

OFFICIAL BULLETIN

OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF AMERICA

(SECTION OF THE COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL)

No. 2

Issued by the Central Executive Committee

No. 2

SOME IMPORTANT C. E. C. DECISIONS

Some of the miscellaneous decisions of the Central Executive Committee during the past two months are as follows:

Sub-committees have been elected to investigate and report on the question of participation in the coming elections, on the Irish question, on the Negro question. These sub-committees are now at work.

Transfers To Russia

Until further notice no membership certificates will be issued for Soviet Russia, except in special cases (such as party couriers)

Ex Soldiers Organizations

Members are encouraged to join Ex-Soldiers organizations, particularly those composed of privates, and to form nuclei within for conducting our propaganda. The formation of such nuclei should be reported through Party channels.

Harry Wicks

The recommendation of an investigating committee that Harry Wicks shall not be admitted to the Party was approved. The information proves him to be absolutely undesirable within the Party ranks.

International Delegates

Baldwin was elected to represent the American section on the Executive Committee of the C. I. Marshall has instructions to return immediately after the adjournment of the Third Congress. The others are to return after the conclusion of the Congress of the Red Trade Union International.

C. E. C. Organization

The Central Executive Committees has organized itself as follows:

Executive Sec'y Carr
Assistant Sec'y Dow
Technical Mgr. Ray
Editor Wheat
Associate Editor Curtis
Librarian Lewis
Industrial Org. Griffith
Legal Department (—)

The principle of Departmentalization has been adopted by the C. E. C., and the following permanent departments have been instituted:

a) Secretarial Dow, Carr, Ray
b) Editorial .. Wheat, Curtis, Paul
c) Industrial Griffith, Curtis, Golden
d) Educational Lewis, Paul, Kelley
e) Legal (—) (—) (—)

The method of procedure is that all matters come first to the Secretarial Department. This departmental committee dispose of them, or refers them to the proper department for action, without bringing them first to the C. E. C. as a whole.

On all questions of which the departmental committees are unanimous, they have full power to act within the decisions and declared policies of the C. E. C., while all question on which they can not agree, and all

questions of party policy, come before the Committee as a whole for decision.

Only such matters are brought before the C. E. C. as a whole as have been previously considered by the departmental committees. Every proposition that is laid before the C. E. C. must be accompanied by specific questions or recommendations for action.

The departmental committees meet at least twice a week.

It will facilitate the work if communications involving the activities of different departments are written on separate sheets of paper.

65 Tailors

A group of Comrades with machinery for setting up complete factory, are anxious to go to Soviet Russia. The C. E. C. can not grant their application. All such applications must go to Soviet Russia for instructions.

S. P. Left Wing

Representatives of the C. E. C. have had a conference with some "Left Wingers." The report is that these are still opposed to our form of organization, and that they do not yet understand our program. The C. E. C. adopted the recommendation of this committee that articles should appear in all our papers dealing with the S. P., and that our units should make special efforts to get this literature into the hands of the S. P. membership.

Allen And Raphael

A motion to re-admit Allen and Raphael to the party was lost (see later decision of C. E. C.)

Bohemian And Jewish

It is reported that both the Bohemian and Jewish Federations of the Socialist party have decided to split away from the S. P. because of its attitude toward the Third International. Special effort must now be made at once by all affiliations to supply the membership of these Federations with our literature.

D. E. Cs.

According to the provisions of the new Constitution the District Executive Committees consist of the District organizer, the Subdistrict organizers, and five members elected by the District conventions. These D. E. Cs., so constituted, should take office immediately after the District conventions, replacing the temporary district committees which consisted of the organizers of the two parties.

Change In Dues

The plan of dues payment adopted by the convention took effect July first, according to C. E. C. decision. This means that no more payments of dues shall be made through federation channels. All payments of dues and assessments of all language groups must come through the regular party channels, Section, Subdistrict and District.

NOTICE

This issue of the Bulletin was delayed due to the press of business upon the editorial committee and the proposed changes in the party press with the consequent failure to establish a definite policy. The delay in the holding of the District Conferences and the language conferences and the necessity for the CEC to work out policy for the Legal activities department and other important issues made it impossible to have issued the Bulletin at an earlier date. Future issues of the "Bulletin" will be published by the Secretarial Department, and will appear at least twice a month.

The rate of sixty cents a month took effect on the same date, and applies equally to men and women.

If either husband or wife, or both, are unable to pay dues, they may be exempt by action of the Branch Executive Committee. Such exempt members must be reported by the group captain as being in good standing.

Y. C. L.

The Young Communist League, which had been organized by the U. C. P. is continued, and the Young Communist nuclei which had been developed by the C. P. within the I. Y. P. S. L. are to merge with it immediately. Two members of the nuclei have been added to the Executive Committee of the Y. C. L.

Did You Get It?

The Official Organ for August came out over two weeks ago. Every member should purchase a copy at ten cents. If you have not had an opportunity yet to get it, please kick and kick hard through party channels until you receive what you want.

Change In C. E. C.

On June 30th the written resignation of Comrade Post was presented to the C. E. C. and accepted. Comrade Lewis, one of the alternates elected by the Convention, was chosen to take his place.

Representative Of C. I.

Comrade Staley, who was sent by the C. I. to act as impatrial chairman at the convention, has at last arrived. He carried credentials signed by both Marshall and Andrew and made an extensive report on Press, legal activities, trade union work and propaganda slogans. He said that it is the opinion of the C. I. that an English Daily should be established here, that legal activities should be conducted on a much larger scale, that more intensive work should be done in the trade unions and that our slogans regarding armed insurrection should not be stressed in the

propaganda to reach the masses at the present time. He has been added to the editorial staff.

Districts

The party has been divided into nine Districts. The Districts lines follow with a few exceptions those of the former C. P. except that three new districts have been created in the West. The old U. C. P. Ds 2 and D 5, and D 9 has been divided among the St. Louis and San Francisco Districts.

Each Districts has a paid District organizer. Districts 1, 3, 6 have one paid sub-district organizer each. District 2 and 6 each have two paid SDOs and District 5 has three. In addition to these nineteen paid organizers twenty two other subdistrict organizers have been appointed in the six eastern districts. The recommendations for sub-district organizers in the three western districts have not yet been made.

On Divulging Information.

The CEC has adopted the following motion:

"No decision of the CEC shall be divulged until it is given out by the Executive Secretary, unless a member is instructed to do so, by the CEC."

Federation Organizers.

By a vote of the CEC, Federation Bureaus are instructed to submit names of all their organizers for the approval of the CEC, as provided in the Constitution, and no Federation Organizer shall have official status until so approved.

This does not mean, however, that all the work must stop, ~~pending~~ ~~its~~ approval. The work should continue and all the Branches should co-operate in it.

It is the duty of all Party officials to transmit resolutions and communications from the lower Party units to the higher Party units to which they are addressed, no matter whether they themselves approve of the contents of the communications or not.

The Convention instructed the CEC to issue a Manifesto, based on the Party program. It has been decided to defer the publication of the Manifesto until the return of our delegates from the International Congress.

Wheat has been elected editor of the Official Organ, The Communist, and Curtis associate editor. It will appear once a month. The Bulletin is to be issued hereafter by the Secretarial Department. Golden has resigned from the editorship of Paper No. 2. Wheat was elected to act as editor-in-chief.

In regard to a statement sent out by the former Executive Secretary, comrade Dow, regarding his resignation, the CEC adopted the following:

"First, to approve the action of comrade Carr in ordering the immediate withdrawal of Dow's statement as to his resignation. Second, to censure Dow for circulating unauthorized statements, the effect of which could only be harmful to the Party. That the Russian Federation be informed that their protest is unfounded, because it is based on misinformation."

Entering the Elections

Details as to how to proceed in the coming

elections are being communicated through Party channels.

Speakers for whom regular tours are arranged under the legal dept., must have the approval of the CEC. Local Party committees may approve local speakers for special meetings, submitting their names to the CEC for future work. All speakers are to speak in conformity with the policies laid down by the CEC.

S. P. LEFT WING

Some members of the Left Wing, who

have recently withdrawn from the S. P. have submitted certain propositions to the CEC. A sub-committee has been elected to draw up a reply.

No CEC member shall accept any position on local committees.

REINSTATEMENTS

All former CP or UCP members who were suspended, expelled or denied membership in either of the former two Parties on account of differences of opinion on the unity issue, shall be reinstated with full membership, on application to the Party.

REPORT OF EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE

Committees For Control Of Educational Work

The C. E. C. shall create an educational department consisting of three members which shall assist and coordinate the educational work of the Districts.

The District Educational work shall be in charge of a committee of three appointed by the District Executive Committee. They shall assist and coordinate the work of the Sub-Districts and make regular reports of the educational activities of the District to the National educational Department.

The Sub-District Committee shall appoint a committee to take charge of the Educational work of the Sub-District. They shall organize the teaching staff and assist in organizing and conducting classes. They shall regularly report their activities to the District Educational Committee.

Aim Of Communist Education

Communist Education aims to better equip the members of the C. P. and thru them the working class, to more efficiently perform their duty in the revolutionary struggle. It seeks to give the members a knowledge of the Communist Program—to acquaint them with the task of the proletariat and the role of the Communist Party—to give them an understanding of the Marxian Philosophy, that they might better direct the struggle of the workers; to produce teachers, propagandists and other trained workers for the cause of Communism; and to assist the more vigorous minded and more promising members to positions of leadership.

What To Teach

To achieve this aim, the Party must organize classes in the essentials and higher aspects of Communism, Communist organization, and American Trade Unionism. For the present the educational work among the membership must be devoted mainly to the organizing and conducting of classes in the essentials of Communism. "The ABC of Communism by Bucharin," now published in English, will serve excellently as a textbook. As the educational work progresses and as a need manifests itself, the Party should prepare courses in the "History and Function of the State," Marxian Political Economy and Philosophy" History and Lessons of Revolutions—1870—1920 History of Trade unions, etc. using such texts as are already available for the purpose or preparing lectures and outlines where texts cannot be found.

Class Organization

Classes should consist from 15—20 depending upon facilities available. In larger Sub-Districts, classes should be organized upon

the basis of sections. In the smaller Sub-Districts it may not be possible to organize classes consisting of members of sections. Inter-section or Sub-District classes should be formed. The Sub-District should organize the teaching staff and provide teachers upon request of the respective units.

Each class should elect a secretary who shall keep account of each session, reporting to the teacher on blanks especially prepared for the purpose.

These reports should be forwarded thru the party channels to the District Educational Director who shall report on blanks provided for the purpose.

Our party is faced with a lack of teachers. In this respect we suffer in common with the entire Communist movement. The old theoreticians, lecturers and experienced educators have remained with the Social Democratic parties. The Socialist Party of America never could boast of any great number of Marxian students and educators. Hence there are within our ranks very few comrades that can conduct classes. The formation of an adequate and capable pedagogic personal is the work of time and will be the fruit of a well organized educational system.

The Sub-Districts should issue a call for teachers, making it plain that the candidates need not be experts—if they have had some experience in teaching one or more of the Socialist classics or if they believe they can with assistance direct a class they should volunteer. The Educational Committee should then organize them into groups of 10—15 forming "teachers circles." The teachers should co-operate with each other in the work of teaching, exchanging experiences, taking up methods, aids, special studies etc. New circles should be formed of new candidates to which should be transferred some of the experienced teachers. The new candidates should be given assignments in the text in order to be prepared to take a class upon call.

The Educational Department should foster an interest in educational matters among the teachers. It should advise them of methods, aids, new books, valuable reference books dealing with their subjects. At the earliest possible time it should prepare a bibliography of Communism, and a Manual for teaching the ABC of Communism." It should also attempt to have the best works of the Communist International translated. Lenin's Imperialism—the Last Stage of Capitalism will be issued immediately.

Party School

When funds permit. A party School should be established to which comrades showing ability in organizational and educational work may be sent from the various districts for special training.

Research Bureau

The Research Bureau should also be of great aid to the teachers in furnishing information regarding the social, economic and political conditions of the country of which all teachers should be well informed.

Method Of Teaching

The best method of teaching is the short lecture by the teacher based upon a section of the text book which the student has read prior to the lesson, followed by discussion, criticism, objections in which all students should be encouraged to take part. The Pure Lecture system is sterile—"the student hears, listens, and goes home." The Communist method must provide for active co-operation between those who teach and those who are being taught. "The teacher must listen to all objections, to all ideas, must in common with the students examine every one of them as to whether they fit in with our fundamental principles and thus enable the students to pass correct judgment. This method of allowing for discussion is by no means easy for the teacher. It even asks more of him than any other method, for the danger of debate getting into shallow waters and being sterile, or even losing itself altogether, is an ever-present danger, and can be kept off only by one possessing an undisputed superiority of the matter in question." The teacher must therefore come fully prepared for the lesson, with his lecture outline in advance and questions previously prepared. The Educational Department will aid the teacher in every way in preparing outlines, references, supplementary data and questions.

Inexperienced teachers may find it hard to use the Lecture-Textbook method. Reading of the text in class supplemented by explanation and amplification by the teacher may be substituted. This method does not give as satisfactory results as the other. It encourages laziness on the part of the student and teacher, makes for emphasis of unimportant points doing away with the comprehensive summary of essential matter which is gained from the lecture and leads to unorganized and disconnected discussion.

The time of class study should be about two hours, which should be equally divided between the lecture or reading, and the discussion, review of previous lesson, quiz etc. The teacher should induce the students to read as much as possible and should devote a few minutes of the class time to socialist classics, supplementary works, interesting current reading etc.

Group Discussion

There is always some time left after business matters have been disposed of by the group for some educational work. The time and nature of the group, however does not permit it to conduct a sustained course of study. The group should use this time for "current events discussions." For the present and immediate future the work of the Third Congress of the Communist International should be discussed. The Group should designate a comrade to lead the discussion. The Educational Department should provide all material necessary for the discussion.

Education of Workers in General

This phase of our educational activities falls within the scope of legal work. The legal bodies of the Sub-Districts should aim to establish classes in various parts of the Sub-District under the auspices of the legal body—say the name of the legal organization is XYZ—the classes could be conducted, wherever practicable, under the name of the XYZ educational or Marxian society.

These classes should not be started in preference to classes of party members. For the present the energies of the teachers and the educational committees should be devoted mainly to successfully organizing and conducting classes in the essentials of Communism for party members.

The subjects of study should be the Class Struggle, Capitalism. The State, History of Labor movement, American Social History, etc. using the Socialist Classics, Wm. Paul's "The State," Hoxie's "Trade Unionism in America", Simons "Social Forces in America" and other works as text-books. The Educational Department should work these courses out fully, giving the essential points to be taken up in each, and suggesting text-books, etc. The aim of these courses, it should be remembered, is not to produce pedants or academicians, but more aggressive and more intelligent fighters in the revolutionary struggle.

The method of study should be similar to that outlined for classes of party members.

The instructors for these classes should be provided by the Teachers Circles.

Education In Trade Unions

Wherever our nuclei control the educational work of the union—they should call upon our legal educational bodies for speakers, teachers, lecturers etc. The members of the Teachers Circles should be prepared to deliver talks to unions. The legal educational Committees should co-operate with the Industrial Organizer in this work.

Sympathizers Discussion Meetings

Our nuclei hold meetings with sympathizers. At these meetings, there should be organized discussion of the problems of the Unions. The Industrial Organizer together with the Educational Committee should prepare topics for these gatherings. The active members of the nuclei could open these discussions. The aim should be to drive one point home at a time. The nuclei members should ask themselves, "what do we want to teach sympathizers to day"? and having decided, to discuss this point from every angle so that the sympathizers are fully convinced. This method will make for more interesting meetings and will prevent diffused talks and purposeless discussions.

Report of the Industrial Department of the C E C

In accordance with the decision of the C. E. C. every member eligible to join a labor union must do so by October 30, 1921. If ineligible to join a labor union, he or she should join some workers organization, so that the party through its nuclei may establish contact with the organized working masses.

Members should at once initiate the organization of party nuclei in the unions. Do not wait until someone comes along to organize

you. Get together with the sympathizers in your union and get in touch with the Industrial Department in your District or Sub-district, through regular party channels.

Unemployment

The industrial crisis which we are now going through will become more extensive and intense as the months go by, due to the break down of the economic machinery of the capitalist system.

Due to the unemployment situation capitalism's grip upon labor is being strengthened. The C. P. is the only force which is able to take the initiative and give leadership to a powerful radical movement to reconstruct the labor unions and enable them to resist the formidable onslaught of the capitalists.

The unemployment situation must be utilized as a lever to overthrow the corrupt bureaucracy in the unions, bring our message to the masses, and line up the sympathizers with us, organizing them into a powerful machine to develop new leadership for the masses.

What To Do

All members belonging to trade unions should organize themselves into rank and file unemployment committees, getting together with the sympathizers. In those labor unions where our nuclei are strong, they should pass a motion to elect such committees, which should in name of the union call an unemployed conference of all labor unions and workers organizations, including of course such unemployment organizations as are already in existence. In such conference our caucus will have a slate for an executive committee of the conference and should assure itself of at least a majority.

The executive committee shall connect up with our Unemployment Headquarters. Meeting should be arranged preferably in union halls and open air, this work should be financed by the affiliated bodies. The Unemployment Conference should strive to centralize all unemployment activities. All bourgeois charity schemes should be exposed.

When the unemployment conference has won the endorsement of the progressive unions, when it has developed sufficient strength, unemployment demonstrations should be carefully planned and held. These may take various forms according to the circumstances.

Immediate Program

Demand maintenance of the unemployed by local, state or federal government, at trade union rate of wages, or immediate employment at full trade union rates.

Free distribution of food to families of unemployed to prevent starvation.

Organized resistance to eviction for non-payment of rent by unemployed.

Immediate trade relations with and recognition of Soviet Russia.

Soviet Russia Famine Relief

All C. P. nuclei in the unions should at once exert all their energy to getting their respective unions to send delegates to the conference designated by the party to carry on the work for the relief of Soviet Russia.

ACTIVITIES AMONG NEGROES

A manifesto and a number of bulletins have been issued and circulated at the international Negro conference which is being held in New York City. Branches having prospective Negro recruits should send for this literature.

U. C. P. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

U. C. P. ITEMIZED STATEMENT OF INCOME FOR APRIL AND MAY, 1921.

The following is a financial statement of former UCP books for the period of April 1 to June 1, 1921, as testified to by the Auditing Committee elected by the Unity Convention. For the period of December 1, 1920 to April 1, 1921, UCP books were audited and signed to by UCP Auditing Committee. CP Books were audited and signed to by CP Auditing Committee to May 14, 1921, and statement was read and accepted at Convention, therefore not audited by this committee.

A B C	147.00
May Day Stemps ..	1,417.70
E L O	957.13
Miscell.	3,525.57
Old Acc't	107.00
Loan (Grey)	1,050.00

April & May Total. \$21,507.50 \$21,507.50

April & May total income plus bal. forward	\$30,734.82
April & May total expense as per attached	20,797.87

June 1, 1921 Balance.... \$9,936.95

JUNE 1st BALANCE ACCOUNTED FOR AS FOLLOWS:

Balances in Distr. offices as per statement	\$2,584.51
Execsec. Cash balance turned over to united P	296.70
Juplica	800.00
Treasury	4,120.00
N. D. C.	819.05
L. O.	1,316.69
Total:	\$9,936.95

Cash in N. O., L. O., N. D. C., Treas. and Juplica plus total balances with DOS on April 1, 1921 \$9,227.32

INCOME DURING APRIL AND MAY.

Dues	\$5,235.60
Initiation	492.00
Organization	500.50
Defense	2,141.02
Official Organ	1,239.92
Literature	2,310.39
Red A	152.00
C. Sat.	2,158.90

U. C. P. ITEMIZED STATEMENT OF EXPENSE FOR APRIL AND MAY, 1921.

District Wages	\$4,261.00
R. R. Fares	761.51
Exp. All	244.34
Rent	241.00
Office Exp.	440.99
Miscell.	1,028.31
Unity Conv.	2,157.85
E. L. O.	862.96
Defense	1,473.73
Del.	976.92
Dist. Conv.	272.17
N. O. Ptg.	2,169.45
Int. Rel.	450.00
Org. Exp.	31.00
Ed. Wages	310.00
Ed. Rent	65.00
CEC Wages	2,345.00
Exp. All N. O.	189.00
R. R. Fares	75.00
Miscell.	33.13

Adm. Wages	420.00
Adm. Office Exp.	275.10
Adm. Rent	296.81
J L O	10.00
Relief	70.00
Sundries	1,337.60

Total Exp. ... \$20,797.87
 Total District Income for April and May 1921 \$21,180.26
 Total District Expense for April and May 1921 12,878.70

Balance

Remitted to N. O. during April and May 1921	5,717.05
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Total balance on hand in District offices \$2,584.51

RECAPITULATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENT of UCP BOOKS April 1 to June 1, 1921.

CARRIED FORWARD FROM MARCH	
Cash balance in the various depts. of Party handling funds	\$9,227.32
INC. during April and May	\$21,507.50
Expense during April and May	\$20,797.87
	<u>\$709.63</u> 709.63

June 1, 1921 Balance .. \$9,936.95

JUNE 1st BALANCE ACCOUNTED FOR AS FOLLOWS:

Balance in District offices as per itemized statement by Districts	\$2,584.51
Execsec. Cash balance turned into united Party	296.70
Juplica	800.00
Treas.	4,120.00
N D C	819.05
L. O.	1,316.69
Total:	\$9,936.95

N. O. CASH STATEMENT.

Balance forward from March. \$1,384.77
 Recvd in April \$3,330.99
 Recvd in May \$3,491.06

\$6,822.05 \$6,822.05

\$8,206.82

Expense in April .. \$3,411.34
 Expensive in May \$4,498.78

\$7,910.12 \$7,910.12

Balance on hand June 1 . \$296.70

(The publication of the above statement was delayed because many of the UCP records were lost in the raids the last of April and could not be replaced except by lengthy correspondence with the Districts.)

Changes In Press.

The editorial department submitted to the C. E. C. which adopted same the following changes in the party official organs: That the Communist and the Bulletin be combined and issued at last once a month under the name of "The Communist" which will contain the matter now being published in the Bulletin together with such articles and discussion of party affairs as cannot be published in the legal organs. All articles now appearing in the Communist to be published in a twelve page legal weekly paper which is to be the national legal expression of the party and designed to reach a wider field than is possible with the present underground organ. Comrade Wheat has been elected editor of this new paper which is to replace the old C. P. paper No. 2. This paper is to have an associate editor and an assistant and will cover the whole field of political propaganda and agitation.

A DAY'S WAGE CONTRIBUTION

Every member is to contribute one day's wage during the month of September, to the Party treasury. Members who are out of work are to contribute one day's time to collecting funds from sympathizers.

The present condition of the party treasury can be seen at a glance from financial reports published in this issue of the Bulletin. The tremendous tasks now confronting the party can only be successfully carried out with the wholehearted support of every comrade. No funds from outside sources are available. The task of financing the party work devolves upon the members themselves. The CEC expects every member to exert themselves as never before to raise the necessary funds for carrying on the communist work in this country. The fact that many of our members are unemployed and cannot assist financially, makes it all the more imperative that our comrades who are working must make up for those who cannot afford to contribute. Meanwhile our unemployed comrades should put in as much of their time as possible collecting funds from our close sympathizers thousands of whom would be glad of an opportunity to contribute something toward helping in the work of the party.