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We Are Only Beginning

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THE splendid reports coming from the state organizations, the increase in dues payments in the last few months, are the best indications that the Tenth Convention of our Party was a powerful stimulus in intensifying the political activities of the Party organizations.

The Tenth Convention has armed the whole Party with a concrete political program of action; today we see already the first results. Wherever the decisions of the Tenth Convention are thoroughly discussed, fully understood and concretized by the branches, the Party organizations are growing, are getting more active. The individual Party members do their work with redoubled enthusiasm.

But we are only at the beginning; a period of intense activity lies before us. The first skirmishes of the approaching battle, the November elections, are already taking place. The enemies of progress, of democracy, the Tories and their allies, are mobilizing at full speed, not sparing forces and money to get their machine going, to get their incubators of lies, false news, demagogery, steamed up. Every weapon at their disposal is being used to check the progressive measures of the Administration, to check the advance of the trade union movement. Under their cry of "democracy" there is hidden their eagerness for more liberty for themselves, greater freedom for the forces of

monopoly to intensify exploitation, to destroy the rights of the workers, to destroy democracy.

The necessity of closing ranks by all forces of progress, the necessity of a common front of all the toiling people, for jobs, security, democracy and peace, as the only means to smash the efforts of the enemy of freedom, to send progressives to Washington, is more and more understood by the masses. The slogan of the democratic front is gaining ground day by day, is put into action. America must move on the road of more progress and more democracy. There must be more determination in stopping those forces that try to keep back the wheel of progress.

The period from now to November is decisive to get the motors tuned up, ready for another spurt, for another victory over the Tories.

Our Party, in spite of its limited size, has today all the qualifications for playing a role in helping to mobilize the masses behind the forces of progress. Its role will increase to the extent that we prove to the masses our sincerity in the struggle for the defense and extension of democracy, to the extent that we become a large Party, more strongly connected with the millions of the American people.

It is in this period, when we are addressing ourselves to the millions of our citizens through our platform, through our sound argumentation, that we must strive not only to help in welding the masses into a powerful movement in support of democracy and progress, but at the same time appeal to the most militant of the forces with whom we are coming in contact to join our ranks.

Concretely, from now on we must organize our work so that every Party member must keep in mind five main tasks:

1. To intensify our efforts in the mass organizations (trade unions, fraternal, cultural, etc.), to win the masses for the democratic front, to defeat reaction in the 1938 elections, to defeat the wage-cutting campaign of the monopolists, and to advance the cause of labor unity.

2. To intensify our activity in building the Party and to make possible the attainment of the goal set by the Tenth Convention of 100,000 members by the end of the year.

3. To increase the circulation of the *Daily Worker* and the rest of the Party press, as well as the democratic front press, the *Midwest Daily Record*, and the *Western People's World*, as one of the best ways to reach broader masses with the message of the Party and to rally them for the democratic front.

4. To improve education as a means of arming the Party with more political understanding and to stimulate all the organizational activities.

5. To intensify our activities in support of the struggle of the Spanish and Chinese people as part of our campaign for peace through collective security, under the slogan "Keep America Out of War by Keeping War Out of the World."

Between now and November we must organize our work so that 3,000,000 copies of the Party platform, the pamphlet containing the report of Comrade Browder to the Tenth Convention, and other important literature will be distributed house to house, in trade unions, etc. The distribution should not be a mechanical one. Our comrades must be prepared not only to get this material into the hands of the people, but to engage in discussion with their neighbors, with their fellow workers in the shops, with their fellow trade unionists, explaining to them the role of our Party at the present time.

There are still a few months of the summer and early fall before us that can be utilized with all kinds of open air activities to reach broad masses with the Party message, with our press, wherever masses are gathering in great numbers: on picnic grounds, parks, on the playgrounds (youth), beaches, etc. There is still time for the branches to organize Sunday excursions at which friends and their families can be invited. We must learn how to combine pleasure and relaxation with political activity. Picnics,

social gatherings, excursions, are means of strengthening the ties among Party and non-Party people, among the fighters for democracy.

Today we have everything at our disposal to make such gatherings pleasant. There are dramatic clubs, dancing clubs, choruses, musicians' groups, that can be used for this purpose, to make the program of the social gatherings more appealing. There are hundreds and thousands of talented forces in every field of cultural life that our movement has produced in the last few years. This is proven by the splendid programs that are highly appreciated by thousands of outsiders in the various workers' camps.

Labor Day is approaching. Millions of the toiling people of America will gather in the open to hear the message of organized labor, to enjoy the last sunshine of the summer. Our forces must be there with our literature, with our Party platforms.

Already now our trade union comrades must be the driving force to make of the Labor Day rallies powerful gatherings at which the masses streaming out of mills, mines and offices will express their determination to fight in defense of the trade unions, for more powerful unions, for peace and democracy, in defense of the Spanish and Chinese people, for the liberation of Tom Moony, and above all will be mobilized to throw their might into the election campaign in support of the best defenders of labor and democracy.

These are the immediate issues before us. It is the task of the leading committees, of the branches, to work out the concrete steps and the proper methods for reaching this goal.