

Conference of Marxist-Leninists Brings New Unity

The scheduled Conference of North American Marxist-Leninists was held from May 24 to May 28. The Conference was held despite a planned process of sabotage by groupings that withdrew from the Conference at the last moment as well as the FBI engineering the loss of three meeting halls in the two days prior to the convening of the Conference.

The Conference was a highly enthusiastic, deeply theoretical meeting of unity around the line of Marxism-Leninism. In total distinction to the so-called Conference on Party Building held in New York City recently, this conference was not a platform for big heads to hold forth. Neither was it a sounding board for muddle headed bourgeois concepts and inventions paraded under the slogans of Marxism.

The Conference was opened by 15 Communists (Comrades who had served more than 25 years in the Communist movement), firmly linking this conference with the history of the revolutionary movement. The Conference consisted of workshops on the National Question, Party Building, Women, Trade Unions and Youth. The resolutions adopted at the workshops provided a basis for the Continuations Committee to call for a draft resolution to be written for a Party Congress.

In attendance at the Conference were comrades and friends from all regions of the United States, including the Negro Nation and Puerto Rico. In addition, Comrades were present from Africa, Europe, Asia, South America and Central America. 45% of the revolutionaries in attendance were women, and 44% were Negro, Puerto Rican, Mexican, Phillipine and Indian national minorities.

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There can be no question that in content, as well as in composition, this Conference marks a completely new stage in the development of a Party of a New Type - a Leninist Party.

If we Communist League comrades are not to lose our bearings, it is necessary for us to have a clear understanding of the forces at play that made the Conference the tremendous success that it was. First of all, it was a Conference of workers. This was the point around which all other factors revolved.

Some of the leading factors were the growing revolution of the masses of the people concerning the scandal and political crisis that resulted from the Watergate affair. The war weariness of the people and the constantly growing threat of a new imperialist was causing more and more people to question the validity of a system that hands them 25 years of imperialist aggressions and threatens to continue that process. The worsening economic situation is forcing all revolutionaries to speed up the process of defending the standards of the working class in the absence of a revolutionary political party. This factor is sharpening the desire of the revolutionaries to organize the masses of unorganized workers. Generated by and along with the growing economic and political crisis is the rising militant struggle of the women, and especially the working class women, for their equality. This political and economic crisis is also having a strong effect on the youth. For many years there has not been a militant youth movement in this country and under these conditions there is a real need for a proper organizational forum for the special struggle of the young people.

Of great importance is the position of the various separatist movements in the USNA. Over the past three years the masses of the people have become disillusioned with the promises of the various separatists as a method of resolving the acute problems of discrimination and oppression in all fields of life. All the pump-priming on the part of the government has failed and will continue to fail to revive the nationalist orientations that have hindered the unity of the most oppressed and exploited elements of the working class.

Since this was a Conference of Marxist-Leninists, the overriding theme was the deepening crisis of and the struggle against revisionism. Enmeshed in a web of contradictions, led by inept and bungling renegades from Marxism, the CPUSA today does not represent a revolutionary force and no revolutionary will remain in such a party! In the main, these are the factors that prepared the soil

for the success of the Conference.

It is necessary for the Comrades to fully assess the role of the CL in the Conference. First of all, the activities of the comrades during the Conference was clear proof that the line of the CL on Party Building is correct. That line basically states that education is the principle political task in this period of party building. The fact that comrades from all sections of the country boldly and tirelessly fought for exactly the same line and policy is clear proof of the political nature of Marxist education. Without such education the truly heroic efforts of the comrades to

United Farmworkers' Union Rural Proletariat Organizes

Coachella, California is the scene of an intense class struggle between capital and labor, which has taken the form of two trade-unions in a fight over who will represent the rural proletariat, the farm workers--against the employers, the rich agricultural capitalists.

For years, the rural proletariat has been one of the most exploited and oppressed sections of the USNA working class. However, in the Southwest, the oppression has had a double edge because of the national question. Most of the workers and migrant laborers are of Mexican descent. If the workers get too organized for struggle, the state machinery of the USNA steps in and starts massive deportations. If there is a successful strike, the motion is the other way: labor is brought in to scab the fields and try to break down the workers' militancy.

But the laws governing economics and social development cannot be ignored. Confronted with the harsh labor conditions imposed upon them by the growers, the proletariat is militant in demanding their right to organize. In fact the whole history of the struggle to build the Southwest, has been accomplished off the labour, sweat and blood of the rural proletariat. The farm workers do not accept the status quo, but have always struggled against their exploitation and oppression.

Through long battles and organizational drives, broken unions and strikes, the high point of struggle was the formation of the United Farmworkers Organizing Committee in the 1960's. From this the

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guarantee the conference would have been impossible.

The correctness of the Bolshevik fractional method of work greatly contributed to the Conference. This style of work allows the League to place its fractions in every important area of activity. It, thus, helped to provide the necessary base for the Conference amongst different sections of the class.

Our tasks today are clear. It was at just such a juncture in the history of the Soviet Union that Lenin called upon the Communists to "win the vanguard of the proletariat to the cause of Communism." This is our task. The vanguard of the proletariat today is the unemployed, the unskilled and semi-skilled workers, who are more and more being thrown into the fight against capitalism and all its evils. If the Communist League is

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Conference Resolution

The presiding Committee of the Conference of North American Marxist-Leninists proposes that a Continuations Committee be formed. This Continuations Committee is to be composed of all the organizations represented on the presiding committee, and all other organizations who support the general line of the conference to build a Communist Party in the USNA.

The Continuations Committee will have the responsibility to publish a Draft Program of a Communist Party within 4 to 6 months. The Continuations Committee will have the additional responsibility to organize a founding Congress of the Communist Party of the United States of North America within one year.

The Continuations Committee of the Conference of North American Marxist-Leninists calls upon all Marxist-Leninists and honest revolutionaries to unite around this resolution and build a Communist Party in the United States of North America.

The time has come for the Proletariat of the United States of North America to have its Marxist-Leninist Communist Party. It will have its party.

El Comité
Communist Collective of the
Chicano Nation
New Voice
Communist League
Detroit Committee to Support
the Conference
N. Carolina Marxist-Leninist
Cadre
Resistencia Puertorriqueña
Puerto Rican Socialist Revolutionary Party

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to continue to contribute to the process of party building then it must rest on this slogan. Far from allowing diffusion to creep into the League under the guise of preparing to join in the creation of a new Party, the League must in all its aspects tighten its education and activity. Before the convening of the Congress, the League must learn how to act as a political party, rather than a league of Communists. This is the summation of all our tasks in the immediate period.

All that we have struggled for since the 16th Convention of the CPUSA in 1956 - the convention that signaled the victory of revisionism at home and abroad - is at hand; i.e., the inevitable formation of a real Communist Party, a Party that will be as advanced over the revisionist CPUSA as was the Bolshevich Party over the old Social Democratic parties.

It is clear that a new stage in the history of our country is here. The deepening of the crisis of capitalism, at home and abroad, provides the objective context for us to make our contribution - first in the formation of a party of the proletariat and finally in the victory of Communism in our country.