RESULTS OF PART-TIME SCHOOL SYSTEM OF THE MINISTRY
OF POST AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

By Chang Ch'un-shui, Wan Chung

- COMMUNIST CHINA -

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FOREWORD

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Chang Tai-chun (張台春), a correspondent, reports that the Nanking Post and Telecommunications College has been actively carrying out entrance training for its new students this year.

Before the start of classes, this college utilized about one week's time, organizing the new students to study the documents of the Eighth Party Congress, and to listen to special reports concerning "the general conditions of the College and an introduction to the professions", "regulations and systems" and "learning methods", conducting exhibitions of teaching instruments and equipment, products of scientific studies and pictures of the College's excellent traditions. Thus, the new students' ideological emotions have rapidly become settled.

The Party Committee in the college pays great attention to the fact that the first lesson must be learned well. Before the lesson opens, the office of the Dean of Studies, the various departments, the professors and the students have made full preparations organizationally, ideologically and materially. At the first lesson, the responsible comrades from the office of the Dean of Studies and from the various departments accompany the instructors to their respective class-rooms and introduce the instructors to the students. The secretary of the Party Committee, the Dean of the College, the Dean of Studies, the secretary of the Communist Youth League, the heads of the various departments and the cadres of the various levels, all penetrate into the classrooms to listen to the first lesson. In a solemn, earnest and orderly atmosphere, teaching for the new school year is formally begun.

Since the beginning of classes, conditions have been excellent. The earnest teaching and studious learning traditions in this college have again attained a new development. Continuing the all-out and penetrating implementation of the
Party's educational policy, constantly raising the teaching quality, and striving for the three rich accomplishments in reading, laboring and ideology have become the practical actions which the instructors and the students have used to respond to the appeal made by the Eighth Party Congress. They also are promoting the continuous leap forward in educational work.

To lead the new students to adjust rapidly to the characteristics and demands of learning, this college is preparing a series of more detailed work. At present, it is using the topic of "How to Be a Freshman", to introduce methods of learning with emphasis on organization. It has been pointed out to the new students clearly that they must learn well. The new students not only learn the scientific knowledge not familiar to them before, but they must also change their middle school learning habits and learning methods and must train and improve their own independent thinking and their independent working ability.

In the entire learning process, these new students must constantly research, summarize and improve their learning method in order to meet the needs of the new learning task. The older students of the Telegraph and Wireless Departments, as old timers speaking of their personal experiences, say, "In middle school, the teachers help us along on the road, but in college, the instructors point out the road." This clearly indicates that college students must energetically train themselves to think independently and to attain independent working ability.
To raise rapidly the cultural and the operational technical level of some leading cadres, the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications in December of last year conducted experiments with some of its cadres, using the method of contracted teaching and guaranteed learning. After more than three months of practice, it has been proved that this contracted teaching and guaranteed learning method is a good method through which some leading cadres have solved their learning problems in the off-hours.

When the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications was formulating plans to train its cadres last year it conducted an investigation concerning the cultural level and operational techniques of cadres on the department head and bureau chief level and found that some of these cadres' technical level was not very high and has to be raised. But these cadres had guiding responsibilities and were very busy with their work, so it was very difficult to arrange time for participation in off-hour schools.

Based on this situation, the Party and political leaders of the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications suggested that the contracted teaching and guaranteed learning method should be applied to cadres on the department head and bureau chief level to permit them to raise their cultural and technical levels. That is, based on the needs of duty, each leading cadre is required to select one or two courses for study. The department or bureau assigns a special person to assume the responsibility of contracted teaching. In this manner, he has the convenience of using his off-hours to learn at will. As to his learning method, he may adopt many forms to meet the actual conditions, such as, lecturing, discussion, and raising questions. As such, he can really use what he has learned and cherish the goal of learning and applying.
After this method was implemented good results were attained, and the greater majority of the leading cadres insisted on continued learning. Their learning morale is very high.

Comrade K'o (K'0), the deputy director of the Construction Bureau, has planned to learn within one year the two technical courses, "Long Distance Cable" and "Multi-Channel Carrier." The two directors of the International Liaison Bureau insist that they will spend six hours per week to learn a foreign language and hope that by the end of the year they will be able to read foreign language correspondence and to make conversation in a foreign language. Comrade Sun (Sung), the secretary of the Party Committee and Comrade Sung (Sung), the deputy director of the Personnel Department do not have very good health, but they are not satisfied with learning only one course, the fundamentals of signaling, so they plan to learn an additional course.

Comrade Wang (Wang), the deputy director of the General Office, has very high enthusiasm for learning. On the one hand, he goes to the machinery room in the message bureau to work as an apprentice and on the other hand, he insists that he must study one hour each evening. The enthusiastic spirit of learning on the part of the leading comrades has influenced the general workers considerably and has stimulated the workers in their off-hour learning. Many mid-level cadres have joined the off-hour schools for learning. Some of them have organized contracted teaching groups.

To guarantee that department-head and bureau-chief level cadres constantly keep on learning, the Personnel Department has adopted learning measures to meet the needs of those officials who will be out on official duties, so that when they are on official trips, they will not stop their learning. The Personnel Departments also makes periodic inspections of contracted teaching activities, makes timely summarizations and expands advanced teaching experiences. The Party Branch of each department and bureau is responsible for the arrangement of time so that the leading comrades will be able to learn. They also solve problems for the contract instructors in lesson preparation and other teaching problems.