

The How and Why of Party Fractions

By JAY LOVESTONE.

QUESTION 1: What is a party fraction?

Answer: A party fraction is a group of two or more party members belonging to a non-party workers' or poor farmers' organization or functioning for a time in a special body. These members work together as a unit for the general purpose of spreading propaganda and increasing the party's influence and for the specific purpose of carrying out special party policies in the particular organization in question.

Question 2: What are examples of such non-party workers' and poor farmers' organizations?

Answer: Typical workers' and poor farmers' organizations where party fractions should be organized are: The trade unions, co-operatives, educational, benefit and cultural societies, ex-soldiers' organizations, factory councils, unemployment councils, and conferences and conventions of labor and poor farm organizations.

Communists who are members of municipal, county, state or national legislative or administrative councils and assemblies also organize themselves into such party fractions.

Question 3: How do the party fractions function?

Answer: All party fractions get together before the meetings of the organizations in which they function to discuss and consider the various questions that are to come up at the sessions of these organizations. Once a decision is made in a fraction, all the party members in the non-party organization must work and vote together as an absolute unit. Any comrade who violates this procedure is subject to party discipline in accordance with the provisions of the constitution.

Question 4: How are the party fractions organized?

Answer: All party fractions elect their own officers subject to the approval of the leading party committee in the section in which they function. Thus, a district fraction committee functions under the direction of the party district executive committee a sub-district fraction committee works under the direction of the particular sub-district committee of the party and so on down the line.

The officers of the various party fractions are responsible to the party fractions and to the respective party committees.

In order to facilitate co-operation and to insure the greatest results in work the party leading committees may send representatives to the various party fractions and may call upon these fractions to send representatives to the sessions of the respective party committees when there is a consideration of questions which concern the party fractions.

Question 5: What is a language fraction?

Answer: A language fraction is a party fraction consisting of those party members who, before reorganization, belonged to one of the former language sections of the party. In a language fraction are found those comrades who are members of a shop or street nucleus, who speak a certain language and who function together as a unit in a newly organized workers' club or in any other already existing workingmen's organization of a particular nationality.

Question 6: What are the functions of language fractions?

Answer: The language fraction is only an auxiliary agency of the party for the purpose of carrying on the party's general and special activities among the workers of a particular nationality. In the language fractions

are found only those who pay their dues to the party thru membership in a shop or street nucleus.

No language fraction is allowed to collect dues. With the permission of the Central Executive Committee, language fractions may launch campaigns among the workers of their particular nationality to raise funds for their activities. In order to help the language fractions carry on their activities in their special fields, the Central Executive Committee will provide monthly appropriations on the basis of the dues received.

Question 7: How are the language fractions organized?

Answer: There is no fast and hard rule as to how the language fraction units are to be organized. We should always be guided by the need for the most efficient methods of working in the ranks of the proletariat of a particular nationality.

If the language fractions of a particular nationality are numerous and strong enuf we may have sub-section language fraction committees as well as section language fraction committees to direct the activities of these comrades among the workers of their nationality in the territory under consideration. In cases where there is more than one sub-section language fraction in a special section, then the members of these sub-section language fraction. In cities where there are several sections, the members of the various language fractions meet in January and July to elect language fractions city committees.

District conferences consisting of delegates representing the various language fractions are to be held annually for the purpose of electing a district language fraction executive committee, subject to the approval of the district executive committee of the party.

If the Central Executive Committee of the party thinks it necessary, it may permit the holding of national conferences of delegates representing the language fractions of a particular nationality. These conferences may elect a national language bureau subject to the approval of the Central Executive Committee of the party. In those cases where no national language fraction conference is held, the Central Executive Committee of the party will appoint a special national language fraction bureau to direct and unify the party's activities among the workers of a particular nationality.

Thus, we see that all the needs for the efficient carrying on of Communist activities among the working masses of a particular nationality are very well taken care of by the above system of language fraction organization. The menace of party decentralization and language federation autonomy is completely removed. In fact, the centralized character of this system of language fraction organization insures far better results than the old federation system ever could achieve.

PARTY MEMBERSHIP ON UNITY AND TR

The national office has received of arrangements in a number of cities the near future on party unification work. These meetings are to be ad Central Executive Committee.

The following cities have reported arrangements:

Detroit, Mich.—December 4, 8 p. m.

Buffalo, N. Y.—December 6, 2 p. m.

Boston, Mass.—December 8, 8 p. m.

Cleveland, Ohio—December 19, 8

Clear avenue.

Admission to these meetings by

All comrades must attend.