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The objective situation as I said was very favorable. The crisis has already set in. The liberal government did not do anything for the masses but the masses were illudged by the liberal government. When Allaya Herrera, the liberal President Elect, was introduced in office there was the biggest demonstration ^{in honor of his} in Bogota. That was the situation that I found when I got there. It took us about one week to discover our committee. We had an address to which to go but this person that was the connection had herself so hidden that you could not find her in that place. We were sent to another place and there they also said we don't know. Well after a week we found the connection. Then we called a committee meeting. This committee that called itself the Central Committee. Of course we pressed them to tell us the actual story (I already told you how they got liquidated during these elections.)

They got some money to run their campaign from the conservatives which they accepted. With the little connections that we had ground Bogota and even paying the fare of some comrades in other places we held a so called Plezza. This Plezza was not anything as you are accustomed to look upon as a Plezza. First of all none of them were elected. There was no one to elect them. Just so and so was considered one of us and he was invited and he came to Bogota to the Plezza. They had never known such a thing as to elect anybody even in the old days. In this way there came together 25 to 30 persons. Of all these when I left there were only about 3 in the Party not counting the students and so forth. And that was how we held the Plezza. This was the Plezza that approved the letter of the C.I. There we elected the new Central Committee. After the Plezza they almost all dispersed and only 3 or 4 active comrades remained in Bogota. With these 3 or 4 comrades the work was started and about two comrades from the provinces that remained in the Party.

With this committee we first started a movement on the question of unemployment. This was the most burning issue. Well we got some response from the workers on this question. In Bogota the response was not so good but later on the response in the other places was better. The first manifestation was broken up by liberals. In these manifestations there participated 500 workers. We held it right in the capital and there took place a battle there on July 17. There was a fight on, the throwing of stones, etc. Well there were some arrested but I was not among the arrested. All of our most active comrades except one were all arrested ~~in~~ in that manifestation. They were released after 10 days by a Conservative Judge. That was the first manifestation that the liberals broke up which discouraged our comrades a great deal. They broke up about 3 manifestations like this. But with this the Conservatives press gave plenty of publicity to this manifestation because they wanted to create a feeling among the workers that the Communist Party was opposing the new government. So these manifestations got considerable publicity and later on we were looked upon by the masses as real opponents to the liberal government. These manifestations did us a great deal of good. We never missed an opportunity for manifestations, the reasons was the following. It was my opinion that it was necessary first of all by agitational methods to establish a new line. This could only be done in that manner in order to wake up the masses to understand what the Party was about. We tried to distribute as many leaflets as possible. Then we held manifestations on purely local questions. This was found to be the most convenient method to get activity from our new recruits. On the fourth manifestation we had organized, the organization in Bogota and a few defense groups and in the fourth demonstration the groups were armed, and when the liberals began to attack, our defense corps gave it to them. None of our people were hurt. After that they did not bother our manifestations any more at least as long as I was the re. I think this defense group proposition continued later on. Later on the response of the workers was better. We had a manifestation against taxes in which participated 5,000.

Of course the work of organizing the Party was not such an easy job. We concentrated on Bogota, tried to attract the workers in Bogota. Inez did excellent work on that. We developed a totally new group who were never in the Party before. Out of these we picked out a few and trained them as organizers. Only five remained in Bogota. We sent them into other districts. It was only after that that the organization developed on a National scale. The crisis was growing so fast, and here with the fight between the two parties getting hotter and hotter, we got pressure continually, and we were even making manifestations