

V. N. D. L No 108 Oct. 11, 1941

- CAO BANG -

① Salt Shortage.

Why do our people not have enough salt to eat? ^{T_n} Our country from South to North, there are seas and salt fields. Before, we not only had enough salt to eat, but ^{also} had surplus of salt for fertilizers and exports to other countries.

France has set up custom houses and bought ^{each} 100 kg of salt for 0.2 or 0.3 dong, then they sell to our people for 3 dong, even higher in remote regions. And in places where there ~~are~~ no custom-house, they prohibit our people from producing salt.

Because of the French exploitation, we have to eat the high-priced salt. Since the salt is so expensive, our people can not afford to buy and have to eat without salt, so they can easily fall ill.

When Japan had occupied our country, they collected all the salt, partly for the Japanese soldiers, partly for Japan. Therefore at present the salt ~~is~~ is shortage and increasingly expensive. Two years ago one kg of salt cost only 5, 6 cents now 90 cents. So the money to buy 15 kgs before, now is only enough for 1 kg. Our people will fall ill in greater number because of the insipid food!

Japan, France are exploiting more and more. Taxes are increasing. Matches, oil, cloth, salt and other necessities are becoming more expensive, how our people can continue to live! If we want to live, we must unite to fight France, Japan to achieve peace for our people!

② On the Inspecting Tour of High-Level Cadres.

The populations in the regions where the Cadres have not visited have sent letters of invitations to the cadres.

The high-level cadres would like to express their sincere

thanks to brothers and sisters of those regions and promised to come and visit them when time permits.

③ Domestic News : Blackmailing People for Money.

So far the village notables and secret informers have frequented the villages and threatened the people for money. They said : if the people do not give them money, they will tell the authority to arrest the villagers. In many places, the people understood the trick and would not give out the money. In some certain places, the population filed a suit then the secret informers were arrested.

We should understand that : Although the French are very cruel, they dare not arrest all the population, because then no one will pay tax. So the people must be tough and unanimous to foil the trick of the money-makers. If the money-makers were given money once, they will continue to make money.

④ World News : Barbarous German Soldiers

The German troops often gather all inhabitants, young and old, women and children at a place and opened fire to kill them all! With regards to women from 7 to 70, they rape them and open their barrels, cut the breast, legs and arms! Children were beaten against the rock to death. When France was lost, more than 100,000 women and girls around Paris were raped and executed by the German soldiers.

⑤ Garden of Literature : Workers

Summary of the poem - workers are the class which produces materials, commodities and build house for the society, but they are mercilessly exploited by the French and Japanese. Therefore the workers should join the Viet Minh bravely to sacrifice in the cause of restoring the country.