

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We have enclosed the attached fact sheet regarding the Ithaca Journal's treatment of its employees because everyone attending our April 5 meeting agreed that trade unionists needed more information about this situation. Many of us thought we could get word to our memberships about their struggle if their Union, the International Typographical Union supplied us all with information, which they have done. The 24 newsroom employees at the Journal have been without a contract since November. The rights they are fighting for are so basic that it's hard to believe workers still have to fight for them in 1984. Management is still refusing to grant the Union the right to take grievances to arbitration! Management is still refusing to negotiate over the issue of salary! Management of course is the Gannett chain with its billions in assets. It's no wonder that labor doesn't get a fair shake in the local press when we see how they treat their own employees. Support for the ITU will be a topic of discussion at future Tompkins-Cortland Labor Coalition meetings and it is important that we start letting our members know what the Journal is trying to do, so that they will be ready to participate in any activities we as a coalition might decide on in support of the Journal employees. Thank you for your help in getting this information to your members.

Acting Recording Secretary
Tompkins-Cortland Labor Coalition

Skye Milligan