

# Illinois 'Worker' Supporters Plan Their '58 Campaign

By SAM KUSHNER

CHICAGO.—"I can't imagine us not having The Worker. We just can't do without it. We can build its circulation," said a member of the Illinois State Committee of the Communist Party.

"In our area we expect to build a Worker route after the first of the year. In addition we are trying to raise more funds for the paper," said a hard-working member of the Chicago Freedom of the Press Committee.

"While we are planning better stories for the coming issues of The Worker, we also should raise funds and do all we can to help in building the circulation of the paper," said the chairman of the editorial committee of the Illinois-DuSable edition of The Worker.

Yes, there were three separate discussions, at three different places. But one thing

that was common to each of them, was the determination to get going as soon as possible on the new circulation drive of The Worker.

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THE GLITTER of the Christmas ads, or the shimmering beauty of the State Street store fronts cannot hide the fact that there is an air of uneasiness in this city that is piercing through the make-believe world. There is worry and unemployment. There is the continuing fight for equality and the persistent demand for an end to all forms of segregation and discrimination.

That is why the plans to build The Worker this year is a bit more meaningful than in the past, it seems. That is why there is a more serious approach, out this way, towards building the paper's circulation than there has been in the past.

So, in the SC's State Committee, in the Freedom of the Press

Committee and in the editorial committee there is a common determination to make 1958 the year of the comeback. To make next year, the first one, on the road towards bringing the paper to the tens of thousands.

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SPEARHEADING—the drive in Illinois is the very affable but none the less determined Mollie, who in her report to the Communist Party state committee called a spade a spade. Where leaders of the Communist Party failed to give adequate support to the circulation drive she named them. Where Communist Party sections failed to tie up their responsibilities to the paper with their mass work she criticized them. And where people did not do anything for the paper she blasted them.

But there was more than just criticism, there was a report of progress. There was the report of good work done by many, but

still not by enough. There was an analysis of the content of the paper, particularly the Illinois pages, and there the report of improvements.

From all of this, and much more, proposals were drawn at a Jan. 18 mass meeting at which Robert Thompson will speak.

The 1958 Worker circulation will open. By the July 4th picnic it is expected 700 subscriptions will be obtained. In addition, it is planned to get 300 additional subs in the latter part of the year.

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IN HER STATE Committee report Mollie stated, "Of the 1,263 Worker readers (in Illinois) 413 are in bundles going mainly to persons who are not members of the Communist Party, and of the 850 subs a good number of them are non-party as well." She urged that all the members of the Communist Party become regular read-

ers of The Worker.

All agreed that the projected goal of 1,500 readers of the Worker in 1958 in Illinois is modest. Of these it is expected that 500 will be in regular bundle orders, and the other 1,000 in subscriptions. This would be an increase of 20 percent over the present circulation in Illinois. The burst of applause that greeted Mollie's report at the state committee was a sure sign of agreement.

The persistent and consistent work of the Freedom of the Press Committee is a bulwark of the Illinois circulation drive. The enthusiasm of the editorial committee is a further aid in the projected circulation drive.

Now the planning is over. As many go about their Christmas shopping the supporters of The Worker in Illinois are also at work preparing for a whole year of activity. This is the outlook here.