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MILLIONS GRAFTED FROM GOVERNMENT IN HUGE VETERANS' BUREAU SCANDAL, U. S. SENATE INVESTIGATIONS SHOW

By CHARLES WITTER.
(Special to "The Young Worker.")

WASHINGTON.—Further details of the shameless robbery and corruption in the United States veterans' bureau are being made public here every day, the latest being the wholesale selling out of the Perryville, Md., army and navy supplies which were left over after the war.

The bureau director, Col. Charles R. Forbes, once a deserter from the army, has already been shown to have worked hand in hand with construction firms in a conspiracy of graft and the Perryville depot affair is another testimonial to the governmental officials' tender love for the victims of American imperialism—the conscripted soldiers.

Supplies Practically Given Away.

The dear old ladies and affectionate sweethearts who made winter pajamas for "our boys" can have the satisfaction of knowing that 98,000 pairs of them were sold by the honorable Forbes for 30 cents each. One item of 29,000 sheets, unbleached but perfectly good otherwise, went to Thompson-Kelly Co., the purchasing firm, for 27 cents; the government paid $1.37 a piece. And while these sheets were being sold at 27 cents each, the government was buying 25,000 brand new sheets at a cost of $1.03 each—*at one and the same time!* While the incoming sheets were shipped thru one entrance, the outgoing sheets went thru a nearby exit, the warehouse workers sometimes making an error and sending the new sheets to Thompson-Kelly Co. as part of their purchase!

Forbes Gets Generous in His Sales.

Five cents a pound was paid for 5,387 pounds of oiled paper by the Thompson-Kelly Co., for which the government had coughed up 60 cents. Gauze, 47,175 rolls of it in the original packages, which had cost the U. S. $1.33, went for one-fifth of that sum. Numerous other items, such as duck, thread, canvas, muslin and similar articles, all went for about 20 cents on the dollar.

Veterans Are Sore.

Veterans' organizations from all over the country are raising a long and pained yell of protest and anger over the uncovered scandal. The Disabled American Veterans of the World War, for example, has just issued a lengthy memorandum to the senate committee from its Washington office in the Munsey building, protesting against the running of the bureau and its various activities. Charges, obviously justified, are made against the administration of the hospitals, the report alleging that the recuperating and rehabilitated veterans are most miserably treated by the officials, all of them from head physician to the interns.

What cannot be understood so easily is how this organization of ex-service men, who should surely know better, can advocate working together with employers' associations on the question of rehabilitating the veterans.

It was these same associations which yelled loudest for the American youth to enter into the war, who were the first to make enormous profits out of the war while they sat at home and kept the home fires burning, and who are interested in rehabilitating the ex-soldiers only to the extent that the latter can be used to beat down the standards of living and work acquired by the organized workers.

The legitimate kick of the veterans ought to make itself felt by the capitalists in a more lasting and effective way than by seeking their co-operation.

Young Workers League To Hold Special Conference at End of May

A national Mid-Convention Conference will be held by the Young Workers League of America the latter part of May, the tentative date being May 30, 31 and June 1, in Chicago, Ill.

This will not be a regularly constituted convention, since the organizational rules of the Y. W. L. provide that conventions of the league shall be held within four months after the congress of the Young Communist International. Since the fourth congress of the Y. C. I. will not take place till September or perhaps later, the third national convention of the Young Workers League will not be held until the early months of 1925 most probably.

The conference of the Young Workers League this summer proposes to take up matters of immediate necessity, such as organizational strengthening of the league which has grown rapidly since the second national convention in May, 1923. It is now necessary to unite more closely the national organization and the local leagues. District organizations will be put on a functioning basis. Detailed reports from the league units will be heard. The shop unit or nucleus organization progress will be discussed in the light of experiences gotten in setting up units. The question of a children's national conference will be given consideration in view of the rapid growth of the junior section of the Young Workers League.

The complete agenda for the national conference on May 30-June 1, 1924, will be issued in a few days. Meanwhile the leagues are making preparations to send delegates.

Young Militant Tells Of Mine Meet Work

(Special to "The Young Worker.")

PITTSBURGH.—Pat H. Toohey, Jr., delegate to the recent international convention of the United Mine Workers of America, at Indianapolis, and active member of the Young Workers' League of Houston, Pa., is now speaking to the miners of western Pennsylvania on the work of the convention in its true light and not as the Lewis press agent material is putting it.

At a big mass meeting in Meadow Lands, Toohey presented the case of the progressives at the international convention and showed up the Lewis machine and its dirty politics in fine style. A number of Ku Kluxers, who were present at the meeting, attempte their usual disrptive tactics, but they were quickly squelched by the show of determination on the part of the miners who refuse to stand for any Koo-Koo nonsense. The meeting adopted all the resolutions presented by the progressives to be fought for at the coming convention of District 5 of the U. M. W. of A.

To date, eight locals of the union have adopted the resolution of the progressives which call for the reinstatement of Howat, the Nova Scotia miners, the removal of appointive power of organizers from the hands of the president, nationalization of the mines and the formation of a labor party among others.

Weep Bitter Tears Over This Poor Little Child

(Federated Press Staff Correspondent.)

NEW YORK CITY.—The 17-year-old son of the late J. Arthur Hinckley, millionaire, has been getting $15,000 annually for his living expenses. He finds this inadequate, and asked the court to help him get $5,000 more out of the estate.

His mamma testified that some of his living expenses were as follows: Clothes and tailoring, $3,300; automobile, $3,500; chauffeur, $2,000; dog's board, $420; pocket money, $500; amusement and gifts, $1,000.

The poor kid pointed out that this represented sheer poverty.

Pity the Poor Railroads.

After resorting to a jugglery in their accounting figures to give the impression that they had a profit of only $25.58 on each share of common stock, an examination of the income of the Baldwin Locomotive Company shows that on each share of common stock, par $100 a profit of $40.59 was made in the last year. Oh gosh!

You can't fight the capitalist by making faces; you've got to hit and hit hard.

Young Workers League Greets 5th Year of Communist International

The Young Workers League of America has sent the following message of greetings to the Communist International at Moscow on the occasion of the fifth year of its birth:

"Gregory Zinoviev, chairman,
Communist International,
Moscow, Russia.
Comrades!

The Young Workers League of America, the organization of the revolutionary communist youth of this country, sends most hearty communist greetings to the leadership of the working class of the world on its fifth anniversary. We hail the fight of the revolutionary masses of the world under your guidance and inspiration and greet particularly the heroic German, Italian and Bulgarian masses, who, though temporarily defeated by the black hordes of the bourgeoisie, stand ready to march forward towards the revolution.

We, the young communists of the United States, pledge ourselves to fight together with the Workers (communist) Party of America for the establishment of the American soviet republic thru the dictatorship of the proletariat. We know that the fight is tremendously difficult, and that the daily struggle is sharp and fierce, that we face the most reactionary of existing imperialistic nations, but we are strong in the knowledge that the victory of the workers is as certain as the fall of their oppressors.

At this time, when we stand bereaved by the death of our great leader comrade Lenin, we pledge ourselves to go onward under the revolutionary banner of the hope of the proletarian masses of the world, the Communist International.

LONG LIVE THE FIRST WORKERS' REPUBLIC, SOVIET RUSSIA!

LONG LIVE THE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT OF AMERICA!

LONG LIVE THE COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL, OUR LEADER!

LONG LIVE THE YOUNG COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL!

With communist greetings,
The Young Workers League of America,
Martin Abern, Secretary."

Meetings to celebrate the fifth year of the founding of the Communist International are to be held all over the United States under the auspices of the Workers Party and the Young Workers League, respectively affiliated by fraternal bonds to the Communist International and the Young Communist International.

"False Ads Lure Young to Nat'l Guard," Rhinow

By CARL COWL.
(Special to "The Young Worker.")

MINNEAPOLIS.—Admitting that "blind ads" were being used to lure young folks to join the national guard, and condemning such methods, Adjt. Gen. W. F. Rhinow today stated that he would immediately arrange for the discharge from the guard of Herbert Charlton and Harry Clark, both under 18 years of age, who joined the anti-labor organization under misrepresentations.

The ad in a Minneapolis paper stated that "men were wanted at good pay" and made no mention of the national guard. The two chums, hoping to get a little extra work, enlisted without knowing what they were joining, and were told by the recruiting officers that altho the enlistments were for three years, they could quit at any time.

The father of Clark, angered by the trick used by the national guard, put the case of the two boys into the hands of an attorney and demanded their release.

Rhinow, in assuring the attorney that he would see to the discharge of the boys said, "I don't want anyone to enlist without knowing what he's signing up for. *Enlisting officers sometimes have difficulty in keeping the ranks filled, but that doesn't excuse the use of blind ads.* It must be stopped."

From the statement of the adjutant general it is easy to see that young workers are none too anxious to join the labor-hating national guard, and the recruiting officers being hard up "in keeping the ranks fiilled," resort to the cheap lure of ads which do not mention the guard but state that men are wanted at good pay.

Young Communist League of Canada to Hold Convention

(Special to "The Young Worker.")

TORONTO, Ont.—The national executive committee of the Young Communist League of Canada has decided to hold a national convention of the Canadian league and delegates are expected from Voncouver to Glace Bay, Novia Scotia. The agenda of the convention includes the report of the N. E. C., shop nuclei, junior section work, work among the foreign speaking and the rural youth, education and international affiliation. A drive is being made among the branches to finance the cost of the convention.

Farm Depression Forces Kids Out of N. D. Schools

By THOS. C. FABION.
(Special to "The Young Worker.")

BISMARK, N. D.—Thousands of children are kept out of school to do work on the farm because the parents are not able to hire farm laborers, according to a report on child labor in this state by the United States Children's Bureau, just made public.

Tho the report covers mainly work on the farms, some investigation was made of the children and youth who are forced to work for a living in the towns and cities. Some severe cases of night work were uncovered—children and young people forced to work late into the night, out of all proportion to the legal hours of labor. Many other stringent violations of the law were found out by the government investigators, but no information is to be had whether any action has been taken against the bosses responsible for the brutal exploitation of the children. This in spite of the fact that the 1923 child labor law is supposed to remedy a good many of the defects revealed.

Kids Do All Kinds of Work.

Of the 1,992 children between the ages of 6 and 17 who were interviewed by the investigators, 945, or 42 per cent, had done farm work during the preceding year. Sixty per cent of those who worked were boys. The work ranged from ordinary chores to the handling of the most complicated farm implements.

A study of work done by children attending the public schools at Fargo, Grand Forks and Minot was made in the spring of 1922. Of 3,100 children questioned, 1,730 reported that they had worked. The boys had been employed most numerously in street trades, while among girls domestic work and the care of children were the principal employments.

Many were employed without certificates in occupations that required working certificates. Contrary to law, also, 15 children under 14 years of age had worked at their principal occupation during school hours.

Workers Need to Swing Wicked Hoof.

Every state into which the government sends investigators, slow as they may be in uncovering facts, adds another spike to the club against child labor. However, the congressmen and senators seem to be wearing mailed undershirts which can only be pierced by the hobbled boots of the workers.

INVESTIGATION SHOWS MANY TRADE UNIONS ARE STILL DISCRIMINATING AGAINST APPRENTICES IN INDUSTRY

By MAX SHACHTMAN.

The partial resuls of an investigation being conducted by the Young Workers' League of America into the conditions of the young workers and apprentices in the American trades unions has shown that many trade unions of the country still discriminate against the young workers in their ranks, especially those unions which have separate apprenticeship regulations.

With the Printer's Devils.

In the International Typographical Union, apprentices are not admitted to full membership under the age of 21. At 16, an apprentice may be admited, going thru a 5-year apprenticeship before being admited as a regular journeyman, his 5-year period being divided into five yearly grades and classes. Although an apprentice pays no dues, at the same time he has no vote in the organization.

Practically the same procedure is maintained in other printing trades unions, with such variations as the Amalgamated Lithographers of America, in which the appreticeship period stretches over a period of four years. Most of the unions insist upon a strict physical, and in some cases an educational ,examination of the applicant to apprenticeship. All of them restrict the number of apprentices in proportion to the number of regular members on the job, fearing the loss of control in the industry.

Wages are settled for apprentices at the same time that the regular scale is negotiated with the bosses, and a few of the unions have certain minimum standards for the young workers in their ranks.

Metal-Machinery Industry the Same.

The situation of the apprentices in the metal machinery industry is much the same as that in the printing trades. In the Metal Polishers International Union, apprentices must serve three years before becoming journeymen. Mr. Charles R. Atherton, general secretary, in explaining why apprentices pay the same dues and initiation fee but do not have the right to vote on questions of wages or strikes, writes that the apprentice should not object to that, or even to he fact that he does not get the same wages "for it is the journeymen who by their hard work and sacrifices of the past have brought the trade up to a higher level with a higher rate of wages for the apprentices to step into when he finally finishes his apprenticeship." The Pattern Makers League of North America entitles its apprentices to a voice in the meetings but not a vote. The apprentice, by general rule, is tied down to the job he started with unless a joint committee of the union and the bosses permits him a "change of air."

A typical agreement with an employer is the one made by the United States Railroad Labor Board between the Chicago and Northwestern Railway Co., and the Federated Shop Crafts. Only at the expiration of their apprenticeship are the young workers given the same minimum rate of wages as their older brothers. Here also the number of apprentices is strictly limited. A good feature of the agreement is the stipulation that no apprentice may work on a night shift or do overtime work in the first three years of his apprenticeship.

Machinery Breaking Down Need of Skill.

From the investigation it can be noted that barriers against equality in the unions of this country exist only in those trades where skill is still needed. The invention of skill-eliminating machinery has almost simultaneously done away with apprenticeship barriers in the union of that trade, switching them instead to small "non-trust" shops, where apprentices are the only means of competing with big industry.

That this development is recognized in some unions is seen from a letter written by E. Lewis Evans of the Tobacco Workers' International Union. "Our calling is not what might be called a skilled trade, requiring apprenticeship service. Sufficient skill may be acquired in a short time in most branches of the trade to develop sufficient efficiency to hold down a job. Machinery has played a very large part in removing the necessity for skill."

No apprenticeship is maintained in the International Union of Steam & Operating Engineers, the International Hod Carriers' Building & Com-

(Continued on page 2.)

Young Worker Declines to Scab On I. W. W.

(Special to "The Young Worker.")

CRANBROOK, B. C.—An interesting incident in connection with the strike now being conducted by the Industrial Workers of the World in the lumber camps of British Columbia occured today in this camp.

In response to an advertisement of the British Columbia Spruce Co., a "lumberjack" a little over four feet tall and 14 years old, came to the camp here to work. No sooner, however, did he find out that there was a strike in process than he hopped off the train and going to the hall of the strikers assured them that he was with them and would not scab on the wobblies.

The striking workers are more than holding their own and are enthusiastically fighting for their demands. The knowledge that the company is so hard up for scabs that it has to fool young workers into coming into the camps has made the workers realize the strength of their position and they intend to stick it out until they win.

Two thousand men are needed to replace the strikers and the lumber trust has so far been able to recruit only 150 men, including those that did not come out to strike when the fight began.

Try as we can, there is no excuse to be found for not sending in your sub today!

ARE WE GROWING? WELL, WELL, WELL! JUST TAKE A LOOK AND THEN DENY IT

We'll bet a hat that you thought we were talking thru our hat when we wrote of our campaign to have 10,000 members in the Young Workers League of America within a year. But you ought to know better. As our old friend Coue might have said, "Day by day in every way the league is showing that it's here to stay."

Take the last two weeks or so. Now, there is nothing particularly good about these individual two weeks and yet look at the organizational results obtained in that time. Comrade Max Salzman, league organizer in the East, brought in three branches: Malden, Roxbury and the John Reed branch of Boston, all in Massachusetts. Comrade Rebecca Sacherow, of Cleveland. organized the Canton, Ohio, branch of the league during a visit to that town on a different matter; the party branch has elected a committee of 2 to help the young youth branch and comrade Hobart Scott of the party is working with Johnny Mladjan, secretary of the league branch. Antonio Presi, editor of the Italian communist weekly, Alba Nuova, and one of the best friends of the youth, organized a branch among the Italian young workers of Cicero, Ill.; the branch is ENGLISH speaking. Detroit has organized its seventh branch now, and orders 500 due stamps, 100 initiation stamps and 200 application cards. Chicago and New York: look to your laurels! Not that Chicago is behind for it has just formed the Irving Park branch and the Lenin branch, making 13 in all. The Waukegan, Ill., league was reorganized by comrade Harry Gannes, who formed a junior group on the same day. And Grand Rapids, Mich., is going to have a Young Workers League branch if the Workers Party branch committee which was elected for that purpose has anything to say about it.

So you see, things are humming. If you are a young worker and do not yet belong to the Young Workers League of America, make it your business to get in TODAY and fight capitalism shoulder to shoulder with the organized young communists of the United States.

CELEBRATE THE PARIS COMMUNE: FIFTY-THIRD YEAR

SHACHTMAN, Editor, The Young Worker

ENGDAHL, Editor, The Daily Worker
MINOR, Editor, The Liberator

MUSICAL PROGRAM
Admission Free
Auspices: Young Workers League

Sunday, March 16th, 7:30 P. M. - - DOUGLAS PARK AUDITORIUM - - Ogden and Kedzie

Unions Still Discriminate Against Youth

(Continued from Page 1)

mon Laborers' Union, the Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen, the firemen and oilers, the maintenance of way men, the boot and shoe workers and numerous others, either because machinery has replaced the necessity of skill, as in the shoe workers or, as in the maintenance of way men's union, it is the policy to accept all workers on an absolutely equal basis, with no discrimination whatsoever against the youth.

League's Program on Apprentices.

The Young Workers' League in its program is opposed to any discrimination in industry against the young workers. It is bad enough that the young workers are more viciously exploited by the bosses than are the older ones, without the unions themselves placing added burdens and difficulties in the way of the youth. The development of industry has placed the youth in industry, and in many cases has made them a factor in the competition among the workers in their hunt for jobs. The young workers must be put on a basis of equality in the trade unions at the very least.

The unionists of this country must line up with the Young Workers' League on the following demands in the question of apprentices and the young workers:

Equal wages for equal work for young and old.

A six-hour day and five-day week for the youth.

No night work and overtime for the young workers under 20.

Two years apprenticeship, including the probation period, the apprenticeships to be strictly under the supervision of the unions or shop councils and not under joint councils of bosses and unions. The interests of the boss are not those of the workers.

Shop vocational training for all young workers up to the age of 18 to be controlled by the unions. The young workers are to be paid full union wages while learning.

And, in order to help the young workers join the unions, the entrance fees should be lowered in accord with their ability to pay.

We call on the trade unionists to support us in these legitimate demands. And the young workers must not stand aside and let the older ones do the job. The youth must try all means to enter the unions and fight for the united front of old and young by unionizing every worker irrespective of age.

Discrimination against the youth is an outworn policy and must be swept aside by the march of progress of the workers of this country.

Atta Boy!

Just as we go to press, we receive news that the national office has received a check for $55 from the Ziegler, Ill., branch of the league to go to the sustaining fund. Our emotion is too great to find words of appreciation. But that isn't all, apparently. It never rains but it—you know the rest. As we write, news comes from Minneapolis that the Labor Lyceum branch of the league has voted to donate a monthly sum to the national office. We do not know what the sum is, but we'll really be satisfied so long as it is not more than $100 a month. We are actually moderate, you see!

Call Conference to Unite Workingclass Sport Organizations

By JOSEPH NARBRICK.

(Special to "The Young Worker.")

NEW YORK CITY.—The first attempt to coordinate the work of the existing working class sport bodies and the organization of similar groups all over the country is to be made in this city at a conference called by the Athletic League of the Finnish Federation of the Workers Party, to be held March 23, at the Finnish Hall, 2042 Fifth Ave. The Finnish organization is co-operating with the district office of the Workers Party and with Jugo-Slav and Czecho-Slovak sport clubs.

Many delegates are expected to attend the conference from the numerous sport bodies which exist in all parts of the country. The Young Workers League of America will have delegates to the convention, and, as it will probably take a favorable attitude toward the Red Sport International at Moscow, the league delegates will support it wholeheartedly since its position has always been in favor of a working class sport organization, not only to build up the physical power of the workers, but to counteract the evil influences of the capitalist sport organizations which lead the workers away from their everyday and ultimate fight with the bosses.

The Athletic League points out that the bourgeois spends millions of dollars on sport organizations, realizing the importance of sport in the lives of the workers of the country. Russia also is devoting its attention to the sport problem and is giving all aid possible toward building up a strong sport movement among the workers and peasants of the workers' republic.

All sport organizations are urged to send delegates to this conference especially since its working class character will not permit it to become a non-class conscious body.

LETTERS FROM PRISON

By ROSA LUXEMBURG

with an autographed frontispiece portrait.

A new edition of the now famous booklet which gives the letters from prison of the martyred revolutionist to her comrade, the wife of Karl Liebknecht.

". . . shows to the young and to the older workers, to all those for whose welfare and liberty she fought, suffered and died . . . the true character of this greatly maligned woman."

Eighty-two pages. Bound in stiff boards. Single copy: 50c; five or more: 35c each.

Order from the

Young Workers League of America,

1009 N. State St., Chicago, Ill.

DES MOINES, IOWA.—Of the children employed in the state of Iowa, 77.41 per cent are retarded, while in the schools the percentage of retardation is 49.22, analysis by the Iowa Bureau of Labor Statistics shows.

This is your paper, write for it!

Seventy-Two Days of Working Class Power: The Paris Commune of 1871

By HARRY GANNES.

"The Commune was the form 'discovered at last' by the proletarian revolution, under which the economic liberation of Labor can proceed. The Commune was the first attempt of a proletarian revolution to BREAK UP the bourgeois state, and constitutes the political form . . . which can and must take the place of the broken machine."

—NICHOLAI LENIN.

* * *

Outside of the Russian revolution, the single event which stands out as the achievement of the working class in any part of the world, is the Paris Commune of 1871. Every working-class revolutionist, from Karl Marx to Nicolai Lenin, pointed to the seventy-two days of working class rule in Paris and the surrounding territory as an object lesson of the first importance to the workers in every land.

At the first glance, undoubtedly the wholesale slaughter of the workers of the commune by the hangman Galiffet is most likely to attract attention. Even to this day, the mention of Galliffet, "the hangman of the Commune," arouses the bitter hatred of the French workingmen; for not yet is blotted out the memory of the twenty-five thousand men, women and children who were killed during and after the fall of the Commune, the three thousand murdered or tortured to death in prisons, the hundreds who died of disease contracted through the awful days of the suppression; the thirteen thousand, seven hundred condemned, most of them for life, and the thousands expelled from France and their homes.

The youth of Paris took an active and heroic part in the rise of the Commune and suffered horribly in its defeat. At the time of the Commune, there was no working-class youth organization in France, based on revolutionary principles; yet in pictures published shortly after the drowning of the Paris Commune in a sea of blood, we can observe the organized groups of young apprentices and children fighting side by side with adult workers, women and old men, being slaughtered without mercy by the soldiers of the General Marquis de Galliffet.

A London newspaper correspondent, who was on the scene of the conflict following the fall of the Commune, tells of how indiscriminately the victims were chosen for slaughter out of the ranks of the captured. On that fateful day it was unfortunate to have a prominent nose or bald head. The officers of Galliffet, like bloodhounds at the end of the chase, plucked their prey from the ranks of the blood-stained cowed and begrimed workers, neither by reason nor by rote.

"From time to time, groups of fifteen to twenty civilians, **women, and children figteen or sixteen years old**, are seen coming out of the theatre (in which they were held prisoners). They were taken in arms (?) or otherwise convicted of participation in the resistance. Death is their sentence!" So informs the report of the Paris Debates of May 31, 1871.

But this wholesale murder is not in itself of outstanding significance, for the ruling class throughout history has demonstrated more than once the tenacity with which it grips power, and the "justice" it meets out to the outraged, oppressed and revolting masses.

"What a lesson of revolutionary vigor given to the workingmen!" exclaims Lissagary in his "History of the Commune of 1871." And it is to the lesson of revolutionary vigor that we must turn our attention if the Paris Commune is not to remain but another instance of the slaughter of workers en masse.

Frederick Engels says that the Paris Commune proved to the workers that they could not take the ready-made machinery of the capitalist state and use it in the transformation of society in the interest of the workers, but that that machinery must be destroyed, and in its place must be set up a dictatorship of the workers for the transition period to take the power on behalf of the workers and wield it in the interest of the mass of exploited peoples.

Just what form the dictatorship of the proletariat was to take, the Russian and German revolutions were left to work out; and Lenin, as far back as 1905, pointed out the Soviet or Council form the rule of the workers must take in order to maintain itself in power and prevent a recurrence of the bloody days following the fall of the Commune.

Just what brought about the Paris Commune? In broad lines, the background of the Commune was similar to the revolution in Russia. The war of 1871 against the better-equipped armies of Bismarck proved ruinous to France; the recoil of the war found its mark in the already overburdened workers. Part of the army and the citizen's militia was won over; the workers seized and held power, but with a most imperfect machine. They tried heroically to hold the reins of state, but leniency and vacillation in the means of control, soon found them defending the last vestige of their short but glorious rule on the barricades.

On the 18th of March, to the thunderburst of 'Vive la Commune!" as Marx puts it, workers rule was established with this pronouncement of the Central Committee: "The proletarians of Paris, amidst the failures and treasons of the ruling classes, have understood that the hour has struck for them to save the situation by taking into their own hands the direction of public affairs."

"When the Paris Commune took the management of the revolution in its own hands; when plain workingmen for the first time dared to infringe upon the governmental privilege of their 'natural superiors,' the old world writhed in convulsions of rage at the sight of the Red Flag, the symbol of the Republic of Labor, floating over the Hotel de Ville."

That the Commune was a distinctly new form of working class state, designed to point the way for successful action in the future, was stressed by Marx in his book on "The Paris Commune."

Said Marx: "It is generally the fate of completely new historical creations to be mistaken for the counterpart of older and even defunct forms of social life, to which they may bear a certain likeness. Thus, this new Commune, *which breaks the modern state power*, has been mistaken for a reproduction of the medieval communes. . ."

Lenin in "The State and Revolution," does not hesitate to adapt the lessons of the failure of the Paris Commune; and it may be said, that the Russian Communist party owes much of the success of its program during and following the revolution to a study of the Commune.

"It is still necessary to suppress the capitalist class," writes Lenin, and crush its resistance. This was particularly necessary for the Commune; and one of the reasons for its defeat was that it did not do this with sufficient determination.

Seventy-three days after the assumption of power by the Soviets in Russia, Lenin humorously declared, "Well, we have exceeded the length of the existence of the Commune by one day." None knew at that time just how long the workers would be able to hold power; but that was not the problem; the task was to hold it with all the might of the workers; and this, thanks to the foresightedness of the Russian Communist party, was done.

The dead of the Commune did not die in vain. The Commune is revered as "the first, tho still pale, dawn of the proletarian republic," says the Russian writer, P. L. Lavrov.

Leon Trotsky devotes an entire chapter in his book, "Dictatorshpi vs. Democracy," to comparing the Paris Commune to the Russian, Bolshevik revolution. Kautsky, the social democrat, true to type, sneered at the valiant battle of the French workers in seeking to erect the Commune, much in the fashion that he bespattered with mud the successful revolt of the Russian proletariat. Replying to the old, doddering renegade, Trotzky points out the strength, the courage and the vision of the Commune. What irony there is in Kautsky's reprimand of the French workers in 1871 for their will rather to die than to suffer a life of the worst kind of exploitation, when we look at the thousands of German workers dying out even the semblance of a struggle, or where they do mount the barricades, they are met by guns manned by members of Kautsky's own party, the social democrats.

Even when the last capitalist has died after a life of useful toil (thanks to the generosity of the last proletarian revolution), the thousands of dead men, women and children who gave their life to the cause of the working class in the Paris Commune, will hold a deep place in the heart of humanity. No worker, class conscious or not, can listen to the recitation of the struggles of the Paris workingmen of 1871 without clenched fist and tight jaw.

The Paris Commune is not alone an object of sentiment, tho no revolutionist can recall it without some sign of emotion, but is as much a weapon in the successful emancipation of the working class as the lesson of the Russian revolution.

"Workingmen's Paris," declares Karl Marx, who was able to see more clearly than anyone of his time the import of the Commune to the toilers of the world,—"workingmen's Paris, with its Commune, will be forever celebarted as the glorious harbinger of a new society. Its martyrs are enshrined in the great heart of the working class. Its exterminators, history has already nailed to that eternal pillory from which all the prayers of their priests will not avail to redeem them."

Chicago League Celebrates Commune; Engdahl, Minor, Shachtman, to be Speakers

The fifty-third anniversary of the glorious page in proletarian history, the Paris Commune, is to be celebrated in Chicago by the Young Workers League. Although the bloody hangman of the bourgeoisie, Gallifet, thought that he had obliterated all traces of the Commune by the wholesale murder of the workers, the revolution still is the banner of the workers of the world.

The Chicago meeting, to be held March 16, 7:30 p. m. at the Douglas Park Auditorium, Ogden and Kedzie avenues, will be one of the best yet held in this city. Among the speakers are such well known comrades as Louis Engdahl, editor of The Daily Worker, Bob Minor, editor of The Liberator, and Max Shachtman, editor of The Young Worker. With such an array of speakers, no one can afford to miss this meeting, especially since there will be an excellent musical program and the admission will be free, no charge.

Come in masses to this meeting! Young workers and old, fill up the hall and help to commemorate the first workers' revolution, the Paris Commune!

Fate of Young Workers League Members Depends on Outcome of the Ruthenberg Case Appeal

Whether or not Charles Erickson, G. A. Schulenberg, "Bud" Reynolds, Rebecca Sacharow and other active members of the Young Workers League are to put in some of the best years of their life behind prison bars depends very largely on the outcome of the Ruthenberg appeal, soon to be heard before the Michigan Supreme Court.

C. E. Ruthenberg, executive secretary of the Workers Party of America, was arrested at Bridgman, Michigan, in the summer of 1922, when the Burns-Daugherty gang of dicks and stool-pigeons swooped down upon the convention of the Communist Party. He was indicted, together with William Z. Foster, William F. Dunne and 29 other Workers Party and Young Workers League members, on a charge of violating the vicious state "Anti-Criminal Syndicalism Law."

Foster was tried first. He put up a magnificent defense, refusing to budge one inch from his communist principles. The jury disagreed and he was released, although he is still liable to call for a second trial. Then came Ruthenberg. Using the most contemptible means to play upon the prejudices of the jury, the state attorneys succeeding in securing a conviction in the Ruthenberg case.

In his appeal to the Michigan Supreme Court, Ruthenberg is not limiting himself to technicalities but is striking at the very roots of the "Anti-Criminal Syndicalism Law" itself. The prosecuting attorneys are visibly afraid of the results of this appeal. They make no secret of the fact that if the Ruthenberg Appeal wins it will be useless even to try the remaining 31 defendants.

Thus the Ruthenberg appeal is today the cornerstone of the whole Michigan Defense.

That is why the Labor Defense Council is calling upon all Workers Party and Young Workers League members to GET BEHIND THE RUTHENBERG APPEAL with all their might and main. Money is needed right away to assure comrade Ruthenberg the benefit of every possible legal resource.

As a means to help finance the Ruthenberg Appeal, the Labor Defense Council has issued sheets of Ruthenberg Appeal Coupons, which Young Workers League members and sympathizers should take and sell. The coupons sell at 10c, 25c, 50c and $1. A full sheet sells for $6.

To every comrade disposing of a full $6-sheet of Ruthenberg Appeal Coupons the Labor Defense Council will give a cloth-bound copy of "A Week," the vivid novel of revolutionary Russia by Iury Libedinsky. This is the same novel which is now appearing serially in the "Daily Worker." It is an intensely interesting book, universally conceded to be the greatest work of literature which has come out of Russia since the revolution.

Comrades who wish to receive "A Week," must specify to that effect when turning in money for coupons. Additional sheets of Ruthenberg Appeal Coupons can be had from the office of the Labor Defense Council, room 307, 166 West Washington Street, Chicago, Ill.

Jesus Shouters and Yipsels To Hold "Youth" Conference

(Special to "The Young Worker.")

NEW YORK CITY.—In accordance with a decision adopted at their last convention, the Fellowship of Reconciliation, an organization of preachers, priests and miscellaneous pulpit pounders which attempts to maintain Jesus as a great social thinker adaptable to modern conditions, is to hold a conference of various youth organizations for the purpose of organizing a youth movement which shall interest itself in something other than playing baseball and learning the latest dance steps.

The Young People's Socialist League—that is, what is left of it—immedately horned in and the United Front is on! The conference is to be held March 1st and 2nd at the Bear Mountain Inn, Palisades Park, on the Hudson river. The beautiful atmosphere of the Hudson is sure to give all the delegates an enjoyable time and the "youth movement" which will result from the conference is predicted to be enough to scare American capitalism out of its wits.

According to statistics, this is about the 28th conference to be held in this country for the purpose of apeing the organization of the youth movement in various European countries. All of them have proved to be highly successful—abortions. Those who know the Fellowship and the Yipsels can say in advance that the Palisades Park attempt will remain nothing but that.

Norways' Youth For Army Strike

(Special Foreign Correspondence of "The Young Worker.")

CHRISTIANA.—Haakon Meyer, president of the Left Young Communist League of Norway, just organized after the split caused by Tranmael in the adult party, has been receiving visits from the police in connection with a point adopted in the new platform of the league which calls for the organization of the young soldiers and sailors for the purpose of open revolt against the officers of the army and navy.

The adoption of this part of the platform caused quite a discussion and flurry in governmental circles. The official organ of the communist youth organization contains an article on the call for military strikes, which reads in part as follows:

"It is the intention of the league to destroy this class weapon. It intends to organize the soldiers in open revolt against the officers of the army and navy. It intends to destroy all discipline in the army fully convinced that this will cause its complete dissolution. The league in this way intends not only to disarm the overclass but also to arm the workers in order to overthrow the present social system by force. Its actions are well prepared and its plans well considered. It has several thousand members, willing to sacrifice both time and work to carry out this plan, receives considerable sympathy and can figure on positive aid from 90 per cent of the soldiers.

This Soup Kitchen in Germany is maintained by Committee for International Workers' Aid (Friends of Soviet Russia and Workers' Germany).

To aid the worker and the youth of Germany more kitchens will and MUST be established!

Young Workers of America!

The German workers have passed the stage of hunger—into lethargy. The fate of Germany depends on her youth! Will you allow the German workers to trade their destiny to Capital for something to eat!

HELP GERMAN YOUTH TO HELP THEMSELVES

Maintain this Kitchen—Establish others!

Second month's maintenance of this kitchen is now due.

REMIT YOUR SHARE!

It costs $500 to establish a Kitchen.

$2000 monthly to maintain it.

Friends of Soviet Russia & Workers' Germany, 32 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Enclosed find $.....to help support the *American Soup Kitchen* in Germany opened by the FSR on January 29, 1924.

I pledge myself to.....meals at 10c each, monthly, for the maintenance of this Kitchen.

Name.....

Address.....

Trade or Profession.....Y.W.

COMMITTEE FOR INTERNATIONAL WORKERS AID

Copies of "A Week" Free!

NOTICE.

The Labor Defense Council will give away a copy of Iury Libedinsky's vivid novel of revolutionary Russia for every sheet of Ruthenberg Appeal Coupons sold.

WE MUST NOT LET RUTHENBERG AND FOSTER GO TO JAIL FOR LACK OF SUPPORT

Buy and Sell Ruthenberg Appeal Coupons!

GET BEHIND THE RUTHNBERG APPEAL!

Coupons Sell for 10c, 25c, 50c and $1. A Full Sheet for $6.

This Coupon Pays A Premium

Send All Money to

LABOR DEFENCE COUNCIL

166 West Washington Street
Chicago, Ill.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES

By JOHN WILLIAMSON.

The following is a letter received from Monessen, Pa., which shows how the branch was given new life and activity by having reorganized itself on the nucleus basis. The letter speaks for itself; let's have more of such letters from the rest of the country.

Dear Comrade:

In reply to your letter regarding the organizing of the shop nucleu I wish to state that the shop and school nuclei have been functioning about four months and within this period the Y. W. L. in Monessen has taken on a new spirit which I believe will make for a beter movement—both numerically and in activity.

About four months ago we found that the branch was on its last legs. Interest was on the wane. Comrades did not attend meetings nor social activities. The few active comrades began to lose heart.

Our next step was to find out the causes which brought this condition about and after a careful investigation we found that the following were the factors which we later remedied:

1. Too many practices for entertainments. 2. Too much social activity. 3. Every branch meeting was a long drawn out business meeting. 4. Lack of time for proper study. 5. The everyday struggles of the members were seldom discussed; a factor in stifling interest.

To remedy these conditions we reorganized our branch along the following lines:

1. Junior section meeting every Friday. 2. School nucleus meeting twice each month. 3. Shop nuclei meetings twice each month. 4. City executive committee formed to transact the business of the league between branch meetings. This executive committee meets at least once a week and is composed of two members from each group and the directors of each group. The directors have a voice but no vote. 5. A general membership meeting (or branch meeting) once each month to approve decisions of the C. E. C.

You will see that this organization has remedied our previous faults. The junior section is the live wire group of the league. The school nucleus discusses conditions in the schools, methods of carrying on agitation and devotes most of its time to subjects used as a text for their discussions each meeting. The shop nuclei follow the same routine.

I would suggest that the comrades in other towns and cities write to The Young Worker the line of organization followed in their respective branches.

Fraternally yours,
MORRIS SCHINDLER.

Unemployment is Degeneration to Youthful Miners

By BARNEY MASS.

The ghastly curse of all miners is the dread condition, UNEMPLOYMENT! This condition is the more aggravated because of the stolid indifference of officialdom toward remedying this monstrous injustice to rank and file miners.

It is unnecessary to analyze the effect on adult workers,—that is self evident; but let us consider this insidious influence upon the young workers. However, a glimpse at circumstance of excessive drinking and dissipation in all forms of the adult miner, resulting in disruption of harmony at home, often even in the serving of family ties between father and children, comes not amiss at this point.

The effect upon the young miner is that he no longer cares to remain at home and listen to the cursings and revilings of his father against officialdom responsible for his miserable position. The young miner forthwith seeks pursuits tending to divert his interest from problems which constantly remind him of these pitiful conditions. He finds agreeable mental narcotics in the saloon over poker chips and "chance", "still hunts" for White Mule, and an amazing variety of brain-stunting diversions flaunting ever before his youth, seeking his despoliation physically and financially.

The revolt of the young, coupled with growing hatred of the system, robs them of realization of their ambitions (and this is true in many, many cases as revealed by numberless talks while on a trip through the mining territory, i. e. the young woman aching to become a school teacher, the young man longing for the training of a civil engineer, or to say the least, simply to be in school at the present moment, instead of digging coal in the bowels of the earth, or drudging with endless meals and household duties too deadening for words). This is indeed the subjective factor. The objective factor is the participation and indulgence in any pursuit which helps to drown the chronic inherent hope of being anything other than a toiling, sweating, overburdened miner, or the drudging, slave-woman wife of a miner.

The reaction of the young miners and their sisters against the drabness of their life prospects, exposes them to all the pitfalls of the capitalist system. Statistics on burglars, degenerates in all forms and prostitutes tell the bitter tale in cold figures.

These are a few of the fundamental wrongs resulting from unemployment as affecting the young miners with whom my trip brought me in contact. This is by no means an exhaustive analysis of the condition of the young people in the small mining towns, but it holds good for the young people who are susceptible to the views of the YWL as shown by their responses to the call of the YWL, and it is of these young seeking workers that I write and for their benefit and enlightenment that I work.

Materials Needed By Y. C. I. to Furnish Worker School

The Young Communist International has been given the protectorate over the Central House for Communist Education, a school which is devoted to the education of young Russian workers for active participation in the building up of the communist society. This work is of the utmost importance, since it provides the workers' republic with accomplished workers to carry on the activities of advancing Russia towards reconstruction.

For various reasons, technical equipment is very scare in Russia, and the Young Communist International has appealed to the young workers all over the world to combine their efforts in a drive to furnish the central house with necessary material.

The following is urgently needed:

Technical literature, magazines with diagrams, scientific and trade literature.

School materials, text books on geography, natural sciences, maps, pictures on geography and ethnology, industry and economy, reading books, fairy tales, drawing paper, pens, pencils, ink, etc.

Instruments and apparatuses for physics, chemistry, photography, chemicals, etc.

Boy Scout literature, handbooks, literature of organizations such as the Camp Fire Girls, etc. Illustrated magazines of all kinds, literature on needle work, self-construction of instruments, etc.

Send all material and requests for further information to the Young Workers League, 1009 No. State St., Chicago, Ill.

Beg Pardon!

The Young Worker hates to admit defeat in any kind of battle; but really, it was not so much a defeat as it was casualties that we suffered in our bi-weekly battle with our beloved printers. As we fought bravely, he struck us treacherously in the midriff and made the heading on comrade Martin Abern's article (The Young Worker, March 1, 1924, page 4) read "Organize the Unorganized Young Workers League" where it should, of course, have read "Organize the Organized Young Workers League." And while we lay exhausted from this blow, the compositor jabbed his type stick—or whatever the murderous weapon is called—right into, over and around the funny column of comrade Walt Carmon, making a joke out of the column.

As we go fearlessly to battle this issue, we beg the pardon of the two comrades.

SING! *SING!*

Not the prison but from the songs contained in

The March of the Workers

The song book de luxe.

The most modern, up-to-date collection of revolutionary working class songs ever put together between the covers of a music book. The old familiar favorites and brand new ones, brought together from the musical history of the workers all over the world. Get a number of them and see how lively your meetings become! Shoot in your orders pronto!

Large edition, with music, $1.00 each; 85c each in bundles.	Edition with words only, 25c each; 18c each in bundles.

Send orders and all money to the

YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE OF AMERICA

1009 N. State Street, Chicago, Ill.

Valentine, Young Communist, Is Canned By Boss for Sticking Up for Miners' Rights; Men Rally Despite "Socialist"

By ANTHONY FARMER.

(Special to "The Young Worker.")

Meriden, W. Va.,
Feb. 15, 1924.

Mr. S. T. Farinash, Pres.,
Sub Dist. No. 3, U. M. W. of A.,
Grafton, W. Va.

Dear Sir:—

We are unable to settle the case of August Valentine, Recordning Secretary of this local union. It is alleged that he loaded dirty coal and got a ten day lay-off. For telling the boss to live up to the agreement he got fired.

Please send a board member up at once to settle tihs case.

Fraternally,
Local Union No. 4014,
U. M. W. of A.,
August Valentine,
Rec. Secretary,
Jim Kovash,
Moses Newman,
Joe Newman,
(Seal) Committee.

The above letter was sent to the sub-district president, when the committee was unable to settle the case of August Valentine. It was alleged that Valentine loaded some 230 pounds of dirt in his car. When he demanded that the contract be lived up to, which the operator signed, he was fired. The boss claims that he was slandered by the secretary. This statement is denied by all who heard the argument.

When the boss said that Val is fired, Val told him that if he won't work that the boss would not work, that is in the mines, but that he would be at Moundsville soon pounding stones, or making little ones out of big ones. "For," he said, "you are violating every mining law of this state." That got the foreman's goat. "What law am I breaking?" asked the foreman. Val said he didn't care to relate it just then and left.

The case was given to the mine committee. The foreman declared that Val wouldn't have got the lay-off if he hadn't got fresh.

The case, as yet, is unsettled. The mine foreman claimed that Val cussed him, thus firing him. The superintendent was away and the assistant superintendent said he didn't have anything to do with it, while it was rumored that Val was fired that evening before by the assistant superintendent.

Unable to reach anydecision, the committee sent the grievance to the sub-district, while it is not expected that anything will be done, since Val refused to accept the sub-district president's invitation to a moonshine party. Knowing the price a person would have to pay (that is to support the machine) Val didn't show up. Val isn't in love with barley corn anyway.

While we expect no support from the sub-district, the case was sent there, since that is the greatest howl that is put up by the machine, the final action, no doubt, will be taken by the local union when Val is going out to work Tuesday, as the agreement purovides that in case the grievance is not settled within five days that the person involved will be provided with work until a decision is reached. There is no doubt that Augie will be turned down; he is going out anyway, and when the agreement will be broken the second time, the rest will follow him home. They are not going to strike, they simply will refuse to work until their secretary receives justice. Nothing more and nothing less.

In the meantime four men are putting the mine into shape, since Val threatened to report the intolerable conditions to the chief inspector of mines. The dust is being cleaned up and sprinkled every day, something that never happened before, ever since the mine was in operation, 27 years, posts are being set along the main line, dust removed from places, etc.

The fact alone proves that the company is guilty because all the day men are put on the job to reconstruct the mines. While the boss said: "Shut the mine down, if you dare," he is singing a different tune since he found out that a mine can be shut down in different ways. To shut the mine down with a strike, would revoke the charter of the local union, since the officials are on the side of the operators, but they will not dare to take the charter, if the men are going to refuse to work until Val is given a square deal, and until a foreman will be put in the old one's place who will see that the mine is in proper shape and live up to a few labor laws that are on the statute books of this state.

If this walkout is going to take place, it will not only be a walkout for Valentine, but until we have a new foreman, a new assistant foreman and a new (union) checkweighman. This checkweighman is a socialist, and Valentine did all in his power to put him on at the last election. This socialist checkweighman was put on because we thought that he would be better than the other one, while the other one did two jobs at one time, the socialist did three and four at one time, even scabbing a mule out of a job, by going up to the pit mouth and dropping the cars down while the company checkweighman would weigh a dozen or more cars at that time, and the union (?) checkweighman was not there to see if the company man was giving an honest weight to the diggers.

Just before Val was fired the boss came in to him and asked if they were going to come together, meaning the operators and the coal miners. Val answered he didn't know. The boss said, "I'm afraid not, unless you boys will accept a reduction." Val said that he himself was in favor of a little change, but just a little different, and when he was asked what he meant, he said that he favored a 20 per cent raise. "You'll never get it," said the boss, and Val said, "We'll strike till hell freeze over and then we'll strike on the ice!"

Seeing how Val swung the rank and file on the buck-dust affair they are trying to get him out of the way, before the reduction business is placed before them, thus trying to get the men to ignore the contract so they could start an open shop. But if Val does leave, his ideas are too far rooted to let the operators pull something like that; they were fooled once and they will not be fooled again. They have learned that anything that is good for the operators is not good for the men.

This knock that was given to Val was of more good than harm. Men who were sworn enemies of the progressives here are the best fighters for Val now, and a couple of those kind of attacks would make this Grafton field a 100 per cent progressive.

Senate Committee In Agreement On Child Labor Act

By CHARLES WITTER.

(Special to "The Young Worker.")

WASHINGTON.—After a hearing during which Grace Abbott, of the department of labor, ably put the case o fthe child labor amendment, the Senate Judiciary subcommittee agreed to the following substitute to the numerous child labor constitutional amendments:

"The Congress shall have power to prohibit the labor of persons under the age of 18 years and to prescribe the conditions of such labor.

"The power of the several States is unimpaired by this article except that the operation of State laws shall be suspended to the extent necessary to give effect to legislation enacted by the Congress."

Now the amendment will have to go thru a process of votes, amendments, ratifications and what not, and before it is allowed to become a law Congress will probably adjourn and let it die the death which is usually accorded to any proposition which is intended for the benefit of the working class.

SIMMONS, FAKER, SELLS KU KLUX KLAN RIGHTS TO EVANS, FAKER

By SIMON ROETH.

(Special to "The Young Worker.")

AUGUSTA, GA.—William Joseph Simmons, ex-circus promoter and until now the emperor of the imperial realm of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, has just entered into an agreement with the organization of which he was head, renouncing all rights to the royalties and copyrights of the Klan, which he controlled, resigning as a member of the Klan and promising not to take any part in activities for the purpose of disrupting or interfering with the organization of Kalf-brained, Kockroach-mined Kooties,—all this for the tight little sum of $146,500, amounting to $1,000 per month for the duration of his life.

The Emperor William Joseph, scared by the law suit brought against him by the present Imperial Whangdoodle, Dr. Hiram Wesley Evans, who objected to sharing the honors with Simmons, decided that all the holy and honorable and patriotic ideals for which the klan is supposed to stand could be sold out for a nifty purse which would settle him comfortably for the rest of his life. The $146,500 Simmons is to get is but a drop in the bucket compared to the graft he has already picked off from the sale of nightgowns and various other pieces of koo-koo paraphernalia to the hundred per cent Baptists and Methodists who have flocked to the standard of the fiery cross and the brainless jackass.

The elimination of Simmons now simmers the fight in the K. K. K. down to one between Edward Young Clarke and Hi Wesley Evans. The former wails about the degeneration of the klan while the latter, blissfully ignorant of the elementary feeling of humor still maintains that the klan stands for all that is good, noble and beautiful.

In the meantime the active field workers of the klan such as Glenn Young, continue to carry terrorism into the ranks of the working class, as was shown a few weeks ago by the latter gentleman's reign of reaction in Herrin, Ill.

Now, listen; There are only a couple of each of the bound volumes of The Young Worker still resting uneasily on our shelves. The 1922 volume is there and by its side lie a number of the 1923 bound volumes of The Young Worker, in other words a complete bound file of The Young Worker, not only from the time it had that name, but from the time it was still called Youth. Two years of the history of the Young Workers' League of America: its activities, is propaganda and its achievements. Each volume is $2 and if you want one of them you had better do the job P. D. Q. Otherwise we may buy them up ourselves, create a trust and hold out for higher prices. Speed in the order, you know our address.

On the Job

Fail to Railroad Younk Worker to Prison.

Fort Bragg, Calif.

Dear Comrades:—

About the beginning of last fall a young comrade, Oscar Erickson, was arrested at a lumber camp, a few miles from Fort Bragg, for having given an I. W. W. membership card to a fellow workman.

This "fellow workman" happened to be a professional crook, upon whom, when arrested for forgery, was found this I. W. W. card given by Erickson. Erickson was immediately arrested and brought before the Superior Court of Mendocino County. The jury failed to come to a decision and was dismissed. The case was deferred for another trial later on.

Erickson's friends now took up his cause by collections and dances, obtained money to defend him. The case was taken up again in Janury. The prosecution did its utmost to get him convicted. The I. W. W. lawyer from San Francisco was sent to assist the local lawyer in defense. The jury conferred for 56 hours and again failed to come to a unanimous decision. It stood 7 to 5 for conviction at the first count, but they finally stood 10 to 2 for conviction.

At first there was a rumor that another trial would be held later on, but the judge finally dismissed the case.

This was the first case of its kind in this county. The biggest factor that made the case come out as it did, was the positive stand taken by the people of this community for Erickson.

Yours for communism,
—Vilho Julha.

Slave Joint Fools Workers.

Chicago, Ill.

To the Editor of the Young Worker.

Dear Comrade:—

For the last two weeks there were ads in the Chicago newspapers from a well-known Chicago printing company wanting help on the night and day shifts, and promising light work, good wages, etc. As I had been out of work for two months I left my house early in the morning in order to get the good job. When I came to the place the doorman didn't let me in, but told me that there are no jobs on the day shift, but if I wanted to work on the night shift, I could make six dollars a night easily. I was told to come back at 6:30 and I would be hired. I came back to the place about 6 P. M. and I found about one hundred young and old workers waiting. They kept us waiting till about 7:30 and then three of the bosses came around and asked whether anybody wanted to work for eighteen dollars a week, and stating that there were no other jobs. About twenty accepted the jobs, many of them being married men, some merely kids.

After working there two nights I saw about thirty leaving their jobs, and when I asked one of them why he was quitting he told me that after working a week they put him on piecework—and the most anyone can make on this work is abot $2 for a make on this work is about $2 for a $10 a week. This, of course, requires that one work very hard and keep going at full speed all night.

Isn't this real prosperity?

Yours for action,
—Joe, of the John Reed Branch.

News of the Leagues

Salzman's Trip Successful.

The tour of Comrade Max Salzman in the Massachusetts territory is proving to be very successful. To date three new branches have been organized, and the district organization set to functioning properly. A membership meeting in Boston was attended by about 100 comrades, which is one of the best attendances the Boston league has had for a long time. Many important problems were taken up, especially the shop nucleus work. The trip will soon be over and on his way back, Comrade Salzman may stop over in Bridgeport, New York and Buffalo.

Branches Supporting National Office.

The call for support to the national office has received the attention of many of the branches. South Range, Michigan, is giving a dance in order to help finance the national office; and this is quite a thing, when you consider that working conditions are so bad in that town that the branch secretary is leaving for Detroit, to work for a different master—and for the league. The Jewish comrades of Pittsburgh have sent in $12.50, collected at a dance, to go towards the support of The Young Workers. Thanks! And our old reliable, Hanna, Wyoming, tops the list by sending in $27 at a clip, the results of a dance run for the N. O.

Comrades all over the country should see that their branches run at least one affair the profiit of which shall go for the national office. In another column you can read our appeal. But really, is a special appeal necessary to you? Don't waste any time; we need the dough!

An Addition To the Family.

We present to the anxious world the news of an addition to the family. The YWL of Superior, Wisconsin, is now issuing its own mimeographed bulletin with the snappy name of "Red Pep." It is a real live branch paper, wtih good cartoons and it ought to make a hit. The comrades are selling it once a month together with The Young Worker at 10c for both. First New York, then Daisytown and Monessen, then Minneapolis, then Chicago, and lastly Superior. All have their mineographed papers. They are the forerunners to the nucleus papers which we hope will soon be issued in every shop and mine where our members work!

Eben Junction Pushing Ahead.

In spite of the difficulties encountered by the comrades of the Eben Junction, Mich., league, they are going ahead very nicely. Comrade Martha Kortes, branch correspondent, writes: "We have 18 members and we expect to get several others this coming season, as most of the young comrades are out working and will return this spring. We are trying our best to make the work progress and have succeeded in a good degree. But we are going to try to do better in the fuure as we will have more to our advantage."

That's the spirit we like to see in the comrades!

With tne Juniors

By NAT KAPLAN.

An outstanding decision of the first International Conference of the leaders of Children's Groups was: "The former methods of instruction adopted by the children's groups were too one-sided and must be done away with. In the future the guiding principle must be: ORGANIZED SELF ACTIVITY."

This means getting the children to do things by themselves under the guidance of the group leaders. We cannot afford to have this guiding principle remain a paper slogan. Whenever we get reports from the juniors they should read: "We are arranged a play, a demonstration, a parent's evening, a campaign in our public school" and not: "Our group leader, comrade so and so, has arranged a play, a demonstration, etc., for us."

The juniors are the ones who arrange their own campaigns, formulate their own demands and then carry them out. The leader thru hints, thru diplomatic maneouvers guides the decisions of the juniors into the proper channels.

The tendency in the entire communist movement is to push our activities outsides of the confines of our own little groups—to intensify the external work and to make it assume a mass character. This tendency exists in our junior groups and should be continually encouraged.

When our junior group decides to start a campaign for the relief of the starving German children or to fight a certain bad feature in their public school, they should not be satisfied with only utilizing their own machinery for this task. The campaign should be extended so that masses of proletarian children outside of the junior groups and other proletarian organizations are lined up in the fight. It can and is being done.

Opera Concert For Labor Body.

A Russian Grand Opera Concert will be given Sunday, March 9th, at 4 p. m. by the Society for Technical Aid to U. S. S. R. in co-operation with the Society for Liberation of White Russia at Shoenhofen Hall, Milwaukee and Ashland Aves. Actors of the Russian Grand Opera will be the only participants in the concert program. Dancing after the concert.

"Bills to the right of them,
Bills to the left of them,
Chances to organize
The Youth of the land,
But was the N. O. dismayed?
Not so's you could notice it!
For the branches were coughing up
To the Sustaining Fund."

Now, we are ready to admit that the poetry is not quite up to our regular high standard, but the sentiments in the above lines express our feelings 137 per cent. We have bills and bills and then a few more bills to meet; and we have more opportunities to organize the young workers into the league than we ever had before. Honest, Mabel, we ain't spoofing, but the league is growing faster than any other working class organization in the country, and it is really phenomenal when you consider the disadvantages we have been placed at by the lack of funds, money, mazuma, cash, lucre, dough, long green, or what you will. Now we want to put more organizers into the field. Wherever those we have sent out already have come, they had remarkable success. Branches of the communist youth have sprung up in perfectly brand new territory.

Our activities have increased like the teeth in a two year old's. But we want more, more—and when we have that—we want more yet! And we need the money NOW, today, not tomorrow or next week or a year from now. Following a hint from Charlie Hughes of the State Department, we went around hunting for some loose Bolshevik gold—straight from Moscow, you know. But there was nothing doing. So we now turn to you, comrades, and ask you to send in your donations immediately to

The Young Workers League Sustaining Fund
1009 NO. STATE STREET, CHICAGO, ILL.

THE YOUNG WORKER

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At It Again

For three days in succession in all its editions, the San Francisco Bulletin carried huge scare headlines on its front page:

"RED ACTIVITIES SWEEP S. F. SCHOOLS; U. S. IS DENOUNCED."
"U. S. PROBES S. F. SCHOOLS' 'RED' GROUP."
"RED PLOT AMONG U. OF. C. STUDENTS PROBED BY DEAN."

Ain't it awful, Mabel? The reds have actually invaded California, the land of orange groves, high life among the movie folk, criminal syndisalism and child labor. Actually had the nerve to spread propaganda! Sold The Young Worker and The Young Comrade in the schools and at meetings and everything. Can you 'magine? Can you beat it?

And all this trouble was caused by members of The Young Workers League and its junior groups.

Communists! Reds! Wow! Call the cops, call the butler or someone! Do something about it, wails the Bulletin.

What is this rag which yelps and moans alternately? In his Brass Check, Upton Sinclair quotes from Fremont Older's My Own Story. Older was once the editor of the San Francisco Bulletin. Older reveals how the Southern Pacific railway bribed the Bulletin, under the ownership of a gentleman named Crothers, keeping it on the "S. P." payroll in return for definite service. The character of the service can well be imagined. The bribe was taken so much for granted that Crothers fought with the "S. P." to have his bribe raised from $250 to $25,000!

This is the type of rat that goes in for red-baiting. A more disgusting spectacle than this one of a righteously indignant front being put up against "propaganda to overthrow the United States government." This rag which was in the pay of one of the most corrupt political machines controlled by a bloated corporation, has the brass bound and leather lined guts to raise a yawp about the activities of the Young Workers League which is organized together with the adult communists of this country to do away with exactly such conditions as exist in California today:corrupt capitalist government, wholesale imprisonment of workers who are fighting for their rights, child labor in the "sunny groves," and every other foul excresence on the body of capitalist society.

In the very same issues which squawk about the young communists and their activities are contained news items about fire traps which in polite language are called public schools. These schools are old broken down buildings which are in imminent danger of collapsing or being consumed in fire together with all the kiddies who attend them. Why doesn't the virtuous Bulletin raise a cry of alarm about the condition of things, instead of about the work of education and struggle against these and similar conditions which are being carried on by comrades on the coast.

The painted street walkers who infest the highways of San Francisco can be considered models of virtue compared to the Bulletin. The former at least do not make any hypocritical pretenses about selling themselves.

poseuhnstrug

Boy Scouts; Future Soldiers

One of the reasons given by some of our leading official lights for the organization of the youth into the Boy Scouts is that the latter makes the boy healthy, clean and upright. They continually protest that the Boy Scouts is not a military organization.

Oh, no! Not by 'arf! Listen to what Lieutenant-Colonel Lister has to say about the subject:

> "The time is coming when the military will take more interest in the Boy Scouts. It is on this organization that the future defense of the nation has its foundation. From the Boy Scouts the future soldier joins the junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps in high school, then he becomes a member of the senior R. O. T. C. in college, and later joins the National Guard, civilians' military training camp or officers' reserve corps."

This is what the Young Workers League has always maintained: the Boy Scouts is nothing but a military preparation organization which trains the youth of this country to be ready to fight the wars of imperialism and to help drown the struggles of the workers in the latter's blood as is done in every important strike by the national guard and the state militias.

How Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, can give his indorsement to an anti-labor training school like the Boy Scouts is more than we can see. No working class organization or leader worthy of the name should place its stamp of approval on an organization which is run for the express purpose of working against the best interests of labor. Labor must line up to fight the Boy Scouts and similar militarist organizations just as it would any other organization fostered by the capitalists of this country. There can be no room for the Boy Scouts and their brood in the working class movement.

Our Language Policy

Discussions in certain language-speaking branches of the league on the issuance of a paper has raised the entire question of the language branches in the Young Workers League. And to clear up certain points for the comrades it is well to say that the policy of the League on this point is simply the following and nothing more.

The language branches are nothing but half-way houses between the time when the immigrant young workers come off the steamer until they are in the regular English branch. For example, out of the 39,730 Jewish speaking immigrants that arrives in this country between July and November 1923, a considerable part of them were young workers. It is the duty of the Jewish branches of the league to carry on propaganda among these youths in order that they may not fall prey to the bourgeois and semi-bourgeois organizations which are on the hunt for victims. But these young workers must not be kept in their language branches forever. The youth CAN learn the native tongue in a short time, thru night schools and more particularly thru their everyday connections and conversation with their fellow workers on the job. Our policy is a steady transference of the comrades in the foreign language speaking branches who have learned to speak English into the English branches, remembering always to leave sufficient comrades in the old branches to work among the newcomers. This transition will be made much more easy with the establishment of shop nuclei, where the real conditions of every day work will force the comrades to work together in the common language of the American working youth.

That this policy of the league and its national executive committee is a wise one is proved almost every day by actual and incontestable facts. In Fitchburgh, Mass., the Finnish branch voted to carry on its work in English hereafter. In Revere, Mass., the Jewish branch has done the same thing—and carried by a unanimous vote, too! In Cleveland the Ukrainian branch of the league made the change in four weeks, without the loss of a single comrade. Youngstown, Ohio, Jewish branch, is studying and discussing the program of the league in English. In St. Louis the work is going along well, and Chicago is making a good start. The writer, speaking to a number of members of a Jewish branch in Chicago, was pleased to note that every single one of them expressed a willingness to join anEnglish branch. Willingness! Anxiety would be better! One of the comrades, here only 5 months, was going to join an English branch as soon as she finished her night school—a couple of months. And the reason why the others had not joined before this was because they had been given to misunderstand the problem by certain comrades, who are stronger for wagging the tongue and argumentation than for work.

The policy of the national executive committee is a correct one and is in accord with the decision of the last convention. A clear, unbiased understanding of it would do much to wipe from the slate of our work the false side-issues that have been brought out by unnecessary discussions.

It is the duty of the great orator to howl for war, and then hold some other man's coat while he fights.—Bill Nye.

If the workers would break their chains they must first learn to use their brains.

Not A Bad Motto

I am aware that many object to the severity of my language; but is there not cause for severity? I will he as harsh as Truth, and as uncompromising as Justice. On this subject I do not wish to think, or speak, or write, with moderation. No! No! Tell a man whose house is on fire to give a moderate alarm; tell him to moderately rescue his wife from the hands of the ravisher; tell the mother to gradually extricate her baby from the fire into which it has fallen—but urge me not to use moderation in a cause like the present. I am in earnest—I will not equivocate—I will not excuse—I will not retreat a single inch—and I will be heard. The apathy of the people is enough to make every statue leap from its pedestal and hasten the resurrection of the dead.—William Lloyd Carrison.

FIVE YEARS OF THE COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL

By MARSH.

The fifth anniversary of the organization of the Third Communist International is now being celebrated in all the four corners of the earth. The Communist International is being hailed by the oppressed workers, young and old, all over the world as their leader in the daily struggle for emancipation from the miseries and horrors of capitalism, the worst system of society that man has ever seen.

What has the Communist International done for the international working class to deserve its confidence and maintain leadership?

In 1914, when Europe was swept into the imperialist war, the Second International and its spokesmen, collapsed in the face of fire, and joined hands with the imperialist robbers of their various "fatherlands," each declaring the war to be one of the defense of their country. They ignored the revolutionary resolutions they had adopted in Basle, 1912, in which they called on the workers to wage a revolutionary struggle against the imperialist war which they knew was coming. Instead, they grew hoarse in shouting to the workers to join in the bloody war and help to shoot down their class brothers on the other side of the border. The Second International was morally dead. The world organization of the working class seemed to be shattered beyond recovery.

The Youth to the Fore.

It was here that the organized socialist youth stepped out upon the scene and took the initiative in rebuilding the revolutionary movement not only in their own lands, but internationally. The first attempt to recreate the international was made in September 1915, when representatives of numerous youth organizations gathered at Berne, Switzerland, and issued the slogan of "War against War!" a slogan which aroused the revolutionary instincts and hopes of the working masses who were being submerged beneath the sea of blood which they were shedding to protect the imperialist interests of their masters and their socialist aides.

This youth group took part in the Zimmerwald conference, 1915 and the Kienthal conference of April 1916. The youth was the backbone of the Spartacus Bund and the newlyformed Communist Party of Germany, and their lives were the first to be given in the heroic uprising of the Sparticists in January 1919. In Austria, Italy, France, Russia, Hungary, the Scandinavian countries, the youth was to the forefront in helping to reconstruct the revolutionary international.

The final organization of the Communist International revived the hopes of the class-conscious workers of the world. They rightly saw in it not only the strongest arm of the Russian workers in protecting and maintaining their proletarian revolution, but also the instrument of leadership on which they could rely for staunch integrity to the revolutionary principles of communism. The workers' parties of the world slowly awoke from their lethargy and declared their adhesion to the international. Under the sagacious leadership of Nicolai Lenin, the international was founded on the solid bedrock of Marxism and led into the fight against capitalism and social democratic treason with uncompromising clarity of thought and action. Guided by the beacon lights of the works of Lenin, Zinoviev, Trotsky, Radek and the host of other revolutionaries, the parties of the workers fell into the line of march. In every country, the call of the Communist International was answered by the workers dragging themselves from the rut of the socialist parties and forming their national sections of the international communist party.

Communist International Proved Correct.

The guidance of the Communist International has proved to be invaluable to the organized workers of the world. They have seen the advice of the international justified in every instance. When the international called for a split from the old socialist party and the formation of an independent communist party, it was shown to be right by the passage of time. When it asked for unity of fractions, the carrying out of this unity proved its correctness. The slogan of the united front of the working class against capitalism found a response in the hearts of all theworkers, just as today the call for the formation of workers' and farmers' government is being answered by the oppressed of all nations.

During the five years of its existence, the Communist International has gained the support of the class-conscious workers of the world. It has shown itself to be foremost in the support of the interests of the workers and the poor farmers, to be in the front ranks of the fight against capitalism and exploitation and for the struggle for a real peace on earth. It has gained the respect and following of the oppressed colonial slaves of the imperialist powers. It has supported with all its power the rule of the first workers' republic, Soviet Russia and rallied to it similar support from the masses. It has aided the organization of the revolutionary youth into the world organization, The Young Communist International. In our own country, the Communist International has been the inspirer of our struggle, our leader in thought, and our brother in helping to organize our communist movement which today ranks with the best. Thru the advice of the international we have unified our movement, set its feet on the high road of mass organization, and, fighting with the workers every day, are marching towards our goal.

Will Carry On With Our Work.

With the death of our great leader, Nicolai Lenin, the necessity arises to double our efforts and activities under the leadership of the Communist International and its youth section, the Young Communist International. As fraternal organizations, we pledge ourselves to carry on the fight against capitalism in this country in the spirit of the Communist International. We shall not rest until victory is ours!

IF I WERE A POET

If I were a poet and grey and tired,
And found I had come to be much admired
By cultured cliques for my style so rare,
With my picture in book-shops everywhere;
'Twould give me small joy as I sat apart,
Worn out and faint at heart.

But I know what would bring the blood to my check
And stir my narrow, though never so weak,—
If I saw from my window some day in spring
The *workingmen* pass, and they should sing
In time to their step as they strode along,
And mine should be the song.

—By Albert Ulrik Bååth in the translation of Charles Wharton Stork

Preparing For Another War

By LESLIE MORRIS.

From speeches given at a talk-fest that took the form of a banquet to the Infantry Association in Winnipeg recently, the following excerpts have been taken. They show clearly to the working class the nature of the outlook of the representatives of imperialism who live for the sole purpose of giving vent to such ominous and owlish statements to the workers who are gathered together in the name of the boss. The rumblings of the next war are already heard in our own land. The following report is taken from the capitalist press.

> "So long as we have thieves, robbers, thugs, and people who depend upon evil gain instead of honest endeavor, wars will be necessary. Therefore, Canada should be prepared to preserve our property and our lives," he declared. He was glad to meet "those splendid men who are ready to give their lives to do this."—Sir James Atkins.
>
> "In future wars each country will have to prepare for the demobilization of its industries to fill the great demand for war material that the new mechanical turn of warfare will require, and which it will be impossible for our own arsenals to take care of.
>
> "Economic and political institutions will have to undergo a like change to suit the new circumstances which will harness every arm of the nation.
>
> "The idea that mechanical warfare will lessen the number of men required is a serious mistake; more men will be required than ever before."—Major-General Ketchen.
>
> The Cadet movement was highly praised by all speakers. The toast to "The Cadet Services" was proposed by Colonel W. B. Wood who asked the question: "Whither are we drifting in regard to the youth of our country, when boy scouts were prohibited from taking part in public parades, when certain cadets had to hide their uniforms for fear of having them torn up by their parents if they should take them home. Into whose hands have the Boy Scouts drifted—the finest organization in the British Empire," he asked. He cited the case of a lady who wrote to the papers, charging that the scouts and cadets were being taught 'militarism'."—Colonel W. B. Wood.

We have no doubt that the good lady referred to in the last paragraph acted out of the pure goodness of her heart—but alas, sweet words will have no weight with those militaristic humbugs. Something stronger is required—what it will be will rest with the ability of the working class to send them and their bourgeois bosses either to some remote desert island or to hell.

Our Own Fiction Story

One day Count Ludwig Salm von Hoogstraeten saw a picture of Millicent Rogers, millionheiress. Then he saw her. Then he was introduced to her. Then he made love to her. Then he married her. Of course, he didn't have any money, being one of the noblemen whom the terrible workingmen kicked out of his nobility. And therefore, the little matter of Millicent being a $40,000,000 heiress did not for a minute stop him from loving her.

As the "Count" says: "No matter how madly I may have fallen in love, no matter how gravely I may speak of marriage, I am not without a spirit of fun, even though I seldom smile."

Not bad, Ludwig, not bad!

IMPROPAGANDA

In the United States the machine age has reached such a height of perfection that even the Government machinery is run by oil.

* * *

Children work long hours in the beet fields. It sweetens the profits—but it's a bitter fact.

* * *

The German workers are missing meals—
You won't miss your change—send it in!

* * *

Red says:

"If you ask your boss for a raise you're apt to get a rise out of him."

* * *

Particular Party Pests.

May I suggest
Moron de Mott?
He'll do no work
But talks a lot.

* * *

BUT DON'T THEY STRIP IT CLEAN?

Investigations have disclosed an oil scandal, graft in the veterans Bureau, a rotten Cabinet, crooked Senators and bad odor in every section of the Government.

Where do they get that stuff about Washington being the cleanest city in the world?

OFFICE BEANE.

* * *

King Victor Emanuel of Italy is very sick with the grip. Mussolinis?

* * *

Why a bonus for soldiers? Think of the poor fellows who served the Government for a dollar a year during the war and didn't make more than a million.

—Toledo Blade.

* * *

And then, you know,
There's Lucius Bile.
His greatest friend
Is the "rank and file."

* * *

An Illinois preacher is holding revival meetings in a barber shop while the barbers work.

The preacher has a logical mind—it's the right place to trim 'em.

* * *

SUBSCRIBE TO THE YOUNG WORKER—DO YOURSELF A FAVOR.

I rise to move
That comrade Wheezes
Refrain from gabbing
About his thesis.

* * *

AND HERE'S ONE ABOUT MAGNUS THE MILKER.

During a campaign in Minnesota, a Republican party spellbinder had been standing on a platform telling the farmers of a small town that all was well with them. Magnus Johnson climbed on a manure pile near the platform and tuning in his Magnavox, shouted to the assembled: "Ladies and gentlemen: This is the first time that I have ever stood with two feet solidly planted on the Republican platform."

What more do you want?

* * *

No, Mr. Bok, not the League of Nations but the
Young
Workers
League.

—Walt Carmon.

ILLITERACY AND THE SCHOOL

By MARTIN ABERN.

"The old time religion, which was good enough for father" isn't good enough for the modern boy or girl. The old time stuff doesn't go with them.

Business isn't so good any more at the little church around the corner, judging by the report of the Copper and Brass Research Association for building operations during the year of 1923.

The report states that $400,980,000, or 6.77% of the total amount expended on building operations was spent in erecting churches. The old hokum, religion and the church, isn't working the workers and their families so easily nowadays. So the capitalist class is turning to more effective means to direct the minds of the workers away from the miserable realities of life.

The public schools are more effective dope institutions today than the church, because the schools bear some relation to the needs of the working children. The same report states that $1,165,140,000, or 19.67% of the building operations expenditures were devoted to constructing schools. This would be very laudible indeed if the money expended really resulted in getting away from superstition (church, religion, etc.) to literacy and intelligence upon the part of the workers. However, the only change is that the work of doping the minds of the workers and their children is being transferred from the church to the little red school house, the high school, and the so-called institutions of higher learning, the colleges and universities.

Naturally, the workers turn their heads away from churches and the knights of the black gown, who deal with things that are neither seen, heard nor felt. They turn towards things they understand.

Fearing that the worker, thru his every day struggle against capitalism, will begin to see his condition as it actually it, and see also the necessity for revolt, capitalism turns to the other mental drug: the schools.

The schools, which have now been transformed by capitalism into mere institutions that prepare the workers' children to participate in industry, are not so much houses of learning as they are places in which the child is taught to add and subtract, given some vocational training so that he may be suited for a job as soon as he leaves school. And of course the patriotic buncombe and nonsense is not forgotten for a single instant. By no means! It is a regular part of the child's education. He must be taught that "all is for the best in the best of all possible worlds." Not the slightest tendency towards seeking the truth, not to speak of rebellion, is permitted to remain in the mind of the child by the time the school get thru with him.

And yet we find in the question of education another of the numerous contradictions of capitalist society. On the one hand there is the tendency to educate the child in the fashion indicated above, and on the other hand there is the tendency to leave the child an illiterate.

After all, very little knowledge is necessary for the child who slaves in the beet fields, the canning factories, the sweat shops, the mines and the mills. The United States, as the most developed capitalist country in the world, has comparatively the smallest expenditure in its budget for education.

Alabama state superintendent of education, W. Abercrombie, speaking in "National Obligations in Education," at the convention in Chicago of the National Educational Association, pointed out that there are 5,000,000 illiterates in this country over 10 years of age, and that 3,500,000 cannot speak the English language. Brother Abercrombie ought to know whereof he speaks, for he comes from one of the states in the Union where the greatest exploitation of labor exists side by side with the greatest illiteracy.

Where industry is not developed to a high degree, even the schools are neglected by the masters. This can be seen in comparing the illiteracy of the south and the western agricultural states with that of the industrial north. And even in the north, as machines begin to replace the necessity for skilled and educated slaves, the capitalists and patriots harp less and less about the glorious opportunities which this conntry gives to all in the matter of education.

Capitalism doesn't give a snap any more about illiteracy. So long as it does not interfere with their profits, the bloated bourgeois marches along with calm indifference to this blotch on their pretended democracy. An illiterate worker is more difficult to organize for the purpose of bettering his conditions, or overthrowing the society which exploits him.

In the matter of educating the masses as in all other vital questions, capitalism offers no hope. Only in a working class society like Soviet Russia, where education has been divorced from exploitation, is REAL EDUCATION of the masses, the development of the individual for the betterment of society, being realized.

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY TO SEE OPENING OF Y. C. I. CONGRESS

The Fourth Congress of the Young Communist International will be held in September, 1924, on the occasion of International Youth Day. The congress will be held in Moscow, as usual, and the Young Workers' League of America, as a fraternal organization, will be represented. The news of the date of the next congress of the international young communist movement has just been received in this country and will most likely mean the postponement of the third national convention of the Young Workers League of America until the very end of the year 1924. It has been the rule in the league to hold national conventions within four months after the sessions of the international body and this procedure will probably be followed out this year.

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