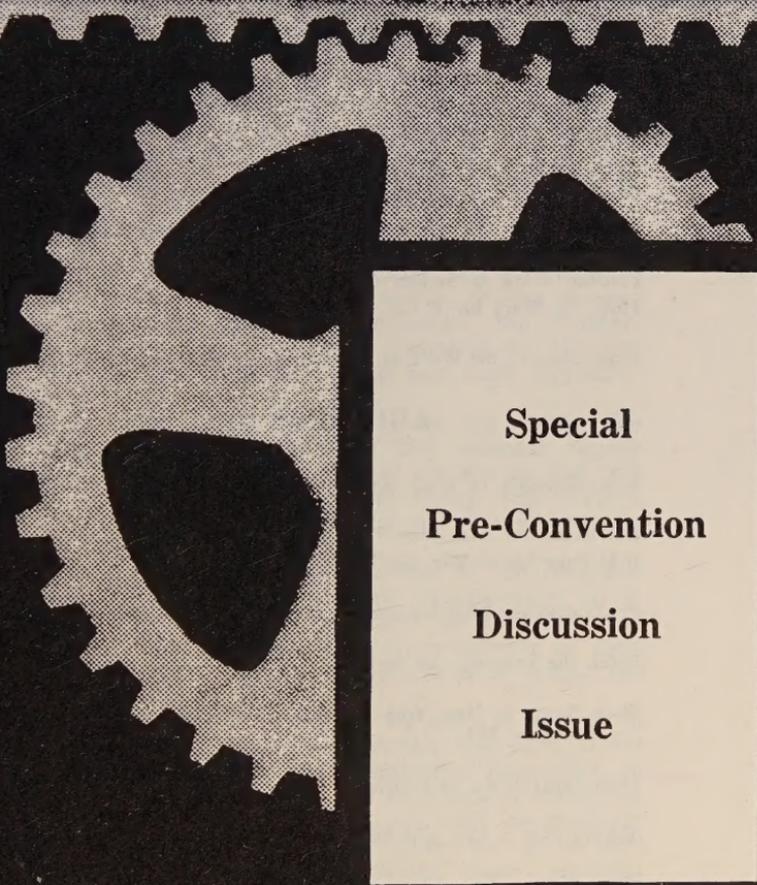


Party Organizer



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PARTY ORGANIZER

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Every Member an Active Communist

THE next convention of our Party, coming after the historic Seventh World Congress of the Communist International, will be of the greatest significance for the American working class, for the toilers of the city and countryside, for the poor farmers, professionals, unemployed, the millions of workers discontented with the old bourgeois parties out-doing each other in demagoguery and fake promises.

Besides preparing the line and guiding the activities of the Party in speeding the unity of action of the masses through the new Party of the toiling people, the Farmer-Labor Party, it will make important decisions for the improvement of our Party structure, and our basic organizational forms.

The articles contained in this issue of the **Party Organizer** in which various experiments and valuable experiences are discussed already indicate that we are on the correct path towards improving the basic Party organization, with the aim of further strengthening the Party and our ties with the broader masses.

We can already see that the correctness of the readjustments discussed at the last Plenum and experimented on in a few districts will definitely prove itself by the ability of the Party to draw into our ranks a larger number of shop workers, trade unionists, militant farmers, and to reduce the fluctuation to a minimum.

It is known that in the past year we did not recruit in the proportion of 1932-33, in the period that we were active in the revolutionary unions, in the unemployed movement, in the period of the wave of strikes, and unemployed struggles. Yet we must say that the Party today is able to maintain in its ranks those workers recruited from the shops and trade unions especially those active in the mass organizations—in brief, those elements rooted among their fellow workers who understand their Communist task among the organized masses.

However, the fluctuation still remains high among the other elements, those previously recruited through mass actions, demonstrations, mass meetings, etc., who joined the

Party in a moment of enthusiasm, at the height of a struggle, but who did not find a place among the organized masses.

The recruiting drive now going on proves the big possibilities before us, and at the same time calls to our attention one of the main problems to be solved for the cutting down of fluctuation. At a glance we can see that the recruiting drive stands above the past drives in regard to the quality of those recruited. The best results are achieved by leading comrades (especially section organizers), those trade unionists who are in daily contact with organized workers, as well as those basic organizations (shop nuclei, newly built industrial units and units in unions) and territorial units which are conscious of their political role and correctly orientate the individual members toward connecting themselves with wider masses and becoming part of them.

Hundreds of Party members, however, are not yet actively involved. These are the Party members whose only surrounding is the Party itself, who are still separated from their fellow workers, whose past sectarianism broke them away from their old organizations, who still resist finding their place in the trade unions or mass organizations. Most of the lower organizations are not sufficiently conscious of their role in the shops, in the mass organizations, and in the neighborhoods. They continue to act more as agents of the leading bodies in bringing down general agitation and propaganda, distributing propaganda material. They are busy with inner activities, and don't act independently on their own initiative in tackling politically the daily problems of the masses with whom they are in contact.

Thus we see that one of the main problems before the Party is to make of every Party member a comrade capable of surrounding himself by his fellow workers, capable of convincing these workers that our Party is their Party, capable of counteracting the arguments of our enemies who bring confusion into the ranks of the masses, who raise prejudices, etc. In a few words, our task is to make every Party member emulate the splendid examples given in this recruiting drive by a number of the leading comrades. We must accordingly readjust the lower organizations better to connect the Party members with the masses in the shops, trade unions, mass organizations, residential territories, in order to lead them in their daily activities.

The good experiences of a number of shop nuclei in becoming a real influencing factor among the workers in numerous factories; of some of the newly built industrial units concentrating on particular factories with the aim of building shop nuclei, and of becoming a driving force in the

building of unions: the experiences with units in unions embracing workers of special categories, especially of the smaller industries (building trades workers, printers, drivers, and others); the readjusting of the territorial units on a better political basis; the conscious efforts in improving the section leadership and the leadership of the basic organizations are all indications that the Party has found those improvements in its organizational forms which will better fit the growing, political needs.

This process, however, must be followed step by step by more consistent conscious improvement of Party education. It is by raising the understanding of the individual Party members to the full significance of the organizational improvements aimed at more strongly connecting ourselves with broader masses that we will speed the progress of this movement.

By shifting the weight from a few comrades to the lower organizations and other thousands of individual Party members that must be made active among the organizations, we will not only increase recruiting, but at the same time we will cut fluctuation considerably.

We will succeed in increasing recruiting by the mere fact that every Party member will become an active member, not because of his activity in the Party, the old inner circle activities, but by his Communist activities among his fellow workers.

Strengthening the Farmer-Labor Campaign in the Lower Units

By F. B.

WHEREVER the necessity for a Farmer-Labor Party is raised among workers, farmers, and professionals, it receives the most enthusiastic response. This is evident not only by the hundreds of resolutions passed in various locals of the American Federation of Labor, in mass organizations, but by the response of masses who hail the Labor Party at mass meetings, by conversations in factories, by conversations with workers in their homes.

Wherever we Communists raise the necessity for a Farmer-Labor Party our proposals are accepted with enthusiasm even by those strata and individuals who up to now had prejudices against our Party, under the influence

of the poison spread by the yellow press. In reviewing the campaign we can state that our Party has become a real driving force not only in propagandizing the Farmer-Labor Party, but in actually activizing those forces outside of our ranks who are on record in favor of the Farmer-Labor Party.

At this point, however, we must state that most of the activities up till now have been carried out mainly by the most active comrades in the trade unions and mass organizations. The lower organizations, the individual Party members, the units, shop nuclei, while being conscious of the importance of the Farmer-Labor Party, of its need for the American toiling masses, while agreeing one hundred per cent with the line of the Party, still do not see **exactly what their concrete tasks are, how to become factors for the mobilization of the masses of the organized and unorganized workers.**

In the Party press, as well as the sympathetic press, beginning with the **Daily Worker**, down to shop papers, we have at our disposal a powerful instrument to reach the broadest masses in the factories, trade unions, mass organizations, and the residential territories. **The immediate task is to strengthen the campaign for the Farmer-Labor Party, to become active in utilizing this instrument to the maximum.**

Concretely, this means the widest mobilization of the press from the **Daily Worker** to the shop papers. Every unit or fraction in the trade unions, every fraction and individual Party member in mass organizations, should begin special issues of their existing papers, new papers, special leaflets, agitating for a Labor Party among the masses, connecting the immediate problems of the masses in the factories, unions, residential territories, with the broad program of the new Party of the American toiling people. Here is a means by which to speak to millions. Let us utilize it.

Today, over 10,000 Party members are inside the American Federation of Labor and other unions. In brief, thousands of Communists connected with millions of organized workers, together with the progressive elements amounting to tens of thousands, constitute a tremendous power, which, correctly orientated on how to bring before their fellow workers the issue of the Farmer-Labor Party, can bring about great results. The fact that wherever our comrades are active, the unions endorsed the Farmer-Labor Party, shows the big possibilities.

The problem is to pass from the activity of a few to the **activation of all.** It is not enough that our comrades in the unions and the progressive elements are bringing the Farmer-Labor Party issue on the floor. In places of work, in the unions, **our comrades must become real agitators—**

the progressive forces must become acquainted with all the splendid arguments given in Gorman's pamphlet, all the arguments given by the Party. **Special gatherings should be arranged of trade unionists**, to discuss with them the necessity of working inside the unions for the purpose of getting not only endorsement of the Farmer-Labor Party, **but to get the unions themselves to become active in the campaign**—active by appealing to other unions, **by issuing its own agitational and propaganda material**. Then not only the Communists and progressives inside the unions will speak to the masses, **but the campaign for a Farmer-Labor Party will become the real campaign of organized labor, of the unions themselves.**

The same line should be followed in all mass organizations, especially in Negro mass organizations, and in the organizations of the foreign born workers.

In the shops, every shop nucleus should be able to arrange special meetings with the most trusted workers in the shops, with those workers who, while not agreeing completely with our program, yet are known as honest workers who stand for labor, for industrial unionism, against fascism, etc., and discuss with them the methods of how to spread the idea for a Farmer-Labor Party among their fellow workers; to arrange small gatherings in their homes, to advertise the meetings called by those forces who are sponsoring the Farmer-Labor Party, to discuss with the non-Party people the local problems **and see which issues should be included in the local platform of a Farmer-Labor Party.**

One of the most important problems before the branches and territorial units is to get the existing mass organizations in the territory to come out in support of the Farmer-Labor Party. In certain proletarian territories where unions and all sorts of mass organizations have their headquarters, it should not be difficult to involve some of these organizations to take the initiative for the building of a Sponsoring Committee for the Farmer-Labor Party; appealing to these organizations, visiting them, discussing with them not only the general program of the Farmer-Labor Party, but specifically the issues that are of the greatest interest to the masses in the neighborhood.

In small towns those unions and mass organizations which went on record should constitute immediately a Sponsoring Committee **for the purpose of involving other mass organizations**, and also popular gatherings in which both employed and unemployed workers, women and the youth of the town should bring forward their problems, their needs, get their reaction to the Farmer-Labor Party, **make them feel that**

they are also placing their cornerstone towards the building of the new party of the exploited.

What is needed to give momentum to the campaign, to involve masses in actively participating in building the new Party, is more body to correct and defeat the idea still existing in the minds of even some Party members and other class-conscious workers that the masses are not yet ready to break away from the old two parties, are not ripe to build their own broad party, embracing workers, farmers, professionals, etc. We must be ready to utilize all possibilities that are at our disposal to make people think and not only discuss the Farmer-Labor Party, but do more—get them active in building it.

Some Experiences in Industrial Units

By F. HELLMAN, District 3

FOR some time the Party has been seeking to solve the problem of too many inner meetings of Party members with the aim of breaking down sectarianism and an inward orientation on the part of the Party. A solution of this problem would mean that the Party would be more able to bring into play all the forces at its disposal, to develop real mass work in the trade unions and in the shops. Therefore, quite sometime ago our District Bureau decided to experiment in organizing industrial units.

We now have such units operating in several places. All these units of course do not have a uniform structure and therefore I wish to deal here with three industries in which such units have been organized.

Unit A. Here we have an institution in which we had approximately three to five Party members one year ago. For obvious reasons these Party members could not be assigned to regular street units, neither could they be organized into shop units. We were therefore compelled to organize them into a unit of their own. This unit carried on its work exclusively in the trade union of which they were members. The Party members there subsequently became the backbone of this union in developing struggles and building the union.

Today we find the union not only growing continuously, but also assuming the responsibility for organizing local unions in the same industry in other cities of this state.

The Party membership has increased from five to about twenty-five with two units operating at this time under the guidance of one unit bureau.

This union likewise participated in many united front activities in the trade union field, the anti-war front, unemployment insurance campaign, the Negro Congress and the Labor Party.

The local is also a factor within the union nationally. In addition to this, the unit aids the Party District financially to a considerable extent.

I believe it can be said that this is actually a model unit in every respect.

Unit B. Here we have an industry employing about 5,000 workers in the city of which there are about 3,500 organized. Less than one year ago we had about thirty comrades employed in this industry, all of whom were members of the union. These comrades were at that time in street units with the exception of about seven who were organized into a shop unit. The units to which these comrades were assigned hardly ever discussed the work these comrades do in their shops and the union. And, even when they did, with the units not understanding the problems, they could be of little help to the comrades.

In discussing this question in the organizational department and the District Bureau about seven months ago, we decided to make an experiment by organizing a few units—all of them consisting of comrades working in this particular industry—by transferring all comrades from street units into industrial units, with the aim to organize eventually shop units in various shops as new workers would be recruited. Two of these units were organized immediately besides the shop unit which we left undisturbed.

A third one has been organized only recently.

In one of these units we have three comrades from one shop and the rest of the comrades from shops in the same neighborhood. The other units have a similar character. If, for instance, we recruit three more workers from the same shop into the Party, we will organize them, together with the three comrades we have now, into a shop unit and the rest of the comrades will continue to function as an industrial unit until we get a sufficient number of Party members in a certain shop to establish a shop unit. Similar procedure is to be followed by the other two units.

The shop unit as well as the three industrial units meet every first and third Wednesday of the month (Wednesday being the regular day for unit meetings). On the second Wednesday of the month there is a leading fraction meeting and the fourth Wednesday a full fraction meeting of all

comrades who are members of the union regardless of whether they are in an industrial or shop unit. This releases all comrades from two inner meetings a month and with the exception of five or six who constitute the leading fraction, from three inner Party meetings, giving them additional time to do work among workers from their shops and members of their union. Besides this, the fraction has functioned very poorly previous to this reorganization, because the comrades had been assigned for other work by their street units on nights of the fraction meetings. As it is now, there is no reason for any comrade to be absent from a leading or a full fraction meeting because these meetings take place on the nights of the regular unit meetings. This means also that an additional inner meeting, the extra evening of a fraction meeting has been eliminated. Now the leading fraction, as well as the fraction as a whole, is functioning regularly as are the units. The result is that we have been successful in defeating the reactionary forces in the union, electing some of our comrades to the executive boards and one as business agent.

As yet, however, these units have outstanding weaknesses. There has been no recruiting, political campaigns have not been brought into the shops nor into the union. This, however, is not to be attributed to the structure of these units, but rather to their inner life which is, as yet, just as poor as that of the street units and it is also due to obstacles that had to be overcome in the union itself. It can safely be assumed that 100 per cent improvement will be made in this direction within the coming three to four months.

Unit C. Here we have an industry with many thousands of workers, the majority of which are unorganized and some of them are organized in international and federal American Federation of Labor unions as well as independent unions. We had seven comrades here, members of an independent union in street units. About three months ago we organized them into an industrial unit. Here we cannot speak much of an improvement in the work within the union because, even before the organization of the unit the Party fraction had decisive influence in the union, brought in the political campaigns of the Party and generally determined, together with other progressive elements, the policies of the local as is being done at the present time.

The one difference to be noted here is the fact that the Party membership has increased from seven to fourteen within the last three months.

This unit meets only twice a month as do the others and in all of the units mentioned here there is no fluctuation. It seems to me that there are two major obstacles pre-

venting workers from coming into the Party: (1) The fear of exposure. (2) The tremendous amount of meetings they have to attend.

By the organization of an industrial unit, which in some cases may serve only as a transmission belt to organize shop units, or as in Unit A, where they might have to be permanent and Unit C more or less so, that one obstacle—the fear of exposure—is greatly reduced. Secondly, by these units meeting only twice a month, five and six additional monthly meetings of an inner nature are eliminated.

This seems to make possible faster recruiting of workers into the Party as proven in Units A and C and as we expect to prove in Unit B as well. Furthermore, the fact that such units are bound to discuss the problems of the workers in the industry and the union as a whole ties the new recruits closer to the Party and prevents fluctuation as it exists in the street units.

It is my opinion in thinking about changing the form of Party organization that we can not lay down a general blueprint. We may have, as in Unit A, two or more units of an industrial character that may be permanent or may also develop shop units. Or we may have several units in the same industry, as in Unit B, consisting of regular shop as well as industrial units, where industrial units however will primarily be of a temporary nature. As in Unit C an industrial unit may be more or less permanent because of the fluctuation in the industry, and the members being employed in small shops.

Through these units it is likewise possible to mobilize all Party comrades for better work in their own unions. At the same time, however, it is necessary to realize that in such unions where large fractions exist, the major responsibility of all comrades must not necessarily be in the union, but some may be released for work in other mass organizations. This depends entirely on the size of the fraction, the size of the union and the problems we are confronted with in the unions, shops and industry as a whole.

In conclusion I believe that the industrial unit is without doubt superior to the street unit and compares very well to the shop units because it brings the Party as a whole closer to the shop and closer to the organization of shop units.

Experiences in Industrial Units and Shop Units

By CHARLOTTE MELAMED,
Organizational Secretary, District 2, Section 22

INDUSTRIAL UNITS, we are told, are not to be a basic form of organization in the Party, but a means of developing better work in the shops, a help in the formation of shop units and in the building of a real rank and file movement in the unions. Since most of the industrial units have been organized recently it is too early to judge to what degree they are carrying out the above tasks and how effective they will prove in their main aim—to build more shop units.

Not Question of Dissolving Shop Units

However, we can notice some definite tendencies which, if not checked immediately, will become a danger to the work of the industrial units. At the first meeting of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers industrial unit, which was established in our Section, we could note the following. We have had in our Section a shop unit in a very important, large Amalgamated shop.

Many leading members of the Section Committee, of the rank-and-file group and of the street unit, which concentrated around the shop, spent months in building up this unit, in developing struggles and at one time succeeded in building it up to seven members. Shop paper were issued—true, mostly by the street unit—based on the information given by the comrades in the shop, but the workers knew that there was a Communist unit in the shop and we were making progress in gaining their influence. Due to the irresponsibility of the Unit Organizer and some other reasons the unit is not functioning properly; there are only three members who still come to meetings and consider themselves members of the Party unit. The members of the industrial unit, who worked with the shop unit, proposed that the members of the unit join the industrial unit. There were a few good reasons for it; they will feel that they are not the only ones who are Party members in the Amalgamated Union; they will learn of the problems in the union, etc.

However, this would immediately do away with the shop unit; it was easier to work with the comrades in the industrial unit than to again begin to re-build the unit. The comrades were ready to give up a shop unit, which has existed for almost two years.

It was agreed that the members of 3 B (the unit in question) should attend the meetings of the industrial unit once in a while, when trade union problems are discussed.

The Printers' Industrial Unit

In our Section we have tried hard to build some shop units in shops, where we had two Party members, as in an important printing shop. We have organized the two comrades into a unit, and have made many efforts to have these comrades recruit more workers in that shop. According to these comrades nothing can be done in that shop, since printers are very hard to recruit, etc. Now, the two comrades are joyfully joining the printers' industrial unit, and let us hope this will help them to build a real shop unit in the shop. Their tendency though is to get away from work in their own shop and occupy themselves with general problems of the trade, the rank-and-file movement (Amalgamation Party) in the Big Six, etc.

Though we do not have enough concrete facts about the activities of the industrial units, we can note increased activities on the part of the members of these units. Many comrades who were quite inactive in the rank-and-file group show more responsibility and are beginning to attend meetings, take the floor, and are really helping to build the rank-and-file movement. The comrades are beginning also to participate in the general life of the Section. Still, if we do not guard against the expressed attitude to give up shop units too easily, we may not make the industrial units the effective means for our work in the shops which they should be.

Industrial Concentration in Passaic, N. J.

**By Fraction Secretary, Woolen Campaign, District 14,
Section 8**

ANYONE familiar with Passaic, N. J., knows that the woolen industry not only dominates, but completely controls the city and nearby towns. Naturally, therefore, the key to developing a fundamental and effective movement among the workers of all industries is to have an effective organization of the woolen workers here. The employers know that much better than we. The authorities do not bother us much in our general activities, as long as we do not touch that sensitive spot—the woolen workers. But as soon as activity develops among the woolen workers, reaction begins on the part of the authorities.

The Party in Passaic has not keenly realized, in the past, this necessity of concentration on wool. Or if it did realize it, it did so only theoretically, but not in practice, and the work itself was left mostly in the hands of one individual comrade. The Section Committee and Section Bureau have, however, taken this situation in hand, and are beginning to orientate the entire Section toward our woolen campaign.

A plan of work has been drawn up, with a long-time perspective, roughly covering the main lines of work with regard to the wool workers. The next task is to work out a more detailed, concrete plan of work with a definite time limit, outlining what we can do concretely within a specified period. However, in the meantime, work has started. Practically all activities in the Section, of every Unit, are planned with an eye toward reaching the woolen workers, and helping them to organize.

The plan of work comprises roughly three sections: (1) work inside the shops; (2) assistance in building up Local 1603 of the United Textile Workers Union, and (3) the work of the comrades not in wool, in building our influence and in organizing among the woolen workers.

The large unwieldy industrial unit, which included all Party members in the shops, and all former woolen workers in the Party, was split up into shop units, a concentration unit, and some into the other street units to help them orientate toward the wool workers. The work of the shop units is clear. The work of the concentration unit is to augment the work of the shop unit, by doing work around the shop which would expose the members of the shop unit, and in concentrated "Red Sunday" work, and contact work in a given neighborhood where many strategic woolen workers live. A leading comrade from the Section Bureau has been transferred to this unit to assist and guide this work. The street units have also picked such neighborhoods as concentration areas, into which they must carry all Party campaigns, but especially the question of organization of the woolen workers. Work in all shades of working class organizations has also been started in order to reach the workers in every effective way. Thus the question of woolen workers is being kept uppermost in the minds of all Party members who are advanced enough and politically developed enough to understand that by laying our foundation among the woolen workers, we are building solidly and fundamentally for all other activities, no matter what they are.

The union is not developing rapidly. The difficulties are great, the work is being done in an individual fashion, without systematic collective work. However, the Party in the union has lately succeeded in fashioning some sort of appa-

ratus for carrying on work by means of activating the members themselves a little more, and especially in pushing forward certain non-Party workers who show ability and interest in carrying on the work.

As a result, work **within the shops** is gaining greater importance in the union. Non-Party members in the shops are being attracted to inside shop work, and bravely risk their jobs to participate. In one shop a real sentiment for organization is beginning to grow, and the employers realize this, and are taking ruthless measures to dampen the ardor of the union members, with little effect so far. The union is growing very slowly, but the membership knows that it is necessary first to lay the basis for approaching the workers, and that is certainly being done. The actual concrete growth of the union will take much more time. The workers are terrorized, the industry has just started giving fairly regular employment after nine or ten years of demoralization. The workers are glad just to be at work. But the pressure of lower and lower wages, longer and longer hours, vicious foremen and foreladies, and a ruthless spy system, all are turning the thoughts of the workers, even if not yet their actions, toward resistance and counter-offensive. The situation is ripening, but it will take hard systematic and patient work to bring it to maturity.

One of the factors in helping to orientate the entire Section toward woolen work was the carefully planned Section membership meeting called for the purpose of explaining the plan of work, and assigning activities. In the past, Section membership meetings were unplanned and degenerated into a kind of free-for-all, with all sorts of complaints and grievances taking up the time. This time the Section Bureau determined to have the meeting on this one subject, to have a well-organized discussion, to the point, with no futile airings of grievances, and with a time limit both for reporter and for the discussion. The Bureau wanted a well-rounded discussion, covering all aspects of the work, and therefore assigned certain key comrades to take the floor. The Organizer's report was collectively worked out. The discussions by the assigned comrades were discussed with the comrades before the meeting, with the result that all aspects of the work were touched upon, there were no unnecessary repetitions, and the comrades present all felt that here was a serious, well-considered, well-prepared discussion of the basic work of the Party, with all its shortcomings, and, much to their surprise, with certain progress to record. This stimulated interest, created confidence, and the work has been going forward much better since then. Certain comrades feared that such a detailed planning of the meeting would

lead to its becoming mechanical and stereotyped, and also that there would be charges of bureaucracy and arbitrariness. However, this did not occur. No such impression was given. It happened that the District asked the Section just about that time to have a meeting on the recruiting and **Sunday Worker** campaign. We therefore divided this meeting into two parts, but there was no chance to plan the second part as carefully as the first. The comrades noted the difference in quality between the planned discussion and the unprepared discussion.

On the Work of a Party Branch

By **MORRIS PASTERNAK**
District 2, Section 15 Organizer

OUR Section began to discuss the question of the formation of large branches some time ago. At first there was considerable opposition in the Section Committee to this, while the unit functionaries and the unit membership were overwhelmingly in favor.

When a general agreement was finally arrived at, it was decided that the organization department of the Section call in those unit bureaus whose units were to make up the branch and examine each comrade as to his fitness for certain work and to the time available for direct Party activity and mass work. In this way we had a fairly good idea in advance, as to how to organize the branch and place each comrade more or less in his proper function.

The first branch organized in our Section, known as Branch 1, Seventh Assembly District, Bronx, was formed on January 7, totalling 91 members.

We decided to carry through the following organizational set-up for the branch: Executive Committee of seven with the following officers as members: Organizer, Finance Secretary, Educational Director, Unemployed Work Director, Membership Director and two comrades active in trade union and mass work to give a definite slant and tone to the work of the branch executive and the branch proper. One of the best members of the Section Committee was recommended and elected as Branch Organizer. Two main groups were organized—an unemployed group with 15 members (unemployed work to be the central work of the branch) and a Neighborhood Activity Group with about 40 members. Pro-

visions were also made to assign certain comrades to outside mass organizations.

The function of the unemployed group is self evident, namely: its main function to be unemployed work and to comprise the fraction in the unemployed organizations. It will be the main responsibility of the Branch Organizer to pay personal attention to the work of this group. This group is already working on the formation of a community committee to bring the issues of the unemployed into the neighborhood and, together with other branches of the unemployment councils, it has succeeded in organizing a united front mass meeting with other unemployed organizations in the neighborhood.

The task of the Neighborhood Activity Group is to canvass the neighborhood with issues of the **Daily Worker, Sunday Workers**, literature, distribute leaflets, etc. and be that force in the branch which is responsible for direct Party activities such as mass meetings, forums, street meetings, election campaigns and any other phase of mass activity in which the branch decides to participate.

The captain of the unemployed group is the Branch Unemployed Work Director, who brings down all directives to the group as a result of the meetings of the Branch Executive and is responsible to check up on the work of the group. The **Daily Worker** agent is captain of the Neighborhood Activity Group. He prepares assignments in advance on certain forms, which are given to the comrades at the branch meeting thereby eliminating the former practice in the units of making assignments at the unit meeting.

One captain has been assigned for every ten members. His main responsibility is to visit absentees, and to check up on dues payments and assignments. The Membership Director is in charge of the captains. The Membership Director sits at the door and checks attendance. Form slips are prepared in advance, upon which the captains are given a list of those members of his group who were absent and whom he must visit during the week.

Dues payments are made as follows: A large envelope has been prepared on which are printed those items for which the comrades are paying, such as a column showing the amount of dues and how many weeks, the **Daily Worker**, collection lists, Red Fighting Fund, etc. Each comrade receives such an envelope each week upon entering the meeting, he records on same the items he pays for, inserts his Party book, any other material and the money and turns over the sealed envelope to the Financial Secretary. The Financial Secretary has an assistant working with him, who quietly makes out receipts and all necessary technical work

and returns the book to the comrade. All this is done without interfering with the work of the branch.

The branch elected a permanent chairman and vice-chairman for three months. The branch meets weekly, one a business meeting and the second, educational, which is an open meeting to which non-Party workers are invited. The business meeting of the branch is not the usual kind of business meeting known in the units. At these meetings some main phase of the Party work is reported on. The unemployed group makes a report on its work and a discussion follows on how the branch as a whole can assist in the work. This is a closed meeting.

The educational meeting of this branch consisted of a discussion on the possible coming dress strike, led by a leading comrade in the union. Quite a number of non-Party workers attended this meeting and two were recruited into the Party. The aim of the educational meetings is to discuss matters such as the main political problems facing our Party, the Party position on the Townsend Plan, as well as neighborhood issues, such as the crowding of schools, high cost of living, etc.

The branch has already issued a very good leaflet against the registration of aliens and the fingerprinting of citizens. Upon the initiative of the Branch Executive, work has been started to reach outside organizations and certain definite successes can be recorded. Upon the initiative of the Branch a conference is being prepared on the above issue. The branch also arranged for a Lincoln birthday mass meeting in the auditorium of a local public school. This meeting was utilized to develop the campaign for the defense of the Scottsboro Boys and the National Negro Congress.

The branch is very young. So far it can be recorded that it functions far better than the small units. The attendance and dues payments are considerable higher than that of the units and a more wholesome and optimistic attitude is noticeable among the comrades. The branch is on the road to breaking with the past isolation of the former small units and has already definitely branched out as a live factor in the neighborhood. Much work is still necessary to make certain organizational readjustments and to bring the Party forward as a live factor among the workers to be recognized as a serious political Party to which the workers can come to for guidance and leadership.

* * *

We are very glad that a branch has been built in the Seventh Assembly District because the Party and the individual Party membership will be in a better position to discuss the political problems arising in the district. At the

same time, however, we are of the opinion that a branch of this size, composed of 80-90 members, would to a certain extent hamper the division of work among the members.

Would it not be a good idea in order to create a better division of work to have two branches instead of one in the same Assembly District and to co-ordinate the work of the two branches by having the two bureaus of the branches meeting together from time to time? —EDITORS.

Results of the Organization of the Ninth Assembly District Branch, Dis- trict 2, Section 18

Improved Leadership

INSTEAD of the best developed comrades being scattered among a number of street units, these comrades were concentrated in the leadership of our large branch with the result that each field of our activity revealed a more mature understanding, improved planning and increased effectiveness. Also, discipline improved.

Easing the Burden of Assignments

The individual comrades who were greatly burdened with assignments in the small units immediately felt the increased strength of the branch, the better division of work, the improved selection of comrades for the type of work they enjoyed. There was a general easing of the tension which existed when the small units had to carry out Party campaigns and activities with few forces already overburdened.

The spirit of socialist competition among the assembly district branches increased. The membership enjoyed the organizational meetings more because these meetings alternated with discussion meeting, and vice-versa. Discussions were on a higher political level because there were more advanced comrades to select from to lead these discussions. Pride in planning and establishing our own neighborhood center stimulated all comrades. Social affairs were planned on a larger and broader scale.

Educational Plans

Because of the large membership these plans are much broader and will involve the whole membership. Apart from

the improved **open membership** discussion meetings, the branch is planning three or four study circles which will be based on a complete canvass of the whole membership as to the subjects they would like to take up in these circles. At the same time these study circles will be social gatherings to which we expect to bring many friends and sympathizers. The branch is also planning a neighborhood forum, a neighborhood bulletin, a speakers' class in preparation for our open air street meetings and the next election campaign, more and better leaflet production and distribution, etc.

Neighborhood Orientation

The branch, because of its increased size, felt itself a potentially strong political factor in the neighborhood. The membership became highly conscious of neighborhood conditions, of every mass organization and political party in the neighborhood. Efforts toward united front with the Socialist Party increased. A number of our comrades are present and raise questions for discussion at every meeting of the Old Guard Socialists forum at Lorraine Hall, 84th St. and Broadway. A call to the neighborhood conference of the West Side Council of Action was given to the officials of this branch. A thorough canvass of every mass organization in the branch district was made and first steps taken to see that our comrades are represented in each one of any importance. The experiences of the Columbus Avenue Unemployment Council were thoroughly discussed and steps taken to help members of the Council through proper politicalization of the fight for relief. The branch is planning an attractive neighborhood center which will act as a lever to arouse and to raise the political and class consciousness of the neighborhood workers. In the Center we are planning a bookshop, a game and reading room, restaurant, dramatic and moving picture shows, etc. Our neighborhood bulletin will be a real neighborhood workers' newspaper, with announcements of neighborhood births, marriages, engagements, etc., besides articles on **neighborhood conditions, problems, issues, etc.**

Recruiting

Large, open branch meetings with interesting discussions in which many comrades participate are a stimulus to sympathizers to join the Party. The new organization is a bold step forward towards overcoming our bad sectarian "secret society" manner of working which frightened many sympathizers away. Furthermore, the new titles of our functionaries, such as Chairman of the Executive Committee, Treasurer, Educational Director, etc. instead of agitprop, organizer, etc., makes it easier for workers to understand our organization and its activities. Comrades are also more ready to

bring their friends to our large, well-attended open discussion meetings; they are proud to show the strength of the Communist Party in their neighborhood, and their friends are more attracted to join. Because of the frequency of these open meetings (every other week) the comrades are always alert to bring down one or another of their friends. The list of **Sunday Worker** subscribers gave us new material to contact, to invite to our open meetings, etc. This will surely increase recruiting within a short time.

The key to the improved results of the new reorganization is in the fact that our comrades are released from inner Party activity, from expending their time and energy in inner Party life and directing these energies into the neighborhood, into the mass organizations. One of the proofs of this is that activity and discussion regarding a Farmer-Labor Party have taken a jump forward.

Fraction Work in Section 6, Newark, New Jersey

THE Seventh Congress of the Communist International and the Central Committee of our Party have given us a general plan with which we can proceed to build a broad united people's front which should express itself in the formation of a Farmer-Labor Party based on the trade unions.

How can we apply these plans and decisions right here in Newark?

We must ask ourselves that question because it would be useless for our best leading comrades to make plans if we do not use them to help us in our main work, i.e., to build a Farmer-Labor Party and to strengthen our own Party.

Now, we already have various Party organs in the shops, in the trade unions, in the mass organizations and in the neighborhoods (shop nuclei, trade union, unemployed and mass organization fractions and street units).

At this time I want to speak about only one of these organs.

The Fraction

The Party fraction in a trade union or other mass organization is the voice of the Party speaking to the workers in those organizations. Our Party can have only one voice and not five or six in one organization. But all of our comrades

do not think alike and all are not equally developed enough to know just what the Party should do in a given situation. That is the reason why sometimes our own Party comrades fight each other's proposals on the floor at meetings of their unions, clubs, etc. But if they have a working fraction they can have regular fraction meetings and there discuss the different problems and actions that should be carried out by their organizations. After a good discussion of those problems they make their majority decision and these decisions must be carried out by all the Party comrades. Only in that way can we act as one united body of the Party. If the comrades have done good work in their organization, if they have been the best workers for the best interests of the members of their organization, they won't have any trouble in getting a favorable vote on their proposals.

What have we done right here in Newark in regard to fractions?

We all know that our work in the trade unions, in the unemployment councils and in other mass organizations could have been much better. One of the main reasons why it is not better is that we did not have functioning fractions in these mass organizations.

With the recent re-organization of the Newark section one of our biggest tasks was the establishment of working fractions. We can already report a little improvement in regard to this work. Today we have fractions in organizations where we never had any before and we have revived some fractions that once existed but had not met for a long time.

We could, however, work much faster and better if the Party comrades would realize the importance of their cooperation with the fraction department of the Section. Our comrades in trade unions and other mass organizations must not wait until the Section gets around to their particular organization to build a fraction. As Communists they must begin to use their own initiative to get a working fraction started, call a meeting and notify the fraction department of the Section so that the Section Fraction Secretary can give guidance and leadership to them.

Finally, let this be clear in our minds: if we want to build a Farmer-Labor Party, if we want to build a broad united front movement; if we really want to be the vanguard of the working class we must build functioning fractions in organizations where the masses of workers are to be found.

How To Work on W.P.A. Projects

By JOE DALLET

THE Seventh World Congress of the Comintern has sharply called the attention of our Party to the need for greatly increasing our tempo in developing a broad proletarian united front (united front with the trade unions and the Socialist Party) and the building of a mass people's front, specifically a Farmer-Labor Party.

Every day the complicated problems of building and broadening the united front occupy more the attention of all Party organizations.

United Front on the Job

It will not be disputed that we cannot hope for successful united front efforts on a national scale if we do not learn to develop the united front in its simplest and most basic form—the united front of workers employed by the same boss on the same job. If the Comintern is right in demanding that every Communist Party master the tactic of the united front, surely our Party is not demanding too much in insisting that every individual Communist practises a "united front approach" to his fellow workers every day.

This article is aimed at examining the work of the Communists in our Section on W.P.A. and drawing some lessons from it in the light of the above needs.

I shall attempt first to lay down some rules of conduct for a Communist working on W.P.A. jobs.

1. He must work in such a way as to become popular among the other workers—not only among the militant workers, but among all of them. He must be on friendly terms with as many as possible.
2. He must become known to them as a good union man, a supporter and builder of the union, an active union member who attends all meetings, has his union dues paid up, etc.
3. He must become known as one who struggles in an intelligent way against grievances on the job, not just by shouting, not by one or two-man actions, but by establishing himself as one with good common sense who makes practical proposals to his fellow workers for joint action against grievances.
4. He must not be a loafer on the job, but, without killing himself, must do his share of the work, otherwise he will not have the respect and support of the other workers.
5. In addition to propagating unionism to all the workers he should select some of the best workers to develop for the Party, supplying them with literature, talking with them about our movement and gradually overcoming their objections and winning them for the Party.

How Communists Should Act on the Job

I am convinced that if every Communist worked in the above manner, our results would be far better both in building the union and the Party.

However I could, if space permitted, mention some twenty flagrant violations of the above rules. Instead I will deal with only a few of the most extreme ones. One comrade, a very loyal comrade, has been fired from several projects and each time has gotten no support from his fellow workers on the job. Why? Because he agitated in such a way as to antagonize instead of making friends of his co-workers, giving them the impression that he was just a "crazy red", not a practical leader. Another comrade, also a loyal and very good comrade, made the very bad mistake of being one of four workers on his project who, on a day when the weather was so bad that the whole project was dismissed, accepted the bosses' request that he stay and help the boss by doing some special work. The next day the workers asked him, "How come that you, a union leader, worked when everybody else went home?"

Another comrade, many years in the movement and a leading comrade at that, at the end of six hours instead of working seven and a half hours as the boss said, tried one day to pull the men off his job. Only one other worker responded. But then, instead of staying with the men and convincing them, he and his army of one marched "bravely" off leaving the 100 other workers on the project in the ditch. This same comrade has not learned how to work with non-Party people. He insists on fighting against everybody in his local who disagrees with us on anything. Practically at every meeting he comes to a head-on clash with one or more active members of the organization and does it in such a way as to disgust many of the members and to isolate himself from the workers.

An unemployed organization, a local union, a W.P.A. organization must include all kinds of workers, must have a broad leadership, and we cannot just propose our policies and have them immediately accepted by all the workers and by the whole organization. We must strive to bring the organization to adopt a policy of struggle. We must try to secure honest militants as leaders. But this cannot always be done immediately. We must learn to work together with people who are confused, who are even against the Communists, and work with them in such a way as to win their respect, to neutralize their opposition to communism and win them over if they are honest. And if they are not honest, if they sabotage the work, then we must be able to isolate them

skilfully, to take away any mass base they have, and get the workers themselves to remove them from office.

Sectarian methods of work are a positive obstacle to us, because these mistakes antagonize the workers not only against the individual comrade but against our whole Party.

How can we win the Socialist Party for a united front if we cannot learn to work collectively in a local union or an unemployed organization with honest Socialist workers? How can we win the Townsend movement for the Farmer-Labor Party if we cannot discuss our political differences with the rank-and-file Townsendites in such a way as to remain on good terms with them and win them for at least part of our program.

I believe that this is a burning question for our Party. The same general principles hold true for all our mass work. Sectarianism must be burned out of us. All of us have been guilty of sectarian mistakes in the past. But we must learn more quickly. As Comrade Browder has said, we should not have to wait until we lie in concentration camps side by side with Socialist, Townsendite, and other workers before we learn to work together with them for a common purpose. I hope other comrades will write on this problem.

Experiences in the Work of Painters Local 848, New York City

IN the recent period, we discussed in our Party very seriously the question of recruiting and the structure of our Party. The Party made certain changes in the structure, to make it possible to function through forms best suited to the specific situation.

In the district of our Party, a few units have been organized on the basis of local unions, known as the industrial units. All members of the Communist Party in one local union constitute a Party unit.

The Painters Unit of Local 848 has now been in existence about six weeks. There is no full attendance yet as all members have not been transferred from their previous units, or excused from attendance.

The possibility of recruiting, the sale of the **Daily Worker** and Party literature are tremendous. The political discus-

sions of the unit meetings are based upon the thousands of members of the local union. The Party through its active members is recognized by the majority of the members in the local, and these Party members are known as devoted trade unionists who carry on continuous struggle for the building of the union and fighting for everyday needs of the membership.

Building the Union

The Unit Bureau has prepared a definite program of work. It was formally discussed and adopted by the entire unit. The plan in the main consists of winning ideologically the membership to our movement.

1. To visit those members of the union in their homes, who do not attend union meetings.

2. To help make the union membership become union conscious; that only through their active participation in the union affairs can they improve their economic conditions.

The old time, reactionary leadership advised our membership that only a few men are needed to carry on the business of the union. As a result of this, the average attendance at regular meetings of the union dwindled down to less than 10 per cent, and it therefore remains the main problem before the unit to get better attended meetings of the union.

Every comrade of the unit feels that in this short period of the existence of our industrial unit a new life of work within the Party has been created, and the unit welcomes this change of structure in the organizational work of our Party.

With such a splendid definite perspective and with a concrete plan of work, and what is most important, the enthusiasm of the comrades of the unit, we can expect in the near future that the unit of the Painters Local 848 will make tremendous progress in its Party activity, and will become an example for the entire District. We believe that this move on the part of the District in building such a unit will help the Party in its general Party activity.

AGIT-PROP SECTION

It Is Necessary to Work Among Women

(Informational Notes for International Women's Day,
March 8th)

By IRENE LESLIE

THE world crisis of the whole capitalist system has shown the deepest contradictions of class society. With all its weight, the crisis bears down on the shoulders of the working class and the broad masses of toilers. These masses in the capitalist countries are passing through the most unheard of suffering and starvation. Millions of working men and women and their children, without home and food, wander about in fruitless search for work and bread.

But this crisis strikes with special force upon the tens and millions of women and children of the proletariat of capitalist countries.

The most open forms of unlimited exploitation of the labor of women and children have been legalized by the dying capitalist system. It takes advantage of the fact that tens of millions of adult men, skilled workers, are now unemployed, without shelter or food, in order to carry on the most shameless and merciless exploitation of children, youth and women with impunity.

Capitalist rationalization is acting in the same direction in all branches of industry. It is leading to the replacement of skilled workers by the unskilled labor of women, youth and children. The crisis, poverty and unemployment compelled women and children to accept the worst conditions of labor. As a result of this, there is a general reduction in wages, a reduction of the standard of living of the working class families, growth of prostitution, and a wide-spread army of homeless children. This picture is seen today in the United States—suicides, prostitution, homeless children, illiteracy among children, undernourishment, increase in the death-rate, etc.

The workers are looking for a way out. The women are energetically trying to solve the problem by different methods. The class-conscious woman travels the same path with her brother, the workingman, taking active part in the political and economic struggle, showing a great deal of devotion and self-sacrifice, participating in picket-lines, demonstrations, strikes, etc.

But a large majority of the women, desperate because of their economic conditions, fall into the nets of the

bourgeois organizations, which by false promises and many illusions try to keep them away from the real issues of struggle against the main cause of starvation—the capitalist system. Such organizations as Father Coughlin, the EPIC, different bourgeois women's organizations, total a large number of women as their adherents.

We must make a decisive turn in paying attention to this problem of organizing the women and influencing them to involve them in our organization, at the same time make efforts to reach the women in the bourgeois organizations, such as the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, the National Conference of the Cause and Cure of War, the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, the League of Women Workers, the Women's National Democratic Group, the Women's National Republican Club, the National Federation of Business and Working-Women's Club, the church organizations, the Young Women's Christian Association, and all other women's organizations, even the Daughters of the American Revolution, in order to get from them the best elements for united struggle against war and fascism, the high cost of living, for equal rights, equal pay, against injunctions, and all political and economic issues of the day.

We must bear in mind, as Lenin told us, that no liberation movement is possible without the participation of the women in this movement. We can take for example, the role played by the women workers in the Russian revolution which proves this statement. The Russian working women were the foremost participants in the street battles, which unleashed the revolution of February-March, 1917. Driven to despair by tsarism and the burdens of imperialist war, they carried their indignation and hatred on to the streets of the tsarist capital, they fraternized with the soldiers as in the days of the Paris Commune, inducing them to ally themselves with the workers. The Russian women were struggling on the barricades during the October Revolution. We can mention thousands of women who during the Civil War were fighting with arms side by side with the men against the tsarist generals, whiteguard troops and interventionists. The women were also in the foremost ranks in the Five-Year Plan, in the struggle for building socialism in the Soviet Union. In the Stakhanov movement, the women workers and peasants occupy an honorable place (Maria Demchenko, the Vinogradovas, and many others, in field and industry).

In the present struggle of the working class in all countries, the women workers play a prominent role. In France, in Spain, in Poland, in China, you can see in the vanguard of the struggle, the women workers. In Germany, where fas-

cism has especially oppressed the women, they courageously are participating in the front ranks in the struggle against fascism. A large number of women are tortured, executed and kept in concentration camps.

Comrade Dimitroff, in his report to the Seventh World Congress of the Communist International, stressed the necessity and importance of organizing and working among the women. He showed that this strata of the population plays a considerable role in the struggle against war and fascism.

March 8 is International Women's Day. This day reminds us of our task in this domain, of involving and uniting the women in a united front of struggle against fascism, war and reaction.

A little information about the history of International Women's Day. This day originated in the U. S. A. in 1908, when the American Socialist Party resolved to set a certain Sunday in each year to be devoted to propaganda for women's suffrage, and for general agitation among the working women. The last Sunday in February was chosen. In the U. S., a great number of demonstrations of women were held from then on, but for many years, it carried a complete opportunist character, dealing only with the right to work.

At the International Conference of the Women Socialists in 1910, Clara Zetkin, famous veteran Communist leader of Germany, proposed a resolution which was accepted to set aside March 8 as International Women's Day. The task set down by this resolution was not only for the right of women to work, but to mobilize men and women to fight for special women's demands—a day to represent the struggle against capitalism, which doubly enslaves the women. After this, Russia was the first country to celebrate International Women's Day, March 8. This was a day of struggle and the mobilization of forces for struggle. During the tsarist regime, it was prohibited. In spite of this, however, the working women of Russia tried to organize demonstrations and meetings to celebrate this day. After the Revolution, it became a national revolutionary holiday, and in the Soviet Union it is a day of solidarity between the working women in the capitalist countries and a day of demonstration for the achievement of the building of socialism in the proletarian fatherland, in which the women take a prominent part as equal members of the society.

Here in the U. S. A., the 8th of March must be a day of demonstration of class solidarity and of the readiness to struggle against the menace of fascism and war, against political and economic oppression and for the united front of all exploited and oppressed.

In order to be acquainted with the needs and demands of the American working women, read **The Woman Today**.

Get Ready for May First

1. Approach the Socialist Party and trade union organizations for joint demonstrations and actions, under the banner of the united front, for May First.

2. Raise in all our written and verbal agitation the slogan of "Demonstrate Unity on May First!"

3. Take the necessary organizational and legal measures to insure permits for parades and demonstrations on May First.

4. Prepare in advance placards and posters for May First. Make May First demonstrate the greatest united front action of the year!

It Is Your Job to Win the Townsend Following

By I. B.

THE Townsend plan, by concentrating attention on one of the outstanding evils of capitalism—the failure to provide for the aged who are no longer able to earn a living—and by the apparently simple proposal as to how to secure old age pensions, has won vast support among the American masses. The reactionary Wall Street forces, after failing in their attempt to kill this movement by a conspiracy of silence, have now turned their guns on this movement.

Can we remain indifferent to the Townsend movement and to the Wall Street attempt to kill it? Obviously, this would be incorrect. The Central Committee has declared that we must support the struggle for old age pensions, while striving to win the Townsendites into the broader struggle for social insurance and showing them how their proposals must be amended to place the cost of the pension on the capitalist class.

This means that you, the individual Party member and functionary, must reach the Townsend supporters, that you must convincingly show them in what way the Townsend plan is incorrect and how they can fight for effective social insurance.

Can you do it, effectively? Do you know what the transaction tax is, and why it would place the burden on the toiling masses? Can you explain why the Townsend plan, if put into effect, would not, as is claimed, solve the problem of unemployment? Can you talk to a supporter of the Townsend plan and expose its weaknesses in such a way that he would not lump you with the reactionaries, who want to defeat all efforts to secure social insurance?

Comrade Bittelman's pamphlet, **The Townsend Plan—What It Is and What It Isn't**, does these things in a simple, clear and convincing way. You must study this pamphlet to learn how to carry on your agitation on the question of the Townsend plan in such a way as to combat the reactionary opposition and to win the Townsend following to our point of view. And you should see to it that every effort is made to secure a real wide distribution of this pamphlet, particularly among the Townsend following. This is the best means of winning them to a broad united front struggle for effective social insurance, for the Frazier-Lundeen bill, for independent political action. We bring here a telling citation from Comrade Bittelman's pamphlet, which is representative of the pithy, convincing manner in which the author attacks the problem:

"Our attitude, the attitude of the Communists, is entirely different. And we have said so, officially in the name of our Party. We see in the Townsend movement, first of all, a movement of masses of toilers seeking relief from the unbearable burdens of the crisis, of old age under capitalism, of poverty and insecurity brought about by the exploiters and their damnable system. We see in it, secondly, a movement for old age pensions, which are vitally necessary for millions of toilers in this country. We see in it, thirdly, a movement of powerful protest, not yet clear and still full of illusions, but of protest nonetheless against the policy of the monopolies to make the toilers pay for the crisis for which these same monopolies are responsible. And, therefore, we have said: we are heart and soul with your demand for old age pensions and for social security; we are with you in the opposition to Roosevelt's fraudulent scheme of pensions; we are with you in opposition to the monopolies, the financial oligarchy and plutocrats who refuse to give old age pensions. We will fight side by side with you for your main aim: old age pensions. And in doing so we shall seek to convince you that your plan has some vital weaknesses. One of them is the transaction tax. We shall show you that there is a better way. Old age pensions can be financed from taxation of high incomes and fortunes; and **there is plenty of wealth in this country to make the plan a success.**"*

* This pamphlet can be obtained from the Workers Library Publishers, P. O. Box 148, Station D, New York City. Price 5 cents.

Pre-Convention Unit Discussions Show Need for Systematic Education

By L. EMERY,

Agitprop Director, Detroit

FOLLOWING the District Plenum in District 7 an extensive program of organized pre-Convention discussions in the units has been begun. These are being conducted in accordance with the District Plenum resolution on Education, which stated that "the main center of educational work must be in the units" and that "all leading comrades in the District must regularly lead discussions in the units". The topics for the weekly discussions are as follows: (1) The Struggle Against War and Fascism, (2) New Methods of Organization, (3) Our Policy on Trade Union Work, (4) The Farmer-Labor Party, (5) The New Policy of the Y. C. L. Between 40 and 45 units are covered with speakers each week.

Each week a speakers' conference is held attended by all comrades assigned to lead discussions. At these conferences a thorough preliminary discussion is held on the topic for the week, and reports of the previous week's discussions are analyzed. These conferences are proving very valuable and are becoming quite popular in contrast to a resistance by many comrades at the start.

The results of the first two weeks discussions have brought forth a number of valuable lessons. The outstanding fact is that there does not exist sufficient clarity amongst the membership as a whole on the most basic and vital issues. Each discussion leader is asked to keep a careful record of all questions asked or raised in the discussions. A review of some of these questions throws a strong light on the political level of the membership and proves conclusively that one of the biggest problems before the entire Party is the systematic education of the membership. We have found that on the whole there are no basic disagreements with Party policy on any issues. This indicates a very strong loyalty. But it is necessary that the loyalty should be supplemented with knowledge. There is no need to argue that only a membership equipped with firm theoretical knowledge can constitute a real fighting Party competent to solve all its complex tasks and problems.

The present series of unit discussions are most useful in answering these questions on the spot, but they are not sufficient in themselves and only indicate a burning need for systematic educational work which will equip all our com-

rades with a minimum of theoretical principles of **Marxism-Leninism**.

Several things stand out clearly as a result of the examination of the unit discussions. The membership is not well enough informed. Many of the questions would not exist if the comrades read the **Daily Worker** regularly. Literature, particularly Party periodicals, are not being sufficiently read or studied. A real drive for circulation of Party literature inside the Party must be undertaken at once; this in itself is a necessary condition for good distribution of literature to non-Party masses. But even more important is the organization of the work of the comrades so that they will find free time to read and study independently. The cry now goes up that everyone is so busy that there is no time to read. This is but half true. We must organize the time of the comrades better, but for Michigan we must also stimulate a greater interest in reading. In view of the fact that many language comrades do not read the **Daily Worker**, it is necessary to insure that the language press deals adequately with the political questions.

Organized unit discussions must be a basic part of Party life and activity. Without them the bulk of the Party membership will not grow ideologically. And certainly if there is not a change in the ideological state of the membership, the Party itself will not be able to cope with its tasks.

More than unit discussions are needed, important as they are. There must be study circles and discussion groups of all kinds held regularly and placed on an organizational basis. Frequent lectures must be conducted. Systematic training of new members must be carried through conscientiously. The Workers' School must be utilized by the Party for the education of its membership. Special functionaries' conferences must be called for the discussion of basic questions of policy and program. Section and District training schools are a burning need. And for all of this work, a special kind of material is required which is not yet forthcoming in any great amounts in spite of the existence of a Party Commission on Education.

It is quite clear that the decisions of the Seventh World Congress, and the application those decisions to our own conditions as set forth in the resolutions of the November Plenum of the Party and of our own District Plenum, have not yet sufficiently become the property of the Party members. Until this is done, and until a knowledge of the decisions themselves are strengthened by a grasp of basic theory, the problem of education will remain one of the most important and pressing before the entire Party.

Speak the Language of the Masses

By EARL BROWDER

The language used in our agitation, both written and spoken, is still too much taken bodily from our resolutions, reports and discussions. These must be translated into the language of the streets, shops, etc. We must find the needed popularity of language.

How can we do it? By bringing into our agitprop work, into the work of the press, and leaflets, those workers who know how to speak to the masses. We must get rid of the idea that the qualities of being agitprop specialists are to be as far away from the masses as possible. We must find workers who can take our resolutions and translate them into the language of the masses and convince them by the use of language that the masses take to as natural language. There are such forces in our Party, but they are not drawn into the work of agitation. This must be done. We must find such people to talk to the masses and not just in committees. These comrades will introduce those appealing arguments, such arguments as they know how to make to the masses. We need mass agitators. We must find them in our midst and push them forward. We must select those who have the knack of humorous, picturesque and salty language of the masses. The agitational work must be made popular. An agitprop department that does not do this and organize the people to do this is no agitprop department, but an obstacle in the way. Many big capitalist politicians owe their success to their ability to speak the language of the masses.

They know how to clothe the most reactionary policies with a human touch that reaches the masses much more quickly than the most perfect and dignified English. How much easier it ought to be for us to be intimately human with the policies that represent the most human interests of the masses. We must be able to learn to do this and we can if we set ourselves to do it.—Earl Browder, **Build the United People's Front**, Report to the November Plenum of the C.C. of the C.P.U.S.A.

Shop Papers in New York District from November 1935 to February 1936

By JOE LESLIE

A three months' study of Party shop papers in New York reveals that the most common weakness in this phase of work is a lack of regularity. Today on the eve of the

Ninth Convention of our Party, we record a list of 115 shop papers in the 29 New York sections. These papers are issued in shops employing over 140,000 workers. What a tremendous force these papers could become if each paper appeared regularly once a month or oftener, reacting to issues as they arise.

In New York we have very few papers of which we can boast that they have appeared regularly each month for a sustained period. In those isolated cases where the papers have been comparatively regular we can point to direct results, both in the way of recruiting for the Party and of strengthening the trade unions in the shops. A few examples from such units will suffice. In X, a war industries plant, the unit has recruited enough to form two new departmental nuclei, and has effectively defeated a boss-inspired Red scare. In P, a light metal shop of about 200 workers, the shop paper has become popular with the men, and the unit is now twice the size that it was a year ago. Twenty-five copies of the **Daily Worker** are now sold each day and 40 subs for the **Sunday Worker** have been sold in the shop. In C, an educational institution employing about 400 people, the Party paper has become the spokesman for the Left wing in the trade union. When the trade union members want to carry on an intelligent discussion at their meetings, they bring the Party paper with them and quote its arguments. The nucleus here has grown to four times its former size and is now the most important political force in the institution. In all the examples quoted, a regularly appearing Party shop paper has been the most important factor in bringing about the improved situation in the unit. But such units are still in the minority in our Party.

The following gives an insight to the extent that the majority of our papers fluctuate. Fifteen of the New York sections reached a high point in 1935 of 93 papers. At the end of the year, however, these 15 sections were able to list only 63 papers. Twenty-five papers had disappeared. The fluctuation is even greater than appears on the surface since new papers are constantly appearing. The District is now engaged in making a study of why these papers went out of existence or were suspended.

The question therefore arises: can fluctuation and irregularity in shop papers be overcome? Three New York sections have proven that it can. On December 1, 1935, Sections 2 and 7 retained the same number as the highest point of the past year. And one section—Section 24—showed a gain over the highest number of papers published at any previous time during the year. On December 1, Section 2 lists

15 papers, Section 7 lists 7 papers, and Section 24, 20 papers. Most of our Party districts would not benefit by comparison with these three banner sections in shop paper work.

But what is the secret? How did these sections achieve such an enviable record? The answer is simple—functioning shop paper committees. One can readily observe a direct relationship between the leadership given to this phase of work and the results obtained. It is in the sections where shop paper committees have been formed that the units issue papers most regularly. It is also these same sections that issue the best shop papers in New York. It is in these sections that the units have shown real virility in shop recruiting for the Party.

Let us analyze one of these sections still further. In Section 24, 18 papers were issued for May Day, 1935. Since then they have had four months with 15 papers. The average for the entire year is about 14 per month. Since April 11 units have begun to issue papers, only two of which have been discontinued.

How was this done? Comrade Horton, educational director of the section, says:

“The most important factor was the continuous and systematic political emphasis placed upon shop papers by the whole Section leadership. The Section leadership was ‘shop paper conscious’. It took for granted that a unit in order to function effectively needed a shop paper for its political work.”

Horton further tells us,

“Our Section worked on the assumption that a unit had to convince us that it should not have a shop paper. If it couldn’t convince us, and usually it couldn’t, then it put out a paper. We do not mean that we ordered the units to issue papers. Rather, we convinced them that they couldn’t do Communist work without them. On one occasion, our Section Organizer spent two long sessions with one unit, patiently taking up every objection and removing it.

“Political emphasis without organizational follow-up would not have produced shop papers. A functioning shop paper committee was the decisive factor.”

This does not mean, of course, that the units played no part in helping achieve the record that Section 24 has set. We are certain that the units have become sharper political instruments because of the attention that the section leadership gave them and they in turn played a positive role in developing the work.

Although in New York the more important problem is developing the regularity of those shop papers which now exist, we cannot say that we can be entirely satisfied with regard to the present existing number of papers. On December 1, a study was made of 21 of the 29 New York sections. At that time in these 21 sections we had 148 nuclei in shops of 100 workers or more. Seventy-two papers were issued by these 148 nuclei. If we consider a shop of 100 or more workers important enough in which to issue Party papers we can definitely say that **as yet only 50 per cent of our important nuclei issue papers.**

A more detailed analysis for the entire New York District at the end of last year reveals that:

10	shop papers are issued in shops of 3,500 to 10,000 workers.
19	" " " " " " " " 1,000 to 3,500 workers.
23	" " " " " " " " 500 to 1,000 workers.
45	" " " " " " " " less than 500 workers.

This makes the number of shop papers in New York for December 1935 a total of 97.

From the above it is easy to see that some of our most important nuclei in our largest shops do not yet issue papers. At present only 29 nuclei in shops of 1,000 workers or more issue Party papers.

We have not in this brief article attempted to deal with the contents of these papers nor with the manner in which the district itself is attempting to organize its work. However, we hope to cover these two items in future articles.

Two most important conclusions, however, can be drawn from this analysis. First, that it now becomes increasingly more necessary for our District and Section leaderships to give attention to shop papers, with a view to increasing their regularity. Second, the District and Section leaderships must once again examine the situation in their own branches of the Party apparatus in order to discover where there are large and important shops with Party nuclei and without nuclei papers. In New York alone, there are dozens of such shops, either where we have at one time issued papers or where the problem received insufficient attention in the past and no paper appeared. Can we prepare the ground for re-issuing the traction papers, **Red Dynamo** and **Times Square Shuttle**? Will the **Sisco Voice** in the Staten Island Shipyard appear soon? How about the **Ohracle**? Can we have a regular paper in **G.G.G. Clothing**? In **Howard Clothing**? We could go on enumerating such possibilities, but the problem rests with the comrades in these shops and industries. They must supply the answer.

Shop Paper Work in District 8

By J. M.

THE shop paper, which is usually mimeographed and sometimes printed, is actually the most powerful weapon which the Party has at its disposal to reach into and organize the shops and factories! What better method can there possibly be for a shop unit to come to the workers with the campaigns of the Party, boldly, clearly, and yet without serious danger of the Party members losing their jobs?

The shop paper is the **political organ** of the shop unit. As such it defends the day-to-day-interests of the workers in the shop, but it also awakens their political consciousness, and understanding, and connects the problems of the shop with the political campaigns of the Party. From the everyday events of the workers' lives the Communist shop paper draws political and organizational conclusions; acting as a collective agitator, propagandist, and organizer.

From this role of the shop paper flows its basic tasks which can be summarized briefly as follows:

To organize and lead shop struggles; to build the union; to build the Communist Party; to bring Party campaigns into the shop of which the major one today is the Farmer-Labor Party; to build the circulation of the **Daily Worker**; to increase literature sales, to take up the special problems of the Negro, women, and the youth; and finally, to propagandize the revolutionary way out—Soviet power.

Experience both outside and in Chicago proves the great power of a well-edited popularly written shop paper. It would be mere repetition to go into this here. Instead we will proceed to a discussion of the actual status in District 8 of shop paper work, and steps that are being taken and must be taken to improve the situation.

"The central task of our organizational work remains the building of the shop nuclei and the strengthening of the existing shop nuclei by recruiting the best elements, the key people in the shop. This means more and better shop nuclei. It means giving these basic Party units more guidance and making this guidance more concrete, in order to make them into real political bodies, capable of issuing more and better shop papers and becoming the real political leaders of the masses in the shops." (**Resolution of the November Plenum.**)

Today in District 8 not one shop paper is being issued as a monthly publication which the workers in each particular shop know will come out at a certain time! Only four shop papers are being issued with any regularity.

The papers that are coming out more or less regularly are the **Harvester Worker**, the **Illinois Steel Worker**, the **Armour Worker**, and **Swift Workers' Blade**. Thus all four papers are in basic industry—steel, machine shop, and meat packing.

But what is even more distressing is the fact that during the course of a year, the following papers, which were issued regularly, and some over a period of years, have simply folded up. They are:

Chicago—**Northwestern Headlight**, **Rock Island Headlight**, **Wisconsin Steel Torch**, **Stewart-Warner Worker**, **Gary Steel Worker**, **Crane Worker** (this paper had been issued for five years regularly), **Gary Tin Mill Worker**, **Inland Spark**, **Youngstown Worker**. Every one of these papers was issued in a large industrial plant.

How is a situation possible where shop papers in basic shops simply disappeared, and where not one shop paper can claim it is coming out every month?

There are many objective reasons such as lay-offs which liquidated entire Party units, shifts which disorganized the regularity of unit work. (**Headlight**, **Wisconsin Steel Torch**, **Stewart Warner**.)

In some cases the shop papers tended to become the property of the entire unit and of the Section, with the result that when the responsible comrades left the work the shop paper also died. (**Gary Steel Worker**—now irregular, **Inland Spark**, **Youngstown Worker**.)

What steps are being taken and what steps must continue to be taken to guarantee a change in this bad situation?

Organizationally, the District has taken the following steps:

1. A shop paper committee has been set up, responsible for the guidance of this work on a District scale.

2. Comrades have been assigned to certain selected shop units with the task of guiding the work of issuing the shop papers.

3. The shop paper committee has begun the issuance of a **Shop Paper Guide**, the first number of which came out in January. This guide will not only review shop papers, but will make suggestions to help in printing, distributing, and popularizing attractive shop papers. It will also furnish factual material such as data on profits, cost of living, legislation, etc.

4. Each unit bureau is required to fill out a shop paper questionnaire each month, regardless of whether a paper is at present being issued or not.

But having done this, the most important work yet remains to be done. What is this? It is to make the Section,

and the entire Party membership politically shop paper conscious. This cannot be said to be the case now.

A month after the shop paper committee had been set up, and after it had been suggested in the **Guide**, and to the Section Agit-props, not one Section had yet put the question of shop paper work on the agenda of a meeting!

An intense ideological campaign must be started at once, and kept up. District representatives will have to attend section committee meetings where this will be the main point for discussion. In turn, Section representatives will have to attend shop unit meetings and patiently take up the question of shop paper work, answering every question and doubt.

The Sections must set up an apparatus to help the shop units financially and technically.

Classes must be established.

Systematic political education of the sections and units on the basic importance of shop paper work and day to day guidance and help by the district and sections must be instituted. That is the key to the solution of the shop paper condition in District 8.

Taking Part in City and State Politics

By I. BEGUN

Agit-prop Director of District 2

ONE of the major tasks facing the New York District is to educate the Party to be actively interested and to take part in neighborhood, city-wide, and state political issues. Our Party leadership and membership must not only present our position through mass meetings and demonstrations, but through the many official forums open to us, such as legislative hearings in Albany and City Hall. In this manner we can not only bring the Party position to millions of readers of the capitalist press, but also give our Party a certain established position as a political party actively engaged in watching and determining legislative matters affecting the population of the City and State of New York.

It has been shown that through the leadership of our Party, and the influence we can bring to bear through contacts in the A. F. of L. and various progressive groups, we can change the character of certain hearings and directly influence pending legislation. Moreover, it presents our Party not merely as "agitator". "demonstrator", etc., but as an

actual force participating in what many people consider the normal channels of political activity.

The political issues now before the people of the state of New York are of tremendous importance to the masses. Due partly to the fact that the State Assembly is Republican while the State Senate is Democratic there are many public hearings, at which attendance is urged by the politicians themselves. The issues that are presented to the people in pending legislation and upon which hearings have been, or will be held, are:

1. "Anti-crime" measures—concealed but very vicious anti-labor measures, that if passed would endanger the activities of the labor movement. The work of the Party at this hearing will be discussed later.

2. A whole flock of "patriotic" measures—especially those attempting to limit the opportunities for placing a Farmer-Labor ticket on the ballot, and in the case of the Ostertag Bill, to remove any "seditious" party from the ballot. These bills include the "investigation" of Communism in the schools, loyalty oaths, and flag bills.

3. The State Budget which includes the tax program. An opportunity was given us here to analyze the state budget of the wealthiest state in the union, showing the inadequacy of state aid to unemployed, relief, schools, hospitals, etc., and exposing a tax program the burden of which falls largely upon the workers and middle classes.

4. There is a whole series of housing measures both good and bad. If progressive organizations are successful, hearings will be held, thus giving us an opportunity to present a real housing program.

5. The Brownell Bill Hearing. The hearing on a bill to investigate the entire relief set up in New York state will afford us an opportunity to present our analysis of the unemployed situation and our program.

The "Anti-Crime" Hearings

The possibilities and results to be gained through active interest and participation in these routine political activities were best illustrated in our work at the Anti-Crime Hearing in Albany. These bills were the result of a study by the Governor's Anti-Crime Conference and Commission and a special message by the Governor to the State Legislature. They were proclaimed as part of the decent citizens' fight against crime and the Governor was pledged the cooperation of the political parties. Approximately 60 "anti-crime" measures were introduced. Finger-printing for pickets, right to hold attorneys in contempt by magistrates, a frame-up pistol bill and a five-sixth jury verdict were included. District At-

torneys, sheriffs, judges, Police Commissioner Valentine and several hundred others crowded the hearing in Albany. Through the work of our Party and progressive labor elements the hearing was turned into a hearing for labor's rights and civil liberties. The capitalist press proclaimed that "Labor and the Communists" oppose the measures. The true nature of the bills, as leading towards reaction and fascism, was exposed. Some of the bills have already been killed. There is a good chance of eliminating completely many of the others. The Party spokesman was able to explain the Party position on the special social causes of crime, on democratic liberties, on a labor organization, and, upon an attempt at heckling, even to explain our position on religion.

Some Shortcomings and Tasks in This Work

While in the district we are now watching city and state political issues and have our spokesman at these hearings, only a beginning has been made, through a specially printed bulletin **State of Affairs** and special information bulletins to the sections, in giving factual data, legislative information, and our Party position on day to day legislative affairs in City Hall and Albany. However, in a very few instances do the sections and units do anything about it. Only in a few instances did our local branches bring to the attention of the neighborhoods the activities of "their" representatives in Albany and City Hall.

The mass organizations and many of the trade unions do not even as yet have legislative committees to watch legislation and take an active part in fighting unfavorable legislation or pushing favorable legislation. It is difficult to convince even our comrades that the unions must take an interest in legislative matters.

To do continued and persistent work in this field thorough knowledge and detailed information is necessary. The organizations appearing to speak on the budget, taxation, unemployment, housing, etc. come prepared with facts and figures covering many years. They have research staffs at their disposal. The Party spokesman must be even better prepared than these bourgeois spokesmen since he is often challenged and heckled. The District Research Committee has been helpful but more careful attention will have to be paid to building up the Research Committee if the Party spokesmen are to appear and speak with confidence on budgets, taxation, housing, transit, etc.

City Issues

La Guardia's campaign manager has resigned from city service to begin building a political machine for the mayoral-

ty election. The Tammany Board of Aldermen is beginning to fight for political advantage by introducing various ordinances favoring civil service employees. The Bankers Agreement, City Budget, the relief situation, curbs on free speech and press (flag ordinances), transit unification, sales-tax, schools, and slum removal are now active political issues. Our day to day practical activity and the education of the population of our city and of our Party comrades has not been sufficient. While Party spokesmen have appeared at occasional hearings and the Party position has been stated in the Party press through letters sent to *La Guardia*—these issues have not been placed so sharply before the city that the politicians would have to meet them. The sections and units now get detailed statements concerning the ordinances introduced by "their" aldermen in City Hall. Some sections have taken up these matters with the Aldermen, Assemblymen, Senators, etc. but in the main there is no active, live interest in local politics.

The Farmer-Labor Party and the United Front

In several instances as in Brighton Beach and Borough Park where the local branch or units took up city or neighborhood issues, such as schools, libraries, or firetraps, it was not difficult to get united actions even with Democratic and Republican clubs (Brighton Beach) in the fight for civic improvements. Contacts were made and cooperation secured from many influential people in the community. In the fight for local demands, there is many times a gradual exposure of the local politicians, making possible the introduction of proposals for independent political action. The action of our Party in thus becoming a leader in municipal, state and neighborhood issues not only builds the Party and spreads its influence and prestige, but at the same time puts us in the position of being better able to spread the idea and organization of a local Labor Party ticket and a state-wide Farmer-Labor Party.

What I Have Learned from the New Members

By L. LEWIS

WE have just concluded a class for new members in Section 5. Originally I had been assigned to the class as instructor. Actually I have benefited as well, for I have learned some valuable lessons.

This group of eighteen new Party comrades represented a living example of the type of workers that are now attracted to our Party.

Their Social Composition

There were native and Americanized workers. Some were close to the revolutionary movement before joining. Some were socialistically inclined. A few were staunch supporters of the Democratic Party. As one member explained:

"I supported and campaigned for Roosevelt. My material conditions were such that I looked upon myself as one who could climb the ladder of success. I thought that the maladjustments of certain people were due to their own misfortune. I did not realize that I was only a pawn on the chess board of the economic ruling class who was used to protect the safety of the big figures on the board, until the time came when I would be taken off the board and liquidated. That gave me food for thought. I attended a meeting where Comrade Hathaway spoke. His clear explanations, sound facts and undisputable arguments impressed me. However, I still had to break down many obstacles that prevented me from thinking in the terms of a worker. The time came and a struggle developed in my own 'aristocratic' trade. Only then I learned about the class struggle. I had a living example on the role of the 'arm of the law' which I respected only a short time ago. The clear words of Comrade Hathaway then came into my mind."

This experience was related by the comrade to the class. Now he is a leading member in his trade union and is playing an important role in the movement for a Labor Party.

Or take Comrade X. He was 18 when the crisis hit him. Born and raised here; made high school, and could turn nowhere. Some of his friends are still hanging around without any outlook and hope. They are a prey for anything.

"Hadn't I been approached by the revolutionary movement I could have been influenced by counter-revolutionary forces as well. As a matter of fact I, too, thought it was 'un-American'. This is the lot of many youth of my standing. It depends on who will win them."

Now this comrade accepted his assignment to a railroad concentration unit with revolutionary enthusiasm and a clear understanding of his tasks. It has been remarkably demonstrated that these new comrades grasped the problems and tasks that stand before our Party and the working class as a whole. In many cases these new comrades were more on the alert to problems than some of our old Party members.

The Methods Used in the Class

The class discussed and had their say in choosing the means the comrades themselves took part in conducting as well as participating in the class. Through this method the fullest amount of self initiative was displayed. It had reached its highest point when at the end of the course a comrade was elected to conduct the class. His ability for this job proved best the teaching of Lenin on the potential forces that are hidden in the ranks of the working class. We must learn how to bring out these forces. When we master this, the cry of "short of forces" will be unwarranted.

Right from the start of the class we got acquainted with the social composition of the comrades, with their views on problems and issues, their social surroundings, etc. We created an atmosphere of intimacy and comradeship and so the comrades were frank and outspoken. They explained problems and issues on the basis of their personal experience. Thus the lessons became very interesting.

Our lessons on the united front, on the Negro question, on the Labor Party, on the work and tasks of the Party fraction, were concretized on the basis of how it should be applied in the street unit or shop unit, or in a particular organization, how the comrade would act if faced with a certain problem.

The comrades thereby received a clear picture of our Party and its activity in daily life.

Out of eighteen, three left town and three dropped out of the class; twelve remained; two of the three who dropped out were women. Three were assigned to concentration units; two for other important work in the Section; three are carrying on work in the American League; two are leading members in their trade unions.

The class discussed and had their say in choosing the members for their assignments.

The tasks of the assignments were discussed at the class. Thus the comrades had a clear idea of what they were going to do.

The main shortcoming in the composition of the class was that there was not one Negro worker and no more women comrades. We should have been more determined in following up the two women comrades, to find out why they stopped attending.

On the whole this group of comrades promises to provide important forces for building the Party in Section 5 which is known as the little Pittsburgh of the Bronx.

The response of these new members, their revolutionary enthusiasm and the prospective possibilities that these new forces create for the building of our Party into a mass

Party should spur every comrade to recruit new members.

At the same time, with the proper political preparation of the new members through such classes and with the correct approach, we shall be able to keep these new comrades and considerably lessen fluctuation. These new forces are like new blood that flows into the veins of our Party. Let us combine the revolutionary enthusiasm of the new and the steadfastness and experience of the old comrades, and we will be on the road to building a Bolshevik Party.

As a practical step to their tasks in the Party, the students of the class organized a graduation affair on Saturday, February 8, proceeds of which were for the National Training School.

A Good Example of a Leaflet on Local Issues

*What is the Burning Need of the People of Newark?
Hospitals and Schools! A referendum will prove it!*

Yes! For A Referendum!

*A referendum will give a convincing answer to all
politicians who block the will of the people!*

To the People of Newark:

Most people in Newark agree on the necessity for a new City Hospital as well as new school facilities. The City Hospital is an old fire-trap, inadequate in every respect. Schools are crowded to the point of endangering the health and well-being of the children.

Then why all the delay? The P. W. A. funds were granted but refused by Parnell. Now there is a split between Parnell and the other commissioners with charges and counter-charges hurled back and forth. In fact, the whole issue of the hospital, and of the schools, is being lost in the fight between the commissioners. They are using the welfare of the community as a political football.

Who Is Against This Project?

Parnell is the open representative of the Citizen's Advisory Committee, the bankers and industrialists who control New-

ark. They are the local Liberty Leaguers who cry "Balance the Budget," but conveniently forget the high rates of interest which they are collecting, without fail and at everyone's expense, on short and long term loans to the city.

We say, Yes! Balance the Budget, but not at the expense of the health and lives of the community. Yes! Balance the Budget, but at the expense of the rich and not at the expense of the poor. For instance, how about the millions in taxes which large corporations in Newark have succeeded in holding back from the city treasury?

The Communist Position

The Communist Party is for the new hospital and schools because they are vitally necessary for the welfare of the people of Newark. Because these projects should give constructive work to people who need and want work, and at trade-union wages.

The Communist Party is for a referendum **immediately!** The Building Trades Council and other groups have publicly demanded a referendum. Some of the commissioners claim they want to settle the issue by a referendum. **Then by all means let us have this referendum now.** No behind-the-scenes maneuvers, legal or otherwise, to block and befog the issue.

For a Strong Farmer-Labor Party in Newark

The situation only points out more clearly the crying need for a strong Farmer-Labor Party in Newark. Let us work to put the Farmer-Labor Party into office in Newark—to prevent the Public Service and the Liberty Leaguers from getting a strangle hold on the city.

Communist Party, U.S.A., Newark Section,

[Union label]

847 Broad Street

"State of Affairs"

By S. W. G.

WE have been a lot of things, but one thing definitely we have not always been—good followers of practical, day-to-day politicals in the City Halls, the county seats and the State capitols.

We have let this field too much to the professional capitalist politicians, high priced lobbyists and A. F. of L. legislative agents, and, of course, to the Right wing Socialist lawyers. We have been content too much in the past with

"raising a question" after it has already been raised in the press, or after it has become a legislative fact.

This is particularly dangerous now, when the City Halls and the State legislatures are avenues for fascist or semi-fascist legislation. Reactionary bills designed to throttle the rights of labor are being introduced by the score in practically every law-making body in the land, and not only through Congress in Washington.

There is all the more reason, therefore, for hailing **State of Affairs**, a printed monthly magazine, issued by the Research Bureau of the New York State Committee of the Communist Party, which devotes itself almost wholly to local politics.

By that is meant all the bills that are up in Albany and in the City Hall, the activities of Mayor LaGuardia and Governor Lehman, material on the public utilities, relief and W.P.A., youth, transit and housing.

Specific bills are analyzed, their number and sponsor given. You are told to what committee chairman to send your protests. Above all, it makes clear what specific measures are being considered, in what legislative stage (committee or otherwise) they are to be found, and what is to be done about it.

There is an excellent "deadly parallel" analysis of the New York State Byrne-Killgrew Unemployment Insurance Law and the Frazier-Lundeen Social Insurance Bill that is a model for clear and simple contrast. It can be used as an example in other states where there are unemployment insurance bills.

The short, pithy factual statements all over the magazine are each a basis for a whole speech or neighborhood shop paper article.

Designed primarily for Party speakers, unit, section and district committees and as a basis for articles in bulletins, the material is factual, not agitational. But the facts so clearly and simply presented make the magazine useful for a circulation wider than the immediate Party membership, although it is aimed principally for inner-Party use.

We vote for it with both hands. May every district in the country begin to publish such a magazine or bulletin! It can—and should be—gotten out by every large district of the country immediately, either in printed or mimeographed form. We urge that interested districts communicate immediately with **State of Affairs**, Room 428, 799 Broadway, New York, N. Y. Get a couple of sample copies for your district or subscribe to it for 50 cents a year.

After reading it—of this we are certain—district bureaus will obey the biblical injunction: Go thou and do likewise.

First Check-up on Recruiting by Section Organizers

District	No. Responded	Total Pledged	No. Reported	Recruited
1	5	35	0	0
2	27	230	16	43
3	13	193	10	59
4	1	10	1	11
5	6	120	5	54
6	14	205	4	36
7	5	51	3	10
8	6	90	2	14
9	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	0	0
11	0	0	0	0
12	1	15	0	0
13	0	0	0	0
14	4	86	2	21
15	4	30	0	0
16	1	10	0	0
17	1	25	1	5
18	5	65	5	31
19	0	0	0	0
20	2	25	1	4
21	1	20	0	0
22	0	0	0	0
23	0	0	0	0
24	0	0	0	0
25	1	10	1	9
26	0	0	0	0
27	2	16	2	10
28	2	35	1	3
16N	1	20	1	1
16R	1	15	1	5
TOTALS	103	1,306	56	316

SECTION ORGANIZERS WHO HAVE FULFILLED OR OVER- FULFILLED THEIR QUOTAS

Section Organizer	City	Section	District	Quota	Recruited	Date
1. Hans Handov	Syracuse	105	4	10	11	2/13
2. Arvo M. Savola	Iron River, I.R.		27	7	7	2/13
3. Ben Careathers	Pittsburgh	1	5	20	20	2/17
4. Nat Ganley	Hamtramck Ham.		7	6	8	2/26

Read "Review of the Month"

COMRADES, are you following regularly the highly important monthly feature in **The Communist**, "Review of the Month"? And are you recommending "Review of the Month" to be read by your fellow-workers, fellow organization members, friends and neighbors?

It is impossible for the functionaries, the general membership and the sympathizers of our Party to address themselves to the masses, either from platform or in discussions and conversations without keeping abreast, not only of the international and national political events, but of the Leninist interpretation of these events.

In "Review of the Month", conducted in every issue of **The Communist** by Comrade Bittelman, the major economic and political issues are analyzed thoroughly so as to give the membership of the Party the correct approach to the burning issues of the day, and to make it easier to win to the Party position increasing numbers of workers, farmers, and city middle classes.

READ AND SPREAD "REVIEW OF THE MONTH!"

READ AND SPREAD **THE COMMUNIST!**
