

S.F.

Operation Sign-Up:

BE A FRONTLINE FIGHTER!

p. 19

Party Organizer

VOL XV, No. 2 JULY 1981

*Headway Toward
Party Building*

GOALS

DISCUSSION

OF

SID TAYLOR'S PARTY BUILDING REPORT



A Special Letter to Industrial Workers —Employed and Unemployed

What is
the
Communist Party
of the
United States
of America?

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

This letter is written especially to you who work in the mine country. Or who have been laid off. We want you to join our U.S.A. Our Party is on the move. We are the Reagan Administration's reaction to a corporate conspiracy to steal the hard years of struggle. Reagan would convert them into a bottomless pit at the Pentagon. We need you in this fight. We need you and courageous commitment to campaign, take-away contracts to cut jobs and wages. Something radically wrong in that our living standards are dropping. Many factories and mills are being closed. Day care centers and libraries are being cut up! Led by the rapacious military budget keepers, we claim to a

IF THIS MESSAGE INTERESTS YOU, if you would like to join the Communist Party, meet its members, or just satisfy your continued curiosity, fill in the coupon below and mail it to us.

PEOPLE BEFORE PROFITS
Be a Better Fighter For:
Peace Not War!
Equality Not Racism!
Jobs Not Unemployment!
Communist Party



Application for Membership
Communist Party, USA

* * *

BUILDING
OUR PARTY
TO HELP
ORGANIZE
AND LEAD
A WINNING
FIGHTBACK!

* * *

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Gus Hall

PARTY RENEWAL

This has turned into a period of Party renewal. The Party building drive is the most successful since the 1930's.

There is great excitement throughout the Party and a new confidence that the Communist Party can grow significantly in this period.

It is also most significant that the percentage of workers coming into the Party is much higher than in past periods.

We should take note of the fact that the new members to date have joined as a result of only a partial mobilization of the Party. The mobilization of the entire Party--every club and every member--still remains a challenge for us.

Possibly the most important lesson so far in the drive is that Party building results only from planning and organization. It is not a spontaneous process. Party building requires special, planned, organized steps.

Because of the tremendous success of the drive the clubs are going through a process of renewal. A club that recruits is never the same again.

___ G U S H A L L :

"JOIN THE FIGHTBACK! ORGANIZE!"

REPORT TO THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE/NATIONAL COUNCIL
JUNE 1981

PAGE 20.

THE ROLE OF OUR PARTY

"THE COMMUNIST PARTY IS PART OF THE WORKING CLASS AND A PARTISAN OF ITS INTERESTS. IN THE COURSE OF DAILY STRUGGLE, IT WORKS TO INCREASE THE CLASS AND SOCIALIST CONSCIOUSNESS AND THE POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE OF THE WORKING CLASS, TO UNITE THE CLASS TO DEFEAT THE MAIN INSTRUMENTS OF CAPITALIST DIVISION, RACISM AND ANTI-COMMUNISM, AND TO BRING THE WORKERS TO THE LEADERSHIP OF A GROWING PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE OF ALL CLASS AND SOCIAL STRATA WHOSE INTERESTS CLASH WITH THOSE OF THE MONOPOLIES. ONLY SUCH A POPULAR MAJORITY ALLIANCE, WITH THE WORKING CLASS AND THE BLACK PEOPLE AS A WHOLE AT ITS CENTER, IS CAPABLE OF CURBING THE POWER OF THE MONOPOLIES AND OPENING THE PATH TO THE SOCIALIST REORGANIZATION OF SOCIETY. THE COMMUNIST PARTY IS ABLE TO PLAY THIS LEADING ROLE BECAUSE IT IS BASED ON THE SCIENCE OF SOCIETY KNOWN AS MARXISM-LENINISM AND THE ORGANIZATIONAL PRINCIPLE OF DEMOCRATIC CENTRALISM."

- - - C O N S T I T U T I O N , C.P.USA.

PARTY BUILDING GOALS

By SID TAYLOR

TOPICAL OUTLINE

REPORT TO THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE/NATIONAL COUNCIL
JUNE 1981

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 2. Rebuilding Our Party in Additional Areas.
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 1. Develop The Struggles On A Grass Roots Level.
 2. We Can And Must Become Better People's Stewards.
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- V. SUMMARY OF PROGRESS.(p.8)
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 2. Recruiting---A Regular Feature Of Party Work.
 3. A Lesson From The Petition Campaign.
 4. The Value Of Shop Clubs.
 5. Give Special Attention To Contacts.
 6. New Members Classes.
 7. Small Things Mean So Much!
 8. Expand Our Press; Complete The DW Fund Drive.
 9. Continue To Hold Recruiting Meetings.
 10. Build The September Party Anniversary Meetings.
 11. REMEMBER THE MOST IMPORTANT LESSON!!!

"TO BUILD THE COMMUNIST
PARTY IS FUNDAMENTAL TO
BUILDING THE WORKING CLASS
AND PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT."

SEE PAGE 18.

What a night! What a sight! What a beautiful thing to see! Twenty clubs in New York City had recruiting meetings at the same time. Two hundred non-Party people invited by clubs were present. Members of the Central Committee from different parts of the country spoke at these meetings. Twenty-seven joined the Party that night. Many took application cards with a view of thinking it over. What a great beginning for making Party clubs in New York City larger, stronger, better able to participate in the mass activities of the day.

This report will deal with some general experiences and will be followed by discussion from comrades with concrete experiences from the districts. This then will give a better review of the progress and problems of the membership drive.



By SID TAYLOR
National Treasurer
Member Political Bureau
Membership Drive Director

GOAL:

- ◆ **TEN NEW SHOP CLUBS!**
- ◆ **TWENTY ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS!**
- ◆ **ONE THOUSAND NEW MEMBERS!**

I. HEADWAY AND POSITIVE GAINS

At this important checkpoint in the progress of our 1981 Membership Drive, the first thing that can be said is that we have made real headway and we can report many positive gains. As of now we have 300 new members. The outlook is that we can reach 400 by the end of June. We will then project additional goals to be reached by the time of our Party 62nd Anniversary celebrations in September. Follow-

ing that we will project our final Drive goals through the end of the year.

During this Drive our Party has shown that it has the ability to grow, especially in the larger districts of Illinois, California and New York. We also grew in the smaller districts, demonstrating that it is

possible to build everywhere, for instance in Maryland and Connecticut.

The most significant result has been that we are increasing our recruitment of industrial workers, especially in Illinois and Michigan.

Michigan comrades are leading the way—and setting

Are The Advanced Forces?—The Center Forces?

Helping to build grass roots means building on a one to one basis, getting to know the issues, the problems, getting to know the answers to the many problems that people face.

Suppose we transform ourselves and imagine that we are having a club meeting. A neighbor, knowing that the Communist Party is meeting, comes to us with the following problem: The person is unemployed; the family is without food because the unemployment compensation payments have run out. The family doesn't know what to do. What do we suggest?

Working together to pass a law could be a possible proposal. But first of all we must have immediate answers to the urgent crisis: where can we go demanding some temporary help? The same holds true if a person comes and says their family can't pay rent and they are about to be evicted, or that the gas or electricity is turned off.

Like the tenant organizations and other community organizations who train people to answer some of the immediate questions, we must become experts and get to know the partial answers to meet the needs of people.

A shop steward, in order to better serve the membership, finds it necessary to know the contract, the issues, and how to deal with the company. Just as workers need a steward's repre-

sentation on the job, so people also need stewards for their welfare in the community. We can and must become better people's stewards, working with people active in the community organizations, helping build grass roots organization. This is the path to develop powerful mass movements able to win victories. Some of our guidelines are:

1. Expand and build the struggle;
2. Help build grass roots organizations;
3. Unite all groups and not allow one group to be played off against another;
4. Bring the racist character of the attack to the fore;
5. Project longer range activities, such as independent political action;
6. Bring in the Party materials: our Program, our press, pamphlets, books and leaflets.etc.;

In building this grass roots activity, we can work with many involved in struggle. We can bring them closer to the Party, and then into the Party. The building of the Party at the grass roots will then help build the mass movements. This is the unity of building a stronger Party which in turn helps to strengthen the mass movements.

In the course of building a mass movement, some comrades are hesitant to ask advanced and concerned people to join the Party. Why this hesitation? Many of our comrades are active with people for years and years. Our comrades

give them literature, take them to various meetings, participate in the same movements. In all this time, still hesitating to ask these friends to join the Party. The result is that these friends draw the conclusion that they are not wanted, or are not eligible to join the Party. Or that the Party is just for a select few. We have experiences in asking people why they're not in the Party. Our friends reply they have not been asked.

Sometimes our comrades are hesitant to ask because of reluctance to let a friend know they are a member of the Party—although the friend for years assumes and believes that the comrade is in the Party. We need to have confidence in our Party—that people will respond to our Party.

It's like a romance. You start going with someone, then you start going steady. You could go for years and years. If you never pop the question, you'll never get married. Also, while you're hesitating, someone else might move in. And there are other organizations that are trying to move in to shut out the Party.

There is also hesitation in asking people to join because we see no club or home for these new recruits to be in. But recruits help to build a club. They strengthen Party organization. They give the club a clearer purpose and a new perspective from their activities and their participation in club life. They help to build the club as a home—able to attract more recruits.

an example for the whole Party—with their planned and steady activities, with their consistent emphasis on visiting and speaking personally to industrial workers. Ohio is also making progress.

These results show what can be done. Industrial workers are ready. With steady work these results can be multiplied. They can lead to the expansion of shop clubs.

The recruiting campaign is also helping to rebuild the Party in additional areas of the country, where no organization exists at present.

The interest so many are showing about joining the Party is reflected in the increasing number of inquiries coming into the national office from all over the country. We now receive double and triple the number of inquiries that previously came in. There are fewer letters that are simply curious about the Party, and many more that show in one way or another a keen interest and a definite identification politically with the Party.

Let me read a letter from Pittsburgh:

II. THE CRUCIAL ROLE OF THE CLUBS: TO UNFOLD AND DEVELOP STRUGGLE ON A GRASS ROOTS BASIS—THIS IS KEY TO PARTY BUILDING

The major need is still how to help unfold and develop the struggles on a grass roots level. Our clubs are decisive for this task.

Dear Sirs,

Could you please send me information on joining the Communist Party, U.S.A. and any other information that you may give out—ie. brochures on how your Party works.

I heard Gus Hall on the Ray Fox show on KDKA; he's my man for the President.

Sincerely yours,
Pittsburgh

And a letter from Michigan

Gentlemen:

Kindly send me about ten propaganda leaflets that I can give to some friends of mine who I know are interested in the Party.

Sincerely,

P.S. If there is no Party club in my area, send me information on how I may begin one.

The literature you sent is very inspiring—and I am in total agreement with all your views.

You may call me between the hours of 3:30 p.m. & 5 p.m. weekdays.

These examples show what can be done. We can build and

□ □ □

To expand the number of clubs involved is imperative, with the goal of all clubs becoming involved.

For all clubs to become involved in community activity it would be helpful to have a clear concept of where we are to focus our activity. What area, what part of the area, what streets, what housing development can help move the entire community? What community organizations

grow so that by the end of the year we will have a much larger and stronger Party, more and more involved in the struggles to defend the interests of the working people and all those under attack.

Everywhere in the rising upsurge of struggle people are looking for the kind of leadership only our Party can offer: in the growing number of strikes and organizing of strike support; in the development of rank and file activity and movements; in the fight against racism; in the fight for peace and detente; in helping to build the movement for women's rights; in actions in support of the struggles of youth, especially the fight for youth jobs and against the draft.

It is our active participation in these struggles, our involvement with masses of people, our help in solving the critical problems they face, that best develops political relations with individuals who are looking for answers, both short range and long range practical answers, to these urgent problems.

are the leading organizations, what neighborhood organizations, tenant organizations, PTA groups, church groups, youth groups, senior citizen groups, community centers? What community leaders and elected officials can we work with and help to develop greater struggles? What trade unions have membership in the neighborhood? What is the racial composition? Who

III. TO RECRUIT, A CLUB MUST BE ORGANIZED: WITH A PLAN, CHECK-UP AND CONTROL

What does the recruiting campaign mean for the club? In bringing in new members, the club can't just leave it to chance. Like all activity, it has to be organized with a plan, checkup and control, and not left to spontaneity.

First, we have to plan: **Who** we will recruit; **Where** we will recruit; **How** we will recruit. That means that we don't leave it to an individual member. Collectively we plan how to reach our objectives. We help the individual. There are some good examples in clubs of two people being assigned to carry out home visits together. Collective planning means changing our style of work so we all become concerned about how and what we can do to help on recruitment. It means checking on the progress of the plan. It means hearing reports on the results, reviewing the difficulties, control responsibilities and dates so that the plan can be realized. It means reviewing what literature was given, what events did we invite people to. What movies did we go to see together, what concerts, what activities did we join in with? Did the club

executive review the questions that the contacts raised, and how we helped to respond to those important questions?

Checking up on plans and recruiting progress is a special District responsibility to the clubs. In some Districts, a good example has been shown where leadership has been assigned to give special help to the clubs in the membership drive. Some met with the club executives, some with the clubs, helping plan the activity and share the responsibility.

Unfortunately, in too many Districts, the relation of the District to the club is not where it should be. In some clubs, materials pertaining to the drive have never been received. How can a club know of the membership drive? How can they read the reports of Gus Hall and Henry Winston on the importance of the mass movement? In this case, the club cannot and does not carry out membership drive activity and overall Party policy. The starting point always must be that the club is the Party. If we are to grow and expand our activity it is necessary for the District to help and stay in touch with the clubs. The activity of the Party will only be fully expanded and realized when the clubs become the center of our involvement in mass activity. **The growth of the clubs is the growth of the Party.**



IV. SPECIAL EXPERIENCES IN THE MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

Highlighting the experience of the membership campaign, are the recruiting meetings, all of which were much more successful than we expected.

Gus Hall in the Mid-West

There was a very positive meeting in Chicago, with Gus Hall as the featured guest. Advance planning and proper organization helped make this meeting successful. First, it was discussed in the State Board. The purpose, tone and content were reviewed thoroughly with assignments made. Individuals and clubs were urged to draw up lists of possible invitees, and the names of **Daily World** readers were added to the list. An attractive invita-

tion was mailed. Some people were called and urged to attend, and some were spoken to personally.

The result was, as described by the Chicago comrades: "People were sitting everywhere, straining to hear Comrade Hall's opening presentation. Most of those in attendance were young; most were industrial workers; over half were Black. Many were women.

"In his remarks Comrade Hall dealt not only with the policies of the Party but also with the questions you were afraid to ask: How much time does the

Party demand of its comrades? How much money does it cost to be a Communist? What about the picture of 'iron discipline' painted by the FBI? If you join the Communist Party is it possible to leave it?

"Comrade Hall dealt so well, so openly and frankly with these kinds of questions, not waiting until they were asked from the floor, that an atmosphere was created of tremendous warmth and comradeship between all present. Following the discussion Hall offered to sponsor and sign the application of any person who was considering joining the Party, and over 25 applications were taken and signed. Of these almost 25 percent had the comrade with whom they came to the meeting sign the card also, and turned it in on the spot. The rest took the cards with them for further consideration and discussion."

The Illinois breakthrough is key because of the importance of that state industrially with steel, auto, coal and transport, the basic concentration industries. The response of industrial workers, taking the step to join the Communist Party, can be a major factor in raising the struggles for better wages, working conditions, affirmative action, job protection and union democracy in steel to a higher level. The results of the recruiting campaign open the door to the possibility of building new shop clubs. If this is accomplished, the results will show in the mass movement, as well as in continued new recruits.

As Henry Winston placed the question before the entire Party in opening the recruiting campaign:

"Let's demystify industrial concentration. What are we talking about? We are saying in essence a truth—that the working class in the basic industries of our country are the main movers of history, present and future. To win them is to win the main base of changing things in the working class movement as a

whole, including light industry. But more than that, it is to move the allies of the working class, moving them in struggle against monopoly. And when we're talking about industrial concentration we're talking about one thing primarily—building the Party among basic workers. We don't mean anything else.

"Why do we want to build the Party among this strata? Because otherwise it is impossible to build up movements in the shops, in the working class communities. It is a recognition of the Leninist truth that class consciousness, Party consciousness, Marxist-Leninist consciousness, has to come from without to the economic struggles. It is a battle for activating the rank and file workers to fight class-collaborationism, Trotskyism, Maoism—it is the fight for the class."

In one shop, the new recruits said what brought them closer to the Party was the fact that they saw the Party members fighting in the shop on the issues there, helping to build movements, establish personal relationships. They said they saw the Party as a place to discuss the immediate tactics as well as longer range goals. This process is being duplicated in other shops. Now, it is a general experience that workers are starting to relate to our Party people at the shop level on the basis of their leadership in fighting for the contract, fighting through on grievances, working to involve members in the union. It is on the basis of working together over a period of time that confidence is won, and the result can include winning new re-

Gus Hall's visits to Youngstown and Cleveland, further confirmed the lessons of the Chicago experience.

§ § §

Henry Winston in Los Angeles and San Francisco

In Los Angeles and San Francisco, advance preparations were made for a meeting in each city with Henry Winston as the featured guest. Clubs turned in lists of those to be invited, and notices

were sent out by the city Party committee. Attendance here too, exceeded all expectations.

Henry Winston, in his wonderful, warm manner presented the Party as a growing, dynamic organization—an organization with weaknesses, but the only organization capable of helping to move people into action. On this point, there was

an excellent response.

Great interest was expressed in Winston's account of the 26th Congress of the CPSU, in his remarks on the threat of war and in his analysis of the role of the socialist world and the USSR in their support of national liberation struggles. His call "to help build a crusade to stay the hands of the nuclear maniacs and to halt the process of increasing military spending and cuts in social spending" met with great enthusiasm. At the end of the meeting, many people signed cards to join the Party.

Most important in California, in addition to the attendance of industrial workers, was the number of Black people who participated. Also present were Chicano, Native American Indian, Asian-Pacific and Iranian people, showing the desire on the part of Black and other nationally oppressed

peoples to learn more and hear more about the Communist Party.

California is the land of huge industries. California has auto space, steel, electrical and longshore. A large section of California's workers are basic industrial workers. In California, the unity of the national democratic movements with the trade union movement is a powerful factor in challenging the monopolies. Building the Party in the Black community and recruiting industrial workers gives us the opportunity to unite our class. It places the movement in position to win additional allies from other nationally oppressed communities, as well as other sections, such as professionals and small business people. It lays the basis for the development of independent political action, and advancing anti-monopoly candidates who can win.



The New York Meetings!

In New York where in every community protest activities go on daily, and where growing independent political activity is mounting, the Party has an extremely important role to play, especially in building the movement at the ground level. The New York recruiting meetings were a similar experience, with greater emphasis on a number of clubs having open club meetings, where contacts from the mass movement that comrades are active with were invited. In some clubs the hesitation was

overcome of those involved with mass activities to ask people to join. For example, comrades involved in the housing movement, active for many years, known and respected by many for their daily activity in behalf of tenants movements and activities, were reluctant to ask those that they were involved with to join. They were greatly surprised when, after overcoming their hesitation, so many responded so quickly and eagerly.



The Green Ribbon Campaign

Also, there are some wonderful experiences in some of the clubs reaching out on the green ribbon campaign around the March to Washington. They visited and spoke to people in the neighborhood and helped organize a bus for the demonstration. As a result, they have come out of their isolation, extended their contact and influence and aid in building the grass roots activity.

The need of the community clubs to help build a grass roots base in their neighborhood or community, especially Black and Puerto Rican community, is greater than ever and the need for the Party

to help give leadership and help build these movements is most urgent. The grass roots approach can enable us to help overcome divisiveness promoted by the monopolies and serve as a propellant to push toward a united anti-monopoly movement.

Throughout the country in many of the districts, the holding of open clubs meetings is becoming a regular feature of some clubs. The experiences are very positive. The need is to expand so that all clubs in all districts start to make open club meetings a feature of Party activity on a regular basis.

Classes, Study Groups, Forums

There were also a large number of classes, study groups and forums organized by clubs, sections or cities. New York helped put together a very splendid four-session lecture series with Comrade James Jackson as the lecturer. Some 80 people attended. The series included: "Humanity's Rocky Road or The Class Struggle in History"; "Capitalism: What's Wrong with It?"; "Socialism:

Its Present and Future"; and "Why Not the Communist Party?" Tapes are available and should be put to good use. Such forms are proving very valuable in helping to answer many questions, in bringing people closer, and in many cases their joining the Party upon completion. Expanding this type of activity can become a most helpful way to recruit new members.

Most Important: Personal Visits

Similarly, the Workers Schools organized around the country by the Organization-Education Department have proven very helpful in recruitment, especially of industrial workers. The school has provided an opportunity to invite workers who we had contact with and this special form proved a positive method.

Saying all this, the best experiences and the most important experiences are the personal visits, personal talks that in some districts are being done on a more organized basis. This is especially true for industrial workers who have hesitations and sometimes work shift problems, security questions that the per-

sonal visits afford them the opportunity to discuss. In this setting they are able to ask questions they have about the role of the Party. It gives us a chance to discuss and help answer many of their questions. This has proved most helpful in bringing industrial workers closer. Experience shows that after establishing proper relationships on a one-to-one basis, they themselves start to ask for meetings with others in order to get the benefit of a collective.

Regular, planned visiting by the club, with checkup and report back so that home visits become a regular feature of club activity will greatly ex-

pand our contact. Some comrades ask, "who is there to visit?" There are hundreds. People we have had contact with over the years, new people we're meeting in struggle, readers of our press. We have examples where upon visiting we discovered a railroad worker active in his union. In another state we met auto workers. In another state we met coal miners on strike. Especially in getting to know the readers of our working class press, regular scheduled visits with assignment and reportback can become one of the most fruitful methods of work. This is very often the best answer to the question of "Who to visit?"

HOLD THE DATE!

C.P.'s 62nd Anniversary Celebration

To honor the veteran comrades and welcome the new!

Sept. 26, 1981

Maine
Maryland
N. Calif.
Oregon
Rhode Island
West Virginia

Sept. 27, 1981

Arizona
Colorado
Connecticut
District of Columbia
E. Pennsylvania
Florida

Hawaii
Illinois
Indiana
Massachusetts
Michigan
Minnesota

New Jersey
New York
N. Carolina
Oklahoma
S. Calif.
Tennessee

Texas
Utah
Washington State
W. Pennsylvania
Wisconsin

V. **SUMMARY OF PROGRESS OF THE MEMBERSHIP DRIVE**

It might be helpful now if we give a brief summary of progress and materials issued.

First, I would like to pay tribute to the very fine support and participation from the Membership Drive Committee. This committee was largely responsible for the planning, production and review and suggestions of materials. It was a committee with good spirit, enthusiasm and a pleasure to work with. The Committee members are Mike Zagarell, Mike Welch, Kevin Mercadel, Susan Borenstein, and Jose Perez. This committee, together with the Organization-Education executive is responsible for the drive. We have learned much and will respond to the just criticisms and ideas in the next period of time.

Each district accepted a goal for the recruiting drive. At

this time:

10 Districts are on target schedule.

Other Districts need to catch up.

There were many special events held during the drive. Gus Hall and Henry Winston brought the message of the Membership Campaign to thousands of people by a number of radio interviews and talk-shows. In addition, they had interviews which were carried by the local press.

Many of these events were held in special concentration districts: Detroit, Cleveland, Youngstown, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago and New York. There were also special events in Seattle, Boston, Western Massachusetts, where Central Committee members spoke.

The following materials were issued:

"The Essentials of Party Building", by Henry Winston — printed in *Party Organizer*;

"Letter to the Membership" by Gus Hall — distributed to all members;

"Join Us to Build a Better USA" - pamphlet - 20,000 copies;

Letter to Industrial Workers by George Meyers and Roscoe Proctor - 20,000 copies;

Preamble to the Constitution - 5,000 copies;

Reprint of Henry Winston interview - 5,000 copies;

Poster - 3,000 copies;

New application card.

There were a number of articles in the *Daily World*:

Interview News Story with Gus Hall and Angela Davis;

Interview with Henry Winston;

Lead editorial on the membership drive;

Article by George Meyers to industrial workers;

Article by Elsie Dickerson on joining the Party;

Article by Ted Pearson

* * *

Special appreciation is due to Angela Davis for her very special role. With her very busy schedule, she spoke at three splendid meetings: in Los Angeles, Detroit and Harlem. All the meetings were very successful, with Angela Davis presenting her views on why people should join our Party in a most wonderful manner.

* * *

Some Districts reprinted these articles or put out their own material:

"Why Join the Communist Party" in New York;

Reprint of the Preamble to the Constitution in Oregon;

Reprint of Henry Winston interview in Connecticut.

There are more materials in process:

Special appeal to Afro-American people to join the Party—pamphlet; Party pin—for new members;

Certificate for those who join during the drive;

Other materials directed to Chicano, Puerto Rican, Asian-Pacific, Native American people. We will also have a special appeal to women.

VI. NEXT STEPS IN PARTY BUILDING

All-Out Effort To Help Build The Y.W.L.L.

While the Party building campaign is underway, the Young Workers Liberation League is also conducting a YWLL membership campaign. We are happy to hear the many fine reports of how the YWLL is growing and expanding its efforts. We urge that an all-out effort be made in the next period, to help the YWLL achieve their membership objectives. Especially in those Districts that have not responded, the next remaining weeks should become a special effort.

As Danny Rubin and James

Steele wrote in *Party Organizer*: "The League is much more than just a good thing if it happens to exist. The YWLL is decisive and indispensable for influencing the whole young generation in a democratic anti-monopoly direction. The YWLL is decisive and indispensable for the extensive and continual growth of the Party itself. While the League is a mass organization, it is one unlike all others. Marxism-Leninism is the dominant, guiding outlook in it and the League offers youth an opportunity to learn about

socialism. It therefore is capable of and does play a leading role among youth as a whole.

"To accept the non-existence of the League in a district is to accept doing nothing really significant and lasting among the youth, which in turn is to endanger the future of all the democratic movements. It is also to endanger the future of the Party and, therefore, is objectively liquidationist toward the Party itself."

■ ■ ■

Continue Recruitment as Regular Feature of Our Work

What are the next steps in the Party recruiting drive? Upon returning to the Districts, all District Boards and District Committee should immediately review the progress to date: what has been achieved, and what must be done to successfully complete the membership drive. Districts should communicate their proposed goals to the Org-Ed Dept. We want to continue to make recruitment a regular feature of our work with regular checkup points and special planned activities.

Events have proven the correctness of our holding a membership drive. The drive has given us an opportunity to emphasize in a stronger way the need for Party building. It has given us a chance to help instill confidence, help answer questions, help give materials, help give encouragement to clubs, to make recruitment a regular feature of our activity. Learning from this campaign will give us a chance to improve our material and our planning for the future.

■ ■ ■

Lesson from the Petition Campaign

The launching of the recruitment drive brought to mind the launching of the petition campaign to put the Party on the ballot around the country. How well I remember, as District Organizer in Connecticut in 1972, when Hall and Winston were explaining and pushing for the need to start in a serious way to put the Party on the ballot in many states.

Listening to Gus say that New York must get on the ballot, I quickly nodded my head and said, "right, right!" Then he mentioned Illinois. I also joined in. Then he said Ohio, going down the list of states, and to myself I said, "correct, correct, they should be." After mentioning many other states, to my amazement and bewilderment, Gus said Connecticut should also attempt to get on the ballot. That is when I started to say, "What's the trouble with Gus? Doesn't he know how small we are? What a small cadre we have? The many tasks we

have to do? No full time person? How can he suggest such an impossible task?"

But events have proven the Party position correct, urging and pushing for the largest number of states to be on the ballot. Our election activity has been one of our greatest points of mass activity and in the course of which we made many, many friends. Out of this election work many people were brought closer to the Party and there are still many possible recruits from this election mass activity.

So, like in the election campaign, we need a membership campaign with campaign spirit and campaign goals; with all states participating, large and small; with goals for all, time schedules for all, with check—up and control.

Both large and small districts have already recruited. Every state or District can and should participate in the membership campaign.

All Districts have made contacts and friends as a result of past struggles. As a result of mass activity new friends and contacts are being established. There are new possible contacts from the readership of the *Daily World*, *Voz*, *People's World*, *Political Affairs*, etc. The readership of our press still remains untapped. They can become involved in activities and in the Party.

So, it was correct to launch the recruitment drive and something that should become a regular feature of our yearly plan of work.

■ ■ ■

The Value of Shop Clubs

We are struggling with large giant monopolies. Monopolies that have branches all over the U.S. as well as the world. The value of one or two shop clubs to a District is most important. When these two or three shop clubs are merged with the various shop clubs growing throughout the country this gives our individual comrades a feeling of strength and confidence that they can do battle with these giant industries. The building of the shop club has to be seen in its totality in our national effort to help build the movements and activities.

Special Attention to Contacts

Special attention must now be paid to those who have signed or come to various recruitment activities. Let us not forget them and leave too much time pass without visiting, speaking and attempting to further involve them in activities. Just as after a seed is planted it needs the proper water, sunlight fertilizer so that the flower can grow, develop and blossom into something beautiful and useful, so it is with our new members and friends. Special assignments should be made for visitation and maintaining contact with reports and checkup on progress being made.

New Members Classes

One of the most important next steps is the immediate organization of new members classes to help strengthen their understanding of the policies and progress of the Party. The new program of the Party can be the basis for many of the new members classes. Discussion outlines for new members classes will be made available by the Organization-Education Department. The utilization of the Party Program, Gus Hall's and Henry Winston's reports and the tapes of the set of four lectures and answers to questions on *Communism* by Com-

rade James Jackson can be the basis for these classes.

Small Things Mean So Much

Attention to our new members and friends, continued personal relationships with our new members, seeing that they are made comfortable and their questions answered dealing with work schedules, security problems, personal difficulties should be and must

remain the concern as we integrate the new members more fully into the life of the Party. Small things that mean so much should also be considered. For example, a club in New York had a small gathering to celebrate the addition of a new comrade. She was presented with a Lenin pin. The new comrade was very pleased and asked the question, "Is this just for me, or do all new members get a gift?" The proper ceremonies mean a lot and are a good example to follow with forms suitable for each club.



DAILY WORLD

Neighborhood RoutesShop Distributions

Some clubs that have had ongoing neighborhood *Daily World* routes over a period of time are starting to involve people in struggle as well as winning recruits to the Party. In the upsurge, the *Daily World* is playing a most important role, especially in the shops. Every week at major auto shops, many key plants, mills and mining areas the *Daily World* and *People's World* are distributed, helping to clarify, give encouragement and lead to building rank and file movements and activity.

In building and sustaining our Party's recruiting campaign we must first introduce people to our ideas. What better way than through the pages of the *Daily World*? The more people who come into contact with the *Daily World* the greater the reservoir from which we may draw recruits. We Communists have a special vested interest in promoting the struggles to build the circulation of the work-

ing class press.

There is a need to expand the distribution of our press both to the industries and working class communities; to greatly expand the neighborhood routes that some of our clubs are engaged in.

Complete Fund Drive

To help sustain the *Daily World*, the need of finances is great. To those districts that have completed the fund drive, it was a job well done. All effort by the remaining districts must be made to complete their goals so the *Daily World* will be able to meet their financial commitments and continue full publication schedules. Needless to say, with inflation so great, a crisis has been created for the *Daily World* financially. The successful completion of the drive is both necessary and possible.

The success of the fund drive for the *Daily World* was largely due to the fine work of our hard-working and its able Business Manager, Pat Barile.



CONTINUE RECRUITING MEETINGS

In the coming months, we will continue our special meetings with Gus Hall and Henry Winston, with special attention to help guarantee and continue to expand our recruiting efforts in Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Pittsburgh, Wisconsin, Indiana, California, New York, Buffalo and Philadelphia. We will continue to have special meetings in other districts where other national comrades will participate.

Ours is a wonderful Party, rich in tradition and years of experience in the struggle to defend the interests of the working people. We have a beautiful past. We are a Party that participated in the major battles of years ago. We are a Party engaged in the important struggles of today. And,

we are a Party that will be engaged in the beautiful victories to come. That is what our celebrations will show.

To celebrate the Party in a proper way, we are planning in September to have at least 20 celebrations on the same weekends throughout the country with well planned cultural programs. The aim of these gatherings is to show the contributions of the Party, especially the labor struggles that we participated in and the role of our Party today.

We will pay tribute to veteran Party members whose activities are part of our history and tradition. These will also be celebrations where we will greet our new recruits as continuators of the Party's struggles. We will present our new

recruits with certificates, Party pins and also packets of literature, either at the celebrations or in the club meetings.

We want all Districts to have goals for the number of recruits by the celebrations. Our overall goal by September is an additional 300. To follow up on the campaign and to make recruiting a style of work, we will also have new goals following September and for the rest of the calendar year, with checkup points and special activities. In this way, we can enter 1982 with 1000 new members.

To build the Communist Party is fundamental to building the working class and peoples movement.



Most Important Lesson

The most important lesson from the general experiences is the danger of underestimating people's readiness to respond to the Party. The possibility to grow—with 10 new shop clubs and 1000 new members—is there. Since the drive started, over 1500 non-Party people have participated in the various recruiting events and activities. And this in the first stage of our Drive!

New members now—the ones and twos that are recruited today—make possible

the fives and tens tomorrow. One shop club now makes possible building ten new shop clubs tomorrow. The number of clubs recruiting today will expand into a much larger percentage of clubs recruiting tomorrow. New members will expand the working class press. New members will help raise the needed finances to sustain the work of the Party.

Recruitment now! Boldness! Moving outward now! This is what we must set our

sights on.

What will 1000 new members mean to us? What will the expansion of shop clubs mean? What will this mean in helping to develop the work in the shops around grievances, speedup, contract violation and in the building of democracy in the unions? What will it mean in the effort to unite our class, Black and white, and in helping those active in attempting to move the trade union movement to become

the leader in the fightback against monopoly?

The 1000 new members will help us to build movements in the communities. It will help build unity of the trade union movement and the Black people's movement, forging a tremendous alliance fighting for change. It will help in our work in the Chicano community, Puerto Rican community and other nationally oppres-

sed communities. It will strengthen our community clubs, give us more activists, expand our ties with community organizations, and greatly expand our Party activity at the grass roots level.

Illinois and Michigan show we can recruit industrial workers. California and Missouri show we can recruit Afro-Americans and other nationally oppressed people. New

York shows clubs can recruit activists in community struggles.

With greater effort we can successfully complete our membership drive, with ten new shop clubs, twenty Party anniversary celebrations, one thousand new members by 1982. ■

DISCUSSION

OF SID TAYLOR'S PARTY BUILDING REPORT (EXCERPTS)

Operation Sign-Up:

BE A FRONTLINE FIGHTER!

By JARVIS TYNER
Member Political Bureau
D.O. New York State

OUR SINCERE THANKS TO ALL THOSE MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE WHO TOOK THEIR SATURDAY EVENING TO GO OUT TO THE VARIOUS COUNTIES AND FIVE BOROUGHES OF NEW YORK TO PARTICIPATE IN THE RECRUITING MEETINGS.

The 26 people who joined and the 15 who promised to join will probably parley easily into 50 new members in the good fight—in the class struggle—who understand class consciousness, who fight the Cold War anti—Soviet revival, who are fighting against racism and for the unity of the working class. It's a powerful contribution, comrades! The New York District is prepared to help your District in any way that it can to also recruit in a special way.

We want to thank Sid Taylor, whose idea it was to have these meetings, this Saturday night offensive, this "Operation Sign Up—Sign up to be a front line fighter!"

Saturday night is the result of various other types of Party building activities: the campaigns of the Daily World Builders; the circulation efforts of the supporters of Voz del Pueblo; the growth of the readership of Political Affairs. It is the result of the fine lecture series by James Jackson. The terrific Gus Hall meetings in this hall, on Poland and Afghanistan and all the other questions that

packed this auditorium to the gills with five, six and seven hundred people who came to learn from the Party—these meetings made a big contribution. Saturday night is the result of all of these activities coming together. It was the icing on the cake.

A special thanks to Comrade Angela Davis for doing an outstanding job at the Harlem meeting. I was at that meeting. Angela explained why she joined the Party. It was a beautiful story, a human story, a story not only about herself but about why others should join. It was natural and significant that a number of people immediately signed up and that others announced that they planned to do so.

The Harlem meeting was a result of the Sydenham Hospital activities, the activities around the National Alliance Against Racial and Political Repression, and the activities in a wide range of other mass work. From all these activities our comrades brought their contacts, and of course these contacts were not all convinced when they came. But as a result of the meeting all of them came closer and gained greater respect for the Communist Party. And of course, this meeting and the other meetings—all of this is only a beginning!

In these meetings people asked some very interesting questions. People wanted to know: What does being in the Communist Party mean in terms of meetings and club life and so on? What does the Party do in its daily life? Also people wanted to know about security problems. Is life harder being a Communist than not being a Communist?

Angela Davis answered that question very well. What she said is very significant. Her answer is of special interest because she was in jail for *being* a Communist.

Comrade Angela said, "You know they said that I would never have a job. Ronald Reagan said that. Ronald Reagan, now the President of the United States, said that I would never teach in California. But Reagan was wrong. I am teaching in California. I am now teaching at San Francisco State. Being in the Party was decisive to winning that victory. It was decisive to winning my job, decisive to winning the right to make a living, decisive to being able to be a politically effective activist. Being in the Party is a protection!!"

A young woman nodded vigorously to that kind of an answer.

The people at the meeting had many questions about the size and scope of the Communist Party. We told them that nineteen meetings were going on in New York City. They said, "WOW" the Party is strong." One young woman said, "We have all these 'Left' groups—but you seem to be the strongest."

There was some criticism. They said that they did not see the Party in the streets enough. They are right. The Party is not in the street enough. To some it seems that we only come around at election time. This is partly true. But a part of it is also that we cannot always be visible. For example, one man said that we did not do enough around Sydenham. We responded by indicating that in many respects we were decisive in what we did in support of the Sydenham struggle.

I said that we could not do it all in our name. However, if more people join the Party we could do more things in our name. You could see us more visibly. We would be able to make a greater impact. Many don't know the number of trade unionists we organized to come up here; they don't know what we did to bring them the food and the money and the other kinds of support. We were the ones, for example, who put the public heat on and forced Gotbaum to come out publically in support of the Sydenham Local—and that was decisive to the battle.

"But," I said, "We do not do enough. We are not visible enough. Part of it is objective; part is our problem. What we need is for more people to become members. That is the biggest help in solving the problem."

This is Harlem. These are especially oppressed people. They wanted to know what white Communists do in the fight against racism. Joelle Fisnman made a very good speech on what it meant, what role we played in exposing racism at the Winchester plant in New Haven, Connecticut, how we led the fight. It was warmly received.

In September we want to have another one of those Saturday night—or Friday night—offensives. Nineteen clubs is a good beginning, but we have a lot more. We aim to reach our quota. We are convinced that we are in transition to a mass Party. If we understand properly what we are into now, what we are doing, we will bring tens of thousands into the Communist Party, U.S.A. I think we will do it!

OHIO: POSSIBILITIES AND PROBLEMS

By JUDY GALLO
*Organizational Secretary
Ohio State*

Our district has the goal of 25 recruits in the membership drive. So far we have recruited 4. We have 6 more who are immediate prospects.

Partly this was the result of a very successful visit we had with Comrade Hall a few months back. We had a meeting which we did not call a recruiting meeting, because we wanted to avoid putting that kind of pressure on people.

We called it a meeting to come and talk informally with a Party leader about the Party, a meeting to ask "whatever questions might be on your mind." About 20 people came: Black, Chilean, Chicano, Palestinian and white. From that we recruited one person. In addition an industrial worker said that he will join.

Gus visited Youngstown and had a wonderful meeting there. Four people, including one steel worker, have now said that they will join as a result of that meeting. *Gus also had a class.* There were several steel workers in attendance. One of them is now going to the League National Convention, bringing with him two or three of his co-workers.

Gus spoke on the radio. That helped to build the largest mass meeting we have had in Ohio in some years, a very fine mass meeting. We want to extend our thanks and appreciation to Gus for the tremendous job he did in that visit.

We have coming up a visit from Comrade Winston. We have invited some 200 people who are close contacts and friends of the Party, to come to a Winston meeting. About half of these people are Black. In addition we are organizing a private meeting for 10, 12 or so prominent Black community leaders, something that would not have been possible two years ago in Ohio.

We had plans on paper for some years to develop study groups as a way of bringing people closer. We finally have done it. We have four study groups now going;

One of these is a group of nine people, very serious activists who came to us and said: "We want to make our lives effective in struggle; we want to know the best way to do it; and we are seriously looking at the Party. Let's have some sessions. let's get it all out on the table. Then Let's see where we're going." Those sessions go two hours and there's not a minute of quiet. It's a very lively group and they have all kinds of questions. At the end of the session we are going to put some questions to them!

We have some problems and some weaknesses. Being a small District we have a

problem of timing. We have just come through the Daily World campaign. We are now in the midst of the petition drive to get Comrade Rick on the ballot for mayor. The election campaign will carry us through the fall. We have an overall problem of trying to conduct several drives at once, We have not been able to cope with it as well as we would like. We have not been able to assign any leading comrades from our Board to be responsible for the Membership Drive. This means that all those things having to do with planning, checkup, follow through, use of literature and making sure that the clubs are really meeting on the Membership Drive—those things cannot get done as they should. We don't have any immediate prospects for solving it, and so we're not really able to take advantage of the national initiative of the Membership Drive as fully as we wish.

One thing came out of last night's recruiting meeting which I went to, and that is the importance of one—on—one informal discussions. The mailings, the phone calls, the larger meetings are excellent. But I think they all get fermented and ripened if you sit down over dinner for four hours and really get into some things. My husband and I did that with two of the finest mass activists in Cleveland. After dinner we said, "Frankly, we've been working together for three, four years. You know us. You know our work. We have a good respect for each other, Now we want to talk about what is behind all of that, and where we are coming from."

We left that meeting with a very warm feeling, all of us.

■

THE CAMPAIGN HAS REALLY HELPED OUR DISTRICT

“A GOOD TIME TO BE
A MEMBER OF THE CPUSA!”

*By MILDRED WILLIAMS
Organizational Secretary
Illinois*

The National Membership Campaign has really helped our district. It has made us look at our Party in a new way. It has made it imperative that we dare to try new and bold ideas in the struggle to sharply increase our ranks. It has also made an important contribution to the consolidation of these new people once they have decided to join our Party.

Twenty-three wonderful new people have joined since January of this

year. They are Black and white. They include steel workers, machinists, office workers and electrical workers. They include both retirees and young people, both social workers and community activists.

Nearly every club has helped to build the list of potential new members in response to the request of the district.

Our Party clubs, of course, are the key to the success of our Membership Drive. Many clubs are now having open club meetings on a monthly basis, with their first meeting each month being an open meeting. It is complete with a stimulating educational and food. There is one club that has every meeting as an open Party club meeting. It is about the fastest growing club in Chicago. There is another club that recently organized its first open club meeting in 25 years, and they had seven non-Party people in attendance!

I cannot go on with this report without paying homage to the most outstanding contribution that Comrade Gus Hall made to our district when he visited us on the last weekend in April. Prior to his coming we prepared an itinerary for him. He had a guest spot on a popular radio show, an interview with one of the largest neighborhood newspapers in Chicago, and he spoke at our district committee meeting the same weekend. But the climax was a Monday night recruiting meeting held at the home of some non-Party friends.

The stipulation for entrance to that meeting for our Party people was that they bring someone that was not in the Party. Otherwise they could not get in.

We in the district expected maybe 30 people, but we had over 70 people. We didn't have enough chairs. We didn't have enough food. But we had the refreshing experience of seeing so many people who we did not know. Over 20 people took membership cards. To date 8 have been returned with both signatures on them. We are expecting more. People are still thinking it over and the followup is still going on.

Next weekend, with considerably more organizing time, Comrade Henry Winston will grace our district. We have planned a public rally and a separate recruiting reception seminar, complete with a full dinner and extra chairs, to handle the crowd we expect. Comrade Winston is also scheduled for 2 radio talk shows so far. Again, while anyone can attend the public rally, the stipulation for entrance to our seminar is to bring somebody we don't know.

Finally just a word on consolidation. In order to accommodate our up and coming new members, our district has re-established our organization education department. It's complete with new leadership and additional members. We have re-established our RED LETTER which will be our monthly district-wide information bulletin. We are now conducting district orientation classes in basic Marxism-Leninism. A few of our clubs have come together to organize their own educational discussion groups.

There is much to be self-critical about: not fully appreciating the growing acceptance of the Communist Party in the beginning of this drive, and not having some things as well organized as we would have liked. But we are learning from our mistakes.

There is much activity in our district. There is the recent District 31 steel elections, the Chicago school crisis and the transit crisis. One of the biggest questions is this whole matter of redistricting in our city, that will affect our three elected Black Congressional representatives.

I'm proud to say that we have comrades participating in each one of the struggles that I mentioned to you. It's a good time to be a member of the CPUSA!

THE FIGHT TO REALIZE THE NEW YORK POTENTIAL

By *SUSAN BORENSTEIN*
Organizational Secretary
New York State

I want to second Jarvis's thanks to all of you. Without your participation in those meetings last night we would not have been able to do it. When we approached the clubs and section organizers on the possibility, we found that many of them had never considered doing a thing like this recruiting meeting. So for us it was absolutely fantastic. The credit goes to you as well as to our clubs.

Secondly, like Kendra, I want to thank Sid Taylor. In my office, every day there was a phone call from Sid, and then a ten minute meeting checking up on what happened. Not only did Sid check up; Sid really helped. There were times when we had nobody to go to a special section organizers' meeting to raise such questions as: How many meetings were the sections going to hold? Sid always volunteered. He went himself to some of the clubs to talk about it. A special thanks to him from the New York district!

We took this recruiting drive seriously. We did something that proved to be extremely important. We called a meeting of all club organizers and at least one person from the executive of the clubs, to discuss the Membership Drive. We held a seminar—a short one—just to exchange experiences.

We asked: What were the problems in recruiting? What were the problems in composition? What were the problems in terms of recruiting from mass activities?

It proved to be an extremely important and successful meeting because in this informal exchange between the clubs themselves people got ideas.

One of the things that we tried to target in these recruiting meetings, and the membership drive as a whole, was an effort to change the composition of those clubs whose composition did not adequately reflect the community in which they were organized, to talk about how do we break through: What are we doing? What are we not doing that we need to do? In many instances we were successful.

I went to a meeting last night. We had the great pleasure of having Comrade Winston participate. This is an industrial club. It has not moved for a long time. We had 8 non-Party people: 4 Black people, 1 Hispanic and 3 white people. Included were shop stewards and local union officers. We came out of that meeting with one of the people not only ready to join the Party, but ready to build a Party shop club. It was one of the most inspiring experiences that I have ever had. This is a club that really had never done this before. It was just fantastic.

Let me tell you what it took to build this meeting. First, meeting after meeting writing lists, discussing such questions as: Who should come? What should the composition be? Who would do the inviting? Who was going to follow up? As Sid said, it was not a spontaneous process. It meant checking up every single day. Where we had successful meetings last night, that is how they were organized.

There were very few industrial clubs that had meetings last night. It was a very big weakness.

We have begun to look at this whole question of special language clubs and special communities, special ethnic groups and nationalities in New York City. The potential is tremendous, whether it is among Greek people who live here, Dominicans, Haitians, etc.

One point on *Voz del Pueblo*. In New York City 90 per cent of the subscriptions we have from *Voz del Pueblo* are from non-Communists. We have to ask: How is it that we found weaknesses in recruiting Puerto Rican and Hispanic people in New York City? So now our clubs have received the lists of addresses and phone numbers of every one who is a subscriber both to the *Daily World* and to *Voz*. This is one important step toward realizing our potential. ■

By ANGELA DAVIS
Member of the Central Committee

“It’s Happening All Over The Country”

Comrade Sid Taylor’s report was excellent. Really concrete. Helpful in many ways. I have been through Party recruiting drives before that were simply on paper. This one is not. There is a concerted effort and it’s happening all over the country.

I want to congratulate the New York District. Last night was incredible! All these meetings happening simultaneously. It’s great, and I am going to propose we take that kind of an approach in our district.

Four or five years ago we had one really large recruiting meeting in California. Some 300 people came to hear comrade Hall. Since then we have tried to continue that format.

In this recruiting drive we had two fairly large meetings—one in San Francisco and one in Los Angeles. We also had a Black Liberation Seminar in that same period. Comrade Winston’s participation was outstanding and gave the whole Party in the district a lift, a thrust that created confidence in our ability to correct the weakness of a shift in our district away from Black liberation that we had been experiencing. The composition of the recruiting meetings was very good, especially so in Los Angeles.

Since Comrade Winston’s visit to our district, we have had a recruiting meeting in Los Angeles in which Comrade Angela Davis participated. We have also had a very interesting open meeting of our cultural club. They prepared a number of five minute presentations of various aspects of culture—on Marxism and culture. The presentations were by both members of the Party and by non—Party people. They sent out 90 invitations and 60 people came. It was an incredible success. The non—Party people came up with the idea of preparing for a conference of cultural workers on the question of their role in the developing mass struggles. The conference will probably be held in the fall.

To help overcome our weaknesses on the question of Black liberation we field meetings in both Oakland and Los Angeles based on invitations to Black activist leaders. I asked them to come to the meeting to have a dialogue with the National Chairman of the Communist Party. These turned out to be really very important meetings. There are now requests for additional meetings. There are requests for individual discussions. They clearly want much more dialogue with our Party.

On the question of keeping people in the Party and the importance of recognizing that when new people come into a collective, that then we have a new collective: I think our biggest weakness is that our clubs have been operating for fifteen or twenty years in the same pattern, using the same method and doing the same thing, paying no attention to the new people coming in—just as if the new people did not exist. This weakness is especially grave at a time when we are trying to bring more Black people into the Party. The Black people will be coming into majority white clubs. The clubs cannot continue to function as if the Black people coming in did not add an important new element to the collective. It is extremely important for our Party to deal with this question, and to do it well.

By JOELLE FISHMAN
Executive Secretary
Connecticut

We Recruit Those With

The spirit and style which Sid Taylor has helped to bring to the national recruiting campaign is the same spirit and style that he has left with us in Connecticut. We are deeply appreciative.

The trend—both of repression and fightback, as emphasized in the main report—is an accurate reflection of the situation in Connecticut. In response to the massive layoffs taking place, to the closing of schools, to the elimination of social services programs, to the shutoff of gas and electricity which happen daily, there has developed the beginnings of a powerful fightback movement. This includes strikes, job actions and demonstrations, with many led by labor. New coalitions are springing up everywhere.

In all of these actions it is clear that people are ready to listen; they are looking for direction and for a rank and file and grassroots orientation.

In this respect the point Gus Hall raised in the main report, the basis of the recruiting campaign, that without a strong Communist Party the mass movement won't reach its potential, is crucial. We've had some good success in response to the membership campaign so far, with 34 of our goal for the year fulfilled. We started with a discussion in the district committee and board and made a written plan of work for the district

Our plan of work was sent to each club with the request that Henry Winston's article be read aloud and a club plan of work be developed according to their overall plan and their particular focus. We provided a checklist which included the *Daily World* drive and other points on the national questionnaire that was sent to the district. Our organizational secretary was assigned to head up the campaign. We organized a number of classes around the district, to which the clubs invited friends with whom they were active in mass activity. The Workers Circuit School, with the participation of Roque Ristorucci and Tommy Dennis, was most important in culminating the recruiting process of several industrial workers.

Already half of the clubs have increased their numbers by at least one, and some much more. Most important: our shop clubs have grown, and family members of shop workers have been brought into community clubs.

Those who have been joining are primarily those with whom we've been active in the mass movement in several areas: on the shop floor fighting grievances and building the union as well as bringing people to discussions and events with other progressive unionists; on strike picket lines, where strike support activities has resulted in recruiting other supporters as well as strikers themselves; in community fightback struggles, union organizing and in our own election campaign.

The proportion of industrial workers and nationally oppressed is not where it should be in this phase of the campaign. We are developing special approaches for correcting this weakness during the remainder of the campaign, working with the clubs on an individual basis.

Half of our new members are women, all in the 25 to 40 age bracket.

The main point is that those we have recruited are those with whom we have been active

Whom We Have Been Active

consistently over a period of years. The drive projected the urgency of recruiting and Party building. It helped to organize and plan the goals, to set a schedule for control dates and classes culminating in new members. But the basic work was done well before the question was ever popped.

I was happy to hear the emphasis in Gus Hall's and Sid Taylor's reports on the consolidation of new members. That is key. There has sometimes been a tendency to allow comrades to be pulled away from the union or community activity through which they came into the Party, an extremely self-defeating by-product of being very small.

Priority now is to strengthen the functioning of our clubs through club leadership classes, district aid to the clubs; through discussion and participation in formulating priorities, to maximize the contribution that new members can make; and through insuring sensitivity to personal pressures and problems.

The need of social relations has been raised many times. We're trying to encourage personal and club social relations, as well as on a district level. To culminate the membership drive we are holding a dinner-dance celebration on August 1st, a dressup affair where we will not only welcome the new members politically, but where we will get down and have a good time.

Making the breakthrough on truly focused neighborhood and shop clubs will be key to holding the many new members and recruiting many more.

Our club work is still often too removed from the daily problems people face in the community. The district can play an important role in helping clubs find the small things to do or project that involve people on Daily World routes and other activities—as for example: the distribution of green ribbons; knowing the laws on tenant and consumer rights; organizing delegations to elected officials; participating together in going to demonstrations. The clubs have to study the composition and problems of the neighborhood and know it backward and forward.

By taking this approach we are building a base, a political base, but an electoral base as well. Otherwise we will not be able to mount election campaigns that successfully get Communists elected to public office.

With the upsurge of struggle and the crushing economic problems for every family, the inter-relationship of daily work and electoral activity takes on added meaning. The relationship of the district and the clubs has to include working out together, the concrete answers to these questions.

It is time for the Party to come out strong in its own name, projecting solutions to the crisis, solutions connected to organizing people into action. Use of the Daily World and Party shop and neighborhood papers, such as our Bullseye will play an important role.

Many are looking to the Party for direction. By sharpening our concept of it's special contribution we will advance our electoral work as well. The influx of membership will make a big difference in our work and possibilities if at the same time we improve our organization. It is a big challenge.

CRUCIAL LINK

HOW A CASSETTE PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN AN OREGON STRUGGLE AGAINST RACISM

As told to BETTY SMITH, Media Department

AS IN MANY OTHER AREAS OF OUR NATION TODAY, THERE HAS BEEN AN UPSURGE OF NAZI AND KKK ACTIVITY IN OREGON. (CHUCK IDELSON -- IN THE *WORLD MAGAZINE* -- DID A FINE JOB REPORTING ON RACISM IN OREGON, HISTORICALLY AND CURRENTLY.)

IN RESPONSE TO A RECENT SERIES OF INCIDENTS IN OUR STATE INVOLVING RACIAL HARASSMENT, OUR MOST CONSERVATIVE GOVERNOR VIC ATIYEH WHO IS OF LEBANESE DESCENT, ANNOUNCED IN HIS OPENING ADDRESS TO THE 1981 STATE LEGISLATURE THAT HE WAS SUBMITTING A BILL MAKING SUCH HARASSMENT A CLASS "C" FELONY. (SB2479).

ATIYEH BECAME THE IMMEDIATE DIRECT TARGET OF THE SAME ORGANIZATIONS HE WAS ATTEMPTING TO CENSURE. IN OREGON HE WAS PICKETED BY A WHITE SUPREMACIST GROUP. ATTACKS AGAINST HIM CAME FROM OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY AS WELL.

ABOUT A WEEK AFTER THE GOVERNOR HAD MADE HIS LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL WE RECEIVED A CASSETTE TAPE OF DR. HERBERT APTHEKER'S SPEECH -- THE NAZI & THE KKK, SHOULD THEY BE BANNED? WE FOUND IT TO BE AN OUTSTANDING ESSAY, WELL RELATED TO SB 2479. WE MADE THE DECISION TO SEND IT TO EVERY OREGON STATE SENATOR AND REPRESENTATIVE. WE ALSO DECIDED TO SEND IT TO SUPPORTERS OF THE JOHN REED BOOKSTORE, TO SELECTED COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS AND TO FRIENDS WHO WOULD THEMSELVES APPRECIATE THE TAPE AND AID US IN RAISING MONEY FOR MAILING COPIES TO THE LEGISLATORS.

WHILE GETTING THE COVERING LETTER WRITTEN AND FIGURING OUT A POTENTIAL MAILING LIST, WE WROTE THE NATIONAL MEDIA DEPARTMENT FOR ASSISTANCE IN GETTING COPIES OF THE TAPE. THE RESPONSE WAS ENTHUSIASTIC. PROMPT ASSISTANCE WAS OURS. WE WERE ABLE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS WITH *NEW OUTLOOK DISTRIBUTORS* FOR THE COPIES TO BE SENT ON CONSIGNMENT.

Our covering letter, sent out under Martina Curl's signature on the

JOHN REED BOOKSTORE letterhead, said in part:

"We at the John Reed Book Store feel that the enclosed tape could be a valuable tool to help the Legislature realize the importance of voting for this important piece of legislation. After hearing this tape none of the legislators will then ever be able to say -- as so many Germans did -- 'IF I HAD ONLY KNOWN!' Please listen to the tape--we are confident you will agree with us. And we hope you will share it with a friend."

"We would like to ask your help, therefore, in making a copy of this tape available to every legislator. The bare cost of the cassette plus postage will come to about \$3 each. We are enclosing a self-addressed envelope, with information on making out a check."

One more thing: We included excerpts from the tape itself.

*

We were quite pleased with the response. Several legislators took the time to write us. They indicated their intent to support Ayiteh's bill; they expressed negative feelings toward racism; and they thanked us for the opportunity to hear the tape. One Senator commented: "I did find the tape interesting and timely. I am not sure I agree with all the points of Dr. Aptheker, but I do think his arguments are well worth special consideration. The governor's proposed bill concerning racial harassment is timely and something I will strongly support." Another--very typical--reply said: "Thank you for your letter on the racial harassment bill and Dr. Aptheker's comments. I support the bill." This was very encouraging and made us feel that our efforts were indeed worthwhile.

*

The PORTLAND OBSERVER, the leading Black newspaper, quoted extensively from the tape in its front page article on the racial harassment bill. The OBSERVER is read not only by many leaders in the Black community, but also by many opinion makers throughout the city of Portland and the state.

*

The JOHN REED BOOKSTORE, whose address and phone number were appended to the bottom of the OBSERVER article, received many calls regarding the tape.

*

The response in funds from our first mailing was enough to pay for the cassettes and for mailing to half the legislators plus our mailing costs on the letter requesting financial aid. Add to this the new friends that were won to

the JOHN REED BOOKSTORE. Also add the person who called and wanted to organize a special meeting where people could hear the tape and organize further action.

*

A second mailing, summing up the project to date, has brought in additional funds. And we are still selling the tape. We are also developing a mailing list for future tapes available for sale. We are considering expanding our list to libraries, schools and to various groups which should have access to these materials.

*

I. NEW TAPES

GUS HALL:	THE REAGAN BUDGET - IMPACT AND UPSURGE	(90 min.)	#20
	ON THE 26TH CONGRESS CPSU	(90 min.)	#19
	MAY DAY SPEECHES: 1981 and 1980		#5
	Y.W.L.L. CONVENTION: GUS HALL AND JAMES STEELE	(90 min.)	#21
JAMES JACKSON:	DIALECTICAL MATERIALISM	(85 min.)	#14
	HISTORICAL MATERIALISM (2 tapes)	(120 min.)	#15
	ON CAPITALISM	(85 min.)	#16
	ON SOCIALISM	(90 min.)	#17
	ON THE COMMUNIST PARTY	(90 min.)	#18

II. OTHER TAPES AVAILABLE

GUS HALL:	MAOISM	(85 min.)	#1
	AFGHANISTAN	(40 min.)	#4
		& Ques.	
GUS HALL:			
ANGELA DAVIS:	COBO HALL RALLY	(70 min.)	#2
JAMES STEELE:			
GUS HALL:			
	AT CUNY RALLY IN HARLEM	(65 min.)	#9
ANGELA DAVIS:			
HERBERT APTHEKER:	SHOULD THE NAZIS & THE KKK BE OUTLAWED?	(28 min.)	#11
	ANTI-SOVIETISM & THE NATIONAL INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES	(40 min.)	#12

Single Tapes \$5.each
Special Price - Jackson Lecture Series \$24.
Gus Hall's Two May Day Speeches (5) \$4.

COMRADES IN THE MIDST OF A MASS CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM

ANTI-KLAN CAMPAIGN IN CONTRA COSTA

By HELEN LIMA

California District

The San Francisco Bay Bridge divides the Bay Area into two distinct communities: San Francisco on the west and the East Bay region. There are Communist Party organizations in both areas. In the East Bay the party is centered in Berkeley and Oakland (Alameda County). The area just North and East of Berkeley lies in Contra Costa County. Years ago there was an active party organization in Contra Costa County. At present there are scattered individual party members there.

Plans are under way to hold a series of Marxist classes in West Contra Costa County, out of which a party club will be built. Thus, the Alameda County party takes an interest in —and some responsibility for—what is happening politically to the working class and Black communities of West Contra Costa.

Much of Contra Costa County is "bedroom communities" where commuters live who work in Oakland, Berkeley and San Francisco. The exceptions to this lie at the east and west ends of the county. At the east end is Pittsburg, California, site of a U.S. Steel Co. mill. Pittsburg has a large Black population, considerable Mexican-Chicano population and is a working class town, suffering severely from unemployment at the present time.

In West Contra Costa, Richmond is the major community. This was a very small town prior to World War II, but grew from 2500 to 25,000 almost overnight with the influx of war workers to the Kaiser ship yards. Many of these workers are Black and came out of the South. After World War II, Richmond did its very best to drive these Black workers out of the community, but many stayed. Today Richmond has a large Black population, suffering many problems of neglect and racism, a major one of which is persistent unemployment. On the outskirts of Richmond, North along San Pablo Bay, the developers have been busy. Small communities of pleasant homes have been built and sold at high prices and huge mortgages. One of these communities is Tara Hills. Another area to the East is the general area known as El Sobrante. Both of these are unincorporated areas. The only police protection available to them is the Contra Costa Sheriff's Department.

Late in November the East Bay party was thrown into a campaign against racism in West Contra Costa without adequate preparation or discussion. An appeal appeared in the local papers from a family that had been threatened, harassed and shot at by the KKK. We subsequently learned that at least three families had been subjected to this terror (death threats and damage to their homes). All three families were Black and all living in areas where only a few Black families had as yet moved in. Two of these families lived in Tara Hills and one in El Sobrante.

The East Bay party was faced with a "life threatening" situation to which it had to respond. Two of our Black comrades sought out the families and found out what their urgent needs were. Help was offered by the local chapter of the National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression.

All three families had connections with unions. One is a longshoreman and a member of Local 10 ILWU. The others were members of the Bus Drivers' union.

We determined to do three things immediately:

- 1) physically protect the families and their homes;
- 2) visit their neighbors;

- 3) build a movement in West Contra Costa through which all people of good will who were horrified by what was happening would find a way to act. We had heard that the Klan had a chapter in the general area of Tara Hills and that they were recruiting. We were unaware until late November of their death-threats and shooting activities. We also learned late in November that the Klan was active at Richmond High School. A group of Klan members had moved into a house near Richmond High and proceeded to harass the Black students there. Tensions led to fights. Some Klan slogans appeared on school walls. Name calling and physical confrontations were carried away from school to neighborhoods. We heard that weapons were carried to school. The school board dealt with this situation by covering it up and refusing to admit that it was going on. On December 1, a guest column appeared in the *OAKLAND TRIBUNE*, written by Clyde Taylor, head of ethnic studies at Mills College in Oakland. It was entitled "When Was a Racist Jailed For Crimes Against Blacks?". His concluding paragraph read: "Every hour this nation goes without a major campaign, with teeth, against racist violence, brings us closer to the darkness of wholesale random racial strife. And then, for the KKK and the Nazis, America will be the America of which they dream."

" . . . AT LEAST THREE FAMILIES HAD
BEEN SUBJECTED TO THIS TERROR. "

It was with that sense of urgency that we went to work.

The Black comrade who stayed in closest touch with the threatened families from the beginning made it known to them that she was a Communist and that the Communist Party was the key factor in organizing the defense. One family had already been contacted by the CWP, but shied away from becoming involved with them. Thus from the first, the ultra left was isolated and the Communist Party's offer to help was accepted. They saw the ultra left offering nothing besides an invitation to a rally and a copy of their newspaper! They saw us offering ourselves with nothing to gain personally or for our political organization. They have since sought two Black comrades out consistently for

advice and counsel around a wide variety concerns.

Visiting the white neighbors was seen immediately as a party task and was extremely important. Conservative Blacks and whites from the community clearly saw this as the "right" thing to do—"going and talking to your own". They also saw this as an activity done by "mature, respectable people." This is also a task that is not easy and few people "relish" it!

The first week-end after the Klan threats were publicized, four people went out to visit neighbors. The following week-end twenty-three people went out and worked in teams. This activity was very rewarding. The vast majority of the neighbors are decent, working-class people, totally opposed to the Klan's activities.

One of the major complaints of the threatened families was against the sheriff's department--that the sheriff was slow to respond when called in urgent situations and never did anything which would lead to an arrest, and certainly did not patrol the neighborhood properly where incidents were continually taking place.

Two community meetings were held which became confrontations between the sheriff's department and the Black community. One was called by the NAACP and the other by the sheriff's department through a community organization. The result of these meetings was a feeling of total frustration on the part of the endangered families. However, after the sheriff's department pled poverty, manpower shortage, etc., etc., the sheriffs stepped a little livelier in the Tara Hills area.

Meanwhile, volunteers proceeded to guard the homes—inside and outside. This was done by a joint effort of the National Alliance people and the East Bay Organizing Committee (a group of young, mostly white people who had come together through work in support of the United Farm Workers Union, the Farah Boycott and the anti-Bakke and Weber activities.)

Through the efforts of one of our Black comrades and her co-workers at a West Contra Costa mental health clinic, a meeting was organized to go beyond confronting the sheriff's office and to involve the community.

" . . . A MEETING WAS ORGANIZED TO GO BEYOND CONFRONTING
THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE AND TO INVOLVE THE COMMUNITY. "

This meeting was held on Saturday, December 13. Sheriffs and TV cameras were kept out, and the community got down to business. Five hundred people attended. Seven action committees were set up and met on the spot: the watch committee—guarding the families; police-sheriff committees—demanding that they do their jobs; hot-line committee—to mobilize many, many people in future dangerous situations and on other actions; schools committee—to demand that the school board stop covering up and conduct educational work in the schools on racism; churches committee—to mobilize church members in both Black and white churches to speak out against the Klan in a mass way; union committee—several unions had already taken action on the issue. The bus drivers' union who had put up an award for apprehension of the person who had backed his car, at high speed, into the front of the house of one of the Tara Hills families. The longshore union also put up award money and hired and armed professional guard to stay at the home of the El Sobrante family, where the Klan had shot into the home, right through the front door. The father of

this family is a longshoreman with a baby in the house and another baby on the way. The U.C. campus union, AFSCME 1695, adopted a strong resolution condemning Klan activity and carried it to the Central Labor Councils in both Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. AFSCME also set up a union committee against racism which has become very active in whatever needs doing from day to day. The teachers union in Richmond met and adopted a strong resolution. They plan seminars for teachers and assemblies and smaller group discussions for students on racism and why it must be fought. The Teamsters Union has many members in the Tara Hills area and the leadership of the union has attended the meetings and taken an excellent position against the Klan.

All groups set up at the December 13 meeting went to work at once in a very serious way. A dramatic highlight of the meeting was the arrival of hundreds of members of the East Bay Black Motorcycle Clubs. They came roaring up on their bikes and proceeded to provide security for the meeting. They sent a representative inside to offer whatever assistance was needed. A few "white power" signs which had been there at the beginning of the meeting quietly disappeared. After the meeting the motorcyclists toured the Tara Hills neighborhood.

An interesting ideological struggle has gone along with our activities. The sheriff has maintained in the press that the Klan is not involved. This opinion is echoed by others, even some of the neighbors. They prefer to blame misguided youth, whom they refer to as "punks" or "low riders." The National Alliance has pointed out that the scope, planning and organization of the racist attacks lead to the conclusion that we are dealing with the Klan, and more and more people are coming to that conclusion.

Now we have "come to the hardest time," as the old union song says. Both Black and white youth in Contra Costa County are unemployed. The public officials there are very unresponsive to the needs of the youth and the Black community. Here is fertile ground for the racists. The problems we now face involve creating a permanent anti-racist, broad organization, carrying activities to wider segments of the community, and continuing to be concerned with the personal safety of the families as long as it is necessary.

Our task will not be made easier by the entrance of the FBI into the case. The announcement that the FBI was entering the picture was made by U.S. Attorney G. William Hunter, who commented with his announcement: "Those individuals (the Klan) have the right to come together as Klan members. Just like the Black Panther Party they have a right to meet and associate, as long as they don't as a consequence decide to violate someone's rights." With that racist statement and the probability that the Community Relations Service will accompany the FBI investigation, our work will be difficult. (For more on the role of the Community Relations Service in breaking up anti-Klan movements, see Southern Exposure, Vol. 8, No. 2.)

We hope to build the National Alliance in Contra Costa County, and the potential for our Marxist class had doubled. We are in the midst of a mass campaign against racism. ■

" WE HOPE TO BUILD THE ALLIANCE IN
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, AND THE
POTENTIAL FOR OUR MARXIST CLASS HAS
DOUBLED. WE ARE IN THE MIDST OF A
MASS CAMPAIGN AGAINST RACISM. "

NOTES ON

By JOE FELSHIN
New York State

THE DEMOCRACY IN DEMOCRATIC CENTRALISM

When Lenin, in his well-known polemic, *The Proletarian Revolution and Renegade Kautsky*, made the unequivocal assertion that "proletarian democracy is a million times more democratic than bourgeois democracy:

Soviet power is a million times more democratic than the most democratic bourgeois republic," his statement implicitly inferred also the superiority, qualitatively and quantitatively, of the democracy built into the "party of a new type" which he had founded, and which became in following years the model for communist parties in many countries throughout the world. The decades since then have demonstrated that it was a genuine, deep-rooted democracy, in fact as well as in name, infinitely superior to that in any of the political parties or organizations of the capitalist world.

In the *Constitution of the Communist Party, USA*, as in the constitutions of all communist parties, the nature of that democracy is defined precisely by the scientific term, "democratic centralism," described as a "system of organization based on the principle of democratic centralism, which guarantees the unity of will and action of the membership and leadership."

Significantly, the sentence which immediately follows this definition in the *Constitution* declares that "Collectivity is the basic concept of the style of work of the Party." And this, in turn, is followed by the statement that democratic centralism "combines the maximum involvement of the membership in determining policy and in the democratic election of leading committees with responsible direction from one national center coordinating the activity of the entire Party along common agreed-upon lines."

It is no accident that the principle of collectivity is here linked so integrally with the principle of democratic centralism, and that both are linked in the *Party Constitution* to the right, the duty and the necessity of Party members to exercise criticism and self-criticism in furtherance of the Party's role and aims. For criticism and self-criticism is regarded as one of the most fundamental principles of Party life and practice, clearly spelled out in the *Constitution* as one of the "Rights and Duties of Members" to "criticize the work of all leading committees and individual leaders, irrespective of the positions they hold, for shortcomings, errors or unbecoming conduct... This right is strongly emphasized by the warning that "An officer who interferes with this right of criticism shall be subject to discipline."

THE HIGHEST PRINCIPLE OF PARTY LEADERSHIP

The Soviet scholar and historian, A. Vodolazsky, in an article in the Soviet theoretical journal, *Kommunist*, No.12, 1979 (translated in *Reprints From the Soviet Press*, Vol. XXX, No.1, January 15, 1980) speaks of collectivity as "the highest principle of Party leadership." But in the same article he affirms that "Democratic centralism is the CPSU's major principle, guiding all its organizational work and other activity." And further, that "The collective nature of governing bodies in the CPSU, the fact that it is never individuals, but representative collegial bodies elected by Communists (committees, bureaus), who stand at the head of Party organizations, stems from, and is an indispensable requirement for democratic centralism." The reality emerges, and it is buttressed by Vodolazsky's many arguments and examples that collectivity is inconceivable without democratic centralism. And vice versa. And both are inconceivable unless joined by the crucial element of criticism and self-criticism. All are imperatives if the working class roots of the Party are to receive political nourishment, if ideological infection is to be prevented, if the Party's revolutionary forces are to be renewed, invigorated, infused with the vision and purpose to wage their stormy class battles against the class enemy under the banner of communism, if the vanguard Party is to remain truly in the vanguard.

The three principles are basically and organically interdependent and interrelated. They form an ideological-organizational triptych, a democratic arch in which democratic centralism is the keystone, firmly fixed and held in place by collectivity on the one side

and criticism and self-criticism on the other.

"The concept of collective Party leadership," Vodolazsky writes, "is many-faceted. It encompasses a wide totality of mutually related and mutually dependent principles, the implementation of which makes it possible to devise a correct policy, successfully apply it in practice, and thus avoid serious mistakes, haphazard decisions, subjectivism and one-sidedness."

In his conclusions on the centrality of the principle of collectivity in the development of Party leadership, Vodolazsky points to the fact the CPSU "amassed an enormous amount of experience in collective leadership," reminding us, for example, that in the interim between the 24th and 25th Congresses of the CPSU, its Central Committee convened eleven plenums, its Political Bureau met 215 times, and there were 205 meetings of the Party's Secretariat. He details for us also the extensive visits made by Party leaders, including travels by the head of the Party and Soviet State, Leonid Brezhnev, to all parts of the country, including remote cities and regions to meet and discuss problems with local activists, to obtain first-hand the views of leaders and leading bodies in areas of production, science, education and culture, to study and generalize the experiences of such Party organizations and make them available to the Party and the country as a whole:

He points also to the vast number of letters

T H R E E I N D I S P E N S A B L E I N G R E D I E N T S O F T H E R E V O L U T I O N A R Y P R O C E S S

received—and answered—by the Central Committee, and the thousands of additional letters printed in the Party press which is thereby able to make available the running stream, really torrent, of valuable proposals, suggestions, criticisms coming from the people.

But Vodolazsky's massive, and quite impressive, testimony, while essentially focused on the decisive role of collectivity in developing effective Party leadership, upon close examination appears to apply with equal force to the equally vital contributions of democratic centralism and constructive fraternal criticism in the enrichment and enhancement of the Party's standards and practice. To reinforce his thesis, Vodolazsky quotes Karl Marx's guidelines on the question of collectivity, to the effect that "no one should speak on behalf of the Party without first consulting others."

He also pays tribute to Lenin's "theoretical substantiation and creative enrichment" of "the ideas and traditions" of collectivity in his writings, quoting notably Lenin's observation that it would be impossible for the Party to fulfill successfully its vanguard role in organizing and leading political struggles and maintaining firm discipline in its revolutionary forces "without the collective elaboration of certain forms and rules of conduct of all their affairs, without establishing...every Party member's *responsibility* to the entire Party." (*Collected Works*, Vol.IV, p.219.)

But again and again, what emerges from this authoritative body of evidence, from opin-

ions of the forebears and founders of Party, and from Vodolazsky's voluminous example, is the organic linkage between these three fundamental principles. It is the fusion of the elements of collectivity and criticism with the principle of democratic centralism that assures the integrity of the democracy in the latter. In their fusion, the three become guiding principles in the organization of revolutionary struggle and, by that token, indispensable ingredients in the revolutionary process itself. Anti-party manifestations such as bureaucratism, chauvinism, narrow nationalism and racism stand in direct violation of these three basic Party principles.

Gus Hall spoke of this in his June 7, 1980 report to the Party's Central Committee and National Council. He called for vigilance against such anti-party manifestations and tendencies. In a section of his report in which he stressed "The Importance of Communist Standards," he urged the Party to close ranks against such anti-party infections. Singling out in particular the danger of bureaucratism as one such manifestation, he warned that "Bureaucratic methods of leadership tend to destroy the democratic side of democratic centralism."

His words sound a timely reminder that constant vigilance to safeguard and strengthen "the democratic side of democratic centralism" has always been and continues to be the duty, the task, the responsibility of every Communist. ■

OREGON STATE FAIR

(Continued from p.40)

you?—and sign here"... Only one person's name need be given. Cost for the space runs \$100 to \$250, depending on whether you want open outdoor space or space under their tent.

We have progressed through putting up a shack, renting their tent space, and now having our own portable booth, usable for any occasion. We finally settled on a 10 by 10 foot size. It opens on one or two sides, has an awning on one side, and closes down tight at night. The booth is my own design, all steel construction except tables, with canopy and tarps over it, for a cost of about \$140.

For materials, besides books from the local John Reed Bookstore in Portland, we offer Party papers and publications, and at least one major Oregon Issues leaflet which we give to everyone who will take it. We have not yet been able to break even with costs. This year we could have made it except that we had to use their tent space at a higher price because "all political booths have to be in one area."

We try to reach the public on several levels, the level depending on how close they come. From a hundred yards away they can read the largest outside banner which will deal with a current issue, such as, last year it was, "For Peace, Pass SALT II." If they look closer, they will next see the banner hanging inside, proclaiming "Communist Party, USA, for Jobs, Peace, and Socialism."

With Fair attendance now exceeding 600,000 for the ten day run, it is apparent that hundreds of thousands see these banners each year. If people come within reach, we hand them our major leaflet. Each year we distribute from five to ten thousand leaflets. We invite people to ask questions, look at Party literature, and purchase our newspapers. In addition, we always try to sell the most current major Party publication, such as "How to Stop the Monopolies", or the "Draft Program." Selling major Party publications is a way of measuring the increase in public receptiveness of our presence. From a beginning of nearly none, we now sell hundreds of these publications each year. We also offer petitions to sign. Here, we need to improve our work, as many will not sign anything identified with the Party, and must be assured that it will not be used as a "list." At the same time more and more are willing and want to be informed of social gatherings, etc. This year of course the main theme of our booth was the Hall—Davis election campaign, and we leafleted full time with campaign literature. We used two special Oregon leaflets along with the national literature. For our first year, 1976, our theme was the Hall—Tyner Campaign.

Our State Fair runs ten days, 12 and 13 hours a day, and we have maintained our Party booth with about a dozen people, though a few more would sure make it easier. In the past, we tried to have two on duty at all times, but this year we needed three, except in mornings. Besides the planning and organizing, 12 people put in a total of 361 hours. Four of these people, this year, were non—Party people. All participants came away with good feelings for having worked there. For our non—Party friends, working with us in this way must be a not too big step from joining.

One general trend is that our perseverance has earned the respect of our friends as well as our enemies. For instance, it is interesting that even five years ago, when Eugene McCarthy was running, and some people had a small under—staffed McCarthy booth near all the other political parties, they brought their money and other valuables to us for safe keeping when they had to leave for a break. This happened more than once.

There was one attempt to bar our presence during our first year. We knew nothing of it until we read the papers. The Fair Boards answer was: "We are here to offer space to whoever wants it, and we are not about to discriminate against anyone."

OVER 101 PROFUND IDEAS FOR FUNDRAISING

CLUB AND SECTION INITIATIVES 4

- Theatre Parties
- Game Nights
- Small Picnic
- Outdoor Parties
- Lectures and Forums
- Pot Luck Dinners
- Film Showings
- Brunches
- Afternoon Affairs
- Luncheons
- Dinners
- Dances
- Other Affairs
- Recitals, Dances, Concerts
- Children's Activities
- Used Book Sales
- Book Parties
- Raffles
- Mini Flea Markets
- Tag or Garage Sales
- Rummage Sales
- Literature Raffle

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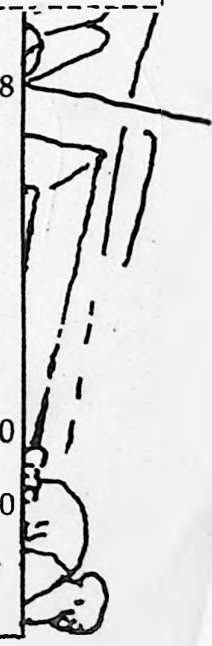
- Personal Reserve Fund
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- + Banquets
- + Tourist Groups
- + Bazaars
- + Jog-a-thons
- + Video Tapes
- + Audio Tapes
- + Birthdays, Anniversaries



By ED HEMMINGSON
Oregon District



For the fifth year in a row the Communist Party has "come out" at the Oregon State Fair.

First year responses ranged from utter disbelief to shock, horror, and amazement—and from a few, sincere praise. It would be impossible to relate even a fraction of all the tales we could tell of various encounters, both good and bad, during the entire period. Each person who has worked in the Party booth has an individual repertoire of accumulated stories. In fact, these personal experiences are a most valuable part of the whole effort, for at the State Fair you really get a chance to work with the "grass roots of America."

Despite the fact that it is impossible to raise mass consciousness in one great heave this one effort in our opinion, has done more to establish the presence of the Communist Party in Oregon than any other single project we could have undertaken.

The results are cumulative. We have attracted our friends and incensed our enemies by the millions! It is a grand publicity stunt. More important, it gives people an opportunity to talk with, stare at, discuss and harangue with real live Communists, and examine real Communist Party literature, all in a non—incriminating, curiosity—satisfying environment. The Party and we, its representatives, were very much "on display." A little scary, but we found that the questions were simple, common, and repetitive. Consequently, if we didn't handle any one of them just right, we knew we would have a chance to try again and again, until we felt satisfied and proud. That was a wonderful experience!

Some of the nuts and bolts of doing this kind of thing are: First someone has to go in and say, "We would like to have a booth at the Fair." They say, "Sure, who are

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