

WORKERS PARTY
114 West 14 Street
New York, 11, N. Y.

April 29, 1946

BUILD THE PARTY - BUILD THE \$15,000 FUND

To All Branch Executive Committees:
To All Members of the Workers Party:

Dear Comrades:

The \$15,000.00 Party and Press expansion drive, inaugurated on March 1, is now two-thirds over. Only one month remains to realize the fund that will initiate an 8-page paper and embark the party upon an expansion program which our last Plenum had announced and which we are certain, the Convention will endorse. The Convention, almost assuredly, will direct the party to move with "seven league boots" to capitalize upon our many opportunities. Plans for the 8-pager are well under way. Assignments for pamphlets have already been made as follows:

- 1 - "Negro and Labor" - David Coolidge
- 2 - "Veterans and Labor" - Nathan Gould
- 3 - "Wages, Prices and Profits" - Emanuel Garrett
- 4 - "The Housing Crisis in the United States" - Walter Weiss

The colonization plans for the party will move into full swing immediately after the convention. This will include additional organizers as well as reinforcements for the branches.

The only snag hit thus far in the expansion program outlined appears to be the "new headquarters" problem, a situation obtaining from the acute housing shortage in New York City. We are, however, continuing to pursue the matter and we are following through on several leads.

Almost all the necessary preliminary preparations have been made to move the party into high gear immediately following the convention.

Additional plans for further expansion are already under consideration in a general plan to move the party forward in accordance with the needs of the day.

The entire party must rally its greatest might behind this truly enormous expansion program. But now - almost everything depends upon the success of the \$15,000.00 drive, upon the ability of the branches to fulfill and to oversubscribe their quotas.

Let the Branches Consider:

I. Pledges by Party Members

1. Has every party member made a pledge?
2. Does every pledge represent a minimum of one week's wages?
3. Does every pledge represent the maximum of what each party member can give?
4. Has EVERY PARTY MEMBER PAID HIS PLEDGE?
5. Are there any party members who, having been unable to make a pledge previously, now find themselves in a more favorable position to do so?
6. Are there any party members who can increase their pledges?

Consider each point separately. Act on each case individually.

II. Contributions of Sympathizers

1. Has every sympathizer been listed and catalogued?
2. Has every sympathizer been contacted and subscribed a donation to the Fund Drive?

III. Labor Action Booster Collection Sheets

1. Have these sheets been distributed to party members?
2. Are party members circularizing these sheets among their shopmates and contacts?
3. Have contacts and shopmates been recruited as solicitors for the collection sheets?

(Thus far only two branches have reported on these sheets - both with good results. We call attention once more to the fact that these sheets are ^{conceived} of being of great political and organizational value. See the previous communication on the Fund Drive.)

All branch executive committees and all branches are called upon to review the drive without a day's delay. They must examine the points outlined above, all of which have been treated in detail in previous communications.

Why is such a review necessary at this time? Because - with but one month left, the drive, for the first time, is in danger of falling short of its goal. The comrades will bear in mind that all quotas were given as minimums; that all branches accepted their quotas; that New York, Newark, Detroit, Chicago and Youngstown increased their quotas. Reading, in view of the unemployment situation asked for a reduction from a \$200.00 quota to \$50.00 and this reduction was approved by the Fund Drive Committee.

The quotas were, with the possible exceptions of Cleveland, where we also have a severe unemployment problem among our com-

rades, Youngstown, San Francisco and Detroit, by no means excessive. But Cleveland and San Francisco are fulfilling their quotas; Detroit voluntarily raised its quota from the recommended \$1,000 to \$1250; and Youngstown increased its quota from \$75 to \$150. New York and Newark might have protested excessive quotas, but they did not. Instead these branches have kept pace and, in fact, are on the very top.

But the drive is now in danger of falling short of its goal, despite the fact that when giving the minimum quotas we had counted on the drive being over-subscribed by a few thousand dollars. This was based upon promises from the branches which held that a minimum quota would assure over-subscription in almost every case and which had in fact promised to over-subscribe quotas.

The original plan must be carried out. Every comrade must rally for a full scale effort to assure the oversubscription of the branch quota.

Here is the picture as of this date:

<u>Branch</u>	<u>Quota</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Total Contribution</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
1. Hibbing, Minn.	\$ 25.00	\$ 00.00	\$ 45.00	180%
2. Baltimore	50.00	00.00	50.00	100%
3. Newark	500.00	00.00	500.00	100%
4. Streator	25.00	25.00	25.00	100%
5. Boston	50.00	6.00	45.50	91%
6. New York	5000.00	234.50	4241.00	84%
7. Seattle	300.00	92.82	251.30	83%
8. San Francisco	500.00	115.00	349.38	70%
9. National Office	3550.00	00.00	2162.00	60%
10. Buffalo	200.00	00.00	110.00	55%
11. Reading	50.00	00.00	27.00	54%
12. Akron	500.00	00.00	365.00	53%
13. Cleveland	200.00	58.00	101.00	50%
14. Youngstown	150.00	00.00	70.00	46%
15. Chicago	1000.00	60.00	450.00	45%
16. Los Angeles	600.00	15.00	270.00	45%
17. Philadelphia	350.00	00.00	155.00	44%
18. Detroit	1250.00	136.00	525.50	42%
19. San Pedro	400.00	10.00	149.50	37%
20. Louisville	200.00	00.00	25.00	12%
21. St. Louis	100.00	00.00	00.00	00%
	<u>\$15000.00</u>	<u>\$ 762.00</u>	<u>\$ 9817.18</u>	<u>65%</u>

These figures demonstrate that only four branches have fulfilled their quotas; that only a total of eight branches are up to or ahead of the time schedule, i.e., have over 67% of their quotas fulfilled. The National Office is 7% behind schedule; Buffalo 12%, Reading 13%, Akron 14% and Cleveland 17% behind. Youngstown, Chicago, Los Angeles, Philadelphia and Detroit are from 21% to 25% behind schedule in that order. San Pedro is 30% behind. Louisville is 55% behind and St. Louis 100% behind. If the campaign itself is only 2% behind schedule it is only because high quota branches such as Newark (33% ahead) and New York (24% ahead) are so well advanced.

But for anyone familiar with campaigns it requires only a glance at the calendar and a glance at the figures of the 13 branches now behind schedule in varying degrees to understand that the drive is at a critical stage.

Three weeks ago we wrote that an average weekly income of \$1,250 was required to keep pace with our \$15,000 quota. To maintain this average for six weeks is exceedingly difficult. Yet, this week we collected only \$762.00 - the lowest sum received in any week of the drive.

Reflect for a moment upon what is at stake in this drive. Examine the status of your branch in the drive.

Let every member of the party assume it as a personal-party responsibility to assure the fulfillment of the branch quota and the success of the drive.

Comradely,

Nathan Gould
National Organizer