

Our revolutionary cause is very great, novel and fraught with many difficulties. This cause requires that our party be capable not only of laying down correct lines and policies but also of actually carrying out highly skillful organizational work. Only in this way can our party translate its line and policies into realities. A very high organizational skill is a guarantee of the successful implementation of our party line and policies. As Marx put it: "Each stride made by actual movement is more important than a dozen programs." (TAP CHI CONG SAN footnote: Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels; Selected Works, Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1971, Vol II, page 11) To carry out organizational work well, all party cadres and members must be not only leaders of the people and excellent public speakers capable of working up and motivating the masses but also assault troopers and exemplary combatants always taking the lead in actual work. If we do not practice what we preach, if our words and deeds do not match, we can never organize and motivate the masses to successfully implement party line and policies. In this case, our words will be nothing more than big, hollow, empty talk. Moreover, in propaganda work, if party cadres and members want to satisfactorily carry out their tasks they must set an example for the masses. To motivate and educate the masses, what is necessary is not general theories, abstract slogans and trite, lifeless statements but the actions of party cadres and members themselves, their ability to outstandingly fulfill their tasks and their exemplary conduct. Only with their actions and exemplary deeds can people give their words a profound content and a strong persuasive power.

Our venerated, beloved President Ho was an extremely shining example of the morals, conduct and overall quality of a revolutionary combatant. President Ho always matched his words with deeds. All his statements were extremely persuasive not only because of their scientific, revolutionary and ethical nature but also because they were expressions of his exemplary deeds. It was exactly for this reason that all his statements were truths; all his teachings were heeded and respected by millions. His words carried a soul, an extremely strong vitality. What could be more touching and convincing than the appeals of a head of state who, before calling on the entire people to actively practice thrift to aid people temporarily suffering from hunger, abstained from food himself once every 10 days to save rice for the people! What could be more noble and admirable than the example of a great leader who, after having devoted all his life to the people and party, after undergoing untold hardships and sufferings and after becoming president of the country, still lived an entirely spartan, modest and simple life in the heart of the capital, keeping in close touch with the people! President Ho used to say: "Everyone likes good food and beautiful clothes; however, these desires must be consistent with the situation and circumstances. It is unethical for a person to enjoy good food and beautiful clothes all by himself while our people are still suffering privations." (TAP CHI CONG SAN footnote: President Ho with the people's armed forces, the People's Army Publishing House, Hanoi, 1962, page 195)

Educated by President Ho and the party, the great majority of our party cadres and members have always made efforts to train themselves, to maintain the noble qualities of party members, to develop the habit of promptly matching words with deeds and to conduct themselves in an exemplary manner in work. It is for this reason that our party has acquired sufficient ability and strength to lead and organize the people to overcome untold difficulties and hardships in order to score one victory after another. In our party, however, there still are comrades who, prompted by the fear of difficulty and hardship and the love of leisure, have not yet developed the habit of matching words with deeds and who sometimes practice one thing while preaching another and fail to maintain the vanguard, exemplary role of party members.

For instance, there is the case of some comrades who show great resolve in meetings to discuss tasks, but then back out when it comes to actual work. Some comrades talk correctly and beautifully about the party line and policies but fail to strictly and fully implement them and, sometimes, even cite various excuses to refuse to carry them out or to arbitrarily ignore them. Some comrades talk eloquently about maintaining and protecting public property and opposing corruption and waste, but waste state funds and property in their work and sometimes even engage in corrupt practices and steal public property. Some comrades realize the important role of the masses and urge everyone to respect the people and their ownership, but they themselves adopt a bureaucratic, authoritarian, arrogant attitude toward the people. Some comrades eagerly talk about upholding the sense of organization and discipline, but fail in real life to adopt a severe attitude toward themselves, to respect the collective and to abide by party discipline and state laws; sometimes these comrades even place themselves above the organization and the law. There are also some comrades who, while persuasively preaching criticism and self-criticism as a sharp weapon of the party, a law governing the party's survival and development.... like to hear only praise, not criticism or mention of their errors and shortcomings, which they sometimes admit but refuse to rectify, and so forth.

We know that, as the leader of the revolution and the vanguard team of the working class our party has all the fine qualifications for this class. Taking the lead and being exemplary in actual work is a question of the party's nature; it also is the *raison d'être* of the party. Anyone who chooses to join the party does so to make sacrifices, to fight for its ideals and to provide welfare and happiness for the people. If party members do not apply themselves and conduct themselves in an exemplary manner in actual work, how can they hope to motivate and convince the masses to successfully fulfill the party's ideals? And how can they preserve the noble title of party member? For this reason, preaching and implementing the party line and policies, being exemplary in actual work and outstandingly fulfilling all tasks are imperative for all party members. These qualities also represent the ethics of party members as well as the measure of their loyalty to the party and the revolutionary cause. It is inconceivable that a cadre or party member can be good without having to match words with deeds or to practice exactly what he preaches. Such cadres are worthless because they exist only in name. Lenin once said: "We do not need nominal party members, even if offered free.... We need new party members for work, not for the sake of publicity." (TAP CHI CONG SAN footnote: V. I. Lenin: Collected Works, Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1968, Vol XXX, pages 69-70) Lenin severely criticized those cadres and party members who were great talkers but small doers, who were not exemplary in work and who failed to match words with deeds. Lenin called party members incapable of actual work and inefficient in their professions "pitiful handicraftsmen" and "harmful" party members. He was willing to give away dozens of such party members for a competent bourgeois specialist who is serious in his work. According to Lenin, a competent specialist, even a bourgeois one, is "ten times as valuable as a boastful communist party member" who refuses to carry out actual work. Lenin always urged: "Let us cut down on flowery statements, carry out more simple, daily work and pay a little more attention to our wheat and coal!" (TAP CHI CONG SAN footnote: V. I. Lenin: Selected Works, Su That Publishing House, Hanoi, 1959, Vol II, Part II, page 214)

We are beginning to build socialism on a nationwide scale. This is a very far-reaching, very great revolution aimed at transforming our agriculturally backward country into a prosperous, powerful socialist homeland endowed with modern industry and agriculture, stable and strong national defense and advanced culture and science. A very promising horizon is opening up before us. To attain this bright future, however, we must valiantly apply ourselves to actual work and carry out our tasks with extraordinary energy, fervent zeal, steadfast determination and the will to launch resolute, continuous offensives against backwardness and poverty, defying all difficulties and hardships. The fourth party congress has traced the lines for our people to steadily follow in their advance to socialism. At present, our main duty is to organize in order to successfully implement these lines, especially the line for economic building and development, an extremely difficult and complex task, "an offensive a million times as difficult as the most difficult offensive." Only by enthusiastically and valiantly applying ourselves to actual work with the spirit of "everything for production, everything for socialism, everything for the fatherland's prosperity and strength and the people's happiness" can we fulfill the targets and ideals of our party.

Of course, striving to work successfully and to fulfill all the specific duties of a party member is no easy task. This is indeed a very difficult task which requires that party members not only be motivated by a fervent revolutionary zeal, boundlessly loyal to the party's ideals, entirely devoted to the people's happiness, resolute, energetic, enthusiastic, courageous, unafraid of hardships, patient, perseverant, practical and equipped with correct work methods, but also make constant efforts to study and train themselves in order to acquire the necessary knowledge in all fields. At the same time, party members must rely on the masses, listen to their opinions, learn from their experiences and fully develop their collective ownership.