

Dates of Meeting:

November – 08-12-1953

Type of Meeting:

3rd National Conference of Handicraft

Agenda:

Promote handicrafts producer cooperative

Speeches:

Zhu De [Help the handicraftsmen organize and take the socialist road](#) December 4, 1953

Liu "On the problems of handicraft producers' cooperatives," December 8, 1953

Other Decisions and/or Actions:

- planned that by the end of 1954, the members of HPCs would increase to more than 900 thousand with an output value of more than 1 billion yuan; by 1957, 5 million members with a output value of more than 6 billion yuan. The national campaign would be completed basically in the second FYP period
- Determined the policy of "active leadership, steady advance" regarding the socialist transformation of the handicraft industry
- 3 main forms of cooperation among handicraftsmen and artisans: supply and marketing producer groups; supply and marketing producer cooperatives and producer cooperatives.

Remarks:

1. This conference was convened by the CC CCP.
2. In 1954, the number of HPCs increased by 10 percent and doubled in 1955.
3. The socialist reform of urban artisans (or the handicraft industry) was fully introduced following the third national conference on handicraft production cooperation held in November, 1953. The concrete steps of reform included, starting from collective supply and marketing, the transition from small to large and from lower to higher levels. Handicraft production cooperatives were an advanced form of handicraft cooperation. This was a collective economy with the nature of socialism. The principle of voluntariness and mutual benefit was adhered to when it came to members' admission. In addition to paying a certain amount of entrance fees, their main production tools and equipment were bought, at a discount, and owned by the cooperative as shared property. Cooperative members were directly involved in collective production, thus changing the old employment relationship between master and apprentice existing in the individual handicraft workshops. Their wage took the form of work remuneration. Part of the net revenue of cooperatives was used for tax payment, and the remainder was regarded as a variety of funds and shared reserves.
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