

5000 New Members by June 28!

By ANNA DAMON

In the March issue of the LABOR DEFENDER we outlined our general perspectives for the recruiting drive to begin with the Paris Commune anniversary, March 18th and to end on June 28th, the tenth anniversary of the I.L.D.

Industrial Workers

One of the outstanding problems of the I.L.D. is how to extend our organization among employed workers. In the past 3 years we have witnessed a steady swing from employed to unemployed. Thus in 1932 our membership was composed of 76% employed and in 1934 we can record only 38% employed.

We find today, that while our I.L.D. is conducting an ever increasing number of defense struggles on the economic field we have not yet succeeded in establishing any real organizational base among these workers we defend, and although workers everywhere welcome the I.L.D., its aid and cooperation, they consider us as outsiders, who come in to do a particular job, and that ends it. This is one of the outstanding reasons why our organization today is 62% unemployed.

For example, some of our best work done on the trade union field in 1934 was done by the Philadelphia district, especially among A. F. of L. workers, and yet today the I.L.D. organization among these workers is not reflected in the membership rolls of the Philadelphia District.

In New York, where our district handled almost 3,000 cases in 1934, many of these directly involving workers from the factories, 1933 and 1934 shows practically the same kind of membership with no increase among employed workers.

The best successes in recruiting among industrial workers can be recorded among the seamen,

in New Orleans, New York and on the West Coast.

In the textile industry, on the other hand, where the I.L.D. has waged some of the greatest defense battles in its history, North and South, we have recruited hardly any members with the exception of Paterson, N. J., and Burlington, N. C. Today we have no organization in Gastonia nor in Atlanta, nor in Lawrence. We must not only carry our agitation and help the union activities during strikes among these workers but we must assure sustained relief and defense activities on their behalf. The best way of assuring this is gaining them for our ranks, building I.L.D. branches in industrial cities.

Negro Workers

We can safely say that about one-third of our membership at the present time is Negro. While this is undoubtedly a good record, still we find that it has many weak points. Wherever we have

a large Negro membership, we find that it tends to be solely Negro, while in many sections particularly out west, the Negro membership is very small. In the South for instance, the membership is entirely Negro. This negates the very program and policy of the I.L.D. which strives not only for joint support of Negro and white in all defense struggles, but for a united membership of Negro and white in our organization.

Women


We have a good percentage of women members of the I.L.D. but we have far from enough women members in our organization. This is particularly true with regard to Negro women. The I.L.D. work because of its very nature of relief and defense, has a special appeal for women if brought to them in the right way. In planning the recruiting drive, we recommend to the districts and branches as a good idea, the arrangement of special women's meetings

on one particular topic of defense and relief with a special woman speaker if possible. Working women and working class housewives are tired at the end of a days work and they must be assured of an interesting program in order to attract them. Once their interest is aroused they can be recruited and made most active and devoted members.

Special appeals should be made to young people, intellectuals, teachers, white collar workers, chiefly on the basis of the increased terror and persecution of workers, and the need for increased material support to these victims and their families.

FORWARD TO AN INTENSIVE RECRUITING DRIVE, 5,000 NEW MEMBERS BY THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE I.L.D.

HEY! LONGSHOREMEN & TEAMSTERS



ORGANIZE

your DEFENSE

BULLETIN

No 2

(This is the second of a series of bulletins issued by the Nick Bordoie Branch of the International Labor Defense, to help prepare the defense work of the fight against the Humphrey injunction).

As our first bulletin pointed out, the best way the unions can fight the Humphrey injunction will be thru strike, and a strike will mean action by the police and courts to fight your fight. Start to build a Defense Committee NOW. A DEFENSE COMMITTEE IN EVERY GARAGE!

THE JOB OF A DEFENSE COMMITTEE:

1. **ORGANIZATION:** Raise bail funds so that no worker will rot in jail and let the picket line get thin. Raise defense funds so that witnesses' carefare to court can be paid, leaflets issued publicizing-
2. **EDUCATION:** Hold meetings, issue leaflets bulletins, etc., so that every union member will know what to do when his fellow workers are arrested; so that every union member will know what are his rights in court, what is the job of the court, of the police.
3. **SOLIDARITY:** Get the support of as many other labor organizations as possible so as to be able to pack the courtrooms and show the judges that the masses of workers are behind the fight for our rights. In this way we will build a real mass protest against this injunction and any other anti-labor INJUNCTION.

CARRY THE FIGHT OF THE PICKET LINE
RIGHT INTO THE JAIL AND COURT!
JOIN THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE

NICK BORDOIS BRANCH 455 West 18 ST.

MEETINGS EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT at 8: P.M. *all welcome*

A SPEAKER AT EVERY MEETING

FRI. MARCH 1- GARRICK will speak on The HUMPHREY INJUNCTION

FRI. MARCH 8 AN I.L.D. LAWYER will speak on WORKERS SELF DEFENSE

Read the LABOR DEFENDER official organ of the I.L.D. • Watch for BULLETIN #3