

1954

## Meetings

**Dates of Meeting:**

22-05-1954 – 25-05-1954

**Type of Meeting:**

2<sup>nd</sup> National conference on propaganda work

**Place of Meeting:**

**Attendance:**

**Major Agenda Items:**

Cultural questions; commercial problems

**Speeches and Reports:**

**Zhou Yang:** Speech: "letting one hundred flowers bloom" May 22, 1954

means allowing free competition in the realm of culture; "getting rid of the old to usher in the new" means allowing the masses and history to judge things

**Chen Yun:** " Report on Commercial Questions," May 25, 1954:

a shortage of goods relative to demand is a long-term phenomenon which is beneficial in that it serves as a spur to industrial and agricultural production

**Deng Tuo:** gave a keynote address on how this reform As part of the new General Line the Party set about summing up past experience in its press and propaganda and 'advancing' (gaijin) their work. Additionally, it set about strengthening Party norms and discipline) applied to journalism

**Xi Zhongxun:** director of propaganda, reiterated the need for increased criticism and self-criticism in the press. He declared that, from this time forward, "the newspapers would begin criticism and self-criticism in a directed and correct manner to overcome the vulgar custom of a lack of criticism and self-criticism in propaganda work." propaganda was not strict enough in criticism of capitalist thinking: this at a time when policy still encouraged cooperation with private entrepreneurs.

**Remarks:**

1. Chen Yun's report was delivered to a joint meeting of this conference and the May 25, 1954, Sixth National Public Security Work Conference
2. Taking advantage of Lu Dingyi's absence, Xi Zhongxun tried to reassert the need for strong party control over propaganda work