

## To Build the Party

# Build the Party Press

*The formation of the Party - if the correct representation of that Party in a certain newspaper is not organized - will to a considerable extent remain bare words. An economic struggle that is not united by a central organ cannot become the class struggle of the entire. . . proletariat.*

- V.I. Lenin

In the on-going spontaneous battle between labor and capital Lenin teaches that the struggle of the workers becomes a *class* struggle, in the real sense of the word, only when all of the foremost representatives of the entire working class act consciously as members of a single class and go over from a fight against individual employers to a nation-wide battle against the entire capitalist class and the government that supports that class.

It is the role of those "foremost representatives" of the proletariat, organized into and around the Marxist-Leninist party, to lead the entire working class and to transform spontaneous, day-to-day economic battles in a given factory or a single city against particular manifestations of exploitation or oppression, into a class-wide battle against the entire capitalist system of exploitation and oppression.

But how is that battle organized, the forces disciplined, revolutionary techniques developed, forms of struggle, rules of conduct and the responsibility of every party member to the party established? These questions were first asked when the forms of organization and rules of conduct of a "party of a new type" were being hammered out by the Russian revolutionaries of Lenin's day.

The creation of a central organ - a party press with all its attendant committees for the development of its conduct, writing, production and distribution - is one of the principle means by which the party both *organizes* itself and *represents* itself among the people: the way in which it links the work of the local organizations, unites its members a-

round a single line, elaborates uniform tactics and sees to it that all parts of the whole are marching in step. Without such unity of will and action, the Party cannot fulfill its role of organizing the workers, conducting propaganda and agitation among them, and mobilizing them to transform partial, limited, local struggles into a nation-wide class struggle with precise political objectives for socialism.

Over the past year, the Central Committee of the CPUSA/ML has taken several decisions designed to strengthen the Party's press and make its development the practical activity of all Party organizations. To uplift the theoretical and political level of cadre, it is necessary to issue regular propaganda that links questions of Marxism-Leninism to the international and domestic situation, provides an analysis of the major questions facing the spontaneous movement, clarifies the Party's line and tactics, directs the fight against opportunism and revisionism, and regularly sums up the work of the Party.

At the present moment, to advance in the key struggle on the organizational front against deviations from Party norms and Leninist organizational principles, the press plays an important role as both propagandist and organizer, helping to clarify the responsibility of every Party member to the Party.

Today the protracted struggle to build a truly nation-wide press is the centerpiece in the battle to build a truly nation-wide Party. By working to promote socialist ideas among the most advanced forces fighting in the spontaneous movement and providing an alternative to the shop-worn tactics and tired old slogans of reformism and revisionism, the Party seeks to win them to Marxism-Leninism and organize them around the Party and into its ranks.

In this formative period, the CPUSA/ML is fighting on many fronts to lay solid ideological, political and organizational foundations for a truly nation-wide vanguard party that will lead the American proletariat in a *class* struggle against U.S. imperialism.