

Workers (Communist) Party

The Chicago Lenin Memorial and Our Tasks

By ARNE SWABECK.

ON January 24th the Chicago party membership proved its ability to rally masses of workers. But this task successfully accomplished imposes new duties for the further strengthening of the working class movement.

The Chicago Lenin memorial meeting became a splendid demonstration, the significance of which has already been emphasized in these columns. The further line of activities to be pursued has been indicated. The purpose of this article is only to set down a few details of the next points for concentration of the energies of our membership, in particular the following:

Immediate Steps.

1. An effective membership drive.
2. Extended educational activities—enrollment in the party school.
3. Concentration on expansion of The DAILY WORKER circulation.
4. Increased fraction activities in unions and language organizations.
5. Increased shop nuclei activities—factory campaigns.
6. Greater efforts to reach the Negro workers.
7. Greater attention to party campaigns.

As has been mentioned in the article by Comrade Bell the many sympathizers to our party must be made full fledged members. Thru the shops, thru the unions the working class organizations our members should concentrate their efforts to bring the party literature before these workers, to invite them into party educational meetings, never forgetting, however, that it is only thru the active fight for the interest of the workers that they will become definitely attracted to the party and recognize the need of participating in its work.

More Educational Work.

The measure of progress made by the labor movement is largely determined by the ability, the practical and theoretical understanding of its staff of active workers. It is in recognition of that fact that the Chicago party school has been established and that the membership is urged to extend the educational activities to embrace the broadest possible strata of the workers. Not only the members of the Communist Party need practical and theoretical understanding, militant trade unionists need it as well. The

workers in the shops also need education.

It is of course, expected that the party membership be the driving force to make the enrollments for the second term of the party school still bigger than the first term. The subjects taught have been published. Experienced instructors are available and all facilities can be extended if necessary.

Daily Worker Drive.

Before The DAILY WORKER Lenin drive is completed there is yet time to give it a mighty push in Chicago. While the circulation during last summer decreased, since November 1st there has been a constant increase, altho not nearly to the degree which should be the case.

Nothing needs to be said about The DAILY WORKER as a weapon in the class struggle. That is fully recognized. The effectiveness of The DAILY WORKER as an organizer for the Lenin mass demonstration on January 24th was proven.

Methods to be pursued to effectively extend the circulation have been made known to the party members and to all supporters of our daily. All that is needed to give a real finishing touch to the drive is the good will and real determination to put it over. That was the thing that made the Lenin memorial meeting successful.

Party Fractions.

Actively functioning party fractions are the only basic guarantee for the ultimate building of the left wing movement within the trade unions. A strong left wing movement means the pursuit of militant policies by the unions and is the only guarantee that the leadership will actually give heed to the needs of the rank and file.

Communists who pride themselves of being militants and show that they can put over real mass demonstrations will never fail to take care of their duties in the trade union fractions. Nuclei should proceed immediately to call comrades who are lax in such duties to order. A regular and complete checkup on functioning and activities of all nuclei members is the best guarantee for building of live units.

Factory Propaganda.

Our shop nuclei have not made quite an earnest beginning of concentration on shop propaganda, that is to take up the everyday problems of the workers in the shops, to give expression

to the needs of the workers and present the proper solution, while at the same time connect these activities up with our general campaign. Factory papers have proven the most valuable medium in other countries. The beginning has hardly been made here. We now have the shop nuclei, we must take the next step to earnestly push this work.

Work Among Negro Workers.

Several hundred Negro workers attended the Lenin memorial meeting which shows that the party is beginning to make connections with the colored race. It will become easy to convince the Negro workers that the party is their real friend and proposes the correct methods of solution of the problem of any subject race. However, it still remains to be actually brought to their attention.

Our members meet Negro workers in the shops, some of our nuclei are located in territories populated largely by Negro workers and we may rest assured that the methods which succeeded in bringing so many of them to the Coliseum mass meeting will also succeed in bringing them nearer to the revolutionary movement. But what is needed is greater intensification of these methods.

Party Campaigns.

Our present party campaigns include mainly the questions of recognition of Soviet Russia, international trade union unity, the building of the labor party based on trade unions, and protection of foreign-born workers. That these measures are necessary is recognized by all militant and progressive workers, but greater efforts are needed to unite all those who agree in the struggle for their accomplishment. There is an opportunity everywhere in work shops and in unions to express slogans of these campaigns. We will easily strike a sympathetic cord everywhere and it should immediately be utilized to establish a definite connection.

It should be recognized that these activities outlined are essential for the further building, and strengthening of the party. By making a practical combination of methods in the pursuance of these various tasks we will succeed in bringing the movement one step further and a combination of all our efforts and abilities will in sum and substance become a real drive to consolidate and strengthen the working class movement.