

## NEW WAR ALARM IS SOUNDED BY U. S. ADMIRAL

### Tells of Struggle for World's Oil

By JACK RICHARDS.

WASHINGTON, D. C. — While the naval experts and the airmen continue to dispute over the most efficient methods of slaughter for "the next war," Rear Admiral W. W. Phelps comes along and says a few things about who will be fighting who when the next world war comes around.

Oil will be the prize for which the imperialists will compete and send young workers to slaughter each other over, and England, already America's rival in the struggle for the control of the world's oil, will be the opponent in the next slaughter, according to the admiral.

Admiral Phelps let the cat out of the bag while addressing the four day school on "National Defense and Peace Insurance," which is being conducted by President Coolidge, Secretary of War Weeks, Secretary of the Navy Willbur and other "peace-loving" high officials.

Here are some of the things he said: Explain "Open Door Policy."

"The American open door principle has been invoked to help American citizens secure oil concessions. Wherever we turn, this principle has been so successfully combated by the imperialistic powers and fought by our own provincial politicians for temporary partisan ends, that American rights and interests have been pretty generally affected.

"The result is that the bulk of the world's oil supply is in English control, and within another generation, when our own oil pools are drained, as they are being drained not only by us but also by England and Japan to conserve their own oil reserves, your navy and merchant marine will be at England's mercy for their fuel!"

The admiral evidently never swallowed any of the bunk that he handed out to his sailors, about "defense of country," etc., and has a pretty clear idea of what wars are fought over. He goes on to say:

"Serious differences are brewing with England over shipping policies. That America determines to build up a great merchant marine fleet has created against us the bitter animosity of the English shipping interests."

Admiral Phelps is an old hand in the game of imperialism and the struggle of the bosses for new markets and oil. He has spent 40 of his 56 years in the American navy, and commanded the celebrated 1,300 mile Yangtze river patrol of the United States Asiatic fleet in 1922 and 1923, a big demonstration celebrating the advance of American imperialism in China. As a result he knows who is America's rival in China and in the Far East; and over what young workers will be slaughtered when the next world struggle starts.

Cleveland Labor Council Gives Good Voice But No Vote

CLEVELAND, Ohio—Not to be outdone by "the official trade union movement" of New York, which is actively co-operating in the work of raising fifteen million dollars for the building of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, the Cleveland Federation of Labor, at its last meeting, seated the Rev. Louis C. Wright as a representative of the federated churches.

The federated churches acted upon an invitation extended by the Federation of Labor. The reverend will have the right to take the floor but not vote.

## THE "WEEKLY"

By Peter Herd

It is generally agreed that much of capitalism's popularity is due to the steady poisoning of the minds of the workers. This is done thru many ways chief amongst which are the press, moving picture, drama, radio, church and platform. It is little wonder after all, that millions of America's workers, and especially the young workers, consider revolutionist (communists) as depraved criminals or worse, when we consider that millions upon millions of papers are published each day which have as a chief function the slandering and vilification of them.

Against the Bosses Press To counteract this steady poisoning of the minds of the young workers an organ of these young workers, which will give the lie regularly to all this slandering, is necessary. Hence, we have the Young Worker.

The role of the Young Worker is to tell the truth of the class struggle to the young victims of that struggle; to lead the fight of the young workers against the boss and against the whole capitalist class; to speed the day when capitalist exploitation, capitalist falsehood, capitalist filth in every form shall be wiped out for all time. Such is the task of the Young Worker. Such is the task of the organization for which it speaks.

Influence Depends on Workers A Weekly Young Worker! Our own Young Worker, published regularly once each week, can be a very powerful weapon in the hands of our organization, if we will only have the necessary desire to make it powerful.

The Young Worker is the only revolutionary youth paper in this country which takes up aggressively the fight against capitalist imperialism; the only paper in this country which takes an uncompromising stand for the young workers against the capitalist class.

The Young Worker reflects the everyday struggle of the young workers; it leads this struggle in all its forms. The Young Worker mobilizes the working youth in the struggle which will give capitalism, and all that for which capitalism stands, its death blow.

Extend Circulation. To make the work of the Young Worker effective, we must see that its circulation is greatly extended. The Young Worker must get into the hands of wider and wider circles of working youth if our message is to be carried to them with all the force possible.

The written word is more powerful often than the spoken phrase. The virile columns, articles, pictures, poems, the whole page upon page of working class truths which radiates from the paper upon which they are printed, makes the Young Worker our most valuable and effective agitation and organizational weapon. But we cannot realize the full advantage the Young Worker offers until that time when we have sent it far and wide into the masses of the youthful toilers in the United States.

Every Member Get a Sub Your task today and for the next three months at least is to widen the influence, the circulation of the Young Worker by getting your friends, shop mates and neighbors to subscribe to it.

Your branch has the task of conducting house to house campaigns, of visiting unions, fraternal societies and workers political organizations, as well as every young peoples club in the city, to get subscriptions and bundle orders for our paper.

The Young Worker must be supported! Without the unstinted support of every member of our league the Young Worker as a weekly organ cannot live three months. Will you do your bit to get the 10,000 subscriptions necessary to support and maintain the weekly Young Worker.

## Teachers Get Increase But Kids Are Losers

CHICAGO, Ill.—The teachers will get their 10 percent wage increase in Chicago, but it will be taken out of the children thru giving them bigger class rooms, according to plans laid down by trustees and department heads in the offices of Charles M. Moderwell, coal profiteer and President of the Chicago Board of Education.

Pass the Buck The teachers of Chicago have been demanding an increase in wages for some time, and the Board of Education has been trying to put it off, complaining of lack of funds. The first proposal was to take the money for the increase out of the building funds, but the teachers objected to this.

With classes in Chicago already much too large, the increase proposed is very serious. It also contains a proposal to slight reduce the number of teachers.

## Hangs Crepe on Flag To Honor Coolidge

GRUNDY CENTRE, Iowa.—William Gardner, a resident of this city, showed his grief at the inauguration of President Coolidge and "Hell-and-Maria" Dawes by running a flag in his yard to half mast and having a piece of black crepe over it.

As a result, the American Legion of Grundy Centre caused Gardner's arrest and he was fined \$100 by the court.

## THE EMPIRE PATRIOT



## Greece Fights for Great Powers and Suffers Starvation

ATHENS, Greece. — The fruits of fighting for the capitalist powers are being reaped by Greece. Dependence upon foreign capital increases and financially the country is bankrupt.

In the last two years food prices have risen more than two hundred per cent. In tobacco production and shipping thousands of men untrained in other work swell the unemployed. The population has been increased by over 1,500,000 exiles from Asia Minor.

The majority are peasants without property or money, fit only for land work and who cannot be equipped with land or tools.

The Greek peasants are not organized either as a class or with the proletariat. They have a few co-operatives, and a very few peasant leagues, but the land owners are still too strong. The industrial workers are also badly organized, less than half belonging to trades unions. The strongest peasant organization is the League of War Participants, with 80,000 members. These returned soldiers began with a strong anti-militarist campaign with protection and support for war cripples, widows and orphans.

Politically the government is incapable of dealing with the economic situation or the political demands. The former Venizelos party is split into a hundred groups. The Fascists have not succeeded in penetrating the trades unions.

The Communist Party of Greece is the only political force that can solve the present difficulties. Though small in membership it has great influence among the working class and leads the Greek trade unions. The Young Communist League of Greece is very active in anti-militarist work especially; almost the whole national committee of the league being in jail for anti-militarist activity.

Besides carrying on activities with the Greek army, the Young Communist League, with the Communist Party, has great influence in the ex-soldiers and war veterans organizations which are carrying on a strong fight against militarism in Greece.

## Chicago League Holds Child Labor Meeting Sunday, March 22nd

A big child labor mass meeting is being organized by the Young Workers League of Chicago for Sunday, March 22nd at Northwest Hall, North and Western Avenues, at 8 P. M.

A letter is being sent to trade unions and sympathetic organization as well as tickets and it is hoped to have Chicago labor as well represented at the meeting as possible.

## Child Labor Increases

With child labor greatly on the increase in Chicago as it is thru out the country, the Chicago League is attempting to intensify its anti-child labor campaign, and is calling upon all workers in Chicago to put up a united front fight against the immediate menace of child labor.

The child labor amendment has not yet been up before the Illinois legislature, but all indications at present show that it will be defeated when action is taken, unless the workers put up a more militant fight for the amendment than they have been putting up under the middle class, pacifist leadership of the National Child Labor Committee.

## 28 STATES CRUSH CHILD LABOR LAW

### Only Three States Are for Amendment

By JACK RICHARDS

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Up to date the child labor amendment has been rejected by one or both branches of the legislature in 28 states. Missouri was the last to reject the 20th amendment to the federal constitution, when the House of Representatives voted against it on March 4th.

Only three states have ratified the amendment: California, Arizona, and Wisconsin, all states with no large industry depending upon the cheap labor of children. Partial ratification has been recorded in New Mexico.

Other States Expected to Act Five states that employ a large percentage of the child slaves in America have not had legislative sessions this year, but the bosses control the legislatures to such a degree that there is no chance of the amendment being ratified there at the present time.

These states are: Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, Maryland and Virginia. In the ten states where the legislatures are now in session: Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, New Hampshire, Maine, New Jersey, Rhode Island, and West Virginia, all indications point to a rejection of the amendment.

## John D. Jr. Makes Negro School Safe for Bosses Thru "Gift" of Million

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.—John D. Rockefeller Jr. has given \$1,000,000 to the Hampton and Tuskegee Institute for Negroes, it was announced today.

Already one of the most ambitious of the capitalists in gaining complete control of the educational institutions of the country thru such donations, John D. Jr. sees the value of controlling this big southern educational institution for Negroes.

The oil king stated that he was making this gift "because of his life long interest in the Negro race." His "interest" in the Negro race has been in the form of profits from the intensive exploitation of the Negro workers in American industry and his gift is more one to be sure that he will not cease to draw "interest" from this source in the future.

The school will do its best to "repay" his gift.

## Miners Class Studies How War Is Swindle

TAYLORVILLE, Ill.—All American wars form the revolution to the world war, and not forgetting the civil war, were swindles on the workers who did the fighting, Oscar Ameringer told the education classes of miners in the Taylorville sub district.

## White Guards Kill Children in Estonia

REVAL, Estonia. — Among the more than 300 persons executed in Estonia by the Communist rising were a number of women and several children under 15; also a physician whose crime consisted in medical aid to wounded workers.

## Anti-Child Labor Resolution of Y. W. L. Adopted by Y.M.H.A.

A resolution against child labor was adopted unanimously by the Chicago branch of the Y. M. H. A. The resolution is similar to ones being presented to many organizations by the Young Workers League in its campaign against child labor.

A special Anti-Child Labor Mass Meeting will be held in Chicago on March 22, and all organizations interested in a united front fight against child labor will be invited to send representatives and all workers, young and old, who are interested in the campaign are expected to attend.

The resolution, presented by Comrade Shaap for the Young Workers League, was as follows:

WHEREAS, the physical and moral well-being of the working class youth of this country is being destroyed thru the brutal exploitation of children in the mines, mills, factories and sweatshops; and

WHEREAS, thru the exploitation of child labor the bosses are enabled to reduce the wages and make worse the conditions of labor of the adults and to weaken the trade unions; and

WHEREAS, the children of the workers and poor farmers are entitled to a full education, without economic restrictions and should not have their lives stunted thru hard toil in their childhood; and

WHEREAS, children are forced to work because of the poverty of their parents and a child labor law that does not provide government support for a child going to school is useless;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That we demand the immediate ratification by the state legislatures of the Child Labor Amendment to the Constitution and that Congress shall immediately pass a law prohibiting the labor of children under eighteen years of age; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That, since the Child Labor Amendment is meaningless without government maintenance of the school children of the workers and poor farmers, the state and federal legislatures shall pass a law providing full government maintenance of all school children of workers and poor farmers, the funds for this purpose to come from special taxes on high incomes; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the trade unions repeal from their constitutions all discriminatory clauses against equal rights in the unions of young workers; also that the admission fees and dues be made lower for young workers to enable them to become members of the unions which will thereby become strengthened in their struggles against the bosses; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, to call upon all other working class organizations to unite with us in a common political struggle against child labor exploitation and for full government maintenance of the school children of workers and poor farmers.

Big Steel Plant Finds Source of Cheap Labor

NEW ORLEANS.—The Carnegie Steel Co. of Pittsburgh, will locate a \$2,000,000 plant at Baton Rouge as a distributing point thru the south-west and Latin-America. Saving in freight charges as well as the lower wage scale and unorganized Negro labor in the south is responsible for the move.

In the Next Issue!  
Collapse of the C. P. F. A.  
by Alexander Sittelman

## Child Accident in New York Industries Total 1,938 in Year

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.—Counting only those children seriously injured, the figures show 1,938 child laborers badly hurt in the factories of New York State in one year, according to a report by Nellie Swartz, chief of the Division of Women in Industry of the State Department of Labor.

Six Times as Many Minor Injuries Approximately six times that number suffered minor injuries. While a campaign is being launched to prevent a further increase in accidents in New York, a careful study of the accidents show that they are caused by the age of the children and that they will not be prevented except thru the abolition of child labor.

Further proof of this is seen in the increase in industrial accidents on a national scale at the same time that there is an increase in child labor.

The figures for the country as a whole during the past year show an average increase in fatal and other serious accidents of 29 per cent.

Safety Devices Kept in Museum As an illustration of how efficiently the bosses are going to deal with this menace to young workers in industry, the first steps in the campaign in New York, according to announcement by A. A. Hopkins, Director of the Museum of Safety, is an arrangement for every pupil of a continuation school to visit the museum where almost all of these safety devices will be on exhibit. It hardly need be said that few of the bosses being willing to most of these safety devices will remain on the exhibit in the museum, spend any of their profits for the protection of the young workers.

## CHRISTOPHER, ILL. MINE CLOSES DOWN; 500 MORE JOBLESS

CHRISTOPHER, Ill.—The East Mine at this city closed down indefinitely on March 7. The company just posted a notice to this effect, instructing the men to remove their tools and clothes and clean up their coal. This throws 500 men out of work.

This mine was idle seven months last summer, and the mine opened up against the latter part of September. Since that time the men have been working two and three days per week. These workers are in very hard circumstances, still in debt to the storekeepers from the last shutdown. The storekeepers now refuse to carry them any further, so their outlook is black, indeed.

The Lewis-Farrington policy of squeezing the surplus miners out of the mines is succeeding well, and a little more of it will completely disillusion the miners who still have any hopes of relief from such a source.

To mention Lewis or Farrington in this district today is to create a laugh. Confidence in them is gone, nothing but contempt and scorn remain. They are looked upon as operators' lackeys instead of labor leaders.

German Workers Will Start General Strike Unless Bosses Settle

BERLIN, Germany.—A general strike is threatened by the workers in German industries if the Dawes plan railway administration does not settle with the striking railway workers immediately.

A general meeting has been held to determine further action in view of the failure of the administration to grant the demands of the strikes so far.

Officials Get Increase The strike is for an increase in wages, and the men are especially indignant over the increase in salary for the officials, while the workers who have been for some time getting the lowest imaginable wages have received no increase. Ever since the Dawes plan started in operation here it was evident that it would not belong before a great strike movement would arise as a result of the slave conditions under which the German workers are sweated thru the Dawes plan.

Other Unions Sympathetic The unions of other industries have already instructed all workers to refuse to work in strike districts.

The sentiment is very strong for the general strike, and with conditions such as they are in all industries, a general strike is very probably unless the administration is quick to settle.

The average weekly wage for a skilled worker in Germany today is less than \$9 (36 mark and 72 pennings.)

## The Only Way Bosses Can Prevent Strikes

LOS ANGELES, Cal., March 10.—A wage increase agreement averting the threatened strike of engineers on the Santa Fe Coast lines was signed here yesterday by company officials and brotherhood representatives.

## YOUNG WORKERS GET LOW WAGES AT 'POLECATS'

### Conditions Make Youth Think of Organization

Poland and Katz, better known as "Polecats," are engaged in the noble art of manufacturing umbrellas—that is to say, they are engaged in the business of employing young boys and girls at starvation wages to make the umbrellas. Boys and girls who have just come out of school and who need working-premises are just the kind of wage slaves that they prefer, for they are speedy, afraid and make no efforts to organize against their exploiters.

Starvation Wages. Wages—if they can be called such, range from \$6 and \$7 upwards, but they never go very high in the scale. And on these wages the boys and girls, young men and women, are expected to live! A few months ago the wages of most of the girls (at that time averaging about 17 cents per hour), were slashed to 13 cents—a reduction of nearly 25 per cent. Following close upon the heels of this came the elimination of the five per cent weekly bonus which was given to the true and faithful slaves.

"Eighteen dollars is considered a good wage in this shop," said one of the young men employed there. "But how in hell a man can support himself and a family on that amount is beyond me."

Sweat-Shop System Used. Fully three quarters of the work done by Poland and Katz is done outside of the factory. Home-work, which permits the exploitation of the entire family from the tiniest tots to old grandfathers, and which knows no limitations of hours is always looked upon as an ideal form of work by those who reap the swollen profits therefrom. And that is the way the honorable gentlemen who run the above-mentioned Umbrella Factory in Baltimore look upon it.

Of course, even those who work in the shop are permitted to do home-work. But the pay is no more than that to be gotten in the shop way, overtime wages need not

As For Sanitation—The floors are seldom swept, spite that rapid and vast accumulation of dust, dirt and rubbish. The facilities for washing are of the very worst kind. Only one small sink on each floor—and these are almost always dirty and at times so clogged up that they cannot be used. Toilet facilities are just as bad. No wonder then, that even the docile youths are grumbling about conditions. Two hundred and fifty workers, men and women, forced to labor under such conditions and with such low pay are bound to begin thinking about why things are as they are, and what can be done to remedy them.

Y. W. L. on the Job. Our Baltimore section of the Young Workers League, determined to do whatever it could to aid these young workers in their struggles, issued a special leaflet addressed to the umbrella workers which was distributed in front of the plant. The bosses, almost frightened to death, tried to chase away our comrades but failed to do so. Then, in their determination to prevent their wage slaves from knowing the truth about their conditions, they threatened all their employees with expulsion if they were to attend the mass meeting which the Y. W. L. called. One of our comrades was fired from the shop.

Last Sunday, March 1, the bosses sent their tools to spy on all who might venture to the meeting. Only a few of the most daring workers showed up. The threats of their masters had taken effect. But the Y. W. L. is not in the least discouraged. It will go on with its work, and it knows that before long the young and adult workers of Poland and Katz will come to hear their message and organize themselves to fight against their bosses. This they must do to save themselves; for further wage cuts face them. And unless they prepare to resist they will sink deeper and deeper into the morass of poverty while the profits of their employers grow greater and greater. In this and other struggles, the Young Workers League is doing its bit to mobilize the industrial youth for action.

U. S. Fleet Starts Its Practice for Next War

The black fleet of fifty-two United States warships, represented in maneuvers as an invading fleet conveying a train of supply ships to capture a base of operations off the Lower California coast, today is getting into battle formation for its dash to the objective. Secrecy shields its movements. The blue fleet, a defensive force of fifty-eight United States warships, is spreading a mobile network over the waters of the Mexican coast to locate, intercept and destroy the black fleet.

Battle conditions down to the last step in the greatest series of naval maneuvers detail prevail on board all these 110 warships. In this, the first maneuvers ever held in preparation for war



# PHILADELPHIA LEAGUE CONVENTION OUTLINES BIG PROGRAM OF ACTION

By DOMENICK FLAIANI.  
PHILADELPHIA, PA.—The Young Workers League of Philadelphia held its semi-annual convention here at 821 York Ave. After hearing the report of the officers, there was a thorough discussion by the delegates on each report.

The convention shows that the Philadelphia League during a period of six months has grown very rapidly. Three new branches were organized, two Jewish and one Hungarian. There are good prospects of organizing another branch in South Philadelphia. The members themselves have done very little to carry out the last convention decision, and the Program of Action adopted when Comrade Carlson was here. The League will work in close co-operation with the Workers Party to fight against the present system, and for the abolishment of child labor.

After the discussion, the following resolutions were presented and unanimously approved:

1. To increase the membership of the League by 100 new members before May 1, 1925.
2. Five nuclei to be established and to be functioning before May 1, 1925.
3. To increase the circulation of the Young Worker by 500 copies weekly in the city of Philadelphia and place it on all city news-stands before May 1, 1925.
4. A factory campaign to be started on plants to be chosen by a committee to be elected by the C. C. C.
5. Fractions to be established in all trade unions where we have members and have them function before May 1, 1925.
7. To increase the membership of the Junior Section 100 per cent before May 1, 1925.
8. All members of the League to be subscribers of the Young Worker before May 1, 1925.
9. A committee to be elected at the C. C. C. for selling the Young Worker in the factory and plants.

10. Headquarters of the Young Workers League of Philadelphia to be established and to function as soon as possible.

After the approval of the resolutions elections of the new officers followed. Domenick Flaiani was elected as Young Worker correspondent, A. Sokolov as City Organizer, D. Bierman, Secretary, D. Flaiani, Financial Secretary, D. Milgrom, Young Worker Agent, Comrade Dugo, Junior Director, L. Hoffman, Literature Agent.

Comrade Milgrom has already started on his drive to collect subscriptions for the Young Worker, and we are sure that he will raise more than the 100 subscriptions which we have put forward as our goal.

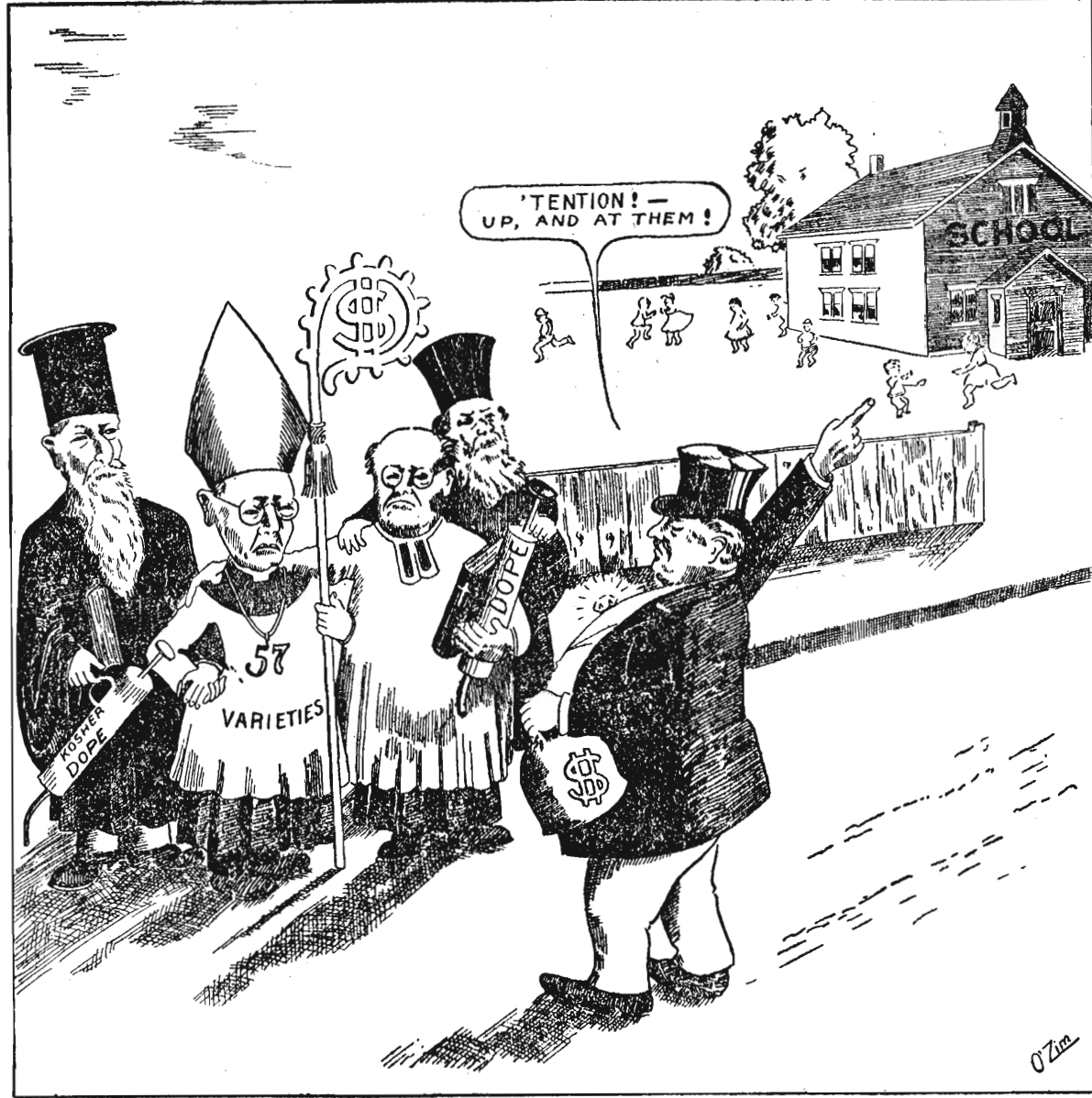
## Australian Labor Plans to Boycott United States Navy

MELBOURNE, Australia.—Militant unionists are preparing plans whereby the trade unionists of Australia will declare the American fleet unfair when it arrives at Australian ports. This comes after plans on the part of the bosses for big expenditures for a greeting of the U. S. fleet by the Australian navy.

This boycott by the trade unionists of Australia will be a protest against naval preparedness and militarism. Australian labor is greatly aroused over the coming Pacific maneuvers of the American fleet as well as by the war propaganda of the British government and the development plans for the Singapore base.

However, despite their protest against militarism and their conviction that another world war is near, the trade unions and the present leadership of the labor movement in Australia are taking no step beyond this protest to organize against war.

## THE DOPE SQUAD



## TOILING YOUTH

By HARRY GANNES.

There is not a single state in the country that does not have thousands of child slaves within its boundaries. For the most part, the country can be divided up into sections (in which the conditions of the child slaves remain pretty much the same). The entire south comprises one great big black blotch on the child labor may with red letters shrieking: "These children are led to Death without mercy—in cotton field and in mill and factory." The eastern and northern states make use of children mainly in factory, mine and in home work, while the northeastern capitalists and employers of labor find the children just as useful in the truck gardens as in the mill. In the middle west, children are used in mine and factory and on the farm; while in the golden west and in the sunny land of California and vicinity, little children pour out their energy into the loads of vegetables and fruits for which that section of the country is noted. In all parts of the United States, children work outrageously long hours, for those some sort of provisions are made by law, they are never carried into effect.

In Mississippi one child in every four, ten to fifteen years of age, is put to work. These figures are based on the imperfect United States census, which, of course, does not take into account the children under ten. About the same number of children work in the other Gulf states.

What kind of work do these children do? The children in these states are employed in every conceivable type of labor that their little hands can be put to. No matter what the work, the hours are back-breaking and the conditions unbearable. From investigations made by the United States government (certainly a capitalist source), as well as by other organizations, we get a dim glimpse of the bitterness of the life of the child slaves in the South.

The following facts are taken from a report by the Children's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor concerning conditions in "Oyster and Shrimp Canning Communities." The work begins any time from three to seven in the morning. The work place is a rickety, damp shed. Whole families are employed as the pay is very low, and if a living is to be made, every available member of the household must be put to work. Even the babies, unable to walk are taken along, for the mothers must watch their babies while at work. The children shuck oysters and pick and hull shrimps. The floors are always wet and littered with piles of oyster shells and shrimp hulls. Nearly every child employed in the shrimp canneries has at some time or other suffered blood poisoning from the shrimp thorns, which sometimes ends with the loss of a finger or thumb. There is a constant soreness of the hands from the acid in the shrimps. The wages are extremely low, some of the older people getting but \$7.50 a week, and the children much less.

In Georgia, Kentucky, Alabama, South Carolina and Tennessee, the work varies, the conditions smack of the same brutality.

The state labor commissioner of California reports that four per cent of the children ten to fifteen years old in that state are worked thru some means or other. San Diego has the largest percentage of employed boys, and San Francisco of employed girls. The majority of the children in this state are employed on farms, groves and truck gardens. The hours on the farm are as many as the child can bear without dropping dead and the work is body-breaking—continually bending over the ground picking beets or other vegetables from the damp ground, or walking thru a blustering field in the hottest days of summer. What is the pay? Children are always employed primarily because of the low wages they get.

With a population of 400,000 in New Orleans, there are 7,971 children between the ages of 10 and 16 working in cotton mills and bag factories.

A report of the United States department of labor shows thousands of children labor at the hardest kind of work in the beet fields in various parts of the country. One-fourth of the children investigated were under ten years of age, mere babies. Says the report: "It is a common thing to see little tots with long, sharp knives cutting tops from beets. . . . In many cases they work from six o'clock in the morning until nearly dark with only a short stop for lunch." A study made of two counties of Colorado revealed that: "One-fourth of them (the children) were under 10 years of age, a small percentage under eight. . . . Physically the most harmful feature of the work lies in the hours. From 65 to 85 per cent worked nine or more hours a day."

Many of the children worked eleven or more hours a day. A Chinese coolie will have to forego all sleep soon in order to compete with native-born American children. All sorts of deformities were discovered on examination of the beet child slaves. Seventy per cent of 1,000 of such children examined were declared to be physically impaired and unfit. The wages paid the children is from five to ten cents an hour, or about \$114 to \$200 for six to seven months work.

It would make dreary and unpleasant reading to go down the gamut of states similar in the treatment of the children to those already referred to. Their numbers are greater than the little children have fingers and toes. Some people say, "Well, it is admitted that those are backward states. The enlightened sections of the country are much better in their handling of the children." (An examination of the "more enlightened section" of the United States shows us that child labor is a disease that effects every state. In our survey we must rely on the biased government reports; the workers organizations are too poor to make investigations of their own, and certainly the writer is not in a position to investigate conditions a first hand. But even our biased sources paint a picture so horrible, were we to take it as truth and fact in every detail, it is enough to condemn the capitalist system of the United States forever in its merciless treatment of the working class children.)

Pennsylvania certainly should be an enlightened state; very early in history William Penn set up the terms of civilization in that rich portion of America, and Pennsylvania is identified with every historical movement that America boasts of. Coal and steel are the big industries of Pennsylvania. Few children are employed in the steel mills because it is impractical to employ children to handle thousands of tons of heavy metal. Yet 16,000 children all over the United States must slave away their lives where molten metal flows like the murky waters of the Monongahela.

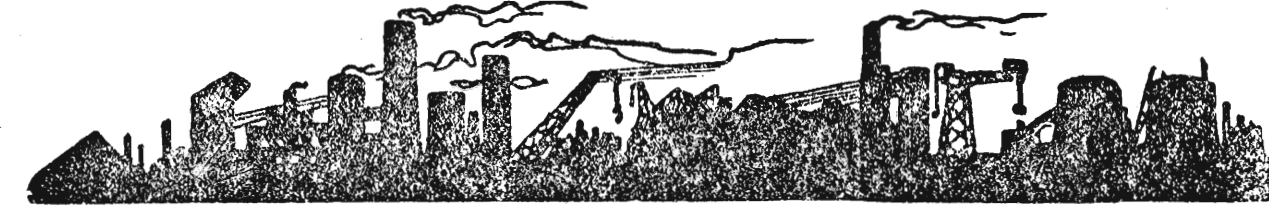
In the coal districts, conditions are worse. Pennsylvania law provides that no child shall be given a permit to go to work until he is 14 years of age, and that no child under 16 shall be permitted to work underground. But that doesn't mean anything. As an investigator put it, a child in the Schuylkill mining district "had secured employment on a baptismal certificate when he was 12."

Eighty one per cent of the miners' children leave school before the completion of the eighth grade. Out of 3,136 children investigated between the age of 13 and 16, according to a government report, 1,349 were at work mostly in or about the mines.

The young miner begins work at the breaker. The life cycle of a miner as expressed by an old miner is this: "You begin at the breaker and you end at the breaker, broken yourself." In the breakers, the boys are constantly in danger of being mangled by the machines. "One boy told of the death of another while watching the dam beneath the breaker. He and some of the other breaker boys had helped to extricate the mutilated body from the wheels in which their companion was caught; he himself had held the bag into which the recovered parts of the dead body were put." The conditions in West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and Kansas, are much worse than depicted; in southern Illinois, Indiana, Ohio they are about the same as the conditions in Pennsylvania.

Perhaps the most systematized exploitation of child labor in accordance with improved methods is to be found in New Jersey, Rhode Island, New York, Maine, Connecticut, Massachusetts. In all of these states is to be found the pernicious practice of industrial home work. There is a way of counting home workers. But home work is a method of profit-making for the bosses that could not exist without the use of children. The children are not always kept out of school, but what is more harmful, are sent to school for a certain number of hours a day and are then put to work for an out-

(To be Continued)



## Young Workers' Correspondence

### CORRESPONDENTS, NOTICE!

Comrades:—This section is only possible through the cooperation of the different sections of the Young League. If you don't write we cannot do so from the office of the Young Worker. Appeal to you comrades to send material for this section, news of the shops, conditions in your factories, in your mines, everywhere young workers are employed. Send in short letters, do not worry about the style or the make up, just so they contain some information about the conditions under which the young workers toil, and the work our comrades are carrying on among them. Nuclei which received instructions and communications from the National Office should especially get on the job right away.

### First American Letter Going to Russia

(This letter is written by members of an active nucleus in a clothing factory, and for obvious reasons we are reprinting it without giving names of the place or the comrades.)

Dear Comrades:—We have read your letter which describes conditions of the young workers in the factory "Serp e Molot" and it reminds us of Belamy's book "Looking Backward."

Nucleus Functions Illegally  
I will try to describe the conditions of the young workers of an American clothing factory. There are about a hundred workers in our factory, half of which are young workers. Only four of the young workers belong to the nucleus of the Y. W. L. (the American section of the Y. C. I.) Although the Y. W. L. of A. is a legal organization, the nucleus in our factory cannot function openly: Here are the reasons why.—Our boss does not like the communists. If he finds out that a worker carries on communist propaganda he calls him "bolshhevik" and chases him out.

Officials Protect Bosses  
Our union officials—(our shop happens to be a union shop), don't like the communists. Although they represent the workers, they usually protect the bosses. If a worker is active in the union and asks the officials to fight the bosses in order to better the conditions of the workers, the officials usually say: "This is not Russia, where you can do whatever you please. We don't want any bolshheviks in our union."

Even our fellow workers use the word "bolshhevik" as a bad name. The American capitalist press tells so many lies about the bolshheviks that the American workers consider the communists as their enemies. Now you understand why our nucleus is not functioning openly in spite of the fact that the Y. W. L. of A. is legal.

Conditions in Shop  
Now about the conditions in our shop. We work in a long narrow room. There are four windows in each narrow wall but no windows in the long walls. It is so dark in our place that we use electric lights the whole day even when the sun is shining outside.

We have no lunch room in the shop. We carry our lunch and eat at the machines where we work. Everything around is covered with dust from the work. We can't go out to a restaurant for dinner because we have just three

quarters of an hour for lunch.

Piece Work  
We work eight hours a day and are all piece workers. Do you know what it means "piece workers" in an American shop? It means more profit for the bosses and "losing health" for the workers. I'll explain to you why. The boss sets a price for a certain work. The worker has to work hard in order to "make a living," as we say. It happens that some of the workers are working faster and they make more than the boss has expected. The boss decides that he pays to much for that work and cuts the price. Now the workers have to produce more in order to make the same wages that they did before and they work harder. Then comes another cut of the prices and so on. If a worker complains that he can't "make a living" the boss says: "Look, your neighbor makes more than you, why are you working so slow? Speed up and you will make more."

Capitalists Control Everything  
The result is that the boss is getting richer and the workers lose their health. The only enjoyment that the American youth has are dancing halls, moving pictures and social clubs supported by the capitalist class.

The capitalist class of America controls the schools, the press and the "movies." This gives them the opportunity to give the working youth the "proper" education. They try to make the American workers believe that America is the best country, that everybody has an equal chance to become a millionaire or even president of the United States. The only thing that a worker has to do is to work hard, save money and be a good citizen.

Hide Class Struggle  
This is the reason why the American workers don't believe in class struggle.—Dear Comrades, it is impossible in one letter to describe the conditions of our factory and also the work that our nucleus carries on. In the next letter we will write to you about our nucleus.

Write us more about your nucleus, about the conditions in your factory, about everything that has to do with our movement.

With Communist Greetings,  
Nucleus.....Clothing factory.

### Letter from Russian Railroad Nucleus

Dear Comrades:—  
We, the young workers of Russia, send you our comradely greetings. The Young Communist International has decided that our nucleus should keep in touch with your factory. The membership of our nucleus consists of young workers employed in a group of factories working for the same industry. It has 500 members including 100 girls. All our young workers are employed in industry. Between the age of 14 and 16 they work four hours a day, and between the ages of 16 and 18, six hours a day. Our nucleus is in Moscow and is attached to the October Railway.

Social Life  
In the evening all our members take part in some circle or other: choral, dramatic, music, drawing circles, etc. Every member of the Young Communist League is also a member of the club which carries on cultural and educational work. Our members work also in Youth Sections, as well as in trade unions. We have our own

representative who stands up for the interests of the young workers in the factory committee. We have also a youth representative in all economic and political institutions. Our youth have their own representatives. We spend all our free time in the club and work in the various circles of which we have a considerable number. Boys and girls alike go in very extensively for physical culture. The older ones among us, namely those over the age of eighteen work eight hours the same as the adult workers. We have our own wall newspapers and hold a nucleus meeting once a week, at which we decide questions which concern the youth.

Would Like Letters  
Dear comrades, we take a great interest in your life, and we would like to know everything about your conditions of life and work. Write and tell us how many hours young workers have to work in the factories, how many young workers there are in your factory, what cultural and educational work is carried on among them, and where they spend their time of leisure. Write and tell us about all these things and we will do the same. We have a commission of seven, namely one representative from every industrial nucleus, for we have seven industrial nuclei amalgamated into one nucleus representing all these branches of industry. As soon as we hear from you we will send you a detailed report on our work, and will tell you how our youth is taking part in the whole economic life of the country. We are all engaged in the same industry, you build railway carriages and locomotives and so on. Let us then correspond with each other. And now I must close. With hearty comradely greetings and awaiting your reply,

M. NOVIKOV,  
Chairman of the Liaison Commission.

Locomotive Workshops of the October Railway, the October Station, Moscow, Russia.

### Speed Up Work on Carriers So They'll Be Ready for War

By JACK RICHARDS  
WASHINGTON, D. C.—Two new \$3,250-ton airplane carriers are being constructed at great speed. They will cost \$43,000,000 each, or \$86,000,000 for both, when completed and fully equipped with airplanes, according to announcements here by J. D. Beuret, Chief of the Bureau of Construction and Repair of the Navy Department.

Best in World  
Despite the cry of the propagandists about the weakness of the U. S. navy, air service, etc., these carriers, according to information will be as perfect of their type as exists or is contemplated anywhere in the world. They will be completed and ready to be added to the navy in December, 1926. These carriers will have a speed of 38 knots an hour and will be able to carry between seventy and eighty planes.

Well Equipped for Slaughter  
The original cost of the carriers was to have been "23,000,000 a piece, but the American bosses wanted to take no chances at being poorly equipped for the next slaughter, and the ap-

## Judge Decides That Mother is Too Religious! Can See Child in Presence of Father Only!

From the Russian Paper "Gudok".

A couple divorced for two years appear in court. The case is that after the divorce the father did not allow the mother to see the girl, Tamara. At the time of the divorce, the court ruling was that the girl was to stay with the father and the boy with the mother.

In answer to the judge's inquiry the mother complained: "You can judge for yourself, citizen-judge, how is it possible that I, the mother of the girl, should not be allowed to see my child? I allow the father to see his son, all right."

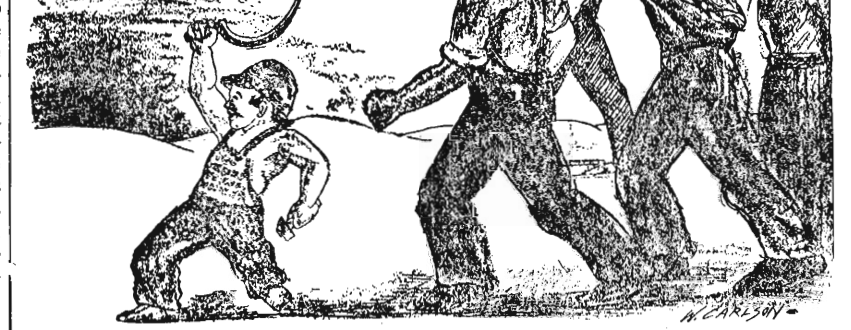
"Why is it, citizen Tuliakov," asks the judge, "that you don't allow the mother to see the girl, as I understand the ruling of the court was that both parents could see their children?"

"I'll tell you why," said the father, "The reason I divorced her was that we were so different. She used to go to church, just as in old days, while I would go to lectures on political subjects. I handed my application to the party, and she invited the priests and used to pray at night so I'd be forgiven for my sins; she'd smoke up the whole house with incense till you couldn't breathe. I got tired of all this and divorced her. Now she married a rich merchant and I married a member of

the Young Communist League. What more do you want? But she is not satisfied. As soon as she would come to see Tamara, the girl, she'd start talking about "God," and cry, and complain that we don't let the girl go to church. Since the court granted me the girl, I want to make her my daughter, not her mother's. I pity the boy, but since it was the decision of the court, I am willing to let go at that, I don't protest and try to make her bring him up according to my ideas. I ask the court now to refuse to grant her her plea, otherwise I will have to ask the court to give me the son on the grounds that he is being brought up by a woman full of religious prejudices."

Here the woman broke in—"I sure won't let him have the boy. The thing is not at all about religion, comrade judge, it's that he doesn't like me to see how he is loving his new wife," and turning to the public she added hysterically—"Religious prejudices have nothing to do with the case—he just got tired of the old wife, that's all!"

The judge had to stop the woman who got quite nervous, and handed out the decision that hereafter the mother should see the daughter only in the presence of the father



## More Marchers in Parade

- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Kenneth Epstein    | Bertha Kaleva     |
| Julia Gaberman     | Elmer Lamkela     |
| Rena Cohen         | George Husa       |
| Sonia Epstein      | Aro Huso          |
| Albert Epstein     | Einar Hietala     |
| Aaron H. Holfson   | Mayme Matiskaines |
| David Lifshitz     | Hilma Matiskaines |
| Daniel Gotkins     | Vilmi Hill        |
| Selma Goldberg     | Oddie Hill        |
| Ester Krichersky   | Eino Laukkalo     |
| Sam Pobersky       | Aro Lahti         |
| Carl Lund          | Nestor Laukkala   |
| Arnold Nurmi       | A. Katikangas     |
| Sam Hill           | Otao Konkonen     |
| Elizabeth Hillberg | Hjalmer Berg      |
| Victor Hillberg    | R. E. Roney       |
| Mandi Arnico       | A. J. Lairoff     |
| Julio Arnio        | Izrael Sherman    |
| Waino Arnio        | R. Lebedinsky     |
| Eino Arnio         | N. Goldford       |
|                    | Celia Merson      |

propriation was greatly exceeded. After hearing Admiral Beuret's testimony the Appropriations Committee in reporting bill today recommended continuing the construction of the Lexington and Saratoga, stipulated that \$3,000,000 of this amount be used toward the equipment of the carriers with aircraft accessories.

Admiral Beuret told the committee they have everything ready in Washington now. All that is needed in addition is young workers for cannon fodder.

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# EDUCATION

## Organizations of the Class Struggle

### LESSON NO. 5.

The continued oppression of the workers by the capitalists who are ever trying to reduce the workers to more abject slavery, has forced the working class to organize to defend their interests.

During the peaceful development of the capitalist system, trade unions were formed to improve the conditions of labor and increase the price of labor power. The industrial revolution—that is, the growth of machine industry had brought an end to the old Guild system. However, the new skilled trades to which the factory system gave birth, laid the basis of the organization of the trade unions. These trade unions were formed of the skilled workers of each trade, and aimed at increasing the price of the labor of the skilled workers (often at the expense of the unskilled). Altho begun as weapons of the struggle against the capitalist class, these trade unions generally degenerated (because of craft narrowmindedness and because of the officialdom) into an aid to the capitalist class.

The capitalist system, however, tends to bring all labor into the unskilled class. The modern worker becomes a machine tender. This makes it necessary to bring greater and greater masses into the trade unions.

As the labor officials oppose this, many workers advocate forming industrial unions outside of the trade union movement, to comprise all the workers in each industry. Such unions are the Industrial Workers of the World, and the Workers International Union. Other workers, especially the Communist workers, advocate joining the various existing trade unions together into industrial unions. This amalgamation movement is increasing in strength from year to year.

During the more violent periods of the class struggle, there is a tendency for the workers to organize in each factory. They elect factory committees. These may be elected in either union or non-union shops. Altho the factory and shop committees may be formed because of the counter-revolutionary activity of the union officials or because of the workers' discouragement with unions, they tend to strive for the control of production in the factory.

In every group of workers, there are usually a few who hold the interests of their class above all other interests. These class conscious workers form political parties of the workers. A political party is the expression of a class in society. The Socialist Party was formed as a party of the working class but it actually has become more and more the expression of the small capitalist class.

Today the party of the working class is the Communist Party. In America this is known as the Workers Party. The Communist Party is composed of those workers who understand the class struggle and who are aiming at the victory for the workers in that struggle. While a union must take in all workers of a certain trade or factory, the political party of the workers can take in only members who have certain beliefs. This makes the Communist Party the central organization of the class struggle. All other organizations of the working class

must practically come under the influence or control of the Communist Party in order to centralize the fight against the Capitalist system. The most advanced members of the working class who form the Communist Party are working within their unions and within their factories to gain the leadership of wider and wider masses of workers in order to direct their struggle.

To work more effectively the advanced members of the working class—that is, the Communists—organize in each shop or factory into nuclei. The nucleus is the political organization of the class conscious workers within a certain shop. This is the basic unit of the Communist Party. In case, however, the Communist are too few in number to form nuclei, territorial branches are formed to include the class conscious workers living in a given territory.

In each local labor union the Communists are organized into fractions to aid them in their work of strengthening the unions and making them effective instruments of the class struggle. The fractions direct the work within the unions and all Communist must belong to them. They are not the basic units, however, because the place where all the workers are, is the factory, and the Communists must be in touch with the workers whether or not they are in the unions.

The final organization of the workers in the class struggle is the Workers Council or Soviets. These are formed only during the last stage of the struggle when the workers are about to take power. They are formed of representatives of the workers in the shops and factories. Together with representatives of the poor farmers and of the soldiers' councils, they become the government when the workers take power. This government of workers Soviets is called the Workers and Farmers Government or the Dictatorship of the Proletariat. In the Workers and Farmers Government only the workers have a voice because only workers belong to the workers' Soviets. During the Dictatorship of the Proletariat, the power of the capitalist is taken from them, and they are forced to become workers. The control of Industry goes to the workers and the foundations of the society of the future, the Communist society, is laid.

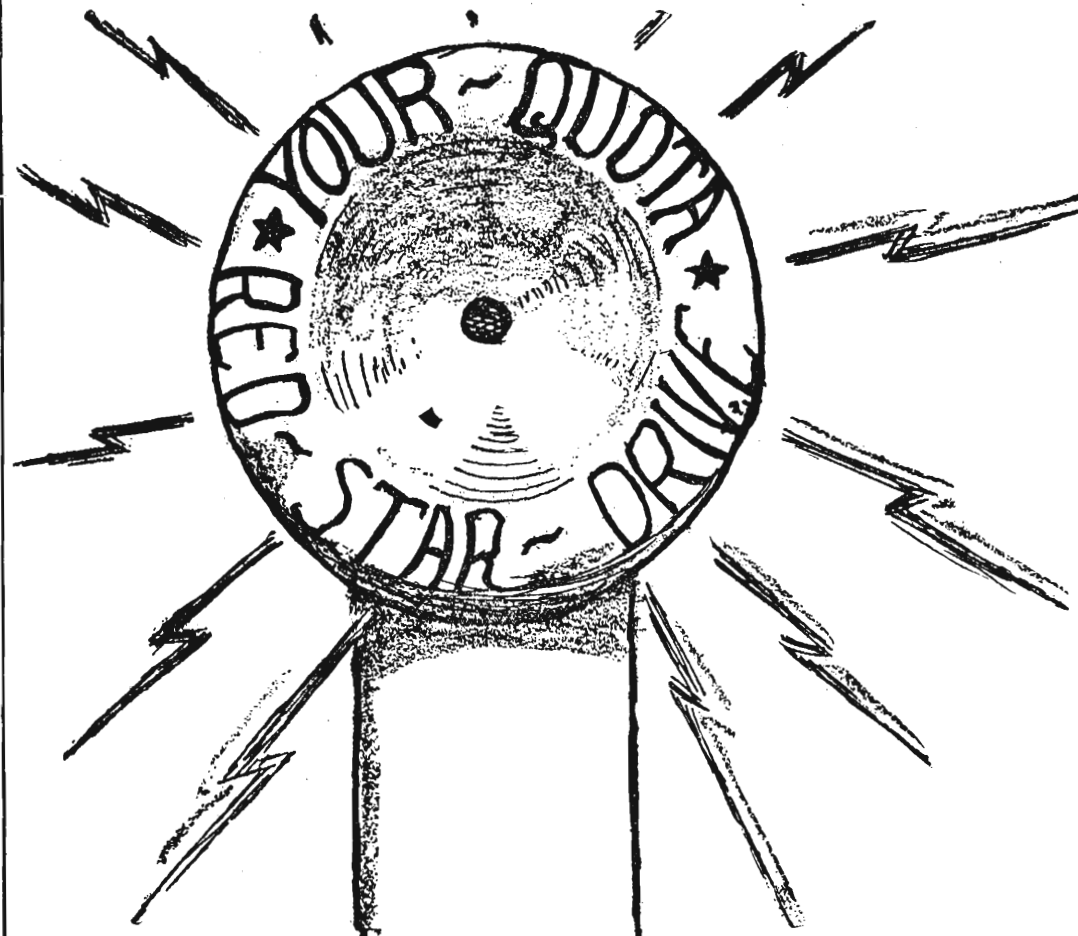
References: The functions of the various organizations of the class struggle is given in "These and Statutes of the Communist International" adopted at its second Congress.

- Questions.
1. What is the difference between a craft union and an industrial union?
  2. Name an industrial union outside of the American Federation of Labor. One inside the A. F. of L.
  3. What are the Communists trying to do in the local unions?
  4. What is the difference between a labor union and workers political party?
  5. How does the functions of the fraction differ from that of a nucleus?
  6. What is the aim of a workers committee?
  7. What are soviets? When are they formed? What is their work?

# RING THE BELL!

## Los Angeles Hits Hardest Blow of Week



## Chicago Not Far Behind!

### PRIZES FOR THE WINNERS

1. Comrade obtaining most subscriptions will receive a REMINGTON PORTABLE TYPEWRITER.
2. Branch sending in most subscriptions will be awarded a thirty volume MARX-ENGELS-LENIN LIBRARY.
3. City organization getting most subs will receive a banner from the Y. C. I.
4. Each comrade sending in a sub will receive a Red Star Stamp, showing that he or she is a member in good standing and a worker for the weekly Young Worker.
5. Branches and city organizations will be awarded the above prizes on the basis of members in good standing, thus giving the large and small units an equal chance in every respect.
6. SEE that your leaguer is one of those to head the list.

### HOW THE DRIVE STANDS

1. Los Angeles .....	14 subs.
2. Chicago .....	12 "
3. Kenosha, Wis. ....	6 "
4. Owen, Wis. ....	5 "
5. Pittsburgh, Pa. ....	4 "

14 Subs  
Los Angeles

Los Angeles  
Y. W. L.



To All Y. W. L. and Party Units and Friendly Organizations  
**May Day Will Be Celebrated**

— by the —  
**Y. W. L. and Workers Party—Local Chicago**  
at the  
**ASHLAND AUDITORIUM**

All Party and YWI and friendly organizations are requested not to hold nor allow any other affairs or May Day demonstration to be arranged on that date. Participate in this affair and make it a huge demonstration.

### WORKING CLASS, ATTENTION!

History of the World from Star-dust to Sam Gompers.  
HISTORY - - - Every Tuesday 8 P. M.  
SCIENCE - - - Every Friday 8 P. M.  
SAMUEL W. BALL INSTRUCTOR  
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**YOUNG WORKER**  
An Organ of the Militant Young Workers of America

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### Build League with Weekly

As all those who have been reading the Young Worker for long know, the growth of the Young Worker from a small magazine to a fighting newspaper has been closely linked up with the growth of the Young Workers League.

Before the Young Worker was even a bi-monthly paper, there was a time when it didn't even come out regularly once a month. As the League grew all this was changed, the magazine began to appear regularly once a month, and then as our bigger membership became more active, there was a demand for changing the Young Worker to a newspaper that could better participate and help us in our activities.

Of what value is this history now that the Young Worker is a Weekly?

The most important thing that we learn is that the growth of the Young Worker depends upon the growth of the Young Workers League, and this proves that the best way to insure the continuous existence of our paper as a weekly is by building up the Young Workers League.

But we do not want to wait for the Weekly until the Young Workers League becomes a mass organization, since a Weekly Young Worker is going to be one of our best weapons in building a mass Young Communist League in this country.

So we must do everything in our power to keep up the Weekly Young Worker, at the same time remembering, when we get subs, when we get contributions, to get new members for the Y. W. L. and build our League. Also we must remember that now that the Young Worker is a weekly it is our responsibility to see that it plays a more active part in the activities of our various units. That it is an organizer in our factory campaigns, that it is the backbone of our nuclei, and that it is a leader in the everyday struggle of the American young workers.

To do all this is a big job, but it can be done IF you send in news and make use of the paper in factory campaigns! You see that every copy you receive gets into the hands of young workers!

You get all the subscriptions possible for the paper!

### A Leninist League

Inscribed on the banners which greeted our delegates to the last congress of the Y. C. I. were the words "Without Communist theory, there can be no Revolution." These words of Lenin must become the motto of our League. For in Communist theory is boiled down the experience of our workers in their struggle. Thru these experiences the workers have learned, at tremendous cost, the most efficient methods of organizing for the overthrow of the system of wage-slavery.

We the young workers need the guide book of Communist theory, to keep us on the correct path, for we must direct not only our own footsteps but those of the thousands of young workers who will follow our leadership.

The educational articles in the Young Worker should serve as an outline for the study of Communism. These lessons are intended as the bare minimum of theory which every member should know. Every branch of the League should see to it that its members understand them thoroughly.

These lessons should be taken up at regular branch meetings whenever possible. In many cases a short time at each meeting can be devoted to them; in other cases lecture courses or study classes can be organized with the lessons used as a basis.

Let us strive to make our League a Leninist League and every member a Leninist.

### Playing Football with Child Labor

Where is that fancy child labor amendment that was going to end all the ills of the little working children? Gompers raved about it. Every capitalist charity organization pointed to it as the best way to remedy the awful conditions of the 3,000,000 child workers. But where is it?

It is at the bottom of the waste basket in about 40 state legislatures. Most of the 3,000,000 child laborers blistering under the scathing sun of the South, spitting out their lungs in the textile mills of the east, or breaking their backs in the middle West track farms and factories, will be old men when it passed—if it ever passes. Many will be dead. Thousands will be crippled.

That is the road of capitalist reform. That is the way of capitalist legislation. It means death to the workers' children: Glutted profits to the bosses.

Relief lies with the workers. A united front offensive of the workers is the only force that can make inroads on child labor. A class conscious campaign can end the evil which hits the workers. A united front from the bottom up, a united front of all workers, is indispensable if child labor is to be destroyed.

### Advanced Military Training

THE bosses are well aware of the fact that it is the young workers that will be the cannon fodder in the next war; and that compared to the working class youth the student and other elements will make up an insignificant portion of the army.

For this reason they are beginning to see that there must be a radical change in the present system of military training. In the next war even cannon-fodder will have to be very skilled, and in order to train as large a number of future soldiers as possible, the Imperialists see the necessity of taking military training to the young workers in industry.

In the past pre-war training has been too much confined to student circles, schools and summer camps. Though large number of children could not grow up without getting some military training thru the boy scouts, R. O. T. C's etc., plans are now being made to reach the thousands of young workers who will be the best age for soldiers when the next war comes.

In Japan the militarists have discovered that only 10 per cent of all young men are in the school, and they are also working out means of getting the training to the young workers.

America, England, France and other imperialist countries are doing likewise.

As the militarists more and more attempts to militarize the young workers in preparation for the next war, the young workers must more and more intensify their anti-militarist activities and put up a greater opposition than ever to the war plans of the bosses.

### We Want Our Parents to be Literate

("Krasny Bogatir" Works.)

The workers run down the hill and slip in quickly through the lattice-work gates eager to get to their club.

Today we celebrate the fifth anniversary of the decree on the liquidation of illiteracy.

Old men and old women go there to testify to the achievements of October.

Who will believe that we were illiterate up to our old age and that we can now read and write?

What appeared before impossible and fantastic, has become a reality, such is the boast of the working men and women who have overcome their illiteracy.

This feeling of just pride is noticeable in every corner and in every seat in the hall: go and see the little room, it is downstairs, next to the orchestra, where refreshments are sold. In this little room you will see our exhibition. You will find there our wall-newspaper which we have published with the help of the Young Communist League. It is called "down with illiteracy." Just imagine, we who were recently illiterate, have now published our own paper.

Their joy is great.

The satisfaction and pride of the working men and women who have overcome the illiteracy, call forth the feelings of animosity in those who do not want to admit that even old people can be taught. Our factory employs 3,000 workers including 150 illiterates. To these illiterates the young pioneers go with this slogan: "We want our parents to be literate."

A little girl from the kindergarten taxes the adults with their illiteracy. One can hear her shrill little voice, which can be heard throughout the large hall saying: "We, children, are only small, and can read and write, but you are grown up and you can neither read or write. We are little and there are things which we cannot understand, but you, who are grown up, cannot explain these things to us. And waving her tiny hands she finishes her harangue by saying: "We little children ask you to begin to learn, as our Lenin told you to."

The speech of the little girl has come to an end. But she does not move, she wants to say something else, but her little brain refuses to connect the thoughts as quickly as she would like. And then the echo rang out in the hall—"E-IN!" (Lenin).

A cute little beggar—was the verdict of those present, and a defending applause drowned the echo.

And late in the evening, after the dramatic performance, some were joyously and proudly discussing, and only a very few hastened to get home, as if ashamed of something.

RISNIK.

"For the working class, capitalism is just one crisis after another, and prosperity is a reality only to those small sections whom the capitalists find it advantageous to corrupt by special privileges. So when we speak of the approaching crisis it means rather that breakdown of the capitalist system of production that closes the factories on a mass scale and halts production or brings on a war. Such a crisis is definite in the near future for the United States. The question is, how soon will it come, and how? Will it be this year or next? Will it express itself in stopping production or in another world slaughter?"

These are the questions that are placed upon the order of business for the working class of America. And whatever the alternative that history chooses, the basic preparation of the working class for the struggle into which it will be thrown is the same: Organization of the millions of unorganized into the labor unions; transformation of the antiquated craft union structure into powerful industrial unions capable of throwing the mass power of the workers into the struggle; the crystallization of an iron disciplined vanguard in the Workers (Communist) Party; until with the working class of all other lands; revolutionary struggle for the overthrow of the blood-sucking capitalist system, the institution of workers' rule and the conquest of industry and government for the working class—the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Earl R. Brouder in the Workers Monthly.

## The Trade Union Elections

By JACK JOHNSTON

"Are you active on the industrial field?" is the question that is being asked every Communist whether he be a member of the Workers (Communist) Party or of the Young Workers League. It is a very important question, and the fact that it is being asked shows that there are many within our ranks who do not yet see the vital necessity of everyone carrying the Communist message to the masses of workers within the factory and the union.

### In the Trade Unions

An important phase of this work is within the trade union movement. And where the left-wing has shown any strength, it has expressed itself in the various trade union elections that have just recently taken place. This doesn't mean that the Communist leaders of the left-wing are only interested in elections, but it is in this manner that we can tell with a certain accuracy just how far we have gone in the establishment of Communist or left-wing leadership.

Within the past two years the left wing has come to a better understanding of how to wage a militant fight against the reactionary officialdom and to the necessity of presenting, in all union elections, a left-wing slate on a definite left-wing program. Today, in many trade unions, the left-wing has established itself as a separate group,

and the old method, used by the bureaucrats, of putting up a three-cornered fight, is beginning to lose its camouflage and its power to confuse.

### The Miners' Election

The recent miners' election was an eye-opener to the Lewis administration election in which the members of the Young Workers League played quite a prominent part. Here the fight was clear-cut. Communist candidates, with a Communist trade union program, against John L. Lewis and his class collaboration policy. Despite the fact that the Lewis machine did the counting and stole votes by the bushel, the number cast for Communist candidates were so great that they reluctantly admitted to their polling 66,000 votes.

Further handicaps in this election campaign were the lack of finances, and the arbitrary removal of Howat, Myerscough, MacDonald, McLaughlin, and other nationally known figures as prospective left-wing candidates for office. Not a single organizer for the left-wing was in the field, the campaign being carried on by a systematic distribution of leaflets.

### The Carpenters' Election

For the first time in the history of this reactionary union, a left-wing made its appearance upon a national scale and ran a Communist candidate for president upon a class struggle program. Here again the progressives,

under Communist leadership, made a successful and credible showing. With comparatively little organization, with almost all of the machinery of the union, local, state, and national, in the hands of the conservatives, with the usual vote-stealing that goes with this control, Morris Rosen of New York was able to record nearly 10,000 votes.

This success has brought down upon the heads of the Communists, members of the T. U. E. L., and progressives alike, a series of arbitrary expulsions without trial. And the support now being given to the fight led by the left-wing against this ruinous expulsion policy of Hutcheson shows the growing strength of the progressive movement within the most reactionary union in the American Federation of Labor.

### Machinists' Election

This election, which takes place in April, is important from many angles. In the primaries there were three distinct slates and although the left-wing made a good showing, getting the nominations of some of the larger locals in the industrial centers, they were not strong enough to win a place on the ballot, the rule being in this organization that the two highest candidates go on the ballot. This election is between the Johnson administration and the so-called progressive slate led by Jack Anderson.

Wm. H. Johnston, father and son-

son of the notorious B. & O. Plan, cannot, under any circumstances, be supported by the left-wing. His long record of incompetence and corruption, road strike, makes left-wing support impossible. The Anderson so-called progressive slate are weak and unreliable. One or two are honest progressive trade unionists, but as a whole they are not at all satisfactory, and no matter if an election alliance is struck between the left-wing and the Anderson slate, they cannot be classified as left-wing candidates. The difficult task confronting the left-wing here is to get Anderson as leader of the ticket to come out openly against the B. & O. class collaboration scheme, against the expulsion policy of Johnson, and for the reinstatement of the expelled members and the right of minority expression within the union. At present they give their whispered support to these issues, but the left-wing is demanding an open and public declaration.

### What the Y. W. L. Can Do

The Young Workers League can play an important part in the development of the left-wing within the union in the shops and especially among the unorganized, by the forming of shop committees and through these committees drawing closer together the organized and the unorganized workers. This work will largely depend upon the Youth.

## Letter From Russian Railway Nucleus

Dear Comrades,

OUR nucleus thinks that it will be interesting as well as useful to you to get to know about the experience and work of our nucleus, for sooner or later you will have to work under similar conditions, and then the knowledge of our present experiences will be very useful to you. Besides you will learn from our letters all about the life and doings of the young workers and peasants of Soviet Russia, and especially about their education and training. This will inspire you with still greater energy for your revolutionary struggle. These are the main reasons which prompt us to write to you about our work.

### International Class Education

OUR nucleus is attached to the depot of the Moscow-Kazan Railway. Our nucleus has 170 members, namely 80 per cent of all the young workers employed in our workshop. Out of these 170 members, 117 are still unskilled workers and are appreciated to the factory school. This school is the fundamental kernel of our nucleus, while the other young Communists of our nucleus are spread among all the crafts. The work of the nucleus is divided into three fundamental parts: organizational, economic and political educational work. A member of the bureau is in charge of such of these branches of work. The object of this work is to promote the interests of the proletariat and of the proletarian state, which believes in international class education. The bureau is in charge of the entire work of the nucleus. It elaborates the plan of work and brings it up for discussion at the nuclei meetings. One of the most important tasks of the nucleus consists in drawing all the Young Communists into the work. With this object in view every young Communist is assigned his or her definite task, as representative in the factory committee, editor of the wall newspaper, etc.

AND now I will deal with every branch of work separately:

### Organizational Work.

ORGANIZATIONAL work comprises superintendence of the entire nucleus, the bureau's preparatory work for general meetings, keeping in touch with social organizations, with the district committee, etc. The bureau of our nucleus consists of seven members. It meets once a week to discuss any questions which might crop up. General meetings are also held once a week. At these meetings reports on economic questions are made, in order to familiarize our fellows with the economic life of the enterprise as a whole. Reports on the current life of the Party, of the Young Communist League, are also made. General meetings of the Non-Party youth of whom they have about 15-20 per cent are very rare, as we do our utmost to draw the Non-Party youth into the Young Communist meetings of the nucleus.

### Contact with the Party Nucleus.

A regular contact with the Party nucleus has been established. Several comrades from the Party nucleus have been delegated to take part in our meetings and to help us with our work. The secretary of our nucleus is our representative in the Party nucleus. Our Young Communists are always invited to the Party meetings, at which reports on the work of the Young Communist League is a regular feature.

### Contact with the District Committee.

As our nucleus is one of the biggest nuclei of the district, two of our comrades are also members of the district committee. Apart from these comrades, contact with the district committee is maintained thru district meetings of secretaries of political educational bodies of representatives of labor protection organs, etc. At these meetings, the district committee assigns the work and gives instructions for same. We also send monthly written reports to the district committee. Such are approximately the methods of our organizational work.

### Economic Work.

ONE of the most important branches of work done by our nucleus is the work connected with the protection of labor. It must watch over the state of apprenticeship in the enterprise, it must see to it that all the regulations of the Soviet Government concerning the youth are carried out, that medical examination takes place as soon as the need for it arises, that young workers are sent into rest homes, etc. In order to coordinate this work with the work

on the railway and of children of railwaymen. The school is under the administration of the school Soviet at the head of which is the headmaster of the school who carries out the decisions of the school Soviet. This body consists of three representatives of the apprentices, of the nucleus of the Young Communist League and of the pedagogues and of one representative from the factory committee. In addition to the school Soviet there are also apprentices' committees, which are elected. They deal with

the guidance of a highly qualified foreman. The average earnings of our apprentices, especially on the railways, are very small. As our transport service has suffered very much during the years of the imperialist and civil war and as it is still working almost at a loss, our young workers receive 40-50 per cent of the wage of adult workers, which brings up their earnings to about 30 rubles a month. But to make up for this, they can travel free of charge on the railway on which they are employed twelve times a year and four times a year any distance on all the railways of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Such is approximately our economic situation.

### Political Educational Work.

A GREAT deal of attention must be paid to political educational work. Some of our Young Communists who have not gone thru the revolutionary struggle even after the October period, have no idea whatever about illegal revolutionary work. Therefore we must pay a great deal of attention to this side of our movement. In this respect our nucleus has as yet achieved very little. Those of our fellows who worked in the school were taught political literacy. The nucleus has a circle for politically backward young fellows and a circle of the youth movement. These circles are in charge of young Communist students. But not all our young fellows have been as yet drawn into the circles. Last Autumn we had a political examination as a result of which we know how it stands in our nucleus with political knowledge in general. We have in our nucleus a Lenin "corner" where we have news papers, pamphlets and books. Our young fellows meet there to read and to listen to informal lectures on Leninism. We publish a small newspaper: The Young Communist. All the writing and drawing is done by hand and the newspaper has a very good effect. There is a club in our Moscow district which is called the club of the "October Revolution." It is in a building where the former minister Gutchkov lived. In this club the youth is organized into a youth section.

OUR nucleus has a corps of young pioneers which is very strong. Two young Communists who are no longer employed in industry are in charge of this corps. In addition to these superintendents other Young Communists give also their time to this work. In the summer the young pioneers go into camp in the provinces and spend most of their time in physical exercises with a few informal political lectures thrown in. This is a brief sketch of the work of our nucleus.

Dear Comrades: We would welcome a letter from you describing your work and the work of your nucleus. This would bring Russian and American young Communists, who are already united by the desire for a world Communist revolution, still closer together.

With Communist greetings,

The Young Communist Nucleus,  
Moscow Depot of the Kazan Railway, Sokolniki District.

Moscow, Jan. 8, 1925.

P. S. Our letter has been somewhat delayed and we are at present (1-11-25) celebrating the 5th anniversary of our All-Russian workers' and peasants' newspaper, The Young Leninist. Just now (1-18-25) we are making preparations for the special campaign in commemoration of the death of our common leader V. I. Lenin, during which we will put to a severe test the work accomplished by us without the guidance of Ilyich. Thereby we will ascertain if we have deserved to be called Leninists.

"Work to the limit of your forces, do not set yourselves tasks which are beyond your powers, work under the leadership of the adults."—(Lenin to the Communist Students' Congress, April, 1919.)

## Drama for Winter Night

(Fifth Avenue)

You can't sleep here,  
My good man,  
You can't sleep here.  
This is the house of God.

The usher opens the church door and he goes out.

You can't sleep in this car, old top,  
Not here.

If Jones found you  
He'd give you to the cops.  
Get-the-hell out now,  
This ain't home.  
You can't stay here.

The chauffeur opens the door and he gets out.

Lord! You can't let a man lie in the streets  
like this.

Find an officer quick,  
Send for an ambulance,  
Maybe he is sick but  
He can't die on this corner,  
Not here!  
He can't die here.

Death opens a door.  
Oh, God,  
Lemme git by St. Peter.  
Lemme sit down on the steps of your throne.  
Lemme rest somewhere.  
What did yuh say, God?  
What did yuh say?  
You can't sleep here. . . .  
Bums can't stay. . . .

The man's raving.  
Get him to the hospital quick.  
He's attracting a crowd.  
He can't die on this corner.  
No, no, not here.

—Langston Hughes,  
in the Workers Monthly.



of our trade union, we appoint a representative in the factory committee, whose business it is to coordinate our work with the work of the factory committee as a whole. This labor protection work is divided into two parts: the factory apprenticeship school and comrades directly employed in the industry.

### Apprenticeship Schools.

ALL our young workers under the age of 18 are attached to the factory apprenticeship school, which has now 75 pupils. It differs from other Soviet schools in that it is attached to the factory itself and that our boys and girls are employed there four hours in physical work and four hours in theoretical work. This school is under the autonomous regime of the apprentices themselves. It was founded twelve months ago and is composed of young people working

the every-day questions of school life. All questions concerning the life of the school are discussed at the bureau meeting and at the meeting of the Young Communist League. As to that part of the youth which is not included into the factory school, things are not as satisfactory. The young fellows are distributed among all the locomotive work shops and are under the supervision of the foremen.

THE latter are frequently too exacting with these young fellows, and it is also more difficult here than in the apprenticeship school to receive proper training, as one is obliged to do what is mostly required at the moment. It happens that these young fellows are kept at one kind of work for a whole month. We are trying to find a way out of this. We are considering the advisability to form a separate apprenticeship brigade under