



WORKERS' FORUM

Write to us—tell us what's going on in your part of the labor movement...

Colored Worker Says His People Should Read the MILITANT

Editor In many sections of the country there are white newspapers that have their columns of news devoted to the colored citizen.

The real fighting strength of the Negro cannot be built up through such chronicles of "so-

ciety doing" but only by the labor press that is interested in the masses and their sufferings.

While the colored press has plenty of fight, it does not occupy the place a genuine fighting paper does.

Yours truly JAMES MILLER Chicago, Ill.

Reuther Tries To Outwit Locals

He And Thomas Are Trying To Find Way To Overrule General Motors Conference

DETROIT, Mich., Feb. 3.—Walter Reuther and R. J. Thomas are frightened at the possibility of a revolt of the rank and file of General Motors workers against the Reuther-Thomas policy of conservatism and inaction.

a much more satisfactory agreement for the support of draftees families. They will demand that GM pay the difference between army pay and \$100 a month for all employees of the company drafted into the armed forces.

It was announced, in the Feb. 1 issue of the United Automobile Worker, that a revised contract would be drawn up at the meeting of the GM Council on Feb. 10th and 11th.

The attempt by Reuther, Thomas and Co. to put over a duplicate of the old rotten agreement, whitewashed with a nickel raise, will not sit well with GM local representatives.

ATTENTION Local New York

There will be a special membership meeting Friday Evening, February 7th at 8 p.m. sharp at Beethoven Hall, 210 East 5th St. (near 2nd Ave.)

It is already well-known that Reuther, GM director, is talking of a "nickel wage increase."

While Reuther and Thomas have announced that they will ask for an increase from 40 to 80 hours pay to draftees, representatives of several locals have made it known that they will demand

Phelps-Dodge Strikers Victory; Company Agrees To Negotiate

Boss Had Refused To Agree To An NLRB Election

ELIZABETH, N. J., Feb. 2.—Another big open-shop corporation has been set back on its heels by union strike action.

The Baywater plant was shut down last Friday morning, after the company refused to consider union demands for opening of contract negotiations.

The contract demands which the union will raise will include wage increases for production workers from the present 55 cent hourly minimum to 65 cents, and for women from the present 45 cents to 50 cents and then to 45 cents after three months.

The union shop, a 5 day-40 hour week, time and a half for Saturdays and double time for Sundays and holidays will also be sought.

Company officials were howling that 30 million dollars in war contracts are being worked on in the Baywater plant.

Before the strike settlement was reached, Peter Besch, international representative of the UERMWA, who participated in the strike conferences, declared that the strike would be spread to the Los Angeles and Fort Wayne, Indiana, plants of the corporation, where the CIO has contracts.

The refusal of the company to negotiate a contract with the CIO union was based on the argument that the company already had a contract with an "independent union", the Baywater Copper Products Employees Association.

There is no doubt that Local 441 will make a clean sweep of the coming NLRB elections and that the Baywater plant will be working under a CIO union contract in the near future.



These smiles spell Victory, as strikers of the Elizabeth, N. J. give the open-shop the go-by Phelps Dodge Copper Products Corporation, despite wet feet. And victory did come Monday!

Grace Carlson Thanks N. Y. For Banquet

By GRACE CARLSON NEW YORK, Feb. 4.—I am sure that everyone who attended the Banquet given by Local New York on Feb. 1 at Germania Hall agreed that it was a huge success.

In my speech at the Banquet, I took occasion to thank the New York comrades in the name of the Minnesota Party, since I understood very well that the Banquet—formally in my honor—was intended to honor the Minnesota comrades for the good work done in the election campaign.

As I leave New York, I want to thank all of the New York comrades again for the very pleasant time that I had during my stay in the "Big City."

Waller Death Sentence Is Appealed

Petition for a writ of error has been filed with the Virginia Court of Appeals in the case of Odell Waller, 23-year old Negro sharecropper whose conviction for the self-defense killing of his landlord is being appealed by the Workers Defense League.

Waller was sentenced to die December 27, but the Workers Defense League won a stay until March 14. Now the league is appealing, with the cooperation of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

SCHEDULE OF CARLSON TOUR

Table with 4 columns: Day, Date, Location. Includes Philadelphia, Baltimore, Pittsburgh, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Memphis, Arkansas, Texas, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle, Williston, Fargo, Twin Cities.

Highlights In The Labor Press

The AFL CLEVELAND CITIZEN disputes the assertion of the CIO Cleveland UNION LEADER that Sir Walter Citrine is a "wealthy, titled and aristocratic British labor faker."

The AFL sheet says Sir Walter "is paid just about one-fifth as much as John Lewis, Philip Murray or William Green."

President Sal Hoffman of the Upholsterers International Union gave President Roosevelt a 100% union-made upholstered chair on his birthday last month.

We see that J. S. Potofsky, general secretary-treasurer of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, is still talking in the ADVANCE about "making unionism a way of life."

A sharp labor criticism of the military caste is contained in an editorial in the January 24th West Coast SAILOR:

"The anti-union stand of many army men, who consider wages, initiation fees and dues too high and hours of work too short, is becoming more manifest in the discussions between union officials and Army officers..."

were buck privates to be commanded at will.

"Unfortunately for the army officers, but fortunately for organized labor, the workers do not give away what they have fought so hard to gain merely because of a high-handed attitude and ignorance.

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"Under capitalism, democracy is narrowed, crushed, curtailed, mutilated by all the conditions of wage-slavery, the poverty and misery of the masses. This is the reason, and the only reason, why the officials of our political parties and trade unions become corrupt—more or more precisely, tend to become corrupt—under capitalist conditions, why they show a tendency to turn into bureaucrats, i. e., privileged persons detached from the masses, and standing above the masses."

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TROTSKY MEMORIAL FUND

109% Score As Drive Closes!

We're over the top in the Trotsky Memorial Fund campaign! The total contributions to the Fund exceeded the original quotas by 9% as the campaign closed on February 1st.

This eloquent material demonstration of vitality speaks for itself. It is something of a record in our own party. Not to mention the sharp contrast between this dynamic performance and the calamity howling of our impotent, pseudo-radical political opponents who grow weaker and less confident every day.

We have demonstratively revealed our growing strength and effectiveness. A commendable job of providing material means for our work, comrades. Go Forward!

Table with 4 columns: Branch, Quota, Amount paid, %. Lists various branches like Boston, New Haven, Detroit, New York, Pittsburgh, Chicago & Indiana Harbor, Los Angeles, Quakertown, Flint, Buffalo, Portland, Lynn, Toledo, Youngstown, Minneapolis & St. Paul, Akron, Allentown, Baltimore, Hutchinson, Milwaukee, Newark, Philadelphia, Reading, Rochester, Rockville, San Diego, San Francisco, St. Louis, Texas, Williston, Cleveland, Individual Contributions, and a TOTAL row.

the MILITANT army

SUB DRIVE UNDER WAY!!

All the branches have by this time received sub blanks and list of ex-subscribers to both publications, on the introductory MILITANT-F. I. subscription drive.

DETROIT OKAYS BUNDLE INCREASE

DETROIT, Mich.—"You will be interested to know that the Detroit branch has approved a doubling of our bundle order, effective with the first issue of the MILITANT."

LOS ANGELES EXPANSION

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—"The L. A. section is on the eve of increasing the bundle order to Minneapolis proportions," writes H.

T., outgoing L. A. agent. (Most honorably discharged into industry.) "The financial arrangement is now being worked out; the definite order may come with the next report. The increase is absolutely needed, as our present order, although large, is absolutely insufficient for our needs. With the added copies we will reach new groups of workers."

YOUNGSTOWN

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio—"Although we have always had good response to our mass work with the paper, the real value was never really realized as it was at the time of our Carlson meeting."

"The papers were distributed as usual at the mill gates. From the paper and the inserted leaflet, the workers read of the Carlson meeting. As a result, we had 10 absolutely new people at our meeting, all having read of the meeting in the paper. Although numerically small, the content, being made up of steel workers, was very good."

"We had an unusually large collection. Also after Comrade Carlson's speech, during discussion, one of our old contacts, never so

enthusied, got up and made an excellent speech urging the workers present immediately to respond to the Party's appeal for immediate action, and urging those present to become members of the Socialist Workers Party. Indeed this was an excellent ending for a good meeting. Due to the widespread flu epidemic in Youngstown, we were unable to have approximately eight sure people to the meeting, who were all ill at home with the flu. However, thanks to the papers distributed, we were able to reach the workers and those who could attend. The people there were militant workers. To date we haven't a paper on hand, except the new bundle that just arrived tonight.

"In the near future we hope to increase our bundle." Thanks, I. C., for the excellent report.

RESULTS IN CHICAGO

CHICAGO, Ill.—"Last night we covered the local NAACP meeting. When we arrived there, there were already 150 persons in the building, and when we started distributing the papers several persons came out to get more for those inside. Our paper was VERY WELL received at this meeting." This was apparently not the only Chicago mass meeting at which our paper was well received. For the recent UAW mass meeting Comrade H. J., Chicago agent, found it necessary to order an extra thousand papers.

A MILITANT START FOR THE MILITANT The New 6-Page MILITANT announces in conjunction with the FOURTH INTERNATIONAL magazine A Special Introductory Offer to both publications: 8 issues of THE MILITANT both 50c 2 issues of FOURTH INTERNATIONAL for 50c You have reason to be proud of our fine publications! Introduce them to a friend! CLIP AND MAIL THIS COUPON NOW The Militant 116 University Place New York City I enclose 50c. Please send my introductory subscription to: Name Address City State







