

THE YOUNG WORKER

OFFICIAL ORGAN of THE YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE

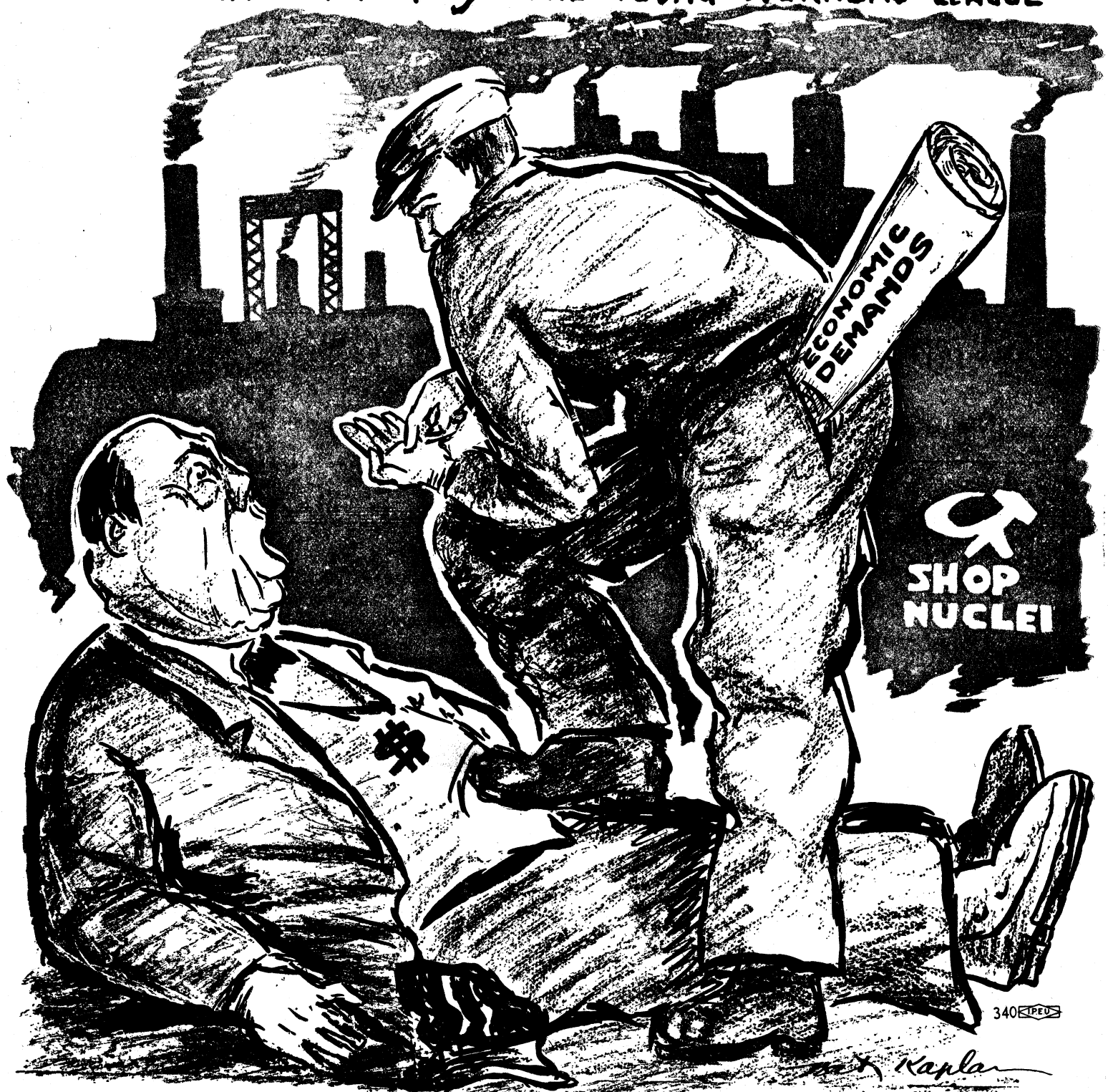


OCTOBER, 1923

PRICE 15 CENTS

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YOUNG WORKER!

Line Up With the Revolutionary Youth!

Don't Be a Tool, In Your Boss' Hands!

You are slaving away in the factory or in the mine or on the field. You are being exploited to the utmost, as much as flesh and blood can stand. You work long and weary hours, under the poorest conditions, and are paid the lowest wages. While the glorious days of your youth are being wasted away in order that your bloated boss may add to his bursting pocketbook, you are being poisoned by the lying stories of the newspapers, and the illusions of the schools and the moving pictures. Your ears are being filled with rosy visions of a never-to-be Future. You are being advised to join organizations created and controlled

by your masters, in order that you may be kept from knowing the truth of your position.

Don't let yourself be fooled by the lies of your masters. The "future" which is held in store for you is more exploitation, more misery, more work, a denial of better things in life. Unemployment, disease, health-destroying occupations, and the sufferings of murderous wars are your lot.

Take your stand against this horrible system! Organize! Join the organization of the class-conscious young workers:

YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE OF AMERICA

The Young Workers League of America proposes to organize, to educate, to train the working class youth so that they may some day eliminate a system under which the millions slave and starve and perish in order that the few, the parasites, who do not work, may live in luxury from the good things of life which YOU produce.

The League has branches in almost every industrial

center of the country. It is composed of young workers between the ages of 14 and 30. It is YOUR movement, and your place is in its ranks.

Line up with the revolutionary youth! Join us in the struggle for the freedom of the working class! Become an active member—NOW!

For further information, write to the

YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE OF AMERICA

ROOM 214, 1009 N. STATE ST., CHICAGO, ILL.

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A Constructive, Militant Monthly
Labor Magazine

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THE YOUNG WORKER

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OCTOBER

No. 10.

Organize the Young Workers!

By MAX SHACHTMAN.

THREE months have elapsed since the day when representatives of the Young Workers League of America held a conference with Mr. Samuel Gompers of the American Federation of Labor, for the purpose of finding ways and means of bringing the young workers into the organized labor movement of this country so that they might fight side by side with the adults for better conditions of work.

At that conference we handed Mr. Gompers a letter of proposals, which after pointing out the situation for which a remedy would have to be found, suggested that the following step be taken by the American Federation of Labor:

That there be created in the American Federation of Labor a special Young Workers' Bureau or Secretariat for the purpose of stimulating the trade union education and organization of young workers, this Bureau to have, among others, the following functions:

1. To point out the importance of the young workers in industry and to encourage all branches of the Trade Union movement to carry on a vigorous campaign to organize them.

2. To compile and publish statistics dealing especially with Child Labor and other features of industry, particularly relating to the young.

3. To issue a regular News Service to the Labor Press, and to induce the various Labor papers to develop special Departments devoted to the problems of the young workers.

4. To issue Organizational and Educational pamphlets especially written to appeal to youthful workers, and pointing out the philosophy, the achievement and the goal of the Labor Movement.

5. To carry on a special campaign among adult unionists showing them the dangerous "Open Shop" tendencies their children are exposed to, and providing them the means wherewith to educate their young to the necessity of Labor organization.

Gompers read the proposal, commented on it, argued over it, but nevertheless, he promised definitely that it would be given close consideration by the Executive Council of the Federation. Indeed, he was quite indignant that anyone should question that. Of course it would be given serious attention: that was his reason for coming to the conference.

A month passed after the holding of the conference and no word was received by the Leagues as to any action that Mr. Gompers or the Executive Council might have taken. Having allowed sufficient time for either favorable or unfavorable action, the Secretary of the League was obliged to write on July 17, another letter of inquiry to Mr. Gompers, which said:

"Dear Sir and Brother:

A month ago you held a conference with a delegation of the Young Workers League of America in Chicago at the Morrison Hotel. We discussed the matter of a campaign by the American Federation of Labor for the organization of the young workers and the establishment of a Young Workers Secretariat in the American Federation of Labor.

Would you please inform us what action has been taken?

Fraternally yours, etc."

And two months have passed since then, and Mr. Gompers has not even thought it necessary to be courteous enough to reply.

It has become evident that Mr. Gompers, or the Executive Council of the Federation, does not intend to do anything with this problem, which is of such immense importance to the American workers. It appears that they do not care whether the young workers are organized or not, whether they are scabs or not. Is this problem so unimportant, so insignificant that the American labor movement can afford to ignore it or pass over it in such easy-going fashion?

No! A thousand times, no!

In all parts of the country child labor is on the increase. The action of prostituted Supreme Court in declaring the Child Labor Laws unconstitutional, gave a tremendous impetus to the

greed of the capitalists. In Connecticut, child labor increased 57% in the first quarter of this year. In the cities of Baltimore, Bridgeport, Detroit, Hartford, Indianapolis, Jersey City, Manchester, New Britain, Newark, New Haven, New York, Paterson, St. Louis and Waterbury, the percentage of increase during the first quarter of 1923 over 1922 was 24%; and in the last named city 80% more children were given work permits than in June,

1922. Five cities reported increases of more than 100 per cent. In a report, made by Grace Abbott, director of the Children's Bureau of Federal Department of Labor, on conditions in two average mining towns, she says that half of the boys from 13 to 16 have left school for the mines. Eight hundred New Jersey children between the ages of 8 and 14 are engaged in factory work at home, according to an estimate made in a state-wide survey by the N. J. Department of Labor; and some of the cases which the survey details are sufficient to convince any one that is not blind, that the situation is a grave one.

All over the country, instances can be seen of the terrible results which are brought about by ignoring the problem of the organization of the young workers.

Officials of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union have been blocked in their efforts to organize the factories of New York, because the bosses evade union control by sending their work across the river to New Jersey, where "contractors" maintain slave pens in which young workers are employed to an alarming extent. A press report says:

"These manufacturers are not violating a New York law because they are not employing child labor in New York, nor operating sweatshops in New York. And the law of New Jersey is powerless against them because they are not directly and technically employers in New Jersey."

During the summer vacation university students from upstate New York colleges were used to break the strike in the railway shops of the Pennsylvania R. R. at Olean, N. Y., Har-

**Mr. Gompers is Silent
How About You,
Brother Union Man?**

risburg and Altoona, Pa. And the shame of the labor movement is the fact that it was the Church League for Industrial Democracy, a milk-and-water organization of sky pilots, which took the initiative in writing, printing and distributing a leaflet calling upon the students to play fair, not to "violate the American college spirit and affront their own self-respect."

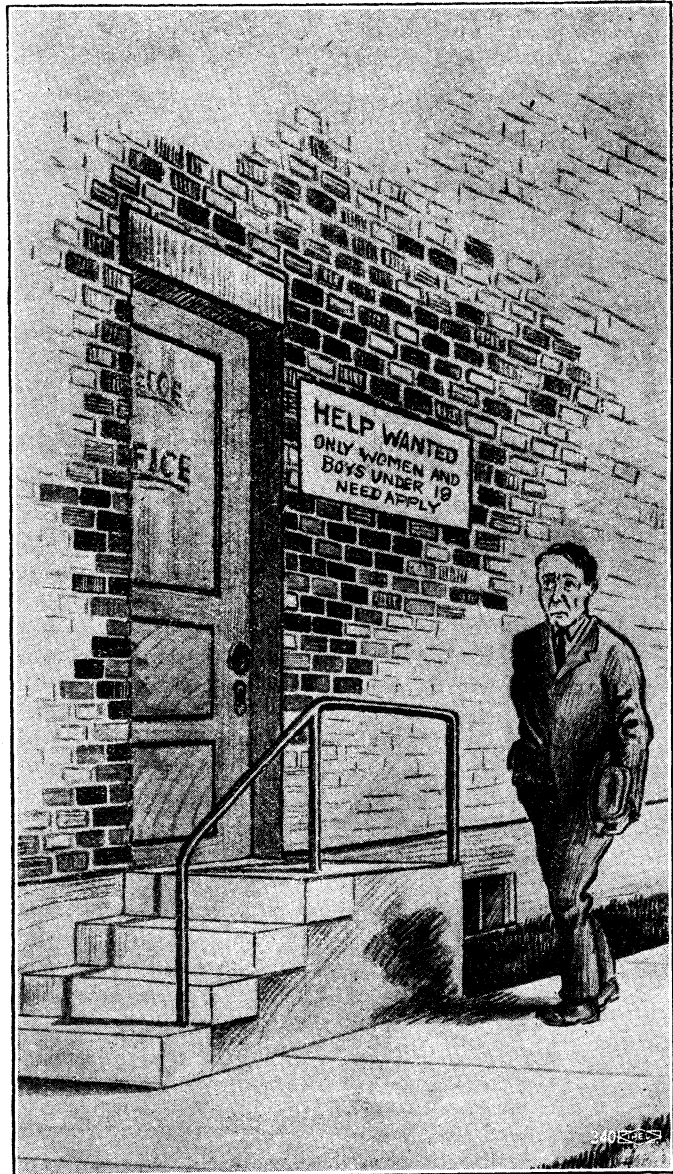
A couple of months ago, young boys were used as strike-breakers in the plant of E. Wiener Co. when 60 upholsterers left the shop after an announcement that thereafter the piece-work plan would prevail. "Besides the piece-work grievance," says a Federated Press dispatch, "the strikers charged that the company was turning the plant into a kindergarten, a claim that was verified when it was found that children even below the permit age were being put into the labor treadmill."

Every day brings another instance of the necessity to organize the young workers into the trade unions. If only for their own protection, the union men of this country should see to it that special efforts are made to enroll the working youth, to make it easier for them to enter the unions by lowering the entrance fees in accord with the ability of young workers to pay. It is not only for their own protection that labor unionists must do this, but for self-preservation. The young workers are being used to lower the wages of the adults and to break the control of the unions everywhere. It is absolutely essential that they be organized into the unions together with the older workers.

While we recognize the fundamental principle that all child labor must be abolished without compromise or evasion, we also recognize the fact that while it is more profitable for the capitalist to employ the child instead of the older worker, he will do so. We also recognize the fact that children are being used as producers to an enormous extent, enormous enough to warrant their being organized.

Even the smallest can be organized. The very psychology of the child and the young worker promises well for organization. They have the clannish spirit, the spirit of the "gang," "stick-to-itiveness" and all the other necessities of a good organization. Newsboys have been organized into A. F. of L. unions in at least two cities: in Seattle where John Northern was the leading spirit, and in Chicago, where young Robert Buck was active until his recent death. If only the trade unions would take a more sympathetic attitude towards the young workers, there is no doubt of the possibilities for organization. Only recently, in New York, eight hundred plumbers' helpers who had been receiving from \$2.50 to \$4.50 a day went out on strike for a uniform wage scale of \$6.00 a day, and recognition for their recently formed union, the United Plumbers' Helpers and Assistants Union. They organized their own union, and demanded recognition of it by the Master Plumbers Association, because the regular A. F. of L. union, the Journeymen Plumbers, REFUSED TO RECOGNIZE THEM!

The vast majority of trade unionists do not yet seem to see the importance of the young workers in the fight against the boss. But the boss has been more farsighted in this respect. The American Newspaper Publishing Association for example, at its recent meeting in New York, went on record in favor of sponsoring printing trades schools for the instruction and printing trades; favoring the establishment of regional schools in several sections of the United States and Canada, to be financed by newspapers in their own sections, and creating a printing trade schools fund to be collected from the membership of the national association, for the purpose of promoting the school plan throughout the United States and Canada. And the official organ of the International Typographical Union remarks that this is "a direct slap at the printing trades unions." Is it necessary to add that young workers will be practically the only ones trained in these scab nests?



Drawn by James Stoker

"Who is getting your job, union man?"

Mr. Gompers and the officialdom of the A. F. of L. have not shown that they are in the least inclined to take even the most elementary steps towards coping with this problem. It therefore becomes the duty of every worker, young and old, who has the interest of the labor movement at heart, to begin an immediate campaign of publicity and action to eradicate this evil. There are enough organizers floating around in this country to begin an intensive organizational drive, not only among those generally called the "unorganized" but particularly the young workers.

We agree with the Minnesota Union Advocate when it writes that

"the organized workers are struggling against the most shameful odds, fighting with every ounce of their strength to retain what few conditions they have and establish a better day—not alone for ourselves, but for all. We appeal to all members to drive this situation home to the unorganized, and to show them if it were not for their apathy the enemies of the people would be helpless. There are many who can be aroused, who are thoughtless and can be made to change their course. Every member must help."

But when we speak of "apathy" let us not forget the apathy of those who are already organized, and think that when they

have joined a union, that is all they need to do, that they have fulfilled their duty.

We call upon all members and sympathizers of the Young Workers League of America who are already in organized unions to bring this matter to the attention of their fellow unionists. We call upon all good trade unionists to agitate this question in their locals. We ask that all members of the Workers Party, all members of the Trade Union Educational League, all radical and progressive unionists raise this issue in their unions.

We ask, furthermore, that this be not only brought up for

a thorough discussion, but that all the workers mentioned see that definite ACTION is taken. This must not, this cannot, become an academic issue for hothouse discussions only. It must be brought into action in every local union, in every district organization, and in every national and international convention.

For the organization of the unorganized!

For the organization of the young workers!

For the preservation, the protection, and the strengthening of the labor movement!

Another "Beauty" of Capitalism

By JOHN WILLIAMSON.

A CROSS-SECTION view of one of the "beauties" of capitalism has come to light recently in Chicago. For the past two months we have had gradually becoming public some of the conditions existing in the Chicago Parental School, a part of the Chicago educational system.

The majority of the inmates are of that type generally headed "delinquents." Most of them have committed no crime worse than non-attendance of school. While it is true that the majority of this type of boy is no asset to the young workers movement, nevertheless we understand that capitalism is the primary cause behind these boys "going wrong" as capitalist society hypocritically labels it.

Boys Brutally Tortured.

The recent investigation has brought to light a mountain of facts regarding this so called "corrective school." We find in existence bull pens where the boys upon the least pretense are incarcerated for many days on a bread and water diet. The teachers have instigated a custom that when a new boy is thrown into the bull pen the other inmates are to pounce upon him and beat him up. The testimony brings out the fact that one boy, upon a flimsy excuse was thrown in the bull pen and set upon by the others, resulting in his death a few hours later. The school authorities pronounced his death suicide and allowed no one except themselves to testify at the coroner's hearing, thus covering up their foul play. Only recently another boy has died from the treatment received. Graphic were the word pictures of the boys telling of punishment by the various teachers. Cat of nine tails and rubber hoses were freely used upon the backs of the young boys, all between the ages of 6 and 16 years. The teachers used rules and fists promiscuously upon the bodies of the boys. The bruised bodies, still a mass of sores and welts, augmented the verbal reports. Another case of where one boy had gone insane as a result of beatings was presented. Much testimony of physical torture inflicted that is unprintable also came to light. Cases of where parents upon calling for their children at the termination of their sentences were told that they must pay a number of dollars before being released. Most of the parents were unable to produce the money being among the poorest paid workers; therefore the children had to remain in this house of torture with its hell holes and brute teachers.

Conditions Cause of "Delinquency."

This is just another interesting incident, showing how rotten the educational system of capitalism is. Those who are the victims of these parental schools are generally the children of the near slum element of society. There are some exceptions, of course. They see capitalism in all its ugliness from the

cradle on. They must suffer often from lack of food and clothing. They are allowed to run the streets at all hours of night selling newspapers, consequently being enveloped in the slum environment. Their home life, due to the miserable conditions their parents are forced to exist under, is not conducive to home study of school subjects. Then, when they attend school, probably without breakfast, their teachers harass them for not knowing their lessons. Consequently, being under fire of their teachers and embarrassed before their school maters, this causes them to become embittered. Augmented by other causes they soon determine to leave school for good. Unfortunately, but completely in accord with the bankrupt capitalist system, the principal asset required of a school teacher today is to be an able mouthpiece of patriotic phrases such as, "an equal opportunity for all," "by working hard we may become a millionaire," etc., etc.

Reform Schools Have Incapable Teachers.

The farce of the situation is in the so-called reformist measures taken by the school authorities. In these parental schools the boys are supposed to get a training that will divert them from their criminal tendencies. All will admit that such a school would call for teachers of special training, those who had made a study of sociology, psychology and the habits of children. Instead of that we have teachers of brutal disposition who only incite the already criminal tendencies of the children to action. Are such things as physical punishment, solitary confinement, bread and water diets and bull pens conducive to a high moral spirit? Also the young boys are forced to work a number of hours each day doing all the work of the household, gardening work, etc.

Comrades, this is just one instance of the farce of the reformism of capitalism. It browbeats the youth mentally in the schools; and then when conditions of labor and school force some of the boys to leave it, Capitalism thrusts them into some vile hole of brutality where their little bodies are beaten daily, until those that can no longer stand the treatment commit suicide. Then the nice old men and old ladies, whose soft hearts melt at the sight of these barbarous conditions, begin a clamor for all sorts of ineffective reforms. After great pressure, some minor law may possibly be passed; but the administration of these laws being in the hands of corrupt and servile tools of Capitalism, they are never carried out in practise.

Let the nice old men and women wail and moan and raise their voices in the desert. Let them cry for their petty reforms which have been put into effect hundreds of times without changing things one whit. We will fight on in the daily struggle for the abolition of the system which brings about these conditions, the system of Capitalism.

Towards a Movement of the Workers' Children

By NAT KAPLAN

ONCE more the Public Schools of this country are in session. They have again herded our working class children into their class rooms for a continuation of their pro-boss propaganda. The workers' child will again be taught his daily capitalist lesson: "Believe in God; Be loyal to your government and to your employer." Beware the child with a strong will who dares defy the authority of its teachers, who are but the sounding boards for policies dictated by Wall Street. Once again we find that old, rotten formula, "Spare the rod and spoil the child," used as the keystone tactic in teaching our children the three R's.

With the opening of the school term, our comrades engaged in "Junior Work" begin to feel the seriousness of their task. They realize that NOW is the opportune moment for the creation in their respective locality of a fighting Junior Group, which will counteract the effects of the Public School by waging effective warfare, thru the children, against the purely capitalist teachings in the schools.

It will therefore prove of value, at this time, to discuss a few of the immediate problems which are but the stepping stones towards the attainment of groups of our younger comrades.

First, let us remember that when Communists are assigned a task of creating a new organization, which shall serve a specific purpose, they always look about them to see if there are any existing organizations which, to a greater or lesser degree, are already serving that purpose. The comrades assigned to "Junior Work" must do this also.

Thus, we find that in many cities of this country there are in existence working class children's movements.

What Are These Working Class Children's Movements?

They are in most cases working class Sunday schools. The organizational make-up of these schools and the methods of teaching are an exact duplicate of our present pro-boss Public School System. They have their classes of the children within a school or schools (divided territorially) and dominated over, not only by the authority of the teachers, but by parents' organizations as well. Thus we find that these schools, governed by the adults, serve the unintentional purpose of destroying under the iron heel of a parental dictatorship any creative initiative that the workers' child may possess.

We say "unintentional purpose," however, because the school is based in most cases on working class lines and the teachers and parents in them are sincere in their endeavors to make future working class fighters of our children; yet they are pursuing and fostering a method of education and a form of organization which makes the very thing which they are "sincere in" impossible of realization.

What then is the difference between the educational and organizational policies of these schools and the Young Workers League? The fundamental difference between the two is that the Young Workers' League is organizing and educating the workers' children for a participation in the class struggle *now*, while the Sunday School says: "Our only function is to educate the children in order to prepare them for the class struggle in the future—when they reach maturity."

The experiences of the various sections of the Young Communist International in Germany, Great Britain and other countries has taught us that the child can and does make an excellent fighter in the class struggle. The Sunday School says: "We will educate the worker's child by having him memorize ready-made phrases from out of our text books." The Young Workers League knows that the only way the child can learn the class struggle is by participating in that struggle and

by learning it thru observation. For example, the child sees the slums, then the rich residential sections of a large city. You can then explain the existence of the class struggle, thru answering the questions which the child will inevitably ask on the things which he is observing.

Not only are the educational methods used in these schools based on a wrong principle but the same applies to their form of organization. The only natural form of child organization is the group and here our opponents can't say: Bah! You have taken this from Europe, if they have the decency to admit that on nearly every street, in our large cities there is a children's organization in existence, which rises naturally and whose basis of organization is the group, or as it is more commonly known "the gang." The group is the natural form of child organization because in it every member is on an equal footing with his fellow members. The leader of the group only wins the confidence of his younger comrades by participating wholeheartedly in the games of the members and in the general work of the group. The reverse is true in our class form of organization. Within our Sunday School class form of organization there are continually two divided camps—one the teacher, who maintains himself in power thru the wielding of discipline,—and the other the children, who are fighting for individual expression. Then, besides this, when we consider that there exists the parents' organization which maintains an iron discipline over the teachers, who, further, maintain an iron discipline over the child, we realize that the form of organization used by these Sunday Schools is a sad mistake.

Can we ignore these Sunday Schools because they are based on these wrong principles? At a time when we are engaged in organizing the workers' children we must take advantage of every opportunity afforded us to work with these schools. It would be a fallacy to thrust aside these institutions when we stand every chance of winning them over to our methods of teaching and our form of organization. We then realize that our immediate task is to work within the existing working class children's organizations, by taking over the job of teachers, enrolling in the parents' organizations and doing all the other necessary work within the school.

What Are Our Tactics Within the School?

Conditions in the various schools are not wholly of a like character. It would therefore be erroneous to attempt to outline a set of tactics applicable to the conditions in every school. The comrades working within the school should feel their way and gradually acquaint the teachers and parents with the right methods of conducting children's work.

Our first battle should be directed towards the changing of the methods of education, i. e., the substitution of self education and learning thru observation for the old method of pure book learning. In our first battle, it is highly probable that our easiest victory will be won in getting the "Sunday School old timers" to realize the necessity of having the children play games. Here care should be taken to point out the kind of games which we mean, namely, games of political character with working class consciousness as their motive. Further, it is necessary at this stage to explain to these people that the main necessity of games is not merely for recreational purposes but for educational purposes as well.

The organizational form of the schools will very likely be the last thing to be scrapped. The "old timers" will dogmatically fight to retain their old worn-out form of organization. But with the attainment of our first victory not only ideologically but practically as well, i. e., when we are actually carrying

out our methods of education, we will find that the purely class form of organization, having outlived its usefulness, will die a gradual death. But this does not mean that we will be able to avoid many battles which will be mediums for pushing this old form of organization to a speedier death.

At the Same Time We Organize Our Junior Groups.

A mistake which we must avoid from the start is that of putting all our time in these Sunday Schools and no time in the creation of our own Junior Groups. Our time must be proportionally divided between these two forms of activity. We must always bear in mind that we are working within the Sunday Schools in order to win them over to our form of organization and our method of teaching. It therefore becomes necessary that our organization be continually strengthened thru the addition of new groups and members.

How do we start to organize our Junior Groups? There are many ways of making the start and here also we can just give general suggestions because the conditions for the organization of the groups vary, to a greater or lesser degree, in each locality. Comrade Hoernle in his manual for the leaders of children's groups tells us: "Nothing in the world is easier than to attract children. Where there is a will there is a way. Youths, boys and girls of the Young Communist Leagues, go in a group to the place where children are—on the streets in the evenings, public playgrounds, or at some outdoor celebration. They watch the children at play and gradually and tactfully

join in their games, perhaps teaching them a new circle game which all can join. Other children are attracted and approached to play the new game. After a time, when the children are a little tired—"Shall we learn a new song?" At first the little ones may be suspicious, then they will be shy, but eventually they will all join in the 'Red Flag, the 'International' or some other revolutionary song. Or else—"Will you play with us again? We poor children have to do without so many things which the rich children have—it is so nice when we can all play together." Meanwhile we can distribute our papers, inform them that this is the children's paper and that there are children's meetings. "Would you come?"

The Young Workers League can utilize our major political organization, the Workers Party of America, for this work. We appear before a branch meeting of the Workers Party, we announce the meeting place and date for our group and urge the members to send their children. The same can be done with such organizations as the Workmen's Sick and Death Benefit Society, the Workmen's Circle and similar working class organizations. It just takes the push and personal initiative of our Junior Directors to invent dozens of ways of starting the Junior Group.

We can look towards the movement of our younger comrades with courage in our hearts. For indeed, in allying ourselves with these younger comrades we have done one of the greatest of things for the young workers' movement in America.

A Real Labor Daily

THE announcement by the Workers Party that it is beginning a drive for the publication of an English daily newspaper in Chicago is sure to arouse an enthusiastic response from the masses of class-conscious revolutionaries and progressives.

The increasing importance that events assume every day makes it imperative that the radical workers of this country have a daily organ of expression, published in some central point from which it can soon be distributed over the entire nation. This plan has been made feasible by the recent test trips in which airplanes covered the breadth of the country in something more than a day. *The Daily Worker*, then, will not be a local but a national newspaper.

At present the American workers have not a real fighting daily; the socialist "Call" and "Milwaukee Leader" have both gone over to the camp of the reactionaries in the labor movement; the former has just been put into the receivership of a group of liberals and "labor leaders," who will never, of course, fight for the radical viewpoint on the political or trade union field. The Minnesota "Daily Star" remains what it always was, a paper without a policy and incapable of pointing out a definite road for labor to follow. The Oklahoma "Leader" has recently suspended after having followed the political policy of Samuel Gompers; and the Seattle "Union Record" has degenerated into a sensational, murder-divorce-scandal sheet of the usual Hearst type.

A communist daily becomes the crying need of the hour. The campaigns for amalgamation of the trade unions, for the Federated Farmer-Labor Party, for relief of Soviet Russia, for the organization of the unorganized, must have a daily mouthpiece in order that they be more effective. The daily in the hands of the Workers Party will be safe, for the Workers Party has shown itself to be the driving force behind all of these campaigns, to be the only political organization that has consistently fought for all those issues on every occasion.

The Young Workers League will benefit greatly by the publication of the *Daily Worker*. Our message will be broad-

casted through the columns of a daily newspaper and it will be read by thousands of workers who have hitherto been ignorant of our existence and activities.

Get into this campaign immediately. Have your branch elect delegates to the local Workers Party Daily Campaign Committee. Have the comrades of your branch go out and solicit money for shares of stock and subscriptions.

The goal that has been set by the Campaign Committee is \$100,000 by November 7th, the sixth anniversary of the Russian Worker's Revolution. The Young Workers League of America has set as its quota \$5,000, and there is no doubt but that it can be raised and even oversubscribed. A circular bulletin, giving all the details of the campaign, has been sent out to the Leagues all over the country, and they are expected to act immediately on this vital matter.

Let's put this drive over the top! Get into it with real League spirit and show the older comrades what it means for them to have a youth movement! Five thousand dollars as the Young Workers' contribution to the *Daily Worker*!

Bourgeois Art.

Bourgeois art is at the point of death. The Cubist and Futurist painters have shown its bony convulsions. Stravinsky and his friends have sounded its death-rattle. And some recently published verse fairly stinks. In fact, all the so-called "modern movements" in the arts are but the feverish experiments of artists who see no real hope for the sort of art they know. And they are right. Bourgeois art has no future, but it is only a waste of time to mutilate and play tricks with its forms. For these modern experimentalists never get anywhere near the heart of the problem. They may produce "interesting" work, but they never move us. A dying art is not to be galvanized back to life. Bourgeois art is played out because bourgeois life is played out. The art of the future—the art of the proletariat—will arise, not in strange, inhuman and outlandish shapes and sounds, but simply and sweetly, because life itself has been made simpler and sweeter.—Rutland Boughton.

A League of Young Workers? Yes!

By MARTIN ABERN

IN order to carry on properly the work of the Young Workers League in any field, economic, educational or political, we must know with what we have to work. Since it is the members who will have to carry out the policies of the National Organization, we must know, then, as far as possible, what the members are best capable of doing; and we must then fit our work to their capabilities.

For those, among other reasons, the National Organization has tried to get an accurate industrial registration of the League. We now have sufficient information to make some calculations.

Twenty-six city Leagues out of 55 Leagues in good standing, or about 48 per cent, have sent in their registration approximately complete. We are now receiving daily further registration from the larger Leagues, who have had to take a longer time to get the information wanted. The cities who have not sent in their industrial registration, but which, can be expected as a certainty are:

New York	Toledo	Hanna
Detroit	Philadelphia	Millvale
South Bend	Pittsburgh	Quincy
Boston	Providence	Munising
Worcester	Fitchburg	Eben Jct.
St. Louis	Chisholm	Sault Ste. Marie
Newark	Hibbing	Rochester.
Paterson	Los Angeles	
Waukegan	Frederick	

and a few smaller towns. The registration, then, is far from complete. But at least we have a basis from which to proceed to work with greater accuracy.

Five hundred and fifty members are registered out of a membership of 2,500. Most of those registered are from the small towns, with a few exceptions, such as Chicago, Seattle, Minneapolis, Cleveland, Milwaukee and a few others.

Industrial Workers Predominate.

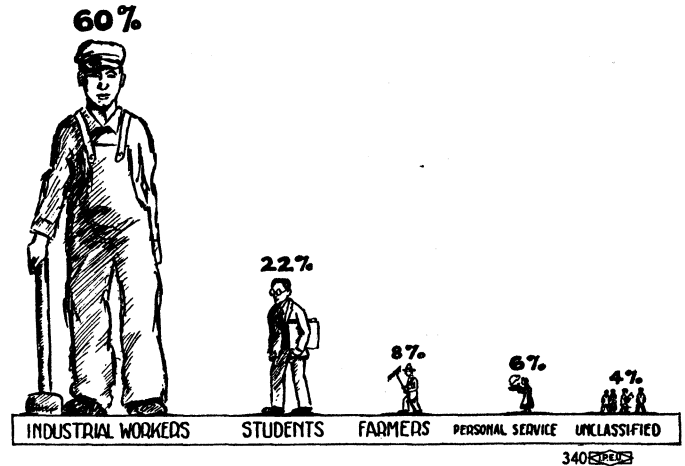
The Partial Registration Chart shows that over 60 per cent of our membership are young workers in all lines of industry, primarily coal and iron mining, metal industries and clothing. 88 members are registered as unclassified. These are, in instances, comrades who have not stated what their occupation is, but mainly are workers in many varieties of occupation. Only 22 per cent, on the basis of the Partial Registration, are students either from the grades, high and trade schools and universities.

The classification shows the following facts concerning the Leagues, which have reported:

Factories, Shop, Stores, Organized Trades.....	60%
Students—University, High School, Grades, Trade.....	22%
Farmers	8%
Personal Service, including housewives, maids, etc.....	6%

Favorable as even this classification is, yet, actually, there is no doubt that the proportion of industrial workers to students, farmers, etc., is even greater throughout the League. The significance of the fact that the larger cities are not included in the industrial registration is, that in the larger cities the proportion of workers to the school element is considerably larger. For example, the Leagues in this survey outside of Chicago (whose registration is also incomplete) show a proportion of students of 28 per cent, while the proportion in Chicago is only 8 per cent. The average including Chicago, as given above, is 22 per cent.

From such information as we have of the other Leagues, such as Boston, Pittsburgh and New York, the ratio of workers to students runs about the same as Chicago. When our registration is completed, we believe that we shall find that 85 per



Relative Composition of League Members.

cent of our League is made up of industrial workers. This is a very healthy sign and is considerably better, in this respect, yet not surprising since America has such a vast industrial population within large-scale industries, than most Young Communist Leagues in Europe.

In the Mines, Mills and Factories.

America is a nation with a large-scale industries. These, in turn interlocked with or controlled by finance-capital, dominate every other phase of industrial and agricultural activity and hence, also the government and other institutions. The influence of gigantic industry is found everywhere. Large-scale industry spells organization, speed-up production, labor reduced to a common standard, massed labor, etc. Thousands upon thousands of young workers are to be found employed in large-scale industries, such as mining, clothing, railroad, etc. Industry itself has placed these and other workers in a position where they can be organized, can act as a unit.

The Young Workers League must reach and influence the young workers in these industries. Have we made a start in this direction?

At present we cannot determine accurately whether our membership is mostly working in large-scale plants. We know that a considerable portion is to be found in small factories, shops, etc. Whether our membership works in large or small plants becomes important when we try to organize. our

Shop Nuclei.

Upon the size of the plants in which our membership is located will depend, in a large measure, the strength to which the Shop Nuclei established in these plants can attain. If our membership were in establishments employing but few workers, the prospects of the growth of our League on a Shop Nuclei basis would be small, or very limited.

But the chart gives some indication that our members are very much in large steel plants, clothing factories, etc. When our registration is completed, we are inclined to the opinion that a large section of our membership, perhaps the major part, will be found in large-scale industry. And certainly as our Economic Campaign, as outlined and begun in the Gompers' Conference, grows, the prospects of reaching the young workers in such factories will increase. Always must we concentrate on getting young WORKERS. The saying is, "a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." We say, a young worker in our League is worth more than two students. The Shop Nuclei is being discussed in other columns more in detail, but

in passing it must be noted that our registration, even tho incomplete, tends favorably in the direction of organization of Shop Nuclei.

Join the Unions, Boys!

A glance at the chart will indicate that the members of the Young Workers League are joining the trade and industrial unions.

Out of a thus far registered membership of 550, we note that 115, or approximately 22½ per cent are in the unions. These are chiefly in the mining and clothing trades, tho also in the food, railroad, building and other unions. We believe, from other League reports, this average easily runs for the entire League; at any rate, we shall soon know. 22 per cent union membership is a fair start, but this must be immediately bettered. There are many of our comrades who can join a union but have failed to do so. This, we know, is plain neglect, not inability or failure to understand the necessity of joining. Now that we can put our fingers on the negligent ones and talk matters over, we feel that we can expect our union membership to increase.

But it is not sufficient just to join the union. In line with the work of the Young Workers League is that of the Trade Union Educational League. Unless the organized labor movement of America is ready to go along with the social revolution, there will be no revolution. It is up to all progressive workers, old and young, and especially for the Young Workers League, a revolutionary communist organization, to have its members within the unions and help make the unions revolutionary. The Trade Union Educational League is the educational organization, carrying on the main work of making the unions progressive and revolutionary. We are in accord with the principles of the TUEL and our members should join the TUEL and aid in carrying out its program.

Jack Farmer Comes In.

Workers' movement, which cannot overcome the opposition of the farmers and gain either tacit and passive or active approval, will have hard sledding. Every Communist Party in Europe knows that and is trying its utmost to win over the farming proletariat and small exploited peasantry. The Communist

International has formulated the slogan: A Workers' and Farmers' Government.

The Young Workers League has always had the doors wide open for the young farmers, young boys and girls compelled to grind away hours in the field when they should be in school. 75 per cent of the child labor in America are on the farms. But until recently we have had little success in reaching the farming youth. But since we have had an organizer in the field, we have been able to do something in this direction.

We now have seven YWLs of farmers. The chart indicates 45 farmers in the YWL. In total we probably have 75 young farmers, or 3 per cent.

In the Halls of "L'arnin'."

According to the chart, 22 per cent are students in the grades, high schools, trade schools and universities. Very probably, the student proportion thruout the League is 10-15 per cent. To all indications, our proletarian student element in the high schools will increase steadily. The Junior, or children's organization of the YWL will attract considerable young persons in the grades. In the universities and colleges, headway is but little.

We Are Grounded Right.

Our weaknesses are many; our mistakes even more. But we have our organizational roots, small as we are, where they belong: in the factories, mills, shops, fields—among the young workers.

The Young Workers League, this partial registration shows, has broken definitely both in idea and composition with the Young Peoples Socialist League and other reform youth political bodies. The YPSL is social in character but not socialist. Its membership, such as it is, is in great part composed of petty-bourgeois and student elements. This social composition is reflected in their pacifist and reform ideas.

The Young Workers League is a League of young workers with the ideas of workers. The student who enters accepts the ideas and actions of the workers. The YOUNG WORKERS dominate numerically, ideologically, psychologically, and in action. The YWL is virile, alive, revolutionary.

Young workers! Forward to freedom for the exploited!

PARTIAL INDUSTRIAL REGISTRATION YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE OF AMER.

	CHICAGO, ILL.	SEAN FRANCISCO, CAL.	GARY, IND.	HAMMOND, IND.	BAIE DE WASH. MICH.	GARDNER, MASS.	NORWOOD, MASS.	MAYNARD, MASS.	ORR, MINN.	FLORENTON, MINN.	HIBBINE, MINN.	CLOQUET, MINN.	ARLORA, MINN.	ST. PAUL, MINN.	MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.	CROMWELL, MINN.	NASHWAUK, MINN.	KANSAS CITY, MO.	BUFFALO, NY	CLEVELAND, OHIO	NEFS, OHIO	MONESSEN, PA.	DAISYTOWN, PA.	BETHLEHEM, PA.	SEATTLE, WASH.	MILWAUKEE, WISC.	SUPERIOR, WISC.	TOTAL		
FACTORY WORK																														
METAL WORKERS	13	1	9	3		7	5					1	1									6		11	1				60	
WOOD WORKERS	3																												24	
ELECTRICAL WKRS	1																								1				1	
CIGAR WORKERS																													1	
FOOD WORKERS	6																												7	
TEXTILE WKRS	1							3																9					13	
CLOTHING WKRS	52			2		5							2	2											1	3			69	
PAPER WORKERS												2																	2	
CAR BUILDERS				9																									9	
PRINTING	8					5								1															15	
BUILDING WKRS	1	1	7									IRON					IRON				COAL		COAL						9	
MINERS									1			5					1				21		7						36	
FARMERS					6				12	16			4			7													45	
MISC TRADES				1																									3	
R.R. WORKERS																													3	
CLERKS	30						2		1			2	2	1								4							41	
PERSONAL SERVICE	2	1	3			1		8														3		1					35	
LUNCH ROOMS			1			2																	1	1	1				7	
UNCLASSIFIED	18			1		3	1	3	4			6		3	5			3	11	14			5	1	5	4	1	88		
SCHOOLS																													14	
UNIVERSITY	2																												2	
HIGH SCHOOL		6				4	4	11	6					2	13		4			1	9		5		3	1		6	74	
GRADE SCHOOL	4		7		4	1	7		2			2		2	9				1	1	2		5	1	3			8	56	
TRADE SCHOOL		1				1									2														9	
MILLINERY	7																												7	
SHOE & LEATHER	3																												3	
UNION MEMBERS	60					4								2				3	3	9	21		7		2	2		115		

THE YOUNG WORKER

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OCTOBER

No. 10

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A Land Fit for Heroes

IN THE minds of the returned soldiers who fought for democracy, as you may remember, there is a particular phrase that must gall them bitterly. That phrase is the one that was so frequently used by the dollar a year swivel chair artists at Washington and the other patriotic orators when they wanted to put some enthusiasm and a lust for murder into the hearts of the conscripts: "When you come back, you will find that you have returned to a land fit for heroes to live in."

Well, they came back—some of them; the others must still be turning in their graves over the sentimental songs that were composed by the prostituted pen pushers of capitalism—songs about Flanders fields where poppies grow, and similar rot. Instead of a "land fit for heroes to live in" they found that when they went back to work, if they were lucky enough to get a job, that their wages were being cut, their hours increased, their unions subjected to a vicious open shop campaign, and their strikes ruthlessly suppressed by the very government for which they had fought.

The soldiers who had been disabled and taken "care of" by the three war bureaus which were later combined into the United States Veteran Bureau, found that the so-called vocational rehabilitation which was to prepare them to get a good job again, was a nest for grafting, red tape, negligence and inefficiency. In a recent issue of *The Nation*, a summary of the bitter truth of the mistreatment of the ex-service men is given by Samuel Danziger, a former employee of the Veterans' Bureau. The examples which Danziger gives of the bureaucratic indifference in the Compensation department alone, are but few of the many. The returned soldiers must be greatly disillusioned by this time about the war for democracy.

While they were on the other side, giving their lives and limbs for the American imperialists, the latter were coining millions of dollars. The silver spruce scandals, the Hog Island steal, and the many other instances of war time grafting will not readily be forgot. Although the industrial and financial lords of this country were making hundreds and thousands of per cent. profit, as the suppressed Congressional Report will testify, the government could not see its way clear to give the ex-service men a bonus. It would be too expensive, or as the report, just made public, of the National Industrial Conference Board says, "the proposal cannot be justified on grounds of equity and fairness to the veterans or to the general population, while it would lay upon the country a financial burden which would affect adversely the interests of the nation as well as of the veterans, and might tend to hamper the nation's necessary efforts in behalf of the incapacitated veterans at present and the needy and aged veterans of the future."

"The nation's efforts in behalf of the incapacitated veterans" is the standing tragic joke of the country. What the bureau-

crats refuse even to consider is the proposition to tax the incomes of the plutocrats which were made during the war while "our boys" were passing the terrible days under the most miserable conditions.

But after all, what is to be expected from a boss-owned nation like the United States? In San Francisco, even the war memorial site has been leased for five years to the Standard Oil Co., and San Francisco's monument commemorating the great slaughter will be the Rockefeller coat of arms. Very appropriate indeed!

When the next war to end war comes along, let us not forget these things. And in the meantime let us do all we can to prevent wars from coming by preparing for the overthrow of the capitalist system which is the mother of all imperialist wars. Join the Young Workers' League and help fight militarism and capitalism, wars and slavery, misery and ruin!

Join the Union!

IF you are a member or sympathizer of the Young Workers League, it is your duty to become a members of a labor union, if you have not already joined. No worker, young or old, can say that he has done his elementary duty to his class if he is not a part of the trade union movement in his country. There is no excuse for not joining, unless the worker works in one of those "democratic" cities and shops where the least sign of a union movement is suppressed immediately, and often at the point of a gun, or with tar and feathers, and, worse yet, with a lynching rope. But even there it should be the business of the worker to agitate quietly among his workmates until they feel themselves strong and solidified sufficiently to defy the brutal servants of their bosses.

To young workers especially we appeal to join the unions. It is true, and we realize it more than most others do, that it is very difficult for a young worker to enter the unions. High initiation fees, dues, the indifference if not the hostility of the adult unionists, make it almost impossible. But we must not be halted by these obstacles. We must enter the unions to protect our own economic interests. We must enter the unions and fight side by side with the older workers in their common struggle for their daily bread. We should show them that we are an important, a vital factor in that struggle. We must work with the progressives to instill a militant fighting spirit in the dead ones, so that the unions may become a power before which the boss will tremble, about which a parasite will think ten times before attacking. Let us overcome the feeling of suspicion which some unionists have towards the youthful worker by our deeds.

INTO THE TRADE UNIONS, YOUNG WORKERS!

Toward a Mass Organ

IN order to become an organ of the masses of young workers in this country, the columns of the *Young Worker* must reflect the daily struggles of the young workers in the factories and mines and unions. The young workers must learn that *The Young Worker* is their paper in the fullest sense of the word. They must write for it of their life under capitalism, the work they do, how they are exploited, the conditions in their place of work, the hours, the wages, the greed of the boss; they should speak through the columns of this paper about what they themselves, or the Young Workers League or the trade unions as organizations are doing to help make conditions better; they must write on *how* conditions might be made better. No phase of the life of the young worker may be neglected by us. No incident of the workers' struggle is too insignificant to be written about in our pages.

How are we to do this? It is very simple. The young work-

ers must expel from their minds the idea that they must be accomplished writers with a fine, polished style before they are able to write for *The Young Worker*. That is just so much buncombe. If you can speak the language and can hold a pen in your hand, that is all that is necessary, that is good enough for us. League members and other readers of this paper should feel it their duty to supply *The Young Worker* with material on the work they do, their union activity, or any strikes in which they may participate. Even if you are not directly involved in a particular strike which may take place in your neighborhood, make it your business to find out just what happened there, and write to *The Young Worker* immediately if there are any young workers scabbing or striking, or of any other matter that concerns the youthful toilers of this country.

Every young worker a correspondent! That is OUR aim. That is YOUR duty. If you are a miner, write about what is happening in your locality with regard to the coal strike, or the activities of the progressives. If you are a steel worker, write about what is being done with regard to the organization campaign. If you are a clothing worker, a metal worker, a textile worker, a railroad worker or any other kind of a worker, there is surely something happening that is worth while writing about. The class struggle goes on every year, month, hour and minute.

Help make this paper the voice of the young worker. Fill up the *On The Job* section with accounts of the daily struggle. Be a live wire correspondent, and let us hear from you *immediately!*

Listen Comrade Party Member!

IMMEDIATELY after the recent sessions of the Enlarged Executive of the Communist International, Comrade Zinoviev, at a meeting with the English delegates, said in the first words of his speech: "One of the greatest tasks of the Communist Party of Great Britain is to organize a strong Young Communist League."

And below we reprint, without comment, a statement made by one of the delegates from Australia to Moscow, and printed in the official organ of the Australian Communist Party, the "Workers Weekly":

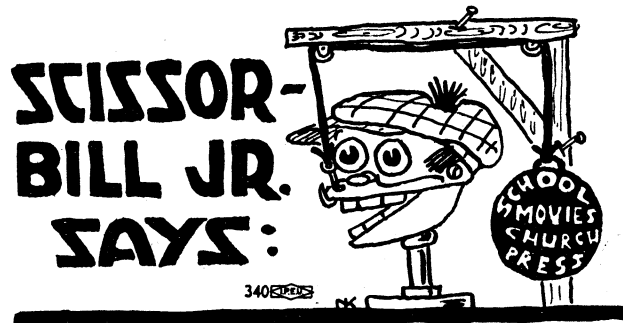
"While we were in Moscow, Comrades Payne, Earsman and myself had an interview with Comrade Trotsky, and one of the statements he uttered on that occasion is worth recording again and again. He was finding out the strength of the Communist Party in this country and he uttered these words: 'The barometer of any Communist Party is its young communist movement. If the young movement is strong, then the enthusiasm, virility, etc., of the party will be great.' He said, 'Get the young people, they are the life of the movement, they are willing to do and dare.'

"J. S. Garden."

Mr. Gompers, Please Subscribe!

During his stay in Chicago a short time ago, Mr. Gompers, while passing the Radical Shop of that city, sent one of his right hand men, a Mr. James Armstrong, into the book shop. Armstrong, in asking for all sorts of radical newspapers and magazines, called in particular for the "July issue of the Young Worker."

We are indeed highly gratified to note the interest of Mr. Gompers in our paper. But why it is necessary for him to buy a copy only when he happens to pass a radical book shop and has one of his "boys" with him, is more than we can understand.



Looking over the list of presidential candidates for 1923 we are reminded that though we have no bananas—there are still plenty of lemons.

* * *

Two years ago Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr., was a newspaper reporter on salary in New York. Now he owns a newspaper in California. What an inspiring example! Even millions couldn't keep the man from becoming a success.

* * *

Nature did not overburden Mussolini with brains. But on the strength of castor oil, Mussolini was made a duke. Working, undoubtedly, on the theory that "If Nature won't, Pluto will."

* * *

A New York sculptor has made a bust of Sammy Gompers. Well, it won't be long before the Young Workers' League does likewise.

* * *

Sam, the colored driver of an ox team, saw a little lizard crawling up a tree. He flourished his long whip and deftly snapped off the lizard's head. Farther along the road, with skillful precision, he picked a horsefly off the fence with the same weapon. His skill as a marksman was next exhibited on a chipmunk that showed its head above the ground.

A white companion finally said: "Sam, take a crack at that hornet's nest."

Sam grinned and replied: "No, suh; no suh, boss; them fellahs is awganized."

* * *

Boss: What do you mean by talking like that? Are you the boss around here?

Worker: No, I'm not the boss.

Boss: Well, if you're not the boss, don't talk like a damn fool.—H. Zam in the New York "Yowl."

* * *

Simple Simon met the sly man
Of an army corps,
Who talked to him of "scraps of paper,"
Guns and Huns and war.
Simple Simon took for "gospel"
All the sly man said—
Now there ain't a Simple Simon;
Simple Simon's dead.

—John S. Clarke.

That is taking too much of a chance. There will inevitably come a time when Mr. Gompers will miss an issue, and we cannot even think of the consequences of such an event.

We therefore humbly invite Mr. Gompers to send in his dollar bill for a yearly subscription to *The Young Worker*, thus assuring him of a regular reading of one of the best radical magazines published in this country today.

The Fourth Bureau Session

By HARRY GANNES

Delegate from the Young Workers League of America to the Fourth Bureau Session of the Young Communist International

FOR the first time since the Young Workers League of America came into being, the League was represented at an international bureau session. That was at the fourth bureau session of the Young Communist International, held in Moscow, July 13-23, 1923. "Now, what is a bureau session?" is the reasonable question that will arise in the minds of most of our members; and I shall answer that and proceed to a brief outline of the work done by this world body and the importance to the young workers of this country, and particularly the Young Workers League, of the decisions made there. A bureau session is a gathering of representatives of the more important leagues in the international (usually one delegate to a country) for the purpose of reviewing the work and activities of the leagues in carrying out the decisions of the last congress. Bureau sessions are set midway between congresses. The fourth bureau session, which I attended, was held seven months after the third world congress of the Young Communist International, attended by Martin Abern, secretary of the Young Workers League, and John Edwards, head of our industrial department.

Plainly, it was the task of this bureau session to examine the work of the leagues in carrying out the decisions adopted by the third congress of the Y. C. I. as well as the activities of the executive committee of the international.

The Session Opens for Work—and Works.

The following countries were represented by a delegate each: Germany, Czecho-Slovakia, England, Mexico, Austria, Finland, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway, Russia, United States, Italy, Bulgaria and the Baltic States. The French delegate was arrested in Switzerland while on his way to Moscow. Comrade Blenklow, of the Berlin Young Communist League, who was in Moscow to present a banner from his organization to the Moscow young comrades, was given a voice in the meeting.

Right at the opening, the comrades got to work. Richard Schuller, secretary of the executive committee of the Young Communist International, briefly set out the duties of the session. Karl Radek then followed on behalf of the executive committee of the Communist International. He reported on the meeting of the enlarged executive committee (similar to a bureau session of the Young Communist International) and on the world political situation. It would require too much space here properly to give even the barest outline of Radek's masterly speech. I urge every comrade carefully and deeply to study the report of Radek's speech which appears in the current issue of the *Y. C. I. Review*.

Report of the Executive Committee.

In a long yet interesting report, Schuller pointed out that the economic and trade union struggle of the leagues had been pushed into the background since the third congress because of the Fascist and war-danger developments. In Germany, the

league was faced with a rising Fascist movement. In Bulgaria a militarist group had gotten into power, and in Italy the league was making a life-and-death fight against the Fascisti. Schuller touched on the growth of the nuclei, but I will take that up under the report by Gyptner on *shop nuclei work*. Here I shall deal shortly with what the secretary had to say about the Young Workers League of America. That our league heretofore did not do enough to further the economic struggle and that it was not active enough in the trade unions, was the main criticism leveled at our organization; but Schuller spoke at length on the big step forward made by our convention on these fields and the great possibilities before the league. News had just reached us about that time of the conference with Gompers and this was hailed as a fruitful outcome of our convention's work. We were warned not to rest content with a mere conference, but to double our effort and agitation within the unions for the admittance of the youth on equal terms.

The Struggle Against War and Militarism.

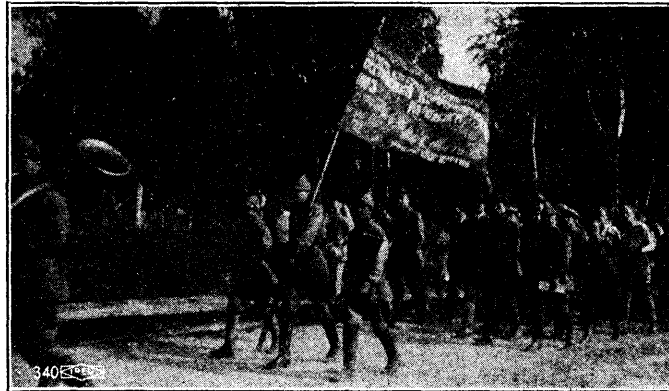
The danger of war grows daily. The situation in the Ruhr, instead of coming to a solution, becomes more involved as the days go by. A mad race is on between England and France in the building of their air fleets. The Bulgarian government is in the hands of a band of cut-throats. And our

own government spends millions to increase its war machinery. It is this situation that was pointed out by Comrade Michelic in his report on the struggle against the danger of war and militarism. He outlined the anti-military work done since the third congress by the various leagues. As always, the most was accomplished in this direction by the French league. Co-operation has been established between the German and French young comrades in the Ruhr district, but many hard problems had yet to be met. As for the United States, we could show very little. True, we had passed what may be termed a good anti-military resolution, but the test is: *What are the results?* Michelic pointed out, that although in the United States there is no standing army, there is an acute military development, which must be combated by the league.

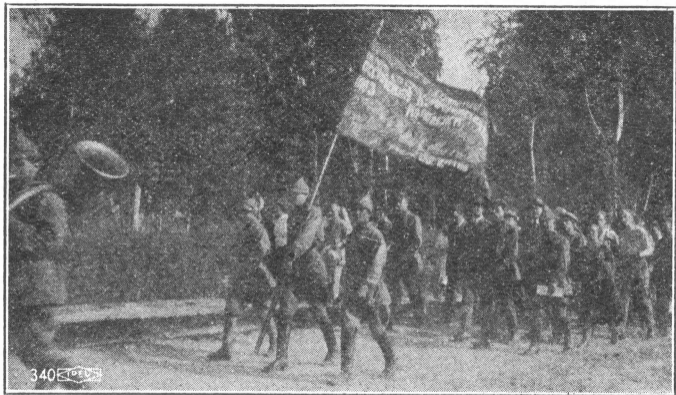
The Foundation of All Our Work.

"The *shop nuclei* is not so much a matter of re-organization as it is of means of ORGANIZATION," was the central theme of Richard Gyptner's report and resolution on the shop nuclei problem. He showed that the rapid growth of the German league was due to the building up of shop nuclei by individual comrades; that the formation of shop nuclei is the means of getting a mass movement.

In the discussion on the nuclei question, most of the leagues reported the establishment of shop nuclei. Gyptner pointed out that the United States, with its large basic industries, (with the workers usually living in the vicinity of the factories) offered a fertile field for the planting of the nuclei. He had the mistaken idea, however, that the Young Workers League



Red Army Parade in Honor of Bureau Session.



Red Army Parade in Honor of Bureau Session.

did not have a large enough proportion of real young workers. The latest figures prove that our organization is composed more than 75 per cent of workers, mostly in industry. That, we must remember, is all the more reason why we must begin to show live nuclei. The plan to be followed where nuclei have not yet been established is: Wherever possible at least one nucleus in a city be established as a lesson (as a living example) to those comrades who doubt the superiority of this new form of organization. The fourth congress expects to hear of the establishment of many, many shop groups by the Young Workers League of America.

Fascism and Re-action.

In the fight against fascism, the leagues must act in fullest harmony with the party. Fascism is an acute problem in such countries as Italy, Germany, Czecho-Slovakia, Bulgaria, and so on; in the United States, on the other hand, we have but the beginnings of a Fascist movement. We here are more concerned with *reaction*—the open class-character of the government and the attacks of anti-working class organizations. This is not fascism. The resolution adopted on Fascism clearly marks down the tasks of the league in combating Fascism and reaction.

The Farming Youth Get Attention.

The matter of the farming youth was something new to a bureau session. To be sure, the Young Communist International has talked about the young farm slaves before. But the decisions were vague. Now, since the Communist International has emphasized the importance of the working farmers in the revolution, organizing the farming youth becomes very important. Paasonen of the Finnish league reported on this subject. His resolution, which was adopted with but slight changes, contains specific demands for the farming youth, such as, for instance: Organization of the farming youth into organizations similar to unions, equal pay for equal work with adult workers, medical attention when injured or ill, and many others which will give us a practical working field among the rural youth. Comrade Carlson, our representative on the executive committee of the international, pictured the condition of the farmers and farming youth in America. He showed the problem we had in reaching the migratory workers—a problem not faced by any other league, except Canada. When the resolutions of the bureau session are in print (which will be very soon) we urge our farmer comrades to read this particular one and let our national executive committee know their opinion of it—let us have some pointers on how to apply it; let us know what the farming leaguers think of it.

The Sport Movement—and the Youth.

For the first time, the question of the factory sport organizations was taken up in detail. Michelie, the reporter on the question, showed that the larger industrial plants had and were organizing factory sport clubs. Especially in the United States is this true. In the resolution passed on the question, a whole section deals with factory sport organizations. It will make more than interesting reading to all our members. Even in sports we come across the shop nuclei; for the shop nuclei must take notice of the factory sport organizations and work within them for the interest of the working class youth. Some specific demands were drawn up for the shop nuclei to put forward and act upon, demands on which we can rally those young workers who are mainly taken up with sports. A long and interesting discussion took place on the sport problem. To cover it all would require, to say the least, an article much longer than this one.

Here I wish to bring out just one more thing on this matter (at the same time I urge all my readers to make it a point to read the whole resolution): It is necessary for the good of the labor movement that a *workers' sport movement* be built up and that the young workers take the most active part in that

organization. In Germany and the other central European countries, they have large workers' sport and athletic movements. Here we have none. Yet the American youth is more inclined to sport than the youth of any country in the world. We have a big and wide-spread system of factory sport clubs, and a vast amount of sport activities—all in the hands of the bosses. When we find that sport clubs become very useful tools in the hands of the fascisti (anti-working class) and strike breaking organizations, we begin to feel the pressing need for us to get the workers to form their own sport clubs that can be used by and for the workers and against the factory owners and their class.

Education, Trade Union and Economic Work.

A campaign is to be started in the fall by all young communist organizations to get as many of their members as possible into the trade unions. In this country the work can be tied up with the Gompers' affair; but we must keep this in mind: that it will not be easy for our comrades to agitate for this aim if they themselves are not good-standing members of a union. Our national organization now has many important campaigns on, but it will be necessary always to stress the importance of our members being in the union one hundred per cent. The partial registration (see other part of this magazine) shows we have a pretty good proportion within the unions now, but until all, or nearly all of our young workers are in the union we must consider ourselves in the midst of a campaign for union members in our own organization. The main reason for this is simply—how can you urge a young worker outside of the organization to become a member of a union if you yourself are not in the union?

On education some good decisions were made. Our attitude on religion came up under this head. In Sweden one of the party men, Hoeglund, brought the question to the fore, and the Young Communist International, found it necessary clearly to state its position, urging all leagues to take a communist stand against religion, while avoiding becoming merely a Jesus-killing society.

The Press and the Publishing House.

An important move was made affecting the *International of Youth*... Heretofore this paper was issued haphazardly and it did not have a definite, clear-cut tone, though it will be admitted by all that a great change for the better is to be seen both in make-up and contents of this international magazine since its first issue. Beginning with 1924, the *International of Youth* will be put out once every two months on a regular date. The paper will be mailed directly to our branches, preventing delay. The price of the paper remains at 10 cents. The national executive committee will arrange a club subscription rate for the *Young Worker* and the *International of Youth*. The details will be announced later.

The New Policy of the Paper.

Now, a word as to the policy of the *International of Youth*—why it is published and what it will contain. The *International of Youth* is intended, primarily, to be a paper for members of the English speaking leagues of the Young Communist International. It will contain articles on the problems of the young communist leagues of the world. In it you will find the news of the many leagues affiliated to the international; the results of their campaigns; there will be unequaled articles written by keen writers in the communist international; there will be book-reviews, pictures, poems, stories for the class conscious young workers. The *International of Youth*, in short, is the English expression of the executive committee of the Young Communist International.

Many new pamphlets and books are going to be published by the Young International Publishing House. The *Young Worker* has contained announcements of some of them. Among others there will be a hand-book on organization; Blonsky's, *The*



Three Central Figures, from left to right: Harry Gannes, League delegate; Richard Schuller, Secretary Y. C. I.; Oliver Carlson, American representative, Executive Committee, Y. C. I.

Work School; Chicherin's *The Torch-Bearers*.—Chicherin, by the way, is commissar of foreign affairs for the soviet government, and has been closely connected with the youth movement. Many other publications are planned and nobody will be able to say that there is not enough literature in the English language on the communist youth movement.

There were many other things taken up which have not so wide an interest. For ten days the delegates were kept very busy discussing the problems of the young communist movement of the world, and they by no means settled all of them. They made some pretty real and definite statements as to what they expect to do in the future—all based on the decisions of the third congress and the experience of the past few months. All the decisions are worthless, however, if the members do not understand them and carry them forward.

To be Issued in Pamphlet Form.

These decisions are now on the press. Together with the decisions are being printed extracts from the more important speeches. The pamphlet, when issued, will be the latest guide to action for all young communists, and we expect every one of our members to get and study a copy.

The fourth bureau session has passed. All I could say there regarding the activities of the Young Workers League was: Our organization is working hard; it has taken upon itself many grave tasks and has shown the willingness and the understanding necessary to success. It is entirely up to our members whether our delegates to the fourth congress of the Young Communist International, which will be held in Moscow, sometime in March 1924, will be able to show actual results in carrying out the resolutions of our second convention.

With the Leagues

Reports of International Youth Day have only come in from a few places as yet, since we went to press but a few days after IYD, but they are sufficient to indicate that the 1923 IYD exceeded our expectations, that excellent anti-militarist propaganda was put forward everywhere. More news next issue.

Children's work and revival of a number of inactive Leagues were the main features of the month's activities. Many leagues, Los Angeles, Monessen, Daisytown, Cleveland, propose to issue local league or children's bulletins. Boston, Philadelphia, Ironwood, Mich., St. Louis, are again pushing forward with the work.

Rochester, N. Y., Gets League Started.

Rochester, N. Y., for many years had a live revolutionary youth movement, but the left wing Party fights had its effect there. No League existed. However, Comrades Chas. Stolz, Hyman Achter and John Komorowski have been preparing the ground. Today a branch of the YWL, with 25 members, is in existence, and Comrade Stolz writes they expect soon to have 50 members. International Youth Day was celebrated, Comrade Elston of New York being the main speaker. Comrade N. Green is organizer and Emma Silien secretary.

Farming Youth Coming In.

Comrade Max Salzman has left the Minnesota territory, where he was very successful in organizing Leagues, and has gone into Wisconsin territory. The results thus far are Leagues in Waino and Brantwood. Most of the members are farmers and unskilled laborers. The Workers' Party units are lending their support to give these new Leagues a good start.

The Los Angeles, Cal., League has been carrying on exceptionally good children's work and now has over 75 members. The children's group there received a communication of greeting from a Communist Children's Group in Leipzig, Germany, and have sent a reply. The Junior Section, in charge of Comrade Lyons, also took an active part in the League's IYD celebration. On September 14th a debate was held in

the large Symphony Hall on the subject, "Resolved, That Communism would offer more to the working class than Capitalism," the YWL, of course, taking the affirmative. Widespread publicity was given, a good crowd assembled and heard the YWL wipe the floor with the pro-capitalists.

The Hub Turning Again.

Comrade Tamer, secretary of the Boston League, writes: "The League is coming back into existence after the summer months," and assures that there will be no further lapses. On International Youth Day, Comrade Ludwig Lore, editor of the Communist German daily, "Volkszeitung"; Comrade L. Lunin, organizer for the Jewish Federation, Workers' Party, and Lewis Marks, organizer YWL, spoke to a large crowd. A new CCC was elected, and, as an indication of renewed life, remits for 200 dues stamps.

Philadelphia also got in good standing with a like purchase. It is in Philadelphia that the famous Liberty Bell, now cracked (and as the Chinese visitor to America said, liberty cracked with it), is to be found resting, not ringing. To corroborate the statement again of the Chinese visitor, a meeting the League was holding was raided. (See page 17.)

New York Putting on Young Worker Sub Drive.

New York is taking advantage of the special \$1.00 subscription offer for the Young Worker and is campaigning strongly for subs. All the branches are being visited. Comrade Kitzes is in charge and writes us to rush a few hundred copies of "Communism and Christianity" by Comrade Wm. Brown, as the additional premium for Young Worker subs. New York sells a 1,000 Young Workers monthly and is out for a 1,000 subscribers.

Preparations are big for International Youth Day, which New York is compelled, because of inability to get a large hall otherwise, to celebrate September 14th.

Chicago is holding numerous branch educational meetings, which are very well attended. The IYD open air celebration was addressed by Tom Tippet of the United Mine Workers and John Williamson of the YWL. Children's work proceeds apace.



Three Central Figures, from left to right: Harry Gannes, League delegate; Richard Schuller, Secretary Y. C. I.; Oliver Carlson, American representative, Executive Committee, Y. C. I.

The Detroit League is due to jump forward swiftly. The composition of the League is excellent, every member eligible to a union belonging to one. Many of the comrades have been specially active in the Workers' Party, but are now able to put more time into League work and to start a drive for new blood. A crowd of 500 assembled for the IYD meeting at which Comrade Edgar Owens, W. P. District Organizer, and Martin Abern of the YWL spoke. Sale of flowers for the Labor Defense Council netted about \$60.00.

Cleveland Booming.

The Cleveland League is a fast-growing League. If some of our wandering YWLs could stop here or in other cities and put in work for the YWL, the Leagues would grow more rapidly than they do. Nat Kaplan spoke at the Cleveland IYD demonstration.

The Daisytown and Monessen Leagues together intend to issue a local mimeographed paper such as the New York and Minneapolis Leagues have.

Many of the Leagues, such as St. Paul, South Bend, Minneapolis, Newark, held IYD on Sept. 9 because of inability to get halls otherwise or conflicts with Labor Day celebrations.

At Gary, Ind., Comrade Max Shachtman spoke on Sept. 2 on the rise of militarism in America. At South Bend a children's meeting was held Sept. 8 and an IYD celebration Sept. 9, at both of which Comrade Shachtman spoke, too. A political play was staged.

Bethlehem, Pa., obtained a speaker from the Hungarian Propaganda Committee for IYD. A Junior Group is being organized there.

H. M. Wicks, editor of the Soviet Russia Pictorial; Norman Tallentire, W. P. D. O. of Minnesota; Carl Cowl of the YWL, spoke at the Minneapolis IYD Sept. 9. Comrade Anna Block, secretary, says that the political satirical comedy, printed in the International of Youth, was put on and was well liked and stimulated interest in the League. The St. Paul League held its IYD demonstration on the afternoon of Sept. 9; full reports have not yet reached us.

The St. Louis League held a general membership meeting on Aug. 28 and reorganized itself. Comrade Rose Savonofsky is now city secretary. Comrade Barney Mass is aiding a great deal in the work there. A functionary class has been started and study classes are to be held every two weeks. Comrades Bob Sullivan, H. Schnied of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and B. Mass spoke at the IYD meeting.

Louis Engdahl, editor of The Worker, spoke on Sept. 2 in Gardner, the YWL co-operating with the WP for the Daily Worker Campaign meeting. Comrade Peltonen says that the work is increasing.

League Work Jumping.

Nearly everywhere the Leagues are doing far more work than ever before. Leagues very little alive till now have suddenly taken on a lease of life.

Ironwood, Mich., held a two days' affair on Sept. 2 and 3, with Comrade Max Salzman as speaker. The secretary, Comrade Frank Walli, is putting in a good deal of time for the League. A children's group is being started. The comrades are quite enthusiastic.

In Frederick, S. D., IYD, says Comrade Harju, was celebrated with local talent. The farmer-comrades have not been getting any pay, but later will make an effort to contribute to the Day's Wage Fund. The comrades are a willing lot of workers.

Fitchburg, Mass., YWL is working steadily and the WP branch is giving help, many of the younger comrades joining the League to give it an impetus. Anna Lindfors, secretary Orr, Minn., YWL, is optimistic over the League prospects there. Cromwell, Minn., YWL is starting its class work and is also

organizing gymnasium work. Comrade Kajanpa of the Chisholm, Minn., League, informs us that the YWL is staging a program the latter part of September and will remit the profits to the National Office.

The Paterson, N. J., YWL, a Jewish branch, disposes of quite a good deal of the English literature. Comrade Harris, secretary, is one of the hardest workers we have in the League.

Providence, R. I., celebrated IYD on September 2. Comrade Mildred Kominsky writes that the League invited quite a few members from other organizations throughout the state. Three League members spoke and others participated in the musical program. At a previous meeting of the branch, Comrade H. M. Wicks spoke on militarism and anti-militarism which interested the audience greatly. Many new faces were there, and it is expected that they will soon join the League. Hikes and socials are among the features of Providence's work. A good policy of the League there is that they sing revolutionary songs wherever they may be.

Harold Coy and Dick Reeves, YWL, and James Dolsen, W. P. D. O., spoke at the San Francisco IYD meeting.

Pittsburgh, Newark, Phelps, Buffalo, Worcester, Maynard, Jamestown, Plainfield, Cloquet, Neffs, Florenton, Hibbing, Toledo, dropped a few lines indicating work and will give more detailed reports shortly. A number of active YWLs have left Seattle and the League is being reorganized. Reports this last month were not forthcoming from Baie de Wasai, Munising Sault Ste. Marie, Eben Junction, Kansas City, Quincy.

Canadian League Pushing Industrial Work.

In Toronto, Canada, the Young Communist League members are aiding the furriers' strike. The YCL is active in TUEL work. Children's groups have been organized and are aiding the League and the Party in distributing literature, etc.

Union and industrial work occupies the attention of the Montreal YCL. The TUEL is strong in Canada and the YCLs are all strongly supporting the TUEL industrial program.

The organizational plan on the junior organization has been sent out by the Canadian national office.

International Youth Day was celebrated by all the Canadian Leagues, among them being Cobalt, Vancouver, Sointula, Toronto; Montreal, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Glace Bay, N. S.

Given a little more financial support from the Leagues and Party and the Young Communist League of Canada could easily double its work.

The Language Propaganda Committees.

The Hungarian and Jewish Propaganda Committees are functioning quite well now. The Hungarian P. C. of the YWL is getting large sections of the "Elore" for young workers' news. The H. P. C. has pushed the Day's Wage Campaign strongly along the Hungarian branches with the result that the Hungarian Leagues have responded quite liberally. The H. P. C. is pushing forward the policies of the YWL, particularly in the industrial field. It concerns itself very much with getting the Hungarian comrades as quickly as possible to join English-speaking branches, and in many instances this has already been accomplished.

The YWL Theses and Resolutions adopted at the Second National Convention have been translated into Jewish by the J. P. C., printed in mimeograph form and distributed among the Jewish branches. The "Freiheit" is publishing youth material quite extensively. The Day's Wage has been pushed by the J. P. C. Instead of wasteful polemical articles, the J. P. C. has decided that the youth space in the "Freiheit" shall be devoted to exposition of the struggle of the young workers in the mine, mill and factory, and the part which our comrades are playing in the struggle.

The Finnish YWL P. C. concerns itself mainly with organiz-

(Continued on page 20.)

From Isolation to the Masses

By MAX SHACHTMAN

ONE of the most important reasons why the Young Workers League has not grown, and has not had the influence on the masses of the young workers in this country that it should have had, has been the form in which our members are organized. Organized, as we have been, on the basis of a particular section of the city or town in which the members of the branch happen to live, we have never been able to gather together a group of young workers who had any other proletarian ties than the general one of belonging to the same class. For this reason they could all band together and fight for the general working class aim, the abolition of capitalism. But their group interests were not so close that they could unite their forces and immediate interests in order to struggle for the daily needs, the bread and butter needs, of the young workers with whom they toiled in the factory or mine or mill.

The branches, then, assumed a character which was less and less proletarian, because its work consisted more of social events, hikes and occasional theoretical lectures, than of action or political education of their fellow workers at the point of production. Because the branches were such, they suffered from a haphazard existence, struggling most of the time for the privilege of life, such as it was. Its time was taken up with running dances and various other affairs in order to be able to pay its rent or replenish its meagre treasury after some large expenditure. Where a new branch was formed in one place, an old one died in some other place.

Something is fundamentally wrong with the way we organize the branches of the League. And it is in the pamphlet, "From Isolation to the Masses," By Richard Gyptner (Young Workers League, 15 cents) that the inefficiency and essential incorrectness of our present form of organization is best pointed out.

"The fatal mistake is that the young comrades, brought together for the first time in the new branch, have no material community of interest such as they would have if the WORKSHOP were made the basis of organization. Here, then, is the line of our new development, in the workshop, where the young comrades share each other's work, share the hardships and extortions of the master class and together feel the same burning sense of wrong; here is opportunity for a solidarity such as before we have not known. It would give us a power, which could effectively be used to support our demands, whereas now we can support them only by passing resolutions."

What is the remedy for this state of affairs? We must organize where "the community of interest" is strong enough to weld together a solid political unit for propaganda and action on the basis of the daily struggle between the boss and the workers, in the place where the class struggle is felt every day, where the antagonism between the boss and the worker is born and nursed. We must organize our units of conscious young workers, who can not only talk to their shopmates, but who can be able to act with and lead them in a fight for an immediate demand; who will not only "fan the flames of discontent," but will be able to direct these flames into an organizational flue.

To be more specific, if there is something wrong in the shop, if the young workers there have a particular grievance, it is the duty of the shop nucleus of the Young Workers League to explain the cause of the affair, to show their mates what is to be done, lead them in a fight for the abolition of the immediate source of the trouble, and finally draw their fellow workers into their ranks when they have proved themselves to be leaders of the young workers, not only in the "final conflict" but in the everyday conflict in the shop and the mine.

It is not enough to gain the confidence of one's fellow workers by showing him the devotion of the Communists to the cause of the workers. It is necessary that the mass of the workers also join our ranks and help us in the struggle for the

emancipation from wage slavery. That is why we call the shop nucleus the basic organizational units of the League, the recruiting center, the center of propaganda, of educational activity, of political leadership.

To write with even a little detail about the shop nucleus, its significance, its necessity, its work, how the present branch may be changed to it, and the dozens of other phases of the subject, one would need a goodsized pamphlet. And that is what Comrade Gyptner has done in the pamphlet mentioned above and reviewed briefly in the last issue of *The Young Worker*. As its subtitle

"If it is to be successful in its work, the YWL must unite its members on an industrial basis. This industrial organization is the shop nucleus. The shop nucleus is the basic unit within the YWL and the foundation upon which must be built the whole league."

(From thesis on organization of shop nuclei, adopted unanimously at the second national convention of the Young Workers League, May, 1923.)

says, it is "an analytical study of organization." It cuts into the heart of the problem by analyzing the present, the territorial, form of organization, showing its weakness, its inefficiency, and its inability to accomplish any of our demands, political or economic. Then it goes on to show why we must work in the shops and the mills and the mines, agitating among the young workers, fighting by their side, always pointing out to them our principles, our point of view. The superiority of the shop nucleus form over the territorial form is proved by the experience of the Russian Young Communist League, which the author relates with some detail. Then, to make it a real text book of the transformation into a mass organization, the work of the nucleus is given in all its details and aspects. How the nucleus will carry on agitation on the economic, the political, the anti-military and the sport fields is clearly indicated. Nothing is left unsaid. Even those details which would ordinarily seem to be insignificant and not worthy of space, are shown to be important. The collection of dues, the enrollment of new members, the place and time of meetings and many other technical details are given because in the change to a new form of organization much confusion may be caused in the first stages of the transformation.

The pamphlet ends its wellfilled 64 pages with the famous Resolution on the Organization of Shop Nuclei, which was adopted at the Third Congress of the Young Communist International.

"From Isolation to the Masses" is of more than the usual importance. We are at present trying to lay the foundation for a virile mass movement of the young workers, and a wrong step at this time would be a calamity. It is absolutely necessary

for every member to read this pamphlet thoroughly, to have it discussed in the branches, to have the members point out from personal experience the advisability of the change. Unless we have a clear understanding of the necessity of the change, the means by which it will be accomplished, and what we intend to do when we HAVE the shop nuclei—unless we are clear on all these and other points, it would be absurd to proceed with this most necessary step. And so that there may not be any misunderstandings in the adult movement, you should get an extra

copy and give it to some sceptic, and see how quickly he will be convinced of the correctness of our position.

Let us not permit the slogan "For a Mass Organization" to remain only a monotonously repeated formula, but let us make it a reality. Let every shop, where we can form a nucleus, have one, and be our stronghold. Let the young workers of America, who have hitherto been blissfully innocent of our very existence, know that we are here and doing things that concern them vitally. LET US GO ON FROM ISOLATION TO THE MASSES!

With the Junior Leagues

The Children's League in Los Angeles.

BY CLARENCE ALPERT.

The Young Workers' League in Los Angeles considers its greatest achievement the successful organization of an efficient, active Junior League. Long before the national convention discussed the practicability of children's groups, we had organized a group of about 25 youthful enthusiasts between the ages of 11 and 15 into a weekly class. A committee from the Y. W. L. was formed to take charge of their activities, resulting in the formation of a class in "Co-operation," in accordance with the unanimous opinion of the children themselves.

The arrival of International Children's Week was the signal for the beginning of a campaign of propaganda among the children for a mass meeting to be held on July 21st under the auspices of the Junior League to celebrate this Communist holiday. For fully two weeks beforehand the members spent all their leisure time in giving publicity to this event. The result was that the mass meeting was attended by over two hundred people, most of whom were school boys and girls.

The representative of the Y. W. L., Clarence Alpert, spoke on the purposes and activities of both organizations, and made an appeal for membership. The speaker for the Juniors, Harold Siminow, gave a very interesting talk on the activities of his organization. The meeting was concluded by the presentation of a short one-act play, called "Slavery," by the children, and the singing of "The Red Flag."

The adults present were deeply impressed with the significance of this celebration; the young people present were also enthusiastic over the mass meeting, the immediate result of which was that the membership increased from 40 to nearly 60 members.

The Juniors are now a dues-paying organization, and are planning to start a local children's paper in Los Angeles; this is only one of the many activities they intend to carry out. They now have a representative on the Executive Committee of the Y. W. L., and they have asked for permission to be included in the Y. W. L. program for our International Youth Day mass meeting. They will have a speaker to represent them, and also another of their members to give some musical numbers.

These youngsters all show a remarkable capacity for handling their own problems, and with the proper co-operation from the Young Workers' League, we look forward to surprising results in the future. An observer gets to realize the benefits that young people gain from such an organization. They have nothing more in common with bourgeois street gangs, and the poisonous influences of the public schools are partly neutralized; they are more sensitive to wrong and injustice, more analytical toward certain conditions about them, and more eager to read good literature.

It is these youthful Communists in the making that will some

day lead the fight of the militant workers against reaction and suppression; it is their intelligence and clear-sightedness, fostered by an early Communist education, which will place this younger generation far ahead of their elders in the struggle for the emancipation of the working class.

Juniors Favor Y. W. L. Leadership.

The once prospective Junior Organization in Buffalo, N. Y., has now evolved into a live, kicking group of 30 members.

The older members of the Finnish Branch of the Workers' Party, whose children are the majority of the group, are still imbued with that old parental psychology. They were thrusting aside the opportunity offered them of turning their children into working class fighters, and were exerting their energy in teaching the children the Finnish language.

The Young Workers' League Junior Directors surveyed the field and then decided that the children themselves should voice their opinion on this state of affairs.

The question was put: "Listen, young comrades, would you join a live English speaking organization and become a fighter in the class struggle?"

The unanimous response was: "You bet your life!"

Result: The children are today conducting their own affairs in the Junior Group of the Y. W. L., under the guidance of Comrade Lila K. Kalke.

New Ideas in Old School.

The United Workers' Sunday is practically the oldest children's school in Chicago that can boast of a more or less working class character. At the last teachers' meeting of the school about six Young Workers' League members were enrolled as teachers. The opening battery of the Y. W. L. members was the presentation of a resolution on the education of the children in the school. The resolution dealt mainly with the necessity of teaching the children through object lessons, pointing out the fallacy of pure book learning for children, etc. After the war clouds had passed we found that the YWL battery had been successful. The resolution was passed and a committee was elected to draw up a working program on the basis of the resolution. Comrades Pete Herd, A. Sungail and Al Harris are the most active in this work.

Junior Paper Soon.

The Junior Paper will be issued in a short time. All Junior League leaders are requested to get their members to send in material. Drawings by the children are especially needed for the first issue. Let us know now how many copies your group can handle so that we can get an idea of how many to print in the first issue.

With our National Junior Paper will come a bigger and better Junior Organization. *Get behind the National Office.*

On the Job

(This section of The Young Worker invites our readers to write to it concerning their lives in the shops, mine or mill, the conditions of work, strikes, lockouts, union activities, and any other incidents which would be of interest to the young workers all over the country. Communications should in general not consist of more than 350 words. The editor reserves the right to print only such extracts from letters as are suitable for this section.—ED.)

May Organize Nucleus in W. Va.

Beckley, W. Va.

Dear Comrades:—

I am glad to see that you have a special place where the readers can write about the kind of lousy jobs and bosses they got. I got acquainted with your magazine after the last strike, when I saw an advertisement in *The Worker* from New York. I sent for a copy and I have been getting it ever since.

Well, I'm working as trapper boy in one of the mines here, and I belong to the union and proud of it. There are other young workers in the mines here and most of them are about 16 and 17 years aged. We work like horses, eight hours a day and plenty of overtime, and most of the young workers get about \$15.00 or \$16.00 per week. We can't talk much about unions, because the boss is got scaleys in here and they tell him if anyone is like a "Red." But we are going ahead and we're going to make the coal bosses sweat blood for the way they treat the workers. We live in rotten shacks, and when you come home from a day in the deep of a coal mine, you haven't a hell of a lot of time or a chance to get any amusements in the town, or fun out of life.

Well, anyhow I'm getting the other fellows here interested, but a lot of them are still Scissor Bill Jrs., and it's not easy to get them wise. But I'm not giving up hope and you can bet we're going to have a Young Workers League branch in this coal hole if I have anything to do with it.

Yours for clarity and action,

—Jim MacR.

(In organizing a League unit in Beckley, it would be very advisable for Comrade MacR. to organize on an industrial basis. That is, instead of forming a branch based on a certain part of the town, where the members live, it should be formed on the basis of the place where the members work. Five young workers are enough to form an industrial unit, better known as a shop nucleus. This would be especially simple, if all five (or more) worked in the same mine. For further information on how to form the nucleus, what its work would be, and many other points, Comrade MacR. is advised, as are all other comrades, to read Richard Gyptner's pamphlet, "From Isolation to the Masses," sold by the Young Workers League at 15 cents each, and 10 cents in bundle orders.—ED.)

Leaguer Fired for Agitation.

South Bend, Indiana.

Dear Comrades:

A difficult problem in connection with our work in the shops has just come to my attention. Comrade Zigety of South Bend, immediately after our second convention tried to put into practice the shop nuclei resolution—that is, he tried to establish a shop nucleus in the place in which he worked. Zigety worked in the Studebaker Automobile Company's plant at South Bend. A large number of young workers are employed there. They are being miserably exploited, and Zigety found it easy work to get a bunch of them lined up in sympathy with the Young Workers' League program. To give you an idea of what the young fellows had to put up with, they had to start to work at

six in the morning and work until six at night—twelve hours a day, and sometimes more! Talk about your steel mill slaves. The Studebaker dump is worse. And the young fellows knew it.

Well, Zigety had not actually organized a shop nucleus, but he was pretty close to it, and was going about his work carefully. He had distributed the Young Worker in the plant, and was telling the fellows about the Y. W. L. program, the meaning of the shop nucleus, and so on. He was making ready to call a meeting one time right after lunch. The boss told the boys they'd have to work after six that night, and Zigety said to them: "Boys, let's punch out at six o'clock, and to hell with working overtime."

"I guess you are right, kid," answered a voice behind him. The time-keeper had overheard his remarks and realized the full significance of Zigety's action; and that night when Zigety, who is a member of the Young Workers' League, went to punch his time, he found a yellow slip along with his time card. That meant he was through. He had been fired for carrying on nucleus work.

Now you know how closely the bosses watch the activities of the workers. It isn't long before they find out through some means or other whether the fellows are talking about organizations or conditions or wages. Either they get their information through some stool pigeon, some tattle tale in the shop, or through some paid spy, which most of the large factories have. Of course, the case in consideration apparently seems to be an accident. But how do we know that Zigety's activities had not reached some of the petty bosses and they were on the lookout for him? This should not interfere with our shop nuclei work. It merely means we have got to recognize these facts and look out for failure. We have got to be very careful with our work. The fact that Comrade Zigety was able to get a bunch of the young workers around him, and to agree to some activity to relieve the awful conditions in their shop, it seems to me, is some solid proof of the need and advantage of shop nucleus organization.

My main point is: We have got to keep a clear lookout for that well-known American institution, the industrial spy, that will become all the more active when it begins to learn that the Young Workers' League is trying to organize on the job.

I think it would help matters if we could hear from others who have had similar experiences.

Fraternally yours,

G. H.

Sweating Girls at Western Union.

Chicago, Ill.

Dear Comrades:

In Chicago there are two well-known wholesale sweat shops, Sears-Roebuck and Montgomery Ward. But there is also a third, not so well recognized as a sweat shop, that employs thousands, mostly girls. This is the Western Union. I had the fortune (?) to run across one of their beguiling ads listed under Office Help.

The nature of the work is such that unless you have exceptionally strong nerves it is necessary to have periods of rest during the day that take you away from the operating room and its noise. These periods the company supplies in shifts of fifteen minutes in the morning and afternoon and a half hour for lunch. Oh! how this company harps on that fifteen minute "rest" twice a day and forgets the meager half hour for lunch. It is also necessary that the atmosphere under which the girls work must be pleasant and void of all excess rush or bossing, and the scurry and rush and loud commanding of the

supervisors and frequent calling downs of the operators puts the girls in a dreadful nervous state.

More than one girl broke down while I was there. I saw girls that had been to school with me, light-hearted, strong young girls, start and jump at the slightest touch. I saw girls break down and cry from sheer nervous exhaustion and overwork. I became so jumpy and nervous and easily irritated that my former friends avoided me as my restlessness annoyed them.

My condition was not helped a bit by the fact that I was trying to go to school and work at the same time. It was impossible to study at night school. After a day's work I was positively dense, I only half heard what the teacher said and the letters in my book danced jigs before my eyes and appeared and disappeared as though by magic.

Four months of this almost drove me crazy so I went to the superintendent and told him that I wanted to be taken off the operating work and put on work that would be less nerve-racking.

He sighed deeply and told me I had an exceedingly uncertain mind and put me on the check force at ten dollars a month lowered wage.

At first I ran around on my own feet, dividing the messages between the proper operators. Just imagine walking for six full days a week and every third Sunday half day and you will know why I am so fond of walking. Well, suddenly the efficiency experts got a bright idea. They put the check force on roller skates:

Assuming that the superintendent had meant to make things easier for the employee by giving them skates, when I got tired I took mine off and walked. That is, I walked until the second manager caught me.

"Where's your skates, kid?"

"Under my table."

"Broken?"

"No."

"Well, why don't you wear them?"

"I am tired of skating, I'll walk around a while, thank you."

"You put on those skates and none of those smart remarks either. Do you suppose we supplied them to you for your pleasure?"

For six months I had no use for a roller skating rink. I learned to soak my blistered feet in hot water every night, I bought shoes that were a size larger than I had originally needed, and forgot how to dance.

Having more opportunity as I skated back and forth with the rest of the girls, I got too free with my talk. I was only a novice in the agitation line, but I said a few things here and there that, though perfectly innocent in my eyes, went back to the bosses, doctored up. They couldn't fire me without some other cause. That wouldn't be a good policy and I really wasn't such a dangerous person, but just the same they were so concerned over the moral effect I might have on the girls that twice they tried to fire me. They got so far as handing me my slip but at the time things were in a desperate shape at home and the stingy salary I brought home was practically all the family had to live on so I fought for my job. I insisted on the reason for firing me, tearing the reasons he gave me to shreds with proofs that I was innocent of any lawbreaking and so I kept my job.

When times changed at home I found out I was able to devote another year to schooling and I gave them two weeks' notice and after the first week they pretended that some lull had occurred and that my week was up then. I don't know to this day if I was fired or if I resigned.

Fraternally yours,

A. Sungail.

Young Communist Fights W. Va. Scabs.

Meriden, W. Va.

Dear Comrades:—

Some scabs in Thomas, W. Va., are going to bring a suit against the Slovenian weekly *Delavska Slovenija* for an article of mine in which I exposed some dirty tricks that they have been pulling off on the Slovenian Benefit Society.

I am going to take the entire blame if the suits are filled, and I would like to know if I can expect help from the league if I need it. It happened this way: our element captured the society and we were able to pass a law in there that any member who went out scabbing would be permanently expelled from the organization. These men were expelled, but pulled a bluff and I called upon the rank and file to act on this case. In the article I mentioned the leading strike breakers and these "gentlemen" are the ones that will prefer the charges.

The *Slovenija* is our communist weekly and I don't like to see some dirty scabs get the best of it, so I will take all the responsibility. They can't sue me for thousands as they can the *Slovenija*, but if they want to they can—they won't get anything of me, for I have nothing, and I don't think that I could be jailed very long, 6 months at the most, I suppose; but they won't be able to pull anything over, because I have witnesses that all I stated in the article is true, but it is always better to prepare before time.

In comradeship,

A. Valentine.

(The National Office of the league shall take up the case of Comrade Valentine with the National Defense Committee of the Workers Party. The Workers Party and the Young Workers League always carry on defense work through a common committee. Comrade Valentine is to be commended for his firm stand against the scab element in W. Va. Here is another example for the fine trade union work of the members of the Young Workers League. Adult trade unionists, take notice! —Ed.)

Coppers Raid League Meeting.

Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Comrades:—

The headquarters of the Italian branch of the Young Workers League was raided Tuesday night, August 14th. The branch was holding an open meeting without having taken a permit from the police. The police arrived and asked for the permit; they were misunderstood by the Italian comrades and were shown their charter, which certainly did not satisfy them. A warrant was taken out by the police from a magistrate's office, and two comrades were arrested: the secretary and the chairman, Comrades Frank de Nardo and Baral Luigi, both members of the Workers Party and the Young Workers League. They were held under \$1,000 bail each. With these two comrades, the police took all their literature (both W. P. and Y. W. L.) and the pictures from the wall, which consisted of photographs of world-known radicals. Their two charters were also picked up. The local Defense Committee is handling these two cases, as far as I know.

Comradely yours,

John Hartman.

(We have two ways to answer these wild attacks upon our movement. The first is by supporting the defense committees both financially and morally to the best of our means. The second is by increasing the strength and power of our movement until the reactionaries of all shades will not dare to persecute and prosecute us on the basis of such ridiculous charges as those upon which our Philadelphia comrades were jailed....Ed.)

The Militants Support the Young Workers

By MAX LERNER

(Comrades Max Lerner and Martin Abern were the two delegates by whom the league was fraternally represented at the recent convention of the T. U. E. L. Other workers' papers have fully covered and commented on the decisions and actions of the conference. One important resolution, however, was not given the space which we think it deserves. It is specially interesting to the young workers of this country, and Comrade Lerner here briefly touches upon it.—ED.)

UNLIKE Samuel Gompers, the second convention of the Trade Union Educational League considered seriously the part played by the young workers in the trade unions and in the industrial struggle. A resolution, sponsored by the Young Workers League, was taken up by the organization committee, which unanimously recommended its adoption by the convention. The convention adopted the resolution as recommended and it was referred to the incoming national committee for action.

The resolution embodied practically the same proposals as were put by the league to Gompers in the now well-known conference, and it called upon the militant and progressive unionists to help in the organization of the great mass of unorganized young workers.

The Young Workers League is confident that in the hands of the Trade Union Educational League the resolution will not remain a mere paper decision. The T. U. E. L. has shown that when a decision is made by it, all its energy is summoned to carry it out in action.

Workers' organizations, especially the unions, should see to it that they also adopt such resolutions and put them into effect. The organization of the young workers into the trade unions will have a greatly beneficial effect upon the strength of the latter. Let's all get into the work of organizing the youth!

Young Communists of Russia Promises to Support German Revolution.

Loud cheers and shouts of approval greeted the requests of Comrade Edwin Hoernle, for active support of the German working class revolution when it came by the Young Communists of Russia. This was at a recent mass meeting of the Russian working class youth, called to accept a banner sent by the Berlin organization of the young communists to the young communists of Moscow. The hall was packed with Russian young workers, thousands of them. Blenklow, secretary of the Young Communist League of Berlin, presented the blood red banner to the Russian young comrades. Then Edwin Hoernle, member of the central executive committee of the German Communist Party, spoke for his organization. He said that the revolution in Germany was not far off, that the workers had come to the end of their ability to suffer. "We hope the time is not far distant," he said, "when you, Russian youth, will join hands with the German young workers in wiping forever from the face of the earth those monsters who now live on the life blood of the German workers, who feed on the flesh of the working youth of the entire world."

In return for the banner given by the Berlin League, the Moscow organization presented the German comrades with an original drawing of Karl Liebknecht, in a hand carved frame, together with a large bulletin such as you will find in all club rooms of the Young Communist League in Russia. It is handwritten, one-half being in Russian, and the other in German. It contains greetings from the Moscow organization to the German young workers.

The Young Communist League of Soviet Russia

BY G. FALTENBERG.

THERE are no Fascists, Ku-Klux-Klan or other black bands in Soviet Russia. We have driven the capitalism from the political arena, and we have destroyed it. Hence, we need not waste time and energy on the struggle against them. Their day is over in Soviet Russia.

Our Red Republic is being reconstructed and consolidated without them and in spite of them.

At present our Republic is visibly growing and developing economically. On this fact must be based the work of the Young Communist League. Soviet Russia needs new Red experts, men fit to guide and manage the industries and the economy of the country, and these men the Young Communist League must provide. For this reason we established factory and workshop apprenticeship schools of a specific form which exist only in Russia. We guide and manage these schools, which occupy an important place in our everyday work and in the life of our Young Communist League. These schools do not only train working class experts, but also communists who form the basis of the further development of the revolutionary movement, not only in Russia, but throughout the world.

But these factory and workshop apprenticeship schools do not embrace the entire working class youth, especially the young peasantry.

Wide masses of working class and especially of peasant youth are uneducated and illiterate. This is not to be wondered at, as the way to education was closed to the working class and peasant youth under the old regime. There was no time nor opportunity for learning during the period of the civil war, when, rifle in hand, the youth had to defend the dictatorship of the proletariat. But at present the Young Communist League is engaged in political-educational work, which extends also to the wide masses of the non-party working class and peasant youth. The forms and methods of this work are so numerous and various that they can hardly be enumerated in a short article.

We are establishing clubs, circles for the study of Marxism, literature, political economy, etc., and also sports clubs and playgrounds. Moreover, we are making full use of moving pictures, gardens, excursions, etc.

In this work we succeeded in enlisting the support of the Government apparatus of our country, and with its assistance we guide the political educational work.

In this first article, I will also deal with our work on the economic field.

Our struggle for the betterment of the economic conditions of the working class youth is utterly different from yours.

The working class youth engaged in production is living under the best possible conditions which the present economic situation in Soviet Russia can give. We have no nightwork, and a 4 to 6-hour working day, summer holidays, etc., are established by law. Therefore, our struggle for the betterment of the economic position of the working class youth takes the form of a struggle for raising the skill of the young workers. The more skilled workers we have, the greater will be the gain of our State industries, and hence a higher remuneration for the young workers. Therefore our economic work is closely connected with the factory and workshop apprenticeship schools, with the vocational technical schools for the older among the young workers, etc.

I will deal in my next article with the results achieved by us and with our work in other branches.

How William Rose to a High Position

By CHLIPKE POOR

WILLIAM BOANED came from a long line of Boaneds. He believed everything he read in the daily newspapers, and he never questioned any statement that his teacher made about the government. He actually thought that if he worked hard enough he would become a rich man, and marry his boss' daughter. In fact he was a blood brother to Oscar Sapp.

No sooner had he graduated from public school at the age of 18, than he went out into the world to get a job and gain a fortune. It was not hard for him to find a job, because if there is anyone a boss likes, it is a Boaned. William had presented himself to his boss, Mr. Swetter, and immediately his boss could see that he wasn't long on brains, but that he was willing to learn. So William was hired at the remarkable sum of \$11.00 a week and the free use of the sink, the tools and the toilet.

Thus William Boaned began his career. Whenever the boss passed him on the floor of the shop, he would absentmindedly pat him on the head or kick him below the end of his spine or jokingly throw a wrench at him; and William felt highly flattered by these little signs of affection which the boss manifested towards him. Already he began to prepare his little speech of thanks and appreciation for the raise in wages, which he expected would come at any moment. You see, being a Boaned, he worked hard each day, never quitting at the right time, always coming in an hour earlier in the morning and refusing to take any advantage of the boss' generous offer to bring him a ham sandwich after he worked about four hours overtime some nights, for which he was never paid.

The other workingmen used to warn him not to work so hard, because he would hurt himself physically and he would work them all out of a job. But William was not to be fooled by common workingmen, who had never been in business and naturally could not be expected to know anything about it. Hadn't the boss himself told him that the more that was produced, the more could be sold; and the more that was sold, the more the profit would be; and finally, the more profit he would make, the more money he would have to invest in machinery, thus giving the men more work to do!

And sure enough, the boss began to buy newer and more machinery; and the more machinery he bought, the more men there were that found themselves without a job. For the machines took the places of the men, and the boss never feared that the machines might go out on strike. But this did not make William feel uneasy. On the contrary, he became more cheerful and he worked harder than ever before.

One day the boss came down to the shop and called all the men together. He began to speak in a sorrowful voice, telling the men how poor business was at the time, and after almost an hour of sad tales, he wound up by saying that he was forced, in spite of an absolute hatred of the step he was taking, to reduce the wages of the men. Only one worker applauded. Yes, dear reader, it was William Boaned. Who else but a Boaned would applaud a reduction in wages?

The rest of the day whispering and grumbling could be heard all over the shop, except from William's machine, where he stood humming his favorite ballad, "Oh, How I Love the Boss!" One of the workingmen came over to him and asked:

"Are you going to stand for the cut?"

"If you mean, am I going to continue to be loyal to my employer," answered William sternly, "then I reply, yes!"

The other looked at him with pity and then walked away shaking his head. The next day the workers struck unan-

imously, that is, with the sole exception of William, because, as has been mentioned before, his second name was Boaned.

Now there were other workers who had a peculiar smell, for which reason they were known as skunks, scaleys and scabs. Altho they were not all named like William, they nevertheless had the same level of intelligence. From among these workers, Mr. Swetter picked as lovely a crew as ever poisoned the sweet air of a shop, and set them to work at greater wages than ever before, because he wanted to break the strike of the regular men. William, of course, did not get a cent more in wages, for the boss was One Wise Guy.

The strike, unfortunately, was finally broken with the aid of William and the scabs. New men were obtained and the old ones were forced to go around looking for new jobs; and it was not easy for them to get any, for the blacklist had a record of each and every one of them.

Two years had not passed after the end of the first strike. than the boss bought a new machine; and the machine was one which was able to do the work of William without anyone watching it. William was overjoyed. Now that there was something that would do his work, he would undoubtedly be raised to a higher, more important and better paying position. And he was almost sure that this would be the case when he was summoned to the office of the boss. He began to rehearse his little speech which he had been saving for the last three years. It began something like this:

"My dear Mr. Swetter: I am deeply moved by this new evidence of your generosity and I assure you that I hardly feel myself worthy of it. I know your difficulties with the workingmen of this factory who are for the most part such vulgar creatures. I can assure you that in the future my loyalty will be a thousandfold increased," and so on and so forth.

But when he entered the boss' office, he saw him standing there with a mournful face. When the boss saw William he turned to him and cried in a sad, soft voice, "Ah, it is my dear and faithful Boney": you see, he called him Boney for short. The boss was such an affectionate old fellow.

Then came the flood. With noble tears in his eyes, the boss told William of the bad condition of his finances. He told him how bad Business was. "Look at my books!" he cried, just to show how sincere and honest he was. And when William made a move to look at them, he stopped him wearily by saying, "Never mind, Boney; you wouldn't understand them anyhow."

"My wife has been wearing the same fur coat for the last two weeks," the boss continued between sobs. "My son has had to cut down, in his fine spirit of sacrifice, his suits to three a month, and he goes cabaretting with chorus girls only eight times a week. He now smokes only one cigar at a time. Even I, when I am eating, do not smoke at all. My automobile is wearing out, my golf sticks are broken, my shirts need mending and my socks want washing. For all these reasons, you can easily see, your intellect will surely grasp the fact, that I can no longer employ you. And in the condition I am now in, could you have the heart—Boney, could you be so cruel as to ask me, and expect me to give you the three weeks' wages that I owe you? Ah, you are too noble for such a thing; your heart beats too loyally for that; your soul is too pure for such a common trick!" And with that, the poor old boss broke down and wept.

William, too, cried like a babe. He was deeply moved by the oratory of the boss. Indignantly he asserted that he had never intended to rob his impoverished employer of those bare-

necessities of life. With a splendid burst of generosity, he drew forth thirty-seven greasy dollars from his red flannels and thrust them into Mr. Swetter's hand. Mr. Swetter started.

"Ah," he cried, deeply touched by this sacrificing act, "this is too much! I cannot take it. No, Boney, I cannot and will not!"

But as William drew his money back reluctantly, and with a wronged look on his face, the boss relented and took the money, against his will, of course, and only to please William, you understand.

"Goodby," cried Mr. Swetter to William. "You are the most remarkable Boaned I ever met."

William was still so indignant over the condition to which the other workers had brought his boss, that he ran over to union headquarters in order that he might chastize the bad union men for ruining the noble boss, who was just there buying 14,883 shares of Consolidated Bananas, Inc., preferred stock, at \$6.72 per share. He rushed into the headquarters and began immediately with a passionate speech about the wrongs of the bosses and the intolerable conditions which the workers imposed upon the innocent distributors of salaries. He became so excited that he began to sling about all sorts of peculiar remarks, which did not seem to be very laudatory to his audience. He shouted and yelled and yawped and barked, until the tempers of the workers rose to the highest pitch. Just as he was about to begin to end his dramatic denouncement, somebody caressed him gently with an egg and tomato salad of at

least two years' vintage. Then someone pushed his flowing hair down with a fifteen pound brick, while another solicitous soul raised him from the floor at the end of a boot, not without gentility, to the astounding height of eighteen feet.

Just before he was lulled to sleep, he thought, This is the highest position I have yet held.

William was by no means forgotten. Everyone, even the boss, chipped in money to buy a headstone for William's grave. On it was cut the following touching epitaph:

"Beneath this stone lies William,
Who sweated all his life;
And such a head and hide like Will's
There never will be seen."

It didn't rhyme very well, but it expressed the appreciative sentiments of the boss.

Some years later he reached heaven, where he sprouted a pair of wings, flew around on the mushy clouds, continually sniffed lilies, and played classical music on a Jew's harp. Yet, even there, he could never forgive himself for having at one time even thought of the idea of his poverty-stricken boss giving him a raise in wages. It was the only thought that marred the sweetness and the calm of his heavenly existence. It was so noticeable, that the other angels used to remark among themselves, "Who in hell would think that there could ever be such a Boaned?"

Moral: A bone in the pocket is worth two in the head.

The national office of the Young Workers' League has been moved to new headquarters. Hereafter all communications concerning themselves with the organization, should be addressed to:

YOUNG WORKERS' LEAGUE,
1009 N. State St., Rm. 214,
Chicago, Ill.

Communications and material intended for this magazine should be sent to:

THE YOUNG WORKER,
1009 N. State St., Rm. 214,
Chicago, Ill.

The address mentioned above also contains the new home of the Workers' Party, and the closeness of the two organizations will result in a better relationship, increased activity and more effective mutual aid.

With the Leagues.

(Continued from page 13.)

ing Finnish young workers into English branches. The Finnish Workers' Party, National, District and local units, are wholly behind this policy and not only give moral but also substantial financial support to the YWL for this purpose.

That the Leagues are getting into the proper fields of work is noticeable through the increasing number of letters in the "On the Job" section of the Young Worker. The day of reports of socials, musicals, etc., is passing in the League. Instead, the comrades are reporting what they are doing in the factories, in the unions, in the strikes, etc. The comrades are turning to deal with the real problems of themselves and the mass of young workers. In the factories, shops, mills, etc., the Young Workers' League must establish their working and organizational roots. Through activity on the job, the comrades will recognize soon the necessity and the means of organizing the Shop Nuclei in order to develop the communist work among the young workers. Thus, from isolation to the masses!

The Man With the Gun.

Dumping the load of crushing centuries,
He straightens his stooped back, his burning hope.
Ablaze with flaring flames of conscious hope.
His is the elephant's conquering strength,
The fox's cunning and the lion's wrath;
His, the knowledge he needs to make him free;
To him belongs the overwhelming odds,
For on his side the course of history.

Do you see that gun in his crafty hands?
'Tis the symbol of force—the self-same force
That bolsters up decadent monarchies
And crumbling and crashing democracies;
That stands behind the shaking parliaments
And fortifies the masters' courts of law;
Force!—which the cunning tyrants use so well,
He who employed the hoe has learned to use.

Look well upon his stern, determined face,
His wiry build, the gun, the cartridges;
The will to vanquish shouts from every line,—
The acme of relentless truculence.
Here is no mercy for the lords of wealth,
Soft words can only 'waken his contempt;
No threats of hell can swerve him from his task:
All power to the toilers of the earth!

There is no form more glorious than this:
The slave who breaks his chains and sneers at death.
He is the backbone of our rising class;
He is our hope, if any hope we have.
Look to the East!—against the dazzling dawn,
His silhouette—implacable and grim.
Westward he moves—and the rulers tremble,
For in his hands, the future of the world.
—Ding Dong.

Chicago: Attention!

All Chicago comrades are invited to the grand opening of the Sunday School and Junior Class of the North West District, under the auspices of the Mothers' Organization of the U. W. S. S. The affair will take place in the Labor Lyceum, 2733 Hirsch Blvd., September 23, 1923, at 3 P. M. The price per ticket is 25 cents. Besides a rich musical program, Comrade Nat Kaplan, national children's director of the League, will give one of his characteristic speeches.

Support This Tour!

Some comrades seem to think that the trials of the communists arrested in Michigan are all settled, so far as we are concerned, and that nothing more needs to be done for their defense. This is an entirely incorrect notion. The need for defense is very urgent, more now than ever, because the second trial of Comrade Ruthenberg is to take place sometime in the fall. The expenses of the Labor Defense Council are very high. The loss of the Ruthenberg appeal would be a terrible calamity, and would probably mean the hasty conviction of the rest of the defendants.

William Z. Foster, one of the prominent defendants in the Michigan Communist case, is beginning a tour for the Labor Defense Council, which is defending the men. League members in the various localities should do their best to help to make the meetings a success both financially and morally, because the cases are by no means settled, and it is necessary to intensify the work for the release of the defendants, among whom are a number of Young Workers League members. Comrade Foster is an excellent speaker, whose ability is known all over this country. He will speak in the following cities:

Belleville, Ill.....	September 16
Kansas City, Mo.....	September 17
Omaha, Nebr.....	September 18
Denver, Colo.....	September 19
Hanna, Wyo.....	September 20
Rock Springs, Wyo.....	September 21
Ogden, Utah.....	September 22
Salt Lake City, Utah.....	September 23
Los Angeles, Calif.....	September 25
San Francisco and Oakland, Calif.....	September 29 and 30
Portland, Oreg.....	October 7
Seattle, Wash.....	October 14
Tacoma, Wash.....	October 16
Butte, Mont.....	October 21
Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minn.....	October 28
Milwaukee, Wis.....	November 4

All donations and letters of inquiry should be sent to the Labor Defense Council, 166 W. Washington St., Chicago, Ill.

News has reached us of the formation of a Young Communist League in faraway Iceland. Here's hoping that they will succeed in freezing out the bourgeoisie.—Nat Kaplan in the New York "Yowl."

Birthdays in October of Political Prisoners

Birthdays in October of political prisoners confined in American prisons are announced by the Workers' National Prison Comfort Club, 2923 Chestnut Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as follows:

At Leavenworth, Kansas, Box No. 7: Oct. 7, Frank Elliott, No. 13568.

At San Quentin Prison, San Quentin, Calif.: Oct. 23, John Hannon, No. 35565.

At Senior Farm, DeWalt, Brazoria Co., Texas: Oct. 30, Jesus Gonzales; Oct. 30, Leonardo Vasquez.

At Box "A," North Side Sta., Pittsburgh, Pa.: Oct. 18, Isreal Blankenstein, Reg. No. 12662.

At State Pen., Western Dist. of Pa., Pittsburgh, Pa.: Oct. 4, Jacob Dolla.

Cora Meyer, National Secretary, invites friends and sympathizers to send birthday cards and letters to these political prisoners. Money is advisable for gifts. Books and publications to be sent directly from the publishers.

Abraham Cisneros writes: A few words of appreciation. Such greetings, indeed, help to lighten prison burdens. May a few words of cheer and encouragement continue to come to me from time to time—is my earnest wish.

Come Along: We'll All Be There!

You will meet the entire radical movement of Chicago at the most lavish affair of the season, the Amalgamation dance, in the renovated, remodelled and redecorated ball room of the Ashland Auditorium (Ashland and Van Buren) on Saturday evening, September the twenty-ninth. Sol Wagner, the incomparable, will furnish the most delicious music that ever swayed a flapper; Sol will be assisted by his harmonious ten aces. There will be absolutely no literature sold or distributed, no speeches made and no collections taken. Light luncheons and refreshments will be easily available and soothing at low prices. The doors of the Auditorium will be open at 8 P. M., and the music will cease at 1 A. M. 'Nuf Sed!

What One Young Worker Says

"Primrose, Pa.

"Dear brothers:—

"I like to read young workers' paper, but I have never seen *The Young Worker* yet. I want you to send me one for the first time, and then I'll get it regularly.

"James Koyna."

COME TO THE

AMALGAMATION DANCE

arranged by
TRADE UNION EDUCATIONAL LEAGUE
NEEDLE TRADES SECTION

at the

Ashland Auditorium

Van Buren St. and Ashland Blvd.

Saturday Evening, Sept. 29, 8 P.M.

Tickets 50c

EVERYBODY WELCOME

Dancing till 1 A. M.

Music by

SOL WAGNER

IN PERSON

and his

10 Society

Syncopaters

Your Last Chance!

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Although the price of the YOUNG WORKER is to be increased to 15c per copy, we have made an arrangement whereby the annual subscription price of \$1.00 will remain in effect until November 30, 1923. We urge you to take advantage of this offer, in combination with one of the three books named below, before the subscription price is raised.

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