

Recruit and Educate, CP Board Calls

Local Groups to Set Quotas, To Stress Socialist Teachings

Party building in a new manner—with quotas set by district, county and club organizations instead of by top committees—was voted unanimously after a full half-day discussion yesterday by the National Committee of the Communist Party.

Recruiting is to be carried on in the course of a campaign to strengthen the Party politically through educational activity, simultaneous with organization and leadership of mass struggles.

This was the meaning of the resolution authorizing the drive, which was adopted by the committee.

Education for socialism as the only final solution to the problems of the American people must be an important feature of the drive, a number of speakers stressed. This political enlightenment must go hand in hand with the day to day struggles for wage increases, lower prices, housing, Negro rights and the election of a progressive Congress in 1946, they said.

FIGHT ULTRA 'SELECTIVITY'

A majority of members who spoke argued against any tendency to restrict or narrow down the drive. They warned against being so "selective" in recruiting as to exclude from the party workers willing and eligible to join. The perspective, as hammered out in the discussion, developed for a drive to win the masses of workers, especially in the basic industries, and to educate them to an understanding of Marxism-Leninism.

Some members warned against "paper recruiting" or recruiting for the record which leads to high levels of fluctuation.

The basis for the discussion was laid by John Williamson, national organizational secretary, in a sub-report on the proposed party building drive.

Williamson said that strike struggles involving millions of workers was a crucial test for the party, which "had to demonstrate its leading role and provide immediate answers to numerous problems confronting labor and the nation."

FOUGHT FOR FEPC

The strikes activated many members who had not attended club meetings for months, he said, and where there were Communists, strike activity and morale were at their highest. He documented this with examples from Chicago, Buffalo, Boston, Youngstown, Flint and other strike areas.

Communists were also active in organizing the national campaign

in support of legislation for a permanent FEPC, Williamson said, and stimulated other groups to activity. As a result, a conference on a city FEPC was held in St. Louis which strengthened the fight for national legislation.

He gave other examples where initiative by the Communists resulted in action of labor, the Negro people and other population groups, for progressive ends.

In the course of these struggles, Williamson said, "Our party has started to relearn how to function as a vanguard political party of the working class."

"It is by helping the workers to understand and meet complicated problems which go beyond the elementary experiences and practices of the trade union that our party will re-establish itself with the confidence and support of the workers."

Elizabeth Gurley Flynn reported on her recent visit to Paris as a member of the American delegation to the International Women's Congress. She described in glowing terms the great Communist Party of France and spoke of its interest in the American party's struggle against Browderism.

IDEOLOGICAL CAMPAIGN

Gil Green, Illinois state secretary, said the drive must be approached with the aim of building a solid, Marxist-Leninist party which will function as a vanguard.

"The issue is between real party building and the sort of recruiting drives we used to put on. Party building must have as its main fulcrum an ideological campaign."

He described reeducating cadre as essential, to eliminate bad habits of work acquired during Browder's revisionism.

One of the highlights of the day's session was the speech by City Councilman Peter Cacchione.

"One part of the good old days I'd like to go back to," he said, "are good old days before Browderism, when we organized and led mass struggles."

Cacchione recalled that when he entered the party in 1932, New York had 6,000 members. It grew to 15,000 in a year and a half as a result of the struggles led by Communists for unemployment insurance and the veterans' bonus.

Housing, said Cacchione, is one of the biggest issues facing the people today.

"There are two and a half million families without homes. Before another year, the figure will be three million. Many young people cannot get married because they can't find homes. Many young couples are worried about having babies for the same reason. Yet capitalism boasts about its protection of the sanctity of the home."

HOUSING MAJOR ISSUE

He urged the Communist Party to take up housing as a major issue and fight for a solution.

Rose Gaulden, Harlem party leader, said the Negro people of Harlem want and need the Communist Party. She told of Negro veterans who learned about socialism from their Communist buddies in foxholes. They came to party headquarters to join, she said.

"But fluctuation," said Miss Gaulden, "is a millstone around our neck. We attract the Negro people because of our militant fight on issues which concern them. But we have not yet found the medium to train and hold our new members."

Irving Potash said that the Communist Party must use the fact that so many proposals for correct strike tactics came from Communists. The best source of new members is the shops and mills, he said, but this source hasn't been fully utilized because the leading role of Communists in many unions and many struggles isn't known by the workers. He asserted that unions led by Communists were among the most successful in winning conditions for their members. "It is time we let the workers know these things," he said.

Gabor Kish, secretary of the Washington, Pa., organization, said that the party drive will succeed only if the difference between the party and the trade unions is shown to the workers. He emphasized the necessity of more educational activity on socialism.

SOUTH NEEDS COMMUNISTS

Nat Ross, Southern representative of the national committee, asserted that the Southern people desperately need the Communist Party, because it is the only party that has a solution to the Negro question and will lead struggles in the interests of Negro and white. The revisionist period has left its scars in the South, he said, and there is resis-



Staunch No Dealer: Harold L. Ickes blasts Democratic Party deals which caused the break between him and President Truman and announces his resignation as Secretary of the Interior at his farewell press conference. [Story on back page.]

tance to party building which a drive will overcome.

Morris Childs, editor of the Daily Worker, emphasized the role which the party press can play in the recruiting drive.

Mother Ella Reeve Bloor, with her usual spirit and humor, welcomed the party building drive and expressed confidence in its success.

Other speakers on party building included:

William Schneiderman, California

state secretary; Carl Winter, Michigan state secretary; Bella Dodd, New York state legislative secretary; Arnold Johnson, Ohio state secretary; Jack Stachel, member of the national board; John Steuben, New York; Henry Huff, Washington state chairman; Anne Burlak, Massachusetts state secretary; William Norman, New York state organizational secretary; Roy Hudson, western Pennsylvania secretary.

Spellman and Glennon Arrive in Rome

ROME, Feb. 14 (UP).—Archbishops John Joseph Glennon of Detroit and Francis J. Spellman arrived today, as two other American cardinal-designate—Archbishops Edward Mooney of Detroit and Samuel A. Stritch of Chicago—were received by the Pope in private audiences.

The gathering of the cardinal-designate occurs simultaneously with such strange scenes as these: the public embrace in Rome Wednesday between British Archbishop Bernard W. Griffin and German Bishop Conrad von Preysing; the demonstration in Budapest Sunday when fascists cheered the names of Archbishop Joseph Mindszenty and former fascist premiers Imredy and Szalasy while attacking Social Democrats and Communists.

Largo Caballero Dying

PARIS, Feb. 14 (UP).—Doctors tonight amputated the left leg of Francisco Largo Caballero, 76 years old, in a last desperate attempt to save his life.

The former Socialist premier of the Spanish Loyalist government was dying in a Paris hospital from septicemia. Physicians said there was a slight chance of his life being prolonged.