



BUILD THE PARTY PRESS!

The workers movement in the United States, at this time, is without the conscious leadership that only a revolutionary communist party can provide. As a result, many misleaders are in leading positions. In our trade unions, the trade union bureaucrats are in control. In the national movements, the Stokely Carmichaels and the Coretta Kings fill these positions. The revisionist 'Communist' Party is trying to mislead the workers and oppressed nationalities down the peaceful road of class collaboration. The spontaneous workers movement cries out for revolutionary leadership which can provide correct guidance in the day to day struggles as well as in the struggle for seizure of state power. This is the role of a communist party. But this party doesn't yet exist. We have to build such a party. This is the central task before us.

To build the party means to fuse scientific socialism with the spontaneous working class movement, this is the heart of the question. This means that the day to day struggles of the workers must be linked to the final goal of the working class, communism. This process of fusion has been going on for over a hundred years and will continue on long after the working class seizes state power. The communist press has an integral role in this process of fusion and in the building of the new communist party. UNITE! sets this task before itself.

UNITE! seeks to link all the struggles of the working class and oppressed peoples together, so that they are not just isolated struggles in one small area of the country but are connected as a part of an overall struggle against the bourgeoisie. It is through the pages of the newspaper that miners in West Virginia will learn that their struggles against the bureaucrats in the United Mine Workers are the same kind of struggles that steelworkers in Gary and Pittsburgh are waging against the bureaucrats in the United Steelworkers Union. They will learn that the bureaucrats in their unions are a part of an entire bought off strata and not just some misguided workers. Lenin, in *WHAT IS TO BE DONE?*, summed this up with a very clear example:

"Pray tell me, when bricklayers lay bricks in various parts of an enormous unprecedentedly large structure, is it 'paper' work to use a line to help them find the correct place for the brick laying, to indicate to them the ultimate goal of the common work, to enable them to use not only every brick, but every piece of brick which cemented together to the bricks laid before and after it, forms a finished, continuous line? And are we not now passing through such a period in our Party life when we have bricks and bricklayers but lack the guideline for all to see and follow?" LCW Vol 5 p 501

The newspaper is this main line, the main connection of the party to the workers that will be this kind of guide. The newspaper takes all these isolated struggles of the workers and oppressed nationalities and through its agitation

and propaganda draws out the significant lessons for the entire class to learn. But the paper is more than a collective agitator and propagandist, it is also a collective organizer.

Around the newspaper develops a network of agents. This network arises from such functions as the distribution of the newspaper as well as contributions to the paper. This network is like a web that will embrace the entire working class.

This network makes use of both legal and illegal forms of activity. In the main we will strive for illegal networks, because with the rise of fascism we will no longer be able to maintain our legal forms. At this time we are able to make use of some legal forms. For example, around the country UNITE! committees are being set up. These are legal forms. These committees are composed of friends and contacts of the Marxist-Leninist Organizing Committee. One task of these committees is to distribute the paper in an open way at plant gates, in communities or wherever workers gather.

We are also able to make use of community stores to distribute our material. For example, in some cities our Africa pamphlet is being distributed in record stores, community centers, laundromats, etc.

We have no illusions that soon the day will come when we will no longer be able to make use of these legal means for contacting the masses of people. The bourgeoisie will not allow it to take place. But until that time we will use these and other forms to further the aims of the working class.

The illegal networks are being built in the factories and communities. Hand to hand distribution in these places is not open for the bourgeoisie to see and therefore it will not be able to smash these contacts. This is the primary form that must be built now. These links will be the primary way that the party will be able to maintain close ties to the masses no matter what level of repression takes place. The party under capitalism is a highly illegal organization and if the capitalists were able to smash it, they would at a moments notice. This is why the party must establish these illegal networks.

IDEOLOGICAL CENTER

The paper is the ideological and political center for the working class. It is here that the working class will turn for its guidance. The paper is the most open voice of the party. Through the pages of the paper the party will express its views on all major questions facing the working class and oppressed nationalities. It is for this reason that the paper must not limit itself to a narrow scope. It must take up every struggle of the working class, answer all questions that are pressing for the working class movement and it must expose the bourgeoisie and their servants at every turn. It must take up the struggles of the allies of the working class, the oppressed nationalities. The agitation and propaganda must serve to give the kind of prac-

tical guidance that the working class demands on all questions. In this way the working class will embrace the paper as its own. Under capitalism, it is the bourgeois perspective that is dominant and so the party must address itself to all matters in order that the viewpoint of the proletariat be known.

AGITATION AND PROPAGANDA

As we stated earlier, the central task that faces us is founding a new communist party. The stage of party building that we are in is winning the vanguard. What this means is to win over the class conscious workers and other revolutionary forces to communism and away from opportunism. And it also means to forge a party program, to determine our tactics for the period ahead, to build cadre ideologically, politically and organizationally. All these components make up winning the vanguard; they are components required for firmly grounding the party in Marxism-Leninism.

Here is what Comrade Stalin said about winning the vanguard:

"The principle task of communism in Russia in that period was to recruit into the party the best elements of the working class, those who were most active and the most devoted to the cause of the proletariat, to form the ranks of the proletarian party and to put it firmly on its feet. Comrade Lenin formulates this task as follows: 'to win the vanguard of the proletariat to the side of communism.'" Stalin, Moscow edition, 1953, Vol 5, p 104.

In order to accomplish this task propaganda must be our chief form of activity. It is through propaganda that we will consolidate and deepen the understanding of the advanced section of the working class that are won over to the struggle for the party. This is necessary in order to make the understanding on various questions scientific understanding. For example, while a worker may be clear about the role of a trade union bureaucrat, this same worker may not have a scientific understanding regarding the material base for the opportunism of this bureaucrat. This is one task of propaganda—to deepen and consolidate, to fuse Marxism-Leninism with the working class movement.

Because propaganda explains many ideas, so many in fact they can only be understood by a relatively small audience, propaganda activity at this time is primarily carried out through study circles, small fireside discussions, other word of mouth discussions and through pamphlets.

However, to say that propaganda is the chief form of activity in this period of winning the vanguard does not mean propaganda and propaganda only. Not by any means. In the newspaper, agitation is primary. However the newspaper must also contain propaganda pieces such as this article.

Today the spontaneous workers

movement is at a relatively high level. This is evidenced by the strike level and the struggle against the bureaucrats for example. However, because a party has not been formed which has succeeded in winning over large numbers of advanced elements, the Marxist-Leninist leadership of the working class movement is uneven. Because of this it is the task of the communist press to make broad use of agitation to give communist leadership to mass struggles. This will be done by taking up the day to day struggles of the working class and giving them correct guidance and linking them to the overthrow of capitalism and the establishment of socialism. Agitation, because it takes only a few ideas and explains them clearly so that it can be understood by a large number of people, is able to accomplish this task of winning over large numbers of workers to communist leadership. It will be through the correct leadership that is given to the day to day struggles of the broad masses that the advanced will come forward into the ranks of

HISTOR



In our last study of the History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, we found that there had been a rise in the revolutionary workers movement all across Russia. The government began adopting emergency measures to suppress this activity. And in the height of this imperialist war broke out. That brings us to the current chapter of the History.

The Bolsheviks had known that war was coming long before the actual outbreak of the war. Lenin had pointed out that war was an inevitable result of capitalism. In the era of imperialism the development of countries proceeds extremely unevenly and by leaps. Some countries which at one time held a dominant position, now develop slowly while others which were formerly backward overtake these.

A good example of this is the United States. Since World War II the US has held a dominant world position. Yet for various reasons including loss of some of its areas of control, like Vietnam and Kampuchea, it is now a declining power. On the other hand, the Soviet Union, new to the plunder of the world, is a rising power.

With this uneven development arises a striving for a redivision of the world. The struggle for this redivision makes war inevitable.

Who needs the ERA?

WE DO!

If we ratify the Equal Rights Amendment, the entire equality of women is their undeniable right. Any union upon generation from the beginning by side men building society or fought arm in arm to ests defer

ANOTHER WAR PREPARATION



SMASH THE ENA!



NEVER ANOTHER CONTRACT LIKE THIS ONE!



Which Road For ALSC?

the vanguard Until we can demonstrate this leadership workers, including those who have followed opportunist trends will not step forward to become the vanguard, they will not be won to communism

UNITE! A WEAPON OF CLASS STRUGGLE

In the pages of UNITE! we have increasingly tried to apply a correct understanding of agitation and propaganda For example our article ON STRIKES (Vol 3, No 4) is a good example of a propaganda piece This article started from a common activity of the working class a strike, and from it drew the significance of these activities as a universal lesson to the working class and connected this to the need for a party and socialism Another good example of propaganda was the article, MARDI GRAS (Vol 3 No 2) This article started with an event that happens every year It was able to explain very clearly the oppression of the Black Belt South There are

also many good examples of agitation that UNITE! has provided like the ERA IN GEORGIA (Vol 3, No 4) This article built support for the democratic rights of women while it pointed out the oppression of women is a part of capitalism Another is PRICES SOAR IN U.S AND DECLINE IN CHINA, (Vol 3, No 5).

UNITE! has taken up the task of doing widespread agitation in order to take up the day to day struggles of the workers movement by reprinting various articles from the paper and distributing these on a large scale In this way, we reach many thousands more workers than the paper could reach at this time

Compared to the situation last year at this time, we are considerably closer to our goal of a daily working class newspaper in this country

Written agitation and propaganda in the newspaper are only one form that agitation and propaganda take Verbal agitation and propaganda is our main means of spreading socialist ideas Daily in the plants, it is verbal agitation

and propaganda that we carry out In the long run it will be this verbal form that will be decisive, for the newspaper will be suppressed many times before the working class seizes state power

In February 1976, in UNITE!, we laid out a position on agitation and propaganda This position had many very serious errors The article put forward that UNITE! did not focus on topical, passing events, that it should be primarily propaganda Anyone who read our paper during this period would realize that we did not adequately take up the day to day struggles of the working class, that we did not correctly implement the understanding of the relationship between agitation and propaganda, even though we had presented it correctly as a two edged sword Through struggle within our organization and criticism from outside of the organization, the error was recognized The error was a reflection of a 'left' line that existed in the organization This line liquidated the role of agitation in the paper by saying it was a paper

geared only toward the advanced The inability to correctly develop agitation and propaganda, and advance the development of a true party press, was rooted in the petty bourgeois view that the 'communist movement' existed separate from the workers movement

The struggle to place the propaganda and agitation of the Marxist-Leninist Organizing Committee on a sound footing correctly guiding, leading and teaching the masses, continues to be a protracted struggle Today UNITE! is used as a weapon in the class struggle in many areas of the country, as well as in the oppressed Black Nation in the South, where no other communist paper is widely used We must continue to sharpen this weapon until it is a deadly instrument in the hands of the working class against the bourgeoisie

UNITE! FOR STILL GREATER VICTORIES!

BUILD THE PARTY OF THE WORKING CLASS!