

Organizational Problems

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(Continued from yesterday)

CHAPTER V.

Special Tasks of Street Nuclei.

Being a numerically small Party with the membership widely scattered within the great industries of the country our street nuclei are due to remain of special importance for a long time to come. Their fullest development is, therefore, a necessity and while the general rules of organization function, which have already been emphasized, should be observed, there are also many special tasks entirely depending upon our street nuclei.

First, however, a few words on one important problem. To effectively carry out its special tasks the street nuclei must have an actual territorial basis with the members living within one certain territory. The existing language difficulties may sometimes necessitate certain exceptions. In order to avoid a return to the former language branches, where certain territories are exclusively inhabited by workers of one nationality it is often desirable to go beyond the borders and draw in to the nucleus members from other language groups.

Street nuclei have one thing in common with shop nuclei. While the latter apply themselves to the problems in their shop the former apply themselves to the problems of their territory and give them political content. It is, of course, necessary that a complete study be made of the existing issues which may vary within each territory. For example, high prices, high rents, housing and sanitary conditions, local political corruption, local race problems, local tax questions, local traffic problems or public school problems. Invariably all such issues can be splendidly utilized for mass agitation and propaganda purposes and if properly pursued can lead through struggles to real organizational results. Most often, however, they are entirely overlooked by our street nuclei.

Tenants leagues to combat high rents, parents leagues to fight obnoxious school methods or demonstrations against high prices oftentimes come into being spontaneously but lack however, usually the necessary leadership. It is precisely in such activities that the members of our street nuclei should participate as conscious political groups and function through fractions within the organizations once they are established. It goes without saying that this kind of work must be properly directed and be made the occasion of special study by the local, section or sub-section executive committee.

Party Campaigns on Territorial Basis.

Election campaigns are perhaps the best opportunities available for territorial activities (this does not in any way lessen their importance in the shops). To correctly understand and utilize election campaigns means to enter candidates and to connect the local issues of the territory with the general issues in a practical way as a basis for our programs to be put before the workers. If such local issues as those mentioned in the previous paragraph do not exist there will always be others more or less of the same character.

Next there is the problem of organizing local public meetings, indoor or street corner meetings using slogans in advertising the meetings which will actually bring the workers to turn out. Then as a necessary part of the campaign must follow distribution of the Party press and literature, leaflets, etc. This must be organized systematically. First, of course, the shops and factories in the territory should be covered, but also union meetings and other working class gatherings as well as house to house canvassing.

We can never be too painstaking in organizing all these little details. As a matter of fact, this is what will particularly test the ability of leadership of the local, section or sub-

section committee as well as the ability of execution by the nuclei. As the class struggle becomes intensified mere meetings become mass demonstrations of greater magnitude and greater importance.

If an election campaign contains possibilities of being conducted on a united front basis, by supporting labor candidates or establishing a labor party, we must take advantage of the local or territorial situation in the same manner. While it changes the program and in most cases the character or the candidates, the activities remain the same, except that they are given a much broader basis. It is also well to remember that with such united front activities our Party retains its own identity and will put forward its own program.

Other campaigns, like those for the protection of foreign born, for defense of political prisoners, for relief of strikes, etc., must similarly be applied on a territorial scale. A campaign for our Party press or for Party membership must likewise be correctly connected with the local issues of the territory and the measures for its application carried out systematically.

HAIL LINDY!

Impressions At Battery Park.

South Ferry.—Streams of jostling humans leave the elevated. "Buy a Lindy Button, ten cents!" The crowd moves like molten lava. "Quit your pushin' ya big bum!" The working world is on parade. "Buy a Lindy button—ten cents!" Thousands of slaves have left their desk, shipping room, truck. No work for three or four hours. Hail Lindy!

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On the side-walk thousands of workers are on parade. "Buy a picture of Lindy!" Men women, children in Sunday clothes. A sweating cop is losing his patience. "Keep moving. Keep moving!" Thousands of workers are on parade. "Buy a Lindy pennant and the 'Merican flag!" Thousands of workers have been allowed to leave the machine, the office and the kitchen. Free from labor for three hours. Hail Lindy!

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In the streets, miles and miles of uniforms. "The National Guard is good enough for Lindy. Join the National Guard!" A sea of perspiring soldiers stand in the baking sun. Regular army, militia, boy cooties. "Join the Army!" From the surrounding windows paper streams in clouds. Confetti, telephone books are torn up, correspondence files. The band strikes up. "Join The Army." Hail Lindy!

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Overhead a sky-writer in beautiful long streams of white writes: "Hail Lindy!" Hurray! Hurray! A plane whirrs overhead. Five planes drone powerfully in formation. The flags are flying. The band strikes up. Thousands of workers are on parade. The workers have left the shop, the office. Join the army. Hail Lindy!

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TWENTY MINUTES

ONE! Suddenly a whistle. Another. Then more until an earthly din is made and the crowd grows hysterical. The crowd moves toward the bay. Large small craft, all are heading to pier in parade. Pennants are flying. Whistles blowing. Aeroplanes dip and circle gracefully in salute. Suddenly twenty huge planes appear above Wall Street. They maneuver, change formations, stream out to greet Lindy. The crowd cheers. The band plays. There he is! There he is! I see him! Hail—Hail Lindy!

SACCO and VANZETTI SHALL NOT DIE!