

World of Labor

by George Morris



The Challenge of The Flynn Campaign

beyond the scope of a councilmanic candidacy in a Manhattan district.

EARLY GOOD results have surprised even the managers of Flynn's campaign. There is clear evidence that the needed 4,000 signatures (for the minimum of 3,000 legally required) can be more than met. It is just a question of getting enough canvassers to knock on enough doors. What is holding some back is mainly a skepticism and inhibition built up through a period of virtual illegality for people on the left; an inward orientation developed through more than a year of preoccupation with an inner discussion in the Communist Party; and even some concepts that activity for a Communist like Miss Flynn runs in contradiction to activity in support of the political activities of a union or other organizations.

Concerning the last—an old familiar view—the concept is groundless. One can stretch that view to mean that you can't be for Marxism and at the same time be active in unions and other organizations.

To the contrary, we hear today the cry from many quarters, far from the left, deploring the

absence or weakness of the radicalism that has traditionally provided the spark and spirit to labor as a whole.

We should only regret that a candidate like Flynn isn't running in each county of the city.

Miss Flynn, on the ballot, would have the opportunity to get on TV and radio and before audiences to give that much-needed spark and spirit to the campaign as a whole on the issues of the day in the manner militant workers want them raised.

Elizabeth Gurley Flynn is not a "sectarian" or "narrow radical." She is in the first place interested in everything a New York unionist or progressive wants. But she is driving for those things with the added force and basic perspective of a militiaman and a Marxist.

Such a campaign, far from hindering, would greatly stimulate support for those supported by labor as a whole. All progressives, therefore, should try to arrange for some time in the next three weeks for canvassing to put Elizabeth Gurley Flynn on the ballot and report at the Flynn campaign headquarters, 15 Second Ave., Room 104.