

Enhan

Cuban Kaleidoscope

FA-66

Cuba entered this Year of the Decisive Effort with the impulse of a rocket headed straight for its appointed target. The sugar harvest which began earlier than ever is in full swing. Contingents of volunteer "permanent" workers who will work in the fields for three months or more have already gone off to their chosen sites. They are grouped according to work center. The School in the Countryside project is picking up steam as more and more schools go off to their six weeks assignments of farm work. The ~~School of the Arts~~ ^{National Arts School} has extended its stay on the Isle of Pines to three months.

~~Almost all offices and factories have voluntarily or partially~~
The employees of all offices and factories go off to the countryside for at least one day a week. This includes workers and ^{many} and/functionaries of the ~~Executive~~ Central Committee.

The movement to renounce extra pay for overtime work has spread far and wide. This is complemented by the "Workday ^{plan}" according to conscience" under which workers volunteer to work more than the regular eight hours without expectation of extra pay.

Fidel recently told a group of University students that this year and next will be full of hard and selfless work but that at the same time the food situation should pick up - precisely as a result of the past labors. Cuban^s, a rice eating people, are eagerly awaiting the rise in the ~~rice~~ monthly rice ration which, it is promised, will come soon.

~~The American~~

Some American newspapers forget to mention this when they reported that sugar will be rationed in Cuba. ~~They~~ They

people on this score however. No Cuban to whom I have talked is dismayed at the thought of receiving six pounds of sugar per person every month. That means that a family of four will receive 24 pounds of sugar. ~~XXXXXXXX~~ That's enough ~~even~~ for the sugar eating Cubans. The only people effected are those who were buying up large quantities of low priced ~~fatten up~~ sugar to ~~feed~~ ~~in~~ their privately owned pigs. They will just have to look elsewhere for the hog food. Meanwhile Cuba will save sugar to be sold on the international market ~~for~~ in exchange for machines and other necessities.

The recent criticisms of writers who turn out depoliticalized works divorced from the efforts of the people has been taken to heart by hundreds of young writers ^{oriented} who might have been influenced by the New York and Paris school of literature that until recently seemed to monopolize the center of the stage here. A ~~XXXXXX~~ Encounter of Young Writers and Artists of Havana province ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ ^{Encounters} attended by 500 youth has just ended. Others/will be held in the other provinces. They will elect delegates to a National ~~Wide~~ Conference to be held this year. The attendants at these conference ~~XXXX~~ come as individuals and do not represent any institution. The Havana Encounter had provocative discussion about the role of the artist in a socialist society. It is clear that these young artists agree with the essence of the criticisms raised ~~XXXXXX~~ ~~XXXX~~ in the army magazine "Verde Olivo" (Olive Green).

The Political Department of the Revolutionary Armed Forces has just convoked a national competitions in History, Plastic Artis, Literaure and Music. The contest is open to all civilians, soldiers and police. The prize is the publication of the winning entry.

Casa de las Americas has published in a single volume five articles by Noam Chomsky, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Linguists that originally appeared in the New York Review of Books in 1967 concerning the responsibility of the intellectual.

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of the Revolution (CDR)
The Committees for Defence have just declared a
six week campaign to strengthen the revolutionary vigilance
of the neighborhood committees. Among the tasks outlined
are three major ones: 1) strengthen the work of vigilance
against counterrevolutionary activities 2) discover common
criminals 3) to investigate any anomalies and deficiencies
of administration in the local stores and shops. The CDR
committees are ~~absolutely by each neighborhood~~ are composed of
the citizens of each neighborhood who annually elect the
leadership. Well functioning committees organize citizen
guard duty every night of the week. Despite distortions in
to that effect,
the U.S. press ~~should be able to see~~ these committees do not
meddle into the private affairs of the neighbors. The
who make up the committees would be
neighbors' ~~are~~ the first to complain if, by chance, they did.

The anniversary of the death of two renowned leaders
were celebrated widely here and given big press coverage.
On January 21st it was the death of Lenin. The next day Cubans
payed homage to one of their black countryman who has become
a national hero: Jesus Menendez. Menendez, a member of the
(Communist)
Popular Socialist Party was a brave and beloved leader of the
and killed
Sugar Workers Union. He was shot in the back by an army
officer twenty one years ago. Juventud Rebelde, the newspaper
of the Young Communist League, under a large front page photo
wrote: "Exactly twenty one years ago, the sneaky hand of a
uniformed criminal ended the exception life of the proletarian
fighter and communist combatant Jesus Menendez."