

The Party Organization

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The Organization Fund.

The Lettish Branch No. 1 of New York City sent in \$100.00 for the Organization Fund of the Communist Party. That is the kind of response that will bring into existence a strong organization in the briefest possible time. It is the membership that is now in the Communist Party that in the past has shown that it does not consider membership in a revolutionary organization a matter to be taken lightly, but willingness to work and sacrifice. That is the spirit which brought the prompt response from the Lettish Branch of New York and which brought a remittance from the Russian Branch of Pittsburg within three days from the time our subscription list was mailed.

The Baltimore City Central Committee reports over \$40.00 collected for the fund and the South Slavic Branch of Ziegler has already sent in a remittance of \$20.25.

An "Organization Fund" of \$25,000 will enable the National Organization to immediately launch a propaganda and organization campaign that will build up a united organization of a hundred thousand members before the next convention of the party takes place.

We are living in the Revolutionary Era. Our work of organization must be done quickly if we are to play the part that is rightly ours in world revolution.

Every Communist Branch, every Communist party member, must help. Circulate the subscription lists. Make the "Organization Fund" grow and the party will grow.

The Cleveland Test.

THE decision of Local Cuyahoga County, (Cleveland) to join the Communist Party was a matter of greater moment than the brief note we were able to insert in last week's issue indicated. Cleveland furnished a test of the strength of the Communist Party and the Communist Labor Party when the argument on both sides is thoroughly presented.

Alfred Wagenknecht, Executive Secretary of the Communist Labor Party is a member of Local Cuyahoga County, as is A. Bilan, member of the Executive Committee of that organization. Both were delegates to the Chicago conventions from that Local. The Cleveland delegation at Chicago split, four going with the bolting delegates into the Communist Labor Party and one, C. E. Ruthenberg, going to the Communist Party.

Four delegates returned to Cleveland to fight for the C. L. P. Branches were visited by these delegates and literature distributed. At the convention these four delegates were given an equal opportunity to present their case. The result was an all but unanimous decision against the C. L. P. and for the Communist Party.

The delegates in the Cleveland convention had all the facts. They heard all the arguments that the advocates of the C. L. P. could present, but yet only three delegates, one of them Wagenknecht himself, voted to affiliate with that organization. Could there be a more overwhelming repudiation of the C. L. P.?

The convention went further. Wagenknecht, after being thus badly beaten, offered a resolution placing the convention on record as favoring a unity conference between the C. L. P. and the C. E. Ruthenberg offered an amendment urging unity of all who are united for Communist principles through their joining the Communist Party. The Communist Labor Party case was so poor that it could not even make a decent showing in support of its unity proposal, for the amendment urging unity in the Communist Party was again overwhelmingly adopted.

This practically unanimous repudiation of the Wagenknecht party by his own local is being duplicated wherever both sides are presented to locals that are Communist in principle.

Erie German Branch.

The revolt against the effort of the Executive Committee of the German Federation to force the branches of that organization into the Communist Labor Party is extending, the latest branch to join the Communist Party being the Erie, Pa. organization. When the returns are all in the majority of the membership of the German Federation will be found lined up with the other revolutionary workers in the Communist Party.

A Communist Party central committee has also been organized at Erie.

Philadelphia Lines Up.

This is the word from Philadelphia: "The membership of the expelled Local Philadelphia, Socialist Party, consisting of 30 branches and 2,500 members in good standing, hereby applies for a charter as Local Philadelphia, Communist Party." The letter goes on to say: "There are hundreds in this city who are waiting the opportunity to join the Communist Local. The spirit of the membership here is superb. We are looking forward to the receipt of the charter as the signal for launching our campaign of education and organization."

Cleveland and Philadelphia, two locals with 2,500 members each, in one week.

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The branches of Baltimore have organized their City Central Committee and applied for a charter as Local Baltimore.

Polish Branches are sending in their applications for charters in bunches.

The Lithuanian Federation at its conventions in Brooklyn voted solidly for affiliation with the Communist Party. The Federation decided to move its printing plant to Chicago, where it will be available for printing the Communist Party papers and literature.

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Thirteen former members of Local New Bremen, Ohio, have sent in an application for a charter.

The Evanston, Ill. branch has joined with fifty new members.

The North-Side German Branch of Chicago has been organized with fifteen members.

The Connecticut State Convention decided unanimously for affiliation with the party.

A Pittsburgh ward branch with seventy-five members in good standing asks for information about how to obtain a charter.

The first Italian Branch of the Communist Party has been chartered in Beloit, Wis., and another branch is in the process of being organized in Pennsylvania.

Milwaukee, Too.

Milwaukee, the former stronghold of Moderate Socialism is no longer to enjoy that distinction. The Communists of Milwaukee are building a strong organization. A City Central Committee has been organized and the dubious distinction enjoyed by that city in the past will soon be wiped out by Communist propaganda and organization work.

New Party Branches.

Charter applications for new branches are ready for distribution. Seven persons who are in agreement with the constitution and program of the party may form a branch. If you can build an organization in your city write for a charter application to the address above.

A Propaganda Suggestion.

The distribution of literature is the most effective form of propaganda. The Communist Party will rely upon this method of reaching the workers as the major weapon to enlighten and organize the workers for Communist principles.

In the past the work of selling papers and pamphlets has been the work of one man, the literature agent. The entire membership must be mobilized for this work in the future.

Try this plan in your branch: Buy a hundred Communist Party pamphlets—the Manifesto, Program, Constitution and Report to the International is a good pamphlet to start with—give each member five copies to sell at your next meeting. Buy a hundred copies of "The Communist" and get them out in the same manner.

Every branch member comes in contact with workers who will buy literature and should be given the opportunity to assist in selling pamphlets and papers. Organize your branch for this work and you will be carrying on a campaign that will bring big results.

The Literature Department.

A new pamphlet each week! That will be the program of the party during the next month or two. The first pamphlet containing the Manifesto and Program, Constitution and Report to the International, is already being shipped out.

The second is in the hands of the printer. It will be called "Communist Party and Socialist Party" and will contain a discussion of the differences between the Socialist Party and the Communist Party based upon the experience of the workers in this country.

Other pamphlets will follow quickly.

This splendid work in creating a Communist literature has been made possible by the Russian comrades of Chicago, who loaned the organization over \$2,000 in order that it might begin publication of its literature at once. There is the spirit that must be the basis of the Bolshevik movement in this country.

Watch for the announcement of future pamphlets and leaflets.

Northwest Side Branch No 1.

Organized in Chicago.

At the 28th Ward Headquarters, Tuesday evening, September 23, was organized Northwest Side Branch No. 1 of the Communist Party. The 28th Ward Branch of the Socialist Party had already reorganized itself as the Debs Club, and now the Debs Club has become a branch of the Communist Party.

It is noteworthy that Comrade Karl F. M. Sandberg, who presided at this meeting, was one of the delegates in the Communist Labor Party Convention, held at the same time as the Communist Party Convention. Comrade Sandberg gave his support to the move to join the Communist Party.

Comrade Joseph Van Reet was elected Secretary of the new branch. Meetings are set for Tuesday evenings. Applications for membership will be received from all residents of the Northwest Side until a City Central is organized and makes other arrangements. The meeting place is at 2519 W. Fullerton Ave., and the Secretary's address is 2022 St. Paul Ave.

The action of this meeting is expected to carry the endorsement of practically all the 90 members of the old 28th Ward Branch, making this the first Ward Branch to come into the Communist Party in Chicago, as it was the first Ward Branch to take the Left Wing position as an organization.

The plan is to have this organization serve as a temporary nucleus for the reorganization of the old party on the Northwest Side.