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Cuba is still a go-go kaleidoscope. The people are caught up in the epic push-ahead out of underdevelopment and few, except for some local and visiting intellectuals, are concerned with bulldogging reality, tying its feet and stopping the motions for a doctrinal examination.

This is not to underestimate the Cuban government's interest in theoretical questions. It has defined its road to communism with clarity and the principled pathways that must be traversed. Although there is no written Constitution there is a growing body of accumulated experience and tradition.

Yet the pulse of the Cuban Revolution is its everyday practice. Here are some recent events:

-- Tipping is a thing of the past. In one decisive blow following the initiation of the Revolutionary Offensive the deeply-entrenched and pernicious practice of tipping waiters and other service personnel has been ended. The measure was brought before workers' assemblies and approved. The government has increased the wages of these workers in accordance with their usual intake plus tips. Everybody feels better about it now, waiters and clients. The service personnel can hold their head up and stop being sycophants.

-- Starting in September both of the national television networks will be almost entirely turned over to educational TV. Each week in 72 hours of formal classes making use of the latest visual aids will be piped in to every junior and senior high as well as many of the primary schools. Ten thousand TV sets from East Germany are ready for installation. An organic link has been set up between the TV industry and the Ministry of Education. All programs for children will also be made under the guidance of educators. The formal classes will last 25 minutes giving the teacher the final 35 minutes to finish the job. The most ambitious project will be that of seventh grade New Math which will be televised every day of the week. This new plan which includes classes for students and special teachers' training courses will launch Cuba into the forefront in

-- Five hundred Party cadres taken out of agriculture and industry are taking a special three-year course in Havana. Technical and scientific subjects are being stressed. The students will also undergo military training.

-- ~~High~~ Compulsory military training is being introduced for boys and girls in the high schools of the nation. Almost all of the agricultural and industrial high schools for scholarship students are already under military discipline.

-- The government is continuing its policy of attracting women into the work force. Resolutions 47 and 48 of the Ministry of Labor ~~have~~ designated 437 job categories exclusively for women. Signs of the times are the 200 women who have been trained to run the "Piccolinos," small Italian tractors to be used in the Havana Green Belt and also the 125 women in charge of the new calf-farm in Maurin. Women are also being induced to enter the technical-military institutes for their three-to five year officer training courses.

-- For the first time since the beginning of the Revolution the nation's teachers will be guaranteed an uninterrupted one month vacation. Until now the summer months have been used for ~~teaching~~ in-service training courses. This practice will continue but will be limited to only one month. Also for the first time all schools -- primary, secondary, high schools, teachers' colleges and universities -- will begin at the same time.

--- Fifty thousand youth have volunteered to work for two or three years on the ambitious agricultural plans on the Isle of Pines. The island, now called the Isle of Youth, is slated to become the first communist community of Cuba. Another fifty thousand youth have volunteered to go to Camaguey for extended periods. Camaguey is the least populated province of Cuba with some of its most ambitious agricultural plans.

-- Some functionaries of the Young Communist League were criticized recently in a Granma editorial for being overzealous, bringing to bear undue pressure, in recruiting youthful volunteers for Camaguey. The editorial stated: "The volunteer principle is just that, a principle. To maintain it is as important as the very object of ideological formation or of decisively aiding production. To not clearly understand this concept is proof of a defect."

-- Many work centers have done away with time-clocks and sign-in sheets. Taking their place is the worker's conscience and the general criticism of his fellow workers.

-- The ~~xxx~~ rains came to Havana's Green Belt ending what might have been a terrible disaster. In fact they came so heavy that millions of seedlings had to be saved from drowning by 4000 volunteers. Later weeds sprang up and a good part of the volunteer labor force had to be devoted to pulling them out. But the Green Belt project goes forward relentlessly. By the end of June almost three-quarters of the 43 million goal of coffee bushes had been planted around Havana as well as 2 million wind-breaker trees and half a million fruit trees.

--- Cuba announced the confiscation of packages from the United States accumulated here between January and May of this year. On January 8 a bomb in a package sent from the US exploded in Havana, seriously injuring two postal employees. At that time the government called a halt to further distribution of packages from the United States. In a study of the contents of the confiscated packages the authorities said they ~~xxxx~~ found many false declarations of contents and large quantities of propaganda. In the future packages will only be accepted for shipment through the Cuban consuls or missions in foreign countries. Most items from the US will not be allowed to enter the country, exception being certain special medicines.

-- The Cubans have been experimenting with military-type organization in civilian work. In April of this year "Operation Giron" in Oriente province in which tens of thousands of volunteers participated, was organized under a general staff and included

a hierarchical organization of battalions, companies, platoons and squads. The success of Operation Giron in the voluntary agricultural work has led to other experiments of the same kind. Five thousand women workers of the Havana Green Belt were ^{under} ~~skinning~~ a military type organization during ~~the~~ May and June when they ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ filled seven million bags of earth.

-- In Las Villa province, the Association of Small Farmers has an average of organized 3,000 private farmers for 100 days of voluntary work on the state farmlands. Las Villas province has been particularly successful in incorporating the small farmer into voluntary work.

-- Summer began with American visitors, mostly students and scholars, taking advantage of the new relaxation ~~of~~ on travel to Cuba. Authorities here expect more American visitors during the next few months than they have seen since the early days of the Revolution.