



THE YOUNG COMRADE



OFFICIAL ORGAN • JUNIOR SECTION • YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE • AMERICA

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The Child Slaves

DOES your teacher ever tell you what a wonderful country this is? And do you ever read the same thing in the papers of the capitalists? And see the same thing in the movies.

Of course you do!

And yet, in this wonderful country you hear and see about, there are millions of little children who are **SLAVES!** These are the workers' children — not the capitalists. These are the children who have to go to work in factories and mines and mills and fields and in the streets where they sell papers or shine shoes.



The Workers' Child on the Altar of Profit.

These little children, lots of them only 5 and 6 and 7 years old, have to work long hours of the day and night so that they can get a little money to support the family and themselves.

And they work for only a few dollars a week. They work under awful conditions, where their lives and health are put in danger. Most of the work is so dangerous that lots of the children die, or get sick, or are hurt by machines.

These little child workers are forced into this because the capitalists do not pay their parents enough to live on. So the bosses

make the children go to work in order to earn more for the family. And the bosses figure that children will take smaller wages than a grown-up worker. This is good for the boss, because he can make more profits. But it is not good for the working class, because their wages become smaller and they cannot support themselves like human beings, or bring up their children as children should be brought up.

The child worker never has anything like the advantages of the rich child you see.

Now, the Young Workers League and the Junior Section and the Workers Party and all the other communists and radical workers are fighting to do away with this slavery of the child. We believe that the children of the workers are entitled to ALL the beautiful things of life, which the working class and not the capitalists produce. There is nothing too good for the child of the worker, we say.

Don't you agree with us?

The capitalists who control the government will never do away with child labor. They want the children to slave for them, because they can make more profits.

So it is up to the workers to do away with child labor. This we can do only when we kill off Capitalism and have a workers' government. In the meantime we must do all we can to better and to limit the work of children.

In this work, the juniors can be of great help. They must get to work to help their little brothers and sisters.

Let every junior write to The Young Comrade about the child slaves. If you work, write about your life in the working place. And write as to what you think we should do about this.

Let's get the junior communists into action to fight against slavery of workers' children!

Send all your writings to The Editor, The Young Comrade, 1009 N. State St., Chicago, Ill.

Mary's Ambition

By M. L.

MARY jumped out of bed and ran to the open window. The morning sun smiled at her and the apple trees nodded their blossomy boughs as if to say, "Good morning."

"How lovely everything is!" Mary thought to herself. "I'm sure everyone must be happy with such a beautiful world to live in."

She dressed quickly and went downstairs into the kitchen, where her mother was frying delicious golden-brown pancakes.

"Good morning, mother," said Mary in answer to her mother's greeting. "Oh, goody, pancakes! How good they look!"

As she sat down to the table she asked, "Where is daddy?"

Her mother smiled lovingly at her and said, "He has gone to fetch a little boy from the city to stay here on the farm for two weeks. I hope you will try to make him happy while he is here, for he has never seen a farm before."

Before Mary could answer she heard her father's car come down the road and she ran out to meet him.

"Hello, daughter," he cried as he saw her. "Here is Jim, who has come to stay with us a

while," and he gently pushed toward the house a little boy.

But what a pitiful sight that little boy was! His face was pale, his whole body so thin that his many times patched and darned clothes looked as though they were empty and moved entirely of their own will. He looked so bashful and ill-at-ease that Mary felt sorry for him.

"Come in for breakfast," called Mary's mother from the door.

"Of course, we will—won't we, Jim?" said Mary's father, laying a kind hand on the boy's thin shoulder and leading him toward the house. Mary hopped along beside her father, holding his other hand.

AFTER breakfast was over she showed Jim her chickens and her ducks, her little pet calf and the baby kittens that had no eyes as yet. Jim gradually lost his bashfulness in exclaiming over everything new and strange that he saw. Mary's friendly chatter caused him to become more talkative and he told her all about himself.

He had been born in the city and had never been in the country before. Cows and chickens

and the like he had seen only in pictures at school. His father had worked in a factory every day from dawn to dark until one day they had brought him home dead. He had been caught in one of the machines in the great factory and crushed to death. The company had refused to take any blame for the accident. His mother had had to go to work in a laundry, for what little money had been saved went to pay the funeral expenses of his father. Now his mother was in a hospital, broken down by worry and overwork. Mary's father had heard about them and had been kind enough to take Jim with him until his mother grew better.

In the two weeks that Jim was with her, Mary learned that there were a great many unfortunate people in the world. He told her of people so poor that two and three families lived in one or two rooms, while factory owners for whom they worked had many beautiful palaces in different parts of the world. He told her of mothers searching cans for food to bring to their children while the idle rich people fed their lap dogs delicacies from silver plates. He told her of men thrown into prison because they dared to ask for better wages and shorter hours; of little children slaving long hours in factories instead of going to school.

"Oh," he cried, "when I get to be a man I shall spend my life helping to do away with the poverty and slavery of the working people.

AFTER Jim had gone back to the city Mary said to her mother one day, "When I grow up I shall try to do the same as Jim. I want to help bring about the time when every one is really equal, when there is no powerful rich class who keep the poor in slavery, but when every one has the same chance for happiness."

"That's a splendid ambition, dear," said her mother.

Dear reader, don't you think we all ought to have the same aim in life as had Mary and Jim?

HOW THEY LIKE THE YOUNG COMRADE.

"The Young Comrade is a good paper and I can hardly wait for the next month to come. I read it right away when I come from school and my mother tells that The Young Comrade has come. I should like very much that it would come every week. Your friend, Comrade Arne Mattila."

FORMING A JUNIOR GROUP IN ROCK, MICHIGAN.

Rock, Michigan.

Dear Comrades:—

I had been reading The Young Comrade and I tell you it is one of the best papers. I am trying to get a junior section. There are six members already and here are their names. First is the leader Vilho Uusitalo, Sylvi Uusitalo, Vaino Hill, Bertha Sandback, Vieno and Vailto Warmanen. I am trying to get some more and we are going to have a picnic. We have been fighting much against the public schools. My teacher said I am very blind because I do not go to the church. And she tells me that the people in Russia are so blind that there is not so blind people no place. The members are from 9 to 12 years old. But I said that you do not know a bit of the Russian people. Oh, boy, she was mad and put me two hours after school and tried to make me give up. But she could not.

In Christmas time she went away and said that she is not going to teach communists. Now the new teacher has not been talking nothing.

I would order The Young Comrade for a year, but I have not got any money now.

By Vilho Uusitalo, age 12.

Read The Young Comrade, and get your friends to do the same.

Anyone who doesn't work shouldn't eat. Tell that to the capitalists.

The Young Comrade

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NO. 5.

A working class magazine for working class children



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NIKOLAI LENIN

ALL over Russia, the workers and their children are sad. All over the rest of the world the workers are sad too. For the great leader of the workers and the workers' revolution, Comrade Nikolai Lenin, is dead.

Comrade Lenin was the prime minister of Russia and he was the leader of the Russian workers' revolution. But that was not all. He was also the leader of the working-class movement in all the other countries on the earth. He was the leader of the Communist International, to which belong all the workers' communist parties of the world. He was a great thinker and a revolutionary. He was the leader in the fight of the workers to free themselves from capitalism and set up their own government. He, like all other communists, saw how the workers were living in misery and he wanted them to live under a society where there was no such thing.

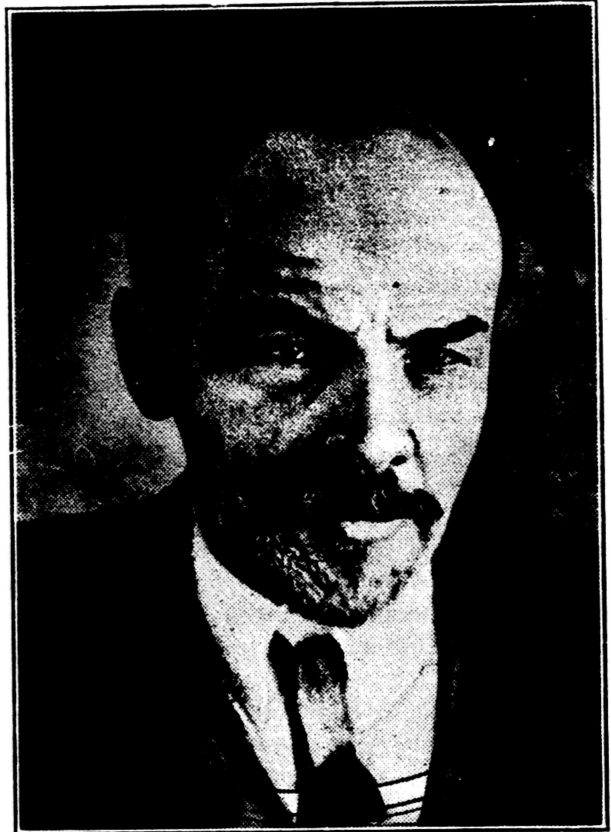
When Lenin was very young, he was already fighting the brutal czar and the capitalists. He was kicked out of his college because he tried to get the students there to be revolutionists. But this did not stop him. He became more active until the Russian workers made their revolution. For his truthfulness to them, and because he was a great leader, he was made the prime minister.

All the workers are sad because Lenin has died. But we shall not weep. What we will resolve to do is to carry on Lenin's work. He lived and died to free the workers from the slavery of capitalism. And we, the communists of the Workers' Party and the Young Workers' League and the Junior Section, are going to continue with his work in this country until we, too, have been freed.

If Lenin could speak now, he would say to all the workers of the world and to their children: "Get into the working-class movement and fight for your freedom!"

This is the message of our comrade, Nikolai Lenin. He was a great fighter and a great leader. And the children communists of to-

day will be the working-class revolutionary of to-morrow!

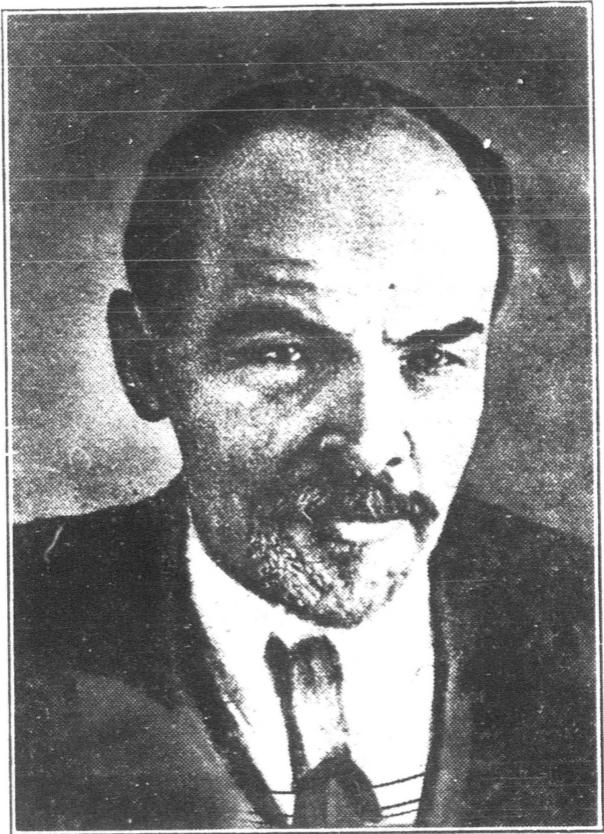


NIKOLAI LENIN

WHAT LENIN HAS DONE.

By Arne Mattila, age 7.

I have read in the newspaper Toveri that Lenin before he died had played with the orphan home children which shows that Lenin is a working class children's friend just as much as of big people. Lenin's real name is Ilyich Uljanov. Zinoviev, 3d Int. chairman, of Russia, has said that the city of Petrograd shall be changed to Leningrad. All we young comrades must remember that Lenin and Marx are the biggest men dead. Kings and Kaisers have been dead but they don't mean anything for the working class people. All the world's working class is in mourning for their great leader.



NIKOLAI LENIN

WHAT LENIN HAS DONE

WHY WE ARE AGAINST THE BOY SCOUTS.

By THELMA KAHN.

ONE Sunday, our Junior class was discussing the Boy Scout organization and capitalism. So I stood up and told them that capitalism does not only train the Boy Scouts to shoot and use a rifle for its own interest but to shoot down his own father and brothers when there is a strike. For instance, if there were 100,000,000 people in the United States and they would make 600,000,000 suits or other necessity of life, there would be 500,000,000 left over. Well, what is capitalism going to do. The capitalists go over to China or some other land and try to sell their suits there. As he goes along the streets they see England selling suits also. And a dispute follows. Then the capitalist sends his soldiers, who are now grown-up Boy Scouts, to fight England. Millions of them get killed, and what for? Just so that the capitalist can sell their too many suits to the people. The Boy Scouts also learn how to stick people on the end of their rifles and other ignorant things.

Another way they make you fight for them is to say, as they said in the World War, "The terrible Huns are nailing children to the walls and cutting them to millions of pieces." Next time if we are smart enough we will say, "The Huns are doing no such thing; they are our brothers and we will not kill them."

And so the struggle goes on, and if you want to grow up as men and women who fight for the **workers** because they **are** workers, join the Junior Section of the Young Workers League instead of the Boy Scouts and Campfire Girls' organizations.

Songs for Juniors

(Sing this to tune of "Barney Google.")

What's that wonderful magazine that juniors love so well?

Everyone enjoys it, making it very easy to sell.

You'll find lots of poems and songs in it, cartoons and other things

About the workers and their daily life and 'bout what capitalism brings.

CHORUS:

Read *The Young Comrade*, it will do you lots of good.

Read *The Young Comrade*, it'll put you in a dandy mood.

Articles and stories you'll find galore.

People reading them want more and more.

Read *The Young Comrade*, it will do you lots of good!

—ROSE COHEN.

HELP THE GERMAN KIDDIES!

THE members of the junior groups all over the country are getting into the campaign to raise money for the starving children of Germany.

This money is not going to go to the rich children, for they have plenty to eat and drink. Their fathers are still making lots of money from the work of the workingmen. The money to be collected is going to the children of the workingmen. The money to be collected is going to the children of the workers who are starving. Their fathers and mothers cannot keep them alive with the very, very low wages they get. So the little children must go into the streets and look into the garbage cans for dirty scraps of food. Some of them go into the country and try to get something off the farms, because they are very hungry. But when they are caught, the soldiers of the capitalist government shoot them and kill many of them.

Now we must help these children of the workers! We cannot stand by and see them starve. The bosses of this country go together with the bosses everywhere when it comes to hurting the workers. And so also must the workers of this country go together and help the workers of other countries.

You little comrades of America must do your share for the hungry and dying kiddies of Germany. We want them to live, and we want their fathers to live. We know that soon there will be a revolution in Germany by the workers and they will set up a workers' government where little children will not die while the rich live in luxury.

The Friends of Soviet Russia was the organization which helped the workers and their children in Russia when there was a famine there. Now when the workers of Germany are starving, they have added to their name until it is: The Friends of Soviet Russia and Workers' Germany.

The Friends of Workers' Germany have got out a booklet. It has in it little stamps. These stamps sell for 10 cents. Every young comrade should send in a letter **IMMEDIATELY** asking for one or more booklets of this kind. They should be sold to your schoolmates and friends and to older workers whom you know.

Send in for your share of the collection booklets **TODAY!**

Write your letter to the Junior Section, Young Workers League, 1009 N. State St., Chicago, Ill.

Doings Among the Junior Leagues

THE Houston, Pa., Juniors are doing splendid work in the public schools of the vicinity. Recently one of the members got up in his class and recited the words of the International. For doing this he was beaten by the teacher with a strap. Upon being asked about this he said: "Aw, it didn't hurt, because I knew that most of the juniors were sticking with me."

The juniors out here are conducting a big fight against the teachers who forces them to buy candy from her. If they don't do it the teacher gives them bad marks on their report cards. Among the most active comrades conducting this fight are: Comrades Tony Note, Louie Note, Jim Note, August Demark, Dominic Spin, Russell Toohey, Maurice Toohey, William Spin, Bennie Murdock, Sam Rotella, Julien Vinck and Fred Arnal. Nearly all the members are the children of coal miners.

MORRIS Trachtenberg, our young comrade in Philadelphia is making headway in his attempt to organize a junior group. He now has 8 boys and girls with him and is trying to get more.

THE Junior Group of Conneaut, Ohio, in their last meeting discussed how they could help the poor starving children of Germany and this is what they decided to do.

The girls organized a sewing club and they are all going to make something. The boys are going to make something too, but they wouldn't say what. So we will just have to be patient and see what the boys can do.

Later they are going to make an evening entertainment and these things are going to be sold to the highest bidder and the money will be sent to the starving German children.

AMONG the latest additions to our large junior family we have the Bridgeport, Conn., group. It already has 15 members and is getting itself started in the real junior work. The secretary is comrade Louis Palinkas and the treasurer is comrade Andrew Tarczali.

THE Daisytown juniors write the following: "We now call our junior group the "Young Pioneers." On Liebknecht Day we had a play with

the Y. W. L. It was called "The School Struggle." Comrade Merrick, of the Workers Party of Pittsburgh gave us a talk about Karl Liebknecht and it sure was interesting and everyone enjoyed it. Comrade Nat Kaplan, national junior director, gave us a talk about "Spartacus." We sold badges and Liebknecht buttons. We are sorry to hear about the death of our comrade, Premier Lenin."

Katherine Ferenchik, age 13.

A big mass meeting was held by the Chicago juniors last week. Comrade Martin Miroff, age 10, was chairman. There were about 250 to 300 children present. Many of the young comrades made fine speeches and some recited poems, such as, "I am a little Communist," etc. Max Bedacht of the Workers Party told us how the capitalist government makes all the wars. The feature of the program was the Marshfield juniors, who were dressed up in red uniforms with a little black ribbons in memory of comrade Lenin. In some of the speeches the young comrades were urged to make a big campaign for the collection of money for the starving German children. Some of the young speakers told us about the campaign that the Daily Worker was conducting in which they showed up all the rotten conditions in the public schools of Chicago. Many of the schools are without fire escapes and many children would be burned if a fire broke out.

ANOTHER addition to the junior family is the new junior group in East Liverpool, Ohio. Comrade Carl Cullen, the young comrade in charge of the work will see to it that things get properly started.

THE Paterson juniors are making their start by playing communist games. The group has no Y. W. L. member as leader but the young comrades are game fighters. They have elected a committee to study the games and then teach them to the rest of the group. W. Gershonowitz is the secretary.

COMRADE Steve Boian of Warren, Ohio, is trying to organize a junior group. His address is 19 Walnut St., Warren, Ohio. Get your group to write him a letter and encourage him in his work.

A new junior group has been organized in Gary, Ind. by our little organizer, comrade Lalla Glaser. Here's hoping that the new addition will meet with success.

EUGENE Lehti, the 13 year old organizer of the Cromwell juniors sent us in a drawing for the Young Comrade recently and told us that his group was getting along fine.

THE juniors have now worked their way into W. Virginia. A new Junior Group has been organized in Barrackville, W. Va. Comrade Mary Brajkovich writes that the group leader comrade

Paul Kucinic will show them how to become real young comrades.

THE junior section of the Young Workers League is now a big, national organization. It has grown in strength since May 1923. To-day we have about 31 junior groups in the United States, and over 2100 members. The juniors should be proud of their big organization.

If the other Junior Groups want to get news of their activities in the YOUNG COMRADE they should send it in. Every group should have a regular correspondent.

Johnny Red Gets His Party

By Billy Sayles

"HOLY Cats, pop, you'll have to arrange a party for all the Juniors. You lose your bet!"

"No, I don't," his father said. "You have to get a new member this week for your little bolshevik juniors."

"Sure, pop, we got one! And the funniest way! All the juniors went out with our leader to see the difference between the rich and the poor districts.

"It was awful to see those kids living in such filthy holes. Everything was so dirty—even the poor kids!"

"All right, Johnny, I know it's sad," his daddy said, "but what about the new member?"

"Holy Cats, pop, that's what I'm telling you. You know that tough little kid we called "Nails," who worked for Skinnem, the butcher?"

"Yes, what about him?"

"Well, we met him there—he lives in that poor neighborhood and, holy geranium, when he saw us he started calling us "bolos" and "redheads" and all kinds of names.

"But when our leader told him we were going to the park and the boulevard where all the rich live, he came with us and on the way he told us we were nuts. He said the rich were good because they helped his mother by giving her washing to do. And that he had as much rights as the rich kids."

Johnny's father laughed.

But Johnny continued, "And when he was telling us that, we were passing rich Reggie Van Sucker's house, that little stuck-up kid was just pulling off

a flower and the cop saw him and never said a word! So Nails saw it and he pulled one too. And holy cats, you ought to have heard how the cop bawled him out.

"Gee, Nails was sore and he felt foolish 'cause he was just telling us that he had as much right anywhere as the rich kids.

"And then, pop, we passed the dandiest houses, all marble; beautiful lawns, with statues and everything. Oh boy, it was classy—nothing like the poor districts.

"On our way back, we met that rich little Reggie Van Sucker! And he told Nails his nose was dirty. And it was too, but he also stuck his tongue out at Nails.

"So Nails jumped at him and gave Reggie an awful smack in the nose. The cop saw this and pinched Nails, and gee, our leader talked and talked before the police captain would let him go."

"But what did he say to Reggie!" Johnny's father asked.

"Not a word—honestly! That's what made Nails so sore again. So he joined the juniors, pop—he says he knows we poor kids can't get a square deal."

"He learned from experience, eh?" his daddy answered. "Well, he seems to know how to use his fists—and now he uses his head too.

"Sure, pop, but how 'bout that party for the juniors?"

"Well, you little agitator, you get it tomorrow!

"You got a new member in and that's a good job!"

Comrade Sunny's Column

GREETINGS little Comrades! I received many letters last month. Two of them I will answer in this column. The others I have already mailed my answers to.

Dear Comrade Sunny:—

Some other boys and I are going to try to organize a junior group in Astoria, Ore. We had a little club that had eight members. In our last meeting I talked to them about it. They said they were willing to join it, so I thought I would write to you about it and will you please give me some directions and also tell me about the dues.

I have learned that pledge (I pledge allegiance to the Worker's Red Flag—etc.) by heart and every time that we have to give a pledge to the American flag I will tell our pledge to myself.

Your comrade,

PAUL SIRO, Astoria.

I am sending you a letter telling you how to organize a junior group. I hope you succeed.

I am glad you learned our pledge.

I am sending some games that you might like.

Please write and tell me how you are getting along.

Dear Comrade Sunny:—

I read the Young Comrade and I enjoy it. I am trying to make the mail man busy as you said.

My brother thinks the Young Comrade is better than funny papers.

I think if the 1923 year was a Capitalist year, let's try to make the 1924 a young worker's year.

Your Comrade,

PAULINE MIKULAK, So. Bend, Ind.

Keep it up Pauline! The mail man is grumbling already. A couple more letters and he will be mad enough to strike for better wages.

What say we all give three cheers and a tiger for 1924, the worker's year.

All ready? RAH! RAH! RAH! 1924 FOR THE WORKERS—RAH!

Now give a couple for the Juniors and that's that until next month.

—COMRADE SUNNY.



Gregory Zinoviev, Chairman of the Third International, which unites all the revolutionary workers of the world.

WHY I JOINED A JUNIOR GROUP.

By ETHEL JAFFE, 11 years.

I USED to read the jokes of the funnies about Winnie Winkle and I thought that this is the best reading for children. And since my father brought me the Young Comrade, I began to read it and I found out about the rich and the poor. And I thought about my father who works hard every day in the year for a living, and even then we can hardly come out. I know a girl whose father never worked and she has all the pretty things. Now I know that the poor and the rich cannot be friends. That's why we got to join the young communist groups and fight until there are no rich and no poor and everyone can enjoy the good things of life.

Join the junior group in your town; if there isn't one in your town, ORGANIZE ONE.



Gregory Zinoviev, Chairman of the Third International, which unites all the revolutionary workers of the world.