

# BRITAIN, ITALY NEAR WAR

## Launch Attack On Roosevelt Youth Burocracy

### YOUTH BILL DRAFTED IN NYA BATTLE

WASHINGTON — With Roosevelt completing his set-up of political appointees to run the National Youth Administration, the big youth organizations are slowly falling in line behind the American Youth Act originally proposed by the American Youth Congress.

Following charges by Al Hamilton, youth leader, that the Administration is creating a pyramiding bureaucracy from the President down to the local councils which "decide who should receive aid," the Congress protested to Aubrey Williams and Josephine Roche, NYA heads appointed by Roosevelt, that "it is obvious that the administration is more interested in itself than to help the unemployed youth."

Opponents of the National Youth Administration have further charged that the fifty million dollar allotment, chiseled down by Roosevelt from a three hundred million dollar allotment asked by Commissioner of Education Studebaker, would leave only three dollars to care for each of America's six million unemployed youths, after the amount that was being spent on

### Austrian Young Socialists



The Young Socialists of Vienna, in solidarity with whom the Young People's Socialist League is holding campfire demonstration during International Socialist Youth Week.

## Socialist Youth In Worldwide Rallies

CHICAGO — Worldwide simultaneous demonstrations against war are being held during the first week of October by Socialist and labor youth to protest the rising tide of war and to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the Berne Congress at which the international Socialist youth movement reaffirmed its solidarity while wartime patriotism was engulfing the working class movements of Europe.

The American movement, including the Young People's Socialist League, the Red Falcons, the Young Circle League, the Young Paole Zion, the Workers Sports League, and the Student League for Industrial Democracy, is holding rallies, indoor meetings, and bonfire celebrations during the week, which has been designated as International Socialist Youth Week by the International of Socialist Youth.

### BONFIRES INNOVATION

The bonfires will be an innovation in the ISYW demonstrations this year. The idea was originated by the Austrian Young Socialists, who devised the method of holding bonfire celebrations in isolated spots at a distance from the cities after being driven underground. In solidarity with their Austrian comrades, the American Yipsels are sponsoring bonfires throughout the nation of October 5.

Another innovation is an International Solidarity Pledge, occasioned by the war crisis, being taken by the Yipsels and young laborites of America around the October 5 bonfires. The pledge reads:

"We, the Young Socialists of America, heirs to the

traditions of loyalty in the struggle against war established by the International of Socialist Youth's action in Berne, Switzerland, in 1915, and by the Socialist Party of America during the World War, dedicate ourselves anew to the struggle for a warless world.

"We swear our eternal hatred of capitalism, the cause of war.

"We promise undying op-

(Continued on page 10)

## ENGLAND SENDS 71 WARSHIPS IN SURPRISE MOVE ON ITALY; PREPARE MONSTER SEA WAR

A gigantic naval struggle between England and Italy for Mediterranean control, involving every large country in the world, is considered likely to break out within the next six weeks as a result of war developments which are rapidly coming to a head.

Twenty-six British battle ships and cruisers, and forty-five destroyers were suddenly called away from the North Sea on the eve of scheduled naval maneuvers and sent into eastern Mediterranean waters as Italian ships continue to occupy Greek ports after a "forced docking due to bad weather."

### WIS. KIDS IN PICKET LINE

MILWAUKEE—Fifteen hundred children between the ages of 6 and 16 held what was said to be the first demonstration of its kind in the history of the American labor movement when they paraded and demonstrated before a strike-bound factory here.

A crowd of four thousand looked on in amazement at the surprise demonstration of determined youngsters.

The children mass-picketed for the striking workmen of the Lindemann and Halverson stove works, carrying banners and placards urging the scabs to join the strike. The factory was forced to shut down.

The demonstration was said to be due to the strength and influence of the Red Falcons of America, Socialist and Labor children's movement, in this city.

National Falcon Treasurer Weber, leader of the Milwaukee Falcons, declared that the children's parade was unusually significant.

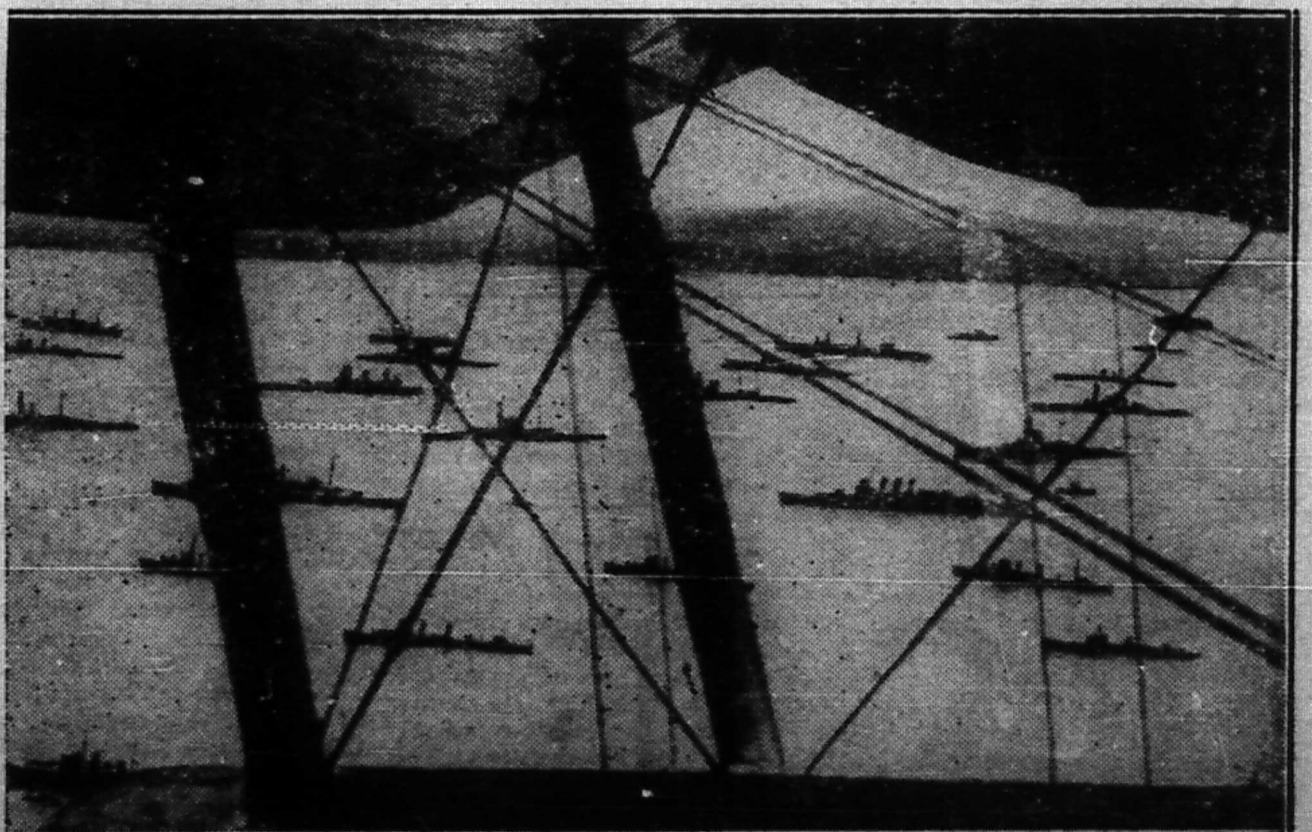
Another huge British fleet, headed by the super-cruiser Hood, arrived at Gibraltar and is ready for an attack on the west coast of Italy. Malta, English naval base near Sicily, is being fortified at a fever pace.

An army of Italian troops has been mobilized in Libya at the border of Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, while it is reported that arms are being smuggled to the Italian population of Port Said, controlling the Suez Canal.

Preparing for a second world war, the United States, England, France, Germany, Austria, Italy, Russia and Czechoslovakia held the greatest military land maneuvers since 1918, Russia setting a precedent by inviting only Italian, French, and Czech observers.

Ethiopia, center of worldwide attention, is not the only pawn in the struggle as Italy and England are fighting for political control of Greece, and Italian anti-British propaganda is flooding Egypt.

## BRITISH MASS FLEET IN MEDITERRANEAN



Josephine Roche

the old college aid program is deducted.

The Young People's Socialist League directly accused the government of trying to provide employers with a cheap or free source of labor to replace adult workers under the guise of sending young people into private industry as "apprentices," at fifteen dollars a month or less.

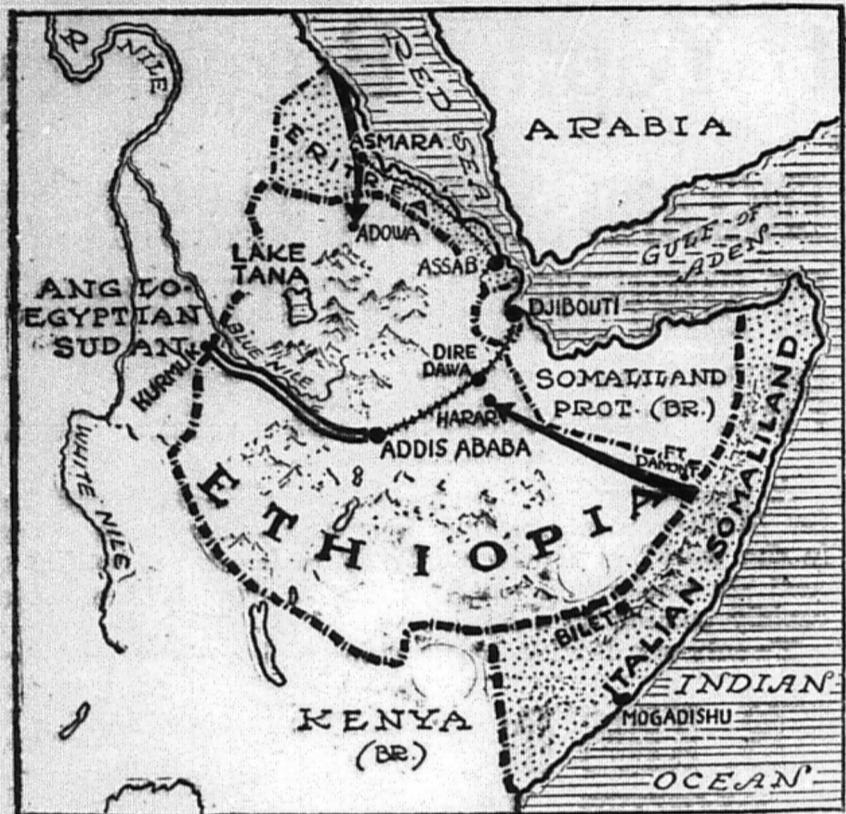
With opposition manifesting itself in all quarters, the American Youth Congress set to work on a youth act which would crystallize sentiment for "a

Continued on page 2, col. 3

# Desertions From Anti-War Ranks Begin

## LABOR LEADERS CONFUSED, SOVIET AND DENMARK RENEG INSIDE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

As the nations of the world are lining up for another world war Communist and European Social-Democratic leaders are being driven in confusion to a repetition of the farce of 1914, when the majority of workers' parties in Europe supported their governments' war machinery. In England and Canada the trade union movements,



confused now by the issue of Ethiopia just as they were confused in 1914 by the invasion of Belgium and Serbia, are helping British imperialism in the Mediterranean by calling for the application of military "sanctions" against Italy.

Lining up with Italy against England are the Communists of Russia, whose representative on the League of Nation Council, foreign minister Litvinoff, voted along with Stauning, social-democratic president of Denmark, for the dismemberment of Ethiopia.

The Soviet Union has been shipping provisions to feed the Italian army, petroleum for Italian ships, and tar for the construction of military highways. One such shipment, of 750,000 tons of wheat and 12,000 tons of oats and barley received from Russia at the port of Massana in Eritrea leaked out to the press, while Italy relies almost exclusively on the Soviet for its oil supply.

Another indication of growing alignments is the fact that Italy was one of the three nations permitted to send representatives to witness the Russian military maneuvers in Kiev. The other two were France and Czechoslovakia.

### Pacifists Muddled

Meanwhile many elements in all camps are relying on capitalist solutions to the war crisis, some pinning their hopes on the disintegrating and impotent League of Nations, in which Arthur Henderson, British labor leader, is chairman of the Disarmament Conference, and the Communist Litvinoff heads the Council.

In England the trade unionists, headed by William Kean, a professor, are opposed by an equally confused group of pacifists led by Sir Stafford Cripps and Lord Lansbury, who are calling for a new Versailles and a "redivision of the colonies," instead of fighting for colonial independence.

The pacifists, known as the Socialist League group, could not put even their moderate position across at the British Trade Union Congress, which voted in favor of military sanctions against Italy. Mussolini's

immediate answer was to call for a mass mobilization of Black-shirts.

### Revolutionaries Prepare

In sharp contrast to this confusion revolutionary elements are calling for labor boycotts and general strikes against Italy and any other imperialist power that engages its people in a war no matter for what pretense. Dockworkers in Capetown, Cape of Good Hope, and Luberits, in the former German colony of Southwest Africa, have refused to load ships with provisions for Italian troops in Eritrea and Somaliland. In Capetown the dockworkers were supported by the Capetown Central Labor Union. In Piraeus, Greece, Communist dockworkers are said to



Sir William Kean

have refused to dock a Soviet ship on its way to Eritrea with provisions for the Italian forces.

In the United States, which shipped more than a half million dollars worth of war supplies to Italy in July alone, the Socialist movement has reaffirmed its position, stated in a manifesto issued by the Young People's Socialist League, of fighting the participation of every capitalist government including its own in any war, no matter what "justifying" rationalizations for war measures are invoked by the imperialists and their unconscious allies.

## The American Youth Act

The Challenge presents to its readers a comparative table showing clearly the differences between the present National Youth Administration and the set-up proposed in the American Youth Act.

### National Youth Administration

The NYA would put youth to work for private employers as "apprentices."

The NYA provides for \$6 to \$15 a month.

The NYA is administered by a bureaucracy appointed from Washington.

The NYA can provide for less than one-twelfth of the needy youth.

The NYA has an allotment of 50 million dollars.

The NYA makes no provision for discontinuing the Roosevelt policies of anti-Negro discrimination as practiced in the CCC.

### American Youth Act

The Youth Act provides that they shall work only on socially useful, non-military community projects.

The Youth Act provides for union and prevailing wages, and not less than \$15 a week.

The Youth Act calls for local councils run by elected representatives of youth organizations, labor unions, and the school system.

The Youth Act provides tuition and expenses for all students and relief for all unemployed young workers.

The Youth Act calls for an unlimited allotment of "such sums as may be necessary," the money to be raised by taxing wealthy individuals and corporations.

The Youth Act specifically prohibits discrimination of any sort.

## ATTACK LAUNCHED ON NYA

(Continued from page 1)

sounder method of aiding the millions of unemployed youth." Effect Far-Reaching

The resulting American Youth Act will not only eliminate the objectionable features of the National Youth Administration, and render it effective in its alleged purpose, but will also incorporate some of the ideas put forward by the New York State Youth Committee for "adequate financial, educational, and recreational provisions for all young people," the far-reach-

ing effects of which even the drafters of the Act admit they cannot foresee.

An attempt will be made to have the Youth Act introduced by a progressive member of the House of Representatives at the reopening of Congress, after which it is expected that a powerful "youth lobby" of the large organizations dissatisfied with Roosevelt's treatment of the Studebaker proposals will be formed in an effort to push it through.

## Young Methodists Behind Youth Act

EVANSTON, ILL. — Joining the growing bloc of youth organizations supporting the American Youth Act and the Hillquit Workers' Rights Amendment, the National Council of Methodist Youth, representing one million organized young Methodists, closed its convention here after passing a score of resolutions which give promise of making it one of the foremost progressive forces in Young America.

Giving a "pledge of wholehearted support to the American Youth Act as the only adequate program for the relief of youth", the Council attacked the National Youth Administration for its low pay rates, inadequate allotment, and apprentice provision, pointing to the dangers of the entire Roosevelt militaristic youth program embodied in the CCC and the extension of the ROTC.

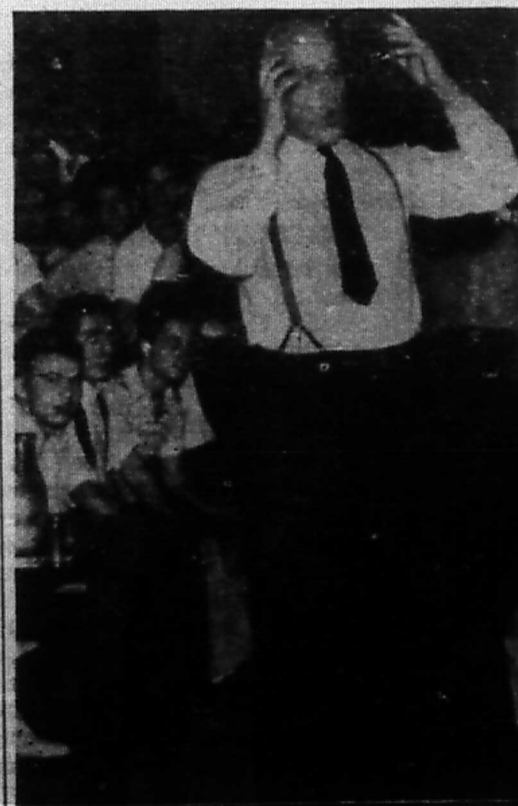
The Hillquit Workers' Rights Amendment was endorsed by the conference, which arranged for a petition drive, an editorial campaign, and an educational drive among the membership for the WRA, as the way "to make possible the passage of social legislation."

The conference also decided to unite Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, and sports groups in a campaign against the 1936 Olympics in Germany, endorsing instead the Labor Olympiad to be held by the Labor and Socialist Sports International next year in this country.

Other resolutions protested the teachers' loyalty oath bills, the suppression of civil rights in Indiana, the imprisonment

of Angelo Herndon, and racial discrimination in the churches.

## THOMAS ADDRESSES STRIKERS



Norman Thomas speaking to a meeting attended by 5,000 young dress workers, negro and white, who participated in the shipping clerks' general strike. Story on opposite page.

## Drive Against Hearst Films Is Planned

MILWAUKEE.—"Drive Hearst Metrotone films out of the theaters" was the theme of the campaign planned by the National Organization Committee of the Young People's Socialist League at its monthly meeting here, September 21 and 22.

Extensive preparations to have Hearst news-reels excluded from movie houses include plans for picketing all theaters which show the films, distributing of special leaflets, and street meetings in the vicinity of the theaters.

The campaign will open on Armistice Day, a fitting day on which to begin a campaign against America's most famous war-provoker, William Randolph Hearst. It will close December 1st.

An organizers' training school for the late winter months is being planned, to take place in Chicago. It will last for about two months according to the preliminary plans drawn up by the committee.

The committee arranged to tour Ernest Erber, national chairman of the YPSL, through Pennsylvania and New England, starting late in October. He will spend several weeks in New York enlisting Young Socialists for organization work in various sections of the country.

## Yips Steal Show

FLINT, Mich.—Flint Yipsels made use of an American Legion Convention parade to chisel in and steal the show.

Taking advantage of the fact that thousands had gathered in the downtown district to watch the Legionnaires, the Young People's Socialist League ran a parade and meeting of its own, to which it succeeded in attracting a large crowd.

Not only did the Yipsels get into the bad graces of the visiting Legion men, but they also drew the wrath of the local newspaper on their heads.

## The Challenge

Official Monthly Organ of the Young People's Socialist League of America

549 Randolph St., Chicago, Ill.

Member Federated Press

Melos Most, Managing Editor

SUBSCRIPTION RATE

25c for 12 issues

Entered as second-class matter April 26, 1934, at the post office at Chicago, Ill., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

# Shipping Clerks Win Hour, Wage Pact After Strike



Rebelarts Foto: Victor

NEW YORK — After a two-and-a-half week strike in which 15,000 shipping clerks, floor boys, push boys, and other non-manufacturing young workers in the dress trade tied up New York's enormous garment industry, the Ladies' Apparel Shipping Clerks' Union, first large youth union in the world, won an agreement cutting down maximum hours from seventy to forty-four, raising minimum weekly pay from six to fifteen dollars, and winning many other concessions.

The strike was declared to be one of the most militant the city had ever seen, strikers remaining solid until the end, and, according to David Dubinsky, head of the powerful International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, might have resulted in a complete closed shop agreement, if the young workers had not been hitherto totally unorganized and the union in its infancy.

### More Youth Strikes Ahead

Labor youth leaders pointed out the possibility of organizing other youth industries now that the shipping clerks have been unionized.



Will he strike too?

The success of the strike was enhanced by the solidarity of the older dress workers, thirty thousand of whom walked out in sympathy, and the elevator boys who refused to carry scabs on their lifts, in sharp contrast

Gomberg, and a strikers' committee with a push-boys' dress cart.

to the truckdrivers, under manager Saul Metz, who reneged on earlier promises of a sympathy strike.

### One-Third Negroes

Over thirty per cent of the strikers, who were all between 18 and 30, were young Negro porters and shipping boys.

Heading the union are Robert Aiken, president, young Negro shipping clerk, William Gomberg, secretary and prominent young Socialist, and Philip Gosseen, manager.

The union has immediate prospects of being made a local of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, completing the drive for industrial unionism in the needle trades. It is at present a federal local of the American Federation of Labor.

## SOUTH ATLANTIC A. A. U. ASKS OLYMPIC BOYCOTT

WASHINGTON—America will not be represented at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin, if the voice of the South Atlantic states carries any weight in the Amateur Athletic Union of America.

The South Atlantic Association of the AAU at its conference this month, instructed its delegates to the national convention of the Union to vote against participation in the Olympics. Not a single opposing vote was cast.

The AAU is only one of numerous organizations of every description to join in the anti-Olympic boycott drive during the month.

The New Jersey Methodist Episcopal church, holding its annual conference, urged the United States to take no part in the Olympics.

The United Rubber Workers of America, at their convention in Akron, condemned Italian and German Fascism, called for a boycott of German goods, and protested the holding of the

## BERRY ASKS LEGION HELP IN RED HUNT

ST. LOUIS MO. — Making a highly successful appeal for intensifying red-baiting activities in America, George L. Berry, representing president William Green of the American Federation of Labor, addressed the convention of the American Legion here, which set a peacetime record for anti-radical hysteria.

Berry boasted about the numerous, if unsuccessful attempts to force Federation unions to expell undesirable radicals, and called for "highly organized cooperation" between the Legion and the AF of L "to exterminate communism."

The viciousness of more than a dozen anti-radical resolutions unanimously adopted by the Legionnaires surprised even the leaders, although an "offensive against subversive activities" to divert the growing discontent among the war vets, was planned in advance.

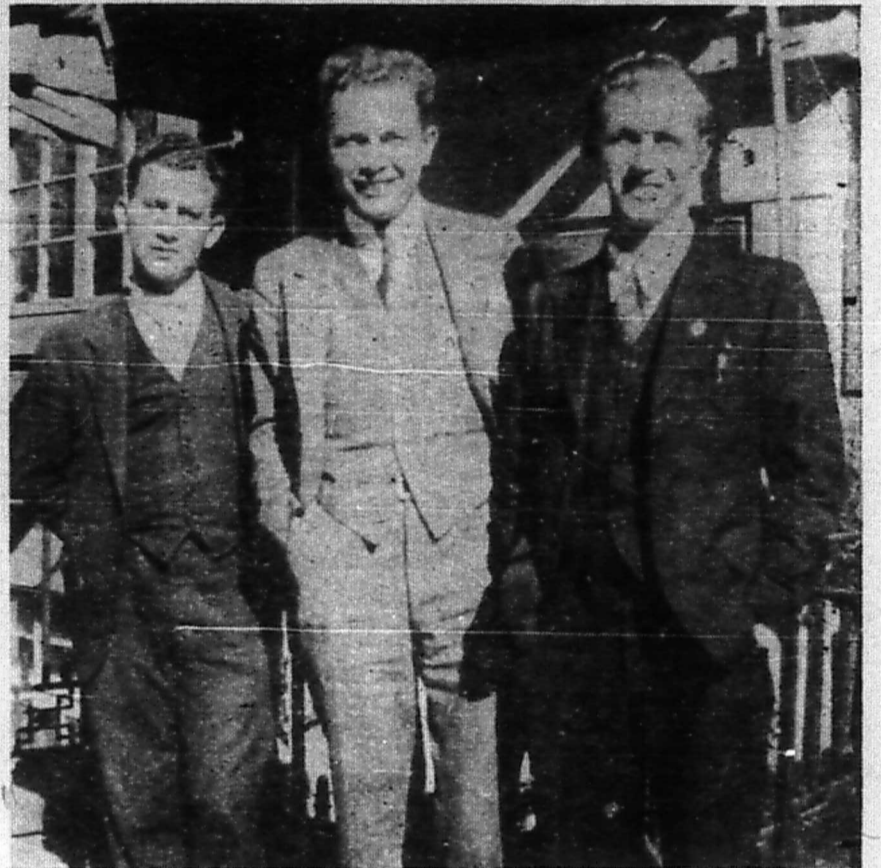
## "Foster Jingoism," U. of Wis. Is Told

MADISON, WIS.—The University of Wisconsin was told to expel all radical students and student groups and to "cooperate with any organization whose purpose is the furtherance of Americanism" on the campus, in an unprecedented report handed in by a special state "investigation" committee of five.

The committee recommended

# WAR DANGER MAY CAUSE UNION OF STUDENT GROUPS

The student movement is entering a new phase. Unity of student youth against war and fascism and for students rights is approaching as a result of the actions of the National Executive Committees of the Student League for Industrial Democracy and the National



Three fighters' for unity: Joe Lash, secretary, Monroe Sweetland, organizer, and Al Hamilton, chairman, of the Student I.D.

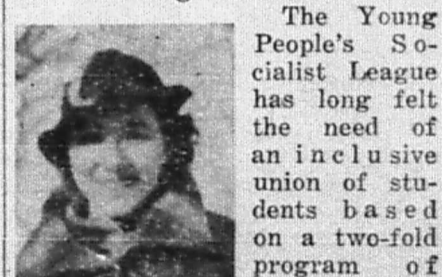
Student League, pledging to recommend to their respective conventions during Christmas that the membership of the two organizations be merged into the "Student Union of America."

The two student groups have chapters in more than 170 colleges, universities and normal schools, and in about 100 high schools. They jointly sponsored the STUDENT STRIKE AGAINST WAR last April 12th in which nearly 200,000 students participated.

### Socialist and Communist

The Student League for Industrial Democracy is the socialist student group and is affiliated to the International Socialist Student Federation. The National Student League is the "non-political" communist student organization. They have been working in close cooperation for more than a year on many campus problems, particularly the struggle against war and its immediate campus manifestations.

Students and anti-war forces throughout the nation are hailing this step towards strengthening the forces of struggle against war. The National Executive Committee of the Young People's Socialist League issued the following statement:



Ruth Oxman, SLID vice-chairman

"It is possible to form such a students union through the merging of the membership of the two most important student organizations now existing National Student League and the Student League for Industrial Democracy. Such a union would not only achieve unity on the student field, but would make more specific the function of a student organization than the present organizations have succeeded in doing.

(Continued on page 11)

constant "vigilance" against radicals, asking the University to set up a system of keeping fully informed on all "anti-American activities," after charging that the administration was harboring reds.

Consisting of die-hard reactionaries, the committee was elected by the Wisconsin state senate after repeated attempts to form jingoistic groups on the Madison campus had failed. The University was then accused by the Hearst press of being a hotbed of radicalism, and the investigating committee resulted after considerable bluster in the legislature.

An immediate effect of the ensuing anti-red rage came when mob hysteria broke out on the campus, and a gang of over one hundred and fifty attacked a regular meeting of the Student League for Industrial Democracy, later almost drowning the speaker, Student LID organizer Monroe Sweetland, and Stanley Friend, of the Young People's Socialist League.

Several students were injured in the assault, and the next day a radical girl who had just been released from a hospital that morning, was attacked by a prominent college athlete without warning in the middle of the campus, suffering several fractured ribs.

The Wisconsin SLID chapter was one of the first branches of the old Intercollegiate Socialist Society. Its first president was young Dan Hoan, who was later to become famous as the Socialist mayor of Milwaukee.

Two days after the attack Sweetland was greeted by a five-minute ovation at a protest meeting of more than 2,000 students and faculty members.

# The Rise of an American Student Union

By AL HAMILTON  
Chairman, Student L.I.D.

September 14th., 1935 will probably go down in the history of the student movement as one of historic significance. It was on this day that the National Executive Committee of the Student L. I. D. and the Executive Committee of the National Student League met in a joint session at the request of the former, to consider whether there was a possible basis for building out of the unity of the two organizations a new type of student movement.

The Student L. I. D. has long been the spearhead of the radical student movement in America. Its history under the name Intercollegiate Socialist Society during pre-war days was one of struggle in an attempt to arouse the American student body from its monastic seclusion. The ISS during the years between 1914 to 1917 was the leader on the campus in the fight against militarism and against American participation in the war. Then came the war and the ISS because of its refusal to sponsor American participation in the war, was practically destroyed.

Following the war the ISS reorganized as the League for Industrial Democracy with a student section. Largely an educational organization around a socialist philosophy it did much to awaken the student body of America to the effects of capitalism on student life. In 1932-33 a split occurred in the Student L. I. D. and a new organization was formed — the National Student League. During the initial months of its existence it had the leadership of many socialists. However, the difference in the trade union policy, between Socialist and Communist, and the efforts of the YCL to make the NSL a political instrument brought most Socialist students into the Student L. I. D.

In 1933, a communication was received at the National Convention of the Student L. I. D. from the National Student League urging amalgamation of the two student organizations. A union of the two organizations was voted down by a majority of the delegates of the convention. However, a "united front" pact was made with the N. S. L. on specific issues.

Between this time and 1934 the particularization of student problems tended to bring many non-Socialist and non-Communist students into both the N. S. L. and the Student L. I. D. This has meant a decline in the political relationships of the two student organizations. This also meant a closer cooperation between local groups of the N. S. L. and the Students L.I.D.

## Immediate Problems Emerge

At the Christmas convention in 1934 action was taken that resulted in the Student L. I. D. asking the N. S. L. to participate under the "united front" pact in the calling of the first Student Strike Against War. The joint action of the two student organizations resulted in the participation of about 25,000 students in the student strike.

Then came 1935. Expulsion of students at City College New York, at the University of California at Los Angeles, the introduction of the teacher's and student's oath bills in state legislatures along with many other incidents resulted in an increasing of joint action on the particular problems facing students. The culmination of the joint action and the ferment on the campus caused by the issues injected into student life

by the play of social and economic forces, came in the suspension of activities of 185,000 students in the Student Strike Against War April 12th, 1935.

The years that have passed since 1929 has seen the increasing development of certain types of problems demanding a student organization that can represent the collective interests of students in an immediate sense as opposed to the interests of the War Department, reactionary forces in the community and boards of trustees.

## Battle Militarism

Many have been the battles on college campus over militarism in education. The deepening industrial and financial crisis with the resultant labor struggles has been reflected on many a campus in an intensified campaign to stifle free discussion through the suppression of student forums, expulsion of members of the student councils, the closing of school papers. Attempts to foster reactionary types of education have meant an ever deepening division between the interests of students desiring to know the truth and forces of militarism, and conservatism. All of these struggles have involved many thousands of students not members of either of the two student organizations.

## Noose Tightens

Dean Klapper of City College, New York City, has stated that "...education has ever been a product of the existing social order, charged with the function of rationalizing and perpetuating the society that supports it." This has become increasingly illustrated as capitalism has tightened itself around the educational system in its efforts to survive.

The change in the social scene and the economic life of the nation has meant that the Student L. I. D. and the N. S. L. have been forced to make changes in their program. Despite this neither of the two student organizations have drawn into membership more than a minority of the students of America. The need was for the organization of those masses of students who already were fighting for their needs.

## NEC Meets Problems

With these considerations in mind the National Executive Committee of the S. L. I. D. in the June meeting realized the need for adopting a policy that would meet the problems facing us. Of course we had before us the request of the National Student League for amalgamation. But facing the problem from every angle we know that "amalgamation" was not enough.

We had before us the other alternative to become an official part of the Socialist Youth movement in the United States. We felt that the mere politicalization of the Student L. I. D. was not the solution. While many of the Student L. I. D. are members of the Y. P. S. L. and the Socialist Party we felt that the effectiveness of Socialists in the student field could best be accomplished through leadership of an organization that could represent the interests of the major part of the students of America. We felt that such an organization would make the differentiation between political organization and "union" organization of students.

## Non-Political

A labor union is not a political organization. It is an organization of workers that represents the collective interests of workers in their efforts to improve their conditions. We felt that the same type of student organization was needed in the student field. For that reason we did not feel that the mere politicalization of the student movement would be able to meet the needs of students. We felt that the much larger job facing Socialists would be the leadership of the mass student movement and through the involvement of masses in struggle.

We did know, however, that any action we took would have to be in collaboration with the National Student League and local organizations of progressive and liberal students. Initiating joint discussions with the N. S. L. we have finally developed a basis of agreement that has resulted in the proposal to be made to the National Convention of unification of the student movement and the formation of an American Student Union.

The American Student Union will represent the collective interest of students in high school and college. It will deal with the needs of students arising from retrenchment in education, the inadequacy of the National Youth Administration. It will have as a definite part of its program the elimination of militarism from education and the mobilizing of students against the whole war system around the Oxford pledge: "We pledge that under no circumstance will we support any war that the United States government may undertake."

The American Student Union will concern itself with the labor conditions under which students work, with discrimination against Jewish and Negro students that has become especially acute in the last few years. It will attempt to work out campaigns for the election of student officers pledged to support the interests—economic, social and educational — of students. It will concern itself with the increasing denial of academic freedom on the campus.

## Socialist Opportunities

From the standpoint of the Socialist student movement, real opportunities will be opened. Aggressive leadership in the American Student Union will bring strength to the Socialist youth movement, just as leadership in labor unions helps to strengthen and build the Socialist movement.

With an organization of students that is orientated around student problems, and student interests with active leadership of Socialist students, we may be able to build in America a student movement that will not follow in the foot steps of the student movements in Europe. The rising tide of war caught in its meshes most of the student federations of Europe. The job facing student leaders in America is to build the sentiment for American Student Union so that in the struggles for the needs of students, American students will play a part in the struggle against militarism. This holds, whether that militarism is in the guise of anti-Fascism or wrapped in the folds of "Americanism". The Challenge of Socialist Youth to militarism and anti-fascism in the School can best come through the American Student Union.

# Italy Prepares Its Young

BY MURRAY PLAVNER  
Chairman of the New York State Youth Committee

Once upon a time, in the days before the League of Nations "prohibited" war (thus giving Diplomats sleepless nights thinking up new names for war), people who imagined themselves to be Napoleons were kept in insane asylums. Today, people afflicted with the Napoleon mania instead of being assigned to a ward in a sanatorium, become Dictators, and terrorize not only little children but adults as well.

In Italy, Benito (Castor Oil) Mussolini who not only suffers from the Napoleonic complex, but also thinks that the Ghost of Caesar has taken possession of his dark soul, is busy mapping out plans how more efficiently to slaughter thousands of young men, in order to satisfy his thirst for Glory.

Mussolini may have failed in many respects but he has been shaping the minds of Italian youth to know but one thing: "Follow Il Duce, always". This has been accomplished by assuming complete control over their lives from birth to death. Mussolini believes he has the youth of Italy so well trained that he does not even care to conceal his ugly motives to them in contrast to his doubt face policy which he is compelled to assume when speaking to the outside world.

Many cannot understand why the youth of Italy are so naive as to swallow the idiotic speeches of Il Duce and allow him to play Caesar at the cost of their

The training of Fascism begins even before a child enters school, and school books show the molding of youth during formative years under Mussolini's leadership. In the first grade reader the first person mentioned is Mussolini. On a full page showing Il Duce holding a small boy on his arm is the first reading lesson:

"Benito Mussolini loves all the children. The children of Italy love Il Duce. Long live Il Duce! Salute Il Duce!"

Children are born and reared for but one purpose — to serve Il Duce! Not being content to depend upon the efforts of his henchman (or perhaps he knows better), Benito has been fit to win over God on his side. He has therefore initiated a campaign in this direction with the help of the little children, who are supposed to have more weight with God. Children are instructed daily to dedicate a prayer for Mussolini. One prayer given in their textbooks read as follows:

"Oh, good God, bless our Duce! Now and always defend him against evil and help him with his work always. For the peace of Italy and of the world, bless our Duce, oh, good God!"

## DUCE VS. BOGEY MAN

Mussolini tolerates no competition from King, Man or Devil. Just as he has taken over all control of the political and economic phases of Italy, he would also like to control the spiritual needs of his subjects. Mussolini is now on the way to



AT THE COST OF THEIR LIVES

lives.

The reason is best explained by investigating the methods used by Mussolini in training the youth of Italy.

## THE FIRST LESSON

Mussolini begins training the children of Italy at a very early age — two or three years is not too early to begin teaching them the glories of his reign. "Mussolini always is right" — is the first lesson taught to all children in Italy. Very tragic is the fate of the children who fail to learn that lesson!

As in everything else the parents have very little to say about their children's education. The parents of Italy have but one duty — to have more and more children. Pity the woman who is caught fooling around with Mrs. Sanger's ideas on birth control. Mussolini's success in this respect is the envy of all his fellow dictators, who are also anxious to increase the male population. Of late, Comrade Stalin threatens to offer strong competition to Mussolini in "promoting the natural resources of Russia", as the speed-up system in the birth production industry in the Soviet Union is labelled.

Victory in taking over the duties of the Bogey Man. Where everything else has failed to persuade Italian children to take their

dose of castor oil, it is enough for a parent to say, "If you don't, I'll call Mussolini..." and presto!, the child begs to be allowed to drink the castor oil without the help of Mussolini. Vivo la fascismo! Salute Il Duce!

Il Duce has ordered that all children be given the benefits of military training.

Every Italian boy from the age of eight must have a military booklet with a record of his physical condition and military education. More recently Mussolini decreed that all male Italians from the age of eight, when they first begin to receive the attention of the military authorities, until they are thirty-two must carry on their person the army-record passport.

This year half a million boys from eighteen to twenty-two will begin their "pre-military" education under a new military law, as the latest step in Italy's intensive program of preparedness for war. Rifle instruction methods are to be brought up to date and target practice made a part of each boy's "pre-military" instruction. Every town is to have its municipal rifle range and drill grounds.

And upon joining the militia, the Italian youth takes this oath: "Mussolini always is right".

# Terror In Terre Haute

By POWERS HAPGOOD

"No, we don't have Fascism throughout the United States, but a Fascist dictatorship is exactly what we have in Sullivan and Vigo counties in Indiana."

These are not the words of a radical, but the statement which Major Weimar, commanding the National Guard in the martial law area of Sullivan and Vigo counties, made to me recently in the county jail in Terre Haute.



P. Hapgood

As a military prisoner I was questioned by the Major, who

I was imprisoned there for trying to get through to help Leo Vernon, a Socialist organizer who had been jailed for making a speech on the court house steps protesting martial law.

learned that I was scheduled to speak in Sullivan. "You have no right to speak without my permission," he told me. He answered my protests as I have quoted him: above, admitting that he regarded his position that of a Fascist dictator.

### Martial Law for 3 Years

Martial law has been in effect in Sullivan County for over three years. A Republican governor declared martial law during the 1932 coal strike and sent troops in to patrol the area. At that time, however, the civil authorities continued to function, and workers had the right of assemblage.

The Democrats campaigned for the working class vote by making much of the existence of martial law in Sullivan county. But when a Democratic governor was elected, and found himself confronted with a strike situation in Vigo County, not only was martial law declared and troops sent in, but the militia took over the trial of prisoners, the police power, and the civil authority.

### Hundreds Jailed

Hundreds of people were arrested

by the militia and held in jail with no charges against them. Prisoners were held incommunicado, being denied the right to communicate with union lawyers to obtain bail. The right of Habeas corpus was refused.

The organized labor movement protested in vain against this dictatorship.

The ruling class forgot its much vaunted desire to "preserve the constitution" when they found it convenient, and union lawyers pointed in vain to "technicalities" such as the fact that martial law could only be declared by the legislature under the state constitution of Indiana. The courts still refused to take jurisdiction or to give prisoners the right of habeas corpus, jury trial, communication with the outside, and other rights "granted" by the constitution.

### Workers' Fight

At the time of writing the application for an injunction, brought by the Labor and Socialist Defense Committee, has not yet been heard by the federal court.

Whether or not the court decides for, or against the constitution, the main fight against dictatorship will have to be waged by the workers themselves.

Martial Law, even though the proclamation has not been withdrawn, has broken down in Terre Haute as a result of mass protests following the arrests of Leo Vernon and myself. When Major Weimar offered to release me the first time, he tried to get me to promise not to speak, and when I refused he sent me back to the cell.

The next day he released me without trying to exact a promise from me, but with the statement that if I tried to speak in that area I would be arrested.

### Thomas Arrives

Norman Thomas arrived in Terre Haute two days later and he, Leo Vernon, Max Shaefer, who is president of the Central Labor Union in Terre Haute, and I spoke to two thousand people from the court house steps.

There were no arrests.

In my speech I advised the

workers to resume picketing regardless of martial law. The Major stated though the press that night, that if the advice of the Socialists to resume picketing was followed, it would result in arrests.

Picketing was resumed and there were no arrests.

Martial law had collapsed because the authorities recognized mass indignation against it to be so great that it could not be enforced.

### Eternal Vigilance

Jefferson once said that eternal vigilance is the price of liberties. Because of the vigilance of those who refused to abide by martial law in Terre Haute, it has broken down. A fascist dictatorship will not spring up overnight in America. It will be heralded bit by bit through suppression of workers' rights in various communities.

Eternal vigilance as well as militancy on the part of organized workers, farmers, and unemployed is the price required today to save America from fascism.

## Cooperatives Include Millions

BY SYD DEVIN

Recently "rediscovered" by the liberal press, consumer's co-operation is undergoing a popular revival in the minds of many radicals, some of whom see in this movement, nothing less than a method to lift ourselves to Socialism through the use of our consuming power. And there does appear, as we shall point out, a strong argument based upon actual achievements, for increasing respect and recognition of Cooperation as a method of achieving the Socialist Commonwealth.

In this series of articles we propose, with this aim in mind, to survey the Consumer's Co-operative movement, examining its principles, tracing its development and history, estimating its present extent and immediate potentialities, thus to arrive at a conclusion as to its significance as a factor in the struggle for Socialism.

### I.

What first strikes one about the Cooperative movement is the almost incredible vastness and scope of this "workingman's business." We are accustomed to thinking of the trade union movement as one of mass proportions. Yet, over the world, the cooperatives can produce two of their members for every unionist. The societies affiliated with the International Cooperative Alliance alone number well over 70 millions while close to 20 millions cooperatives belong to associations outside of that Alliance. So much for numbers.

But this matter of size has another aspect. At this point in this article we can only begin to mention the vast physical assets and business volume of the Cooperatives. The Coop flag (the movement has its own international banner) flies from giant hydroelectric plants in Sweden, where 40 per cent of the retail trade is co-operative; it flies from the masts of Coop-owned ships carrying Coop-raised products from Coop plantations and farm lands in Canada, Ceylon and Madagascar.

Is it any wonder that Cooperation's advocates imagine that here at last, in actual operation, is a movement which is gradually displacing capitalism from the surface of the earth?

Another fact about Consumer's

Cooperation is the fascinating irresistibility of its growth. Since the immortalized day when, in 1844, the historic 28 weavers of Rochdale opened their first rat-infested store in Toad Lane, the movement has grown with scarcely a pause for breath. It was this remorseless expansion, at the expenses of capitalist enterprise that occasioned the excited exclamation of a Belgian cooperator, "We are eating our way to Socialism!"

Britain in the early nineteenth century was one vast ferment of suffering. The first country to which the industrial revolution had brought its mechanical blessings had its working class meted out, in concentrated doses, all the miseries and evils the factory system can give its slaves.

Out of this ferment of suffering and the ceaseless revolts against the mechanical monsters and their masters who exploited the working class which manned them, rose the foundations of the historic methods labor has evolved for its protection and emancipation... the trade union, the working class political party, and along with these two, the Consumer's Cooperative movement.

Cooperation had been tried again and again many times before Rochdale. There it was, however that the processes of experience had evolved the sect of principles which proved their soundness by the fact that they are still the basis for every successful true cooperative today. The fundamental idea in co-operation is that a group of people, recognizing a common economic necessity, voluntarily associate themselves together to satisfy the need at the lowest possible cost, without exploitation. "Cooperative Democracy" is the term its advocates sometimes use in its description.

Unlike a corporation, which organizes capital for profit first and service to the public only incidentally, the Co-operative organizes people to serve its members without profiting from others. From this contrast of purpose of the Corporation and the Co-operative we see why the "Rochdale principles" are so important:

1. Each member has one vote only regardless of

money investment. (Contrast with the corporation where the votes and control are vested in capital investment)

2. Capital is paid a fixed, minimum of interest. (Contrast with the corporation where all profits go to capital in the form of interest or dividends)
3. Surplus savings are returned to members in proportion to their purchases. (Contrast with the corporation where profits are distributed to stockholders in proportion to their holdings)

On these basic principles experience has added certain supplementary principles which insure the democratic control of the cooperatives and their success as a business enterprise.

All true cooperatives have unrestricted memberships—anyone can join regardless of occupation, race, creed, color, religion or any of the other biases which discolor other movements.

All cooperatives are voluntary—no compulsion is exercised to force people to join or to remain.

All cooperatives set aside a certain percentage of their net income for education—for the loyalty of a cooperator arises only from an understanding of the movement.

And lastly, successful cooperatives almost always insist on cash sales at the market price. This prevents dissipation of the assets of the store by over liberal extension of credit and selling at the market price lessens the antagonism of private merchants while at the same time accumulating the rebates so the member gets his saving in significant quantities when it is distributed periodically instead of as sales are made.

### Swords vs. Plows

ASUNCION, Paraguay—After three years of war munitions factories here are turning to the manufacture of agricultural implements. Over 250,000 youth lost their lives in the "petty war" between this country and Bolivia.



The Pub, a recently opened co-operative department store in Stockholm, Sweden, where 40 percent of the retail trade is co-operative.

### Extend R.O.T.C.

CHICAGO—Following the Italian plan of beginning military training at an early age, the High School Board of Chicago announced that they had extended the R.O.T.C. units to eleven more high schools, making a total of twenty-eight "in which this fine training is offered." This will increase the number of Chicago high school boys under war department tutelage to eleven thousand.

The extension was made possible by a million dollar increase in the regular war department appropriation last spring for the purpose of establishing new R.O.T.C. units in the secondary schools. The Reserve Officers'

Training Corps in the high schools waged a fifteen-year campaign for the increase which finally won out in the Roosevelt "peace" administration.

### But the SLID Isn't

CHICAGO—Charles Walgreen withdrew his niece from the University of Chicago last April, and caused a legislative investigation of radical activities at the college which resulted in expelling the Student LID and the NSL from the campus to satisfy the drug magnate's whims. So now the Walgreen family, in the person of Walgreen's daughter, is again represented at the University.

# International Socialist Youth Week Proclamation

While war was raging in Europe in 1915, the Socialist Youth International met in Berne, Switzerland, and, instead of following the social-patriotism of the great Socialist Parties, declared its opposition to imperialist war and called upon youth to demonstrate to end the war then going on.

In this way, International Socialist Youth Week was born.

This year we celebrate International Socialist Youth Week with the world at the brink of another war. The Italian invasion of Ethiopia may be under way before our International Socialist Youth Week demonstrations take place. Japan continues its penetration of China and the establishment of a base for operations against the Soviet Union. Fascism has failed to solve the problems of German capitalism and now seeks to strengthen itself through the conquest and

exploitation of the Ukraine.

France lengthens the time of military service and cuts the living standard of the French working class in preparation for a war in defense of the status quo created by the Versailles Treaty and the imperialist gains it gave France. Hearst and other jingoists in America use every instrument of propaganda to prepare the minds of the people for war.

The war now being prepared is the inevitable outcome of the imperialist policies the leading capitalist nations have played since the World War. The need for raw materials and new markets has led the capitalist nations which failed to make imperialist gains out of the last war to make new alliances and new preparations for international conflict. Those nations that profited by the Treaty of Versailles now make preparations to defend their booty. This clash of

interests between rival groups of profit-seeking imperialists is inevitable as long as capitalism exists.

Pacifists who hold out the prospect of peace through arbitration or disarmament confuse and weaken the fight of the working class against war. Only the struggle of the workers of each country against their own war-making capitalist class can delay the impending conflict. Only the conquest of power by the working masses and the destruction of capitalism can bring permanent peace to the world.

## "PROGRESSIVE WARS"

At this most critical time, when a brief period for the mobilization of the labor movement against all capitalist war yet remains, we witness the spectacle of the Communist International holding its seventh congress and adopting a position identical with that of the social-patriots of 1914. To support "democratic" governments

against fascist governments, to refuse to take part in the revolutionary struggle against those imperialist governments who happen to be allied with the Soviet Union, to speak of "progressive" wars fought by the capitalist governments in this day of imperialism is to desert even the pretense of being a revolutionary movement.

We oppose all imperialist war. We agree with the St. Louis Proclamation of the Socialist Party in 1917 that the only war that justifies the workers taking up arms is the war to free the working class from the chains of capitalism.

**CAPITALISM BREEDS WAR!  
ONLY INTERNATIONAL SOCIALISM CAN BRING PEACE!**

National Organization Committee,  
Young People's Socialist League  
of America,

September 15, 1935

## WAR AND REVOLUTION

Speech delivered by Fernand Godefrond, leader of the powerful Belgian Young Socialist Guard, before 30,000 Young Socialists of all countries last year at the International Socialist Youth meeting in Belgium.

In spite of the growing misery weighing down the working-class youth, we have succeeded today, simply by appealing to the spirit of sacrifice of our members and not by paying their fare, in bringing together some thousands of blue shirted youth.

We have here unemployed comrades who wanted to be present and have come by foot or by bicycle.

The capitalists can take notice of the fact that in spite of their blows, in spite of their prisons, in spite of their intimidations in the mines, the factories, and the barracks.

The Young Socialist Guard fights;

The Y. S. G. grows;

The Y. S. G. will conquer and crush the capitalist class.

That class, which rules the world, has been exposing its filth and strengthening youth's desire for something new and fresh.

In Germany, under a reactionary dictatorship, those who promised youth to build a new and prouder Germany are killing each other like gangsters, are rolling over in blood and filth.

The Y. S. G. wants to cleanse the world, to reclaim the capitalist swamps sources of disease and disorder.

The young people of today are suffering because of the social system.

Those who are twenty-five had to go through the war in their childhood.

Today, on leaving school, the youth start out in life unemployed.

That is why the Y. S. G. fights to kill the depression, to smash unemployment, for Socialism.

In an effort to hang on to its positions of privilege, the crazed ruling class is turning to Fascism.

To be sure it does not proclaim a reactionary dictatorship all at once—and while we are on this point let it be well understood that we are not lumping together revolutionary dictatorship, which, as in Russia, despite many faults, has accomplished a great deal for the working class, and the reactionary dictatorship of a Hitler who has suppressed the labor movement.

To be sure, our capitalists do not take away our rights all at one blow. They are cleverer than that. They remove them little by little, and today we see an avalanche of pre-Fascist measures in all democratic coun-

tries, calculated to strengthen the central authority of the capitalist governments.

That is why the Y. S. G. declares that only struggle can save us.

Comrades, be prepared. Experience proves that when we will be on the threshold of power, when the capitalists will see their rule endangered, they will be the first who will declare a holiday for their own legality, they will be the first to resort to violence. It is the capitalists who will pay mercenaries to attack our members, they who already have on their conscience the murder of Jean Jaures, of Karl Liebknecht, of Matteotti, of Kaloman Wallisch.

That is why the Y. S. G. proclaims that we must not wait too long, as has happened in some countries; that we must learn how to take the offensive; that we must, not in six months but immediately, prepare ourselves mentally and materially for all eventualities which do not depend on ourselves; that we must, from now on, warn those who are stirring up mob hysteria against us, that they may expect implacable reprisals, and that they should not forget that in Austria Dollfuss died less than six months after the February massacres.

For one hair of a single militant worker, Fascist gentlemen, you'll pay with your scalps.

To be prepared in every way means that we must apply ourselves to winning the armed forces to our side, to make the bayonets intelligent, so that the soldiers will disobey the man on the horse when he tries to use them against their fellow workers.

The present regime will not fail except under the impact of our strength, and that is why the Y. S. G. shouts to the winds: Bring the soldiers on our side.

On our side when there is a strike.

On our side when there is a war.

On our side even in the trenches, if the war gets as far as the trenches, for we will of course do everything in our power to forestall it and to strangle it.

The Y. S. G. is pledged to use its force against the war which the capitalist class will undertake to stave off its death, and today war and revolution shall be twins.

We want no more of a system which makes wage-slaves of the millions of workers in peacetime, and cannon-fodder in war.

That is why we must capture the youth, and bring them under the folds of our scarlet flags. There are still too many young people who do not wear the blue shirt, on whose chests the young Socialist button does not yet shine.

## ITALIAN YOUTH 'OVER THERE'



Some day Mussolini may find these soldiers marching against him

## FAITHFUL TO PROCLAMATION



'Gene Debs, jailed for his opposition to the war

## TEXT OF ST. LOUIS ANTI-WAR MANIFESTO

**The Socialist Party of the United States in the present grave crisis, solemnly reaffirms its allegiance to the principle of internationalism and working class solidarity the world over, and proclaims its unalterable opposition to the war just declared by the government of the United States.**

Modern wars as a rule have been caused by the commercial and financial rivalry and intrigues of the capitalist interests in the different countries. Whether they have been frankly waged as wars of aggression or have been hypocritically represented as wars of "defense," THEY HAVE ALWAYS BEEN MADE BY THE CLASSES AND FOUGHT BY THE MASSES.

Wars bring wealth and power to the ruling classes, and suffering, death and demoralization to the workers.

They breed a sinister spirit of passion, unreason, race hatred and false patriotism.

They obscure the struggles of the workers for life, liberty and social justice.

They tend to sever the vital bonds of solidarity between them and their brothers in other countries, to destroy their organizations and to curtail their

civic and political rights and liberties.

The Socialist Party of the United States is unalterably opposed to the system of exploitation and class rule which is upheld and strengthened by military power and sham national patriotism.

WE, THEREFORE, CALL UPON THE WORKERS OF ALL ALL COUNTRIES TO REFUSE SUPPORT TO THEIR GOVERNMENTS IN THEIR WARS.

The wars of the contending national groups of capitalists are not the concern of the workers.

THE ONLY STRUGGLE WHICH WOULD JUSTIFY THE WORKERS IN TAKING UP ARMS IS THE GREAT STRUGGLE OF THE WORKING CLASS OF THE WORLD TO FREE ITSELF FROM ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION AND POLITICAL OPPRESSION, AND WE PARTICULARLY WARN THE WORKERS AGAINST THE SNARE AND DELUSION OF DEFENSIVE WARFARE.

As against the false doctrine of national patriotism we uphold the ideal of international working-class solidarity.

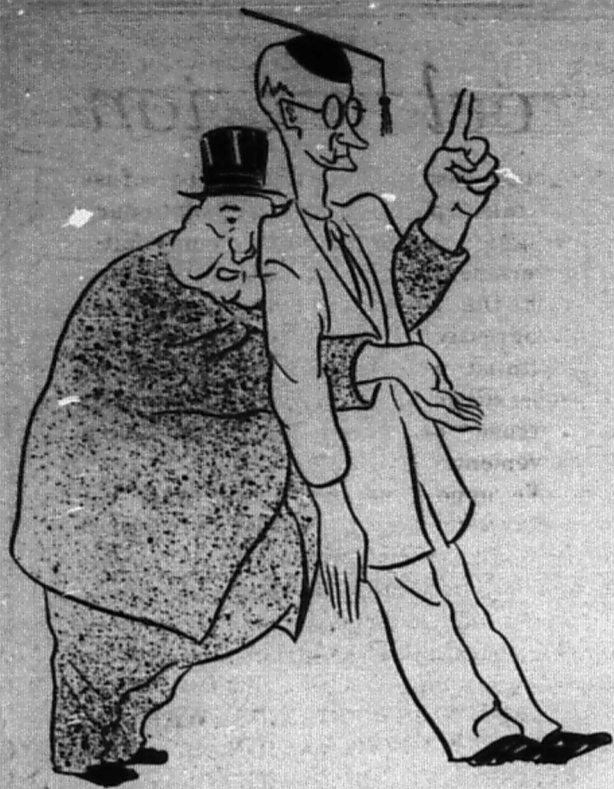
In support of capitalism, we will not willingly give a single life or a single dollar; in support of the struggle of the workers for freedom we pledge our all.

## AMERICA AND THE WAR

The forces of capitalism which have led to the war in Europe are even more hideously transparent in the war recently provoked by the

ruling class of this country. When Belgium was invaded, the government enjoined upon the people of this country the (Continued on page 10)

# THE TRUTH ABOUT THE AMERICAN SCHOOL SYSTEM



"This the best of all possible worlds"

**By Mark Starr**

Educational Director, International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union; former Extensions Director, Brookwood Labor College

Before discussing changing relations of government in education, a few words on the purpose and perspectives of education will be in place.

The main purpose of all governments in education is to use it as a stabilizing force to perpetuate their own power. Woolly minded folk who gush about education as if it were above the battle of economic and political struggles will be shocked by such a statement but they must face the facts. The modern school equivalent of the old time court minstrel who earned his bread by chanting songs about the daring deeds of his noble patron.

But now it is the system and not a single individual which is glorified. Bloodletting was the only profession celebrated in the feudal hall but now, to keep the modern capitalist system running, boys and girls must be taught to read and write and reckon in order to become sales clerks, factory hands and coal diggers. In addition to the elements of erudition which a modern worker must have to give change correctly, read directions on packages, type letters, etc., there is the general instruction that this is the best of all possible worlds; that our own tribal gang is the best and most civilized of all.

Thus the modern system secures its robots who after six years of depression are just beginning to wake up out of their puzzlement, and then only to fall for the illusions of Huey Longs and Coughlins. The lower orders have been educated to bear the yoke blindly. After all, it is much cheaper to fill the brains with perverted education than it is to fire bullets at otherwise rebellious wage slaves. Thus the Mellons, the Morgans, and the Duponts are able to give your life for their country and dividends, and always find willing victim candidates for cannon fodder.

The truth of these assertions are not gainsaid when we note that many early capitalists shortsightedly opposed the advances of public education. The old country squires, feared that booklearning would make the worker no longer "content in that station of life away back in 1670. The industrial capitalists fearing the loss of child labor, fought the early American unions when they wished to shut the factory gate and open the school door for Young America. Certainly, no modern labor movement would be possible unless trade unionists were literate.

But when, for example, one thinks of how such a workers' enemy as Wm. Randolph Hearst can take advantage of the power of the masses to read, the drawbacks of literacy under capitalism are obvious. In comparison, the labor papers are like a man with a sore throat trying to shout down a laudspeaker.

Because a tiny fraction of teachers in the schools and colleges are rebelling against their assignment of robot trainers, Mr. Hearst sees red and shouts violently against every attempt to tell the truth about social problems. He sends his snoopers around to eavesdrop at classrooms doors. He pays them to secure interviews with

college professors under false pretences to get statements that are deliberately distorted to incriminate anyone using the right of free thought and speech. The absence in the United States of a feudal caste which feared to disturb the social hierarchy by giving education to the workers, led to a more rapid spread of education than in the older countries. Thomas Jefferson advocated expenditure on education as the best insurance against the despotism of kings, nobles, and priests.

The best known and oldest universities of England were founded when England's monarch needed intellectual aid in its fight with Rome. In the United States there has always been a closer tieup with big business on the part of higher education than in other countries. Then, too, the rivalry between the states ruled out the easy introduction of the nation-wide mental goose-step such as Germany

and Japan developed so notably. For example, when certain textbooks were to be used in the South, the pages dealing with the Civil War were pasted together or an altered special edition used. The States and localities, not the Federal Government have paid the bill for education.

Now thanks to Hearst and other nationwide evil influences there is a tendency in almost every state to enforce loyalty oaths to things as they are. Local governments are making conscious attempts to prostitute the school to uphold the despotism of the industrial lords and to suppress every criticism of existing institutions. Patriotic fundamentalism is as dangerous to humanity as it is cockeyed in its approach to every phase of economic evolution. The growing tendency to intimidate teachers and regiment our youth is a disturbing change in education.

In addition to this attempt to undermine truth and mental integrity and to tamper with the quality of education, another changing relation is indicated by the serious reduction during

the depression in the quantity of education facilities available. Before the depression the United States was on the way to end illiteracy. By 1930 those over ten years who could not write in some language had been reduced to 4.3 per cent of the population.

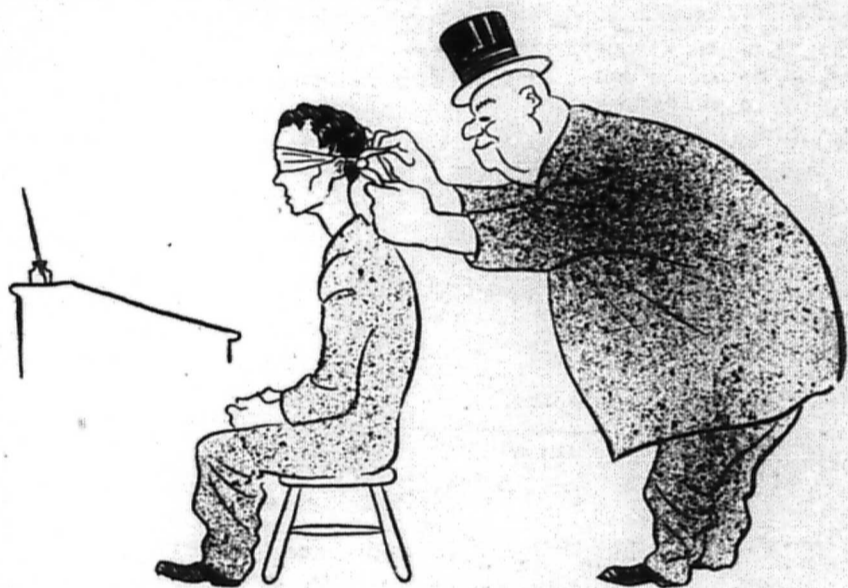
Even during the so-called "prosperity" period of 1922 to 1929 from 1 to 2 million children—perhaps, a larger number—were forced to leave school and work for a mere pittance in the industries of the country.

The public school attendance records showed that in 1930 over 25½ million children between the ages of 5 to 17 years were enrolled. Expenditure on education, excluding all sala-

per cent of all children in the rural white schools of that state.

The construction of school building had been virtually suspended. Salaries of teachers had been reduced in from 80 to 90 per cent of city school systems and in virtually all rural schools. The depression had seriously reduced the length of term in all types of schools. In thousands of districts schools were open for less than 120 days a year. Fully half the educational institutions of the nation had eliminated one or more of its activities from the curriculum.

Even in a state like Michigan, where educational standards are high, the educational budget in 1933 was 60 per cent less than



The lower orders have been educated to be blind

ries but those of the teachers and superintendents amounted in the same year to over 2¼ billion dollars. These are huge figures. The statistics, however, do not show that out of 600,000 public school teachers in the United States about 30,000 have no education themselves beyond the eighth grade of elementary school; 100,000 had less than two years education beyond that grade; 200,000 less than four years additional training; and 300,000 no more than four

Poorly paid and untrained teachers too often were handicapped by hungry pupils. Some millions suffered from malnutrition.

Then the depression took a heavy toll on education. In the face of a 24 per cent increase in high school enrollment in the past few years, the number of teachers and school administrators has actually decreased. At least 2 million children are now deprived of the education required by law.

According to Dr. Harry W. Laidler in his recently issued pamphlet "America in the Depression," from the school year 1931-2 to 1932-3, school expenditures decreased by about \$400,000,000, and in the following year 1933-4 by another \$170,000,000 to make the total a half-billion below the pre-depression year of 1928-9.

This reduction occurred despite the fact that enrollments were 675,000 greater than 1928-9. Expenditures per child enrolled decreased during these years 1928-9 to 1932-3 from \$90.22 to \$66.53.

In the early part of 1933, it was reported that 2,269 schools in 11 states had been closed, involving nearly 150,000 children. By March 30, schooling had been suspended in 50 out of 67 counties in Alabama, affecting 81

in 1929. Eighty per cent of the pupils, some 800,000 in all, attended curtailed school terms. Some 12,000 teachers in the state were unemployed.

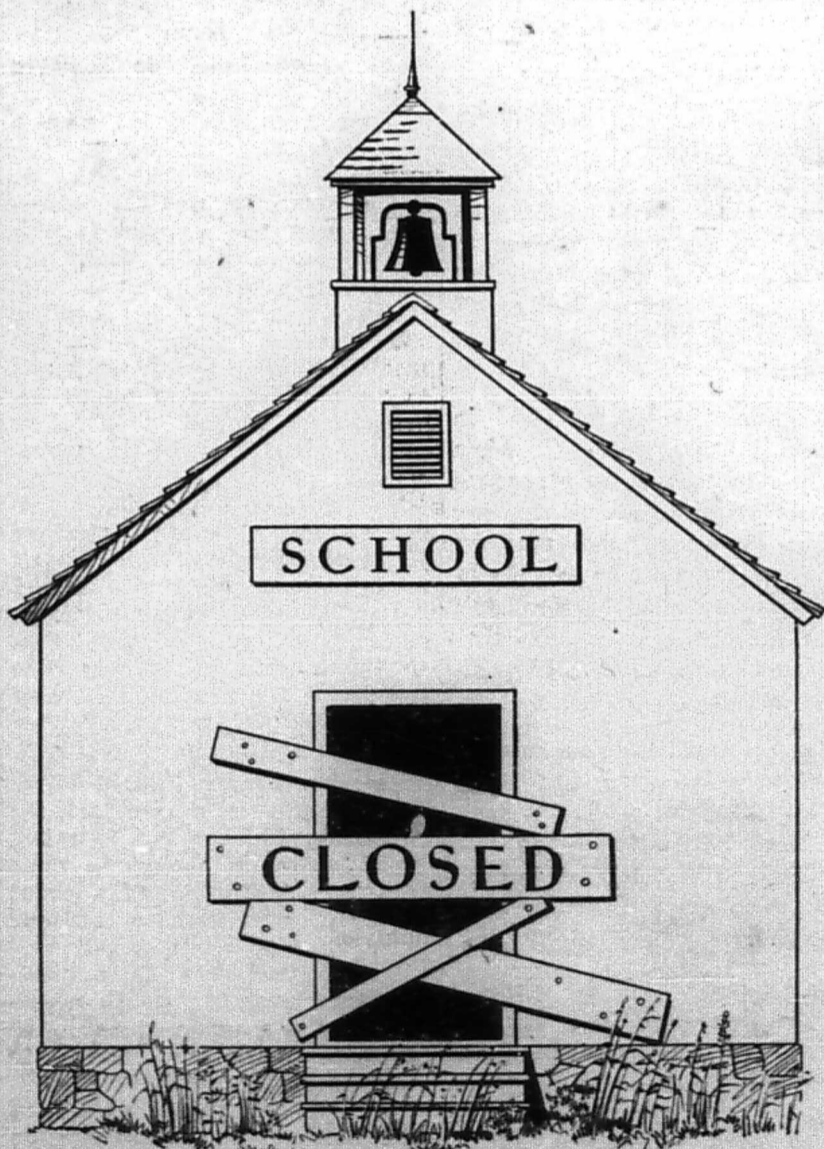
In the nation-at-large several hundred thousand licensed teachers were without employment. In 1934 and 1935 the situation was somewhat improved in many parts of the country as a result of federal aid, and of the industrial situation. In 1934, however, it was reported that one in four teachers were receiving an annual wage under \$750, and about 85,000 teachers, a wage of less than \$450.

During the time that large army and navy increases were being made, the Children's Bureau suffered a decrease in appropriations of one and a quarter million dollars, from \$12,279,719 in 1934 to \$11,042,098 in 1935, and the Office of Education a decrease of two and three quarters millions, from \$11,422,700 in 1934 to \$8,648,110 in 1935.

Nearly 87 billions for national defense were asked for in the budget message of President Roosevelt, Jan. 7, 1935. Before the war only about ¼ of a billion was spent for defense. Compare this with the two billions, mentioned above, spent on education.

Apparently, we do not know how to give good gifts unto our children for they ask for bread and we give them battleships. They need more and better education to help them build a new social order, and we are cutting down educational facilities and are trying to gag every teacher critical of the wisdom of our bosses. They need help to overcome the jam into which the world has gotten and the only reply of the school is to play up the outmoded patriotism which consists of a hatred of other countries.

(Continued on page 10)



2,269 Schools in 11 States were closed in the early part of 1933

# Do You Believe In Violent Revolution?

MAYNARD KRUEGER

Socialist Party NEC Member

Gives the Socialist Answer  
To this Burning Question

Those who believe that the interests of the majority of mankind require the abolition of one system of economic organization and the institution of another one are often asked, "Do you advocate violent overthrow or peaceful and orderly change?"

The above question is usually asked by an incontinent Fish or Hearst with the air of a noble Roman who has just cast another Christian to the lions. But it is really a trick question. There are two tricky things about it. The first is that it implies that the method of change will be determined by what people advocate instead of the course of events. The second is that the question is addressed to the wrong people. Let us reverse the question and follow it through.

We favor abolition of private ownership of the means of production and the substitution thereof of a system of social ownership and control. Under what conditions may this change be accomplished by peaceful and orderly means? The following would appear to be some of the prerequisites:

1. People shall be free to join any political party of their own choice.
2. It shall be relatively easy for new or minority parties to get on the ballot.
3. Freedom of expression shall be maintained.
4. Universal suffrage shall be maintained in fact.
5. Ballots shall be freely cast and honestly counted.
6. Elections shall be held.
7. Elected officials shall be seated.

If these prerequisites be established and honored, the channels are cleared for orderly change no matter how fundamental. The common belief that anything that is really worth doing can be done by orderly parliamentary procedure alone is based on the assumption that each of the above conditions is fully met. As a matter of historical fact, however, some of them have never been fully met, and most of them are more precarious now than they were in the palmy days of post-war "prosperity" when the defenders of the status quo were not quite so jittery as they seem to be now.

What is most significant is that the most zealous defenders of these prerequisites for orderly change have been not the Walgreens who look under their beds for communists every night before retiring, nor the Legionnaires who, in some instances, fought to "make the world safe for democracy," nor even the traditional liberals who put their faith in the above listed conditions and then forget how to defend them.

The most active defenders of these democratic principles and the most insistent exponents of their extension have been the Socialists—not that these principles might be stood in the corner and worshipped like icons, but that they might be used as a means of accomplishing fundamental change in an orderly manner.

Those who undermine this machinery of orderly change and bear the heavy responsibility for the inconvenience and other unpleasant aspects of "disorderly" change, are those who ignore, condone, defend, or aggravate the following situations with respect to the above listed conditions:

1. People are not legally free to join any political party of their own choice as long as criminal syndicalist and sedition laws are on the books. The number of these laws is increasing. People are not economically free to join any political party as long as discrimination is hiring and firing continues to exist on a political basis as it does in many industrial concerns.
2. It is not easy but almost impossible for

minority parties to secure places on the ballot legally wherever large filing fees are required, or the number of signature demanded on a filing petition is excessive. To be specific, the Illinois law which makes it necessary to get more than 60,000 signatures on a petition, misspelled exactly as on the registration lists, in order to nominate a Chicago city ticket, is a measure which vitiates the prospect of orderly change.

3. Freedom of expression includes the constitutionally guaranteed freedom of speech, press and assemblage. And the effective interpretation of our constitutional rights of freedom of speech and assemblage is quite commonly left in the hands of practical minded police lieutenants with court appeals costly and dilatory.

Beyond and purely negative aspects of these civil liberties, however, lies the more fundamental problems of achieving equality of opportunity for expression. Meeting halls, radio time, and printing plants are customarily available only to those who can pay for them. In the competition of political program they represent a handicap reserved to favor the strong.

4. Universal suffrage is not maintained in law when recipients of relief are disfranchised, as in Maine, nor in fact when a poll tax deprives the poor of the voting privilege as in many Southern states.

5. The conduct of polling places and the counting of ballots in Chicago and other cities has not been such as to engender enthusiastic confidence in their accuracy as a device by which "the will of the people" may be made to prevail. It is quite probable, however, that an organization capable of turning out a substantial vote would in most cases be able to see that its votes were counted despite the assistance of election officials.

6. The cancellation or postponement of elections is not entirely unknown. It has happened in many instances in other countries, when the outcome of the election was doubtful. It happened recently in Indiana under Paul McNutt, and it happened in Chicago when Edward Kelly was named by City Council to fill the Cermak vacancy. In the latter case the legislature was suddenly persuaded to change the rules and avoid the expense of an election by permitting the Council to elect a Mayor—perhaps partly because Kelly had held appointive office all his life and didn't yet want to break his record.

But if an election can be cancelled in time of peace, and political stability when the outcome is not doubtful, merely because of the inconvenience which the election may involve, how much better excuses may be produced for doing the same thing in time of instability when the outcome is doubtful! The processes of orderly change require that elections be held and not cancelled or postponed.

7. Whether officials pledged to fundamental change in a property system would actually be seated when elected remains to be seen. In the state of New York during the war hysteria of Lusk days, five Socialist legislators were refused their seats although their election was conceded.

To those who have instigated the present vicious attack upon the none-too-sturdy foundations of the machinery of orderly change we may well address this question:

"Are YOU willing to ALLOW an orderly change, no matter how fundamental the change may be? If you say you are, then your actions belie your words."

## CAPITALIST VIOLENCE



Ruins of Karl Marx Hall in Vienna after revolt against Fascists was crushed.

## BUILDING THE YPSL

By BEN FISCHER, National Secretary YPSL.

The Socialist Party seeks to win over the workers and their allies for the cause of the Social Revolution. One of the potential allies of the working class is the youth. The task of winning over this ally—the young men and women of America—is tackled through the Party's youth section, the Young People's Socialist League of America.

To achieve Socialism, many things are needed. Widespread acceptance of Socialist ideology is essential. A powerful economic force to back up this ideology is necessary in the form of the trade union movement. The unemployed, desperate and easily "bought" by reactionaries who offer free of charge barracks, uniforms and occasional meals, must be organized for joint action with the socialist forces.

But increasingly, it becomes apparent that the youth is an important factor. It is also a very uncertain factor in the struggle against the decaying capitalist system and the emerging socialist forces. That is why every group—the liberal, the conservative, the reactionary, the communist—is devoting attention and finances to the special forms of youth work and to the building of a youth organization aligned with their own particular political movement.

The task of the Socialist movement is to build a political youth organization which is an organic part of the Socialist Party, its youth arm and weapon. It is the task of the YPSL on the other hand to win over the youth for the Socialist movement.

Every action of a Young Socialist should bear this in mind. Every action of a circle of the YPSL should bear this in mind. Nothing we do should be done without a purpose and without a keen consciousness of our purpose.

Young Socialists do not attempt to bring the youth necessarily and exclusively into the YPSL. We do not strive to immediately become the organization of the great masses of the youth, not because we do not want to, but because we know that we can lead great masses of youth in struggles on

various issues long before they are ready to join a disciplined revolutionary organization. But the great masses of the youth can and must be won over to an acceptance of Socialist ideology and willingness to align themselves with the socialist forces in the struggle against capitalism.

The more effective our work is among the young people, the larger will our organization be. Size is not our only yardstick. Our main yardstick must be our influence over masses of young people. We must be able to mobilize the youth for active campaigns, against the ROTC, against the military nature and the miserable conditions of the CCC, for specific measures which will benefit youth such as the proposed American Youth Act. We must be able to reach them with our message so that they can be taught to know what the capitalist system is, why it does not work for the benefit of the masses of people, the history of economic and political development, the role of the working class in changing present conditions, the necessary nature of that change and the reason why the Socialist movement exists and why it will triumph. Every young man and woman in America should know Socialism and the Socialist method of thinking and acting just as well as he or she knows that George Washington was the first president of the United States and that "Abraham Lincoln was the man responsible for freeing the slaves."

How to organize young people for Socialism? That is a vital question and one which every young person who believes that Socialism is necessary must ask. To believe something and not to ask how to bring that belief into reality; to want something and not seek to get it, is criminal. By such a negative and passive attitude young people are helping along those whom they believe are their enemies. By such an attitude young people are avoiding a movement in which they can find comradeship, hope, and the satisfaction which comes with the knowledge that you are fighting for your rights and for what you believe to be right.



## The Russian Revolution Lives On

BY ERNEST ERBER  
National Chairman, YPSL

Eighteen years have passed since the delegates to the second All-Russian Soviet Congress received the report that the Kerensky government was overthrown and proclaimed that all power rested in the hands of the Soviets. The theories of Marx on the workers' revolution and the conquest of power were proven in life. No longer could there be doubt that the future belonged to the working class.

The first months of the government were precarious ones. The Bolsheviks stood alone in the government. All other groups sought the overthrow of the government on one ground or another. Even the Left Social Revolutionaries deserted them and started a campaign of individual terror against leading Bolsheviks after the Soviet government had made peace with Germany at Brest-Litovsk. Only the most self-sacrificing support given the Soviet Government by the masses of workers and peasants made possible its survival against the opposition from within from groups ranging from the White Guards to the Anarchists, and from without from armies of intervention supported by both the Allied powers and by Germany.

### LENIN AND TROTZKY

The faith Lenin and Trotzky had in the world revolution made them carry on despite seeming impossible odds. Thus Lenin wrote in his "Letter to American Workers", "We know that the European proletarian revolution also may not blaze forth during the next few weeks, no matter how rapidly it has been ripening lately. We stake our chance on the inevitability of the international revolution.... We are now as in a beleaguered fortress until other detachments of the international Socialist revolution come to our rescue... In a word, we are invincible because the world proletarian revolution is invincible."

### SINCE 1917

Great changes have taken place since the October Revolution in the life of the Soviet Union. Tremendous industrial advances have been made. No intelligent person can doubt the superiority of socialized, planned production over the chaotic production carried on under capitalism.

It is unfortunate that due to peculiar Russian conditions the political progress of the Revolution has not corresponded with the industrial advance. On the contrary it has shown a steady process of retrogression. The conflict between the interests of the workers and peasants led to the dictatorship of the Communist Party over the Soviets as a means of forcibly harmonizing these interests. This led to the creation of a government bureaucracy that dictated over the Party membership, until today power is concentrated in the hands of virtually one man, Stalin, who best represents the interests of the bureaucracy.

### DEFENSE A DUTY

Despite these retrogressive tendencies the Soviet Union yet rests on the class foundation given it by the October Revolution. And despite these tendencies, in fact more so than ever because of them, the workers of the world have the duty of defending the Soviet Union with their own forces against its enemies. More so than ever, because these tendencies weaken the Soviet Union internally and make necessary greater support from abroad. This support can only be effective when we build the forces that will make the faith of Lenin and Trotsky in the world revolution a reality.

## ON EVE OF REVOLT



YOUNG SOCIALISTS OF MADRID

# The Story of a Revolution By Melos Most

October marks the first year since the revolt in Spain, which was one of the most startling, if short-lived revolutions in working-class history. Unlike the Russian revolution, it was not a case of the workers taking power as the capitalist government machinery was collapsing in confusion. Unlike the February Revolt in Austria, it was not a last desperate stand against Fascism.

The Spanish Revolution was a careful, deliberate, courageous, and intelligently planned offensive by the working classes to take over the state and change it to a workers' democracy.

While undeniably under the leadership of the Socialist Party, large masses of toilers were wung into action against capitalism, including such generally conservative elements as the military, the peasantry, and the highly skilled workers.

Finally, the Socialist Party which led the revolt did not have any background of revolutionary activity. On the contrary it had a history of social patriotism, republicanism, and collaboration with the upper classes. Yet it swung sharply and completely to the left in the short space of less than two years.

For these reasons, the Spanish Revolution has a significance to the student of Socialism out of proportion to its comparative obscurity.

### Semi-Feudal Country

Until 1931, Spain was under the control of a semi-feudal landowning class represented by the monarchy and church. Antiquated agricultural methods, the poverty of the soil, and other factors kept this class tottering

on the verge of bankruptcy. It was supported by extreme exploitation of the peasant population, and by heavy taxation on the country's incipient industry, both of which measures in turn kept down the workers' standard of living.

This situation brought about a dictatorship.

The masses, who were living under conditions of extreme privation, began to develop an idealistic republicanism of the early eighteenth century type.

There was a large underground anarchist movement in the industrial sections, but it represented more of an atheistic revolt against the Catholic church, than a social movement.

The Socialist Party was limited to few cities, and represented a moderate type of Marxism.

### The Leftward Swing

When the depression hit Spain the dominant clerico-agricultural interests were forced to pass their increasing losses on to the masses and to industry. A widespread movement of revolt resulted, culminating in the formation of a "Revolutionary Committee" consisting of the Socialists and various capitalist liberal-republican parties, which forced the abdication of the monarchy and eventually established a "democratic republic of workers of all classes," with a constitution providing for everything up to and including socialization.

The new coalition government at first accomplished a great deal for the masses. The workers were encouraged to organize into unions, the peasants' rate of pay was raised by national decree, the power of the

church was weakened by the establishment of a secular school system, and the workers' rights of freedom of speech and assemblage observed.

The reforms stopped short, however, at the division of estates and the socialization of industries, despite repeated assurances.

When this became obvious, dissatisfaction spread like wildfire.

Now, here is an interesting spectacle. The masses in countries with old and highly developed labor movements, such as in Germany, were satisfied with social benefits they obtained under the present social system, but here in a country where they had just gained their most elementary rights, they immediately became dissatisfied even with a liberal capitalism.

Why was this? Why did the same thing happen in the French and Russian Revolutions?

My guess is that the 1931 capitalist-worker revolution, although accomplished without violence because of the collapse of clerico-feudalism, was spectacular enough to make the masses intensely aware of social change.

In France, Russia, and Spain, where the capitalists attempted to take power suddenly, the masses became conscious of their class mission.

If that is so, then we have a new and interesting argument against gradualism. From a purely moralistic ground, generally the last stand of the reformist, it may be preferable to have a spectacular transfer of power.

With the growing revolt of the lower classes, the capitalists suddenly realized that they were a century behind their times.

At the beginning of the eighteenth century, the main enemy of business was still the recalcitrant agricultural interests, and capital was still willing to grant concessions to labor in its fight against them.

Today, in the twentieth century, European capitalism recognized that its main enemy and eventual supplanter is the working-class, and is willing to unite with dying middle class, landowning, and clerical groups to bring in Fascism and suppress the labor movement.

So the Spanish capitalists made an about-face the moment they became aware of the dangerous position in which they had put themselves.

They suddenly became allies of their erstwhile enemies, the landowners and the church, and began an attack on their erstwhile allies, the workers and peasantry.

Peasants' wages were slashed, unions had to face the full fury of the revived monarchist Civil Guard, the public school system was starved out of funds, and workers' rights were abrogated by "emergency decrees." The Socialist Party, representing by now a large section of the producing classes, and as dissatisfied as any of them, was ousted from the government.

The masses found themselves faced with a ruling class combining the medieval and modern barbarisms of feudalism and fascism.

(Continued next month)

## Text of St. Louis Anti-War Manifesto

(Continued from page 6)

duty of remaining neutral thus clearly demonstrating that the "dictates of humanity," and the fate of small nations and of democratic institutions were matters that did not concern it.

**BUT WHEN OUR ENORMOUS WAR TRAFFIC WAS SERIOUSLY THREATENED, OUR GOVERNMENT CALLS UPON US TO RALLY TO THE "DEFENSE OF DEMOCRACY AND CIVILIZATION."**

Our entrance into the European war was instigated by the predatory capitalists in the United States who boast of the enormous profit of seven billion dollars from the manufacture and sale of munitions and war supplies and from the exportation of American food stuffs and other necessities.

They are also deeply interested in the continuance of war and the success of the allied arms through their huge loans to the governments of the allied powers and through other commercial ties. It is the same interests which strive for imperialistic domination of the Western Hemisphere.

The war of the United States against Germany cannot be justified even on the plea that it is

a war in defense of American rights or American "honor." Ruthless as the unrestricted submarine war policy of the German government was and is, it is not an invasion of the rights of the American people as such, but only an interference with the opportunity of certain groups of American capitalists to coin cold profits out of the blood and sufferings of our fellow men in the warring countries of Europe.

It is not a war against the militarist regime of the Central Powers. **MILITARISM CAN NEVER BE ABOLISHED BY MILITARISM.**

It is not a war to advance the cause of democracy in Europe. **DEMOCRACY CAN NEVER BE IMPOSED UPON ANY COUNTRY BY A FOREIGN POWER BY FORCE OF ARMS.**

It is cant and hypocrisy to say that the war is not directed against the German people, but against the Imperial Government of Germany. **IF WE SEND AN ARMED FORCE TO THE BATTLEFIELDS OF EUROPE, ITS CANNON WILL MOW DOWN THE MASSES OF THE GERMAN PEOPLE AND NOT THE IMPERIAL GERMAN GOVERNMENT.**

### "A CRIME AGAINST THE PEOPLE"

Our entrance into the European conflict at this time will serve only to multiply the horrors of the war, to increase the toll of death and destruction and to prolong the fiendish slaughter.

It will bring death, suffering and destitution to the people of the United States and particularly to the working class.

It will give the powers of reaction in this country the pretext for an attempt to throttle our rights and to crush our democratic institutions, and to fasten upon this country a permanent militarism.

The working class of the United States has no quarrel with the working class of Germany or of any other country. The people of the United States have no quarrel with the people of Germany or any other country. The American people did not want and do not want this war. They have not been consulted about the war and have had no part in declaring war.

They have been plunged into this war by the trickery and treachery of the ruling class of the country through

its representatives in the National Administration and National Congress, its demagogic agitators, its subsidized press, and other servile instruments of public expression

**WE BRAND THE DECLARATION OF WAR BY OUR GOVERNMENT AS A CRIME AGAINST THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES AND AGAINST THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD.**

In all modern history there has been no war more unjustifiable than the war in which we are about to engage.

No greater dishonor has ever been forced upon a people than that which the capitalist class is forcing upon this nation against its will.

In harmony with these principles, the Socialist Party emphatically rejects the proposal that in time of war the workers should suspend their struggle for better conditions. On the contrary, the acute situation created by war calls for an even more vigorous prosecution of the class struggle, and we recommend to the workers and pledge ourselves to the following course of action:

### THE SOCIALIST WAR PROGRAM

1. Continuous, active, and public opposition to the war through demonstrations, mass petitions, and all other means within our power.

2. Unyielding opposition to all proposed legislation for military or industrial conscription.

**SHOULD SUCH CONSCRIPTION BE FORCED UPON THE PEOPLE, WE PLEDGE OURSELVES TO CONTINUOUS EFFORTS FOR THE REPEAL OF SUCH LAWS AND TO THE SUPPORT OF ALL MASS MOVEMENTS IN OPPOSITION TO CONSCRIPTION.**

We pledge ourselves to oppose with all our strength any attempt to raise money for payment of war expense by taxing the necessities of life or issuing bonds which will put the burden upon future generations. We demand that the capitalist class, which is responsible for the war, pay its cost. Let those who kindled the fire furnish the fuel.

3. Vigorous resistance to all reactionary measures, such as censorship of press and mails, restriction of the rights of free speech, assemblage, and organization, or compulsory arbitra-

tion and limitation of the right to strike.

4. Consistent propaganda against military training and militaristic teaching in the public schools.

5. Extension of the campaign of education among the workers to organize them into strong, class-conscious, and closely unified political and industrial organizations, to enable them by concerted and harmonious mass action to shorten this war and to establish lasting peace.

6. Widespread educational propaganda to enlighten the masses as to the true relation between capitalism and war; **AND TO ROUSE AND ORGANIZE THEM FOR ACTION,** not only against present war evils, but for the prevention of future wars and for the destruction of the causes of war.

7. To protect the masses of the American people from the pressing danger of starvation which the war in Europe has brought upon them, and which the entry of the United States has already accentuated, we demand:

(a) The restriction of food

## Modern Soviet Farming



A very earnest young woman driving a new harvesting combine on a co-operative farm in the Soviet Union, where the whole nation is run on a co-operative basis.

## Truth About Our Schools

(Continued from page 7)

The world cries out for new untrammelled thinking and the Hearst morons would put educators in blinkers. International co-operation and understanding among the workers of the world are urgent necessities yet the school is being perverted to propaganda and false ideas of nationalist superiority and self-sufficiency are being inculcated into helpless child minds to make them pawns as their fathers were in the Imperialist game.

So far the federal funds have borne only a tiny fraction of the costs of education; they provide the ROTC facilities, special projects in colleges and match dollar for dollar in vocational training. Under the FERA funds have been provided for the employment of teachers in adult education. Uncle Sam's participation in worker's education and the consequent dangers were described by the writer in the "New Leader," April 20, 1935.

Undoubtedly more and more the cost of education will become a federal charge. Why should genius be damned because the stork alighted in some poverty stricken state instead of, say, in New York?

We must demand less money

for the destruction of life and more money to help construct it in a full and happy pattern. More teachers and less soldiers. More schools and less poison gas factories. Yet with the improvement in quality and the increasing federal support, we must avoid a deadening uniformity, a nation-wide inculcation of lies and hate which inflicts the outlook of the Stone Age upon those who have to live in the Power Age.

How can this be done? Well, we can encourage organization among the teachers themselves and assist them to become members of the American Federation of Teachers. In many countries the teachers have campaigned against tainted textbooks and the AF of T has a splendid progressive record. We can organize as parents to influence the school. We can get control over the school boards and finally the federal office of Education itself to make real education the liberating force which it can and should be.

This means that workers by hand and brain through their industrial and political organization will rescue education from its present subservience to capitalism and use it to build a new social order.

exports so long as the present shortage continues, the fixing of maximum prices, and whatever measures may be necessary to prevent the food speculators from holding back the supplies now in their hands;

(b) The socialization and democratic management of the great industries concerned with

the production, transportation, storage, and the marketing of food and other necessities of life

(c) The socialization and democratic management of all land and other natural resources now held out of use for monopolistic or speculative profit.

### 'AS LONG AS CAPITALISM EXISTS'

These measures are presented as a means of protecting the workers against the evil results of the present war.

**THE DANGER OF RECURRENT OF WAR WILL EXIST AS LONG AS THE CAPITALIST SYSTEM OF INDUSTRY REMAINS IN EXISTENCE.** The end of wars will come with

the establishment of socialized industry and industrial democracy the world over.

The Socialist Party calls upon all the workers to join in its struggle to reach this goal, and thus bring into the world a new society in which peace, fraternity, and human brotherhood will be the dominant ideals.

## Socialist Youth in Worldwide Rallies

(Continued from page 1)

position to all who would have the working class support any capitalist government in time of war.

"The hope of the masses for permanent peace can only be realized in the World Socialist Society. We pledge our energies, our abilities, our lives, to the struggle to achieve Socialism.

"We meet tonight in solidarity with our Socialist comrades oppressed under the heel of Fascism. We are proud to be comrades of the Young Socialists who died with arms in hand in the struggle against Fascism in Austria and Spain. We pledge our all to carry forward the banner of revolt reddened by their blood. We will commemorate their sacrifices in the erection of the only monument fitting to their memories, a world of peace and plenty."

Meetings of thousands of young people throughout the country are being called, to popularize the Young Socialist's message on war and the way to achieve peace.

In Milwaukee, the Young Socialists are rallying at least a thousand young people to Eagles Hall where Chuck Hyniewiecki of Milwaukee and Gloria Waldron of St. Louis, both members of the YPSL National Executive Committee, will speak. In Chicago, district meetings of more than a thousand young men and women were called to hear Maynard Kreuger, vice-president of the American Federation of Teachers; Albert Hamilton, chairman of the Social Action Council of the National Council of Methodist Youth, Albert Goldman, noted labor attorney, Aaron Levenstein, Young Socialist orator and writer, and Ben Fischer, YPSL national secretary.

Philadelphia is arranging a large meeting in the Kensington district, center of the trade unionists, to be preceded by local meetings throughout the city. Pittsburgh is following the same plan climaxing its activities with a mass meeting at which Levenstein, Winston Dancis, eastern district secretary of the YPSL; Milt Weisberg, Pennsylvania state secretary; and Tarmo Hannula, one of the leaders of the Finnish youth of New England, are speaking.

This same combination is addressing meetings at Toledo, Detroit and Flint, Michigan, en route to Chicago where the Yipsel NEC meets.

Reports from Boston, New York, Kenosha and Racine, Wisconsin, Cleveland, Los Angeles and San Francisco indicate a record-breaking celebration.

Smaller cities and towns throughout the nation have called similar meetings on a smaller scale.

### Cops Kill 2 Lads

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.—Two youths were killed and twenty-eight others suffered from serious bullet wounds when police of this "Farmer-Labor" city fired directly into a crowd of 5,000 workmen mass-picketing the Flour City Iron Works.

The workmen stubbornly held their ground for three hours in the face of tear gas and armored cars, until the police turned their guns on the demonstrators.

Eugene Caspar, 18, and Melvin Bjorklund, 21, were the two who lost their lives.

### "Co-Op Month"

SUPERIOR, WIS. — Holding the largest convention in their history on September 29, the Northwestern Co-operative Youth Leagues designated October as Cooperative Youth Month. Extensive plans were laid for the coming year.

# YIPSEL N. E. C. MEETS IN CHI IN I. S. Y. WEEK

CHICAGO—The National Executive Committee of the Young People's Socialist League is meeting here October 4th to 6th, during International Socialist Youth Week.

This is the first regular three-day session of the newly-elected committee which was chosen by the Eighth National Convention of the League in Pittsburgh in July.

The question of war, student work, an anti-Hearst campaign, the creation of an organizers school, and ways and means of maintaining a permanent 12-page Challenge will be among some of the problems with which the committee will grapple.

Members of the committee were scheduled to make many stops so that they could address International Socialist Youth Week rallies on their way to Chicago from various parts of the nation.

The Cook County YPSL, host of the NEC, arranged ISYW meetings, a social affair and bonfire celebration for the benefit of the national committee.

## THE EDITOR'S EASY CHAIR

BY MEMO

Left New York bright and happy. Thirty-five letters sent out for articles, arrangements all made with H.H. for cartoons and drawings, a swell New York Challenge Bureau set up, and a lovely little flivver that was going to get us to Chicago in a hurry.

The only thing that worked out was the New York Challenge Bureau. The lovely little flivver had a smash-up in Cleveland, which seems to have an affection for Socialist journalists (remember what happened to the Socialist Call truck there?). The car we hit wasn't even scratched, but the flivver had to be picked up in baskets and screwed together again.

We finally got to Chicago, which is more than thirty of the thirty-five articles I wanted ever did, or H. H.'s cartoons for that matter.

We got it out anyway, largely due to the good work of Bill Kaufman, editorial representative on the New York Bureau. The rest of the Bureau consists of Winny Dancis and Harry Lopatin, bureau heads, Andy Demma, business agent, Tillie Smith, Leon Zitger, and Leonard Victor.

## THE TWELVE PAGE CHALLENGE

This is the first issue of the twelve page Challenge. It was put out for a special occasion, International Socialist Youth Week, but we want it as a permanent institution. It can and will be maintained indefinitely with your help.

If the Fall Subscription Drive for 2,500 new subscribers goes through on schedule, month by month, the Challenge can stay at twelve pages.

We have had loyal support so far. The Challenge has had a suprisingly large circulation and subscription list considering its physical limitations.

But now we need more. We need to have every Challenge reader and every Yipsel buttonholing people for subs.

That is, every reader and Yipsel who likes it. If you don't, let us know why.

## Age-Limit of YPSL Raised

The age limit of the Young People's Socialist League has been raised from 25 to 30 years by vote of the membership nationally. The following resolution was adopted by the YPSL National Executive Committee.

"The age-limit of the Young People's Socialist League of America has been raised from 25 years to 30 years by action of the Eighth National Convention of the YPSL and vote of the membership in a referendum.

"The National Executive Committee of the League understands this to be the occasion for a call to action. Strikes are breaking out throughout the nation. Union organization drives among heretofore unorganized elements are gaining momentum. Young people are streaming into the unions.

"It is these young trade unionists who must be one of the main foundations of our organization.

"Seek out a fruitful field for trade union activity and then—Get To Work! Bring the youth of the labor unions into the YPSL. The higher age-limit makes this more possible than it has been heretofore.

### Directives Promised

"Directives on systematic and FRUITFUL industrial work will be sent to the circles soon by our new National Industrial Secretary, Irving Bishop. But do not wait. Get to work immediately and report to the National Office what success your circle has in recruiting members within the new range of the age-limit.

"But do not let our efforts to attract this new age element to our ranks lessen our activity among students or younger elements. Let this be the signal for increasing and broadening our work of organizing and educating the youth for the struggle for Socialism."

## War May Unite Student Groups

(Continued from page 3)

"We hold that the following minimum conditions are necessary for the organization of a united student movement:

"1. That the new organization take an unequivocal position against all imperialist wars.

"2. That the new organization take no organic connection with other organizations, either political or non-political. This shall not bar it from taking part in united front movements.

"3. That the new organization adopt a name other than that of a now existing student group and one that will denote the character of the organization as Student Union of America."

Ernest Erber, national chairman of the YPSL, supplemented this statement, declaring that "A student union will be a step towards clarification of the student field. Students who wish to fight against war and fascism and for students' rights but are not ready to join the ranks of either the Socialist or the Communist youth will now have an opportunity to take their rightful place in the American Student Union provided no obstacle stands in the way of this new step toward student unity.

### Danger of Obstacle

"There is danger of such an obstacle. The Communists internationally have deserted the revolutionary struggle against war. Where do the Young Communist students of America stand? Unless they are willing to follow a policy of loyal opposition to all imperialist wars, even if the Soviet Union happens to be allied with some combination of imperialists, how will unity be achieved? The American Student Union cannot straddle the question of war. Its position must be clear and unequivocal. We sincerely hope that no barriers to the adoption of such a position will be raised."

## PAMPHLET OF THE MONTH

### SACRAMENTO FRAME-UP TOLD IN PAMPHLET

UNION SMASHING IN SACRAMENTO — By Herbert Solow. Published by the National Sacramento Appeal Committee. 5 cents.

A person who has read this pamphlet, whether he sympathizes with the labor movement or not, can no longer regard the class struggle as an abstract theory found in the works of Marx. The pamphlet is not the usual recitation of civil liberties violated and unconstitution acts performed. It is a searching analysis of California's leading industry, fruit and vegetable growing, and the line-up of class forces it produces.

The struggle which grew out of the attempt of the agricultural laborers of Imperial Valley to secure a better standard of living laid bare the whole framework of class society. The line-up of the workers behind their union, the Cannery and Agricultural Workers Industrial Union, determined to abolish their peonage to the large land-owners, was met with the full

force of the capitalist state, the newspapers, the courts, the American Legion, the public utilities, the banks, and every force of capitalism that could be rallied.

The pamphlet presents evidence of the existence of a conspiracy of big business interests to convict the union leaders on a criminal syndicalism charge. Even a hand-picked jury deliberated for 66 hours before rendering a verdict finding eight union leaders guilty. The verdict was the result of a compromise arrived at after the juror who held out against conviction gave up the fight.

The pamphlet is published by the National Sacramento Appeal Committee in an effort to raise finances to appeal the verdict of Norman Mini. The cases of the others are being handled by the International Labor Defense. Mini was not defended by the supposedly "non-partisan" ILD because he had resigned from the Communist Party while in jail and joined the Workers Party.

# On with the Challengers

By SUB CHASER

It looks as if the "Welcome Melos" campaign didn't pan out so darned well. The average number of subs received daily dropped from 4.1 in August to 3.8 in September. At this rate the number of subs coming in will reach zero in exactly twelve and two-thirds months, or by October 20, 1936 at 8 A. M. We will then be able to dismiss our business manager and declare the Fall Subscription Drive at an end.

Of course there is always a seasonal decline in the Fall because it's too windy, just as there is one in the winter because of the cold, in the spring because it is rainy, and in the summer on account of the heat, but Mars happens to be in the ascendancy, which is an excellent time for sub chasing.

Taking a look at our little list of stalwarts who were willing to brave the fierce autumn weather, however, we find at least one who didn't do so badly.

NEW YORK, 32. At this rate New York will finish the Fall Subscription Drive way ahead of the rest of us, reaching the zero point on December 12 at 9.16 A. M.

Winnie Dancis uses some of his prestige to get 7 more subs, bringing his total in clubs to 90, a good example for some of you other bureaucrats to follow. He ought to get well past the 100 mark this month.

Gertie Weintraub, Challenge agent of circle 1 srs. Bronx, joins the Challengers with a club of 5.

MASSACHUSETTS, 21, from no less than sixteen towas.

Tarno Valinaki smashes through with another 16 subs, bringing his total to 51 after only two months' work. Will your League of Cooperative Clubs endorse the Challenge at its convention this month, Tarno? Tarno Hannula sends in a club of 4 to make a total of 12 so far, as does Dick Seppa, whose total becomes 9.

OHIO, 14, or less than Tarno got single-handed.

Lillian Epstein sends in 6, which gives her 10 altogether.

Ben Shangold, who is doing a swell job as an organizer, starts with a club of 4.

Hy Weintraub makes the Challenger grade with one to spare by bringing up his total to 5 with a club of 3.

ILLINOIS, 10, although some Chicagoans brought in subs from other states.

Syd Devin, the original Sub Chaser himself, bids farewell to the Challenge office with a club of 8, giving him 75.

Karl Marx Shier adds 4 to the 60 he brought in before this.

CALIFORNIA, 7, all from Lillie Goldberg, wife of the famous Willie. Her total is now 11.

PENNSYLVANIA, 6, and that from a state federation.

Bill Maten's sends in 4, making 10 so far.

MICHIGAN, 5, but watch them grow.

Reliable Ruth Moore rounds out her total by adding 2 to a previous 48.

NEW JERSEY, 4, two of which are part of

A club of 4 from Sam Verne, whose total is now only 136.

Bobby prize for the month: WISCONSIN, 1.

To sum up, all I can say is

# help!

# 'We Want 12 Pages All the Time!'

## That's Why Four Subs Are Being Sent to THE CHALLENGE by me.

My Name is .....

City .....

Address .....

State .....

### HERE THEY ARE:

Name .....	Name .....	Name .....	Name .....
Address .....	Address .....	Address .....	Address .....
City .....	City .....	City .....	City .....
State .....	State .....	State .....	State .....

**INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST YOUTH WEEK**

The fight against war can only be successful if the forces opposed to war have both sufficient numbers and a correct program. The YPSL seeks to carry on joint anti-war activity with all groups opposed to war regardless of their position on the war question. While we seek to make our position on war clear at all times, we set aside one week a year dedicated to a clarification of the war question and the education of our membership to better understand the tasks facing Young Socialists in the struggle against war.

This is International Socialist Youth Week, being celebrated this year from October 1st to the 7th.

International Socialist Youth Week was born in the opposition to war manifested by the Socialist Youth International meeting in Berne, Switzerland, in 1915. This action was taken at a time when the leaders of the Social-democratic Parties of the foremost capitalist nations were part of the war machine of their respective governments.

This brilliant page in the history of the Socialist Youth movement must inspire us to carry on an anti-war campaign that will make another Berne unnecessary; make it unnecessary because the principles of Revolutionary Socialism will be so deeply rooted in the working-class that it will be impossible to tie it to the capitalist war machine.

**STUDENT UNITY AND WAR**

Student unity is nearing as a result of the action of the National Executive Committees of both the Student League for Industrial Democracy and the National Student League.

The Young People's Socialist League welcomes these efforts towards student unity. That a united student movement will strengthen the forces fighting war and fascism on the campus needs little argument. We consider it our duty, however, to point out that this is only true if the united movement pledges itself to an uncompromising fight against these scourges of the workingclass.

Students in their desire for unity should not bury their head in the sand on the question of program. They must face the fact that the recent Congress of the Communist International has taken a position almost identical with that of the Social-patriots of Social-democracy in 1914. Such a position can only confuse the anti-war forces and result in a repetition of August 1914.

The Young Communist League is pledged to support the policies of the C. I. It is a fact of common knowledge that they have built up the National Student League and still play the leading role in it. The SLID must ask point blank of the NSL whether the policies of the C. I. on the question of war are policies upon which a united student movement can base itself. To avoid asking this for fear that it might prevent unity is to proceed to build a united movement on a foundation of sand.

**THE FIRST AMERICAN YOUTH STRIKE**

When fifteen thousand shipping clerks in New York's garment district walked out on strike they started something few people fully understood.

For the first time in American history there was a major class struggle in a youth industry.

There have been strikes of young workers before, but outside of a few incidents there has been no important strike action in industries peculiar to youth, such as among office boys, messenger boys, bootblacks, newsboys, or shipping clerks.

When something happens for the first time there's a reason for it. In this case the reason was that the workers in youth industries regarded their positions as temporary apprenticeships from which they were bound to rise to other positions.

But since 1929 the escalator has stalled. And so youth, beginning with this historical shipping clerks strike, is coming to realize that it must improve its conditions in its present positions or not improve them at all.

The first American youth strike is only a forerunner of a series of its kind. Just as the Young People's Socialist League foresaw the strike of last month when it organized the shipping clerks' union two years ago, so now it looks forward to the organization of young workers everywhere.

**MASS ACTION FOR THE WRA**

In the fight for workers' rights under capitalism, all other proposed legislative measures fade in importance beside the Hillquit Workers' Rights Amendment.

Labor has not yet gained its most fundamental political right of all, it has not the right to fight for the HUMAN RIGHTS of the working-class when they come in conflict with the PROPERTY RIGHTS of the owning class.

Any labor legislation having such an effect is immediately declared unconstitutional by our self-appointed supreme court dictatorship.

The Workers' Rights Amendment, which will abolish this dictatorship, is the most important right for which we must fight. It is a right which we seek to win UNDER CAPITALISM, in a government ruled by CAPITALIST POLITICAL PARTIES.

This cannot be done simply by passing resolutions — the resolutions will be ignored. It cannot be accomplished even by convincing a majority of the electorate that "something ought to be done" about the WRA — the ruling parties are adept at ways of tricking their voters.

What is needed is propaganda which will enable the masses to understand for themselves the significance of the WRA, and mass action to make their voices heard.

The Young People's Socialist League has undertaken mass education and mass action for the WRA. We have printed pamphlets, distributed handbills, pasted up stickers, held mass meetings and demonstrations for the amendment.

Now we come before labor with the challenge of youth; we ask of the working-class organizations, representing a million and a half workers, who have endorsed the WRA:

**MASS ACTION FOR THE HILLQUIT AMENDMENT!**

"Oh, Grave, Where Is Thy Victory?"



THIRTEEN MILLION SOLDIERS, THE MAJORITY OF THEM UNDER THIRTY, DIED IN THE LAST WAR "TO END WAR" AND "MAKE THE WORLD SAFE FOR DEMOCRACY." NOW THEY ARE PREPARING US "TO FIGHT FOR PEACE" AND "FIGHT AGAINST HITLERISM."

*Thomas Supports War Stand*

To the Challenge:

I shall appreciate it if you can find space to publish a letter from me in the Challenge highly commending Ernest Erber recent article, "Twenty Years After Berne", in your issue for September. If I were not so crowded with work I should like to write an article expanding this theme and drawing some practical lessons from it. For that I haven't time, but I must take time to commend the straight thinking of one of our young comrades.

There are few things more important than to carry on the type of education that this article illustrates among the workers. It is an impossibility to prevent war, much less to conquer war, or to prevent the coming of Fascism in America by any program which believes that revolutionary workers can manipulate capitalist international policies successfully for their own ends. In other words, the real opponents of war and Fascism must be the workers themselves, organized into an international movement.

The present situation with regard to the Ethiopian crisis is a beautiful illustration of what's wrong. The workers in Europe deserve credit for their hearty condemnation of Italian imperialism, but they must look in vain to the League of Nations as an effective agent for curbing Italian imperialism.

**FROM THE CHALLENGE MAIL BAG**

Why? Because the League itself is a league of nations, all of them caught in the capitalist-nationalist set up. It has even been apparently reliably charged that Soviet Russia has been selling war materials to the Italian camps of Mussolini. Now almost everybody in Europe condemns Mussolini's Italian drive, but it is impossible to act very effectively against Mussolini in terms of capitalist nationalist-policy. The issue is clouded by French and British imperial interests. Both Britain and France — more particularly France — are afraid to act with real vigor against Mussolini lest he and Hitler make an alliance.

The moral is that there is no short cut for assured peace. The revolutionary task of organization and education must go on. The fundamental nature of any anti-war education is made plainer by recent events. When

the Communist International went back to the position of endorsing a "good" war they took in theory precisely the position of the majority Socialists at the outbreak of the World War — a position which the Communists deserved credit for condemning. To be sure, the present good war will be defensive against Fascism but, then, the good war of 1914 was in theory defensive against imperialism. The difference is that I suppose the Communist International will be able to decide for all Communists what is the good war while German and French Socialists differed in opinion on that subject!

In any case, of one thing we can be assured. No capitalist nation is going to war to destroy Fascism or imperialism. It is going to war to advance its own interests or the interests of its dominant class, and everything else will be a rationalization of that fact. It will be propaganda to fool the masses. Let's make that plain in our own educational work.

NORMAN THOMAS

**ORPHAN ANNIE**

To the Editor: Doesn't the cartoonist of that sweet little comic strip, Little Orphan Annie, pull a boner when he calls his capitalist hero "Mr. Warbucks"?

"John Dough"