

La Colectiva del Pueblo Merges With C.L.

The process of building a Marxist-Leninist Communist Party is the process of uniting the vanguard of the proletariat into an organization that can act as a striking force for the working class; the process of defeating the opportunist agents of the bourgeoisie in the working class movement, in our case the CPUSA (Communist Party of the USA). This necessarily means defeating their social chauvinist, class collaborationist line on the national question which allies them with the imperialists in enslaving nations and oppressing national minorities. History shows us that a revolutionary disregards the national question at his own peril. The Colectiva del Pueblo is an organization of predominantly Mexican national minority workers and students who are Marxist-Leninists and have a large base in the working class area of East Los Angeles. The Colectiva members are all products of the Mexican People's Movement and have a long history of involvement in the working class struggle of the Mexican people and also student and community organizations. As a result of their experience and study they have come to the conclusion that the primary task of revolutionaries today is to build a Communist Party.

For this reason the recent merger of the leadership of the Colectiva del Pueblo and the Communist League in L.A. is of very great political importance. This merger signifies that concrete steps are being taken to form a Marxist-Leninist Communist Party in the USNA (United States of North America). But, the formation of a party of a new type must

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not be looked at in isolation but in its interconnections; and in this case, the fight against international revisionism and USNA imperialism. Throughout the world there is a sharp struggle taking place between the revisionist line and the line of Marxism-Leninism. This struggle takes on different forms and has different historical and political aspects depending on the specific nation's internal political and economic history, and other related phenomena.

For instance, in Brazil the Communist Party of Brazil was completely reorganized. Here the traitorous revisionists were thrown out and the Party was able to organize itself under the line of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tse Tung Thought. In France, however, the revisionists are firmly in control of the Communist Party and are very clearly part of the bourgeois state apparatus. In France, the order of the day is the building of a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist Communist Party that will fight the revisionist party and the French ruling class to the death.

The merger clearly shows that the coming together of the Colectiva del Pueblo and the Communist League was because of the unity that was reached on the line of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tse Tung Thought and was a clear example of the effects on the working class movement in the USNA of the Albanian Party of Labor, and their heroic stand against the revisionism of the social-imperialists.

In the national arena, this merger signifies that the building of a proletarian Communist Party is taking place at a very rapid pace and that the class struggle in the USNA is going into a new phase.

Not too long ago, the C.L. and the League of Revolutionary Black Workers in Detroit reached unity on the line of Marxism-Leninism. This event was perhaps one of the most important events in recent working class history. It clearly showed that the advanced sections of the working class were attain-

that class? What a shameless syndicalist and petty-bourgeois formulation. The Communist League fights for the unity of the class. We proceed from the fact that the proletariat is objectively united, that is to say, all proletarians must sell their labor power to live. The disunity of the class is political, and therefore, the struggle for unity is political and such formulations play into the hands of our class enemies.

We are sure that the comrades in the Southwest and throughout the League will remain vigilant and defeat any attempts to import syndicalism and bourgeois ideas into the League.

ing class consciousness and were leaving the spontaneous movement. It also linked the east coast with the west coast and the struggle of the Negro Nation with that of the working class in the Anglo-American nation. But, more than anything else, it was a definite defeat to the revisionist Communist Party. It slammed the door shut on syndicalism and embarked on the road to building a new communist party.

A similar thing occurred with the recent merger of the Colectiva del Pueblo and the C.L. In essence the same thing occurred except that the Colectiva was smaller and did not have the long experience of the League of Revolutionary Black Workers. This merger linked in a living way the struggle of the Negro people for Independence for the Negro Nation with the struggle of the Mexican national minority workers for Regional Autonomy for the Southwest, and most importantly, it united both of these with the struggle for proletarian revolution and Marxism-Leninism. This is a significant step in the process of party building.

Mexico borders the Southwest for over 1,500 miles and is a semi-colony of USNA imperialism. Conditions in Mexico are bleak with a fascist dictatorship that literally moves to the right each year. It has a population of 34,000,000 people with projections that by 1980 the population will increase by 50%.

Historically the USNA imperialists have always looked to Mexico as a source of cheap labor. During the period of imperialist growth between 1890 and 1920 thousands of Mexicans came to the USNA. Some came as a result of the civil war in Mexico, but most came as contract laborers, recruited by the trainload to work the beet fields of Colorado, the gardens and groves of California, the railroads of the entire west, the copper mines of Arizona, the cotton fields of Texas and the iron works of Chicago.

In the Southwest which includes California, Colorado, Arizona, Texas and New Mexico, there is a population of 10 million Mexican national minority people. They represent the second largest national minority in the Anglo-American nation, with the largest concentrations in the urban areas of Los Angeles, Denver and San Antonio.

The situation for the majority of the Mexican national minority in the USNA is one of poverty, unemployment, poor housing and health conditions, and lack of proper educational facilities. The overwhelming majority are unskilled laborers and agricultural workers. Many women are employed in sewing factories in which the conditions are always deplorable. The other most notable areas

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of employment are mining, railroads, and clerical workers. Mexicans are paid the same low level wages as the other national minority workers and work in the worst of conditions. The medium family income is \$5,762 annually, however, 25% have an income under \$4,000 annually.

Unemployment is also high in Mexican national minority communities. For example, in East Los Angeles the unemployment rate is 20%. The USNA imperialists, besides exploiting the Mexican national minority as an integral part of the Anglo-American working class, also uses this reserve of unemployed as cheap labor in times of crisis and as a major part of their military forces for fighting their imperialist wars of aggression such as the war in Vietnam, where 22% of all US casualties are Mexican national minority.

The above facts make it clear that the demand for Regional Autonomy for the Southwest is key to the proletarian revolution in the USNA and the

demands of Independence for the Negro Nation and Puerto Rico, and Regional Autonomy for the Southwest are all integrally connected.

In the Negro National Colonial Question booklet the Communist League emphasizes the impact of the national oppression on the Negro people and its effects on the Anglo-American working class:

"First of all, it is clear that the low wages paid to Negro national and Southern workers act as a direct drag on the wages of workers employed in the same industries in the Anglo-American nation. Workers in the 'North' can't improve their wages too much when the corporation can get more work done for less at a southern based plant. Further, Anglo-American workers in many industries constantly face the threat that the company will 'run away' to the South if the workers don't tone down their demands for higher wages and better working conditions. In addition Anglo-American workers must realize that the imperialists have always used the 'army of unemployed' or 'reserve labor force' in the Anglo-American nation to break strikes, hold wages down and force speed-

up conditions in nearly every sector of the economy. This reserve force in the Anglo-American nation has traditionally been re-inforced by the giant reserve force of low-paid, unemployed and job hungry workers in the Negro Nation and in the South."

The same holds true for the Southwest region and Puerto Rico. The success of the proletarian revolution can only come about with the correct Marxist-Leninist line on the national colonial question. Our duty to the worldwide proletarian revolution is to build a multinational, Marxist-Leninist, Communist Party, so that our class will go into the struggle united and well-armed.

"We call upon all honest Marxist-Leninists who realize the necessity of the struggle and are not afraid of the challenge to join us in liberating our class and destroying forever this evil system of exploitation." (from the Constitution of the Communist League) Won't you join us?

FREE THE NEGRO NATION!
FREE PUERTO RICO!
REGIONAL AUTONOMY FOR THE
SOUTHWEST!