New Party Industrial Registration

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Editor's Notes:— The complete new industrial registration of Party members which is about to begin in accordance with the decision of the last meeting of the Central Executive Committee is an absolutely indispensable basis for the proper development of our Program of Action and the preparation of the Party for the organization of Shop Nuclei, which is demanded by the Fifth Congress of the Communist International. You are requested to read this and other articles to follow on the subject and to respond to the registration of the Party.

The complete new industrial registration of the Party membership, decided upon by the last meeting of the Central Executive Committee, is to begin on August 1st [1924] and must be completed before the end of the month. the successful carrying out of the Program of Action laid down by the last meeting of the CEC depends to a very great extent upon the speed and thoroughness with which the Party organization responds to this industrial registration. The Party members, and especially the branch secretaries, who are directly responsible for the registration of their branch members, must therefore make the industrial registration a first order of business and allow nothing to interfere until they have completed the work.

The registration carried out last fall proved to be of tremendous advantage to the Party. While only partially successful, it nevertheless gave the Party invaluable information on the basis of which it was possible to broaden and develop our trade union activities and to estimate the forces of the Party.

The new registration about to begin will be carried out according to an improved system which will automatically provide for the District and Local offices to gain the same information in regard to the members of their organizations as that secured under the last registration by the National Office and to secure it at the same time as the National Office.

For a modern Communist party, a complete and thorough know-ledge of the location of its forces is indispensable. In order to gauge the strength of the party, to measure its ability to carry out a given task, to estimate its forces in relation to the forces of its enemies in the labor movement, the Party must know who its members are, where they work, what organizations they belong to, etc. Without this information, the Party is stumbling in the dark.

During the past year, the Executive Committee of the Communist International has been persistently raising the question with our Party and all other sections of the Communist International, of the organization of the parties on the basis of Shop Nuclei. The Fifth Congress [June 17-July 8, 1924] has confirmed this attitude of the Executive Committee and has made it one of the chief tasks of every party of the International to reshape itself on the basis of the Bolshevik form of organization, i.e., on the basis of Shop Nuclei.

The "Bolshevizing of the Party," which was the outstanding slogan of the Fifth Congress, absolutely requires the development of the parties from the territorial to the shop basis. Our Party cannot even take one step in this direction until it has registered the Party membership.

During the past year, the trade union activities of our Party have increased and developed. We have made our influence felt in the labor movement and we have drawn the fire of the reactionaries in such a manner as to prove beyond all question of doubt that the Communists are at work. But we cannot rest on our laurels. The truth of the matter is that we have made only a beginning in the trade unions, what we have done up till now is only a drop in the ocean. The Party must go deeper into the unions. The Party members must become active in the Trade Union Educational League. They must organize the Communist fractions in local unions, and connect the local fractions in a systematic manner on a national scale. Inactive Party members must be discovered and drawn into trade union activity. to do this work, to check up on it, to see that our Party members are organized for maximum results, a complete registration of the Party mem-

bership must be in the hands of the Party organization. The industrial registration is the very foundation for efficient trade union work.

The slogan of the Fifth Congress of the Communist International, "Bolshevize the Party," will be received with warm enthusiasm in our ranks. We want to be a Communist Party in the real sense of the word and we want to slough off all relics of the Second International, political and organizational, which our party has inherited from the past.

This is a giant task, indeed, and it will not be accomplished in a day or in a year, but we will make that our aim. We will strive by all means to weld the forces of our party into a single piece of metal that becomes ever harder in the struggle.

One of the most important preliminary steps toward this goal is the complete registration of the Party membership. Let us do this now and do it quickly.