

THE YOUNG WORKER

An Organ of the Militant Young Workers

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MAIL ORDER WORKERS GET WAGE CUTS

HUNDREDS ARE LAID OFF, WAGES CUT AND WORK INCREASED

Nucleus Urging Fight

Bernard-Hewitt's is one of the smaller Chicago mail order houses where the conditions are even worse than those in the bigger houses. Not satisfied with the big profits they were able to wring out of the young workers during the Christmas rush by speeding them up and making them work long hours overtime at straight pay, the Bernard-Hewitt bosses after laying off between two and three hundred young workers as a reward for their hard work during the rush period have gone so far as to cut the wages of those that remain.

They have done this because they are aware of the weakened position of the young workers as a result of the layoffs, and because they think that those left are so scared of being laid off too, that they will accept the wage cut without a fight.

The way the company cuts the wages, many of which are already below the living level, is by "giving" them Saturday off (without pay) and then speeding them up during the 5 days they work thus making them do the six days work in five days, and increasing their profits all the way around.

For those young workers now getting "as high" as \$18 a week this means a pay of \$15 and for some of the girls it means their pay will be reduced to as low as \$10 and \$11 a week.

Besides having their wages cut the young workers at Bernard-Hewitt's still have to work from 8:00 in the morning until 5:30 at night, despite the fact that the company could have easily reduced the hours of work instead of laying off so many. Also the young Bernard Hewitt workers are rushed as much if not more than before, despite the fact that the company could have abolished the speed up-instead of laying off so many, which was absolutely unnecessary except for the purpose of increasing the bosses' profits.

But the young workers in Bernard-Hewitt's are not going to accept the wage cut and the increased exploitation without a fight. The Bernard-Hewitt nucleus of the Young Workers League is carrying on a fight demanding full pay for Saturday among other demands, and are calling upon the other young workers in Bernard-Hewitt's to join them in the fight against the cut in pay, against the speed up system and demanding shorter working hours instead of lay-offs. They are also demanding that the bosses spend some of the profits they made during the Christmas rush to improve the lighting and ventilation which is very bad at Bernard-Hewitt's. Only by organizing into the Bernard-Hewitt nucleus of the Young Workers League will the young workers at Bernard-Hewitt's be

\$14 Is New Average for Textile Workers! What Do Youth Get?

FALL RIVER, Mass.—An average weekly wage of \$14 will be the result for Fall River textile workers in many mills if the announced 10 per cent wage cut is accepted, according to John Campos, executive council member United Textile Workers. A committee found that Fall River mill owners had been quietly reducing wages even before concerted action was taken and that with 10 per cent more off many workers would be suffering 221 per cent cut. The young textile workers who are the most exploited and receive the lowest pay feel the wage cuts most, and are active in the fight against the wage cuts.

able to improve their conditions and prevent them from becoming even worse.

Montgomery Ward Makes Huge Profits

The Montgomery Ward bosses have just issued a bulletin for all the young workers telling them what a prosperous year they had during 1924 and predicting an equally prosperous year for 1925 if the young workers slave equally hard at equally low wages. The company though it would make the young Montgomery Ward workers happy to know that the 1924 sales broke all records, totaling \$162,715, 494 and surpassing last year's total by 20.8 per cent.

But instead this bulletin reminded the young workers in Montgomery Ward's of the fact that they received no pay increase and no bonus as a reward for their hard work during the Christmas rush. To remind the young workers of the hard work during the Christmas rush, the long hours overtime at straight pay, etc., the company announces that sales for December aggregated \$20,145, 196 and letting us know how successful they were in speeding us up by announcing the fact that the sales for December of this year were 72.5 per cent greater than the average December sales for the five previous years.

Fight for these Demands

When the young Montgomery Ward workers abstract their small wages and the other running expenses from these sales and imagine what big profits these large sales mean for the Montgomery Ward bosses, this Bosses Bulletin only stimulated them to join with those young workers organized in to the Montgomery Ward nucleus (shop unit) of the Young Workers League and fight harder to improve their condition. The answer to this bulletin issued by the Montgomery Ward bosses, is the bulletin issued by the young workers to join with them in the Montgomery Ward nucleus and fight for the following demands:

1. Shorter work day instead of lay-offs.
2. Double pay for overtime.
3. Abolition of the speed-up system.
4. Organize a union (Retail Clerk's International Union is the union for mail order house workers)

JAP IMPERIALISTS TAKE A LEAF OUT OF BOOK OF U. S. BROTHERS IN MILITARY TRAINING OF YOUTH

By JOHN HARVEY.

THAT voluntary military training has many advantages over the compulsory method, is shown by the recent move of the Japanese government.

After watching with jealousy the efficient way in which the American capitalists have been taking military training to the youth in the schools, Boy Scouts and other organizations, the Japanese government decided that if they expected to train as many boys as the Americans, they would have to make a radical change in their present military system of two years' compulsory military training.

To this end there has been an agreement between the departments of war and of education to immediately institute a plan for the reduction of the two years' compulsory service in

the army, substituting military drill in the colleges and high schools. Graduates from middle schools (corresponding to the American high schools, are exempt from one year's training and graduates of normal schools only need to serve five months. The war department will also extend similar "privileges" to the Boy Scouts and young men's associations.

With war so imminent, the Japanese government has decided it must adopt the methods of the American imperialists in order to reach a greater number of young workers and students than they are able to handle thru the compulsory military training. By the new plan they will be able to reach almost every boy between the ages of 12 and 21 and no doubt, plans will be laid to reach the older ones at their places of work and the younger in the elementary school.

CHILD LABOR LAW UP IN NEW YORK

LEGISLATURE AND FAKERS DISCUSS BOGUS AMENDMENT AT ALBANY

BOSSSES FIGHT FOR PROFITS

NEW YORK.—Child marriages and child labor held the floor at the public hearing of the New York state commission to examine laws relating to child welfare. Senator Benjamin Antin, who has been quoted in favor of the federal amendment on child labor, presided.

The old arguments for and against the amendment were dragged out with the familiar cry of Bolshevism. James P. Holland, president New York State Federation of Labor, and John P. Coughlin, secretary New York City Central Trades and Labor Assembly, spoke for the amendment.

Charges that even worse results than the 18th amendment brought would result from the 20th, were made by William McCarrroll, a director of the New York board of trade and transportation. Mrs. E. S. Shumway, of the New York Committee for Our Homes and Children, agreed with McCarrroll that the amendment would mean "nationalization" of children.

Limitation of immigration will increase the number of child workers according to George W. Alger, chairman New York Child Labor committee, who argued against McCarrroll. Already, he claimed, reports from 39 cities show an increase of 20 per cent in child labor and nine cities report an increase of 50 per cent. He said it was ridiculous to claim that a measure endorsed by President Coolidge, Harding and Lodge could be in any way Bolshevistic. Mrs. F. Louis Slade, president New York State League of Women Voters, were moved by business considerations.

Then, of course, your branch should have squads to concentrate on selling The Young Worker outside those factories employing the greatest number of young workers in your district. Especially should The Young Worker be sold regularly at those factories where we have had a campaign.

WESTINGHOUSE COMPANY USES COMPANY UNION TO DOPE THEIR WORKERS

The Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing company, a section of the electrical trust, is a growing concern, growing by the profits wrung from its workers, and has hundreds of shops scattered thruout the country. The coupon clippers, or share holders, who do not do one moment of work are continuously reaping huge profits, but the Westinghouse worker can assure you that his wages are gradually being reduced in many ways, altho it is he, the worker, who produces everything, yet his conditions are daily becoming worse.

The company union, called the Works Joint Conference Committee, held a meeting on Sept. 15, 1924, and believe me some bull was thrown at the joint. The chief toreador, R. L. Wilson, who by his admission considers himself quite an economist, did a big days work. The subject under discussion was "Cooperation." One would think all the new fangled time system and other efficiency schemes that there were no other methods left to drive the workers, but some people are hard to please.

In the last issue of the "Young Worker" it was pointed out that the company shop committee was simply an instrument used by the bosses to fool the workers and here is the evidence. R. L. Wilson, works manager, and chairman of the shop committee is quoted in the "Westinghouse News" of October,

AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY MAKES FEEBLE PROTEST AGAINST CONSCRIPTION

WANT DEMOCRATIC WAR

MELBOURNE, Australia:—The All-Australian conference of Australian labor party demands that no Australian may be conscripted for military service overseas. This pacifist protest against war on the part of the Australian Labor Party patents closely the pre-war stand of the German Social Democrats and the pre-election statements of the British Labor Party. This decision only means that when a labor government is formed in the federal parliament a referendum will be taken and the constitution altered—if a majority vote could ever be obtained after war was once declared. The conference took no stand against militarism as represented in the armed capitalist forces at present existing in Australia and laid no serious plans for fighting against the next war once it is declared.

SUPREME COURT GRANTS APPEAL

LABOR DEFENSE WINS FIGHT FOR HEARING OF RUTHENBERG BY U. S. COURT

WILL SOON BE OUT ON BAIL

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A writ of super-seedeus was granted C. E. Ruthenberg, national secretary of the Workers (Communist) Party by Justice Louis Brandeis of the U. S. Supreme Court yesterday. This appeal was granted after the writ had been refused by Justice McReynolds of the U. S. Supreme Court, who hears most cases for the district of Michigan. Comrade Ruthenberg will be out of the state prison at Jackson, Michigan, as soon as the many technicalities can be taken care of. Bail has been set at \$7,500. Frank P. Walsh and I. E. Ferguson were the lawyers who presented the appeal.

SOUTH BOSSES EXPLOIT YOUNG

EXPLOITATION OF WHITE AND NEGRO YOUTH GROWS RAPIDLY

260,000 ILLITERATE NEGROES

Children and young workers of the south find their lot becomes harder every day, according to reports that come to the Young Worker. Besides the active opposition of the capitalists of the south to the child labor amendment, there is the constant increase of exploitation of the southern youth. The colored youth suffers most, as in many states they constitute half or more of the population.

Two new stories on the enslavement of the southern youth add to the horrible picture of the conditions of the negro and white working youth of the "sunny" section of the United States.

RALEIGH, N. C.—Strong opposition continues to meet efforts to better the conditions of the colored and white working youth.

Last August the North Carolina state legislature almost unanimously rejected the federal child labor amendment. The North Carolina cotton manufacturers' association has taken the same position.

"The vigorous and rapid growth of industry in the state of North Carolina is too well known to require comment," said Commissioner Shipman in his recent annual report. "In startling contrast to this industrial development is the backward state of legislation in behalf of the workers who are its basic necessity."

No Compensation for Injury. "North Carolina is one of but six states of the union lacking a law providing for the compensation of industrial injuries. The old rule of common law, that places on the employe the burden of the trade risk, for the creation of which he is not and cannot be primarily responsible, has been set aside in 42 states and practically every foreign country. Its injustice condemns it, and its short-sighted economic policy is a war with both humanitarian and business standards."

Terrible Illiteracy. ATLANTA, Ga.—The Georgia illiteracy commission reports that there are more than 66,000 native white persons over 10 years of age in this state who are unable to read or write, while the colored illiterate number more than 260,000.

The commission proposes that illiteracy be removed by teaching, reading and writing. This is good as far as it goes, but it is not a solution, said Editor Jones. He shows that Georgia is turning out illiterates at the rate of 25,000 a year.

"In other words we fill the hopper about as fast as we empty it. Why wait until a person is 21 to teach him to read and write? He who would drain his fountain of muddy water should first stop the muddy water from running into the fountain."

Figures issued by the state superintendent of education indicate that 150,000 children of school age were not enrolled in any school in 1922, and of those enrolled less than 250,000 could attend school more than six months in the year.

LEAGUE BRANCHES, ATTENTION

All league units must immediately send in the name and address of their industrial organizer. The efficiency of our new industrial registration depends upon your furnishing this information at once.

LENIN'S CONTRIBUTION TO YOUTH

Govt. Answers Bosses With Six Gunboats For Chinese River

WASHINGTON.—When the Senate approved the naval construction bill it authorized a building program expected to cost \$110,000,000. Prominent on the building program is the provision for the construction of six gunboats for the Yangtze river service in China. This shows up the hokum of "for the defense of our country" and is even more significant now that the imperialists have again resumed the fighting over the exploitation of China. The following interesting facts leaked out during the preceding in the Senate: At the Annual Meeting of the Associated American Chambers of Commerce of China the question of the Yangtze patrol force was seriously discussed by the assembled American business men and they decided that they must see that the government increase this force and render it more efficient. Towards this end a pamphlet "For the Protection of American Lives and Property in China" was published on October 1st, 1923 and circulated to members of Congress and other officials of the government. In addition to that for more than a year an intensive propaganda campaign was carried on throughout the country and as a result all turned out well for those with capital invested in China and there will now be six gunboats for the Yangtze—"for the protection of our national honor."

WAR SHOUTER IS NOW FOR PEACE

WASHINGTON.—"Upon these grounds I finally renounce war," says Sherwood Eddy, converted from militarism, in a pamphlet reviewed by the National Council for Prevention of War. "I will take no further part in it. I will not sanction or bless any future war between nations. I will strive with a large and rapidly increasing number of Christians to lead the church to excommunicate it, that the state may finally outlaw it, and make it as illegal as slavery, the duel, highway robbery or private murder."

The declaration is made at the end of Eddy's story of his own conversion from ardent opposition to pacifists to a position of absolute pacifism on moral and religious grounds. During the war he wrote The Right to Fight, defending America's entry into the world slaughter an indicting Prussian militarism on 10 points. In that work he declared that the pacifists were lacking in social morality because they would not take up arms with the government whose protection they claimed.

War objectors will watch Eddy when the war-drums beat again.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT MEET TO FIGHT ANTI-UNION DOPE

NEW YORK.—To counteract open shop and anti-union propaganda injected into the schools, the National Association for Child Development held a conference on January 28 to which all New York labor unions were invited to send delegates. Among the signers to the call were labor officials representing unions with a total national membership of 400,000.

Chambers of commerce and other antilabor bodies are accused by the association of poisoning the minds of school children, particularly the workers' children, instilling an antilabor and antisocial spirit. The child development group aims to help the growing generation of boys and girls to understand the problems of the workers and so create a stronger labor movement.

Results of League Membership Meetings

Chicago: For the N. E. C.: 67; Minority 26.
*New York: For N. E. C.: 74; D. E. C. position 83; 3rd position 11.
Detroit: For the N. E. C. unanimous.
Cleveland: For the N. E. C. 12; Minority 24.

YOUNG WORKERS OF WORLD REMEMBER ANNIVERSARY IN STRUGGLE

For Leninist Leagues

By OLIVER CARLSON

A pall of grief and sorrow hung over Russia as I entered it from Finland a day after the news of Lenin's death had been made known to the world. The Finnish press gloated over the decease of the man who was the embodiment of the revolutionary will to power by the oppressed and enslaved classes of all the world. Smug business men and white-garbed officers in Helsingfors chuckled with unrestrained glee—but the Finnish workers, stolid and unemotional as they are, and hardened by the cruelties of a capitalist dictatorship) bent their heads in grief. And as they mourned the loss of Lenin one could see them determining to fight on more persistently than ever before to rid themselves of their masters and exploiters.

In Russia the mourning was universal. The intense cold of January was forgotten by the thousands and millions of young and old who marched with bared heads thru the cities, towns and villages to pay tribute to the one man who above all others had given them leadership and had shown them the way to emancipation during the many years of czarist persecution as well during the long years of war and revolution. Those days immediately following Lenin's death with their never-ending procession of workers and peasants; with the poignant sorrow and mourning; with a whole people unable to shake off their heartfelt grief for days and days is a picture that is indelibly engraved upon by memory—a picture that taught me more than all the speeches and books and demonstrations of a lifetime to what an extent Lenin personified all that was greatest and best in the workers and peasants of the whole of Russia. It made me understand in a way that nothing else has done that Lenin was not a mere man but the program of the worldwide revolutionary movement.

What did Lenin do for the youth movement? If the reply is to be measured in terms of the number of speeches he made to the youth or the number of pamphlets and books he wrote devoted especially to them, then his contribution is not very large. But if it is to be measured by the ideas he gave them, his contributions are enormously great. His articles in the *International Youth* during the World War laid the basis for the bolshevik method of conducting anti-militarist work. The spineless pacifism and the yellow social-patriotism were swept aside by him in terse and uncompromising language. His demand that the workers prepare the war as a means of arming themselves and turning it into a class-war for the uprooting of capitalism came like a breath of fresh air into the foul and stenching atmosphere that had been created by the betrayal of the workers of all the world by the leaders of the socialist parties. Lenin said that an oppressed class which was not prepared to put up a fight for the own liberation was only worthy of being an oppressed class.

Lenin taught us to realize that

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ONLY ONE MONTH TO RAISE ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS



A Thousand Short! What Is Your Branch Doing About It?

SOME FACTS

- We need \$2,000 before we can have the "Weekly" Young Worker. We must have the weekly by March 1st! Nearly \$1,000 has been received to date on the "Weekly" Young Worker Campaign Fund. That leaves us exactly ONE MONTH to collect the other thousand. A WEEKLY BY MARCH 1st! We Don't Care How You Raise It We don't care where and how your branch gets the money, as long as you raise every cent you possibly can! Run real money making socials! Fill out those collection lists! And turn in the money as fast as you raise it! EVERY MEMBER A WORKER FOR THE WEEKLY!

TOILING YOUTH

By HARRY GANNES.

The law protects property more jealously than it ever even made pretense of protecting the lives of the workers. Property in the eyes of the law is sacred, while the lives and health of the child laborers about which we still have much to say—later—does not matter at all to our gray-haired judges. (Incidentally, I might say, the American judges are proud of their gray whiskers. In Illinois, on the occasion of the death of a Supreme Court judge, an article was written on what wonderful gray whiskers the old gentleman had.)

The police and militia are part of the law. They enforce the laws. For instance, during the strike in the coal fields in West Virginia troops were sent to guard the mines; in Gary, Ind., during the steel strike, soldiers protected the property of the Illinois Steel Corporation. When workers are shot and slugged by armed guards hired by the bosses, the government protects the factory owners thru injunctions. Nearly always, the detectives and hired gunmen that are sanctioned by the law in strikes, start the riots that newspapers blame on the workers. Richard C. Cabot, professor of Social Ethics at Harvard, in a report declares: "Detectives were obviously and directly responsible for much provoked violence in the steel strike, the Centralla affair, the shooting at Everett, Washington, and in almost all the riots attendant upon the recent street railway strikes." (The Labor Spy, page 65.)

The entire government machinery which is owned and controlled by the wealthy few is set up against the workers. Passing injunctions against strikers is a favorite indoor sport of our modern judges. Workers strike in order to give their children a better education, perhaps to feed them because they are hungry, and sometimes out of sheer inability to work under brutal conditions. The workers have but little means of informing other workers of their struggles, so they resort to a natural method, picketing. That is, they stand outside of the shop where the strike is on and tell other workers not to scab on them. Sometimes they do not even say anything; they just carry signs on their back. But those old gentlemen with the pretty gray whiskers, who in their early days have done much work for the rich, say to the workers, "No. You shall not do that. If the boss wants to hire scabs, he can do it." Of course, they do not use those words. That is what they mean, however, in plain English. Here is what they have said (and this the language nearly every one of them uses):

"To us it seems exceedingly unfortunate that after one supreme court has held that peaceful picketing, so-called, is illegal, and there is no such thing as peaceful picketing, a number of men and women will not only persist in their refusal but will be guilty of contempt of court for placarding and picketing the company's plant. . . ." (American Cigar Co. case, Illinois Appellate Court.)

What usually happens? The police attack the strikers. The newspapers lie; and the men are driven back to work. This happened in the big steel strike of 1920.

Even Woodrow Wilson, before he went mad with power warned the American people that the United States government was owned by those who own the wealth of the country. Wilson said in his book, "The New Freedom," "The

LENIN'S GIFT TO THE YOUTH

(Continued from Page 1.)

our movement is really world-wide; that it embraces the oppressed and exploited peoples of the Orient and of Africa as well as of Europe and America.

Lenin taught us to break with the academic outlook that previously characterized such large sections of the youth movement. Lenin taught us to formulate slogans which could be used to draw the masses into action, to raise their level of class-consciousness and to accelerate the revolutionary movement. Lenin taught us the need of a centralized, disciplined, and world wide organization to lead the struggles of the workers. These and many other things he taught us—the need of an iron dictatorship in the period of transition from capitalism to communism; the need of being able to shift tactics in accordance with the shifting of objective conditions; and last but not least Lenin taught us to have faith and confidence in ourselves, in our own class; that we and we alone are responsible for waging the struggle against international capitalism until it is overthrown and a world-wide system of Soviets established.

Leninism lives in the activities of the masses of revolutionary workers in all countries. And as their numbers grow with each succeeding day we draw nearer to the time when we shall accomplish that task to which Lenin's life and teachings were devoted.

Join the Y. W. L.

masters of the government of the United States are the combined capitalists and manufacturers of the United States . . ." (p. 57). And when Wilson became the head of the government, he became the leading executive for the "combined capitalists and manufacturers of the United States."

When the young fellow or girl gets a job he sometimes has the illusion that there might be an opportunity, and he works hard. The boss does not always feel that way, even though he uses this trick to get the young to work cheaply, for less wages than the older workers. When things get dull he can fire you without any reason whatsoever. He is supreme dictator on the job. Even if you join a union, unless the union can force him to terms, the boss has a right to fire you. The United States supreme court tells the employers they have a right to fire any worker without any reason whatever. You will find their weighty words in the case of Boyer against Western Union Telegraph Telegraph Com-

WESTINGHOUSE COMPANY

(Continued from page 1)

Workers! To better your conditions organize your own union. You have a union known as the "International Association of Machinists" which accepts all workers in the Westinghouse to membership. It meets every second and fourth Wednesday of the month at the Hungarian Hall, East Pittsburgh.

- Demand equal pay for equal work done by women and girls! Demand the eight hour day and five day week! Demand 20 per cent increase in pay! Demand the abolition of the speed up system!

Chasing Them



Policemen chasing the newsboys selling Pravda in 1912. During the Mail Order House Drive in Chicago the bosses and their gangsters attempted to drive away the Young Workers newsies.



Child Labor and Wage Cuts.

Dear Comrades:—

In Rhode Island and Massachusetts the textile magnates dominate the people. If these mills are shut down "Business is rotten." Of course there is opposition, some sort of opposition, led by the petty bourgeois or the S. L. P.

But ho! Along comes the Young Workers League, a young Communist league, and it is putting these slogans up to the common sense of the young worker:

- A six-hour day, and a five-day week. Four weeks' vacation with pay. Organization of the youth. No wage reduction. Fewer looms. Better conditions.

The majority of the youth reading these slogans will soon sense the horrors a great many young textile workers have gone thru. Many of you have heard of a typical New England town, of its main street and its church, but about the struggles of these young victims of the capitalist system you have never heard.

Outside the main street there are streets composed of company houses, where families are crowded together in old fashioned shacks. Some still pump their water from the well. In case of a strike, as in the last textile strike, they can easily be ousted from their homes.

To make more money for the stockholders the managers employ cheap labor—child labor. Many of the workers are illiterate, many are foreigners.

Some of the mills were shut all summer and fall, and the people are starving to obtain any kind of food, clothes and shelter. Mills that have reopened issue wage reductions without notice. The cost of living is still high, but if wages get any lower—

The Young Workers League is teaching the young workers to fight for better conditions for the youth. Join us, young workers, in our struggle.

NAT LYON.

At Bernard-Hewitt's.

Altho I work in one of the smallest mail order houses in Chicago, conditions are about as bad as could be found anywhere.

The wages are ridiculously low, some getting as low as \$12 and \$13 a week. The slave 8 1/2 hours a day. The boss is always hanging around to see that there is no stalling. The conditions are most unsanitary. There is always a lot of dust in the air. No ventilation makes it sultry. The lights are very poor. There may be lights in parts of the floor and the other parts are very dark, making it very bad for the eyes.

During the Christmas rush we had to work overtime a good deal. Only giving us straight time for overtime.

JOBLESS START OUT YOUNG BREAK BODIES AT AN EARLY AGE.

NEW YORK.—Three fifths of the jobless workers in Urbain J. Ledoux's army started industrial work before they were 16. Two fifths started before 14; one quarter started to work before 12. Four per cent of them had suffered industrial accidents when they were young.

Because the men started to work young, although many become skilled workers, most of them are impaired in bodily vigor so that they are the first laid off in depression.

Forty per cent of Ledoux's group are construction workers, 30 per cent restaurant workers, plasterers, painters, carpenters. Public welfare commissioner Bird S. Coler has ordered the five-nights-a-month rule suspended at the municipal lodging house to enable Ledoux's unemployed workers to stay there until they get work.

Work in the Spirit of Leninism.

Make It A Leninist League.

pany, in the Federal Court Reports.

So we see that the road of the great number of young people in the United States from the working class is spiked and walled much like the mansions of the rich; and there are armed guards to stop them like the government with its police and militia and private armed thugs.

One important thing the young worker or child of the worker must realize, is that those who own the wealth are protected and safeguarded in their ownership by the government they own, while on the economic and industrial field the way is blocked by the powerful trusts and large corporations.

The path for the worker's children does not lead out of the horrors of capitalism by an attempt to follow the empty slogans of "opportunity" and "chance," but rather through co-operation and unity with their fellow workers, young and adult.

about all we could make was enough for our supper and carfare. At last the Bernard-Hewitt employees are getting wise and beginning to rebel against such treatment and are organizing themselves against the bosses, especially now that the bosses are laying off employees every day. Even now we are working only five days a week. Of course they dock us for a full day Saturday. How the bosses imagine we can get along that way I don't see. I can write a full page about the tricks they play on us, but as you probably cannot devote that much space, I will conclude by saying that with the help of the Young Workers League we can and will organize very strongly.

Our Issues are: Higher wages, shorter hours, more sanitary conditions (including ventilation), time and a half for all overtime.

I ask all Bernard-Hewitt employees to quit eating out of the bosses' hands and get some backbone in them. Rally for your cause.

Put your shoulder against the wheel and ORGANIZE.

Ask the newsboy (or girl) to tell you more about it. Or write to the Young Workers League, 166 W. Washington St., Chicago, Ill. Discuss this with your shopmates.

One of the Rebellious Slaves.

From a Sunshine Factory.

BOSTON, Mass. — Hundreds of youth from Boston and its vicinity are exploited in the Boston Sunshine Biscuit factory, for a wage of eleven dollars or less. Most of them are between 14 and 22, and they work under a high degree of heat—about 108, for a wage they can't rely on to support themselves. They are not getting the same wage as the adult bakers, who do the same work.

They work for a wage of \$11 a week, nine hours a day. A very few are working piece work, and they make more than that, more than those who work by the week, but their average wage is about \$14.00. For this small wage the girls and boys are obliged to sell their labor power, their youth and their beauty for the benefit of the Nabisco bosses. Their healthy color soon fades to that of a miserable pale face.

I wish you young workers could see the girls of the Nabisco workers and see the girls of the Nabisco bosses and compare them. Then you would soon find who lives and who exists, who makes Nabisco and who owns Nabisco, who enjoys life and who suffers, who wears pretty clothes and must have cheap old rags.

Nine hours they spend in the factory, where there is a heavy atmosphere, no ventilation and the noise of machinery with that of the elevated, five yards from the windows. The factory has about a thousand windows, which are almost all blocked with Sunshine boxes. All day long there

are electric lights, and when the young workers leave the factory the daylight hurts their eyes.

The bakers work under a degree of 108 heat, even in the summer time. Many collapse and many get sick. The newcomers here get \$19 or \$18, and those who have been there a long time \$25. The worst place to work is in the bakery. They swim in sweat most of the time, and often catch cold.

In the shipping room there are working boys between 14 and 22, for an average wage of \$16 a week. Their working conditions are rotten. They are paid by the week, but they are docked for holidays and for every hour they are not on the job.

The bosses of the Sunshine factory take a very grand attitude toward the exploited youth who do not obey orders, and seem grateful enough for having their labor power squeezed into millions for the bosses' benefit.

When the Young Workers League of Boston started the campaign in the Sunshine factory the working youth are so anxious to read the leaflets that they stayed with us for 15 to 20 minutes and talked with us about the conditions. On the second day of the campaign the youth greeted the Young Worker with enthusiasm.

The young workers liked the pamphlet on "Who Owns Nabisco." You could hear remarks everywhere that it was the truth.

Regarding a nucleus we got some names and hope to establish one. We are going to carry on the campaign and will not stop until the Young Workers League is put over as the organization of the youth. We expect to continue to carry on this campaign on the immediate issues and to develop the struggle to hte final victory.

S. WINOKUR.

A MAIL ORDER HOUSE

Dear Comrades:—

On Monday morning, a young Chinaman stepped into the employment office of Montgomery Ward's and asked for a job. The boss just glanced up and without bothering to ask him his vocation motioned him away. The people that happened to be in the room left as tho the bribery thus shown by the boss was more than they could tolerate and they became angry, but of course, they were only workers, under the boss' supervision, so they could not voice their thoughts.

The Chinaman left without another word, but on his face was inscribed such sorrow that it was pitiful to see. The workers should be careful not to follow the bosses in such matters because the boss wants to separate us into different races and colors and religious so that they can keep us weak in the fight against the bosses.

Your correspondent, "Montgomery Wardite."

PIECE WORK RATES ARE USED TO FOOL THE WORKERS IN DETROIT AUTOMOBILE FACTORY

This factory manufactures automobile screws and parts. They work nine hours a day. They have one of the best piece work systems that I have ever seen. The workers are hired for 45 cents to 60 cents an hour.

And this is the way they work it: The first three days they are on day work, unless you make good on piece work. That is to say it is very seldom that a worker can make more than his day rate. After these three days the slaves are supposed to be able to make good on piece work.

When they go on piece work they still receive the day rate. Let say for example that the worker is working on a tapping machine. His wages are 45 cents an hour. And he is threading screws for which he gets 50 cents a thousand. On this order he has 10,000 screws to thread and he would thread one thousand an hour. On this order he would make 45 cents over his day rate. When he comes in the next day he would have one hour more work on this order, and when he finishes this job he will get another, also threading

screws, for which he would again be paid fifty cents a thousand. But he would not be able on this job to turn out any more than 800 screws an hour and at that rate he would make less than his day rate. In 9 hours he would thread 7,200 screws which would equal \$3.60 in wages. That would be 45 cents less than his day rate.

In this way the cycle is kept going. He receives more one day and less the next day, so that when his pay day comes around, he will find that he receives only the same wage as the day rate calls for, or perhaps by accident get a dollar or two more. The best part of all this is that the bosses do not explain the working of the piece-rate system, so that when our semi-monthly pay day comes along the new worker will in most cases quit the job.

There are not the only bad conditions in this plant. The girls get thirty-five or forty cents an hour, and then the piece work comes in. The girls generally make more than their rate because there is a day rate for the girls which gives them less than the speed-up system of the piece-work plan can give them. The girls usually work on hand-milling machines, which slot the screws. They have to use oil on the saws to prevent them from getting hot or burning. In most of the factories there are guards, but this place has none.

I do not think you could find a single dry spot in this factory where there are machines. Sometimes I wonder why the company does not charge for the oil-shower all of the girls get.

This is not the only factory that conditions like these exist in. There are hundreds of these in this city, as bad if not worse.

(To be continued.)

CAPITALIST HUNGER FOR PROFITS BRINGS HORROR LIFE TO YOUTH

Not satisfied with the profits they ring out of child labor, the American bosses employ thousands of boys and girls under 16 to work which is physically dangerous. Not only do they fight the 18 year limit of the proposed child labor amendments, but both state and national legislatures refuse to pass laws prohibiting children under 18 or even under 16 from doing work which results in a large proportion of deaths when children are employed.

The first task of all safety work is to bar all such occupations to all young persons, and the difference in the number of accidents to children in the three states which have some sort of law barring children from dangerous work proves beyond question the great dangers which confront the children in no way protected by such laws.

A group of dangerous machines which some states consider it dangerous for children under 16 to operate include: circular or band saws, wood-working machinery, stamping machines, power printing machines, etc. Nevertheless twenty-one states do not prohibit any of these occupations for children under 16, and they show even less regard for young workers between 16 and 18. Among those states that do prohibit these occupations, six prohibit only a few of them.

Machinery Cause of Accidents. The U. S. children's bureau has studied accidents to young workers in three states which have laws generally considered adequate: Wisconsin, Massachusetts and New Jersey. But how inadequate these laws are which prohibit this work to boys and girls under 16, and which make no restrictions for young workers between 16 and 18, is proved by the investigation which a part of the summary sent out by the children's bureau shows:

"The smallest number of accidents and the lowest accident rates occurred in the case of children under 16. Each of the states had attempted to protect children under this age by prohibiting

them from employment in certain occupations, chiefly in the operation of the source of the greatest accident hazard to young people. Accident figures most dangerous machinery, which is sure reflected the difference in legal protection. Power working machinery caused a larger percentage of accidents to the 16 and 17 year olds than to children under 16 protected by law—or to young workers between 16 and 21 better able to protect themselves. Accidents were also more serious to the 16 and 17 year groups than to either the younger or older workers. Of the injuries to workers under 16, 10.7 per cent resulted in death or partial disablement for life. For those 16 or 17 years old who were injured the rate was 13.4 per cent killed or permanently disabled."

No Legal Protection. Despite the fact that out of 611 accidents to children under 18 in New York state, 307, or over one-half, occurred to children working on metal cutting or stamping machinery; this occupation is permitted to a child of 12 in Georgia and children of 14 in 23 other states. Thirty-nine states allow children under 18 to oil, wipe, and clean machinery in motion, and 19 states permit this work to children under 16. Thirty-seven states allow children under 16 to work on scaffolds and 26 states allow children under 16 to work on railroads, one of the most dangerous of all work for children. Twenty-two states have no law prohibiting children from the group of occupations which includes working in or around dangerous acids, poisons, gasses, dyes, red or white lead, dust, etc.

Hundreds of children are killed or maimed for life at such work only because they are not old enough to take the proper precautions or because they are not able to read or understand the instructions and warnings posted on the machines.

And the bosses get rich out of such exploitation.

"The Coward's Song"

I am tired of living—
Of living for some one else.
Tired of hunting—
Hunting for job and for master.
Tired of working for another's gain.
Tired of hunger;
Tired of dirt;
Tired of grief;
Tired of pain;
Tired of fighting for a life of strife and suffering.

"The Rebel's Song"

I've had enough of living—
Of living for someone else.
Enough of hunting—
Hunting for job and for master!
Enough of working for his gain!
Enough of hunger!
Enough of dirt!
Enough of grief!
Enough of pain!
Enough of fighting for a life of strife and suffering!

I wonder—how far it is from the bridge to the river bed?

I shoulder my gun—I fall into step—
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BY SUNNY.

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STUDENTS DISCOVER THAT WORKERS ARE EXPLOITED!

NEW YORK.—Five young college graduates are finding out by vivid personal experience what a factory wage workers' life is.

Justine Wise is one of the young women in the mixed group. She told her impressions and conclusions to the annual student conference of the League for Industrial Democracy. The college group lives in a worker's house in a textile town near New York. The students are employed in the mills and in addition each studies a special phase of community life in reference to the dominant industries. One studies politics, another religious life, another social activities, as affected by industrial conditions. One of the group has run into the industrial spy system, so closely are unusual manifestations watched for.

That the workers have no idea of the processes of industry, not even of the products or output of the particular factory in which they may have worked as long as nine years, is one of Miss Wise's observations. Workers speak their foreign languages outside of the factory and know barely enough English to enable them to ask for necessities in work in the particular town where the college group located.

Employers treat workers as part of the machinery and do not even try to get maximum efficiency when piecework is the rule, Miss Wise told the conference. Workers wait hours for materials. She has earned from \$14 to \$17.50 per week at piecework bobbin winding. She suggested that going into industry is the best way for college students interested in the labor movement to be trained.

A "Weekly" by the First.

STATEMENT OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Y. W. L. ON DISCUSSION

IN view of the calling of the Enlarged Executive Session of the Communist International and Young Communist International for the near future, the National Executive Committee hereby withdraws the call for the league convention until after the sessions of the enlarge executive.

The discussion in the Young Worker on the statement of the N. E. C. will cease with the January 15th issue of the Young Worker. The discussion in the branches and membership meetings must cease immediately, except for those meetings already arranged prior to the publication of this statement. At these membership meetings already arranged the N. E. C. shall strive to have a representative present and any comrades representing any other definite opinions shall be given equal time to present their viewpoint.

With the closing of the league discussion the organization must unite and knit itself more solidly than ever to carry on the work that lies before us. Regardless of differences during the discussion every comrade must subordinate these and unite behind the policies and the outline of work adopted by the N. E. C. and see that it is carried into effect wholeheartedly by every member and unit of the organization. Our immediate tasks are many, our members are still small and we must not allow anything to hinder us in our progress towards a real, Leninist Young Communist League.

The entire league must enter wholeheartedly the Lenin enrollment drive to "Double our Membership During 1925." This slogan must permeate the entire organization. This must not be an isolated and member catching drive. It must be linked up closely with the organization of our league completely upon the shop nucleus basis. Furthermore our membership drive must be lined up closely with the economic struggles of the working class youth. We must gain the support of the young factory workers upon the basis of our everyday economic and trade union demands. We must permeate the millions of young Negro workers with our propaganda and bring them into our ranks. We must extend our activities amongst the young agricultural workers and thus solidify the city and country proletarian youth. During this year

Colored Mothers Killed Through Brutal Labor

WASHINGTON.—How colored mothers die at child birth, while white mothers in the same region—but in a higher economic grade—are saved, is shown by federal census figures for 1923.

In 1923 the death rate for white mothers at child birth in Kentucky and Maryland was 5.4 per 1,000. In Mississippi it was 6.6; in Virginia, 6; in South Carolina, 7.4, and in North Carolina, 6.7. But for colored mother the death rate in Kentucky was 15.4 per 1,000, in South Carolina, 12.2; in Mississippi, 10.9; in Virginia, 10.8; in North Carolina, 10.7, and in Maryland, 8.3. The colored mother had, as a rule, no money to secure good medical care.

DILLONVALE LEAGUE SHOWS GOOD RECORD OF ACTIVITY FOR YEAR

It is appropriate at this time when the Young Workers' League has launched a national campaign in the mining industry to hear the report of one of the branches of the Y. W. L. located down in Dillonvale, Ohio.

This branch was organized exactly a year ago and is composed overwhelmingly of coal miners. These young workers know what it is to crawl thru the bowels of the earth in a most hazardous occupation where thousands are killed yearly. These young miners organized a branch of the Young Workers' League and also they are located away from the large industrial centers, they have been one of the most active units in Ohio.

The report of the last year covers their various activities in every field. Every member of the branch who is eligible to union membership must belong to the union. Preparations are being made to reorganize the branch definitely on the basis of shop nuclei in accordance with the national decisions.

This branch was also responsible for establishing another Y. W. L. branch in miners in Bradley, Ohio. A live junior movement under the direction of Comrade Kobylak has also been established.

PAOLE ZIONISTS JOIN YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE

ALBANY, N. Y.—A sign of the growing influence and power of the Young Workers League is seen by the recent organization of a branch of the league in this city, the capital of the Empire state. A group of young workers, who had for some time been members of the misleading nationalist organization, the Poale Zion, having become acquainted with the principles of the young Communist movement, left the Poale Zion and formed a branch of the Young Workers League. Additions to the strength of the league are coming in from all countries, especially is the growth of the movement noticeable in various sections of the country where shop and mine nuclei of the revolutionary youth are being organized.

NEW BRAND IN MILWAUKEE

The West Allis Branch of the Young Workers League has been organized in Milwaukee, and is spending the first month of its existence in an active drive for new members. The branch has issued a bulletin outlining a program of meetings for the first month which are of special interest to outside young workers and announcing that all those joining during this first month can enter as charter members. The West Allis branch is expected to be successful in organizing nuclei in its district, since West Allis is the industrial section of Milwaukee and most of the members of the branch are young workers employed in this territory.

NEW YORK JUNIORS MEET

DISCUSS IMPORTANT PROBLEMS TO BUILD THE ORGANIZATION

By ANNA THOMPSON

Saturday, January 3, 1924, the Junior Section of the Young Workers League in New York held a general membership meeting at the headquarters of the John Reed (Downtown) Group, 105 Eldridge Street. In spite of the bad weather and the insufficiency of the preparation, more than 160 juniors were present at this meeting which represents about 25 to 30 per cent of our membership. The meeting was opened by Comrade Morris Spector, the City Organizer of the Junior Section, and the greetings of the D. E. C. and of the leaders committee were presented by Comrade Director, Comrade Martin Gross of the Red Guard (Williamsburgh) group was elected chairman and Ethel Gross (of the same group) the City Secretary, remained Secretary for the meeting.

The general report for the Junior Section of New York was given by the City Organizer, Morris Spector of the Foster (Brownsville) group. He gave a general review of the work of the past few months, emphasized the necessity for more school work and for a greater participation in the school struggle, complained of our low literature sales and our laxity in dues payment, and finally presented a sketch of the work in the future going into some detail on the matter of new groups to be organized. The discussion in the Organizer's report was lively and revolving itself finally into a spirited debate on the question of further organization. The report was finally referred to the C. C. C. of the Junior Section and to the Leaders Committee for action.

Reports were then presented on School Units, on the installation of the proposed Prefecture System, and finally on the program and arrangements for Liebknecht Day. The latter part of the meeting was taken up with the final preparations, under the supervision of Comrade Miriam Silverfarb, leader of the Trotsky (Lower Bronx) group, for the participation of the Junior Section in the Liebknecht Memorial Meeting. The meeting finally adjourned at 6:15 P. M. amid the general feeling that a strongly-knit, strong, City organization of the Juniors was already in existence and functioning.

Mass. Y. W. L. Elects District Comm. at Dist. Conference

WORCESTER, Mass.—The district organizational conference of the Massachusetts district, Y. W. L., held Jan. 11, outlined future activity based on the national programs of action. Much discussion took place of a constructive character, helping to clear up many points.

The newly elected district committee received the unanimous support of the conference. They are as follows: Comrades Binch, district organizer; Gilbert, Prabolous, Helle, Sally, Heikimen and Trywanen.

Comrade Binch has recently been appointed as the district organizer of the Massachusetts district. Comrade Binch writes, that in the immediate future the Massachusetts district will increase its economic trade union work and will participate in every strike which occurs quite regularly in this textile region.

DORIOT FIGHTS FOR YOUNG WORKERS IN FRENCH CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES

(Special to The Young Worker)

PARIS, France.—Jacques Doriot, recently arrested for anti-military work among the troops in the Ruhr and more recently elected a member of the French Chamber of Deputies, has been carrying on an aggressive fight within the bourgeois Parliament in the interest of the young workers of France.

Exposing the wretched conditions of the French proletarian youth in the Chamber of Deputies, he said:

"Do you know that at this time in the district of Bordeaux there are still young people who are working for 25 cents a day to do very difficult work."

Doriot pointed out that this was not an isolated instance. He cited other example of bad conditions of the French working class youth. Doriot put forward the demands of the Young Communist League all over the world of equal pay for equal work, and a 6-hour day for young workers. He showed that now many of the young

workers slave 10, 11 and 12 hours a day; and many are forced to do night work. He showed that the young French proletarians work under unsanitary and dangerous conditions.

Doriot contrasted with these conditions of the young workers the huge military expenditures of the French government. He said: "A government spending four billion francs a year for military preparation could at least give two million francs for the investigation of working conditions of the French working class youth."

One socialist tried to diminish the importance of the facts cited and another asked that Doriot show his union card, which was produced much to the dismay of the Deputy. Doriot is secretary of the Young Communist League of France and has long been active in anti-militarist work in France, being sentenced for two years in 1920 and taking a leading part in the joint work of the French and German Leagues among the armies of occupation in the Ruhr.



Evolution of Society. Lesson No. 2.

We are living today under the economic system called Capitalism. Because of the evils of this system for the workers, some of which were described in the previous lesson, The Young Workers League is working to change it to a system wherein the workers will rule. But to do this, we must understand this system, know how it has developed and how it is changing. We must know the forces that have produced Capitalism, and what forces will be used to overthrow it.

Our present economic system has passed thru many stages in its development. This simply means that at various periods of time in history, people have organized in different ways to obtain food, clothing, and other necessities. The system which they use to make a living is called their economic system.

A very, very long time ago when people lived by means of hunting and fishing, as did the Indians, they shared the products of their toil with the rest of the tribe and owned many things in common. This system has called primitive communism.

Later they found that it was more practical to make the captives work for the victorious tribe, instead of killing them. Thus Slavery began. Slavery was the economic system of Egypt, Greece and Rome, in ancient times. The land was owned by a few, who made slaves work their large plantations. In America the slave system lasted in the South until the Civil War.

The time came during the Middle Ages when the agricultural workers had the use of a part of the land owned by land-owners (called the lord) in return for working a certain number of days a week for the lord. This system was called Feudalism and the workers were known as serfs.

All thru history there have been a certain number of free workers in the towns who sold their labor-power to various people. During the Middle Ages, because of the large amount of trading with far-away countries, these began to grow more numerous and more important. They produced the goods that were used in trade. They became skilled workers and formed organizations like unions, isms?

called gilds. They were not like the modern unions for they admitted both the workers and the bosses to membership. This system is known as Handicraft System.

However, the discovery of the New World, the East Indian and Chinese markets made it necessary to make goods very quickly. The gold and silver from America gave some men the necessary capital to hire workers and put many workers under one roof to produce goods. This was the beginning of the Capitalist system. Instead of each man being at the same time a boss and a worker, now there was one boss to many workers. At first the work was done by hand in shops called manufactures. Later machines were used, and the factory stage of Capitalism began. The power machinery was developed and the industry became the most important means of the production of goods. The owner of the shop usually worked as the boss or superintendent in the early stage of the factory system. Then he began to hire even his superintendents.

Today the large factories are owned by stockholders who often know nothing about the plants. The big companies have grown into trusts which have been increasing in size. They now have factories in many countries. These trusts sell goods to the whole world. This stage is called the monopolistic or imperialistic stage of Capitalism.

In our next lesson we will describe in detail the characteristics of the Capitalist system and the way it functions. To understand the Evolution of Economic Society, the members of the League should read "Principles of Scientific Socialism" by Vail, "Origin of the Family" by Engels and the "Communist Manifesto" by Marx.

- Questions.
1. What do we mean by "economic society"?
 2. Name some of the economic systems of the past.
 3. How did the Capitalist system begin?
 4. What were some of its stages?
 5. Look up some of the early inventions, which helped to develop the factory system.
 6. Name some of the trusts of today.
 7. Who owns the tools which the workers use today.
 8. What do we mean by Imperialism?

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AUSPICES: YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE AND WORKERS PARTY

THE YOUNG WORKER
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Lenin

This issue of the YOUNG WORKER commemorates the first anniversary of the death of Lenin. In other sections of the paper are articles dealing with the various phases of Lenin—the man, the teacher, the revolutionist, the incomparable working-class leader.

After 30 years of revolutionary activity and six years of leadership in the Russian Soviet government, Lenin died. He left behind him a strong Communist Party, a workers' state that has been able to withstand the onslaught of the entire capitalist world for seven years. That workers' state is stronger today than it ever was.

Lenin started his revolutionary struggles at an early age. His brother was hanged by Alexander II for revolutionary activity. From then on to his death, Lenin's life has been one of unceasing labor, study and strife for the workers and peasants, not only of Russia but of the entire world.

The young workers of the United States can learn much from the life of Lenin. Lenin was an ardent student of Marx. Zinoviev, president of the Communist International, says that there were a few men who knew Marx better than did Lenin. Marx was Lenin's favorite author; and Lenin was the direct successor of Marx as a theoretician, revolutionist, class statesman and teacher of the working class. Leninism is Marxism in the period of imperialism and social revolution.

At the third congress of the Young Communist International Lenin sent a message to the rebel working youth. He said, in substance: "Young Comrades! You have a big task before you. On you rests the burdens of carrying on the class struggle to its completion. Learn, study!"

It has now become the ambition of all the young Communist movements everywhere to earn the title of LENINIST LEAGUE. That means, to be able to carry on the struggle in the spirit of Bolshevism and the teachings of Lenin.

When Lenin died, throughout the world, among the masses of workers rang the echo: "Lenin is dead!" But equally emphatically came the reply, "But Leninism lives!"

There is only one monument that can do full justice to the memory of Lenin and that is the world revolution. We young comrades can do our part by making of the Young Workers League a Leninist League and carrying on the class struggle in the spirit of Lenin.

What Brings About Wars?

WE used to be told that wars were fought for all kinds of reasons, from making a world safe for democracy to avenging oneself for the insults to a flag, for the rape of women, for catching babies on the ends of bayonets held by the enemy nation's soldiers.

But once in a while one of the big muck-a-mucks spills the beans, as it were. Instead of uttering these pious and hypocritical phrases, they slip in a word which is a little bit nearer to the truth than the usual piffle that clutters up the columns of the capitalist press.

Such a statement was recently made by none other than Sir Esme Howard, the British ambassador to the United States. Esme is not a bolshevik, a socialist or any other kind of a dangerous bird. In fact he is a good friend of the cute little Prince of Wales and stands in good with all the reactionaries of Anglo-Saxondom.

Speaking to the New York Board of Trade and Transportation, Esme blamed the "frantic competition for concessions in all kinds going on in China, in Persia, in Turkey, in the Balkans, in Morocco as one of the principal causes, for there were many, of the late war.

Do you know what a concession is? It gives the possessor of it the right to exploit some natural resource or to invest surplus capital in a given enterprise. It means profits for the capitalist. And what wouldn't a capitalist do to insure a regular income, a steady flow of the mazzama to his bursting coffers.

Does the capitalist take risks? Of course, he is willing to risk every worker he has at his disposal; all of the strength of the governmental forces which he controls.

As T. J. Dunning, a British writer of some four score years ago, wrote:

"A certain 10 per cent will insure its employment anywhere; 20 per cent certain will produce eagerness; 50 per cent, positive audacity; 100 per cent will make it ready to trample on all human rights; 300 per cent and there is no crime at which it will scruple, even to the chance of its owner being hanged. If turbulence and strife will bring a profit, it will freely encourage both."

But nowadays the capitalist needn't fear being hanged. He sends young workers, dressed up in pretty uniforms, to the war front and after a few years of hideous slaughter, the winner is assured of the control of that new source of profit he was after.

That's how wars are fought these days. Isn't a new capitalist war a pleasing prospect?

Brilliant, Jimmy, Brilliant!

AMONG those who are most actively subsidized by the manufacturers of this country to carry on a campaign of lies against the slightest attempt to alleviate the conditions of the millions of child slaves in this country, we point to Mr. James Emery as the most monumental as of them all, one who deserves the first prize for the lead-lined dunce cap.

In a pamphlet which this manufacturers' lobbyist in Washington has issued he states that Mrs. Florence Kelley was the directing influence in the form and management of the measure (the child labor amendment) in congress and that she is a "socialist leader of marked distinction." Moreover, this expose goes on to state that the Young Workers League has declared for the abolition of wage slavery for all young workers up to 18 years of age. This is supposed to prove that the child labor amendment was written by Lenin, counter-signed by Zinoviev and proread by Trotsky. To make the proof more certain, Emery quotes Senator King of Utah, who declares that "every bolshevik, every extreme communist and socialist in the United States is back of the measure."

If Emery had the intelligence to read The Young Worker he would not be so readily inclined to make such a fool of himself. He would know that the Young Workers League was the first to expose the amendment as a fake measure which could never and would never help the toiling children of America. He would also know that we are in favor of the drive which seeks ratification by the states, at the same time pointing out that nothing of the sort will achieve the aim of the sincere and honest opponents of child slavery.

His nobbiest assertion is, however, the calling of Mrs. Florence Kelley, a socialist leader of marked distinction. The only approach of socialism that Mrs. Kelley ever had was the translation of a little book by Karl Marx. She is one of the quietest and pinkest ladies we know of.

All of which proves that not all the nuts are as yet in captivity. Some of them are pamphlet writers.

"The composition of the leading political vanguard of each class, the proletariat included, depends upon the situation of this class and upon the chief forms of its struggle. . . . If the working youth are in the majority amongst us this explains the attitude of Engels when he answered a bourgeois professor, a German liberal: 'Perhaps it is natural that in our Party, the Party of the Revolution, the youth should predominate. We are the Party of the future and the future belongs to the youth. We are the Party of renewers, and with such the youth always go. We are the Party of unflinching with the old traditions and the youth always marches upon the side of the unflinching struggle.'"

Our factory is turning out Westinghouse brakes and employs 500 male and female workers, of whom about 130 are young workers. Now the conditions of the young workers are much better than before. In the first instance there is a law which prohibits the employment of children under 14. At that age children must go to school. Between the age of 14 and 16 children can be employed in light work and not for more than four hours daily. This enables them to study. There is a six hour day for workers between the ages of 16 and 18, and it is only after the age of 18 that young workers have to work 8 hours like the other adult workers. The young people who work 4 and 6 hours a day receive full pay, namely, as much as they would receive for an 8-hour day.

Gompers had a grand funeral. Wait until we give Gompers's Gompersism a funeral. We'll lay it also between Carnegie and Rockefeller.

Not a strike should pass, not a struggle of young workers should go by, without the Young Workers League and its members entering it with the demands of the young communists.

Subscribe now for the organ of red youth, The Young Worker.

Study and practise the principles of Leninism!

Rally to the Defense!

YOUNG Workers and Communists of America! The sentencing of the executive secretary of the Workers (Communist) Party of America, C. E. Ruthenberg, to a prison term of from 3 to 10 years, and a fine of \$5,000, is the beginning of a new ferocious drive against the entire working class movement in this country.

The re-election of Coolidge, the republican arch-reactionary tool of imperialism, has given impetus to renewed persecution not only against the Communists but also against every section of the labor movement, against every attempt of the workers to better their conditions. It means a more concentrated drive by the bosses of America to lower wages, increase the working day, and break up the trade unions; it means the increase of exploitation and more energetic preparations for new imperialist wars.

Young workers of America! As that section of the working class which suffers the greatest in the industries, mines and fields, which is the first to be dragged into capitalist wars, which is discriminated against in almost every field of industry—both in the trade unions and in the shop—it is your duty to rally to the defense of the revolutionary leaders of the working class. The persecution of the Michigan Communist defendants is an attack on the entire working class.

Unite against the persecution of Communists and all other fighters for the working class!

Demand the abolition of all criminal syndicalism laws and the release of all political prisoners!

Demand more wages and less hours instead of lower wages and longer hours!

Join the struggle to abolish child labor!

Abolish the discrimination against young workers in the unions and in the shops and mines!

Unite for the six-hour day and five-day week for all young workers!

Join the Young Workers League for the struggle against capitalism, the exploitation of the young workers, and the coming of new imperialist laughters!

YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE OF AMERICA,
John Williamson, National Secretary

Lenin and the Fight Against Imperialist War

By L. LEROGUE.

"THE only possible means for the struggle against war is the creation and the maintenance of an illegal organization of all revolutionaries taking part in the war for a continuous work against the war," wrote Comrade Lenin. And that is the practical organizational task which stands before us; but immediately to carry out these organizations in the standing armies and later, at the outbreak of war inside the whole mobilized masses it is necessary to create a complete understanding amongst the working class of the three important questions which Comrade Lenin dealt with in his directions: (1) Is it possible to "answer a war with a strike"; (2) The defense of the fatherland; (3) Defeatism.

On the basis of the experiences during the last war Comrade Lenin stated, "It is impossible to 'answer' a war with a strike, it is similarly impossible to answer a war with a 'revolution,' in the simple and literal sense of the words."

The slogan of the general strike sound, it is true, very revolutionary, but in actuality it remains in almost all cases an empty word, because the bourgeoisie have almost in believable measures at their disposal and are always in the position at the outbreak of a war to put the question of "The defense of the fatherland" in such a way that the majority of the workers will answer the question to the bourgeoisie. Therefore Comrade Lenin states as the first task, not the

discussion of the general strike, but the development of a broad enlightenment work upon the situation during the last war, and further, the making clear to the workers how a new war can break out. The slogan of the general strike, as it is given out by the reformists, disguises the difficulty of the war to the workers, puts itself forward as the only active means against the war and prepares the workers even before the imperialist war to support their bourgeoisie, to the end, after "the whole means" of the general strike has failed—which will almost always be the case.

Only when complete clarity upon the possibility and advisability of the general strike as a means against the outbreak of

wars is established, only when the workers understand that the struggle against the war is not only to be carried on at the outbreak of the war but also afterwards, will we have the possibility of organizing all real revolutionary elements of the working class into our illegal organization for continuous struggle against the war and for the preparation of the revolution.

The second question which can play a great role in our propaganda against the danger of war is the question of the "defense of the fatherland." Comrade Lenin did not develop this idea, but our readers will be able to see in the famous book, Against the Stream (soon to be published in English) how he stated and concretely answered this question during the world-war. Leninism has no patience with generalities. Also here, it is not merely again and again repeating that the workers have no fatherland, that there is no such thing as a war for the defense of the fatherland, but the possibilities of war are concretely dealt with, and the workers are shown upon the basis of the example of the world-war as well as of the new possible and even in-

evitable war that the war which is about to come cannot possibly be a war for the defence of the fatherland, and that the workers of the town and country can only defend their fatherland from their own and the "enemy" bourgeoisie through the preparation of the revolution and the overthrow of their own bourgeoisie. The bourgeoisie do everything possible to conceal the really reasons for past and future wars. Daily their press makes the greatest confusion in the minds of the workers and peasants. Therefore, we must put the question of how a war can break out so that the workers and peasants can understand why "the illegal organization for continuous work against the war" is the only means for the struggle against war.

IMPROPAGANDA

"There are no two classes in America," said Professor Horkum of Bunkum University at a college banquet given last night.—News Item.

"There are no two classes" Yet some dine well each day—others starve. It's mental "mollasses".

"There are no two classes." Why the lying asses How do they get that way To tell working masses "There are no two classes."

A Gloucester baby has been born with extra fingers. The kid starts out in life with the main qualifications of a "leader of industry."

First Bimbo—"Who is that man wearing the black robe? Is he a chimney sweep?"

Second Bimbo—"Naw, he's a Ku Klux Klansman from Pittsburg."—Missouri Outlaw.

INSIDE INFORMATION. Let us assure those who may be elated by the discovery of a method of making gold out of mercury, that it won't prevent them from making it as usual out of the working class.

IMAGINARY NEWS

EXTRY! EXTRY! EXTRY!

CONGRESS VOTES MILLIONS FOR WEEKLY YOUNG WORKER

Dept. of Justice to Collect Funds

Coolidge Makes Long Speech in Favor.

(Special to Young Worker) WASHINGTON, D. C.—

Weeks of agitation by the N. E. C. of the Y. W. L. finally stirred Congress into action. Millions were voted for the Weekly Young Worker, the funds to be collected by the Dept. of Justice, Att'y Gen. Stone (now in the Supreme Court) declared: "The Dept. of Justice could never exist if it was not for the Y. W. L. It is only too glad to support and the rest of the movement. the cause."

JUSTICE ALL WET. A Buffalo man was given a jail sentence for offering the judge a bottle of only "tolerably good whiskey."

In these days of prohibition justice requires the real stuff from every case

"Trotsky, exiled on Monday, shot on Tuesday, in rebellion on Wednesday, in a hospital on Thursday, in the Kremlin on Fridays and Saturdays, and Minister of War on Sundays."—Pittsburg Sun.

When the Capitalist papers laugh at each other because their news is so unreliable it is time to point to a moral:

SEND IN THAT SUB FOR THE YOUNG WORKER!
WALT CARMON, Impropropagandist.

In almost all questions Comrade Trotsky has attempted to cover his incorrect attitude with the banner of Leninism and in this way to represent Trotskyism to us as Leninism.

This attempt must not be successful. The E. C. of the Y. C. I. is convinced that the Russian Communist Party will give Comrade Trotsky the necessary answer and that it will take all measures to prevent the repetition of such undisciplined actions so dangerous to the party. The E. C. will do everything possible to give the working youth of the whole world the possibility of becoming acquainted with the history of the Russian Communist Party and with Leninism.

The E. C. of the Y. C. I. is firmly convinced that it has expressed the opinion of all Young Communist Leagues in this resolution.

A Letter From Russia

Lately many letters have been sent to papers abroad, but it is the old people—our fathers and elder brothers—and not the youth who write these letters. That is why I am writing now in order to tell the adult and the young workers in Western countries how we young workers live in the U. S. S. R., and especially about the life and work of the young workers of the State brake factory in Moscow.

Our factory is turning out Westinghouse brakes and employs 500 male and female workers, of whom about 130 are young workers. Now the conditions of the young workers are much better than before. In the first instance there is a law which prohibits the employment of children under 14. At that age children must go to school. Between the age of 14 and 16 children can be employed in light work and not for more than four hours daily. This enables them to study. There is a six hour day for workers between the ages of 16 and 18, and it is only after the age of 18 that young workers have to work 8 hours like the other adult workers. The young people who work 4 and 6 hours a day receive full pay, namely, as much as they would receive for an 8-hour day.

There is a Young Communist League nucleus in the factory for the young workers, with 105 members. This shows that nearly all the young workers are members of the Y. C. L. This nucleus is doing splendid work in the factory, it has its own representatives in all the factory organizations, such as the factory committee, the protection of labor committee, etc. which defend the interests of the young workers. The nucleus is also carrying on educational work among the youth; it has organized various circles including a political literacy study circle. The nucleus is also teaching everyone how to live in a com-

mune and how to exercise comradly discipline. There is also a club in the factory, and the membership is made up mostly of Young Communists and young people in general.

The club has many circles—dramatic circles, a circle for choir singing, and a circle for band practice, a radio circle and many others, to which mostly young workers belong. Thus we are not only given an opportunity, but we are even encouraged to take up all kinds of studies. The factory has also a school for apprentices which has at present 90 pupils, 17 of whom will have accomplished their apprenticeship in the school year 24-25, about June 1925. Their apprenticeship will have lasted four years. Every year there will be fresh batches of young people who have gone through their full apprenticeship course. This apprenticeship school is doing much good to the young workers, for in addition to being taught to read and write and to become an educated being, they are taught some trade or other.

There is one particular thing of which I must tell you, and that is, that there is in our school a committee consisting of the students themselves which conducts all the affairs of the school. This committee discusses together with the instructors everything concerning the school. It decides what subjects should be taught and by what methods. It also helps to draw up the plan of work for every pupil and every pedagogue. The plan in vogue is that every pupil does the special task allotted to him or her, in accordance with the school syllabus. The apprenticeship lasts four years. The first year is considered a preparatory year with a six-hour day. During the remaining three years four hours are devoted to theoretical studies and four to practical work in the factory. Our school is really meant to be for the children of the workers of our factory. But it also admits on

special recommendation pupils from children's homes and youngsters sent by the Labor Exchange. The apprenticeship school is training reserve forces to take the place of factory workers who are obliged to give up work because of old age or ill-health.

The pupils of the apprenticeship school receive pay, which is of course, not very high, but nevertheless, sufficient for one person. But if we should calculate the cost of the teaching staff, of the necessary school material and other school expenses, we see that a considerable sum of money is spent on every pupil of this school. On the whole we can say that the pupils of the apprenticeship school are very satisfied with their conditions and are eager to prove themselves as useful as possible to the workers and the Soviet Government.

A wall newspaper called the "Regulator" is published in our factory, and our young workers are active contributors to it. All the numbers contain their contributions. But they are not only contributors to the paper, for the paper, was founded by them and the editorial board also consists of members of the Young Communist League. We recently celebrated the Seventh Anniversary of our Revolution. We came out into the streets with our Red banners, the bands playing, and we rejoiced in being free citizens. We are not afraid of anyone for we live in a free country, where we ourselves are the masters. And on the day of the Fifth Anniversary of the Young Communist International our message to you is: "Follow in our footsteps towards the world commune."

Long live the Red Youth—the vanguard in the march towards the World October.

With young communist greetings,

Zafranski,

Youth Correspondent of the paper The Young Leninite, Moscow, Lessnaya 28.

FOR LENINISM

(Resolution of the Executive Committee of the Y. C. I.)

AFTER reading the letter of the Central Committee of the Russian Leninist Young Communist League published in the Pravda and after the speech upon the last statements of Comrade Trotsky, the Executive Committee of the Young Communist International has unanimously decided to ratify the attitude of the Central Committee of the R. L. Y. C. I. The E. C. welcomes the decisiveness with which our Russian young comrades have replied to the false representations of the history of the last months before the revolution of 1917, and the manner in which they have shown the league the correct road to the study of October.

The E. C. of the Y. C. I. declares that the present attitude of Comrade Trotsky means the taking up of the old discussion which was finally liquidated by the 13th Party Conference and the 5th World Congress of the Communist International. The new book "1917" proves that even today Comrade Trotsky will not recog-

and the Communist International. Comrade Trotsky repeats his criticism of the decisions of the 5th Congress of the C. I. and attempts also to misrepresent the revolutionary events in Germany and Bulgaria.

The method which Comrade Trotsky proposes to us for the election of party leaders and which he represents to be the only correct method, proves that he is still very far from a correct estimation of the importance of the giant work of Lenin in the building up of the party. Instead of paying the greatest attention to the creation of a strong disciplined party built up upon the shop nuclei, in close connection with the masses and true to Leninism, Comrade Trotsky searches only for "leaders without fear in the decisive moment" and in this way he distorts all the lessons and experiences of the bolshevik party upon the training of leading forces and the role of the party organization. This incorrect conception of the essence of the bolshevization of our parties will only give the right elements new weapons in their struggle against the transformation of the western organizations into real bolshevist

present leadership of the party