

Pkt. 9

#5  
EK/Tr. Russian.  
8716/5.  
14.8.34.

ОКОНЧАТЕЛЬНЫЙ ТИПОТ

Confidential.LETTER TO THE CC CP ECUADOR.

(Confirmed by the Polit-Commission of the ECCI,  
Minutes No. 391, July 27, 1934).

Organisational Tasks of the OPE.

The development of the revolutionary upsurge in Ecuador is taking place alongside the extreme weaknesses of the OPE. Although the OPE is going along the path of consolidating its contacts with the masses, improving its political positions, it has nevertheless not yet become a real proletarian party, either in composition, or in ideology, and has by no means achieved real class independence in its policy. Some Party organisations were able to set up contacts (not very firm and insufficiently strengthened) with the working masses (e.g. in Guayaquil) and peasantry (especially in Milagro), but on the whole the OPE shows considerable passivity both in the work in the factories and in village work. In spite of the decisions of the unity conference, the OPE still continues to be a conglomerate of organisations extremely weakly connected among themselves.

The main tasks at the present time are to convert the OPE into a real proletarian party, which is ideologically, politically and organisationally independent of the ruling classes and to win the leadership of the struggle of the broad toiling masses. For this purpose an end must be put to the unprincipled group struggle, which at the present time is the main hindrance for the further growth of the OPE. Every member of the OPE must in practice struggle for the real unity of the Party on a genuine Communist platform and not merely for formal unity. It is necessary to ensure that Party decisions will be unquestionably obeyed and that their fulfilment in practice will be checked up on.

The CC must work out practical measures on the following questions and see that they are carefully discussed in the whole Party:

1) It is necessary: a) to transfer the centre of Party work to the factories, creating factory cells, primarily at the most important factories and the main branches of industry; b) that the factory cells carry on the most active work among the masses, acting as the organisers and leaders of the struggle for their daily interests, not limiting themselves only to general political agitation and propaganda; they should put forward concrete partial demands and link them up with the general slogans of the CP; c) to begin systematic work in the trade unions, taking the initiative of creating trade unions in the most important branches of industry where there are no trade unions and simultaneously creating a revolutionary opposition in the hostile mass trade unions, striving to win them over under the leadership of the OPE; to form Communist fractions in the trade unions; in this connection the trade union work of the Communists in the factories must be directed by the Party cell; d) to start forming "Unemployed Committees" in various industrial centres and to prepare the convening of the district and national unemployed conferences; e) to prepare and develop the mass struggle for economic and political demands on the basis of the

tactics of the united front; to invite all the organised and un-organised workers, irrespective of their political views, to participate in the struggle for these demands, electing the organs of leadership of the struggle on the basis of the united front at mass meetings, drawing the trade unions and other mass workers and peasants organisations into the struggle, to expose the treacherous role of our enemies concretely, in practice, by facts during the mass struggles.

2) It is necessary: a) to create a series of CP cells in the villages, and using as a base point the Party organisation in Milagro, which has already some experience of work in the villages and has been able to make relatively wide contacts with the peasants; to carefully study the experience of the village work of the comrades in Milagro, not allowing the peasant organisations to be used in the interests of the "oppositional" bourgeois-landlord elements, no matter under what "left" phrases they hide themselves; to ruthlessly expose and isolate from the masses the various "liberal Caudillos", bourgeois lawyers, etc., who are trying to lead the peasant organisations, but not allowing the mass peasant organisations to collapse; b) to begin to work on the formation of a series of peasant committees and "Leagues of the Revolutionary Peasants", first of all there where the CPE already has some contacts with the peasants (e.g. in Milagro), also striving to draw the agricultural workers into them and form Communist fractions, which without trying to domineer, must by systematic work try to get hold of the leadership of these organisations; c) to place at the basis of the work of the Party and peasant organisations the struggle for partial demands, paying special attention to the defence of the nationally oppressed Indian peasants; to conduct mass actions (meetings, demonstrations, "marches to the city", etc.), on the basis of wide united front, leading the peasants to the revolutionary struggle for land and for Soviet power; d) to make contacts with the peasant insurgent detachments, to place worker Communists into their ranks, and to lead them to the revolutionary struggle against the landlords (confiscation of the reserves of the landlords and their distribution among the peasants, liquidation of the police of the landlords, etc.) and to aim at their close contacts with the mass movement of the peasants.

3) It is necessary to support all the mass actions of the Indian toiling masses, directed against the white Creole landlords, bourgeoisie and foreign capital, no matter under whose leadership they take place; to propose joint action to all the mass Indian organisations, working out a list of economic and political demands and linking these demands up with the general tasks of the struggle for the national liberation of the Indians; to take an active part in the Indian mass movement, even in cases when the Indian masses are still fighting under the leadership of the Caciques of the Indian tribes and communities, etc.; urging these leaders on to a revolutionary path and exposing in practice the possible disruption of the unity of the revolutionary struggle and various forms of treachery by them; if such take place, taking the agricultural workers and poor peasants in the communities primarily as a basis, acting as the most energetic fighters for the economic and political interests of the Indian masses - the CPE will thus create the conditions for winning the hegemony of the proletariat in the Indian national revolutionary movement.

4) Finally, it is necessary to start to work in the army and to elect a group of comrades for this work, putting forward partial demands in defence of the mass of the soldiers, linking up the struggle for these demands with the struggle of the workers, peasants and Indians, and when soldiers are sent to suppress the workers' strikes, the peasants' movements and the actions of the Indians, organise their fraternisation with the workers, peasants and Indians and simultaneously prepare for military units to come over to the side of the peasant insurgent bands which are operating in a number of provinces.

5) a) Not closing the doors of the Party to the best non-proletarian elements (intelligentsia, students, etc.), who have shown in practice their devotion to Communism, drawing into the ranks of the Party the most active and revolutionary peasants, primarily we must strive to draw into the CPE workers - particularly from the important factories in the main branches of industry, and also the toilers of the Indian and Negro nationalities;

b) To create a wide strata of Party functionaries, who will participate in the discussion of all the main questions of Party work, who will assist in the fulfilment of the current tasks of the Party, linking it up with the broad mass of the toilers in the city and village;

c) Communists, who have shown in practice their devotion to the Communist Party, who are closely connected with the mass of the workers and who have shown in practice their ability to lead the mass struggle, must be drawn first of all into leading Party work. Indian Communists must also be drawn into leading work. In this connection, all the comrades who have for the first time been promoted to leading work, must be given the possibility of systematically raising their political level (the organisation of special circles for the study of Marxist-Leninist theory, collective forms of work, etc.);

d) The activity of Party committees must be built on the basis of the collective work of all the members of the Party Committee, and of systematically checking up on the fulfilment of the adopted decisions;

e) In order to avoid the unwieldiness of the leading Party apparatus and to make its work operative, the CC must consist of 7-9 members, who permanently live in the capital. The CC must appoint one permanent secretary; a Polit-Bureau and Secretariat of the CC are unnecessary;

f) Enlarged meetings of the CC (together with the representatives of the district committees) should be called not less than four times a year and enlarged district committee meetings (together with the representatives of the big lower organisations), not less than 6-7 times a year, in order that the broad leading Party cadres participate in the discussion of all the questions which face the Party.

6) At the present time the CPE is semi-legal. While mobilising the masses for the struggle for legal existence, the CPE must simultaneously guarantee the work of the Party in case it becomes illegal. Therefore, the publication of illegal literature

must be seen to immediately and contacts established between the CC and the lower Party Committees, etc.

7) To this day the CPE has not taken up the question of creating a YOL organisation. Among other things, the YOL will be of great significance as the closest assistant of the OP in mobilising the broad toiling masses. The CPE must place before itself the task of forming the YOLE. For this purpose a special commission of OP members must be appointed and entrusted with the fulfilment of this work.