

World Party of Lenin Growing in Strength

New Forces Must Be Developed As Vital Party Task

By F. BROWN

The Eleventh Anniversary of the death of Lenin, the greatest leader of the working class, the builder of the World Communist Party, finds Lenin's World Party stronger today than ever before. Let the enemies, the counter-revolutionary Trotskyites, and the renegades of all stripes talk about the destruction of the Leninist Party. The pupils of Lenin, following in his path, steered in class battles all over the world, in the struggles against capitalism, in the struggle for building Socialism on one-sixth of the world's surface, are marching forward, guided by the theoretical and organizational principles laid down by their great teacher.

Cleansed of the renegade elements who for years fought against the principles of Lenin—either by trying to revive inside the Communist International distortions of Marxism or by smuggling in (under the cloak of Communism) their petty-bourgeois theories — the Leninist World Party stands today a rock, challenging the waves of attacks from the Fascists, from the capitalists and combating within the working class ranks the attacks of the Second International, the renegade groups, and all other conciliators to capitalism. It is strong because it is unified by the theoretical and organizational principles of Lenin.

"Lenin, while establishing the theory and tactics of the proletarian revolution in general, and the dictatorship of the proletariat in particular" (Stalin) in the struggle against the Mensheviks, against the revisionists of the Second International, gave to the working class its iron Party, able to readjust itself quickly to the demands of the current struggle, able to lead the working class to victory.

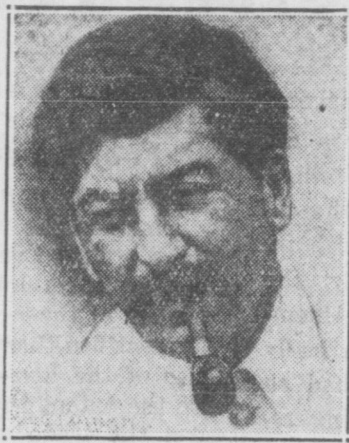
It was at the time the parties of the Second International, following their revisionist program, were reduced to an electoral campaign apparatus, to an organization unfit for the revolutionary struggle of the proletariat that Lenin developed the teachings of Marx and laid down the fundamental principles of the Party of the working class:

- 1—The Communist Party as the vanguard of the working class.
- 2—The principle of the formation of cadres of the Party, the so-called professional revolutionists.
- 3—The principle of making of each individual Party member an active, direct participant in the work of the organization.
- 4—The principle of laying the basis of the Party organization in the factories, in the form of shop nuclei.
- 5—The principle of establishing Communist fractions in the non-Party workers' and peasants' organizations (through which the Party is closely connected with the organized masses of workers and peasants) and participating actively as the driving force in all their struggles against their oppressors.
- 6—The principle of democratic centralism in the Party and the Communist International.
- 7—The principle of iron discipline of the Communist Party.

Self-Criticism

It is along these fundamental principles that our Party, like the other sections of the C. I., is organized. It is by following these principles that our Party has gained in strength, and in influence, among the masses. Our Party is the organized detachment of the American working class, guiding the proletariat in its daily struggles, and becoming more and more strongly connected with the toiling masses. Yet, the moment that we analyze the conditions and activities of our Party with the yardstick of the fundamental principles of Lenin, we can immediately see the many weaknesses still confronting us.

While it is true that in the last few years we have made a gigantic step forward in the development of new cadres, these cadres are, however, insufficient. The cry for cadres, for leaders, able to strengthen the Party in the concentration districts, to build the Party in hundreds of new places, continues. Our National Training schools, district



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training schools, and other forms of schools, do not yet meet the needs. The cry for leaders comes not only from the districts and sections, but especially from the lower organizations: the units and fractions. It is precisely in the leadership of the lower organizations of our Party that we find our major weakness. The Party is growing, the basic units are multiplying every day—yet the leadership of these basic organizations is not developing with the same pace.

Training Active Leaders

Here we see immediately that we are yet far from having fulfilled the principle of Lenin: the development of hundreds, thousands of the best and loyal elements into a leading, functioning capacity. It is thus clear that our task is to improve all the schools already existing, especially the district schools, section schools, and thereby to develop the forces needed locally.

At the same time, there must be more educational activities in the basic organizations, in the units and fractions, inasmuch as it is through the raising of the educational level of the Party members that we develop Bolsheviks who will understand the importance of their tasks, and who will be able to convince their fellow-workers of the correctness of our program.

We must have Communists who will be recognized by the workers as leaders. This means that our Party will be more and more recognized as the only Party of the working class, as the real vanguard of the working class.

Shop Nuclei

How do we stand with our shop nuclei? The shop nuclei are more numerous than they were 6 months ago. Yet the majority of the Party is still organized on a neighborhood scale. And, furthermore, many of the shop nuclei are not yet conscious of their role, namely, that of being the Party in the particular shop. They are not yet clear on the activities through which they must establish themselves as the leader of the struggles of the masses in the shops, mines, mills, and factories. The mere fact that the building of new shop nuclei takes so much pains, shows that in many instances we are still confronted with a lack of understanding of the importance of this basic organizational form of our Party; and that where we do understand this problem, not all the necessary measures are taken to guarantee the development of the existing nuclei, the building of new ones. Here again the importance of enlightenment on this problem, the importance of training of cadres from the top down, is revealed to its full extent.

Have our fractions in the trade unions and mass organizations become real instruments of the Party through which we are closely linked with the masses, and exercise leadership in involving these organizations in the daily struggles against the exploiters and oppressors? Here also we must state: Yes, we have fractions.

Yet our fractions are still functioning very poorly, due primarily to the fact that there is no clear understanding of their role. Again, we cannot solve this problem by mechanical organization of the fractions. The organization of the fractions must go hand in hand with the education of the fractions as to their role and tasks. They must avoid, on the one hand, following at the tail end of the organized workers, and on the other, taking the attitude of commanding, in-

Lenin's Teachings Show Way to Build Party

stead of leading the workers. At this point, we have still to solve the problem of getting all the Party members inside the trade unions. In other words, we are confronted with the task of making every Party member understand the role of the individual Communist, the role of the Communist Party among the organized masses. A clearer understanding of the role of the fractions will strengthen our position tremendously among the masses organized in the trade unions.

How do we stand in regard to the Leninist principles of democratic centralism and iron discipline of our Party? Let the Trotskyite counter-revolutionists and Lovestonite renegades shout about the lack of democracy, about the bureaucracy in our Party. We are following the Leninist principles on the basis of which the solid unity of the Party is established.

Of what kind of democracy do these gentlemen talk? Of the liberty asked for by Trotsky throughout his political career to convert our Party into a discussion club, to smuggle under the cloak of inner democracy distortions of Marxism-Leninism, to smuggle into our Party Trotsky's theories of permanent revolution, condemned by Lenin, to deny the possibility of building Socialism in one country. Of the liberty to slur the dictatorship of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, to slur the dictatorship of the proletariat in the Soviet Union, and to advocate the necessity of a second revolution—thereby arming the hands of counter-revolutionary assassins, uniting with White Guards and Fascists to deprive the Soviet Union, the world proletariat, of their best leaders? No, gentlemen, from 1902, on, Lenin fought against the Martovs and Trotskyes on these vital problems, in order to prevent the opportunists, reformists, the petty-bourgeois elements, from smuggling their theories into the Party, and in order to build the Party into a Party of iron discipline.

In our Party there is discussion; but discussion kept in the frame of Leninist inner democracy and Party discipline. Discussion? Yes; more discussion on how best to conduct our activities, on how more efficiently to attack our enemies; but not discussion for the revision of the program of the Lenin World Party. It is in the democratic centralism and iron discipline based on the ideological unity of the program of our Party that our strength lies. This the bourgeoisie knows, and this is what the bourgeoisie fears.

Let the renegades shout that the Communist Party is the tool of Stalin. Following the Communist International and the leadership of Stalin means following Lenin, means serving the cause of the working class under the banner of the Third International established by Lenin, means following Lenin's best disciple, Comrade Stalin. Yes, this is a great task and a great honor, which the renegades from the cause of the working class, cannot share. Let them be complimented and honored for their struggle against the Lenin and Stalin World Party by their masters—the bourgeoisie.

Strengthen the Party

The sharpening of the attacks against our Party, against the working class, demands the tightening up of the whole Party apparatus, means concretizing into action the line of the Open Letter to the Party and the decisions of the Eighth Party Convention.

The strengthening of our Party, building it into a mass proletarian Party, is the best guarantee to withstand all attacks by the enemies. The experiences of many sections of the Lenin World Party—which today, in spite of having been suppressed, in spite of Fascism, are maintaining a strong connection with the masses—shows us that our Party cannot be destroyed; that the strength of our Party when the highest pressure is exercised against it by the enemy, lies in the extent to which the Party is connected with the masses in the factories and in the trade unions. The line of our Party as worked out at the last Party convention, and extended by the last plenum, is the Leninist line of more decisively leading the workers in the daily struggles, in the building of the broadest united front movement, of more strongly being connected with the masses as a prerequisite to march forward and prepare ourselves for the future battles for power.

The Eleventh Anniversary of Lenin's death comes in the period of a new round of wars and revolutions, at a moment when the attacks against the Soviet Union, against the working class in all capitalist countries, are sharpening; at a moment, when in the United States, our Party is under the sharp attack by the government and growing Fascist elements, by the reformist bureaucratic leaders of trade unions, by the renegades from Communism, by the Social-Democratic leaders; at a moment when the working class is under the sharpest attack by the New Deal. It therefore becomes necessary that one of our major tasks is to take more vigorously the leadership in the daily struggles of the workers, by building the broadest united front. It is through their own experiences on the correctness of the Communist policies that the millions of toilers will go over to Communism. This is the way to build our Party to a real power. To do this, we must learn to master all the teachings of Lenin, and in line with his teachings, improve our Party organizations, make of our Party an iron Party able to withstand all attacks and march forward at the head of the masses. Make of it the American mass Bolshevik Party!



Defenders of the U. S. S. R.