

Party Recruiting Aided By Close Ties With Masses

Personal Discussion With Workers Brings New Members

By F. BROWN

There is no industrial center today, large or small, where strikes do not constantly break out. The masses of employed workers feel a sharp tightening of the chains of the N. R. A. codes, feel more and more the increasing burden of rising prices. The masses of unemployed all over the country are extending their struggle against relief cuts, for adequate winter relief. The poor farmers feel the crushing effects of the A. A. A. and are gathering their forces for more determined struggle for their needs. A powerful united front movement is being built between the employed and the unemployed around the struggle for unemployment and social insurance, against the growing danger of Fascism and imperialist war.

No truce, no maneuvers no concentration camps, no fascist reaction will stop the masses in their struggles for a better standard of living. The approaching winter will bring even more suffering to the toiling masses, still higher prices and greater unemployment as already indicated by the figures of the Department of Labor and the American Federation of Labor, more misery for the poor farmers. Yet the government and the bosses have in store for the employed workers new slashes in wages; for the unemployed, a slash in relief. The trend is to lower the standard of living of the masses as the

capitalist class thirsts for more profits. The 20 per cent increase in profits for the Wall St. monopolies since Roosevelt's New Deal came into effect, in a period when millions are in a state of semi-starvation, has not been enough for the capitalist vampires.

Struggles Growing

The situation is leading to new, larger struggles in the near future. The toiling masses understand more and more that there must be better coordination of their struggles as well as greater unity, and realize the need of developing leadership out of their ranks.

The struggles of the past year, especially, have shown to the masses in the most glaring manner that the A. F. of L. leadership heads straight to betrayals, chaining the masses to the will of the bosses and their government. The idea of rank and file leadership, of workers' democracy within the A. F. of L. unions is taking root among the workers. Ever more clearly, on the basis of their own experiences, the masses are gaining a better understanding of the role of the Communist Party. The "red scare" is becoming a double-edged weapon, splitting wide open the program of the reactionaries and revealing their true character. The threatening expulsion of Communists from the A. F. of L. unions makes masses of workers realize the role of the A. F. of L. officials who seek to eliminate from the ranks of the A. F. of L. the most militant fighters.

Today, more than ever before, the extent, power, and results of the struggles of the masses will depend on the ability of our Party to become a factor in determining

their course.

And one of the pre-requisites for making our Party a powerful instrument able to lead the masses in their daily struggles and in the struggle for power, is to forge stronger connections between the Party and the toiling masses; stronger connections in the workshops and mines, in the trade unions, in the mass organizations—unemployed, fraternal, farmers, cooperatives, cultural—which embrace millions. To accomplish this we must orientate the individual Party members to intensify their activities in their places of work and mass organizations, to greatly increase the recruiting of workers into the Party. It is only in this way that we will strengthen our ties with the masses everywhere. This is the orientation given by the Central Committee in its letter to the Party members on the recruiting drive.

The successful carrying out of this line will help us to lead the impending struggles for the daily needs of the masses, to prevent the betrayals by the reformist leaders, to turn the A. F. of L. unions, fraternal organizations, farmers' organizations, cooperative organizations and others, which in the hands of reactionary leadership are utilized as tools to help capitalism in its frantic efforts to get out of the crisis at the expense of the masses, into instruments of struggle of the masses against their oppressors, against capitalism.

Everywhere the masses must strive for workers' democracy in their organizations, for rank and file leadership. This implies the building of a powerful opposition to

October Revolution Anniversary Made Recruiting Day

the reactionary leaders as the only way that will bring about the transformation of the organizations from tools serving capitalism into instruments of class struggle. In turn, the building of the opposition requires the strengthening of the Party in the organizations as the driving force of the opposition.

Militant workers understand this well. And those who realize the need of developing a rank and file leadership and opposition movement in the mass organizations will come to understand also, if correctly approached, that their place is in the ranks of our Party.

Our task then, is to approach these workers! The celebrations of the 17th Anniversary of the October Revolution on November 7th must be utilized by the Party for the mobilization of each individual Party member and thousands of militant workers in the recruiting drive.

Let us call special meetings of sympathizers of the militant workers in the A. F. of L. unions, in the revolutionary unions and other organizations, to discuss our program and policy with them, to convince them that their place is in the Communist Party of the U. S. A. Let us make them understand that their task, together with us, is to build a mass Party to lead the coming struggles, to lead to a victorious overthrow of the capitalist system—to a Soviet America.