

Developing the Activity of Shop Nuclei

ARTICLE EIGHT

By MARTIN ABERN.

"It is not necessary," writes Zinoviev, "to write long theses, but to start from the most simple things, to follow the prescription of this workingman, first to gather together four men, then another four men and then distribute the work among these. This is Leninism and the practical organization of the work."

The chief lesson we learn in the attempts thus far to organize shop nuclei in Chicago and elsewhere is the hesitancy to carry on actual work of some sort in the shop. The tendency is: "First let us learn more about the plan." Our slogan, however, may be: "Education thru organization and activity of the shop nuclei." There are many things which every shop nucleus, small or large can set itself to accomplish and take up at once.

FIRST, gather together all the comrades, from language and English branches, who work in the same shop—and then get them acquainted with each other! Make it a sort of get-together of party members.

Second. Elect a group of officers, secretary, literature agent, industrial organizer, nucleus executive and decide certainly to meet regularly and often.

Third. At the nucleus meeting, assign every member a task, no matter how small or apparently unimportant.

Fourth. At a second meeting, hold a discussion on conditions in the shop and how to remedy them: wages, hours, unionization, "bulldozing" foreman, conditions of production, etc.

Organizing the Work of the Nucleus.

Gradually, as the comrades get to know and have confidence in one another's ability, etc., and have discussed shop and party problems, and other matters of interest to them, ideas and plans for conducting party work in the shop will flow from every comrade.

The Nucleus Builds Our "Daily"

"We must get the DAILY WORKER to the fellows in the shop," says

Get Ready for Reorganization

THE Organization Department has announced its plan to mobilize the membership for the reorganization of the party into shop nuclei and international branches.

During the conduct of this campaign to reconstruct our party, a series of articles on organizational questions is being printed in every organ of the party. Questions and problems confronting our members in the rebuilding of the party will be answered and analyzed in the DAILY WORKER by Comrade Jay Lovestone, head of the Organization Department, and other party members.

The DAILY WORKER has also established a special section for the Organization Department. In this section there is being printed articles on the progress of the organization campaign, the experiences of the comrades in the work of organization, and letters and reports from comrades giving their experiences in carrying on the party's activities thru the shop nuclei.

These articles will be living articles, and of intense interest.

Watch these columns closely.

one comrade. A plan is worked out whereby comrades approach other workers, either in the shop, or at their homes, and give or sell them the daily, or it is sold at the gate. Plans are laid to get subscribers.

Months later. "The DAILY WORKER needs money if it is to live," reads a communication from the National party office to the shop nucleus. The nucleus considers. A meeting is called, perhaps on pay day. A collection from the members or a day's pay is donated right on the spot. Comrades suggest: let's approach other fellow workers in the shop who read the DAILY WORKER for donations. This is done. A good sum is sent to the DAILY WORKER. Reports show that nearly every shop nucleus in Chicago, Gary, Southern Illinois, and the rest of the district made a donation in the present DAILY WORKER drive.

The nucleus considers more carefully. Other party literature, leaflets, pamphlets, papers, are brot to the shop, placed in various spots, where workers can get them. Every

member of the nucleus is given the duty of discussing working class problems with some worker in the shop; to visit him at his home; to, in time, get him to join the nucleus.

Getting into the Struggles of the Workers.

MINE operators and the faker Farrington are trying to railroad militant coal miners to prison on a trumped up conspiracy for murder charges. The nucleus meets. These fighting miners, upon whom depends the life of the progressive miners' movement, must be saved. Moral and financial support must be given these men. Maybe other workers in the shop already know what "railroading" and "rats" on the job mean. They want to help but don't know how. Our comrades quietly circulate lists of the International Labor Defense, striving to defend the Zeigler miners. Money is raised on a defense issue, which nearly always strikes a response among workers. A basis is laid for organizing an I. L. D. branch on the job, secretly or openly as con-

ditions permit. The workers learn to understand better what these Communists are. They are brot a little closer to the Workers (Communist) Party.

Perhaps the shop is a union shop. The nucleus meets to take up the problems of the various local unions in which they belong. They are, of course, in the party fractions in the unions. They bring to the fraction meetings opinions and problems grasped from job conditions. They consider ways and means of bringing the issue of the big anthracite strike before their local union and to get support for it. That may strike home at once.

Maybe, if the union is much more awake, tho abstract, to the union, the problem of imperialism, is brot up, and it is found to mean, among other things: Get the marines out of China! We don't want the American youth slaughtered to make gold and get concessions for Rockefellers and Morgans! A resolution is passed and sent to Washington, etc.

The Labor Party is Heard Of.

ELECTIONS are on. Whom shall we vote for? Ask the workers in the shops. Our shop nucleus meets. The plan, program, and campaign outlined by the Central Executive Committee, for a labor party, are before them. During lunch time, our comrades engage systematically in argument and discussion with fellow workers on the question of the republican and democratic parties, what have they ever done for the workers; on the LaFollette movement, the aim of the Workers (Communist) Party, the role of Wall Street, capitalist, government, etc. What do they think about their union "going into politics?" Our comrade leaves a leaflet, "For a Labor Party," in their hands. The workers' minds, for the while at least, dwell on politics.

And so on endlessly are problems and issues bound to arise in the shop nuclei. They will solve them if they will understand that: The way to start is to begin.