

STATE CP URGES MEMBERS END FACTIONAL SITUATION

The New York Communist Party leadership yesterday issued an open letter to the entire party membership to end the factional situation in the organization's ranks, unite around the decisions of the national convention and plunge into mass work.

The appeal, sent to all forthcoming county conventions, stressed in particular the need to:

1. Support the developing civil rights struggles in the country.

2. Carry through the finance and circulation building campaigns of the Daily Worker and The Worker.

Excerpts from the open letter follow:

"The fight for equal rights for Negro people has reached unprecedented heights in quality, in numbers, in unity, in labor's participation, and in support by large sectors of democratic-minded white people. The Negro people and all who cherish equality of opportunity are expressing their determination to win constitutional rights for Negroes in mass actions. May 17, the third anniversary of the historic Supreme Court decision banning segregation in public schools, is a high point in this struggle.

"This fight deserves the full support of labor, of all people. Victory over reaction on civil rights legislation now pending in Congress is still possible. . . .

"A broad rank and file sentiment is developing throughout labor's ranks for clean and democratic trade unionism and for defense of the trade unions against proposed new anti-labor legislation. This may well develop into

the biggest movement of labor since the upsurge during the '30s.

"New possibilities are opening through which to raise the struggle for maintaining peace and for peaceful co-existence to new heights. . . . Public demands for banning A- and H-bomb tests and weapons—especially the historic Dr. Albert Schweitzer appeal—and for the development of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, are assuming mass proportions.

"There are crucial issues in our own city and state. The June special session of the State Legislature must guarantee genuine increases in unemployment insurance. The issue of school integration in the city, housing, expanding public welfare requirements, all come to a head in the coming municipal elections.

"These convention achievements and policies are threatened by the continuing resistance to ending factionalism in our New York district. This factionalism is the main obstacle to mass work at the present time.

"The existence of separate groups which usurp for themselves the making of Party policy in caucus because they view matters of policy and leadership from narrow factional interests, is disruptive of Party unity. Factionalism breeds name-calling, rumor mongering and personality conflicts which fertilize the work of class enemies. It

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also creates an atmosphere and a state of mind which makes impossible objective exchange of views, genuine thrashing out of differences, and serious criticism and self-criticism which is absolutely necessary at all times. Ideological and political discussions conducted in a constructive non-factional way, and in relation to mass work, clarifies and strengthens the Party.

"For these and other reasons, factionalism must be ended immediately. Anyone continuing factional activities must be considered as seeking to make it impossible for the Party to play its role in the struggles of the American people.

"To insure that factionalism be ended and the unity of the Party be fully re-established, the State Committee proposes that all county conventions make strenuous efforts to arrive at programs of work which can be supported and carried out by the overwhelming ma-

jority of delegates. We call upon the county and section conventions to elect leaderships dedicated to the execution of the decisions of the national convention, leaderships most capable of involving our Party in mass work, leaderships refreshed with new rank-and-file forces devoted to the party, leadership representative of different trends. . . .

"Members of the State Committee who participated in caucuses in the past have pledged that they will not participate in meetings of factions or caucuses. We urge all those with whom we have been associated in factions until now to end factional meetings and activities. We appose unconditionally the continuance of caucuses and factions as a violation of our new Party Constitution.

"Let's get to work!"

IGNORED GRIDSTER-SIGNED

WASHINGTON, May 2 - Full-back Tom Crowl, a 207-pound full-back who was not a standout at Purdue, has been signed by the Washington Redskins because coach Joe Kuharick said he was impressed by his "hustle."