

Reorganization Problems

By JAY LOVESTONE.

We herewith continue to answer the various reorganization questions raised at the recent party membership meetings.

Question 7.—What control will the party have over the shop nuclei located in the small shops?

Answer.—The various shop nuclei found in a particular industrial division of a city are combined into sub-sections and sections. When our party is developed into a mass Communist Party with many thousands of members, we will find that it may be necessary to divide the cities of the type of New York and Chicago into more sections and perhaps even sub-districts.

The party constitution provides for the election of sub-section, section and city executive committees by the membership in the respective subdivisions. Each of these executive committees, in turn, elects a secretary-organizer "who is to be responsible for the maintenance of connections with the next higher unit and for the execution of the decisions of the committees."

The Central Executive Committee, thru its connection with the district organization, maintains contact with the various succeeding lower units. The national party center will also for some time maintain direct connection with every shop nucleus secretary-organizer and will transmit instructions directly when the situation demands such procedure. Thus, whether a shop nucleus is organized in a small shop or big factory, it will be within the frame of the apparatus in the sub-section, section, etc., and will be directly connected with the Central Executive Committee. The activity reports will be a part of the regular order of business to be attended to at every meeting of every shop nucleus. This will further help the party's having adequate control over the shop nuclei in the small shops as well as in the big factories.

Question 8.—Where will the shop nuclei meet?

Answer.—The choice of meeting place depends on a number of circumstances. In some cases it will be found that there is one or more party meeting centers, or headquarters, in a particular industrial section. These headquarters can and should be used as meeting places by the shop nuclei in the particular industrial section.

When a shop nucleus is small, it may even use the home of a comrade. If the home is close to the factory in which the shop nucleus is organized, it will tend to insure regularity of meetings.

Of course, meeting places may also be hired. Several shop nuclei, if not too big, may get together on such meeting arrangements to lighten the financial burdens thus involved.

While it may be necessary and proper for the comrades of a particular shop nucleus to meet very often with each other in the factory, this should not be taken to mean that organized shop nuclei meetings should be held in the factory where the comrades are employed. As a rule, the holding of such meetings in the factory would only make more difficult the functioning and very likely even endanger the existence of the shop nucleus. It is our task to make the shop nucleus a moving, a directing force in the plant and to popularize as much as possible the nucleus among the workers. We must spare no pains in making known to the workers the existence and influence of the shop nucleus. But in doing this, we must avoid those methods which will undermine the possibilities of work.

Question 9.—What are the relations between the district executive committees and the party reorganization commissions?

Answer.—The answer to this question can be best given in a definition of the tasks of the party district reorganization commissions. Concretely, these tasks may be enumerated as:

(a) To direct the agitation and propaganda campaign for the reorganization of the district in question.

(b) To direct the preliminary reorganization steps in the reorganization campaign under the direction of the C. E. C. organization department and in full co-operation with the District Executive Committee.

(c) To sub-divide the district into industrial sections, sub-sections, etc.

(d) To direct the organization of the district membership into shop and street nuclei on the basis of information gathered at the section membership meetings. The fullest co-operation with the district executive committees must be secured in order to achieve success in this.

(e) To arrange and direct the re-

gistration of those comrades absent and not registered at the section membership meetings.

(f) The district reorganization commissions shall be charged with keeping the DAILY WORKER and the rest of the party press fully informed about the progress and experiences of the reorganization campaigns in the various districts.

(g) The district reorganization commissions shall function only until at least the major portion of the district shall be reorganized.

Question 10.—What are the duties of the language section reorganization commissions?

Answer.—The principal tasks and functions of the language section reorganization commissions are:

(a) To lead and direct the ideological campaign for the reorganization of the party as far as their respective language sections are concerned. This is to be done thru the use of the language press, the mobilization of language district committees, etc.

(b) To see to it that the language organs and the members of their language sections execute the decisions and the instructions of the C. E. C. regarding the reorganization of the party. The language reorganization commissions must serve to co-ordinate and improve the activities of the comrades of the various language groups in our party's reorganization drive.

(c) To lead the reorganization of the present language branches when these branches are transformed into workingmen's clubs. These commissions are to co-operate fully with the national organization department and the different district organization commissions in organizing Communist language fractions in the various workingmen's clubs. These language commissions must make every effort to help the party unify and co-ordinate the activities of these Communist fractions until the latter function effectively in accordance with the provisions of the constitution of the party.

(d) To help organize the first Communist fractions in the non-party workers' reorganization.

(e) To work in the closest co-operation with the reorganization department of the C. E. C. to which they are subordinate and from which they receive their instructions for all their activities.

(f) These commissions should keep the entire press informed of their work by submitting full reports to the C. E. C. organization department of all steps taken by them towards reorganization.

(g) When the reorganization of the party is complete these language commissions cease to exist. The regular language fraction organ provided for in the party constitution are then in full charge.

Question 11.—Will the street nuclei be small or large?

Answer.—The street nuclei will consist of those comrades who either are not organizable into a shop nucleus or who, temporarily, cannot be organized into a shop nucleus because of an insufficient number of comrades working in one plant.

The street nucleus is limited to 25 members by the party constitution. This decision was arrived at because it is necessary to prevent the combination of large numbers of one language group into one particular street nucleus or international branch. We must avoid at all costs the reappearance in any form whatsoever of units of our party being directly or indirectly organized along the lines of language sections. Our party will never be unified if the old language basis of organization persists even in the most indirect form. Consequently the street nucleus will be on the average quite small, reaching a maximum of 25.

Question 12.—Will international branches or street nuclei have voice and vote in party deliberations?

ANSWER.—Yes. The street nucleus is a unit of the party and therefore will exercise full rights in all party deliberations and decisions.

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