
Report to UCP Executive Secretary Alfred Wagenknecht in New York from William Costley, UCP DO10 in San Francisco, April 6, 1921.

A document in DoJ/BoI Investigative Files, NARA M-1085, reel 940, case 2026000-1775, doc. 1121.

Exsec.

Since my last report there has been <illeg.> developments here. I am trying to get a good man on the job as industrial organizer. The DC [District Committee] has decided on Com. L. [??] — he is a German with good command of English and a member of the machinists' union. He told me he would let me have his answer today. He is out on strike and draws \$28.00 per week and has an income of \$50.00 per month from royalties on a patent of his. His wife is working and he has no children. So I told him that he would be disciplined by the <illeg.> if he did not take up the work. It is rather hard to get the comrades to do any active work outside of selling tickets and helping to promote our entertainments. When they do that they consider that they have done all.

We are holding unemployed meetings on a small scale up to the present because we were not in touch with the National Committee. But now we are in touch and will broaden out in the work here. See enclosed pamphlet. We are hunting for a suitable lot for our open air meetings and expect to close on one this morning. Then the real work will begin. We intend to bring all the union leaders and prominent men in this district to give an account of their stewardship and tell what they know about solving this problem.

Negroes.

I continue to receive letters from the party in

4.6.21 Texas. You tell me to take those in the party that are qualified. There are none hereabouts. The man in Texas is the only one I would pass. I hope the DO in that district will look after him. There is a tremendous field among them but it must be worked with men like W. [??]. You know the Negroes are not a reading people, the most progressive communities have no general bookstore, there is non operated by them in the US. If you want them, special literature must be written from them. They practically know nothing of the class struggle and pending worldwide revolt of the working class. But they can be depended on to get in strong when the time comes for action. I don't keep in touch with any of those I came in contact with in the East. If that work is to be taken up at any time, I can always give you a line on some very good material to work on. If you want all the data on them all you have to do is write to Washington, DC and ask them to send you the latest census bulletin dealing with subject. I have one, it is a very large book and contains practically all the information that is available, except the yearbook issued by the Tuskegee Institute that can be secured there in NY — 136 E 135th St., I think it is. It is easily found.

Texas.

The man in El Paso that I wrote you about is waiting for the DO in that district to see him. He is a very valuable man, especially there in that active center on the border. I will keep in touch with him as he tells me he is going to leave here and go further East in Texas.

Financial.

Our treasury received quite a life which is not recorded in this week's report. The German groups turned over the money that they had gathered for the defense fund, something like \$150.00. It is in the hands of the section organizer and will be reported next week. The necessary outlay for our May Day advertising will put us back a bit but altogether the situation is fairly good and we expect it to improve rapidly.

Fraternally,

W.W. [William Costley]

I will report progress to Chicago on the activities of this branch of the NPCU [???].

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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