

CIO OPENS ROAD TO MILITANT STRUGGLE

MINNESOTA VOTE TOPS MINORITIES

Final Returns Show Carlson Above CP And SP Combined

By V. R. DUNNE.
MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. — The state canvassing board which met November 19 in the state capitol has released the following official figures for the minority parties:

U. S. Senator	
Grace Carlson (Trotskyist)	8,761
Carl Winter (C. P. sticker candidate)	256
President	
Aiken-Orange (S.L.P.)	2,553
Thomas-Krueger (S.P.)	5,454
Browder-Ford (C.P.)	2,711
Governor	
John Castle (S.L.P.)	3,175
Martin Mackie (C.P. sticker candidate)	360
Lieutenant-Governor	
William Herron (C.P. sticker candidate)	306
Secretary of State	
Clara Jorgenson (C.P. sticker candidate)	278

Because the candidate of the Socialist Workers Party appeared on the ballot as the Trotskyist Anti-war Party candidate, it is certain that the 8,761 votes for Comrade Carlson represent conscious support of a proletarian revolutionary anti-Stalinist program.

The support for the Trotskyist candidate is thus even greater than earlier figures had indicated. The candidate not only topped the Thomas-Krueger vote but received a vote larger than the combined vote for Thomas and Browder.

Each of the 87 counties in the state furnished votes for our candidate. This would indicate that the ideas of Trotsky have penetrated the American consciousness even deeper than our most optimistic supporters have hitherto estimated. Fittingly the largest number of Trotskyist votes came from the three industrial counties—Hennepin (Minneapolis), 1,755; Ramsey (St. Paul), 1,034; St. Louis (Duluth), 525.

Following this general pattern other counties showing a heavy registration of votes were those outlying counties in which there are industrial workers such as packinghouse workers, miners, timber workers, and where union organization has penetrated.

Although it was impossible because of meager finances to carry our campaign outside the Twin Cities to any extent, the record of the Trotskyists in the union and unemployed movement has obviously made a deep impression upon the workers in the state.

Among the iron miners on the Range, there are a large number of former Communist Party members who have for years supported the Russian revolution. There were many who voted for our candidate, a Trotskyist, and not for the Stalinist candidates.

Counties where the militant Farm-Holiday movement once had great prestige and power also furnished a substantial vote to the Trotskyist Anti-war candidate.

Those counties in which state institutions are located and whose employees belong to the State, County and Municipal Employees Union (in which our candidate, Grace Carlson, was active for a number of years and is a well-known figure) also recorded an impressive total.

With complete precinct votes available from St. Paul and Minneapolis a gratifyingly close correlation is shown between the distribution of Socialist Appeals and the vote for the Trotskyist candidate. Our Socialist Appeal had been distributed in these precincts over a period of months. Excellent use was also made of the special Minnesota election edition of the Appeal, and the leaflets and other literature issued in the campaign.

The total vote, though indicative of our support, is of course not the chief value of the election campaign. Many people have been brought closer to us by hearing for the first time in this campaign the revolutionary Marxist program.

Vultee Strikers Point to Boss Profits



Mass picket lines at the Vultee airplane plant in Downey, California, had the factory closed down tight. Shouts of the bosses and government agents about "reds" were answered by placards publicizing the huge profits the company is obtaining through its war contracts.

Demand Freedom For Negro Sailors

By ALBERT PARKER
Letters of protest, demanding the freedom of the Negro sailors on the U.S.S. Philadelphia and an end to the Jim-Crow practices in the Navy, began to pour into the offices of President Roosevelt and Secretary of the Navy Knox last week, at the same time that the government announced its intention of

quarters of the Navy, and that this policy helps not only the country, but the Negro sailors as well.

The letters from various organizations and individuals printed in the Pittsburgh Courier last week showed that an increasing number of people are aroused over the case of the imprisoned Philadelphia sailors, and are eager to express their resentment over conditions in the Navy.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in a letter to Secretary Knox stated that the colored people of this country "are bitter about the treatment of their men in the armed forces of the nation... We wish to enter a most vigorous protest against this action and to request you, as Secretary of the Navy, to intervene."

The N.A.A.C.P. upheld the action of the mess attendants in bravely signing their names to the published letter of complaint, saying they had done so "in belief that they had a just complaint which ought not to be weakened by an anonymous letter."

The Courier also quoted from the "pointed letter" to Roosevelt & WPA Union of Newark, N. J., signed by George Breitman, secretary, which asked for an immediate end to the arrest, confinement to the ship for "further investigation," molestation and indignity suffered by the boys "whose only offense is that they complained with much cause against a brutal system of discrimination and segregation."

The unemployed union also demanded that Roosevelt and Knox use their powers to put an end to these conditions.

HARLEM UNION OFFERS SUPPORT
Another letter, for Local 32 of the Building Service Employees International Union, signed by J. Cyril Pullerton, executive manager, explained that the union

has a membership of 2,000 who reside and work in Harlem, 90 percent of whom are Negroes. "We feel as you (The Courier) (Continued on Page 3)

Women Want To Join The Army
With only 99 positions now open for "hostesses" in the Army, the War Department has been swamped with 7,000 applications from hopeful aspirants, most of whom had apparently not even read the requirements.

The applicants were under the illusion that the Army was going to need women workers in canteens, etc., as in the last World War.

Strike Wins Pay Raise At Vultee

BULLETIN
DOWNEY, Calif. Nov. 27—The Vultee strike was settled today with unanimous ratification of a 16 months agreement which includes compulsory arbitration and wage increases from 3 to 12½ cents an hour. The good faith of the employers is questionable in view of their statement that there will be "no mass re-employment" and "it will be a slow process; the men will be subjected to almost as close scrutiny as when they were originally employed."

DOWNEY, Calif. Nov. 22—24-hour mass picket lines tonight continued to serve notice on the Vultee Aircraft Company profiteers here that the aircraft workers are through with the slave wage of 50 cents an hour.

Outside the plant gates numerous camp fires before the improvised shelters of the strikers throw their defiant glow over the silent Vultee buildings.

While the Dies Committee representatives and the Department of Justice through Attorney General Jackson are vying for the "honor" of breaking the strike, the strikers are sticking to their union demands against the phoney "red" issue. As one worker at a picket fire stated, "I thought the unions were run by a gang of reds and I was against it. But a guy has to be a 'red' to get a decent wage around here."

The solidarity and militancy of the strikers, who are mostly young men without previous union or strike experience and who have come into this rapidly expanding industry from every section of the nation, is truly inspiring. They are totally unimpressed by the charge of "sabotage of national defense" being hurled by the company, which has a back-log of \$85,000,000 in plane orders for the U.S. and Great Britain, and is expected to clean up a net profit of not less than \$12,000,000 in the next year.

The strikers are learning fast, and have a splendid chance of withstanding the boss propaganda and pressure, if the leadership itself continues to hold firm. A typical striker's statement, heard around one of the camp fires, reflects the true spirit. "I voted against the union when we had the election in the plant. But that was a mistake. Now I'm in this fight until we get what we want!"

As a result of the strike, a tremendous organizational impetus has been given to the workers in the other aircraft plants, and the workers are flocking into the union by the hundreds.

End of Rainbow
Although James Roosevelt is on active service as a captain with the United States Marine Corps at San Diego, California, he will be permitted to continue his motion picture producing activities and without a reduction in pay.

As his first major production, James has elected to make an elaborate musical comedy, "Pot O'Gold." He's the only recruit we've heard of who found army life to be the end of the rainbow.

GREED FOR PROFITS
Industrial accidents brought injury to 1,600,000 workers in 1939 as compared to 1,375,000 injured in 1938. While employment rose only 7 percent in 1939 over 1938, average hours worked rose 13 percent and disabling injuries from industrial accidents increased 14 percent (U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics). Longer hours and

speed-up; "cheap" non-union labor; lack of safety devices; dangerous "time-saving" methods and processes;—in a word, greed for profits brought injury to all these workers.

Why, then, the smoke-screen about sabotage, when all the evidence points to MURDER FOR PROFIT?

One reason why is revealed by the anti-labor statement of Rep. Thomas, of the Dies Committee, after the last explosions: "Much of the blame for what has happened should be placed at the door of the N.I.R.E. which has intimidated employers so that they fear to crack down on suspects employed in their plants."

COVERS REAL CRIMINALS
Thus, behind the loud "sabotage" campaign is revealed a deliberate plot to terrorize the workers. Every labor action against steadily worsening conditions in

Convention Upholds Industrial Unionism

By FELIX MORROW
ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Nov. 23—The CIO has successfully rallied its major forces to continue the fight for industrial unionism. That is the great achievement of the five-day convention which closed last night.

It was in the three and a half hours of debate over this fundamental question that this convention came fully alive. That was Tuesday afternoon. Almost everything that took place after that was not in the nature of an anti-climax. Not that vital issues were lacking in the ensuing three days. Indeed, life-and-death questions facing the trade union movement and the workers henceforth fixed on government posts.

HILLMAN ARRIVES AFTERWARD
Hillman himself was not present during the debate on this basic question. He arrived the next day and explained his absence: he had been consulting with Bethlehem Steel officials—it was plain he had been hoping to bring back a bone from them to justify himself, but he didn't get a bone.

In his absence three of his dependents defended his position—Frank Rosenblum and Franz Daniel of the clothing workers, and George Baldanzi of the textile workers. I have just consulted the stenographic record to verify my first impression and it confirms that feeling—Hillman's boys did a very poor job. Not the least reason for that, perhaps, is that none of them behaved as they were saying! They, unlike Hillman, may plan to continue living in the trade

HILLMAN'S GAME
Sidney Hillman's spokesmen could say what they pleased, the delegates clearly understood the real meaning of Hillman's proposal: to push the CIO into immediate unity negotiations with the AFL under conditions favoring the craft union moguls; to surround the negotiations with an overwhelming hue and cry in the boss press, radio, movies, and all other methods of communication and pressure, pushing for unity on the AFL's terms; and to "unite" over the broken bones of the new industrial unions which have been built since 1935—the Steel Workers Organizing Committee, the United Electrical and Radio Workers, the United Automobile Workers, the Rubber Workers, etc.

Hillman's career as a "statesman" in the service of Roosevelt requires that he remove from himself in the eyes of the bosses any stigma of responsibility for the continued division of the labor movement. Roosevelt and the employers want a "united" labor movement—i.e., united under a hidebound, conservative, impotent leadership like that of Messrs. Green, Wolf, Frey, with the workers in war industries divided up, if they are organized at all, into scores of craft unions which the bosses can play one against the other. Obediently therefore, Hillman sought to achieve this objective.

That if he were successful, it might in the end mean disaster not only for all industrial unions but the weakening of his "own" clothing workers, troubles Hillman not at all. His eyes are

union movement after the consequences of Hillman's proposal would become fully apparent!

POOR CASE FOR UNITY
Their argument for unity negotiations came down to: (1) The CIO had received very bad publicity in the previous negotiations—through no fault of the CIO, they hastened to add—and was therefore held responsible by the "public" for labor disunity, so now it should show it wasn't to blame; (2) to be for immediate unity negotiations didn't mean that they were for surrender to craft unionism; (3) "this time of national and world crisis" makes unity imperative so that labor can "make its rightful contribution to the cause of national defense."

No other Hillman supporter asked for the floor and, as a result, the pro-CIO forces had the floor during most of the afternoon and they made the most of it.

A delegate from Wisconsin read into the record a letter from the AFL central body in Milwaukee which revealed that it was attempting to smash the United Auto Workers local at the Allis-Chalmers plant and replace it with a score of craft units. The letter explicitly repudiated the idea of uniting all the workers in the plant in one local and boasted that its "organizing campaign" had the direct help of the AFL national office.

AFL'S JIM CROW POLICY
A Negro delegate, Neil Weaver, passionately brought to the fore the AFL crafts' "lily white" policy; the only jobs open to his people under that policy, he said, are hod carriers and porters. Where is there any sign that the craft moguls will cease their Jim Crow policy? And what had the AFL ever done for the packinghouse workers, except keep them unorganized? Weaver was scarcely a polished speech, but that only made it all the more genuine a reflection of the bitterness of the Negroes and the packinghouse workers against the aristocrats of labor.

There had been many rumors in the corridors of the division within the leadership of the United Mine Workers; that was punctured by the participation in

(Continued on Page 3)

MURDER FOR PROFIT--

The Story Behind the Explosions in the Chemical Plants

By DON DORE
Federal Bureau of Investigation agents assigned to uncover evidence of "sabotage" in connection with recent explosions in munitions and chemical plants, have uncovered instead proof of murderous speed-up, negligence and unsafe working conditions which in the past ten months have slaughtered 97 workers and burned, blinded and dismembered 400 more.

This was admitted last week by J. Edgar Hoover, head of the FBI, in an interview in the New York Journal and American, November 19—an interview devoted mainly to spreading "sabotage" propaganda.

LISTED AS "ACCIDENTS"
Hoover had to report that two of the three blasts on November 12, those at the Trojan Powder Co. and the American Cyanamid and Chemical Corporation, have been officially listed as "accidents." Of the tragedy at the Trojan Powder Co. plant, Hoover stated: "Here the explosions occurred in a section of the plant far removed from where the Government or-

campaign to invoke a "sabotage" scare against militant union workers. He warns, "A continued hue and cry about sabotage every time there is a serious industrial accident is bound to have damaging effects on the national morale."

The statements of the FBI chief thus give the lie direct to the Dies Committee, whose spokesman, Rep. Thomas of New Jersey, declared after the most recent explosions that they "definitely prove the existence of a gigantic sabotage plot."

PRESS CRIES "SABOTAGE"
While the press ran huge "sabotage" scare-heads in connection with the blasts two weeks ago and the one two months ago at the Hercules Powder Co., where 51 died due to the use of a method of manufacturing nitroglycerine which had been condemned by War Dept. officials, there have been eleven other blasts and fires of similar character since January

1940 which have received little publicity. And for good reasons.

There have been three each in the plants of the du Pont munitions trust and the American Cyanamid and Chemical Corporation. These open-shop corporations have been turning the workers' blood into a golden stream of super-profits. Any real investigation into the causes of the recurrent explosions in these plants would reveal a grisly tale of brutal indifference to the safety of the workers.

Why, then, the smoke-screen about sabotage, when all the evidence points to MURDER FOR PROFIT?

One reason why is revealed by the anti-labor statement of Rep. Thomas, of the Dies Committee, after the last explosions: "Much of the blame for what has happened should be placed at the door of the N.I.R.E. which has intimidated employers so that they fear to crack down on suspects employed in their plants."