

Directive of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on Adhering to the Principle of Voluntariness in Promoting Government Bonds Among Workers

Date: January 14, 1950

To all Central Bureaus, Sub-bureaus, and Provincial and Municipal Party Committees:

Since the Central People's Government announced the issuance of the People's Victory Real-Value Government Bonds, workers across the country have responded enthusiastically and subscribed eagerly. This demonstrates the workers' enthusiastic support for the people's government and will undoubtedly have a positive impact on the smooth promotion of the bonds, which is worthy of encouragement and commendation. However, in some cities and individual enterprises, administrative and trade union organizations have, in promoting the purchase of bonds among workers, engaged in disguised forms of coercion and apportionment. For example, they have allocated fixed amounts to workers (as in Hankou), or even specified how many bonds each worker must buy (as in the Seventh Cotton Mill in Tianjin). Some propaganda materials have gone so far as to claim that workers who are unwilling to buy more bonds are "undermining government decisions" or are "enemies of the working class." Such disguised coercion is wrong and dangerous, and will inevitably cause dissatisfaction among the workers. It must be corrected immediately.

The Government Administration Council's directive on promoting the bonds clearly states that "the main targets for bond sales should be industrial and commercial enterprises, wealthy urban and rural households, and affluent retired civil and military officials in large, medium, and small cities." As for urban workers and staff, they "are welcome to purchase bonds on a voluntary basis, without being assigned fixed amounts." All local Party committees should follow this directive in their bond promotion work, focusing on industrial and commercial enterprises and wealthy households. While propaganda and encouragement for bond purchases should also be carried out among workers and staff, the principle of voluntariness must be strictly upheld. Most importantly, the promotion of bonds should be combined with encouraging production and thrift campaigns. The success of this work should not be measured by the amount of bonds purchased, but by whether the workers' production enthusiasm has been further enhanced. If the promotion of bond purchases leads to a decline in workers' production enthusiasm, it will be counterproductive and a failure of our work. All local Party committees should convey this directive to factory and enterprise management personnel and trade union workers, correct any individual errors that have already occurred, and submit a brief report on the situation and experiences of promoting bonds among workers.

Central Committee

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