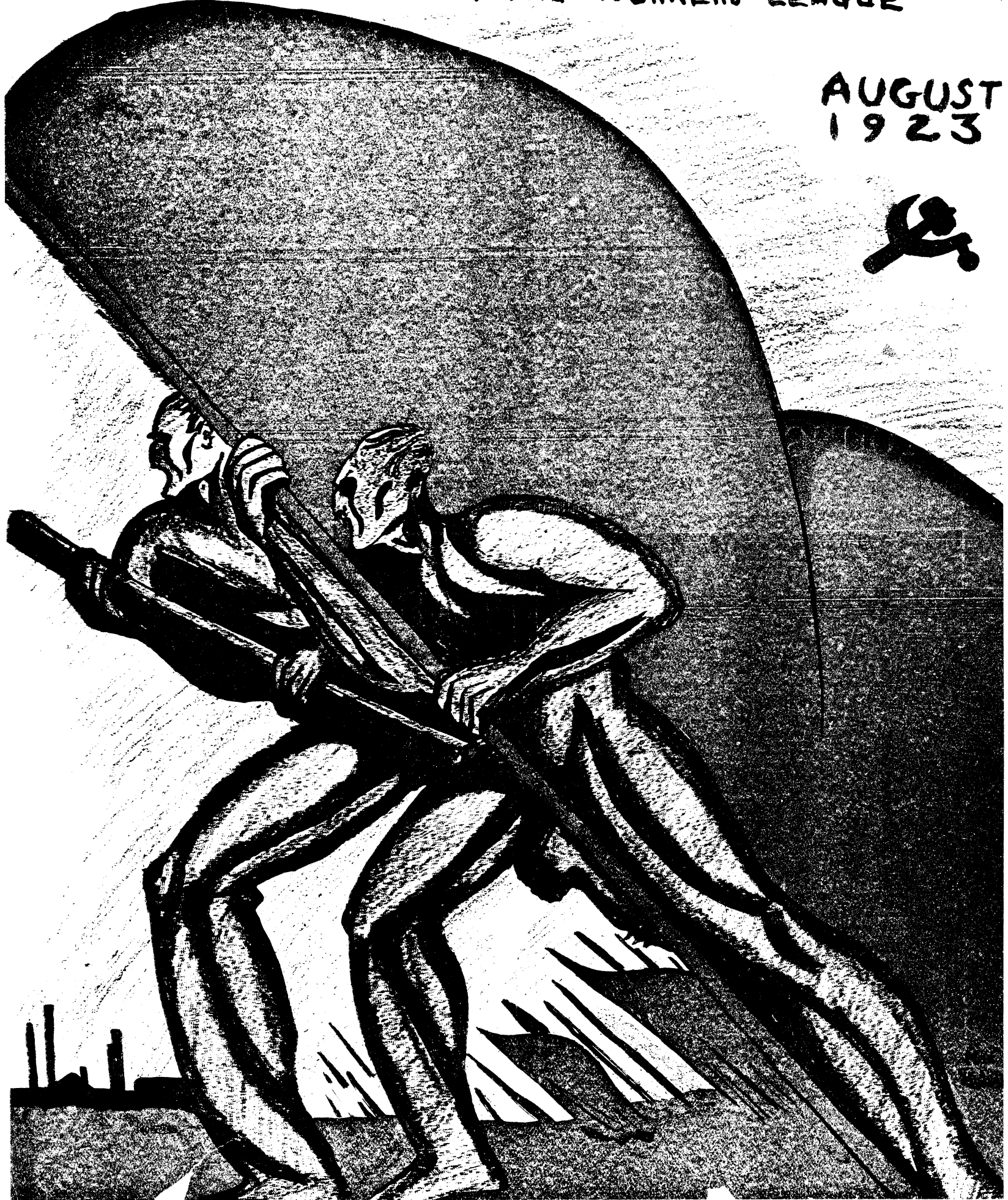


THE YOUNG WORKER

10¢
OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE

AUGUST
1923



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!

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AUGUST, 1923

No. 8

Two Conferences

1. Students

"PUPPIES who have not yet had their eyes opened," was the descriptive manner in which Carl Haessler, Rhodes scholar, Leavenworth instructor and managing editor of the Federated Press characterized the Liberals in their search for that abstract and will-o-the-wisp creature called social justice or truth or fair-play and many other high-sounding phrases. "Those students to whom I speak here tonight, who call themselves liberals must sooner or later make up their minds to take either the capitalist's side or the worker's side in the greatest of all wars, the Class War. I hope that they will chose the workers' side." Any other position, which is no position at all, will, he pointed out, mean distrust by both workers and bosses and, if unable to choose, and act will mean their extinction between the two great forces in society.

Mr. Haessler, speaking of the press and propaganda, pointedly declared for propaganda—for his side, but whosoever the side, propaganda nevertheless. This was in reply to Miss Lillian Herstein of Crane Junior College and president of the Teacher's Union of Chicago. Miss Herstein called for a campaign for social justice and truth within the schools, and said that the schools must be captured by the seekers of truth and honesty. That was quite vague, nice-sounding. Others present pointed out the capitalist class character of these institutions in America, and declared the need for the working class to spread its class message of working-class unity and solidarity and labor's ownership and management of the means of life.

Youth and the War-Makers, the next step to be taken to prevent war, were the bases of the lively discussions which took place at Waukegan, Ill., June 19, 20, and 21 at a conference called by Liberal college clubs, the National Student Forum and participated in by numerous other organizations, among them being the Young Workers League of America. The world situation, the situation in America industrially, politically, the causes of war, next anti-war steps were all thoroughly gone into by the representatives and delegates from the various institutions.

"That there must come a change of heart, a feeling of brotherhood, a spiritual or religious awakening in all classes of people," was the view expressed by Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. representatives, the Gandhi disciple, Haridas Muzumdar, Brent Dow Allison, conscientious objector and others. On the other hand, Arne Swabeck, Moritz Loeb, comrades Albright and Martin Abern from the Young Workers League and others of the more radical element demonstrated quite plainly that at the basis of wars were the economic conflicts and competition between the various imperialist nations, the necessity for the search of new markets to exploit. So long as these fundamental factors which made for war, remained, then war would remain; that increasing armaments and militarism of the capitalist nations, particularly America, England and France, were unavoidable since these were but natural developments of the need of the capitalist class to fight to maintain its system of robbery and exploitation and to prevent if it could the working class from rising up and destroying the capitalist countries of

the world. If, we argued, these property factors which caused war were once removed, then only would the first real step have been taken to put an end for all time to war. Indeed, that when capitalism was ended, and the workers were in power and with no struggle before them against possible counter-revolutionary forces, then only would there be a real change in the minds of peoples concerning war and there would be no more wars—for the cancer, or war-breeder, capitalism, would have been cut out.

"We cannot fight; we refuse to bear arms; we are non-resistants; we will persuade people to hate war and to refuse to fight," declared the pacifist supporters time and again. No one hates war more than the workers, but still the workers have had to do all the fighting, the "wicked" communists pointed out. To get rid of the devil, we shall have to embrace the devil and throw him out of power.

That pacifism has thus far failed, is not necessarily a proof that it is a failure. But it is Utopian. After all, we can reason and act only upon the bases of experiences of our own and of others. History has indicated quite strongly that when the non-resistant, once slapped, turned his other cheek, he got another slap in the face. Perhaps it satisfies him who gets slapped that instead of one cheek burning, both are red and hot and hurt. It is a lovely dream world the pacifist has set up in his mind, but workers living in reality's land somehow understand that they never get anything or get rid of anything without an active struggle and combat. "Peace, peace," cried the peace-loving Liberals, and pacifists entered the war and shouted for it—on the side of reaction. "Peace between capital and labor," cry these same individuals as the class struggle rages before them and occasionally burns their appealing hands outstretched to the combatants. "Peace, cease your struggles; they are awful" they shout as the fighting railroaders, beaten and robbed of living wages by the "neutral" Railway Railroad Board walk out on strike; miners strike for the right to organize and federal troops e. g. (West Virginia) come out with "impartial" guns to shoot down working men. "Peace! Peace!" they cry—and the ghosts of Ludlow, Calumet, Homestead, Mingo, Herrin, McKeepsort, and numberless other places, with a death rattle in their throats and with ironical mutterings, turn over in their graves and sigh, "How long, O Lord!" After all which, the justice-seeking Liberal and pacifist, in nearly all instances where the conflict between the capitalist and working classes breaks out either upon the industrial or political arenas, turn to the workers and in a cautious manner say: "Be careful, workers; you're going to far; let's discuss this matter." And fiendishly, to the nonunderstanding dismay of the nice liberal the boss or capitalist takes another swat at the worker and accidentally hits the liberal, who runs off crying: "You mustn't do that; it isn't fair."

Arne Swabeck of the Workers Party, addressing these liberal and radical students, told how the workers in Russia struck down the czarist and capitalist power, established themselves as a ruling class and proceeded to the reestablishment and upbuilding of Russia's industries and farms. But the counter-revolutionary forces raised up arms against the workers and

farmers who were thereby compelled to defend themselves, and did so ably with their Red Army. Without that Red Army, that institution of working class power and assertion, Russia would again be in the control of a czar or capitalist oligarchy. Perhaps the pacifists would have preferred the Russian workers and peasants not to have fought back, but meekly submitted and lost their heritage—workers' rule, ownership and management of all the resources of land and factory.

But, said the pacifist and liberals, in Russia, perhaps it was inevitable that force should have decided the issue. But in America, we can use the ballot and other peaceful weapons to win whatever the workers are rightfully entitled to. To which comrade Moritz Loeb of the Labor Defense Council pointed out the struggle daily going on between the workers and the employers in America in every industry, and that in nearly every instance wherever the employers could not smash down the workingclass solidarity by a waiting policy, the capitalists called upon their agencies of destruction, troops, home-guards, American Legion, Minute Men, "preservers of the American constitution of capitalism," and smashed down the workers' resistance. If this is done in comparatively peaceful times, what then if the workers were to challenge the very order of capitalism? Would capital meekly submit? Not likely. The State, as even the capitalist political scientists have shown, is the organized expression of force of a ruling class, and no ruling class has nor can be expected to give up its power without a struggle. Judge Knox of the U. S. Federal Court, in deciding a case of the writer, declared that judges and other officials were elected to preserve the private property right of this country, and what if the workers decide to do away with private property?

There were some present among the students and speakers who thought that perhaps war was instinctive in the peoples and ways could not be found to avert war. Professor Faris of the Department of Social Psychology proved very effectively that such a view was so much buncombe, as were indeed many other views regarding instincts of man and animals. War, let us say, is a custom, which is to say that there are certain factors which have brought about this custom—modes of life, lack of food, struggle for domain and the like. Eliminate the war-making customs and war is eliminated. Even if war were an instinct, still war could be averted by the diverting of this "instinct" into a favorable and useful direction or channel where pugnacity and like qualities could be socially and usefully applied.

One could go on for pages to speak of the various views expressed by the student-delegates and others, but boiled down there were two fundamentally differing views at this Anti-War conference. One was the pacifist non-resistant view, which would use the economic weapon of the boycott or the refusal to fight methods, and the other was represented by the Young Workers League delegates, and the other communists and working class element present, who declared that peaceful means were their hopes too. But being realists, they could not overlook that in gaining strength for their views and attempting to gain political power, the capitalist class, with its social blindness, frenzied fear of losing its wealth and power, would as history has shown, fight to the end even as the tiger does, who "fights as fiercely for the tip of his moustache as he does for his very heart."

There can be no doubt that there is an element in the colleges and universities of this country who are trying to see and to understand the great social forces now at work, and who want to do something constructive to put an end to the struggle, misery, poverty and war which rages ever about them—if in so-called peace-times, in the life-taking mines, mills factories, etc.; if in the time of open combat, then in World Wars destroy-

ing millions of workers. These trying-to-see college students, represented in one instance by the National Student's Forum, who have never felt, to speak of, the grind and toil of the masses, their extreme sufferings, cannot be expected at once to understand the workers' viewpoints. Set aside in their cloisters, their schools; viewing or thinking that they do, the conflicts abstractly and "impartially," they do not yet see why workers seek to establish absolute workers control to the exclusion of all who will not produce either by brain or muscle. They fear even the phrase "dictatorship of the proletariat," though accepting a dictatorship of the capitalist class, most pleasantly called "democracy." They feel that there is something wrong in a society where "those who own earn not, and those who earn own not" but yet do not see their way clear to go "the whole hog" and line up with the workers. But there are some trying to find out; and it is for us of the Y. W. L. and other working class organizations to encourage all independence of thought and action in them; to present our points of view clearly to them and to try to convince them that we are the correct expression of thought and action.

Albright and myself spoke frequently at the Conference in the fashion indicated above by other of the communists elements. At first, it was most difficult for the liberal students and others present to even consider surely our point of view. "It was simply wicked." Sentences of ours were torn from the context of our talks; a very natural action in view of the newness of the communists views to them. But we persisted, as did others sympathetic to us. Gradually prejudices and misunderstandings and confusions were broken down. Before the conference was over, the ideal of communism was being pretty freely endorsed by all. Tactics were the point of differences. As we tried to show the world in its reality and not as a mere rationalization of our desires, views were being modified. Prejudices were as least going by the boards. Maybe our tactics were not likeable, but anyway it was being shown to them that they were not impossible and very probable. Oh no, we didn't make communists. But many are ready to listen carefully to us. A number of the student delegates stated to us: "Well, you've opened up many new ideas to us. We're going to look into them." Miss Eleanor Phelps of the National Students' Forum, declared that the students wanted to know before they acted. It is true, that liberalism doesn't act; its function was she said, was weighing schemes, and sooner or later, though, there had to be action. Then liberalism must take a stand. She felt that it would be on the side of progress. The universities and colleges, she said, should become more and more institutions where men and women could search for facts, weigh them, present them to the world and the world would act.

Well, comrades, this was an Anti-War conference. Perhaps not so much has been said here of what plans were formulated to prevent war. Yes, many hours were spent discussing the question of war, youth, social relations: in many instances all very illuminating. But, as one expressed it, liberalism can't act; it doesn't know what it wants and so it doesn't say or do anything. Yet, perhaps we are unfair here. The plan presented by those tactically opposed to us were either the negative one of passive non-resistance or the economic boycott. These too, are practical weapons which the communist can accept at certain stages of the class struggle.

When I spoke on behalf of the Young Workers League, I tried not so much to give an analysis of what was behind the war mask, what caused war and so on. That had been ably handled by Swabeck, Loeb, Haessler, Albright and others. Rather I tried to put forward the general tactics we felt were necessary to smash war; to present possible ultimate tactics a working class and those who would support it would have to resort to; such as the armed conflict between the capitalist powers and

the workers if the capitalists would not peacefully release their power to the awakened mass of workers and we showed how unlikely, indeed impossible that was. We put forward immediate actions for the workers and for the honest student elements to work upon.

The workers would engage in a struggle against armaments; would try to rouse the class-consciousness of the workers against capitalist war and militarism, would try to prevent the manufacture of munitions, etc.; if stopped there, would try that capitalists could not disarm; for they needed armaments as an offensive weapon one against the other, and as a club against the workers. Nevertheless, an increasing class-consciousness in the workers could do much to hinder the greater militarization of the capitalists armies, etc. We declared that "the workers must be ideologically and technically prepared to resist war and that on the very day that war was declared." The Y. C. I. and other revolutionary bodies work within the army and navy units to break down the morale of the units to bring them on the side of the workers. The effectiveness of the general strike against war was demonstrated by citing examples of its use in various countries.

But at the same time, we indicated immediate actions upon which communists, socialists, liberals, reformers—all really desirous of carrying on a struggle against the war idea and war could unite. Among them was the common struggle against reaction and white terror—against such labor and liberal-hating agencies as the American Legion, Dawes, "constitutional" Minute Men, the Ku Klux Klan, and so forth. The united struggle for freedom of press, assemblage and expression. A campaign to break up the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts organizations which fostered and nurtured militarists thoughts, cheap patriotism, etc. in the very young. A fight could be unitedly made to do away with Citizens' or White Guard Training Camps. That the college radicals and liberals and war haters had an immediate task before them to do away with the college military training the Reserve Officer's training Corps, etc. We suggested that the National Students' Forum and kindred bodies call at the earliest possible time a conference of ex-service student men and women and also all other elements and organizations who could contribute to a thorough discussion and formulation of a program against war. I showed how those who really mean business would aid in bringing about a federated Labor Party

which could be made the center for a dynamic and effective action against capitalist war and reaction and terror. But these are sufficient to show that the Young Workers League had a program to present to be acted upon and which in a great part, could also be accepted by all elements honestly against war.

The conference thought about acting on certain proposals, but finally decided (which was not surprising for most of the delegates had not come prepared to act upon anything, but only to talk the matter over) to wait till another time. However, the proposal for a conference of Ex-service student men and women, etc. was adopted. Also our resolution calling upon the President immediately to release all political prisoners was un-animously passed.

If I seem toward the last to be somewhat cynical, let me say that it is not entirely true. There was a spirit found at the conference among these awakening students which sounded a better note for the future of radical revolutionary thought in the colleges. These students were at least seekers. Don't believe this element is going to be what Seymour Deming said colleges train students for: Scab leaders. Communists reject no one who is approaching them; they try to bring them over to their side. Zinovieff said, "We are not asking the workers to be communists at once. We are satisfied if they want to be, if they are honest." With students, with all their surrounding and difficulties, we must take a similar attitude. We must try to make them realize that they must choose either for us, the workers, or with the capitalists and against us. The college people represent a future economic force and value which we cannot discount. They are technical experts, engineers, etc. We must show them that in the last analysis, their interests are with the other workers, that they are not removed from us at all, but only highly-skilled workers. In the working class, in the proletariat, is our reliance. Of that there can be no doubt. But if we gain a section of the students, we shall certainly do so. Briefly, to close, the conference at Waukegan, accomplished as much as we had expected it to. We shall use our experience and knowledge gained there to do more. Somewhere in colleges, a few are seeking a goal which is akin to ours. We must do our outmost to reach them and bring them to us. We can teach: No Neutrality in the Class Struggle: Take Sides: Take Our, the Workers' Side or Perish in ignominy and reaction!

—MARTIN ABERN.

2. Farmer-Labor

ALMOST eight hundred delegates from nearly all the states in the Union gathered in the Carmen's Hall in Chicago on July 3rd at the call of the Farmer-Labor Party to discuss ways and means of federating the existing political, industrial and agricultural groups so that they might be better able to present a front against the continued encroachments of Organized Capital. The delegates represented the rank and file of the trades unionists and farmers of this country. They represented the sentiment of the masses of the workers who were gorged with the rule of both of the old Parties, with the near-liberalism of the Borahs, LaFollettes and Johnsons, and with the political sour pap of Sam Gompers' policy of rewarding their enemies and punishing their friends. They came not for the purpose of discussion only, but with the definite intention of making a clean break with the past and to set out on the road of independent political action by the workers in the city and the country.

Organizations with a combined membership of hundreds of thousands were there, and probably as many were with the spirit and actions of the convention but were financially unable to send delegates. The Workers Party, the Proletarian Party,

the Farmer-Labor Party, the Non-Partisan Leagues of many states, numerous other farm organizations, hundreds of labor unions and fraternal organizations had delegates there.

The preliminary, private convention of the old Farmer-Labor Party opened in the morning and the report of the Credentials Committee proposed the seating of all the delegates whose credentials had been represented. This was done, and with whirlwind speed, a motion was adopted that an Organization Committee composed of representatives from all the groups at the convention be elected. It is not necessary to detail all the minutes of the convention; that has been adequately covered by the entire Labor press. But to clear up some misunderstandings which certain reports have caused it is necessary to indicate a few points.

The Organization Committee brought in a report which called for the launching of a Federated Farmer-Labor Party including all the groups at the convention and allowing for the affiliation and representation of any additional organizations. And around this report came one of the most lively and significant discussions ever witnessed on the floor of a political convention. The Farmer-Labor Party representatives, whose organization

had initiated the move for the convention, took issue with the report, and without bringing forth any alternative, opposed it on the ground that it was being crammed down their throats, in spite of the fact that they were at perfect liberty to discuss it pro or con or bring in another program; that "other organizations" (the communists) had injected themselves into the picture, in spite of the Workers Party and the Young Workers League having received unqualified invitations to attend; that the program was "red", that it would mean a certain sort of connection with the sinister Third International, and other such vague, evasive arguments which were built upon nothing but a fear that after all something REAL might come out of this convention.

But the rank and file were not there for quibbling; it was not for that, that they had spent thousands of dollars to come to Chicago; it was not for that, that they had discussed in their local organizations the launching at last of an independent political party of labor which would include every group irrespective of its private opinions and tactics. A desire for Unity was the only credential that was needed. And Fitzpatrick and Buck and Brown and the other Farmer-Laborists who attempted to delay, to halt the formation of the new party were swept away in the flood that kept rising from the beginning of the conference, until at the time of adjournment, it had become practically unanimous. Delegate after delegate arose and told that he had come with a prejudice against the communists, but that their work at this gathering had convinced him that they were sincere and energetic in their efforts to bring to a consummation the desires of the progressive workers and farmers of the country.

The Organization Committee's report was adopted with almost a unanimous vote, and all rose to cheer. It was a victory, indeed, for the American workers and farmers. It marked the beginning of a new epoch in their political history, and all

seemed to feel it. Only the handful of Farmer-Laborists who balked at History and refused to go along with the mass, were in the opposition. But even they split and their most powerful and best organized sections decided to affiliate to the new party: THE FEDERATED FARMER-LABOR PARTY. I spoke to John Kennedy, one of the dissenting Farmer-Laborists, and asked him what he thought of it.

"It is really the most remarkable thing that could have happened," he said. "It is a new departure, a revolt if only because the workers and farmers have broken away from the two old parties."

And when I asked what he thought of the action of some of the old Farmer-Laborists refusing to come along, he shrugged his shoulders expressively; and that shrug coincided with what William Bouck, chairman of the new party, told me. "The farmers are ready for it, and my state, Washington, is behind it as far as it goes," he added.

We of the Young Workers League, who participated in all the proceedings are glad that the new party was born. While we still maintain our stand that the Workers Party is the only political organization that can finally lead the workers out of the desert of Capitalism, we recognize that there is an immediate necessity of a mass organization with a moderate program, which shall co-ordinate the strength of all workers and farmers to fight for a Workers' Government. Our painful experience has surely taught us the complete moral and political bankruptcy of both the Democratic and the Republican parties, if only because of their inexcusable action with regard to the Child Labor Laws.

We greet the Federated Farmer-Labor Party! All power to it!

—MAX SHACHTMAN

Thirty-Eight States Still Permit Flogging

IN a previous issue we gave publicity to the case of Martin Tabert, who was brutally beaten to death in a Florida prison camp by one of the slave drivers. There are thousands of cases of similar brutal treatment in this country, but the facts are brought to light only at rare times, when some drunken boss accidentally beats one of the boys to death.

Only ten states in the whole country prohibit by law the flogging of prisoners—and the practice is not confined to the South. Official investigation of the Ohio Reform School at Lancaster last year brought out the fact that an average of 17 boys were chastised every day—lashed on their bare feet, flogged with leather straps, and placed in steel shackles. One boy had had 144 floggings in a year.

At Pontiac reformatory, Illinois, boys are beaten insensible with clubs; at Chester, it was brought out in the testimony of a boy 18 years of age in the Criminal Court of Cook County, the guards permit one of the insane prisoners to terrorize and beat the prisoners. The boy exhibited scars on his head and body, where he had been struck with an iron bar.

St. Charles, boys school, in Illinois, forces the boys to inflict the most disgusting form of punishment upon themselves.

—R. R.

Celebrate International Youth Day, September Second.

To the Poets

I call you decorators.
 There is no revolt in you,
 There is no compassion.
 You are afraid that it will hurt your art
 If you raise a challenging cry
 Against the tyranny of the rich,
 Against the oppression of the poor.
 You serve well your masters—
 They, the strong of the earth
 Who accept your entertainment.
 You have not the courage to denounce their crimes.
 You do not speak hope
 To those that are broken
 Under the chariots of the slave-drivers.
 Your ears are attuned only to delicate sounds.
 Your eyes can bear only soft colors.
 Your only concern
 Is with the frail creatures of your imagination.
 You are children at play;
 I have scorn for you.
 You are decorators, jugglers with words
 You are centered on yourselves,
 Unheeding of the common life,
 Deserters from the ranks
 Of those who bear the burdens of the earth.

—SIMON FELSHIN.

The Boss—He is a Jolly Good Sport

By A. D. ALBRIGHT

IN our conference with Samuel Gompers, Martin Abern, our spokesman referred to commercialized sport and athletics as being a means that the capitalists use to divert the minds of the young workers from the stern facts of life. That both the professional sport and the athletic activity carried on in the factories are simply so much dope to dull the pains of the class struggle. Gompers said: "It grieves me sorely to hear you impute such ulterior motives to these men, much as I hate them."

This reminded me of a very striking little incident which occurred in a steel town in which I resided during the great steel strike of 1919. In the neighborhood of the steel mills the steel corporation has a large club-house for the benefit of employers only—or their children. This club was fully equipped with all kinds of athletic material and an athletic director was employed by the company. The club-house contained a large swimming pool and the largest gymnasium in the town. Without doubt it cost the company thousands of dollars a year to maintain this establishment "for the physical betterment of their employees!"

During the summer months each mill—wire mill, coke ovens, billet mill, as well as the various other manufacturing plants in the town such as wall paper mills, machine specialty companies, etc.—organizes base ball teams and competes with each other. The companies even go to the extent of allowing all who participate in the teams to have Saturday afternoons off. There surely cannot be any hidden motive behind such a generous act.

There was at the time a very good friend of mine working in the wire mill. He always had been very much interested in athletics, so when they offered him a chance to play on the base ball team, Bob—that was his name—grabbed at the opportunity. He told me how soft it was to get off every Saturday afternoon and sometimes an hour or so early during the week. Every time I saw him that summer all he would talk about was their base ball team and how good it was of the company to assist their help that way.

One day he said to me, "You know Al, I have always believed in unions but I think these organizers of the Steel Workers are too radical. One of them told me that he thought that the reason why the companies have the teams and the other athletic stuff is to try and keep the boys from striking when the time comes. Now, that is going a little too far."

Another time he said, "There is one guy working out there that sure does have things soft. He is the pitcher on our team and he sure is a good ball player, but he does not do any work to speak of at all and they let him get by with it because they need him for our team. I don't believe in treating the company that way. If they are good enough to let us have time off and every thing so we can have our team, I do not think that we should treat them that way. It is not fair."

As time went by and that never-to-be-forgotten fall of 1919, drew near, my friend Bob had something else to think about besides "his team." He had to decide whether he would get into the Steel Workers union or not. Prices had been constantly going up and their wages had not so he thought that the de-

mands of the union for the eight hour day and more wages were justified. He joined the Steel Workers union and got active in the organization campaign of the union.

But this did not stop him from playing ball. He went out as usual on Saturday afternoon but to his surprise someone else was playing his position on the team. "What does this mean?" he asked the coach.

"Well you have been falling down lately and it is too near the city tournament to take any chances now." Bob turned away slowly. Could it be that they were letting him out because he had joined the union? No surely that could not be it.

When the Steel Strike came all thoughts of base ball and other sports were put aside and the big thing before every one was the winning of the strike. What was the surprise of every one when the pitcher of the team, who had never worked very much, stayed on the job and was doing more work than any scab in the mill.

"What do you think of 'your team' now?" I asked my friend.

"The most of them came out on strike but they were all approached to stay at work. I will never play in another game with that pitcher. I think now that the union organizer was right when he said that they would use that base ball stuff to keep the boys in the mill."

The experience of this young worker shows very clearly why the steel trust spends so much money on sport for their employees. It is purely a business proposition with them. It is money invested that in time will bring in good dividends. Can the steel trust overwork its men for twelve hours in their body-wracking mills and then claim to give these same men a little sports recreation for the sole purpose of building strong bodies? Can the leopard change his spots? Whether we like to think that such good Christian men as Mr. Gary have such "ulterior motives" or not, the fact remains that the employers of this country play upon the desire of the young workers to get recreation from sports and use this at every opportunity to influence the youth against their class.

If the bosses can organize the working class youth on the basis of sport and in this way pit them against the working class, why cannot the working class organize sport organizations that instead of teaching "Garyism," "American Plan," would show the necessity of the youth of the working class being true to its class and not allow itself to be used to defeat their own fathers and brothers.

Whether you admit it or not, Mr. Gompers, the youth have a peculiar psychology of their own and if the organized workers do not try to reach them by understanding that psychology, the bosses will. For do you not know that the bulk of the army of scabs and scab protectors, such as the militia, is composed of youth?

You say you still have young ideas. Can you play base ball yet? I'll take a chance with you in a hundred yard dash. Will you organize a sports organization of the workers? We want a working class sport organization to rally the young workers to the side of the workers class and keep them out of the camp of the enemy.



A Heavenly Interview

By CHLIPKE POOR

(Through the enterprise of our well-known contributor, Chlipke Poor, who has been made a regular member of the staff, we are enabled to present herewith the first interview, so far as we know, with God himself. The "Young Worker" was not satisfied with obtaining an interview with Samuel Gompers, although we had been told that that was "going some." But we aimed even higher. Our ambitions fairly wandered off the face of the earth. The next logical step after Gompers was the Almighty. We say "logical," because it is being rumored that the Lord's successor is now being groomed and trained in the very portals and sanctums of the American Federation of Labor. We have, of course, long had a suspicion to that effect, because of the lordly don't-criticize-me attitude which Brother Gompers often takes. But to get back to this interview. The "Young Workers" is ready to vouch for any statements to be found in this article, and is ready to substantiate them by referring the undoubtedly numerous sceptics and doubters to the author of the remarks—God. Our reporter, Comrade Poor, is a competent stenographer, and he took particular pains to transcribe the words exactly as they had been spoken. A proof has been submitted and thus far we have not heard a single syllable of protest for the author of the remarks herein noted. We hope that our readers appreciate the growing field of communist journalism, and that they are conscious of the fact that we are becoming better and better month by month. If they are not conscious of it, we are.—ED.)

I knocked timidly on the Pearly Gates until they were opened by an old man with lovely white whiskers. He took my reporter's card and told me to wait in the ante room until he saw whether or not his Master was in. I sat down on a couch of air but not for long; Peter soon returned and beckoned me onward. In a few minutes I stood before the Presence.

He was a fine specimen of a figure: large, broad, whiskers like Peter's, long white hair, nose slightly brown from too much nectar, and covered from his shoulders down with a well-laundered nightgown. He looked at my card, mused over it for a while and then said:

"A newspaper man, I think;" and I was immediately impressed with his deep insight, his ability to notice things that other men would pass by. I assumed a business-like air.

"I was wondering if I could ask you a few questions whose answers would be of considerable interest to our readers. Besides, the fact that I am probably the first newspaperman to interview you would in itself be a novelty."

"Go right ahead," he assured me, "ask any questions you desire. Will you have a cigar?" and he offered me a box of choice celestial stogies.

"Thanks, I will," quoth I dipping my hand into the box and lifting a few. I then whipped out (newspapermen always whip them out) my notebook and pencil and began the questioning.

"Is incest ungodly?" I thought I would catch him off his guard with so bold a question but he seemed equal to the occasion.

"Highly."

"Then, where did Cain and Abel get their children from, if there was only one woman on earth at that time, and that one their mother?"

"Ah!" he murmured, blowing forth a cloud of heavenly blue smoke. "A very good question. Indeed, it shows a remarkable sign of theological erudition, and I really congratulate you. The next question, please."

Listen hard as I would, I could not find that he had answer-

ed the question, but I did not want to offend the old gentleman by repeating it and so I went on to the second one.

"Is not the devil a most harmful influence on the life of Man?"

"Yes," he assented, "he certainly is."

"And is God all powerful?"

He smiled deprecatingly and coughed a slight "Ahem." "Well, I don't like to boast of what I can do, but the Bible itself vouches for my powers."

"Then why doesn't God eliminate the devil?" I had him there, sure enough, I thought.

"Ha, ha, ha," he laughed. "You're a very rogue of a fellow. Your questions are really clever, really clever!"

Once more I was impressed by his strange ability to give a quick, if rather unsatisfactory, reply. Well, I would make another try. Newspapermen are not so easily daunted, as you may know.

"Was Noah's Ark built by union labor?"

"The Ark? Why, there is quite a story involved in that incident. You see, Ham was really an agitator of the most insidious kind and though the job was really done, at least to a large extent, by union men, Ham had been influenced by the Bel-shevicks, a foreign tribe. He wanted the whole thing to be done by union men. But Shem counseled moderation and he finally prevailed. For that he became known as Shem, the Gomp, which when translated from the ancient Hebraic means the President. Unfortunately, it seems that if they had followed Ham's advice and secured union plumbers the air would have been considerably cleaner. For when the animals had been on the Ark for about five days, a peculiar odor began to pervade the atmosphere, all due to the bad installment of certain necessary fixtures. It is really a painful subject, for after the trip, so Noah himself told me, he was unable to distinguish, except by sight, a rose from an onion. You will pardon me if I beg you to pass on to a more sweet-smelling subject."

The old fellow was so touched by the memory of that malodorous trip that tears started to his eyes. He wiped them gently with some passing angel's wing, and his emotion gone, looked at me with such a pathetic eagerness for answering more questions, that I could not help but ask him. But first I felt that I would have to make clear just who I was and from where I came, for his confidence had touched me more than I can tell. The truth, I reasoned, must be told.

"Before I proceed, I feel that I must tell you that I come from the United States."

"The United States!" he cried and his voice grew hoarse with emotion. "Oh, this is too much! Oh, that I should be so afflicted!" He paused for a while, unable to control his feelings. Then he spoke with difficulty, "Go on."

"The conditions of the mortals there are horrible, and they would undoubtedly be very glad to get direct word from you as to what they ought to do to alleviate their miseries. For instance, they have just been through a terrible war which cost the world tens of millions of soldiers, the flower of the earth's manhood, in killed and wounded and crippled."

"That is really too bad. Might they not go to church more often as a remedy?" he suggested timidly.

"Yes, they might . . . In the steel districts of the United States some of the men work everyday in the week; others work ten and twelve and even fourteen hours a day and when they come home they are so tired that they cannot even take their clothes off in order to go to bed. What are they to do?"

"Well," he reflected philosophically, "it's not really so bad as

is is pictured. I hear that Gary himself has said that the men would rather work long hours than short ones. And don't you think that he ought to know what is best for them, and what they like the best?"

"The death rate of little babies increases in the direct proportion as the wages of the workers decrease. Aren't there any angels set aside for innocent ones to guard their lives?"

"To tell the truth, there are so few angels up here, after all, that it is difficult to assign one to each mortal. For instance, John Rockefeller just reached the age of 84, and extra care must be taken of him, and I have had to detail an entire regiment to watch over him. The poor fellow is to be pitied: he eats only crackers and milk and toothpicks. After all, babies are born every day, but a Rockefeller—Ah, yes, a Rockefeller is as rare as, let us say, brains in a United States President."

"But the members of Rockefeller's class are doing all in their power to make the lives of their workmen more miserable, to lower their wages, to increase their hours of labor, to lower their conditions of labor, to break their organizations of defense, the unions. What are the workmen to do about that?"

"Perhaps if they produced more, and went to church more regularly, and said their prayers every night, their conditions might become better, gradually, you understand, gradually. Don't you think so?"

I ignored his plea in my eagerness to get him on record. "Why are we inflicted with a labor leader like Mr. Gompers? Why have you created him for our torment?"

"I?" cried he. "Never. I had nothing to do with the matter. He is an unfortunate accident, and I am sorry that it is one of the few things I allowed to go unremedied. But, of course I had nothing to do with his making. Why, the Bible itself says that God never made anything that was ugly!"

I was almost finished and I rose to go. But I decided that I would try to pin him down to something definite before I left.

"Then what would you say, in summing up, would be the

best thing for the world to do in order to raise itself from its present state of degradation, with its wars, its unemployment, its miseries, child-labor, murders, robberies, divorces and all its other defects and shortcomings?"

"Personally, my advice would be not to worry about those things. They are mere nothings when one considers what may come hereafter. Of course, as an immediate measure, I might appear to your President as a holy vision and ask him to call another conference; but even such a radical measure would hardly do away with all the sores on the earth's body. The only thing to do is to forget your troubles by working hard. The harder you work, the less time and opportunity you have to think about things, and so you become more satisfied with things as they are, which is as it should be. And if you have any spare time, the best thing you can do to employ it is to pray to me for a while. It is wholesome for the body and the mind and especially the soul. I make it a firm policy to listen to all prayers. Some of them are very encouraging and in my old age they make me feel well. What with rheumatism and flannel underwear, I have enough troubles, but I am always ready to listen to a good honest-to-god prayer. Always console yourself with the fact that if you live well and uncomplainingly and if you pray regularly and often, you will finally reach heaven and there all your woes will of course end.

"You are going? Have another cigar before you go. I was very glad I met you, and I certainly admired your questions. Give my best regards to my friends the Pope and the Archbishop of Canterbury and don't forget to send me a proof of this interview before you print it. I may be misquoted, don't you know. Good bye."

I left hastily. When I reached earth again, the first song I heard was one sung by a bunch of Young Workers League members. It went something like this:

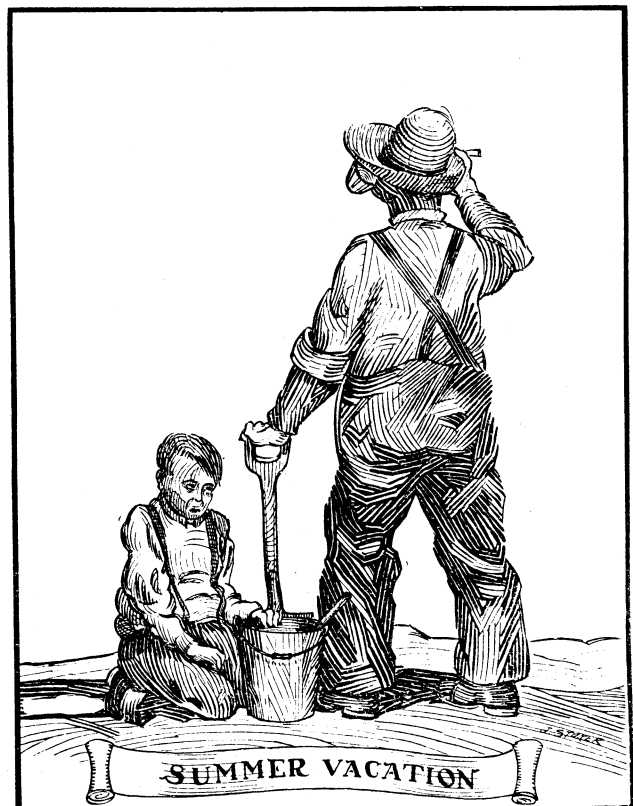
"Work and pray, live on hay,

"You'll get pie, in the sky, when you die.

"That's a Lie!"

It was at the time when Russia was fighting out the struggles of the Great Revolution. The situation was a very trying one; surrounded by the armies of the White Guards, blockaded by the Allies, Russia found herself completely isolated from the outside world. The Russian Communist Party had no way of communicating with the outside comrades unless somebody broke through several lines of white armies.

A group of Russian communists went over to see a young woman whose husband was killed by the Whites. They told her it was necessary for her to go to Germany at once. They told her also that it meant she might not return as four men were lost already. She hesitated only for a moment: her two year old baby was sick and she had no one to leave it with. She asked the comrades what she should do. One of them, Nicolai Bucharin, went over to the bed and, picking up the baby, said to her: "Don't worry comrade, we will take care of it." So the next day she started with her suitcase filled with literature and important papers. She crossed every one of the enemy's lines, hiding in the woods during the day and sneaking through the most dangerous points at nights. Finally she reached Germany and communications were established with the Russian comrades as the result of her mission. One day she got news that her baby was dying. She faced a hard problem: on one side there was her baby dying and she was needed there, but on the other side her work was not finished and the party discipline demanded that she should stay. She did not feel right even to ask permission to go, but some of the comrades learned of her tragic situation and told her to go back.—When she got to Russia she found her baby dead. But even through her deepest mourning and sorrow this true communist felt she had done her duty to the cause.



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Lewis' Loose Lies

John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, is now feverishly engaged in spreading as many lies about the progressives in his union as it is possible for him to do with a press agent who was but recently a pen-pusher for a capitalist rag. The usual lie about the Progressive International Committee of the U. M. W. of A. being financed with the wonderful Bolshevik gold after which we are all hunting; the lie about the progressives being dual unionists; the numerous other big and little lies are all indicative of how desparately Lewis is fighting to maintain his throne.

Sensing the rising tide of dissatisfaction with his regime, he is about to begin a "red raid" in the union that would make A. Mitchell Palmer turn purple with envy. Every one that is even remotely tainted with the terrible red virus is to be expelled and Lewis' rule is to be sustained even if the only ones left in the union are Lewis, Searles, Green, Feeny, and the rest of the coterie of court jesters and sergeant-at-arms whose duty it is religiously to crack the skulls of any and every dissident.

The militants in the U. M. W. of A. need have nothing to fear from Lewis. His wild days are just about over, and all the commotion is nothing but the last squawk of the dying regime. The Progressive Committee's conference, recently held in Pittsburgh, has laid down a program for the militants upon which they can all unite. It is not a fight against this or that figure in the union, but for a clean, aggressive, labor union, such as the largest organization in the American Federation of Labor ought to be.

We call upon all of our members and sympathizers in the miners' union to support the Progressive International Committee's program, and to get into the fight actively and determined to see it to a successful conclusion.

Get in touch with the Committee at the Labor Lyceum, 35 Miller St., Pittsburgh, Pa. Comrade Thomas Myerscough is the Secretary of the Committee.

The Shame of Michigan: Child Slavery

The Children's Bureau in a recent report says that work in beet fields, such as that in the Michigan fields, is unsuitable for children. After the five or six months of work from nine to fourteen hours a day the little ones from babyhood up to fourteen, are listless and unable to study when they do get to school in late November, if at all.

Living in old shacks, hardly habitable, underfed, illiterate, overworked and paid nothing at all—the children's work being figured in with the family as a whole—these child slaves of the sugar trust are the most pitiable of objects. They are but

young and mistreated animals with broken bodies and dwarfed minds. The whole family, working long hours, can earn no more, or better said, gets no more than \$800.00 to \$1,000.00 per year for its collective work. This while a government commission says that it takes at least three times this amount to support a family of five.

Sodden by labor, these children will grow up, if at all, with deformed mental attitudes toward the social system that made them what they are. Foreign born, or of alien parentage, they may sooner or later discover that "democracy" means nothing but debasement and toil, or they may furnish the material for a new breed of scabs and stool pigeons and Burns agents. They will be unintelligent in whatever phase of life they enter, be it as gunmen or prostitutes or as revolutionary material in social crises.

And it is the shame of Michigan that she permits such things to go unforbidden by law while prosecuting Communists for free speech upon just conditions, and convicting Ruthenberg for "assembling with" people who mean to overthrow child slavery and all other kinds as well.

The Day's Wage Assessment

One of the most important campaigns that the League is now carrying on is the campaign for the payment of the Day's Wage Assessment. For upon the successful prosecution of that campaign is dependent every other venture which we undertake.

The League is now growing as it has never grown before. New branches are being added almost daily. National Organizer Max Salzman is bringing into existence new branches wherever he goes. An unprepared visit to Frederick, S. D., by an organizer of the Workers Party resulted in the formation of a new branch. Party members in the region which Comrade Salzman is now touring beg us to keep him there for another six months—such are the possibilities. Comrade Williamson is touring the Coast and the North West and his reports are enthusiastic. If we had but the money, we could send out five organizers with every prospect of excellent results. Pittsburgh, West Virginia, Ohio, Southern Illinois, Massachusetts, the Coast—all, all beg for an organizer.

The Young Worker is getting better every day. That is admitted on every hand. We point out with modesty that comrades in every part of the movement are congratulating us on the quality of our magazine. But there is always room for improvement, and that is what we want. A larger paper, more cartoons, more attraction—but for all this and for many, many other things—song books, for instance, for which everyone calls—we need money, more money, and then some.

It is up to the membership. Do you want a bigger and better League? Do you want to see an increased, feverish activity? Do you want to see more literature issued, literature which will draw to us the thousands of young workers who should be in our ranks? Do you want to see a bigger and better magazine?

We know you do. And you have the floor to express your emphatic "Yes!" But you can prove your assent only by paying your assessment. Among the branches which have already sent in all, or part of their quotas, are the following:

Buffalo, Y. W. L., N. Y.	\$15.00
Rochester, W. P., N. Y.	10.00
Cromwell, Minn.	1.00
Chicago, Ill. Hirsch-Leckert Jewish Y. W. L.	13.00
Chicago, Ill., Y. W. L., West Side Branch	34.25
Maynard, Mass., Y. W. L.	25.00
Pittsburgh, Pa., Jewish Branch, Y. W. L.	27.50
Chicago North Side Y. W. L.	5.00
Chicago Maplewood Y. W. L.	9.00

Child Labor-Its Effects

By MAURICE DORN.

THE arguments advanced by some of our solicitous masters in favor of continuing child slavery are given the lie by the facts in the case. The terrible results of this inhuman practice of coining the flesh and blood of little, helpless working-class children into profits for greedy capitalists are too evident to be lied away.

Every year an immense number of children are swallowed by our industries, and begin their March to Golgotha. In spite of all efforts at reform, the volume of children entering industry has increased from year to year. In 1913 the number of children taking out permits to go to work, was 67,169. These figures are obtained from a census of twelve representative cities. In 1920 the number had increased to 76,194.

"The number of working children in Massachusetts has increased so that 50 per cent of the population now begins work at 14 years of age; that is to say, of all the 60,000 children who each year become 14 years of age, 30,000 leave school for work during that year." (The Meaning of Child Labor—Fuller.) Page 42.

"Every year an army of 1,000,000 children between the ages of 14 and 16 march out of the schools to become wage earners. This does not include the children under 14 years of age, who in a number of states are permitted to work at that early age." (The Meaning of Child Labor—Fuller, page 43.)

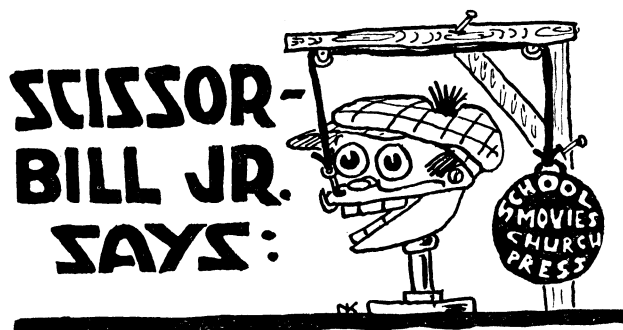
In their greed for ever more profits the capitalist reaches into the homes of the workers and takes the children of the worker into industry, and destroys their lives forever. The best period of these children's lives are taken up with piling ever more profits into the coffers of the master-class. The period of development between adolescence and maturity is one of peculiar development for children. What does it mean to them to be at work in industry at this time?

"It is a period during which because of the sexual development going on, the child's nervous system is almost turned topsy-turvy; in many cases, indeed, it is turned topsy-turvy. The seeds of nervous disease, to crop out in menacing forms later, find ready lodgment now." "Every step of the upward is strewn with the wreckage of body, mind and morals." (The Meaning of Child Labor, G. Stanley Hall. Page 46.)

The children who enter industry are subject to disease, and great numbers of them contract diseases, due to their employment, which in later years makes them dependent on others for their support, or usually ends in an early death. Many others are maimed and killed in the factories, mines and mills every year. How great this slaughter of the helpless children is can be seen from the following figures.

A federal investigation of the southern cotton mills showed that although children were engaged in the less hazardous tasks, the accident rate for boys and girls under 14 and 15 years of age was 48 per cent higher than for persons 16 years of age and over. The accident rate for children working among shafts, gears and belts was 133 per cent higher than for the older group. Out of 1,000 accidents in the mills of Massachusetts, there were 62 cases of permanent mutilation, 6 of which were fatal. Over half were caused by the work in which they were engaged. 216 were caused by the machines on which they worked, 110 by the tools with which these children worked, 167 were caught in gears, belting or shafts. Accident caused by working around elevators and hoists were responsible for many more serious injuries to children.

We must organize the working youth and the children not only to end this murder, but to destroy the system which gave it birth and fosters it. The blood of these murdered and maimed sisters and brothers of the workers cries for the end of the system of wage-slavery.



Scissor Bill, Jr., says: "I don't see why they raise oranges in California, when you can get as many as you want in the fruit stores of your city."—Art. F.

* * *

"Children Cry for Fletcher's Castoria"—advertisement. That's nothing, grown-up people rave for cocaine and morphine.

* * *

Headline in newspaper: "St. Mary's Church Afire, Entire Structure in Smouldering Ruins." Holy smoke!

* * *

Early Base Ball Returns.

"Pirates Beat Opponents in Season's Great Victory."

Quite typical of all pirates—and they get away with it, too. Take the capitalists for example.

* * *

Boston vs. Philadelphia.—Headline, "Athletics and Red Sox Split."

Maybe there were some dual-unionists on the Red Sox team. I have seen split socks, in fact I have a pair on my feet right now, but they were not split when I bought them at Woolworths. I confess this is the first time I've heard of the Red Sox Split.

* * *

In this country they sell Chop-Suey, which is unheard of in China, and Eskimoux-Pie, that is as foreign to the Alaskan Indians as is a ham sandwich to a Jewish Rabbi.

* * *

"How Nuxated Iron Helped Put Me In Such Superb Condition As To Enable Me To Whip Tom Gibbons And Retain The World's Championship. Jack Dempsey tells a secret of his training—Advises people... to use Nuxated Iron today." So runs the story in a quarter-page ad which appeared in the same issue of the newspapers that heralded the results of the fight on the Fourth of July.

* * *

Evidently the advertising space was reserved before the fight. I wonder what the same advertising space would contain had Gibbons won. Well, then, Tommy Gibbons would advise the use of the iron. The iron, in this respect, is like what Napoleon said of God—it is on the side of the victor.

* * *

In case of defeat, Dempsey could logically have claimed he got rusty by the use of the iron. He would have had a good excuse. The late Pope Benedict died within a few months after the appearance of his picture in the Nuxated Iron advertisements. What greater glory could one attain than to follow the path of his holiness and what a distinction it is to have died of the same cause.

* * *

They say that Dempsey gets a lot of money for the use of his name and picture in the Nuxated Iron ads. They say the Pope is richer than any king alive. Jack Dempsey—Nuxated Iron—The Pope. "It Pays To Advertise."

H. SIDNEY BLOOMFIELD.

Two Sides to a Question

By DAVID AREINOFF and AL SCHAAP.

“JOIN THE ARMY!”

This is the endless cry of the War Department, even in peace time. During the summer months numerous military camps are open and the government, in its Reserve Officers Training Corps and Citizens Military Training Camps, offers a four week military training vacation to young men and students of the working class. In their recruiting appeals we are told of the many features of camp life and its benefits. A recruiting poster is very attractive and catches our imagination.

What are the aims and purposes of the R. O. T. C. and the C. M. T. C.? There are two sides to this question—the point of view of the government authorities and a labor point of view.

Recently, in a speech at Northfield, Vermont, on June 14th, the Secretary of War, John W. Weeks, summed up his belief concerning military training as follows: “The Citizens Military Training Camps offer the opportunity of outdoor physical training under the best of instructions, provide rudimentary instruction in elements of military organization and tactics, insure the continuance of American superiority with the rifle and above all inculcate the ideals of citizenship that have always been held by free and independent peoples.

“We wish to give to as many young citizens as possible the knowledge that national preservation depends upon directed teamwork of the many and upon the self sacrifice of the individual for HIS country. There is no purpose of converting our young men into a race of automatons (animal actions) to be fitted into a vast military machine. On the contrary, we have developed methods of instruction that aim at the individual and that enables each young man to develop the best that is in him.

“The Congress passed the National Defense Act of 1920, setting up Military Camps, providing for the training of our young men and for the co-ordination of our industries, not only for the emergency of war, but equally for progress in peace.

“When the subject of national defense and the training of our young men come to your attention, give your best support, whether with your own actions or with your money and your vote. Turn deaf ears to those that do not preach this doctrine. When your country calls, whether in peace or in war, remember and let your answer be, ‘I will try.’”

The government authorities base their claims on physical benefits and good citizenship. Every effort is made to train the nation's youth to be soldiers. A report on Government expenditures points out the fact that 85% of every \$1 collected by the U. S. is spent for war, while only 15% is spent for agriculture, health, labor, education, and fine art. Armed force, takes precedence over humanity.

What is done at the military camps? A report which appeared in *The New York Times* along with Weeks' speech showed that the boys going off to the camps were to face hard work instead of a vacation. The headline read as follows: “TWO WEEKS OF HARD WORK ON RIFLE RANGE FACE RESERVE ASPIRANTS.”

It went on further to say, “that rifle shooting will have the place of prominence in the training schedule and will occupy most of the days for a couple of weeks. Each man will have the chance to win regular army silver badges for excellence on the range, according as he qualifies as an expert rifleman, sharpshooter or marksman. Advanced men will begin to get their training in other weapons, such as machine gun, 37-millimeter gun and trench mortar, and the program for the six weeks will

continue courses in pistol shooting, trench digging and field engineering, bayonet work and infantry drill, with parades, reviews and other ceremonies in the afternoon.”

The instructions given to the officers of the camp were of this nature (R. O. T. C. Manual): “The degree of the instructor's success is measured by his ability to instill into his men the will and the desire to use the bayonet. This spirit is infinitely more than the physical efforts displayed on our athletic fields—it is an *intense* eagerness to fight and kill hand to hand. This inherent desire to fight and kill must be *carefully watched for and encouraged* by the instructors.” To the cadet it is said, “picture an enemy at every practise, thrust and drive home your bayonet with strength, precision and satisfaction. The bayonet is essentially an offensive weapon. Rush straight at an opponent with the point threatening his *throat* and deliver the thrust wherever an opening presents itself.”

We can sum up for one side by saying, that they are preparing a huge machine putting millions of dollars into the venture so as to have ready made soldiers for the next war.

And now the other side of the question—Labor's side.

Labor has had some very bitter experiences with the military forces of this government. In its struggles for the betterment of its members it has had to face soldiers ranging from the Federal Army, National Guard, Militia to the police lined up against the workers and naturally for the bosses. This is readily seen when we look into the history of labor's struggle for higher wages and better living conditions. Jay Lovestone, author of “The Government-Strikebreaker,” tells the relations between the army and the workers. During the railroad strike in 1879 the troops were called out into action over the entire strike area. Federal and State troops crushed the strike, killing some of the workers in doing it. From that year on the workers of all the large strikes have had to face the military forces in this country. The story of strikes during the past three years shows conclusively the nature and purpose of the U. S. Government Army. Troops were used against the miners' strike two years ago and against the steel strikers when they were waging the greatest struggle in this country against the infamous and brutal 12-hour day. When victory was in sight, they were mowed down like enemies of war by the trained members of the military corps.

With these facts before us, let us return to Secretary of War Weeks' speech. Is the government simply concerned with giving the youngsters a vacation, as we are made to understand? Why does it desire to get the boys into the camps? Why does it spend such enormous sums of money to give them a military training? Is physical development the only end in view?

The fact that these forces, these cadets, are used against strikers and are used to break labor strikes, shows just why the government is anxious to reach the American youth. It is to train them to be traitors to their own people, the working class. The cadet of to-day is the militiaman, and the scab of to-morrow; he is the defender of the present decadent system. Furthermore, it is his blood that will be shed in protecting and spreading the economic system all over the earth. He is the future cannon fodder, the victim of bosses who seek only to increase their income regardless of all human sacrifices but their own. The soldier is told to obey orders or to suffer the consequences of an inhuman court-martial. As the poet Shelley said, “The Soldier is more degraded than the murderer; He is like the bloody knife which has stabbed and feels not.”

To be a member of the militia is to be an enemy of and a traitor to the working class, for the militia is the deadly weapon

in the hands of the employers to crush the efforts of the workers. A union man, who is militarized, is forever lost to the labor movement; the labor movement and the militia are like fire and water, both of them can not exist without coming into conflict. A man who works for his living has no place in any military organization because they are the weapons of those who do not work for a livelihood, but own the industries.

Jack London, author from the ranks of the working class, once described the Military Ideal of our nation to-day thus—

"Young man! The 'lowest aim in life is to be a good soldier.'

"The 'good soldier' never tries to distinguish right from wrong. He never thinks, never reasons, he only obeys. If he is ordered to fire on his fellow citizens, on his friends, on his neighbors, he obeys without hesitation. If he is ordered to fire down the crowded street when the poor are clamouring for bread, he obeys and sees the gray hairs of age stained with red,

and the life tiding gushing from the breast of woman, feeling neither remorse nor sympathy.

"If he is ordered off as one of a firing squad to execute a hero or benefactor, he fires without hesitation, should be know the bullet will pierce the noblest heart that ever beat in human breast.

"A 'god soldier' is a blind, heartless, soulless, murderous machine. He is not a man, he is not even a brute, for the brutes only kill in self-defense. All that is human in him, all that is divine in him, all that constitutes a man has been sworn away when he took the enlistment oath. His mind, his conscience, and his very soul are in keeping of his officer. No man can fall lower than a soldier—it is a depth beneath which we cannot go.

"Young man! Don't be a soldier! ! ! !

"BE A MAN! ! ! !"

Don't join the army, join your class!

The Two Wops Who Played With Magic Our Own Bedtime Story

By ELIZABETH RINTELS.

ONCE, dear children, there were two Italians, named Nicola Sacco and Bartholomeo Vanzetti. They lived in Italy, which is not a free country like ours, because it has a King. Also, it is a very wicked country, because immoral grapes grow all over, and nobody says anything.

Well, after these two Italians had grown to be boys, a little bigger than you are, they didn't want to live in a wicked country enslaved by a King any longer, so they came over here. They were going to learn, they said, how to be good, and how to be free.

As soon as they got here, they stopped being Italians. No, dear children, they did not become Americans. They became Guinies, Wops and Dagoes, because that is always what Italians become when they get to America. That means that they are considered very bad men indeed, but don't ask me why, because you wouldn't understand if I told you.

Well, one of these Italians, whom we must now call a Wop, became a fish peddler. But he was a funny man, dear children, because after he had got all the freedom that was lying around loose, he wanted some more still. He kept thinking in his queer Wop way about words like equality and idealism and love for your fellow men. Now, as everyone knows, these are magic words, which only big people, like presidents and automobile manufacturers are allowed to use. You will understand why better when you are older.

The other Guiney was even funnier. He got married and had a boy and named him Dante. Imagine naming a little boy after a poet. That was another queer Wop trick, and some more Magic that Dagoes have no business to play with.

Well, pretty soon these two funny Wops put their words together and started to make incantations. That is a big word, isn't it, dear children, and of course you don't understand it, but it means the blackest kind of black Magic, and contains things like strikes and justice for the working people and culture for the masses—which never had a good sound, and since it was used by those awful Germans, is never mentioned by really nice people.

Now I told you back further that Magic is only allowed to be

used by Public Servants, which means very rich people, who tell your Mamma and Papa how many taxes to pay. So, of course, these two Dagoes were going to get into trouble, which was only right and proper.

Pretty soon it came to the ears of some particularly particular Public Servant that somebody, who had no business to, was fooling with Magic.

"How now," said the Chief P. S., scratching his ear, for that is always what Public Servants do when they are angry. "Gadzooks," he said, and "damn it." He scratched his ear until it was almost off.

Then he struck an idea. It took a long time, because P. S.'s usually do not think very quickly.

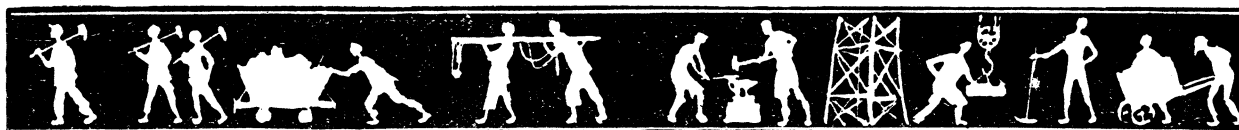
And what do you think that idea was? I shall have to tell you, because you would never guess in a thousand years—it was such a bright idea.

The P. S. said, "Goody, goody, goody. I will just take this Magic that these Wops have incantated, and I will wrap it around them, and pretty soon it will magic them away their own selves."

Then he leaned back in his swivel chair, which is a chair that goes around so that the P. S. can show a different face to the people on every side—for that is part of his Magic. A P. S. always has more than one face. And he laughed and laughed until the tears ran down his fat cheeks. Almost all P. S.'s have fat cheeks, but do not ask me why, because it is something only grown-ups understand.

So he took the Magic, dear children, and he wrapped it around and around the two Dagoes, and pretty soon, it did magic them away. And now one of them is in a great big jail, waiting to be put in a pretty chair—altho it isn't at all like your nursery chairs—and magicked much much further away. And the other one is in a dippy house—isn't that funny?

Now, the moral of this, my dear children, is to treat Magic with respect, and never, never, never have anything to do with it, because unless you are a P. S., it will jump up and bite you every time.



With the Leagues

The reports which the Leagues throughout the country are sending into the National Office are most encouraging. In but few places is there a noticeable slackening of activity; on the contrary a number of the Leagues are expanding their work. Especially is the idea of a children's or Junior organization of the Young Workers League taking hold. Junior groups are springing up swiftly. Comrades of the League and Workers Party write in asking for information. There is a need for a children's organ and there is hope that one can be in the field in a couple of months or so.

The organizing trip in Minnesota of Comrade Max Salzman is proving very fruitful. Four new branches of the League have recently been organized by Comrade Salzman—Cloquet, Nashwauk, Orr and Chisholm. To all appearances Minnesota will soon have more Leagues than any other state. What is being done in Minnesota can be done in other states, and the National Office will make all possible efforts to put more organizers in the field.

In addition to these branches, a League has been organized in Frederick, S. D. by the District Organizer of the Workers Party in Minnesota and Comrade Miller of the Finnish Federation. South Dakota is new territory for the League and an organization there indicates the tremendous possibilities for the League. Comrade Harju, the League secretary says: "The prospect for active branch are good." In the Leagues newly-organized are many, if not most, comrades who work on the farms. We are now beginning to make headway in agrarian sections. All of the secretaries have written in for a good deal of literature and promise to keep always on the job. The average ages in these branches are 16.

Comrade John Williamson is on his way back to Chicago after a trip to the coast where he reported to the Leagues and visited other cities. In Seattle, though some of the active comrades have left town, the League is working steadily. There was a thorough discussion on comrade Williamson's report on the Second Y. W. L. Convention and hearty endorsement was made of the actions taken at the Convention. In Portland, Oregon, the League is defunct, but later with the aid of the Party, an attempt will be made to reorganize the branch. Comrade Williamson aided James Cannon at Tacoma, Wash., in the formation of a Workers Party branch. After the Party branch is on its feet, the older comrades will turn towards starting a League. It was at Aberdeen, Wash., however, that Comrade Williamson found much to enthuse over. The comrades in the Aberdeen League are young and don't know it at all." But they are more than willing to learn. They are willing to pay the expenses of a comrade to come from Seattle, 120 miles, twice monthly to have the comrade take charge of the educational work. The spirit among these comrades is very fine indeed. All of these north-west coast Leagues chipped in nicely to help defray the heavy expense of bringing a comrade to the coast to report on the Convention. Further, both Williamson and Salzman have obtained many subscriptions to the Young Worker.

The Pittsburgh, Pa., League, after a more or less inactive period of a number of months is now getting again on its feet, due in a large measure to the earnest efforts of comrade Morris Pasternak, who is acting as organizer for the National Office in that territory. The comrades are responding to the Day's Pay campaign in fine shape, as are many other Leagues everywhere. The field, as stated repeatedly before, is over-ripe for organization in the Pittsburgh territory. Comrade Pasternak writes: "A call should be issued in the Young Worker for:

"Wanted—Wonderful Opportunities, Not to Make the Boss Rich, But to Get a Foothold in the Most Basic Industrial Workers in the Country.

"Come Out of Your "Marxian" Cellars and Into the Light of Revolutionary Youth Organization. On With the Work!"

The Buffalo, N. Y. League is forming a Junior section and have already selected a teacher. There are some very young comrades in this League and the problem of paying dues is a vital one. Nevertheless, Buffalo is the first League to answer the Day's Wage call of the National Organization and expects every member to contribute his or her share before the end of the campaign. The Secretary, comrade Jackola gives us some very interesting information regarding economic conditions in Buffalo during this period of "prosperity." The Laborers in Buffalo have been on strike for six weeks, 4,000 union men. Their rate was 55c and they are asking 75c per hour. The Street Car men are still locked out. They started a year ago, June 29.

The Los Angeles, Cal. League has organized a large Junior section with over 50 members. For Children's Week both mass meetings and entertainments are being planned. The Junior League is also to hold an outing under its own auspices. The older League is conducting weekly classes, lectures and forums. When comrade Schneiderman reported on the Second National Convention of the Young Workers League, the hall was packed with Party and League members. The League is wholly behind the program of the National Organization. Most of the members are students and they are now nearly all organized on the School Nuclei basis. The League is aiding in the school academic and free speech fights, for instance, it engaged in the Upton Sinclair controversy and got much publicity out of it. Naturally enough they are, since the comrades really began school agitation, now meeting with persecution from the school authorities. Nevertheless there is no letup. Los Angeles is booming something else besides the "movies."

In San Francisco, the comrades of the Y. W. L. are very young, some could even belong in a Junior Section from the aspect of years. The Party has promised to give more help in the future. Meanwhile, comrade Winup writes, they will manage to get through these difficult months and try to strengthen themselves. There are many League members hiking westward. They should make it a point to stop off for a while in Frisco and help out the League as much as possible.

The youngest League members are in the Y. W. L. of Worcester, Mass. The age average is approximately 13. But it is a very active branch. Bloomfield, a very capable comrade, has devoted a great deal of his time to the League. Education has been steady and systematic for many months. The comrades have staged plays, given numerous programs, attended W. P. conferences, etc. Their entertainments, hikes, etc. are given an educational turn. As an instance, a museum was visited; the comrades took notes. At the next League meeting, each comrade had a little composition on what he or she had seen at the museum, their opinions, etc. The discussion takes a sociological turn. The Worcester comrades issue a hand-written paper to which every comrade must contribute. At a meeting, the issue is read and discussed. An elaborate program has been laid out for the League and all indications point that it will be carried out. Concluding the report on the activities of the Worcester League, comrade Bloomfield says, that his work with the League "has convinced him that America is ripe for a powerful Young Communist League and the only way to make it grow is by roll-

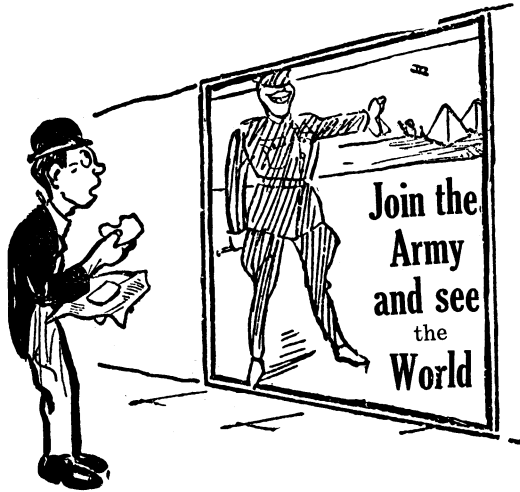
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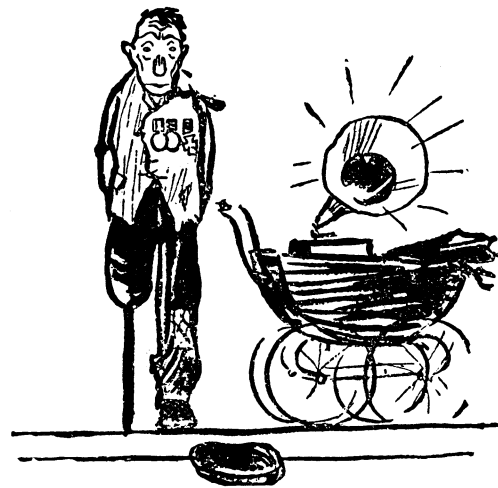
F A S C I N A T E D



I N O C U L A T E D



R E G U L A T E D



D E C O R A T E D



O B L I T E R A T E D

The White Terror in Roumania

The youthful comrades incarcerated in Roumania send the following cry of distress, which has reached us after some delay, to the proletariat of all countries.
Comrades!

Thirty eight proletarian fighters, imprisoned in the Clausenberg (Transylvania) prison, send you their revolutionary greetings today on the 1st of May. For seven days we have been hunger striking. For seven days and nights we have been bearing the manifold tortures of hunger, in order that we may at least obtain treatment worthy of human beings. Most of the comrades are young comrades. They are those comrades, who, in their capacity as leaders and members of the Transylvanian Workers Youth Union, have consistently stood for revolutionary class warfare against the Roumanian oligarchy, against Hungarian capitalism, and against the whole exploiting class. This is the "guilt" which has brought us into prison.

We shall not describe to you in detail the martyrdom which we have been suffering for two months. Every means employed by the inquisitions of the middle ages have been used against us; we have undergone every refinement of the modern and ancient arts of torture. We have already passed through two terrible hunger strikes. Now we have been forced into the third. We will rather die than continue to suffer those torments of mental and physical degradation. Here in the court martial prison we are treated like wild beasts, we have to perform the most abominable penal tasks, we have to conduct ourselves as the military subordinates of the prison staff, and we are not allowed visitors, nor to spend a single moment in the fresh air. We demand that we shall be put on trial! We have no greater wish than to publicly prove how ridiculous and unfounded are the charges brought against us!

Comrades! We are not so foolish as to expect direct help from you. But we call upon you to expose everywhere the disgraceful Roumanian class justice; we call upon you to redouble your efforts in your own fight. Be warned by our fate, for a like fate awaits the whole proletariat if it wearies in the struggle. To grow lax means to go under!

May 1, 1923.

(Signatures follow.)

CLUY CLAUSENBERG.

News received since show that the above 38 comrades were still hungerstriking on May 3, that is, on the tenth day. The intentions of the Roumanian ruling class are clear; they want to clear the best of the workers, especially those belonging to the youth movement, out of the way. Even should this hunger strike end with a partial success—it will not be long before fresh tortures are contrived for the prisoners. Thus we must join our forces; we must respond to the call, and stigmatize, in the whole proletarian press, the brutality of the Roumanian democratic liberal government towards political prisoners!

Nikolai Popesku-Doreanu, the general secretary of the Youth Movement, in the old state, is, along with some other youth comrades, kept behind the walls of the Konstanza prison, because they held it to be their human and proletarian duty to afford refuge to the fugitives Tkatchenko and Bubnovsky, who were in danger of being assassinated. All these comrades have been frightfully ill-threatened for three weeks. Comrade Gheorghe Nanadesku has lost his hearing through the blows he has received. Rosa Gilbert and Bubnovsky are being subjected to shameful treatment.

Comrades J. Zaharescu, Bercu, and Helena Filipovici, are being accused of treason against the security of the state, simply because one of them was found to be in possession of a letter from Paris, dealing with the organization of students' groups.

In Bucharest, Comrade Kummer was summoned to the police station, frightfully ill-treated there; his head was shaved; he was kicked and spat upon; the object of this was to induce him to give information on the international relations of the Youth movement.

In conclusion, we must mention one fact which aptly characterizes the Roumanian oligarchy. In Bessarabia, all Russian libraries and books are confiscated and burned. In Transylvania, the importation of Hungarian books has been altogether prohibited. All this has been done in order to carry out the "mental and cultural unification" of the country.

All these facts will serve once more to make clear to the international proletariat, what it has to expect from the ruling class if it gives way one single step.

An Open Letter to a Cynical Critic

The Present Time.

Dear Cynical "X":—

In your last letter you say it is difficult to organize the unorganized,—and yet you call the organizing of young workers "wasting time."

You have tried organizing the unorganized by threatening to break their heads if they would not join the union, you say. We are organizing the young workers thru explanation and elucidation of a firm, clear, militant working-class program.

Then again, is it better to wait until the young have been poisoned with the "work-yourself-up" ideology implanted thru capitalism's mouthpieces? Or is it better to attract the young to a young, class-conscious organization, whose influence upon the young is immeasurable?

The latter, of course. And the latter organization is none other than *The Young Workers League of America*. Its aim is to organize and educate the young workers on class lines, to explain their position in society, and to work in conjunction with the adult revolutionary party—the Workers Party—toward the hastening of the inevitable eradication of the present capitalist system of society, and to establish a sane, Soviet Workers' Republic.

Say, where did you get the idea that the Y. W. L. is a social club? I'll bet that you have not even visited one of their branches in your city. And yet you criticize. How do you get that way? Express your cynicism in your own narrow circle.

I wish you would realize that time changes conditions, tactics, ideologies, etc. You prove this rule, because you are its exception. You have remained stagnant. You are self-satisfied with what you call "I have done." You are living in your past "glory." But your past work means nothing to the present unless you continue. Why don't you join and help put the theory into practice? And not just stay with your hands in your pockets, smart-aleck fashion, and cynically grin and complain. The value of a class-conscious workers lies in what he does. Your past experience may help.

I hope you will take this reply to your letter, read it again and give it a thought. Then, I am positive, will you become a member of our militant organization: The Young Workers League of America. There is at least one branch in your city. Join and act.

Ever-friendly yours,

"SMAXICO."

A Converted Yankee Speaks

There is a country o'er the sea—
Called Roosia, understand—
Where workers run the industries
And farmers have the land

There are no landlords any more
No bosses own the works,
No sharing crops, no dividends,
They've finished with the shirks.

There are no tenant farmers now,
No plutes to do 'em harm,
The old landowners work or starve—
The farmer owns the farm.

No millionaires to profit now
From any poor man's need.
The rich are trying other lands
To live by graft and greed.

For all the Roossian Bolsheviks—
Those gritty workingmen—
Have sworn to shoot the profiteers
If they come back again.

And Mr. Lenin is the Chief
Of all the Bolshevikiki;
He knows the workers' enemies,
The frank ones, and the tricky.

Who try to take the power away
From peasant and from worker
And give it to the idle rich
And to the idle shirker.

Oh, Mr. Lenin smiles at them,
And says, "It's no use trying!
Ye'd better settle down and sell
What we are out for buying.

"The famine may have struck us hard,
But charity's a curse, sirs;
It's business that we'd do with you,
And you may do your worst, sirs."

The Plutes jes' hem and haw . . . They're count-
Er-revolutionary;
But one by one, they come and trade,
Tho shy, and quite contrary.

Oh, yes, the Roossian working-class
Has got their bosses mastered,
But we, here in America,
Are Morganized and Astored.

It's in our poor pay-envelopés
The ghastly famine stalks,
And in our lives and in our homes
The grim King Hunger walks.

If we could get a passport out—
Tho I don't s'pose we could—
Would Mr. Lenin let us in?
I sure do think he should!

To share a crust with those who work
From profit-makers free,
Is better than to fatten those
Who make our slavery.

Some day, we'll do as you have done,
But meanwhile, Mr. Lenin,
Jes' look around, and say ye'll take
A few more workingmen in!

What's this that Mr. Lenin says . . .
"In your own country stay,
And help the workers get the power
In darkest U. S. A.?"

He's right, all right; . . . We'll stay and fight
OUR plutocratic band,
Till all OUR workers run the works
And farmers run the land.

ROSE PASTOR STOKES.

My Country 'Tis of Thee

(Columbia Record; sung by *John D. Rockefeller.*)

My country 'tis of thee
Mine, Mine and all for me
Of thee I sing.
I love thy hills and dells
Oil fields and gushing wells
My Bank Roll swells and swells
Soft, soft for me.

Land of the stripe and stars
While man drives motor cars
Of thee I'll sing.
My native country thee
Land of the noble free
Pickings for old John D.
Hand it to me.

My country 'tis of thee
Sweet land of liberty
Of thee I sing.
Your neck is in my claws
I greet with keen applause
Your very special Laws
Made just for me.

I love your smiling plains
Green fields and mountain chains
Sing, brothers, sing.
Land of such verdant soil
Land where the suckers toil
I raise the price of oil
Pay, pay, John D.

Long may your system live
While men have ought to give
Hand it to me.
My country 'tis of thee
Sweet grafting plain for me
I tell the slaves they're free.
Soft, soft for me.



Celebrate International
Youth Day
September Second



Extracts From "The Work School"

By P. P. BLONSKY

(We reprint herewith extracts from "The Work School," by Comrade Blonsky, who has had years of experience in the Russian movement. This book marks a milestone in communist education, for in it are propounded theories which are original and quite different from anything else that has ever been offered or attempted. The translation is in itself an achievement, the transposition of certain phrases or words into the English language having been no easy matter. We hope that this extract will prove of such interest to our comrades, that the demand for an English edition will enable us to have one issued.—ED.)

THE workschool is a school of vocational training. But in order to understand what is meant by vocational training we must have a clear idea of the nature of work.

Work is that process whereby man subdues nature to his will and forces it to serve his needs. A human being is a creature who has certain needs and who strives to satisfy them. The forces of nature become, under the influence of the activities of human beings, useful and valuable to man. Productive work is human activity which operates upon and alters objects of nature, making them objects which are of use to mankind.

Vocational training is the training of children in activities which are planned and organized for the creation of useful objects from natural objects; articles which are useful to mankind—which have a use-value. While the child is undergoing vocational training he is developing into a being who understands nature and how to harness it to the service of human requirements. Vocational training is the training of human beings for the mastery of nature.

But to comprehend the nature of work we must also consider tools and work methods, which are as much a part of work as are the natural objects and the created objects, or the use values. In the history of labor the epochs are decided by the kind of tools which are available and the manner in which they are used.

Thus the first essential of vocational training is the development of the ability to use tools. When the child learns how to use tools it is learning how to subject nature to human requirements; it is acquiring the weapons with which man conquers nature.

Having thus defined the work process we shall now define the aim, the nature, the method, and the purport of vocational training. The aim of vocational training is the development of the ability of the child to create from natural objects and from the forces of nature objects which are useful to humanity. The essential part of vocational training is the mastery of tools and work technique by the child. The method of vocational training is the regular practice of activity, by the child. The purport of vocational training is the brining up of a strongman being who possesses the weapons with which he may conquer nature and subjugate it to the service of human needs.

Let us study a particular kind of work. The carpenter builds a house. This work, the building of a house, is beyond the strength of a single individual. Several carpenters work on a building. These carpenters may either work at the same task, together or they may divide the work into various kinds of work. Usually work is a collective activity, co-operation. But the work of a carpenter is only one of the successive stages of the work on wood, which began in the forest with the cutting of the tree and continued in the sawmill. Not only carpenters are occupied in the building of a house, but also plasterers, masons, roofers, and painters. There was a stage in human dev-

elopment, a condition of society, in which the same man cut down the tree, wheeled it, built his own house, covered it with a roof, and plastered it with clay or mud. But now various trades or crafts have come into existence. In a developed society work is co-operative, and the individual worker is only a part of a collective work, or a co-operator.

This gives us a clearer vision of the nature of the workschool or the vocational training school. In existing society isolated individual work is an anachronism. Vocational training necessarily presupposes collective work, or, in other words, a division of work. The work-school is a working community of children.

The purpose of the work-school is not the learning of abstract working processes, but actual production. The work-schools, like the working life of humanity, arise from that which embraces all human life—the needs of man for shelter, clothing, food, utensils and implements. The satisfaction of these needs requires collective work. To do collective work the children in a workschool must either work together according to a general plan, or, as is usually the case, they must divide the various stages and degrees of the collective work among each other. Thus the children organize themselves in the process of work distribution and by satisfying a need of society they form a combined and differential work-community of children from the single individuals of their group. Through the collective work of children in this way, the work-school becomes a definite part of the social system. Work is the great organizer of humanity, of children as well as of adults.

Finally, the work of each child is only a part of the general collective work, and in itself represents only a part of a collective organism. Through this collective work the child gains social training and working discipline.

This kind of work education is thus a social vocational training. The work-school is a working community, a work society, of children united on the principle of the division of labor, for a single collective aim. To the same degree that this working community is united through collective work, the work-school becomes a school of social education. To the same degree that each member of this working community becomes more efficient in the use of different kinds of tool for different kinds of work, the work-school becomes a school of vocational training and work education.

Cleveland

The Young Workers League of Cleveland held a successful meeting in Public Square tonight, attended by three to four hundred workers who listened with keen interest to Emil E. Holmes, National Secretary of the World War Veterans, who spoke on the Menace of the Ku Klux Klan to American labor.

A good sized bundle of the pamphlet, *Child of the Worker*, and many copies of the *Young Worker* were sold.

The interest of the audience in the work of the Workers Party and the Young Workers League was evidenced by the good sized collection taken at this meeting.

This meeting, together with two other open air meetings, held on Woodland Ave. at 40th and 35th Sts. respectively, open up Cleveland's open air campaign for the summer. There are many points in the city where successful open air meetings can be held, as the workers in this metal trades city are beginning to show much interest in the work undertaken by the Cleveland Local of the W. P. and Y. W. L.

H. E. KEAS.

On the Job

Kansas City, Mo.

Dear Comrades:—

The Missouri Can Company, one of the many can factories owned by John D. Rockefeller interests, requiring a predominant number of young workers, is continuously employing help in times of great industrial depression. The existence of such a situation is singular indeed, but the reason therefor is easily discernible. The so-called "labor shortage" of the can companies is similar to that of the steel factories, so ably portrayed by Comrade Lovestone in *The Worker*. Some fundamental differences, however, appear in this territory.

The Missouri Can Company, rope factory and similar enterprises have introduced industrial employment for the young workers in Kansas City. Due to the increasing establishment of factories of this type, the number of young workers employed therein, is steadily increasing here. The commercial supremacy of the past, engaging the young in department stores, offices, etc., is being superseded by the demands of a growing industrial development absorbing more and more of the young, as well as the old.

The principal difference between the commercial and industrial situations is in the opportunity afforded the young workers by commercialism to secure lighter work, better working conditions, and more pay. But industrial encroachments are day by day lessening this commercial opportunity. Consequently, as a last resort, the young workers are forced to seek employment with the Missouri Can Company and kindred factories. The young workers are gradually adapting themselves to the new environment, and, owing to the lessening commercial demand, are flocking to the factories. A new era appears to have dawned for the Young Workers in Kansas City, and great prospects are in store for the League.

Owing to equipment with technical machinery, skilled labor is unnecessary, and young workers can easily produce the same work for less pay than the adult. Of the entire number of workers employed by the Missouri Can Company, 70% are between the ages of fourteen and twenty-one years.

In the operating room, where finishing touches are made on the cans, the machines are operated by girls, who are paid on the piece-work basis. They average ten or eleven dollars per week. These machines are unprotected by safeguards to prevent crushing of hands or fingers. Particularly dreaded by the girl operators is the lid-stamping machine. As a consequence of the dangerous operation of these machines, the girls are kept in a state of constant dread and have continually to be on the highest pitch of alertness to avoid accident. Due to this high nervous tension, the health of the girls is greatly impaired and evening finds them, one and all, practically "dead on their feet." Another effect of this strain is the undue perspiration caused thereby, and increased by insufficient ventilation. This physical condition, so induced, is highly disagreeable to the girls as it necessitates the wearing of very thin aprons to insure some degree of bodily coolness. Often the aprons are so soaked with perspiration as to cling closely to the body, inspiring mockery and jeering of men workers (such as sweepers, foremen, time-keepers, and other white-collared slaves) who take delight in coarse remarks, jokes and vulgar staring while at work among the girls. This is matter of extreme embarrassment as well as discomfort to the girls. Proper ventilation would avoid this unseemly condition.

The conditions of the operating room are even favorable, when compared with the "shellac department." Here the majority of workers are girls. In this department, the tin is painted, passing through huge furnaces, where it is automatically painted and dried. The tin must be heated to a certain

temperature before any signs can be painted thereon. The heat is terrific. The combined heat and odor of strong chemicals, much intensified by the temperature, causes a gas which has a choking effect upon the girl and boy workers at work in this department. It is a purgatory in reality. Thousands of pounds of tin are lying about on this floor, which is one the fourth story of the building. The floor is cracking with the tremendous weights placed constantly upon it. It is the general opinion of the workers that this floor will sooner or later give way, and no safeguard have been placed to support it, although the bosses' attention has been called to this condition time and time again. Should such a catastrophe occur, hundreds of workers would meet indescribable death or injury in this building.

It would take a ten-volume book to adequately describe the exploitation and dangers undergone by the young workers employed in this hell-hole. There is never a week passes without the occurrence of an accident. It is a common every-day event for a body or girl to have his or her hand crushed, fingers cut off, etc.

Even if Gompers is opposed to the program of the Y. W. L. (the Dictatorship of the Proletariat) it will not take long for the Young Workers to appreciate our program and take advantage of it, for they are feeling the Class Struggle. Despite the indifferent attitude of the A. F. of L. and Mr. Gompers toward these wretched, unorganized young workers, the Local League is taking particular interest in them and time will show the result. Our answer is: "A NUCLEUS IN THE MISSOURI CAN COMPANY."

BARNEY MASS.

Chicago, Ill.

Dear Comrades:

Upon my arrival in Chicago I was under the impression that the dressmaking industry was 100 per cent organized but when I joined the Union and started to work, it did not take me very long to find out differently, and I was surely surprised to find such conditions prevailing in such a city as Chicago where the industry should be completely organized.

I started to work in a union shop, had not been there very long when I was asked for my union card by the shop chairman. This was very encouraging, being interested as I was in union activities. It is to be understood that very much depends upon the shop chairman so far as conditions in the shop are concerned. In this shop the negligence of the chairman was responsible for many of the girls receiving wages below union scale. I asked the girls what they were getting, but they refused to tell me, which seemed strange for union girls and all I could make out of it was that they were working below the scale. I took the matter up with the business agent and asked him to call a shop meeting at which every member was obliged to state the wages he was receiving and this disclosed the fact that the girls that refused to tell what they were getting were working below the scale. Immediately after the meeting this was rectified and the wages of the girls were brought up to the union standard.

Following this meeting I took steps to find out why the dressmaking industry was so poorly organized and learned that they went through a general strike in 1917 which was lost. But as they say, there is no strike lost and there was somewhat of a union left, approximately 25 per cent of the trade organized. Since then there has been no extensive organization campaign carried on and the result being the dilapidated condition of unionism in the dressmaking industry, forming the basis of the present organization drive.

The organization campaign now in full swing depends to a

very great extent upon the work of those militant elements within the union. Committees of girls have been stationed in front of every non-union shop to approach the girls as they leave work, pointing out to them the benefits of joining the union. Higher wages, better working conditions and greater security. The girls, however, are not very enthusiastic when it comes to joining the union. The great majority of them will not even stop to speak, but that does not discourage us. We keep at them until we make them talk. Some of the remarks of the girls are indeed interesting:—to be called short haired bolshevik is quite flattering. The bosses have not failed to station their protectors in the form of sluggers and detectives who are faithfully guarding the interests of the workers whose welfare the bosses are so anxious about and they do not fail to poison the minds of the girls with this trash of the dangers of unionism, betrayal of the boss and so on. But in spite of all this we are gradually getting new members.

Several other incidents of importance may be mentioned here. The arrests of several of our girls for distributing leaflets, who, as soon as they were bailed out, came back on the job continuing the same work. This shows the spirit of our militants. The insults of the police officers and their attempts to frighten us with all sorts of threats, the boss standing outside the shop morning, noon and night at the side of whom the girls do not wish to notice us, these present some of the problems in the path of the organization of dressmaking industry, in spite of which we continue undaunted and are sure success will greet our efforts.

Fraternally yours,

KITTY HARRIS.

(NOTE.—Comrade Lampi has sent us this letter and we think it deserves publication. She is not a university graduate, but we are glad to see that in spite of her mistakes in spelling, her spirit is a magnificent one. Working on the farm all day for their parents, whose farms are mortgaged to the fence, they have not very much chance to become a financial support of the League. But if we had many more such comrades and branches, like the newly organized one at Cromwell, Minn., we would have a League whose spirit and enthusiasm would be irresistible. We could not have many better slogans than the one of Comrade Tyyne Lampi: "Wherever I go I will be along with the Young Workers League.")

Dear Comrade:

Write you a few lines from our League.

Our League is slowly getting forward. We have only two (2) new members since we got up our League. (League about a month old. Ed.) We had our social and the program was just fine but there wasn't very many people, cause it was raining a little that time. There were songs, poems, story and a short speech from Emil Lehti. I'll write down all the names of our members: (Then comes list of about a dozen names.) And here are some (names given) that are below 14 years. This five don't pay anything but they are always at the meetings.

I'm sorry that I have to tell you that I had to give my secretary job away. I am going to leave Cromwell in three (3) weeks now and so I had to leave my job to Einer Lehti. Everyone of our branch elected Einer Lehti for the Secretary. Although he has the treasurer's job but still they elected him for our secretary. Do you think it is alright?

Einer Lehti our treasurer is going to send you \$1.00 for the Press; for we people can't do anything for the day's pay so we thought that if it would be alright to send one dollar from our branch. We are young workers who gets only food and clothes, our parents give us just the money to pay our monthly stamps to our League and to buy the literature. Please ex-

cuse my spelling and all my mistakes. We have been studying and reading all the pamphlets which you have send to us. I guess we are going to have a better secretary now when I'm through. Wherever I go I will be along with the Young Workers League.

We have the charter put into frame and it looks so nice. We have been having our meetings every Tuesday evening. The Sunday school children in here are going to keep the Children's week some way's.

Will be your truly comrade,

TYYNE LAMPI,
Cromwell, Minn.

To Work, Young Workers!

By MORRIS PASTERNAK

HOW often does one hear in the "intellectualized" Leagues of Chicago, New York, etc., "comrades must first get a good theoretical training before they can be of value to the movement." This is partly correct. But obtaining a theoretical foundation in the large commercial cities without actually participating in the every day struggle of the workers is like studying chemistry from excellent text books without a chemical laboratory. Those who have gone through any course from engineering to "practical electrician" will realize that their training is of very little immediate value when they buck up against practical work. To this any graduate engineer from the largest universities in the world will testify. A "theory" is not a theory unless applied. The above applies to our movement just as much as it does in the technical field. For aren't we supposed to be engineers of the Social Revolution?

The laboratory of the Communist is the Industrial and Political field. This laboratory is infinitely more complete than any of the exact science laboratories. In the "laboratory" of the working class there are innumerable modifications that must be taken into consideration in the application of our theories. And unless one is well versed with these varying peculiarities of the labor movement their theories are as useless as that of an engineer's who does not practice engineering. The immediately inexorable tasks confronting the working class are such that they will not wait until we train ourselves to write theses or propound the theory of Surplus Value in all its exactitude. What in hell does the miner care whether a person can speak very glibly as to how many angels can dance on the point of a needle. The fact that Gompers is still at the helm of the American Labor Movement is sufficient proof of this.

Comrades, Young Workers of the cities! Realize your own provincialism. Wake up to the fact that the half million miners, the half million railroad workers do not all live in New York or Chicago. You want to reach them; you cry "to the masses." Then why in the name of Lenin do you rot in the cities when the whole world is crying for your activities? That you are capable of assisting the amorphous working class into becoming a crystalized force in the struggle against the master class is undeniable. That you with your previous training will, in due time after diligent work, be in a position where your activities will bear fruit is another undeniable fact. You cry that your fight is the fight of the working class. Then get in to the mines, the railroads and into all the vital nerves of the present industrial system. Work with the masses of the workers and by actual participation in their struggles will you gain their confidence and led them to the final struggle—the overthrow of the capitalist dictatorship.

TO WORK! TO WORK!

Bookannale

With the exception of a very few works, the workingclass literature of this country has been a mass of generalizations, of theories, of unsubstantiated conclusions and of vague hypotheses. It was rare indeed to find a book which supported every statement by an undeniable fact or figure—especially when this fact or figure was taken from a hostile source. Such authors as Scott Nearing were of the well-known few and far between. And to this type of author must now be added comrade Jay Lovestone.

In his first book, *The Government-Strikebreaker* (Workers Party, cloth \$1.50) he states his thesis, the identity of the capitalists of this country and the government, and then lets the FACTS prove his contention. The mass of data which he brings to bear from exclusively official sources is overwhelming. In every single instance of a great industrial conflict, the power of the government was brought to the side of the boss class. We have known from our Marxian theory that the State is nothing but an implement of oppression in the hands of the ruling class to be used continually against the workers. But the difference between the theory and Lovestone's book is that in the latter the theory is proved from actual instances taken from the struggles of the last six years. The textile workers, the miners and railroad men, dozens of minor industrial groups have felt the iron heel of the government—at the same time that they were fighting their bosses. The government has been conclusively proved to be nothing but an executive committee and the military machine for the capitalists. The answer to the capitalist dictatorship must be a workers' government.

Despite the fact that the book is filled with facts and figures, it is a most readable volume. The style is a racy one and sustained throughout every page. One could have no better reference book on his shelves than this one and it can be obtained from the League at a very moderate price. (See back cover.)

* * *

Another mine of real information is the *American Labor Year Book, 1921—1922* (Rand School of Social Science, cloth, \$2.00.) Although it was issued at a late date, there are whole pages and chapters of it which hold much valuable material. It is a pity that the Year Book was finished by some one other than the usual compiler, Benjamin Glassberg. The controversial matter, as for example, the history of the Communist movements the world over and especially in the United States is characterized by a typical Socialist Party viciousness and twisting of the facts. The Workers Party is given but a few lying lines, while the S. P. gets page on page of uncritical eulogy. It is interesting to know how this happened. At the time of the last split in the Socialist Party a meeting of

the directors of the Rand School received an ultimatum from its lawyer, the redoubtable Mr. Hillquit, that unless all communists were dismissed from the Rand School he would refuse to defend the School from the infamous Lusk Laws of New York. The result was the withdrawal of many influential persons from the School; among them being the compilers of the Year Books and the Directors of the Research Department, Benjamin Glassberg and Alexander Trachtenberg, under whose direction both of these institutions had become justly famous. The Year Book was left in mid air and was finished under the guidance of such impartial gentlemen as David Berenberg and Algy Lee. The funniest thing about the whole affair is this: After hunting about for months in search of a new Director, the one that was chosen was a member of the Workers Party, Solon DeLeon, son of the prophet himself. Of such are the misfortunes and tribulations of the communist-baiter!

* * *

White Lighting, by Edward Herbert Lewis, (Covici-McGee, cloth \$2.50) is the story of a young man interested in Science, particularly in the transformation of the groupings of the nuclei and "suns" of the atoms of various chemical elements so that they may form other elements. The chapters pass from Hydrogen through Chlorine and Lead to Uranium, and with them pass his interests from one element to another. The reason for the chapter headings (everyone named after an element) are not always clear; maybe it is "symbolism." I don't know and care less. Symbolism that is obscure to the point of darkness doesn't interest me. I can get just as much out of a Chinese puzzle. However, there is also a nice love story in it. The arm-shot-off-in-the-War hero finally marries the lovely, hesitant heroine and they take off to their island where a chemical laboratory is to be built for his research work. He is interested in the process of making synthetic clam-chowder by action of radium rows on a molybdenum atom or something like that; and the handsome heroine is a-gon'a help him in his chosen, noble work. Yes, they live happily ever after.

* * *

The movement of the Youth Germany is much more developed and diversified than in any other country. There are the organizations of Communist Youth, Social-Democratic, "Weimarites," of no party, "Wander-vogel," romanticists, symbolists, spiritualists and others of similar persuasion. Some of them seek the New Art, some the New Life; others hunt around wildly for their Souls; and still others proclaim softly the New Individualism. In their cafes, over their bier and kartoffel they discuss solemnly how they may best "find" themselves.

Herman Hesse is one of the leaders of one of these cultural movements.

His book, *Demian*, (Boni & Liveright, cloth, \$2.00) is a description of how one Sinclair finds his Soul through his friendship with a certain mysterious and mystic individual, who may possibly represent the Force of Will or something, Max Demian. It is really told with beauty, and is pervaded with that mystic, half-lit Individualism, haloed by a pantheism, a love for Mother Eve. The struggles of Sinclair through his youth bring him to a disregard of the physical. "All that has happened to me since hurt me. But my soul is like a mysterious, locked house. And when I find the key and step right down into myself, to where the pictures painted by destiny seem reflected on the dark mirror of my soul, then I need only stoop towards the black mirror and see my own picture, which now completely resembles Him, my guide and friend."

Paulus Lambrecht, editor of a magazine, founded by Hesse, Vivos Voco, writes, "Do you feel all this when you listen to the call of your young blood, and strive to realize those dreams that to you are more real than all reality? Then, you will know, too, that help only comes through those who dare all to be what they really feel—to those who attempt no compromise, but tear the miserable balance-sheet of their elders in pieces, and venture to live, live, live! Lives of honesty, purity, reverence and cheerful courage.

"The common front of youth—of those who stand true to one another, and decline to barter with their ideas and beliefs,—whether you will adopt them or not—these are the soil on which a new generation may bring forth new life in place of the old, which is already beginning to burst and crumble away."

All of which is very well. The building of the future does belong to the Youth; and the old is beginning to crumble away. But it will not be built by those that draw themselves up by their bootstraps above the struggle, and live their "lives of honesty, purity, reverence and cheerful courage." Certainly is it not to be built if intelligence is blinded in a vague sort of a religiosity, if clear-sightedness is sacrificed to a thrilling mystic theology, which is a remnant of the Middle Ages and its Renaissance of the Arts. It may, we do not deny, give birth to a watery literature after a sort. But the building of the new society will not be the work of mystic Soul Seekers and butterfly-chasers of the elusive Ideal; nor will those that delight in the phrase "the sinking of the ego makes for the true Individualism" be found at the post when the final conflict comes against what Lambrecht calls "the misery of the proletariat, the meaningless bustle of the educated, the cold sayings of the priests, and the bloodless arrogance of the men of learning." They that shrink from the dirt and stink and wild pulse of the real struggle cannot talk of "living" without bringing a not unjustified jeer to the lips.

"A brief and simply written history of the United States," says the cover of Three Centuries of American Democracy, by William MacDonald, (Henry Holt & Co., cloth \$2.25.) It is brief and simply written; but if it had been named Three Centuries of American Autocracy, and if it had been written in the spirit of that title, it would have been a truer, more interesting book. The aggression of the American Government from the first day of its existence as a unified State is scarcely noticed. The steadily elimination, by the most

unscrupulous means, of the native Indians from ownership of the country; the hypocrisy of the revolutionists of '76; the growing imperialism of the nation; the sordid, economic and commercial reasons for our last War venture—all these are passed over with slight references or even go unmentioned.

Yet, Mr. MacDonald sometimes sees with keen eyes—and only when the scene is lit by an economic interpretation. Occasionally, his eyesight is alarmingly good, as when he writes "The revolution which made the United States an independent nation was undoubtedly in its inception the work

of a small minority, and the partisans of England who were forcibly suppressed of harshly expelled numbered some of the wealthiest and most influential men whom colonial life has produced; but the minority had laid hold of the great ideas of nationality and independence which the conservative opposition did not share, and with those ideas the minority carried the day."

This is not a description of the Bolshevik revolution in Russia, but of the American Revolution of '76. It is nothing short of treason. Mr. MacDonald ought to be deported or exiled.

Francis Kade Zinman.

Graduation Exercises in Gary's Schools.

By N. I. WITNESS.

Directly opposite the Labor Lyceum, Pittsburgh, Pa., there is a large public school called Moorhead Public School No. 2. This school house is without an auditorium. The authorities of this school received permission from the board of directors of the Labor Lyceum to hold their usual graduation exercises in the large hall of the Lyceum.

The exercises were of the usual stamp of sing-song, childish recitation and the like. Things looked very ordinary, and I was beginning to lose interest, when a boy suddenly runs to the stage with an ordinary soap box, mounts it and speaks in a very bold tone: "I am a worker. I don't like the way the capitalist class runs this government. We workers must overthrow this government." Here he was interrupted by a voice of some boy in the audience, who cried, "Who are you?" The soapboxer replied, "I have come from the other side and don't like the way this government is being run." "If you don't like this country, go back where you came from," another voice called out. I was astounded and excited at this unheard of situation. Immediately after another boy in a very proud voice arose from the audience, who said, "We believe in the flag and the Constitution, which stands for freedom, equality, liberty and justice." The soap-boxer replied, "The Constitution gives us freedom of speech . . ." again an interruption. "Yes, but you must not speak against our government." The boy on the soap box appeared to be utterly defeated and descended from the box. Soon after, a small boy, eleven years of age, arose and said, "There are 26,000,000 foreigners in this country. They must be Americanized, and if they don't want to be Americanized they ought to be deported." After this the exercises continued in the usual manner. It was then that I first realized that all this was the usual part of the program. So well was this presented that I thought the occurrence real.

One of the children was seen after school, who said, "I'm not against the working man, they teach us this in the school, and must learn it. "It was also learned that the boy who recited the part relating to the Americanizing of the foreigner is only two months in this country.

And all this in the same building where six weeks previously the capitalist press of the entire nation and particularly Pittsburgh, blazoned forth stating that the Labor Lyceum is a nest that houses the enemies of the "government." The appearances are that this hoax was intentionally played on the Labor Lyceum.

This is the sort of stuff that the capitalist class sees fit to teach children of the working class. It is high time that the workers' organizations realize that their own flesh and blood is being poisoned against them by the present capitalist school system and organize their own schools for their own children to counteract this insidious propaganda of the master class.

War Thoughts.

"Resolved, that no pictures be hung in schools which glorify the war, or which tend to perpetuate feelings of prejudice or hatred against people of other countries."

This resolution has recently been passed by the Parent-Teachers' Association, composed of delegates from 28 societies of Vancouver, B. C.

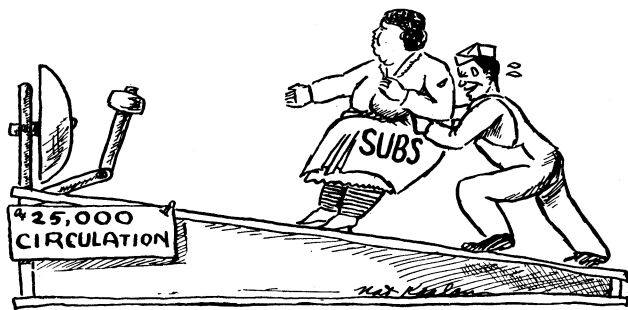
This should be picked up in every school in the U. S. as well as Canada. Refuse to idealize the war that did not bring "democracy" for the workers, but seventy thousand killed and thousands upon thousands more crippled for life and getting very little help for the government. "We refuse to idealize the war that only benefited the capitalists and brought misery and suffering to the workers," should be our challenge.

* * *

What do you consider "national defense," young American worker? Do you not think that it is the protection of your home and country from foreign invasion? That is what I was taught in school. But listen to what some of the learned men say about national defense. Prof. H. M. Herrick of Rockford College said: "We must have trained industrial reserves, prepared to take the place of the strikers, as a co-ordinate part of the national defense." In other words, he wants an army of scabs ready to take your job when you go out on strike, and he calls it "national defense." Is that protecting your home or is that destroying your home by reduced living conditions, young American worker?

—A. D. A.

"There were two 'Reigns of Terror' if we could but remember it and consider it; the one wrought murder in hot passion, the other in heartless cold blood. The one lasted mere months, the other had lasted a thousand years. The one inflicted death upon ten thousand persons, the other upon a hundred millions. But our shudders are all for the 'horrors' of the minor Terror, the momentary Terror, so to speak; whereas, what is the horror of swift death by the axe, compared with the life-long death from hunger, cold, insult, cruelty and heart-break? What is the swift death by lightning compared with death by slow fires at the stake? A city cemetery could contain the coffins filled by that brief Terror which we have all been so diligently taught to shiver at and mourn over; but all France could hardly contain the coffins filled by that older and real Terror—that unspeakably bitter and awful Terror which none of us has been taught to see in its vastness or pity as it deserves."—Mark Twain.



To the two attractive club offers of last month we have added another. This time it is a combination of comrade Jay Lovestone's "The Government-Strikebreaker" and a yearly subscription to the YOUNG WORKER. With three such offers the only thing to hold you back from subscribing would be your inability to choose among such equally appealing combinations. But it should really not be very difficult for you to make up your mind and we advise you to do it NOW for the offers may be withdrawn without a moment's notice. The hard working young man at the head of this column is still struggling to push the buxom dame up the incline to the point where she logically belongs, (for a while, at any rate), at the 25,000. There should be no difficulty in this task, hard as it may seem, if you will only get behind him with your money for subscriptions. Money carries weight and if he has weight behind him it will be comparatively easy for him to push the lady to her temporary resting place. Besides, for those that are musically inclined, it should be to their interest to get the lady to the top in order to hear the sweetest bell that ever rang since Poe sang. Come along, then; and all together! Let's Make the Bell Ring!

THE MANAGER.

(Continued from page 12.)

ing up the sleeves and putting both hands to the wheel. That is why I have joined the League and am devoting more time to the League than I am to the Party."

New York writes in briefly that it held a hike recently, 200 comrades turning out, is sending in some pictures for the Young Worker, holding many open-air meetings, preparing for International Youth Day. The June-July local organ, "The Yowl", is easily superior to the former numbers. It contains the news of the branches, newsy articles, good cartoons. Comrade Zam edits the paper ably and is assisted by Comrades Kitzes, Nat Carmen, Carrie Katz and Ida Dailes. New York is collecting steadily for the Day's Pay Fund.

The Bethlehem, Pa. League was unable to send a delegate to the National Convention. However, comrade Green, the Philadelphia delegate, went to Bethlehem and gave a report Comrades from Easton, Pa., were also present. Bethlehem plugs along steadily. In Schwab's city of steel there is no peace. Our comrades keep agitating and educating.

From the reports of the League thus far, there are possibilities or reorganizing branches upon a Shop Nuclei basis in about 15 of the cities. The National Office is proceeding carefully and slowly. In Chicago the first attempts are being made at reorganizing. The particular problems of each city are being studied and acted upon according to those conditions. Just as the League is going ahead with the reorganization upon a shop or industrial basis, likewise the Party realizes the necessity of this form of organization for the Party and is proceeding toward a change.

Cleveland is moving ahead rapidly. It is handling large quantities of literature at all kinds of meetings. The "Child of the Worker," "Youth Under Americanism," the "Young Worker" are being pushed a great deal. Comrade Keas, W. P. Organizer is a strong Y. W. L. supporter and helps out at all times.

Birthdays in August of Political Prisoners

Birthdays in August of political prisoners confined in American prisons are announced by the Workers' National Prison Comfort Club, 2923 Chestnut St., Milwaukee, Wisc., as follows:
At Leavenworth, Kans., Box No. 7—August 7, Wencil Franck, No. 14804.

August 13, Henry Hammer, No. 13572.

August 15, James Roman, No. 13113.

August 17, Librado Rivera, No. 15411.

August 17, J. A. MacDonald, No. 13133.

August 27, Mortimer Downing, No. 13566.

At Box 520, Walla Walla, Washington:

August 15, James McNery, No. 9410.

August 25, John Lamb, No. 9412.

Cora Meyer, National Secretary, invites friends and sympathizers, to send birthday cards and letters to these political prisoners. Money is advisable for gifts.

Prisoner H. D. Suhr writes: "Wish you would find a way to convey my appreciation to all who so thoughtfully remembered me. Nobody but a prisoner knows the value of friendship."

Prisoner Pedro Parales writes: "I would like to make my letter extensive, but, in this unfortunate place, there isn't anything to write of, other than express pleasure in learning of new friends."

Young Workers of America! Celebrate Int'l Youth Day September Second

Other Leagues, all cannot be spoken of at length here, are on the job. The Young Communist League of Canada is laying out its activities for the coming months. Paterson, N. J., Hanna, Wyo., Minneapolis, Minn., New York City Jamestown, N. Y., South Bend, Ind., many others are going ahead with their work. From some we have not heard lately—purely from summer inertia on the secretaries parts, for we know the League are active. For instance, the Boston League is now doing things, but only a few notes come into the office, but which tell much: "Boston will put over the Days Wage," says comrade Harry Tamer. "Enclosed please find money order for "Young Workers", writes comrade Katz. Work among the children is being carried on with comrade Marks directing. These things we gather from the notes sent in by Boston. Some of the Leagues are having their difficulties—Philadelphia, in instance. But it can only be temporary in a center so auspicious for League work. We predict that in the next Young Worker there will be some real news from Philly.

As an aside, it may interest the comrades that comrade A. Valentine claims that the first League organized on a Shop Nuclei basis was in the Thomas, W. Va. Y. W. L. over a year ago. Comrade Valentine is in Meriden, W. Va. at present and will try to organize a League there.

Sophomore-like though it may sound, we are growing larger and better every day. The League work is extending. When we get a children's paper in the field, we shall soon attain a large Junior organization and it will help make the Young Workers League grow faster. We believe that the League will live up to the possibilities. Meanwhile, send in the news, send in letters, suggestions. Let's all know what is happening in the League. Don't be stingy on the ink or lead. Let us have news from the Leagues which will prove that we are a revolutionary Young Workers League.

Are You a Reader of the Young Worker?

WM. Z. FOSTER, Secretary of the Trade Union Educational League, says:

"Let me compliment you on the current issue of the YOUNG WORKER. Your paper gets better with each month. It is already one of the best in the movement. It is a credit to your organization, and it has my best wishes."

YOU cannot afford to be without the YOUNG WORKER each and every month. If you are not already a subscriber, we have made arrangements whereby you not only may receive the magazine but also any one of the following excellent books:

The Goose-Step by Upton Sinclair is one of the most remarkable books of the year. It is a scathing expose of the capitalist control of the universities and colleges of this country, written in a

manner which makes it more interesting than a novel and interspersed with biting satire and humor. It is being sold by the thousands all over the country and you cannot speak authoritatively on the subject without having read the book.

The regular price of the GOOSE STEP is.....\$2.00
 The regular subscription to the YOUNG WORKER is.....\$1.00
OUR OFFER: The GOOSE STEP and the YOUNG WORKER.....\$2.25

Communism and Christianity

by Bishop Wm. Montgomery Brown has been one of the one of the most popular booklets of the last few years. It has been translated into

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