

# WE FACE A CRISIS

## Attention to Large Factories.

There are other dangers besides inactivity. One is the surprisingly small number of our comrades who work in large factories. It is the large factories that the major part of our attention should be given. The large factories—especially those in the basic industries—are the great source of our strength. Our activity now is not in this field. Take our best League for example. New York finds after the reorganization has been completed that the greater part of its members work in small shops in the needle trades, building trades, etc. The tendency will be to direct most of the League's attention to the work in these shops. **THIS WOULD PROVE A GREAT ERROR.** Even if we have almost no comrades working in really large shops as in the case also in Boston special efforts must be made to send in comrades to work and build the movement there.

This will prove a difficult task in many places considering the low theoretical level of our membership. But that must not become a deterring factor. Ideological campaigns among our comrades will solve the problem.

## Nucleus Not a Trade Group.

Another great danger presents itself in the tendency of our nuclei to become trade groups. Temporarily because of our weakness we were not able to engage in any other campaigns of political significance besides the reorganization. However with the beginning of our anti-militarist campaign towards the middle of February we shall have made a beginning in solving this problem. In the meantime the district committees and the other units must carry on ideological campaigns to prevent such a development. Frequent general membership meetings to discuss important political problems, not only of a national but of an international character will help towards this end.

## Dues Paid in Nuclei Significant.

The payment of dues has always been looked upon as a technical matter. The present situation is such that the payment of dues becomes a matter of great significance. First the lack of dues payments show that the comrades have not yet become set in their shop activities. Too much dues is coming thru the street nuclei

as compared with the amount that comes thru the shop nuclei to make for a healthy situation.

Then we notice in the "sub" drive that our comrades are not concentrating on selling "subs" to their shop mates. But instead sell them only at mass meetings etc. The rates and manner of conducting the drive was specially designed to facilitate the selling them to the other workers on the job. The lack of activity in this direction shows a serious problem that must be solved.

There are many other matters that we may discuss here—matters which need discussing. However even only the problems and examples cited above if systematized all point to the one solution—greater activity in the shops,—especially as already said—the large shops in the important industries.

This must be our concentration point during these months of the severe test as to our Bolshevik character. The test shows our weaknesses and we must not sit back in dismay at them but must throw our energies into the struggle and determinedly overcome them.

—Sam Darcy.

THE reorganization is nearing completion. But with this accomplishment comes new dangers which we must face and overcome if we are to become a mass organization.

A dangerous tendency has manifested itself one of going to sleep as soon as the transfer from the old to the new units have been made. Our comrades have not had it sufficiently trained in them that the reorganization is not an end in itself but merely a means to the end of winning a great mass of workers to us and the success of the reorganization depends not merely on the change of form but on the kind and intensity of activity that is carried on under the shop nuclei system of organization.

These are the critical months. The slogan is that a muscle will wither if it is not used operates here. If our units are during this period especially intensely active in the factories we will win over many of the workers. If they are not the nucleus will finally break up.