

Our Experiences With Shop Nucleus Papers

By JAY LOVESTONE.

(This is the first of a series of articles, dealing with our experience to date with the publication of shop nuclei papers.) The specific types of papers gotten out, the methods of approach to the workers, the question of collecting shop news, the methods of putting over the news, the problems of the distribution of the shop papers, and such other questions will be analyzed in the light of our own experiences and from the angle of the experiences of other Communist parties which have many more shop papers and which have had occasion to get out, in certain instances, shop papers having a genuine mass character.

ONE of the most hopeful signs of the American Communists increasing their influence on the working masses is to be found in the greater effectiveness with which the shop nuclei of the Workers (Communist) Party are now carrying on their activities in many sections of the country. Unquestionably an excellent means of galvanizing our shop nuclei into life lies in the publication of vigorous fighting shop papers.

Shop Papers—A Hopeful Sign.

Our difficulties of reorganization are not yet overcome by any means. In fact, we haven't even succeeded in correcting all of the errors we have made in the reorganization campaign. But the multiplying signs of increased initiative by our membership are the finger posts of the transformation our party is going thru in the process of its becoming a mass Communist Party leading the working class of this country. The getting out of shop nuclei papers by our units is the most positive proof of the new trend of our development—a trend which is of inestimable significance for the whole American working class.

We now have more than twenty fac-

The Durant Hayes-Hunt Radiator

Issued Periodically by a Group of Workers of the Durant Hayes-Hunt Plant.

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PRICE, 1 CENT.

Why Are We?

You will no doubt wonder why this paper is being published and how it came into existence. We will briefly outline its purpose and aims.

Due to the deplorable conditions in our shops—low wages, the speed-up system, long hours, and so on—we decided to take up the problem of bettering our situation. We are publishing this paper to enlighten and help to organize the workers in these shops. At present, we dare not hold open meetings together with you, fellow-workers, because of the spy-system prevalent here, which we will expose further on and in the future issues of this paper. As a first means, we are taking this step to reach you.

It is evident that without a mouth-piece through which all the workers can express themselves, dealing with conditions in these shops, our fight would not be effective. We cannot depend on the ordinary newspapers. They are being published by and for the bosses who own and control society and form the ruling class. Chiefly through this means they shape the thoughts of the workers and turn them away from their own interests. We must therefore have

our own paper in this plant to voice the demands of the workers and unite them in common aims.

The Durant Hayes-Hunt Radiator is YOUR paper, fellow-worker. It will deal with our shop problems and all other matters that are important to us as part of the working class.

We want you to write for this paper. The Letter Box will gladly publish what you as a worker want to say to your fellow-workers concerning our shop questions and class problems.

Help us to distribute and pay the cost of publishing this paper. Support us on the following urgent demands:

1. Abolition of the 9, 11, 12 hour day.
2. Abolition of the piece-work system.
3. Abolition of night work.
4. Time and one-half for overtime.
5. A living wage.
6. Restoration of our smoking privileges.
7. Reduction of hours and steady employment for all.

Labels for Slaves

A notice was put up in the shop several weeks ago to the effect that each worker must wear his badge on the outside, so every one can see it. What is meant by this, fellow-workers? Do you know?

In the olden days each slave-owner branded his slaves with a red-hot iron so as to distinguish them from others, also to impress upon them that they were his personal property and he could do as he pleased with them. Today we are living in a "branded" world and "consequence."

Political concepts and the general issues confronting the working class as a whole.

Fine Response by Workingmen.

The response to these shop papers has been very good. These shop nuclei papers have instilled confidence in large number of the workers employed in the factories where the papers are published. The shop nuclei bul-

He no longer keeps you when you get too old, for he can find younger men and women to take your place. We do not work all year round. We are at the mercy of the bosses. When unemployed because we produce more than the boss can sell at once, they starve us and make us come back at still lower wages. TODAY WE ARE WAGE SLAVES!

They no longer brand, they brand today.

several instances, brought to bear heavy pressure against the workingmen in the affected plants. Efforts at spying have been redoubled by the owners. The police and the judges have also been called into action against workers distributing such shop bulletins. This was the case in a New Jersey automobile factory where workers not employed in the plant were arrested for distributing the shop paper amongst the employees of the factory.

Among the leading shop papers are: "The Studebaker Worker," "The Workmen's Shop News" issued by the Fisher Body plant shop nucleus, "The Westinghouse Workers Bulletin," "The Ford Worker," "The Hot Burner," "The Workers Point" of the Pierce Arrow nucleus, "The Miners Lamp," "The Head Light," "The Red Tiddle," "The Durant Hays-Hunt Radiator," "The Eagle Workers Point," "The Red Rim," "The Spotlight," "The Red Ingot" and the "Rivet."

These papers are published in the Chicago, Detroit, Pittsburgh, New York, Cleveland, Buffalo and Philadelphia districts.

Philadelphia Has Most Enthusiastic May Day Meeting

PHILADELPHIA, May 10—The May Day celebration which took place at the Moose Hall was the largest and most enthusiastic demonstration Philadelphia labor has seen in a long time. The hall, jammed with about 2,000 workers, resounded with loud and prolonged cheers and applause thruout the meeting.

The Young Pioneers, marching in to the strains of the International, were loudly cheered. After the red-kerchiefed youngsters had sung the songs of revolutionary labor, one of their number delivered and excellent talk.

Following the Pioneers, Norman H. Tallentire, district organizer, told of the meaning and significance of May Day.

Lyman's International Orchestra, the Freiheit Gesangs Verein and the Workers' Mandolin Club, were at their best.

Al Schaap spoke for the Young Workers (Communist) League. It was when the chief speaker of the evening, C. E. Ruthenberg, was introduced that the hall echoed with the thunderous applause and cheers of assembled workers.

Ruthenberg told of the great change that has taken place in the international labor movement, in the space of a year from May Day, 1925, and May Day, 1926.

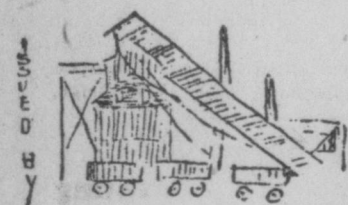
He told of his impressions of worker's rule in Soviet Russia, of its true representative democracy, and of the part each and every workers plays in the governing of the workers' republic.

Italian Workers' Club Hold Affair on May 16

YOUNGSTOWN, O., May 10. — The Italian Workers' Club of Youngstown, is arranging a fine affair for May 16. Comrade E. Sormenti, secretary of the Italian Bureau of the Workers (Communist) Party, and Sadie Amter of Cleveland, will be the speakers.

In addition a musical program has been arranged. Professor and Mrs. A. A. Netto, graduates of the Royal Conservatory of Music at Milan, Italy, will participate. The entertainment will be held at the Ukrainian Hall, 525½ W. Rayen Ave., at 6 p. m.

Open your eyes! Look around! There are the stories of the workers' struggles around you begging to be written up. Do it! Send it in! Write as you fight!



WEBB MINE NUCLEUS OF THE WORKERS PARTY

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MINE ACCIDENTS?

Every time there is an accident in a mine the boss puts the blame on us. Remember the terrible mine fire on Dec. 25, when nine of our brothers lost their lives. The bosses claim that we are careless. The bosses' newspapers spread this lie around and try to convince people that they are not to blame for accidents.

WE KNOW DIFFERENT. Look around our mine. The entries are all filled with rubbish, old timbers, stones etc. The rails are covered with coal dust, and every time the motor starts it scatters all along the way.

"a. the dirt is piled so high along side the rails, for the driver to pass and cut cards. as a chance of falling under the and perhaps his life."

"BOS CAREY the fire on December 25, and found that the conditions in that conditions in"

tory nuclei papers. We have at least ten in the automobile industry. The mining, machine shops, rubber, electric supplies and steel industries are among the others in which shop papers of the Workers (Communist) Party nuclei are now being published regularly. Cleveland publishes its shop bulletins with greater regularity than any other district. This district also leads in the number of shop bulletins published. Some of the bulletins are printed; others are mimeographed and some are multigraphed. The circulation of these papers varies from several hundred to as high as eight thousand in one instance.

Workers Write and Run the Papers.

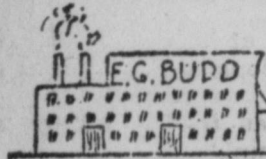
All the material is collected and written by the workers themselves. It is significant that these papers are almost solely gotten out in the big factories, in the basic industries, where many thousands are employed. In the main, the papers deal with the existing working conditions in the particular factory. Nearly all of the papers also introduce the more broad, deeper pol-

letins have aroused the workers to a greater consciousness of their interests as workers.

In every factory, the workers have speedily taken up these papers. These papers are a living force in the factory. This is shown by the role played by "The Spark Plug" in Cleveland in the strike of five hundred workers of the Fisher Body plant. "The Durant Hays Hunt Radiator" was certainly the most powerful force making for the increase of wages and the establishment of the eight hour day in one of the department of the plant of the Durant Hays Hunt of Elizabeth, New Jersey. It was primarily the agitation of this very live and excellent paper that brought about the strike of workers for these demands. It took the workers only three hours to force their will upon the bosses and to score a victory.

Bosses Bitter.

Because of the effectiveness of the shop papers and due to the response accorded these papers by the workers in the factories, the bosses have, in



Issued by the nucleus of the WORKERS (COMMUNIST) PARTY in the E.G. Budds Manufacturing Co., Phila., Pa.

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WHY "THE HEADLIGHT"

Fellow Workers! The first issue of the "Headlight" is now circulating thru the Budd Plant. Have you read it yet?

This shop bulletin is written and published by a group of workers in this shop to tell the truth about things here and throw a light upon the rotten conditions in the different departments.

The HEADLIGHT IS ALTOGETHER different from the "BUDGET" which is owned and printed by the Budd Co. to promote the interests of the rich stockholders, who don't work in the shop but get huge profits from our sweat and labor, just the same.

The HEADLIGHT is in the field to show up Co., to expose the disgraceful and inhuman things in these shops by the management and the bosses.

Also the HEADLIGHT will must think and act to put this plant place, with good conditions union standards.

The in this establish read the bull.