mountain areas should choose suitable plots to cultivate *aegukphul*.

Cooperative farms in the mountain areas should also rear silkworms.

Of course, raising silkworms can use a great deal of labour and present various complicated problems. But if county cooperative farm management committee chairmen and other leading agricultural workers will just give the matter some thought and organize work properly, it will be possible to raise any amount of silkworms.

Although food for silkworms may present a rather difficult problem, it can also be solved if we make effort. Mulberry is a fast-growing tree, so if it is planted on sloping land or disused fields, good mulberry groves will soon be established. Once this has been done, mulberry groves will also be good in preventing

landslide. *Wangsaragu* grass grows well anywhere in our country. Planting it can solve the food problem for silkworms. Some comrades say that if silkworms are fed on *wangsaragu* grass they suffer from diarrhea. So it is advisable to let them eat the grass after it has been dried a little. Feeding silkworms on mulberry leaves mixed with *wangsaragu* grass makes it possible to increase the size of cocoons. Therefore, the cooperative farms in mountain areas should not only create mulberry plantations but plant *wangsaragu* grass so as to raise silkworms in great numbers.

If mulberry groves are created, silkworms can be raised right there. Then there will be no need to take the trouble to pick and carry mulberry leaves home. Silkworm culture, if conducted well, will bring in as much income as sheep raising.

Silkworms should be reared not only on the cooperative farms in the mountain areas but also those in the flat areas and in county seats and workers' settlements. In county seats and workers' settlements, provided that housewives and those women who are elderly or weak and so are able only to do easy work, are mobilized, silkworms can be raised.

It is profitable for farms in mountain areas to keep bees on a large scale.

In order to augment the cash income of peasants in hilly areas, red pepper, garlic and industrial crops should also be cultivated to some extent.

However, the tendency to cut down grain production on the pretext of increasing the cash income of the farmers cannot be permitted. The most important thing in raising the cash income of farmers is, after all, to produce large quantities of grain and sell it to the state.

As we said when we visited Tokchon-ri of Taedong County and Jungsokhwa-ri of Sunan County, people should not look elsewhere to gain cash income but should do so mainly by increasing grain production where it is possible to do this. The Fourth Party Congress instructed that each farm household in the mountain areas should be encouraged to obtain three tons of grain and over 1 000 *won* in cash. If grain output is increased and 4.5 tons of grain is distributed to every peasant household, it can be said that the task advanced by the Party has been fulfilled even if the cash distribution is 400-500 *won*. Tokchon-ri of Taedong County is a mountain village, but its people worked well last year on our instructions, and, as a result, so they say, each farm household received a share of over 4.5 tons of grain and 400 *won* in cash. So,

we can say that the goal set by the Fourth Party Congress has been reached.

Of course, in those mountain areas where the soil is too sterile to raise grain production by very much, it is also necessary to cultivate red pepper, garlic and various industrial crops in some way to increase the cash income. But even in this case, it is advisable to allot some area of land to the cultivation of red pepper and industrial crops, while increasing the per-hectare yield of grain as they did in Changsong County, so that grain output does not fall. This principle must be strictly observed.

We should ensure that not only highland peasants but also cooperative farmers in coastal regions become prosperous.

There are now many combined agricultural and fishing cooperative farms in coastal areas. It may be expedient to merge some of them with neighbouring fishermen's cooperatives, and to leave intact those big ones which are capable of raising crops while fishing independently. Cooperative farms bordering the sea should be allowed to carry on small-scale fisheries well while engaging in crop cultivation and livestock farming.

The agro-fishing cooperative farms should be

supplied with boats and various kinds of fishing tackle. Since the members of these cooperative farms do fishing while engaged in farm work, it is unnecessary to build large boats for them.

The cooperative farms on the coast should catch fish and breed shellfish and seaweed extensively as well. Then, they should distribute the seafood produced to their members and sell the surplus.

I consider it necessary to increase state assistance to bolster up backward cooperative farms quickly.

In the first place, we must supply sufficient chemical fertilizer to these cooperative farms so that they can farm well. It would be good to provide a larger quantity of fertilizer to the mountain areas than to other regions, but the present circumstances do not permit us to do so. However, the fertilizer allocated to those areas must be sent there without delay. In the past, some county cooperative farm management committees have failed to transport the fertilizer allocated to the mountainous areas expeditiously. In addition, they sometimes took some of it to send to other areas. This kind of thing must not happen in future. Every hectare of maize needs an application of 350 kilogrammes of fertilizer, so this much fertilizer must be guaranteed without fail, and fertilizer should be transported first to the

cooperative farms in the mountain areas from early autumn.

Meanwhile, the cooperative farms in the mountain areas should make greater efforts to improve the land by themselves. At present some comrades do not think of improving land but are inclined to abandon it because it is sterile. This will not do. All cooperative farms in the mountain areas should strive to harvest more agricultural produce from existing fields, by fertilizing and tending every patch of ground well instead of abandoning it.

We plan to conduct land re-alignment work efficiently in the flat areas and reclaim tideland so as to obtain 1.3 to 1.5 million hectares of mechanically-workable land in the future, which will be used exclusively for grain cultivation. This much land will be enough to produce over six million tons of grain, if the per-hectare grain yield is raised to four to five tons through the introduction of the greater use of chemicals and mechanization. Then we shall be able to turn the sloping fields in mountain areas into mulberry groves, pastures or forests for timber. However, we cannot give up the farmland in the mountain areas immediately. Therefore, until the plains yield enough grain, effective use should be made of the existing

fields in the mountain areas to increase grain production, while laying solid foundations for livestock farming, forestry and fruit-growing. Only then will the mountain areas develop as well as the grain-producing plains in the future.

To continue. More farm machines must be produced and supplied to the mountain areas.

First of all, one or two more *Chollima* tractors should be assigned to each cooperative farm in the mountain areas this year to pull more loads. And small tractors which are suitable for use in the mountain areas should be made and supplied in the future. Only then will the farmers in the mountain areas think of mechanizing agriculture and developing their areas further.

Since there is a shortage of rural manpower, no work hand should be taken away from farm villages in general, and, in particular, not a single young or middle-aged man should be taken away from the cooperative farms in the mountain areas. A small number of young and middle-aged people will do in the plains because comprehensive mechanization can be introduced there. But young and middle-aged people are indispensable in the mountain areas, since almost all farming operations there are done by human labour.

The Agricultural Commission and the provincial

rural economy committees should intensify their guidance of the backward cooperative farms.

The cooperative farms in Kangwon Province, in particular, are in very difficult circumstances now, worse than in other provinces. Therefore, the state should take steps to bolster up these farms.

Although the Party and the Government have made large investments since immediately after the armistice, established many central counties and adopted a series of other measures to give a lift to the rural economy of this province, it has made no great advance yet. It is true that we can say it is more developed than it was before, but it trails far behind other provinces.

With a view to developing the agriculture of Kangwon Province, the Cabinet will do well to prepare a detailed survey and send a guidance group composed of scientists and technicians and headed by a cadre of the Agricultural Commission, so as to give direct assistance to the work of county cooperative farm management committees by districts.

In addition, in order to increase the output of grain and other crops in the alpine regions, the role of scientific research institutions for alpine farming should be improved.

Some time ago I read a report presented by the agricultural research institution in Ryanggang Province on the results of its research on alpine crops. These results should be made widely known to highland cooperative farms. Research institutions for alpine agriculture must send scientists to the cooperative farms in the mountain areas to help them cultivate crops suited to the climate and soil of these areas.

In order to stimulate the backward cooperative farms and improve the economic positions of all cooperative farms, measures should be taken for the solution of the problem of wood, of which there is a shortage.

Since the state now controls all forests, the cooperative farms are not in a position to fell a tree for timber to build houses or even to gather firewood at will.

Some 100 hectares of woodland should be allocated to every cooperative farm in future so that they can plant trees themselves and fell them freely for their own use.

Woodlands should be allocated to cooperative farms not only in the mountain areas but also in the plains. Such a flat county as Mundok County should get its allotment of woodland at a rather distant place, because it has no mountains nearby.

Every cooperative farm should put some 10 hectares under forest each year out of its assigned woodland. If trees are planted in this way for only ten years, all the areas allotted to cooperative farms will be covered with forest.

Fast-growing trees should be planted as far as possible. Either larch or such broad-leaved trees as poplar are preferable. Korean poplar and platanus grow most quickly; in ten years they will be big enough for timber. The Korean poplars and platanuses on Rungna Islet are ten years old, and are already as big as a man's arms' span round. Acacias are also to be grown. Acacias are good for firewood and can be used for cart beams and helms of hoes and axes. If afforestation is to be carried on, the provision of saplings may present a problem. If nursery-trees are not available, young plants should even be transplanted from mountains.

If cooperative farms carry out afforestation work well, they will be able to fell as many trees as they want in a few years time. They will be able to make doorframes and build houses and also supply wood to their members as fuel. No one should be allowed to interfere with cooperative farms which fell trees in their own woodlands. New regulations have to be framed to entitle relevant cooperative farms to control

and fell trees on the mountains for their own use, although the mountains belong to the state.

3. ON SOME TASKS REQUIRED TO RAISE GOOD CROPS THIS YEAR

In raising good crops this year it is most important for all cooperative farms to try to obtain adequate supplies of water.

The question of obtaining good supplies of water has been an important topic in the current conference of agricultural workers. This is good. On returning home after the conference, you should mobilize the farmers tactfully and carry out a strong campaign to secure even one more drop of water and use it most economically, in accordance with the message of this conference.

First, you should fill reservoirs and all pools with as much water as possible.

Last year there was a long drought, which caused almost all reservoirs to dry up and, to make matters worse, we had very little snow this winter. So we are in great need of water. Cooperative farms should fill all pools with water and, particularly in South Hwanghae

and North and South Phyongan provinces which are very short of water, an active campaign must be started to conserve water. Ditches should be cleaned out to allow water to flow into reservoirs and even the courses of rivers should be altered if necessary to fill all reservoirs. And the standing water in ditches and the water from the thawing snow should not be left to flow away but be channelled into paddy fields. At the same time, other regions should follow the example of South Hwanghae Province, and conduct an extensive drive to dig wells and pump out underground water on a large scale.

While making every effort to obtain more water, cooperative farms should use water economically, without leaving even a drop to flow away uselessly.

Sometimes we see water flowing across roads in rural areas because channels have not been kept in good condition and ditches have been carelessly dug. If water is controlled so carelessly, the demand for water cannot be met, however many reservoirs we may build and however much water we may obtain. The county cooperative farm management committees and cooperative farms must examine and know the state of all channels, and stop the leaks, if any, with clay, and repair any damaged structures with cement, thus

preventing even a drop of water from being wasted. As much water as possible should be saved by various methods: reservoir water should be used as little as possible for rice nurseries, but standing water should be channelled into them, and the leakage of water has to be prevented by repairing ridges between rice-fields and harrowing with care.

For this reason you must start campaigns vigorously to channel water into all pools and paddy fields, to pump underground water, to save water, and so solve the pressing water problem without fail in this year's farming operations.

Another matter to which we must pay attention in this year's farming is to make adequate preparations against floods by anticipating that there might be floods in summer.

Our experience for over 20 years since liberation tells us that usually there is a flood in our country in the year following severe drought. This year, too, we may have a flood in summer after the dearth of water during the dry weather in the spring. So, from now onwards you should dredge rivers and reinforce river dikes where necessary, and keep drainage facilities in good condition, so that any large floods will cause no damage.

Secondly, it is important in this year's farming to select new varieties of seeds to plant on the right soil and to introduce advanced farming methods widely by drawing on last year's experience.

As regards rice, early-ripening varieties should be sown widely and strong seedlings should be grown before bedding them out at an early date.

With regard to dry-field crops, maize should be sown extensively. This year the area under maize should be increased to 700 000 hectares.

People of some cooperative farms in the mountain regions have asked for permission to turn their maize fields into paddies. Of course, non-paddy fields should be turned into paddies where this is possible, but there is no need to do so everywhere. According to Changsong County's experience, those dry fields which can be turned into paddies are mostly capable of yielding seven or eight tons of maize per hectare when this is sown after the application of plenty of manure. Such fields, however, produce only two tons and a half or so of rice, if they are turned into paddies. It is better for you to sow maize and get seven or eight tons rather than to produce two tons and a half of rice from the paddy fields which are paid out with the expenditure of enormous manpower and funds. Maize is not very

inferior to rice. Riced corn flour is similar to rice when it is boiled. There will be no waste if the residue remaining after making riced corn flour is fed to domestic animals.

While increasing the area under maize, you should introduce the humus-pot maize growing method on a wide scale. As experience shows, humus pots can increase the yields of maize considerably. Humus-pot grown maize plants will stand typhoons well. You are wrong if you think that there will be no storm this year, just because we did not have a big one last year. If only for the sake of averting storm damage, we should mount a widespread drive to grow maize by means of humus pots this year.

Thirdly, cooperative farms should be provided with adequate supplies of various farm implements and such farming materials as fertilizers and agricultural chemicals needed for this year's farming.

I am told that rural areas are now very short of farm implements such as spades and pickaxes. Steps should be taken to make and supply them as soon as possible. The State Planning Commission and the Materials Supply Commission should provide steel materials on a preferential basis for the production of farm implements, even if their supply to other branches is

held back a little. No delay is allowed in all branches of the national economy, and this is particularly so in agriculture. An industrial plan unfulfilled in the first half of the year, can be executed in the second half, but farm work left undone in spring and summer cannot be performed in autumn or in winter, and if the farming season is missed, the result cannot be reversed. Therefore, necessary farm implements should be made and supplied quickly so that this year's farming will not be held up.

When fertilizer, agricultural chemicals and such items which are required for farming this year are produced in factories, they should be dispatched immediately and distributed to cooperative farms in advance.

Fourthly, efficient rural labour administration is important for guaranteeing successful farming this year.

At this conference many comrades asked for the manpower shortage problem to be solved, but there is no labour force which we can send to the rural areas right now.

At present our labour situation is very acute everywhere. This is due, first of all, to the fact that many large factories and enterprises have been built,

which increases the demand for manpower continuously, while labour reserves are extremely limited as an aftereffect of the Fatherland Liberation War. Those children who were born immediately after the ceasefire are now mostly turning 14 or 15, and it will be two or three years before they can participate in productive activities. From 1971, about 300 000 men will be added to our labour force every year. Then labour situation in the country as a whole will be improved to some degree and there will be considerably more adult labour in the agricultural branch. Therefore, you should not think that you will be getting any more manpower for the next two or three years.

Another reason for our manpower shortage is that many young people have joined the army.

While straddling half of our territory, the US imperialists are now intensifying their aggressive plots against the northern half of Korea and slaughtering many patriots and innocent people in south Korea at will. The US imperialists and their lackeys are now arresting and imprisoning members of the Revolutionary Party for Reunification in South Korea and are committing all sorts of barbarities against them. In this situation we must continue to build up our

national defence power solidly and, accordingly, we cannot reduce the ranks of our People's Army in the slightest.

You keep asking that a large number of demobilized soldiers be sent to the rural areas. Of course, I will see to it that of the demobilized soldiers those from rural areas are all returned to farm villages in the future. But we are not in a position to reduce the numerical strength of the People's Army just to send young people to rural areas.

Then, what is the way to solve the acute rural labour problem?

As I said at the national conference of agricultural workers last year also, in the long run, the fundamental solution to the pressing manpower problem of the cooperative farms lies in making rational use of the available manpower through the efficient organization of work.

First of all, we must put an end to the practice of county cadres doing what they like with the work force of the farms. These days county people's committees take away work hands from cooperative farms at every opportunity and use them to do unplanned work. They must not do so. They must make it a principle to use the cooperative farm work force only for carrying out

drainage projects, the river improvement work now under way and the construction of rural houses, and not for any other purpose.

In accordance with the spirit of the decisions of the 18th Plenary Meeting of the Fourth Central Committee of the Party, cooperative farms should make a more rational use of existing manpower through proper labour allocation and organization.

At present some cooperative farms allocate many able-bodied men to water-pumping stations, stock-raising teams, fruit-growing teams and the like, but assign women and elderly people primarily to the arduous work of crop cultivation. This is a serious mistake. If you teach them the basic essentials, elders or women will also be fully capable of doing such work as operating a pumping station. Stock-raising and fruit-growing teams and such like can be kept going by elderly folk and women, provided a few able-bodied men are included in them. The distribution of manpower on cooperative farms must be re-examined and those able-bodied men assigned to branches of secondary importance must be transferred to crop raising work.

The key to the easing of the shortage of rural manpower lies in the enterprising promotion of farm

mechanization. We must introduce mechanization in farm work by making use of every possibility so that more work can be done with the available manpower.

In the rural areas we still find loads being carried on people's backs and work done by manual labour in many cases. Immediately after the ceasefire wheelbarrows and different kinds of simple machines were made and used widely. But all this has been cast aside now. If you will just try, you will be able to use tractors to do various kinds of heavy work easily, but you do not do so. This is solely due to the rural cadres' indifference to mechanization and to their inefficient organizational work.

Workers of the county cooperative farm management committees and the cooperative farm management boards should take a great interest in farm mechanization so as to ease the farmers' burdensome labour at least a little and save as much manpower as possible. At the same time, the state should see that large quantities of machines and equipment, including tractors, transformers and electric motors needed for farm mechanization, are produced and supplied to the rural areas.

There must be many other problems which should be solved to make agricultural production successful

this year. However, these are problems which I have stressed on many occasions, so I do not intend to dwell on them any further.

Now, I am going to speak about the problem of producing subsidiary foodstuffs which now faces the agricultural branch as an important task.

In producing subsidiary foodstuffs it is important to grow different kinds of vegetables in profusion.

Vegetables are one of the most important non-staple foodstuffs and are indispensable to the lives of our people.

Cooperative farms must increase the production of vegetables sharply and supply them in sufficient quantities to all factory and office workers and urban dwellers, not to mention the farmers. As I have said, the best way to increase the output of vegetables is to introduce the sprinkler irrigation system.

All rural cadres and management workers of cooperative farms should endeavour to introduce the sprinkler system on a wide scale in vegetable production. In particular, those cooperative farms which supply vegetables to urban communities and workers' districts should establish this system without fail.

In addition, a large quantity of manure should be

applied to vegetable fields. It is particularly good to use a great deal of chicken manure. Last year some cooperative farms in Ryongsong District, Pyongyang, spread on their vegetable gardens chicken manure which had been brought from the Ryongsong Chicken Farm, with the result that an excellent crop was reaped. Chicken farms are now under construction everywhere in our country, so cooperative farms should take all the manure from there to their vegetable plots.

In order to increase vegetable production, it is also necessary to lay out the plots on comparatively high grounds where water does not lie long, even in the rainy season, so that an assured harvest can be gathered every year.

In the past there were many cases of crop failure in Pyongyang and some other areas because vegetables were grown in low-lying lands which would be flooded with muddy water in the rainy season. It is true that vegetable cultivation in such places will result in a rich harvest in comparatively dry years. But when there is a flood or a long period of rain, failure is inevitable in vegetable production in such places. In future, cooperative farms should do away with this risky method of relying on chance in vegetable production, and should lay out vegetable plots at the right places

which will ensure high and dependable yields at all times.

Research on vegetable production must be extended.

Research on producing vegetables by scientific methods is not going well at present. So the Party has instructed the Agricultural Commission to set up a vegetable research institute. In future this institute should make a thorough study of various problems concerning vegetable production—the creation of select varieties, soil improvement, the use of a wide variety of fertilizers including microelements, the introduction of humus-pot cultivation, the use of agricultural chemicals and others—and apply the results in production on a wide scale.

In addition to vegetables, large quantities of soya beans should be produced.

This is very important in improving the people's dietary life. Soya beans are essential for producing soya and bean paste. Soya and bean paste are indispensable subsidiary foods for Koreans and contain a high degree of protein. Since the question of making amino acid from cornstarch has been resolved, we can make soya without soya beans, but we need them to make bean paste. Soya beans are also indispensable for making nutritious bean curd and bean mash, favourite

foodstuffs of Koreans. A large quantity of soya beans is also needed to provide bean soup for children. Bean soup is different from cow's milk in its constituents, but is not inferior to it in nutritive value. Since our country still has only a small number of dairy cows, we are unable to feed all the children on cow's milk. So we should at least feed them on bean soup instead. Soya beans are needed also for oil extraction. Of course, we can extract oil from chufa plant, wild sesame and the like, but these on their own are not enough. Moreover, soya beans are needed for egg production as well. We have now built many egg farms, and if we are to produce lots of eggs, we should feed bean cake and similar items to the fowls.

As you can see, soya beans are very important in improving our people's dietary life and particularly in providing them with protein. That is why our Party has, for a long time, stressed the need to increase the production of soya beans and to plant them mainly in North Hamgyong Province where they grow well.

Agricultural cadres, however, still do not show much interest in increasing the production of soya beans. Although the Party's policy of producing these beans mainly in North Hamgyong Province is not being carried out properly, the workers of the Agricultural

Commission remain indifferent, and they also do not take steps to correct the farmers' errors, even though they choose barren land for the cultivation of soya beans as in the past, neglect to apply fertilizer properly and weed carelessly. Agricultural scientists, too, carry out hardly any research on the production of soya beans. As a consequence, we cannot even produce a scientific film on the cultivation of soya beans yet. Because agricultural personnel show so little concern, soya bean production is barely able to increase.

You say you grew a good crop of soya beans last year, but according to the report of the Ministry of Procurement and Food Administration, the amount which they purchased was insignificant. This also shows that you did not grow a large crop last year.

Agricultural personnel must rid themselves, as soon as possible, of this irresponsible attitude, which is unworthy of masters, manifested in the production of soya beans during past years, and increase their output considerably.

In the first place, their yield per unit area must be radically increased. Since farming land is very limited, we cannot simply expand the land under soya beans even at the expense of the area sown to grain crops. We should raise the per-hectare yield in whatever way

possible and so increase their output.

They say that at the Pongam Cooperative Farm, Kilju County, North Hamgyong Province, coal ash was spread and a great deal of manure was applied to 26 hectares of soya bean fields last year, with the result that each hectare yielded three tons. In the case of other cooperative farms, four hectares of land is needed to produce three tons of soya beans. At present, we plant a wide area of 420 000 hectares to soya beans every year, on 130 000 hectares of which they are sown as the main crop. If other cooperative farms raise their per-hectare yield like the Pongam Cooperative Farm, only 150 000 to 200 000 hectares will be enough to meet the demand for soya beans in our country.

If you introduce advanced methods and make persistent efforts, it will be quite easy to reap three tons of soya beans per hectare. Other countries produce 1.8 tons per hectare even by sowing mechanically and without weeding. Why, then, cannot we raise the per-unit-area yield when we are practising intensive farming? If you apply microelement fertilizer and a large amount of manure before you plant soya beans, you may be able to raise the per-unit-area yield not merely to three tons but even higher. All those cooperative farms where soya beans are planted as the

main crop should strive for three tons per hectare.

As well as being planted as the main crop, soya beans should also be cultivated on a wide scale as an aftercrop, in order to increase their output. Last year we planted the “black-eye small-grain” variety of soya beans as the aftercrop in the worst land of the experimental plot and reaped 2.5 tons from every hectare. In South Phyongan and North and South Hwanghae provinces soya beans should be cultivated widely as an aftercrop. Then, it will be possible to produce a large quantity of soya beans even without expanding the area used for their cultivation.

Ridges between paddies should also be planted on a large scale with soya beans. We have advised the farmers in the past to plant them on these ridges for their own consumption, but they do so at their discretion, adopting a casual attitude to the matter. So now it is necessary to find out the area of the ridges and assign a definite quota of soya bean production to each cooperative farm. If you manage well, a large amount of soya beans can be produced on the ridges.

This year we should start a powerful drive to produce 500 000 to 600 000 tons of soya beans and meet the domestic needs for them entirely on our own.

As well as producing soya beans, we should

cultivate chufa extensively to ensure a regular supply of cooking oil for the people.

We should develop livestock farming further.

This conference of agricultural workers ought to have taken up the matter of meat production as an important question, in addition to grain production, but little mention has been made of this. Therefore, I would like to make some remarks on increasing the output of animal products.

Every farm household should raise, as a matter of priority, a great number of fowls this year.

In future, too, we must continue to develop the state-run poultry farming and produce chickens and eggs in a more intensive way. But the state farms alone cannot satisfy the demands for chickens and eggs. We must, therefore, see to it that while the state farms concentrate on intensive poultry production, a widespread drive is also undertaken for the farm households to keep poultry.

If farm households raise chickens, it is possible that they might produce slightly fewer eggs than the state farms because they are handicapped in feed supply and in tending the birds. However, each hen will lay some 180 to 200 eggs a year. If a hen lays 200 eggs a year, five hens will produce 1 000. At present our country

has about 1.3-1.4 million households capable of raising fowls. If they raise five hens each, 1 300 million eggs can be produced in a year. This is a large amount.

Of course, if farm households are to raise chickens, they will experience some difficulty in obtaining animal-based feed. But they can resolve this question if they tackle it skilfully. Provided that we can solve this problem, it will not be very difficult to raise some ten chickens at each house. County cooperative farm management committee chairmen, ri Party committee secretaries and cooperative farm chairmen must, therefore, deal with this matter efficiently.

In order to get all farm households to raise chickens, the state farms should hatch many chicks for them.

In the past few years we have constructed many egg farms in major cities and workers' districts. In Pyongyang, egg farms have been built at many places such as Mangyongdae, Hadang and Sopho. In South Phyongan Province, they have been erected in Ryonggang, Tokchon and Kaechon counties, and others are now under construction in Phyongsong District and Mundok County. Therefore, in Pyongyang and South Phyongan Province, it will soon be possible to provide chicks to all farmhouses. Other provinces may experience some difficulty, but the matter will be

settled if each egg farm takes charge of a few counties and accepts the responsibility for hatching and supplying them with chicks.

Poultry farms have so far not supplied many chicks to farmhouses because they have had to keep them for their own development. But in future they will be able to supply as many chicks as required.

Poultry farms should rear the hatched chicks for about a month before selling them to farmers. Day-old chicks are liable to die, but they will not die so easily if they are a month old. If they are taken to the farmhouses when very young and accustomed to the conditions there, they will grow without being given much feed.

When supplying chicks to farmhouses, it is necessary to provide egg producers and birds for the table in the right proportions. A meat-producing variety differs from an egg-laying variety in many ways. The meat producer matures quickly, but lays fewer eggs. If a farm household is given only meat-producing chicks, it will not get many eggs. I think it will be wise to supply five chicks for laying and five for meat production to each household, making a total of ten.

Roosters are also good for meat production. They say that nowadays farmers are reluctant to take male

chicks. You should explain the situation to them well and encourage them to take male chicks, too. Because their present raising capacities are not great, the poultry farms kill all male chicks as soon as they are hatched. If that is the case, it will be good to let the farmers take them home free of charge and raise them.

This year we should encourage every farm household to raise fowls, so that children at nursery schools and kindergartens will have eggs and the remainder can be sold at shops. Because this is the first year, every farm household should be given a quota of producing 400 to 500 eggs, and 1 000 eggs from next year on.

In this way the farming families can produce 1 300 million eggs annually; when those produced at the state egg farms are added, the total figure will reach 2 000 million. If 2 000 million eggs are produced in our country, it will be possible to supply eggs to the working people at all times.

Many pigs should also be raised.

This requires establishing strong fodder bases. Cooperative farms should be encouraged to grow the nutritive and high-yielding *aegukphul*, pumpkin and the like extensively, thus providing feed on their own. They say that many pumpkins will grow when they are sown so as to be able to climb up the trellises erected by

the roadside and on the banks of ditches. The Ponghwa Cooperative Farm in Kaecheon County is said to be keeping a great number of pigs now by obtaining their feed in this manner. Instead of just looking only to the state for pig feed, other cooperative farms should also make efforts to grow it for themselves.

This year we should launch an all-mass movement for every workteam to produce 2-3 tons of meat and every farm household to produce 100 kilogrammes of meat and 400-500 eggs or more, and thus attain without fail the target of meat production set by the Party at the 17th Plenary Meeting of its Fourth Central Committee.

Comrades,

Today a fierce struggle is being waged in all sectors of our national economy to attain the major goals of the Seven-Year Plan this year. In agriculture, too, the construction of a socialist countryside must be accelerated following the path indicated by the *Theses on the Socialist Rural Question in Our Country*, and all rural cadres and cooperative farmers should come out as one to mount a powerful campaign to produce 500 kilogrammes of more grain per hectare again this year.

I am firmly convinced that you will successfully carry out all tasks set by the Party at this conference

and bring about a new advance in agricultural production, thus meeting the expectations of the Party with credit.

KIM IL SUNG

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SOCIALIST RURAL CONSTRUCTION**

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