

Revolutionary summer camp held in New York

Upstate New York was the scene of a revolutionary summer camp last month. About 100 working class activists, including entire families and children, participated in a week-long camp sponsored by the Communist Party (M-L). Revolutionary education was carried out in a popular way, combining sports and culture with intensive political presentations and discussions.

The camp was organized politically around studying the line of the Founding Congress of the Party. In particular, each of the sections of the Political Report given to the Congress by Party Chairman Michael Klonsky was studied.

Major presentations were given on subjects such as the history of the Party, the fightback and the crisis, the trade union struggle, the international situation and the tasks of the Party in the present period.

LIVELY DISCUSSIONS

In addition, lively workshops were held which took up the discussion of the woman question, the Afro-American national question, the Puerto Rican national question, the equality of languages, the Communist Youth Organization and the youth movement, and building the National Fight Back Organization.

The camp was attended by both Party cadres and working class fighters interested in learning more about the Party and its work. All the meetings were conducted in Spanish and French as

well as English, ensuring the full participation of a number of Latino and Haitian workers who attended. Altogether six different oppressed nationalities were represented at the camp, and the spirit of proletarian internationalism characterized all the activities.

The camp was divided into brigades, which named themselves after revolutionary figures and events. Among the brigade names were the Gary Tyler Brigade, Rafael Cancel Miranda Brigade, Odis Hyde Brigade, Nanny Washburn Brigade, Janet Sloan Brigade and June 4th Brigade (taking its name from the date of the Founding Party Congress).

FRIENDLY COMPETITION

The brigades were able to carry out small group discussions after the main political presentations. In addition, friendly competition was arranged between brigades in a variety of sports events from badminton to baseball. Each brigade participated in writing songs, skits and poetry for the cultural evenings.

Running throughout the camp was the idea taken from the Political Report that the surest way to combat revisionism is to raise the political level of the Party's cadres and the masses. Everyone at the camp learned from each other, studied together and participated in criticizing revisionism and reformism within the workers' movement.

A highlight of the camp was the participation of some com-

rades from the Canadian Communist League (M-L) who spoke about the class struggle in Canada and the strong bonds of unity between U.S. and Canadian workers.

One of the other features of the camp was an excellent childcare program that children of all ages could participate in. It combined outdoor activities with culture and political discussions. After the discussions, many of the children spoke up at evening meetings of the whole camp on such subjects as freeing Gary Tyler and why the working people need to fight back against the rich. A young girl told the camp that the main thing she had learned was that "Black people will never be free under capitalism."

STUDY MARXISM

Summing up the camp, many people expressed their excitement over how much they were able to learn in the short amount of time. They spoke of their determination to take up more study of Marxism and work more actively in the struggles led by the Party. A young Afro-American woman said, "Seeing the work of the CP(M-L) I have learned that only by uniting the working class as a whole will we be able to make a revolution. We must take up the class struggle and study Marxism-Leninism."

A Puerto Rican worker said, "The great revolutionary education I got here will go with me from this room to wherever I go!"