

1953

Speeches/Documents

Title: Criticism of the Ministry of Public Health

Author: Mao Zedong

Date: October 1953

Source: The writings of Mao Zedong. pg 425

Description: According to this source this criticism of the Ministry of Public health was made at a meeting of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the CPC in October 1953. There is another 1953 criticism of the same department among documents of unspecified dates in this year.

The Ministry of Public Health has been beset with many very serious shortcomings during the past few years. The most serious one is that [the Ministry] is short on politics, short on political work. There is too little Marxism-Leninism and socialism there. The Party must exercise overall leadership; it must lead health work.... He Cheng's thinking, ¹namely, that health work is a specialized technical type of work,... [and that] since the Center knows nothing about technology it is uncertain whether or not the Center could solve [any problem] even if it were reported to the Center... is completely erroneous. The Ministry of Public Health must exert the greatest effort to solve this problem.