

# Trade Union Unity Call Gives Organization Plan

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## TUEL Statement Outlines Method of Building and Financing Cleveland Convention, Aug. 31

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The call for the Trade Union Unity Convention in Cleveland, and giving practical instructions as to the organization of delegations from unions, minorities and shop committees, with a program for financing the convention to the amount of \$10,000 was issued yesterday by the Trade Union Educational League, National Office, at 2 West 15th St., New York City.

The statement is signed by the National Executive Committee of the T.U.E.L., and is addressed to "Unorganized Workers—T.U.E.L. Groups—Trade Unions." It reads as follows:

**Organize for the Trade Union Unity Convention!**

**R**ALLY for the big convention of the TRADE UNION EDUCATIONAL LEAGUE to be held in Cleveland, Ohio, August 31 to September 2! Organize your forces and elect delegates to this historic gathering! Lay the basis for a

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powerful movement to organize the millions of unorganized workers in American industry!

The pressure of capitalist exploitation upon the workers becomes ever greater and more intolerable. Speed-up, wage cuts, wretched working conditions, enforced by the terrorism of the employers and the government, are the lot of the workers. But great masses of workers, long quiescent under this intensifying exploitation, are now beginning to fight back. The heroic struggles of the textile workers in the South, especially in Gastonia, the battles of the miners, and the many manifestations of discontent in various other industries are significant signs of the new spirit of resistance and organization now developing among the workers generally.

It is the great task of the T. U. E. L. to organize and lead these discontented workers. The A. F. of L. leaders and their aides of the so-called Muste movement, aim only at taking the heart out of the resistance of the workers and, with their antiquated system of craft unionism and treacherous policy of union management cooperation, betray the workers into the hands of their class enemies, the employers. Only the Trade Union Educational League, with its policy of class struggle and industrial unionism is effectively organizing and leading these workers against the employers. The Trade Union Unity Convention in Cleveland is the great concentration point in this work of organization and struggle.

The Cleveland Convention, greeted with enthusiasm by the militant elements throughout the working class, will map out a general program. It will further the work of building industrial unions among the unorganized workers; it will unite all militant forces of the old and new unions into one coordinating center; it will organize the struggle against capitalist rationalization and for the shorter work-week, higher wages, and social insurance; it will consider the complicated problem of strike strategy; it will unite the workers' forces against the growing war danger and against the A. F. of L.—Socialist Party, trade union bureaucrats, agents of American imperialism. The Trade Union Unity Convention, with its 1,000 and more delegates, will be a rallying point for the revolutionary and progressive rank and file workers, and a landmark in the history of the American labor movement.

### How to Organize for the Convention

**T**HE Trade Union Unity Convention, to be made up of delegates from the unorganized workers, from the new revolutionary unions, and from the old trade unions must have a real mass base in order to accomplish its purposes. To rally these forces is the present vital task of the local and national groups of the T U E L and of the new unions. These groups shall immediately initiate active campaigns in their respective spheres to secure delegates from all possible local unions endorsing the general line of the convention. Every local of the new revolutionary unions should be represented. Where trade unions refuse to send delegates, representatives should be sent from the T U E L organized minority groups. Every T U E L group must at once develop the maximum activity in securing union delegates.

But the central concentration must be upon getting representation from the unorganized workers and of beginning organization work among them. The Trade Union Unity Convention will be first of all a convention of delegates from the unorganized industries. To accomplish this two-phased task, local T U E L conferences shall be called and the local T U E L committees shall meet immediately and begin work for the establishment of shop committees in the most important industries in their respective territories. This work must be gone at systematically and energetically.

The most important plants in a given city must be carefully listed and then active steps taken to hold meetings of as many as possible of the workers employed at each one. This plan should be applied to all the outlying industrial centers in the respective districts. At these shop meetings the T U E L program should be discussed, definite shop committees formed, delegates elected, and plans formulated to finance the delegations. Nothing short of such systematic work can suffice to make the convention a real success.

In building the shop committees concentration must be made upon the key and basic industries; steel, automobiles, rubber, electrical manufacturing, chemicals, railroads, meat packing, textile, etc. This is especially important as special conferences of the workers from each basic industry will also be held in Cleveland. The National Industrial Committees of the T U E L must support these local campaigns by stimulating all their connections. The new unions should do likewise, putting on organization campaigns among the unorganized in the mining, needle, shoe, food and other industries, and sending delegates to the Cleveland convention. The T U E L groups and committees, especially the local groups, must be built at once to carry on this general work.

In all this work special efforts must be made to draw Negro workers into the convention delegations and the shop committees. For this purpose local and shop conferences of Negro workers must be organized. The success of the T U E L convention will be largely measured by the extent to which it succeeds in drawing Negro workers into its delegation and the organization work it undertakes among them.

In the convention preparations Labor Unity must be given particular attention. Each T U E L group, shop committee, or local union must appoint a Labor Unity agent. A bundle order must go to every unit. Subscription campaigns must be conducted. Reports must be sent into the paper on all the activities carried on in preparation for the convention. In this way, Labor Unity can become a powerful weapon in mobilizing the workers for the convention and for revolutionary trade union struggle.

Representation to the Trade Union Unity Convention is on the following basis:

Representing a membership of less than 10 members — 1 delegate with voice but no vote.

Representing a membership of 10 to 100 — 1 delegate.

Representing a membership of 100 to 200—2 delegates.

Representing a membership of 200 to 500 — 3 delegates.

Representing a membership of 500 to 1,000 — 4 delegates.

For each additional thousand members, 1 additional delegate.

Delegates when elected should be promptly reported to the local T U E L secretaries, who shall list them on the blanks provided and send them in with regular weekly reports on the progress of the work in connection with the convention. In some cases delegates have already been elected. In such cases these elections shall stand and the delegates' names sent in to the national office in the regular manner.

### The \$10,000 Convention Fund

**T**O meet the enormous expenses of the T U E L convention will require a large sum of money, at least \$10,000. The local T U E L groups must immediately take actively in hand the work of raising this amount. This can be done by developing an energetic campaign to sell the special T U E L convention stamps to the workers in the factories, by arranging picnics and entertainments, and by such other means as the local groups may devise.

This campaign for funds must be started at once and pressed energetically if we are to finance the 1,000 and more delegates who will attend the convention. The district organizations shall be responsible for pressing this campaign forward and for the collection of funds. As per previous instructions, the districts are to retain sixty per cent of all funds collected to be used in sending the delegates. The balance, forty per cent, is to be sent to the National Office to be used in financing the national campaign. Immediate and substantial amounts are required by the National Office. Start the campaign at once.

NOW is the time to begin a real campaign for the organization of the unorganized. The entire forces of the T U E L must be thrown into this work. Organize the unorganized workers! Form shop committees! Establish local T U E L groups! Build Labor Unity! Elect delegates to the convention! Build the \$10,000 convention fund! Make the T U E L convention the greatest rank and file labor gathering in the history of the country!

National Executive Committee  
TRADE UNION EDUCATIONAL  
LEAGUE

Wm. Z. Foster, Secretary.