

JOIN THE
YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE!

Young Worker

Abolition of Child Labor!
A Fight Against Capitalist Militarism!
The Workers' Republic!

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'WEEKLY' IS HERE TO STAY PROVIDING MEMBERS GET SUBS AND GIVE PAPER FULL SUPPORT

By BARNEY MASS

The Weekly YOUNG WORKER is here and is to remain, providing that the interest of the membership continues to increase in maintaining it. It is impossible to over-rate the value of a Weekly Organ to our growing powerful league. This is of such an obvious nature, that each individual member cannot help but becoming enthusiastic over this achievement.

A "Young Worker" to come out once a week has been our ambition for a long time. It is now an actuality. First our official organ came out once in every two months, in magazine, form very cumbersome and not adaptable to our needs. Then it appeared once in each month still in the same form. Finally the N. E. C. seeing the necessity of making our paper more attractive to the average young worker and also the importance of utilizing its propaganda value, created a radical change in its makeup and transforming it into a semi-monthly. From that time on the Young Worker can be considered as a mass paper. Not only is this opinion to be found existing in party and league circles of this country, but Comrade Schuller at the Fourth Congress of the Young Communist International held it up as an example for the delegation.

Factory Campaigns.

Just recently we have engaged in factory campaigns on a national scale. No longer is this important activity confined to one section. We found it very difficult for some of our leagues in isolated parts of the country to utilize the Young Worker in their factory campaigns because of the length of time between the publication of each issue. This fundamental defect is now remedied with the Young Worker coming out weekly. This means more factory campaigns. This means that the Young Worker will become more popularized to the American exploited youth. This means that our economic demands will be broadcasted to a greater degree than ever before, simultaneously interesting thousands of young workers in the league thru this fashion.

Develop Weekly

In each phase of our work, the opportunity will be afforded to increase it to an unheard of extent. As the Young Worker is developing and becoming more matured, we must never forget that the Young Workers League is expanding in the same degree. Our immediate task is to become a worker for the Young Worker.

10,000 Readers.

Looking back, we can say frankly without any exaggeration, that our achievements have been considerable and of a conspicuous character. Building shop nuclei with a complete reorganization of the league to follow, participation in strikes, factory campaigns, establishment of an active and energetic Junior section with an official organ of its own, etc. But we cannot remain contented on past accomplishments. We must continue to push forward. To become philosophical over some of our successes will be suicidal. To show that we are on guard against all sectarian tendencies, we must tackle our next immediate job. "10,000 readers for the Young Worker in one year's time."

On Road To Mass Organization.

One of the best criterions indicating that we are on the road to become a mass organization is the publication of the Young Worker weekly. In the past only a major part of the organization has actively participated in national campaigns. But with this enormous, gigantic job ahead of us, it is safe to say that the response will be 100 per cent. It is our paper, our task to push it forward, so therefore with complete unanimity let us set to our task of guaranteeing a permanent existence to our Weekly Young Worker.

AYS P A C I F I C MANEUVERS ANNOUNCE COMING SLAUGHTER

SYDNEY, Australia. — Hostile comment on the proposed visit of the American fleet to the Pacific Ocean, and Australia, is contained in The Australian Worker, a labor newspaper in Australia.

The Worker says: "The American nation, or to be precise, those who govern America, are about to send a monster battle fleet to maneuver in the Pacific and pay a visit to Australia. Why this display of force?"

"President Coolidge has issued a message declaring what is about to be done expresses no unfriendliness, nor does it convey any hostile intent towards other nations." Then why carry out a purpose which he disclaims to be preceded by such a disclaimer? America's action indicates that a murderous struggle for loot is contemplated in the Pacific, and that the great American plutocracy has got its slaughtering apparatus in first class working order, and can't keep quiet about it.

Don't forget that The Young Worker will do no good if you just buy it and then leave it lying at home. The place you must leave it, if you leave it anywhere, is in the shop.

LOW WAGES FOR A. E. CO. YOUTH

Will Fight Long Hours and for Better Conditions

From AN A. E. CO. WORKER

The young workers in the Arrow Electric company work from 7.00 in the morning until 4.55 at night for the lowest imaginable wages. They pile up huge profits for the bosses, but all they get in return is lower wages and worse conditions.

Not only are the wages at rock bottom here, but the company has one of the best speed-up systems to keep us working at break-neck speed.

Starvation Wages

For day work the average wage is as low as \$12.50 a week. The majority however, work on piece work, and by working overtime, by rushing top speed all day, they are able to get "as high as" \$20 per week. The average age is from 15 to 18, and of course, the bosses pay the younger workers lower wages as this is the reason they employ so many young workers, and is the reason that they refuse older workers jobs and hire cheaper and younger workers in their place.

Now that Connecticut has rejected the child labor amendment, they will get even younger workers at the plant and force our wages still lower.

No Safety Devices

Not only are there no safety devices on the foot presses, but the danger is increased for the young workers operating them since they have to operate the foot presses at a killing pace, making the accident hazard greater.

Out of the thousand workers employed, the majority are girls who get even lower pay than the other young workers. The factory restaurant charges exorbitant prices, even squeezing profits out of the young workers at lunch time.

Big Profits for Bosses

Of course, with such conditions for the young workers, low wages, long hours of work, etc., the company is making ever bigger and bigger profits. They further increased the rate of profit by cutting our wages five cents on every 1,000 piece work on January 15.

Another way they push our wages lower and see that they are kept low, is by laying off during slack seasons and replacing the young workers laid off by new and cheaper help.

Young Workers Will Organize

The young workers here who want to work organized to improve their conditions and to prevent them from becoming worse. Of course, the company will never do anything for the young workers since they know that it is thru such exploitation that they make their profits.

On the other hand, they always try to force wages lower and increase the rate of exploitation so that their profits will be bigger.

The young workers here who want to improve their conditions they must join with the Young Workers League and fight for the following demands, and organize into the A. E. Co. nucleus (shop unit) of the Young Workers League:

Fight for Demands

1. Abolish the speed-up system and all piece work (instead a weekly minimum wage based upon the cost of living and ranging upward.)

2. Equal pay for equal work for young and old.

3. Safety devices for all dangerous machinery! No young workers under 18 to operate dangerous machinery.

4. Two weeks summer vacation WITH FULL PAY each year!

5. No lay-offs, instead shorter working hours for all workers in plant and a 6-hour day, 5-day week for all young workers under 18.

6. Clean aprons and towels to be furnished by the company.

7. Demand right to organize into unions.

8. Call meeting immediately of all workers in shop (shop committee) to discuss these issues and other problems.

The places where we can be sure that the sale of The Young Worker will not be wasted, are union meetings (especially apprentice unions) sport and social organization, with a membership and any other organizations that consist of a large membership of young workers.

U. S. Busy Preparing For War On Eve of Coolidge Inauguration



GEN. MITCHELL CRIES FOR MORE AIRPLANES

YOUNG COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL GREET'S WEEKLY YOUNG WORKER

THE YOUNG WORKER
1113 W. Washington Blvd.,
Chicago, Illinois

The Young Communist International greets the Weekly Young Worker. May it lead the American youth in every struggle against capitalist oppression, towards mass organization.

(Signed) GYPTNER

Conditions Worse for Young Workers in Minneapolis

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.—An investigation conducted by the Industrial Organizer of the Young Workers League shows that organization among young workers in Minneapolis is an absolute necessity, so bitter has become their exploitation. Hundreds upon hundreds of young men and girls are out of work and tramping the streets daily. Many firms like the National Biscuit company are operating on a part time basis. The Nabisco trust works its employees three or four days a week, with plenty of extra time on these for which the young slaves receive no additional pay.

A few weeks ago the daily capitalist press in Minneapolis printed a news article in which it was stated that the huge Munsingwear knitting works would resume operation. On the morning of the day work was to begin a line of young workers two blocks long stood outside the plant, braving the intense cold and wind, waiting for jobs. Finally the manager, a big, well-fed gent, came out and informed the waiting throng that "no help is needed now."

The members of the Minneapolis branch of the Young Workers League are determined to organize the young industrial slaves of this city—both the employed and jobless. Its membership continues to grow week by week and by the time Spring arrives it is predicted that the League will be one of the best and most effective in the country.

Organize Dope Council to Feed 500,000 Youths

Religious instruction for 500,000 boys and girls in Chicago who are at present free from religious domination, will be the principle work of the new Chicago Council of Religious Education, a merger of the Chicago Sunday School association and the commission on religious education of the Chicago Church federation.

The first annual meeting of this new organization will be addressed by sky pilots and professors. They will forget all their religious differences in the face of the urgent problem of getting these 500,000 youths under their clutches and filling them full of the sort of dope that will make them good slaves for the bosses.

Y. W. L. Membr is Winner in Mine Election

DILLONVALE, Ill. — Official returns from the election of the United Mine Workers of America, Sub-District No. 5, of District No. 6, Ohio, show that Comrade Joe Kobylak, Jr., young Communist miner of Dillonvale, was one of the three Sub-District Auditors and Convention Tellers elected by a wide majority in a field of 15 candidates for the position. Making practically no campaign, excepting through the Communist press, Comrade Kobylak and two other progressives were the only members of the progressive sub-district slate to be elected. He polled 2,014 votes. His victory is being considered by the fakers of the sub-district and there are rumors that they will attempt to throw him off the ballot.

Other progressives being elected in the sub-district election are John Buksa and Dominic Sanbuco, elected to the positions of Trustees of the sub-district temple at Bellaire. They received 3,664 and 3,081 votes respectively.

The victory of Comrade Kobylak is quite an achievement, considering the circumstances. After election, Frank Ledvinka, sub-district president and labor faker par excellence, called his executive board together and sent out an "official" letter of condemnation of the progressive sub-district election. Ledvinka is the bird who nearly went crazy when Alex Howat toured Ohio, and who made a motion at the International convention to tender scab herder Jas. J. Davis a rising vote of thanks and to condemn the people who had attacked him (we Reds, I guess) as "un-American" and cowards.

Comrade Kobylak's duties will be to audit the sub-district accounts and act as credentials committee at the conventions. Perhaps this is why the fakers will try to throw him off, he is in a position to keep the gues flooding the convention with "blue-sky" non-existent locals. MORE POWER TO YOU COMRADE KOBYLAK.

RELIEF ORGANIZED HERE FOR IRISH STARVING

CHICAGO.—As a result of a cable announcement that there are 750,000 Irish starving in the west counties of Ireland, an Irish workers' and peasants famine relief committee has been organized.

According to reports from Helen Crawford, London secretary of the International Workers' Aid, the Irish potato crop has been destroyed by flood; the cutting of turf for fuel spoiled for the same reason and the fishing industry ruined by British steam trawlers. Local committees for relief have been formed in Donegal and Dublin. The American committee will raise funds and forward them. Wm. F. Dunne is chairman and T. J. O'Flaherty secretary with offices at 19 S. Lincoln St., Chicago. Other committee members are J. P. Cannon, Joseph Manley and George Maurer. The committee is affiliated with the International Workers' Aid.

Wants to Pay Teachers From Children's Funds

CHICAGO.—Attempts to maneuver Chicago teachers into hot water with the public are not getting anywhere. When the teachers asked a pay raise to keep up with increased living costs and to bring their pay on a level with New York teachers and corresponding classes of federal employees, Supt. McAndrew and the board proposed giving a 10 per cent to 30 per cent raise, but taking the money from the children's penny lunch fund and from the appropriation for bath towels for children in the schools. They also proposed diverting money votes by the citizens in the 1923 campaign for new buildings to give every school child a seat. Finally McAndrew directed proposed increasing the school tax rate.

In a mass meeting of 1,500 members of the teaching organizations the proposals were unanimously rejected. "We resent," the teachers declared, "any attempt to pit the teachers of Chicago against the children by making them appear willing to benefit themselves at the expense of the children." What is needed, they reiterated, is to assess property according to the tax law.

Arrest Editor for Fighting Militarism

The editor of "Stormklockan," the official organ of the Young Communists in Sweden, has recently been sentenced to 6 months in jail for sending out a circular with an appeal to the soldiers.

General Mitchell Calling For A Bigger Air Force Exposes Plans For Coming Slaughter

By JACK RICHARDS

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The lid has been lifted in Washington on the eve of the most reactionary inauguration in its history. General Mitchell exploded the bomb that blew the roof off, displaying the war preparations to all eyes.

"Silent Cal's" false front of "peace" and "economy" has been badly shaken, though he is trying to maintain his dignity by frowning half hearted disapproval at General Mitchell's statements.

However, General Mitchell's exposure has already served its purpose. The house aircraft committee has abruptly ended the investigation, before any damage is done through military and naval secrets of vital importance for the next slaughter being revealed.

Kept Press Boost Aircraft

With the aid of the vast amount of propaganda carried in the capital press, giving publicity to the whole controversy, "public opinion" has been mobilized in favor of a bigger and stronger air force. The procedure has been much the same as in the recent exposures by naval experts, which had equal effect and made it possible for congress to greatly increase the naval appropriations.

Mitchel Weeps for "Defense"

First General Mitchell pulls the usual sob stuff. He pictures America as a complete cripple in the air, always taking for granted that we are faced with a world war in the very near future. He shows that our defense in the Pacific where this war will be fought, is in no way adequate. With war so near, he demands that the army and navy be run on a more war-like basis, that there be closer cooperation between the two, and that the air service be given more individual attention, greater funds, and more chance to develop.

War in Pacific

The Philippines, Hawaii and Panama were the places given greatest consideration in the investigation, as all the military experts seem to be convinced that the "next war" will be fought in the Pacific. Recommendations for more airplanes in all these places were put forward. Though many complaints were made about the completely inadequate defense of Hawaii, there was no mention of the huge naval base at Pearl Harbor, and of the recent marine barracks and other improvements that have been made there.

Ships or Airplanes

No one in Washington fails to appreciate the propaganda value of the investigation, not even those pretending disapproval. The only real difference arises on the statement that warfare had been modernized to the degree that the battleship is doomed as the backbone of imperialist wars. Naval experts dispute this point vigorously, and claim that anti-aircraft guns and new armor for battleships makes the navy still the most important force in case of war.

But whether or not the airplane will play the leading role in the coming war, "Silent Cal" and all the rest of his gang are happy at the prospects of a bigger and better air force and a more efficient slaughter of young workers when U. S. capital next extends its fight for world domination into the battlefields.

The Pacific Maneuvers

Another proof that American capital and its government are preparing for another war is the O. K. by President Coolidge of the war maneuvers in the Pacific. This "practice" for the next war will consist of maneuvers around the Hawaiian Islands, both for the purpose of testing the defense of this strategic base, and laying war plans for a fight against the other capitalist groups over the exploitation of China. Japan will be the "imaginary" enemy, with allowances made for allies.

Building Program for Navy

At about the same time that the president O. K'd the Pacific maneuvers, a special board of the navy, appointed by President Coolidge, made public recommendations for the navy. The building program recommended is to be completed in three years at a cost of \$80,000,000.

Talks Arms Limitation

Simultaneously with the preparations for war, President Coolidge is beginning to talk arms limitation. In collaboration with the British government, the U. S. is using all its diplomacy and power as a creditor nation to force a new conference for the limitation of armaments. They are to make this conference result in such a limitation of arms as would limit other nations and improve the naval supremacy of the U. S. among the competitive nations.

Neither France or Japan are anxious for a conference of the sort that can be expected at the present time, but with the U. S. bringing all possible diplomatic pressure to bear, a conference is not improbable.

WAR ALARMS

1. Gen. Mitchell cries for more airplanes and for more efficient administration of the army and navy in view of nearness of war.
2. The house aircraft committee closes investigation suddenly after receiving anonymous letter. Fears military secrets effecting the coming war will be revealed.
3. Coolidge O. K's Pacific maneuvers by American navy over protest from Japan and from Australian labor.
4. U. S. using diplomacy to force new world conference for the "limitation" of naval armaments. America plans to dominate conference and limit armaments in such a way as to make naval supremacy of U. S. more complete.
5. Washington prepares for most "reactionary" and "war-like" inauguration in its history. President's speech will praise world supremacy of U. S. capital and urge further extension of U. S. imperialism.

FIGHT TEXTILE WAGE CUTS

Young Workers Get No Help from Fakers

By LOUIS GILBERT.

WORCESTER, Mass.—There is no sign of a union in the textile industry of this city. No plans are being made to meet the wage cuts. Instead the "labor fakers" in this town are openly collaborating with the bosses and are sabotaging rather than aiding organization.

In Worcester we have a typical textile mill, employing a large percentage of young workers. Of the 400 workers in the QUEENSBURY MILLS more than half—some 250—are young workers, slaving in an undesirable atmosphere grinding out profits for the textile barons while the "official" labor leaders consider them unworthy of attention.

Break State Law

Workers under 16 years of age (despite the state law) are slaving 48 hours a week in a sweltering, stinking atmosphere with the continuous agonizing heat and noise of the machinery. These young workers are daily exposed to great danger since safety devices are greatly lacking.

In the face of such conditions existing in Worcester, the "labor" editor exposes his mental calibre in the following remarks:

The Central Labor Union is too busy organizing men to bother with women. Women are fickle and difficult to work with, just as bad as before they had gained suffrage. The workers in the mills are only just a bunch of kids, and anyway the textile operatives are too few to bother with—only several thousand in the industry.

This "organizer" showed himself up as a typical labor faker; who is doing his best to take care of the local situation for the bosses, while the big agents of the mill owners are doing their share through the district, especially MacMahon, the International president of the United Textile Workers, who is at present running from one textile city to another, pacifying, cajoling, and preaching moderation—and in every way betraying the workers.

Fed Welfare Bunk

This harmonious alliance between the bosses and the mis-leaders of labor is not sufficient to keep the slaves in subjection. The QUEENSBURY COMPANY also employs at the usual welfare bunk as a soporific to induce stupefaction. Here are a few of the "gems" posted in the mill as sleep producers:

The quality of what WE sell is determined by the interest YOU take in YOUR work.

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FRENCH SARDINE STRIKE WINS VICTORY FOR YOUTH DEMANDS

DOUARNENEZ, France.—After the strike in the sardine industry here, involving a large number of young workers, the youth find that they have won practically every demand for which they have been fighting under the leadership of the Young Communist League of France.

The Young Communists have in no way slackened their activities in the Douarnenez district, and are now busy seeing that the agreement is carried out and organizing nuclei of young Communists in the heart of the factories so that they will be able to defend their gains.

country where apprenticeship has been heretofore unknown, indicates considerable progress.

These demands were formulated at the National Congress of the Young Communist League of France which was held while the strike was in progress. Two weeks later three of the demands became realities.

STANDARD BUNK SPREAD BY "STANDARD ACCIDENT"

A SPEED UP SYSTEM FOR OFFICE WORKERS

DETROIT, Mich.—Speed-up systems have long been established in most modern factories. But office-workers have been considered the upper strata of the workingclass, "white-collar slaves."

However, the Standard Accident Insurance Company at its home office in Detroit has accomplished the establishment of the factory-system for office workers. The office-workers in this up-to-date 8-story office building are speeded up almost beyond endurance. The office-managers are very efficient in the performance of this particular task and manage to keep most of the workers bulldozed.

For instance, one office manager, who has just recently been promoted to that office, sends around a notice to the employes in his department to the effect that "his policy is going to be non-interference as much as possible." He says, "You can chew gum, talk, joke, and have a good time, so long as the work that must be

Win All Demands.

The demands presented by the strike committee, under form of contract, were accepted in entirety. They indicate a real victory for the strikers.

Salaries have been increased at the rate of 25 per cent and 50 to 100 per cent for overtime. The strikers also won the demand that no workers be fired for participation in the strike.

Fight Child Labor.

The agreement also insists that labor laws be respected in the matter of age of admission as well as other laws protecting children. This means real progress in Douarnenez, as this is a backward region where children have been sweated under the most unhealthy conditions from the ages of 9 and 10.

"Equal Pay for Equal Work."

The bosses also signed the agreement and have been forced to already start carrying out the demand of "Equal Pay for Equal Work" in all their factories, without consideration of age or sex.

One of the most important demands won by the strikers is that which provides for two hours of paid apprenticeship. The young sardine workers will be able to stop work two hours earlier each day and attend courses to develop their technical and professional skill.

The granting of this demand in a

Arrested for Anti-Militarist Activity



The young Greek communists in the above picture are now in jail for distributing anti-war leaflets among the soldiers of the Greek army. A severe sentence is expected due to the state of war existing between Greece and Turkey at the present time.

gotten out is done." That's where the rub comes in. Each employe is given 3 peoples' work and then is told "You can talk, joke, and have a good time all day, so long as you finish the work that is given you," which of course, leaves him not even a second to joke, or even chew gum.

Making them Loyal Slaves.

Aside from this speeding up by the bosses, the managers of the Standard see to it that their employes are loyal citizens. Each day, in the restaurant run by the company, the workers are fed properly-digested propaganda. This takes the form of a bulletin board

placed on a table where the line forms for the self-service. (Only the big bosses in their private dining room, being accustomed to service in their luxurious homes, must here too have their food placed before them in the best of style.) On this bulletin board, a poster is placed for mental consumption by the hungry workers. This poster contains the most nefarious propaganda, served in "funny page" style. There is a cartoon at the top to draw the attention, then the propaganda, and at the bottom is a cartoon of a well-dressed, good-humored, Board of

(Continued on page 5)

Boston Store Bosses Fearing Y. W. Story Arrest League Girls

Two things are worrying the Boston store bosses. One is the story in the last issue of the Young Worker giving the facts about conditions in this big department store. The other is the existence of a functioning Boston Store nucleus that has issued many bulletins calling upon the young workers there to fight for better conditions in the store.

As a result they arrested comrades Valeria Meitz and Fannie Golden when they appeared at the door to distribute a bulletin. The bosses had taken no chances and had kept a detective there ever since the last bulletin was issued, waiting for the girls to return again.

The comrades were taken to the police station where they were held four hours without being booked or told why they were kept. When first arrested they were taken into the bosses office where they were questioned for some time, plenty long enough to show how closely the police department and the Boston Store bosses were cooperating.

Knowing that they had no charge on which to book the girls, this step was taken in an attempt to scare them away and prevent them from distributing more bulletins or selling the Young Worker in the future.

However the company did not succeed in scaring the girls away by this old trick, and they will return with more bulletins and with new issues of the Young Worker in the future. As far as the Boston Store nucleus is concerned, this act of the bosses has only made it grow stronger and continue to take in new members.

"We must represent without fail the organizational independence of the youth leagues, not merely because of the opportunists fear this independence, but also from the situation itself." (Lenin: Address to the Youth.)

CONNECTICUT HOUSE KILLS CHILD LABOR AMENDMENT

By WILLIAM SIMONS

HARTFORD, Conn.—The Connecticut house followed the procedure of the senate in refusing a hearing, limiting discussion, and snubbing under the child labor amendment by a large vote. The senate had done it by 33 to 1; the house followed suit with 231 to 7. It took just two hours to do the trick.

The republican Journal-Courier of New Haven on Jan. 5 wrote: "No single duty will confront the general assembly which calls for more careful study and intelligent action than the attempted ratification of the proposed (child labor) amendment to the federal constitution." Yet the house spent only two hours. One long argument on each side, a few short ones on each, and debate was shut off. And in these two hours not only was the amendment disposed of, but also a motion to refer to a public hearing was argued and voted down.

Fight for a Hearing

When the child labor amendment was taken from the table by motion of House Leader Alling, a motion was made to refer it to the federal relations committee for a hearing.

Arguments in favor: Outsiders interested could present a better argument than house members; that previous amendments were referred to house committees; a hearing was a fundamental right of the people; and if mad dogs get a hearing, why not children?

Arguments against: Impossible to have a hearing before the federal relations committee, since it was a joint committee of both houses, and the senate had already acted on the amendment. (This is not true, since the attorney-general had given his opinion that the senate could reconsider its action); the purpose of a hearing is not to let outsiders air their views, but to give to the committee whatever information they needed; that is not state legislation, and the children had their day in court during the congressional hearings.

The Amendment Itself

Discussion then began on ratification of the child labor amendment, with Miss Margaret Cheney of Manchester as the first speaker, making the extended argument in favor of ratification. Arguments in favor were the usual ones: That children helping parents on farms were not listed in census as having an occupation; that the republican party (Miss Cheney is a republican) of Connecticut, had seceded from the republican national platform, in opposing the child labor amendment; that the federal laws had worked well, and stimulated state action.

No one, (however), advocated that children of workers and poor farmers

Textile Wage Cuts

(Continued from page 1)

OUR organization becomes increasingly successful as each member puts more thought in HIS or HER particular WORK.

The job conditions of the young workers arouses no interest as far as

Determined to Fight

But it is the textile workers that always have received the first blow in the bosses' offensives and who have always struck back especially the youth—and as in the struggles in Lawrence, they have made history in the struggle of the working class for liberation from wage-slavery. These workers that our local "faker" tries to ignore and sabotage and that the national "fakers" are trying to keep "disorganized" number more than a million in the textile industry nationally, with more than a half million employed in New England alone.

The sabotage and the contempt of the labor fakers will not save the textile bosses, as the workers here, especially the young workers, show themselves anxious to listen to the members of the Young Workers League, and they are beginning to regard these so-called "labor fakers" in the same light as they regard the textile bosses. The young textile workers in Worcester who already received such low wages that the wage-cut affected them most severely, are anxious to improve their conditions. They want to see nuclei organized in the mills; they want to see the textile workers organized into a united front to fight the wage cuts, despite the opposition of the A. F. of L. fakers; and they are behind the Young Workers League of Worcester in the campaign that it is launching here, and will see that the message of the Young Workers League is spread to every young worker in the city.

should be maintained out of money obtained by taxing rich incomes.

Arguments against the amendment: That there is already too much bureaucracy in Washington; that congress would use the full power and would take children from their parents; that federal law applicable to all the states is unnecessary and impractical. Chief in opposition was Rep. Arthur S. Barnes of Bristol, editor of the local paper.

An Extra Nail in the Coffin

After the defeat of the child labor amendment by 231 to 7, to make sure that the question would not come again at this session, House Leader Alling moved to reconsider the previous action on the amendment, and "Hoped" it didn't. At his right hand throughout the debate was Rohrback, the republican boss of Connecticut.

Such was the action of the house after an eloquent prayer on the part of the chaplain: "Oh God, pour your spirit into us, fathers of the state, that things may be done properly for the children, and that we may understand the children's problems and their needs. We ask thy blessing upon us, and upon the children of the state and nation."

The Young Workers' League of New Haven sent the house a wire urging ratification, with an economic provision for school children of workers and poor farmers. The conference for the abolition of child labor, initiated by the Workers Party, sent a similar wire.

But mill interests prevailed. The child labor amendment was not ratified by the state legislature. Nor will it come up again at this meeting.

Springfield League Has Good Social

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—The Young

Workers League of this city held a social on Sunday, February 15, at 7:00 p. m. Comrade John Mihelic made a very interesting speech on "Why Young Workers Should Join the Young Workers League." After this application cards were passed out and 12 new members was the result, all of whom are young miners. A very large audience was present and everyone said it was one of the best radical meetings ever held in this city.

A splendid program of piano solos, violin solos, recitations, viola and harmonica duet, one act play, singing and the performance of the Young Workers League orchestra together with the speech of Comrade Mihelic served the double purpose of providing an entertaining as well as educational evening, which could hardly be surpassed.

The program was as follows:

Singing of the International, German Singing Society; overture, Young Workers League Orchestra; "A Heavily Discourse," one act play by members of the Young Workers League; "Friendship Waltz," piano solo, Comrade Ruth Zaretskas; "A Busy Body," recitation, Comrade Margarette Sun-gall; Minuet in "G," violin and harmonica duet, Comrades Frank and Larry Mantowich; selection, piano solo, Emma Meinecke; "Liebknecht," recitation, Aldona Lucas; "Sweet Violets," piano solo, Ruth Zaretskas; speech, Comrade John Mihelic; dancing, music by Young Workers League Orchestra.

U. S. WANTS ALBANIAN OIL BUT SO DOES GREAT BRITAIN

LONDON.—The oily governments of the United States, France and Italy have protested to Albania over the oil concessions to the Anglo-Persian combination, was asserted today by the London Express.

Officials of the Anglo-Persian combine claimed the concession did not include monopolistic rights and does not restrict the right of other nations to exploit the Albanian oil fields. But the government, acting as agent for the big American oil combines did not consider this an adequate answer as any concessions that the English oil firm obtains interferes with its complete monopoly of the Albanian oil concessions to the Anglo-Persian not only by their own government, but by the debtor governments of France and Italy.

YOUNG WORKERS' CORRESPONDENCE

Nucleus Improving Conditions of Youth Labor in Co-operation with Proletarian State

Dear Comrades:—

We have appreciated to the full your letter, for we have gone thru ourselves what you are experiencing now. We must admit that owing to the general backwardness of Russian industries which we took over by force, production, as well as the hygiene of labor are not yet thoroughly organized here. But, together with the proletarian state, we are endeavoring to improve our production, for we feel that we are the masters of the factory. We have no overseers who shout at us: "Take your places." Young workers are not allowed to work in industries which are injurious to the health, such as the dyeing industry and other industries in which lead is used.

We can say with just pride that these achievements are the result of the joint efforts of ourselves and our older comrades.

Your letter brought back to our minds our former life when we had to work till utterly exhausted, when during the imperialist slaughter the best of our young fellows were taken away from their work and were sent to the front as food for cannon or to kill and cripple young workers of other countries.

Not so long ago was the tenth anniversary of the imperialist war which weighed like a nightmare on the world. This war has exposed the true nature of the betrayers of the working class—the Mensheviks who agitated among adult and young workers in support of the war. We, the young workers of Moscow, in general, and of the factory "serp e molot" (sickle and hammer) in particular were fully aware of this, and when a demonstration was organized on October 15th, 1917, we passed

a resolution in favor of the immediate seizure of power by the workers and of the cessation of the fratricidal imperialist war. Since that time we organize every year a demonstration on the first Sunday in September, and not only we, but the young workers throughout the world come out into the open on that day and declare to capitalism, which has had its day, that never again will we fight against our brothers and swallow the bait dangled before our eyes by those agents of capitalism—the Mensheviks.

Dear comrades, we trust that you too will come out on this day to express in an organized manner the disgust of the youth through the world with capitalist social order. We are aware that to you, who live in capitalist countries, such demonstrations are generally followed by dire consequences. Perhaps scores of your best comrades will be thrown into prison. If this is to be the case, we tell them beforehand: "Comrades, do not flinch." We who live in a free proletarian country where secret police and fascists cannot persecute us, will remember on that day that somewhere far away in America our comrades are probably demonstrating their solidarity with the world youth movement accompanied not by the sound of the "International," as we are, but by the sound of nagalkas (whips). But comrades, do not flinch and remember that the war which we have left behind and the new war which is approaching, are the inevitable phenomena of capitalist society. Remember also the Russian youth in whose ranks you will always meet with response, sympathy and help.

We should like to know if there is a youth nucleus in your factory and how it carries on its work. Give us as many details about this as possible, if you have

not yet formed a nucleus, we hope that you will do so before long. If you meet with any difficulties in the organization of such nucleus, let us know and we will endeavor to solve them to the best of our ability. Remember that we are always ready to share with you our experiences on this field.

Later in this letter we give you a description of the economic position of our young workers and of the social work of our nucleus. We hope that in your letters you will give us similar descriptions. We also draw your attention to the fact that this is our second letter to you, while so far we have only received one letter from you.

The Economic Position of the Young Workers of the Factory "Serp e Molot."

First of all we must tell you that ours is a state factory. 3,000 workers are employed in it, including 600 young workers. We produce various kinds of nails, wire and iron goods. Ours conditions of labor are of course different from those in your country. We have labour protection commission composed of workers including a representative of the young workers. This commission would never tolerate unsanitary labor conditions. Our labor laws would not allow it. According to our labor laws, young workers between the age of 14 and 16 only work 6 hours a day, and those between the age of 14 and 16, only 4 hours a day. To prevent the refusal on the part of enterprises to engage young workers under such unprofitable conditions, a law has been passed which lays down that 8 per cent of the total number of workers in the enterprise must be young workers. There is also a law prohibiting the employment of young workers in industries injurious to health.

We have a system of apprenticeship in our factories and works where young people between the age of 14 and 18 are trained for skilled work. For 4 hours they are engaged in practical work in

the various departments of the factory, and another 4 hours they spend in the technical school of the factory learning the theory of their trade. The average earnings of such young workers are about 20 rouble (\$10) a month. Young workers employed in the factory earn an average 40 roubles a month.

Cultural and Educational Work

Our factory nucleus has over three hundred members belonging to the Russian Young Communist League. In the interest of their cultural development we have 10 study circles. A study circle is a group of young fellows studying under the supervision of an instructor on some particular subject. There are also non-Party young workers in these study circles.

Our dramatic circle has 60 members, 90 per cent of whom are members of the R. Y. C. L. The remaining 10 per cent are young non-Party workers. The subject in this circle is—the study of dramatic art. We do not of course imagine that every young fellow or young girl belonging to this circle is bound to become an actor or an actress. The object of the circle is to promote their cultural development.

The choir circle has 70 members, 80 per cent of whom are members of the R. Y. C. L. They work under the direction of a composer who instructs them in singing.

Then we have two political literary circles attended by 40 people. All of them are members of the Y. C. L. In this circle they receive a purely political education, and have an opportunity to further their general development and to fill in any gaps in their cultural education.

Three circles teach the A. B. C. of the Young Communist League. They are attended by 50 people, 75 per cent of whom are members of the Y. C. L., while the remaining are non-party. In these circles the youth movement is on a world scale.

FIRE IN THOSE SUBS!

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

1 YEAR \$1.50 RATES 1/2 YEAR 85¢

W. CARLSON

How a Live Young Worker Can be Built!

By MORITZ J. LOEB

Generally speaking, every Communist understands perfectly that a healthy and growing Communist movement cannot be built without a healthy press, which means a press with a large circulation. Actually, few Communists are very much concerned with the day by day work without which a large and powerful press can never come to realization.

It is necessary and desirable that there should be a division of labor in our activities. Certain comrades must be fixed with definite responsibilities; in each unit of the party there must be comrades who are charged primarily with certain functions, secretaries, organizers, industrial organizers, literature agents and so forth down the line. Not only the officers but every member of the organization have certain special duties which take precedence over others.

All Must Take Interest

But because one member happens to be especially concerned, say with industrial activity, that does not exempt him from taking part in the general political activity of the movement. No one in any of our Communist organizations ever things of making such a claim either by word or by deed.

Yet it is a very curious and deplorable fact that in the entire American Communist movement (and judging from results, in the Young Workers League in particular) the major portion of the membership busy, no doubt, with activity of some sort or another, gives little or no support at all to the very life blood of the movement, the official party press.

Easy to Build Press

Generally speaking, the important matters which a revolutionary movement must accomplish are extremely difficult. One shining exception, however, is the building of our press. Nothing can be more important to our movement than a press with a large circulation, commanding widespread influence and organizational strength. On the basis of a growing and healthy press, tremendous advances in every field of our endeavor are laid open to us. Yet, to build such a press is one of the easiest tasks we have.

If our membership will give to the press activities so much as half the energy and thought given to other political and industrial activity, much of which is not equal in importance to our press.

If the membership is deeply imbued with the idea that the existence of our press is not of importance in itself, but important only on the basis of our activity for it.

If we insist all the way down the line that regular subscription activity on the part of every member is demanded in the same degree that dues payments are demanded from every member.

If the organization of the press activities is stressed to the same degree other party activities.

Some comrades may be of the opinion that there are a great many "ifs" to which the success of our press is predicted. The writer is of the exact opposite opinion; on the contrary the "ifs" are few and not difficult or overwhelming. Take them up one by one.

Every Member Must be Active

A great part of the activity of all sections of the Communist movement is taken up by the raising of funds for one institution of the party or another. Generally these money raising activities (which are necessary) have little or no political significance in themselves. Yet practically every member takes part in them, selling tickets for dances and concerts, asking for donations, serving on arrangements committees, etc. If the same amount of energy and time were to be put into solicitation of subscriptions to our press the results would be incomparable politically and by reason of the making our press self-sustaining would make most of the money raising activity unnecessary.

No Subscription Slackers

It may be said that I have gone to extremes when I compare subscription activity with dues payments. But I think I have placed even too little emphasis on this point. We consider those who do not pay their dues as slackers in the movement and we expect them. For without dues payments our organization is hamstringed and cannot perform its work. Yet our movement is equally hamstringed when our press languishes thru lack of support. A comrade who refuses to sell subscriptions to the official organs of our party (or is too lazy) is just as much delinquent as those who refuse (or neglect) to pay dues. When our organization is so developed as to attract these slackers, some real advancement for our press will be just as sure as night follows day.

Very few comrades realize that it is not only the education and propaganda contained in our press which is of value for the development of our movement, but also the organizational advantages which come from the activity undertaken for our press which is of the highest importance. Those who have given any personal attention to subscription solicitation know that the contacts they make, the missionary work they perform, the recruits they find for membership in

our party, form the finest kind of organization work. Moreover, those active for the press find that the work they do is the best kind of training for themselves, developing organizational ability, making themselves intimately acquainted with the needs and desires of the working masses. They find that they are securing the training which develops leaders of the working class movement.

Officers and Army Needed

If anyone were to propose that branches of our party could get along without officers, he would be regarded as insane. Yet, in actuality, the work done in the party units with regards to the press is for the most part conducted along just such anarchistic lines. Most branches have literature agents (who must also be sub agents) who are inactive, or they have no such agents at all. Generally the position of agent is filled by anyone who is willing to accept the job. In every branch there must be an active comrade in charge of the activity for the party press. This position has importance second to none. Our press can no more function effectively without a responsible agent in every party unit than the party itself can function without a responsible secretary for each unit. When the organizational needs of the press are stressed in the same manner as the organizational needs of the party, the basis of the growth of our press is laid upon the firmest possible foundation.

The Young Worker becomes a weekly. With 8,000 or 10,000 subscribers the weekly will be financially self-supporting. Once the paper can sustain itself out of its subscription incomes, there will be no limit to the amount of growth and influence which it can secure. The Young Workers League is faced with many difficult tasks, but the making of a strong and successful organ is not one of them. That is an A. B. C. job which can be accomplished in a few months if as many as one-half of the league members will set themselves seriously to the task.

Commerce type of man, saying "Those are my sentiments. Bill Jones."

Standard Speed Up

(Continued from page 2)

Commerce type of man, saying "Those are my sentiments. Bill Jones."

Preparing Cannon Fodder.

A particularly significant poster, at this time of pre-war, is one which reads, "I sure stick up for the fellow who sticks up for his country, his own convictions, and the firm he's working for." And below this is the maxim "Loyalty is the Punch behind Development." Evidently, Bill Jones does not stick up for the workers whose own convictions happen to be the convictions of class-consciousness, and whose loyalty is loyalty to the interests of his class, as such convictions might interfere with his sticking up for his country (if sticking up for his country means shooting the workers of other countries to make the capitalists of his own country more wealthy), and might cause him to expose the members of the firm he's working for as capitalist exploiters of millions of workers. And so, these wealthy exploiters warn their workers that Development can only be accomplished by Loyalty to them. Whereas, as a matter of fact, they themselves are hindering the development of industry in all its branches by the vicious competition for world markets. They are only too willing to lay aside this competition and work unitedly when their power of exploitation is threatened by the revolts of those they exploit. But, as for combining to increase development of industry, they only do this when it makes for the possibility of further lowering the workers' wages and thereby increasing the profits.

Young Workers Complain.

How many of the workers at the Standard realize the nature of the propaganda they are being fed is problematical. But they invariably complain of being forced to do more work than can humanly be expected of any individual in a single working day. They are continually being told that the expenditure for their department must be reduced and therefore workers must now do the work previously performed by 2 or 3. And they resent the additional burden. What most of them do not yet realize is that they are speeded up all they will bear so that a few more millions in dividends may be declared the just

Chicago Raises Most Money for "Weekly!" What League will Send in Most Subs?

This is how the different cities stand in the drive for the \$2,000. Did your league fall below its quota? Have you turned in all money on the Weekly Young Worker campaign fund?

City	Quota	Amount Raised
Chicago	\$400.00	\$405.75
Los Angeles	50.00	200.00
Detroit	75.00	82.45
Superior	50.00	58.50
St. Paul	40.00	40.00
Cromwell	15.00	15.00
Kenosha	20.00	14.70
Pittsburgh	20.00	30.50
Bridgeport	20.00	31.40
Hartford	10.00	10.00

The following cities have not yet raised their quotas! Let's hope they have the rest of the money and are just waiting to send it in:

City	Quota	Amount Raised
New York	\$400.00	\$62.92
Cleveland	75.00	11.00
Philadelphia	50.00	43.60
Boston	50.00	33.55
Minneapolis	40.00	3.70
Fitchburg, Mass.	40.00	.....
Worcester, Mass.	40.00	7.59
Waukegan	35.00	.....
Baltimore	35.00	20.00
Rockford	35.00	.....
Providence	35.00	.....
Hanna, Wyo.	35.00	28.15
Maynard	50.00	20.00
Eben Junction	30.00	.....
Ironwood	10.00	.....
Hibbing	20.00	.....
Chisholm	20.00	.....
Munising	20.00	.....
Warren	20.00	.....
Cloquet	30.00	7.58
Gardner	30.00	.....
Buffalo	40.00	29.25
St. Louis	20.00	.....

South Bend	15.00	.....
Daisytown	10.00	.....
Oakland	10.00	.....
Norwood	10.00	.....
Newark	10.00	.....
Springfield Mass.	20.00	.....
Moenssen	10.00	.....
Washington, D. C.	10.00	.....
Ft. Bragg	15.00	.....
Easton	10.00	.....
Denver	10.00	.....
Dillonvale	25.00	.....
Brule	15.00	.....
New Haven	15.00	.....
Brule	25.00	.....
Owen	10.00	12.80
Phelps	10.00	.....
San Francisco	20.00	.....
Ashtabula	20.00	.....
Bradley	20.00	.....
Youngstown	15.00	.....
Perth Amboy	15.00	5.65
Passaic	15.00	.....
South Norwalk	15.00	.....
Frenso	10.00	.....
Hawina	10.00	.....
Hammond	15.00	.....
Hegewisch	10.00	.....
Pullman	10.00	.....
Louisville, W. Va.	10.00	.....
Galloway, W. Va.	10.00	.....
Scalp Level	10.00	.....
Aberdeen	10.00	.....
Northport	10.00	.....
West Frankfort	10.00	.....
Dowell	10.00	.....
Christopher	10.00	.....
O'Fallon	10.00	.....
Valley	10.00	.....
Buckner	10.00	.....
Benton	10.00	.....
Johnson	10.00	.....
Belleville	10.00	.....
Marissa	10.00	.....
Stamford	10.00	.....
Gary	10.00	.....
Grand Rapids	10.00	4.00

Below is printed the quotas for the various cities in the subscription drive. To be sure that your city fills its quota, the branch and city Weekly Young Worker Agents must insist that EVERY MEMBER GET ONE SUB! Merit stamps will be sent out to all those obtaining subs. direct from the National Office, and the branch secretaries and city secretaries must check up to see that every member has one of these stamps in his membership card or he will not be considered a member in good standing.

The number of subscription that each city is expected to obtain before May 1st are:

City	Quota
New York	500
Chicago	500
Cleveland	130
Philadelphia	75
Detroit	100
Boston	15
Los Angeles	150
Superior	75
Minneapolis	50
St. Paul	5
Fitchburg	25
Worcester	35
Waukegan	25
Baltimore	50
Rockford	10
Providence	25
Hanna, Wyo.	15
Maynard	50
Eben Junction	15
Ironwood	10
Hibbing	10
Chisholm	10
Munising	10
Warren	10
Cloquet	15
Cromwell	10
Gardner	20
Buffalo	35
Kenosha	15
St. Lous	15

South Bend	10
Pittsburgh	50
Daisytown	10
Oakland	10
Norwood	10
Springfield, Mass.	10
Hartford	25
Moenssen	10
Washington, D. C.	10
Ft. Bragg	10
Elston	10
Denver	10
Dillonvale	25
New Haven	25
Bridgeport	25
Brule, Wis.	15
Owen	10
Phelps	10
San Francisco	25
Ashtabula	15
Bradley	15
Youngstown	15
Perth Amboy	10
Passaic	15
South Norwalk	5
Frenso	5
Hawina	5
Hammond	5
Hegewisch	5
Pullman	5
Louisville, W. Va.	5
Galloway, W. Va.	5
Scalp Level	10
Aberdeen	5
Northport	10
Ziegler	10
West Frankfort	10
Dowell	10
Christopher	10
O'Fallon	5
Valley	10
Buckner	5
Benton	5
Johnson	5
Belleville	10
Marissa	15
Stamford	15
Gary	10
Grand Rapids	25

returns of those who never work. And this is the message the Y. W. L. must carry to all the young workers. "Standard" Workers Must Fight System. It might also be pointed out that the Standard does not employ anyone who avows his ancestry as Jewish. The Jews, they have found out, are too revolution-

ary. They see through the game of the big bosses and fight for their rights,—at least, talk about their wrongs. And in Standard, the workers are mostly young. When the next war comes up, most of them will be of age for enlistment. And the standard is seeing to it now that they are ready to enlist when the war for imperialist conquests is declared.

But the Young Workers League must point out to them that the next imperialist war should be utilized for the world revolution of the workers against the capitalists, and that the young workers of the Standard and all other industries should hold themselves and the entire working class from the chains that bind them to wage slavery.

is important that these are not heroes of left phrases and "right" deeds, or parliamentary heroes like the former leaders of the German party. But this is merely an essential part of the whole question of the bolshevization of the party. Because the leaders grow together with the party, and stand at the head of the party, and not above it. Comrade Trotsky, on the contrary, puts the problem thus: if there had been leaders, the rest would have taken care of itself. Thus Comrade Trotsky side-tracks the thought of the West European parties from the fundamental question of the reorganization of the parties on the pattern of bolshevik organization, and of the creation of a revolutionary Leninist ideology, on the search for the Messiah. And that furnishes water for the mill of the opportunist wing of the Communist International.

For Leninism! Against Trotskyism!

(Continued from last issue)

9. The Discussion of 1924.

At the 13th Congress of the R. C. P. Comrade Trotsky refused to admit the errors committed in the discussion, errors which might have confronted the party with menacing danger if they had not been met with a sharp resistance on the part of the Bolshevik nucleus of the party, supported by the entire party masses.

From 1903 to 1917 Comrade Trotsky belonged to the most bitter opponents of Bolshevism. His standpoint at that time was appraised by Lenin as a shade of Menshevism. Trotsky has been a member of the party since August 1917. But during the whole of the seven years of his membership in the party, he unavoidably differed from Lenin in every sharp turn in the policy of the party, and fought against Lenin's attitude. If, therefore, Comrade Trotsky, in the best case, evades "belittles" or suppresses his mistakes, and directly and openly insists on them in a number of the most important questions—then that is nothing more or less THAN AN ATTEMPT TO SUBSTITUTE TROTSKYISM FOR LENINISM.

III. Wherein Lies the Essence of Trotskyism?

The fundamental elements of Trotskyism, which separate it from Leninism, which in the past made it a form of Menshevism, and which is being revived now by Comrade Trotsky, are the following:

1. Underestimation of the Role of the Peasantry.

This runs like a red thread through the whole political activity of Comrade Trotsky. Lenin's fight against "the theory of permanent revolution" centered around this very point: A fighting alliance with the peasantry or "leaving the peasantry out of account," Trotsky's mistakes at Brest had the same origin: ignoring the frame of mind of the peasant army which did not wish to fight. Trotsky's mistake in the trade union discussion again lay in miscalculation the frame of mind of the peasants who cast aside the landowners and demanded the creation of a worker-peasant alliance on a new basis. Even after the discussion Trotsky fought at first with Lenin and then with his pupils (during the party discussion) on the question of the plan of

economy, Trotsky demanded the formulation of a thorough, orderly hard and fast plan, forgetting that in a country, in which economy is built up on petty-peasant agriculture, and extremely careful approach to the question of the plan is necessary; one which takes into consideration the needs of peasant economy. On the other hand, Trotsky opposed the introduction of the currency reform, which exercised a beneficial influence on the whole economy of the country by the very fact that it was a real approach to the formulation of a plan of national economy, and a real strengthening of the bond with the village. As propagandist, Trotsky was able in a number of addresses to develop more or less happily the necessity of the alliance of the workers and peasants. But as a politician, Trotsky always leaves out of account in his tactical constructions the peasantry, its needs, and its frame of mind.

2. Enmity to the "Old Guard" of the Bolshevik Party.

This course of Comrade Trotsky manifests itself in the negation of the pre-revolutionary bolshevik tradition, in the fight against the old bolshevik cadre, and in the fight against the Bolshevik Party regime. Comrade Trotsky for many years fought in the ranks of the Mensheviks against the Bolshevik Party. Once in the Communist Party, he did not consider this fact, as his last outbreak shows, as his transition to Bolshevism as a result of a change of his views, but as a union of the Trotsky Group with the Bolshevik "fraction", as also a result of change in the sky systematically and consciously views of Lenin. Therefore Trotsky belittles the significance of Lenin's work in creating the Bolshevik Party—a work without which the October victory would have been impossible. In Trotsky's opinion the when he joined it. This negation was finally created only by the role of the Old Bolshevik Party manifests itself in his "New Course" (the belittling of the significance of the preparatory period of 1903 to 1917) and in the "lessons of October" (the false description of the role of the Bolshevik Party and the pushing into the foreground of the leaders—especially of Trotsky himself, without whom everything

would have collapsed. . .) The Russian Bolshevik Party is confronted with this question: does it trace back its existence to the year 1903, the first split with the Mensheviks, or to 1917, on the day that the Party was supplemented by Trotsky? The Russian brother party answered this question without difficulty. On joining the party, Trotsky maintained a hostile attitude towards the Old Guard of the Bolsheviks. In 1921 he tried to "wangle" the Leninist elements in the trade unions out of the leadership. In 1923, he tried to "wangle" the old bolshevik cadre out of the party apparatus. In 1924 he calumnyed the old bolshevik guard in his "Lessons of October."

For a number of years, together with the Mensheviks, Trotsky fought "the state of siege" (as the Bolshevik formlessness and discipline was called in the Menshevik-Trotskyite jargon) in the Bolshevik Party. In order to carry out his "conciliatory policy" he preached the creation of a mixed party in which all fractions, groups and various shades were to be represented on a basis of equal rights. Once in the Bolshevik Party, Trotsky, in spite of the formal admission of the "organizational mistakes," suffered a ganization views. This was the relapse into the Menshevik antecedent of his defence of fractions and groups in the party discussion, of the attempt by tracing back data, of creating a "right wing" of Bolshevism, which could not have existed in a unified, disciplined Bolshevik Party, in order now to justify the formation of his Trotsky fraction, of his representation of Trotskyism and Leninism as "two shades" of one policy, in spite of the irreconcilable differences of opinion between the two, etc., etc. Trotsky is trying to transform the Russian Communist Party from a unified, firmly moulded Bolshevik Party, based on iron discipline, into a "broad" party of the social-democratic type, admitting of groupings, fractions, sustaining conflicts on policy, etc. In a word, negation of the Bolshevist traditions, the challenge of the Old Guard of the Bolsheviks, fight against the Bolshevist organizational doctrines, attacks on Bolshevism along the whole lines.

3. Left Phrases and "Right" Deeds.

This is the denomination with

essence the new edition of Trotskyism—to the same degree as the old—is an anti-Leninist, anti-Bolshevik tendency.

4. Trotsky's Position in International Questions.

Whereas the differences of opinion between Trotsky and Bolshevists in the Russian questions have attained a certain degree of age, the parting of the ways in questions of the International Communist movement, comparatively speaking, began to develop only a short time ago. Therefore they are insufficiently formulated, detailed, and rounded off. Still the course of Trotskyism already described—the contradiction between the left phrases and the "right deed"—is very evident even here.

Comrade Trotsky is endeavoring to criticize "from the left". He reproaches the leaders of the Comintern of having "missed" the moment for the German revolution (he emphasizes all the difficulties which confronted the proletariat in October 1924). He demands in place of these leaders a choice of such a cadre of leaders who will not "recant" at the moment of their October. We have had a very large dose of the left phrase.

In practice, on the other hand, Comrade Trotsky undoubtedly strays to the "right" position. Firstly, what was Comrade Trotsky's position in 1923 in the question of the German revolution? He supported Brandler and his group and obstinately fought the left wing of the German party. As late as January 1924 he fully and completely justified Brandler's position. In practice, Comrade Trotsky stood to the right of the Executive of the Comintern.

Secondly, what are the objective conclusions to be drawn from Comrade Trotsky's scribbles? The October triumph in Russia was not attained by the Bolshevik Party, but by individual leaders and heroes. The German October was not lost because there was no real Bolshevik Party in Germany—this decisive factor is not mentioned by Comrade Trotsky with a single word—but because the Comintern had "bad leaders."

Certainly, the question of the staff of leaders, as part and parcel of the question of the bolshevization of the party, is of tremendous significance (but it

is important that these are not heroes of left phrases and "right" deeds, or parliamentary heroes like the former leaders of the German party). But this is merely an essential part of the whole question of the bolshevization of the party. Because the leaders grow together with the party, and stand at the head of the party, and not above it. Comrade Trotsky, on the contrary, puts the problem thus: if there had been leaders, the rest would have taken care of itself. Thus Comrade Trotsky side-tracks the thought of the West European parties from the fundamental question of the reorganization of the parties on the pattern of bolshevik organization, and of the creation of a revolutionary Leninist ideology, on the search for the Messiah. And that furnishes water for the mill of the opportunist wing of the Communist International.

Thirdly, what perspectives does Comrade Trotsky outline for the immediate future?

In his speeches in July and August, he expressed the view that the defeat of the German proletariat was a decisive defeat and that the new waves of revolution had been postponed for a long time. On the backs of the defeated proletariat, international capitalism is reconstructing its economy. American capital is appearing in Europe and "rationing" it. Under the heel of American imperialism the antagonism between the European states are becoming reconciled. In proportion as the proletariat has been defeated and the bourgeoisie has established itself, fascism will become unnecessary for the domination of the bourgeoisie. For fascism is just such a provisional and transitional weapon for the bourgeoisie as the armed uprising is for the proletariat. After the defeat of the working class and the pacification of Europe under the yoke of the American money bags, the bourgeoisie can rule with "normal" democratic methods. Well? We are confronted with a more or less lengthy period of democratic pacifism and a more or less lengthy postponement of the revolutionary fights. That was Trotsky's scheme. Life has already grimly laughed at this liquidationist scheme. But it is not difficult to see that this scheme had absolutely no "left" content.

Fourthly, on what elements of the International Communist movement does Comrade Trotsky lean?

Everyone will remember how

Everyone will remember how

(Continued on Page 4.)

SOCIAL DEMOCRATS BETRAY APPRENTICES IN DENMARK

By ANDREW OVERGAARD.

Social democratic government in Denmark is from day to day showing that it is nothing but the last but one of capitalism. This so-called labor government is following in the footsteps of the Ebert-Noske regime in Germany.

One of the last acts of these social traitors is the introduction in the Reichstag of a law dealing with the hours and conditions of the apprentices. The conditions of these apprentices has been in the past that they were under absolute control of the employers, and their time of apprenticeship was five years. The apprentices were forced to work ten hours a day, besides taking technical education at night school after working hours.

Long Hours and Class Collaboration

The new proposal made by the social democrats is four years apprenticeship, ten hours a day, and that the technical education be given after working hours, although these humanitarian uplifters propose that this education shall be finished before 9 in the evening. They also propose a commission, composed half of employers and half of trade unionists, with the chief of police in the cities acting as chairman. The apprentices will have nothing to say on this commission. The duty of the commission is to see that the law is lived up to. According to this, the social democrats have backed down on their original proposal of some years ago, which called for a three-years' apprenticeship of young workers.

Y. C. L. of Denmark Fights Traitors

The Young Communist League of Denmark in conjunction with the various apprentice organizations is waging a consistent struggle against this treachery to the young workers by the so-called "labor" government. The demands of the youth movement are that (1) the working hours of the apprentices shall not be any longer than those of the older workers, i. e., 8 hours a day; (2) that no binding contracts for a number of years shall be made and held as a whip over the apprentices; (3) that all theoretical education shall be undertaken during the day at the expense of employers.

FRENCH GOVERNMENT PROVES A GOOD STRIKEBREAKER

PARIS, France.—That all capitalist governments, even when pretending radical or democratic, support the strikebreaking efforts of the employers has been proven after the successful strike of the sardine canner workers of Douarnenez. This is the strike in which the youth played such a leading part and succeeded in winning all of the demands for which they were fighting under the leadership of the Young Communist League of France.

A member of the Paris municipal council has dug up the fact that the "yellow trade union" (Union des Syndicats Reformistes) which was used by the bosses against the strikers has its headquarters in a building owned by the city of Paris; that the union has not paid any rent for five years, and, to cap the climax, has been receiving an annual subsidy of 25,000 francs from the municipal council.

The proposed law if put on the statutes is nothing else but a blow at the organized labor movement as these young workers on the basis of it will be used as strikebreakers against the older workers and against their own families, as all of the apprentices come from working class parents.

For Leninism Against Trotskyism

(Continued from page 3)

In last year's party discussion the Trotskyist opposition was supported by all the "right" elements of the Comintern and cast aside by all the left wings of our parties, and especially by the sections of the Y. C. I., which in the majority of the countries are the creators of the fight against opportunism. The representatives of the right wing in Comintern—comrades Brandler, Thalheimer and Varski—hurried to dissociate themselves from Comrade Trotsky in his present outbreak. But first of all, whereas comrade Varski's dissociation from Trotsky took the form of self-criticism of the past policy of the Polish Party, Comrades Brandler and Thalheimer, after dissociating themselves from Trotsky, took the opportunity of making a number of vindictive attacks on the left Central Committee in Germany. For them the dissociation from Trotsky is nothing more than a maneuver for the purpose of throwing off the Trotsky burden which compromises them in the eyes of the other parties of the Comintern, in order to be more free to fight for a "right" policy within the C. P. Secondly, it is characteristic that Comrade Krebich, the "right" Czechoslovakian, takes the support of

WORKERS PARTY GREET'S WEEKLY

Comrades: The Central Executive Committee of the Workers Party sends greetings and congratulations to the members of the Young Workers League on the occasion of the appearance of the Weekly Young Worker.

Our new weapon, which is the result of your loyal and unremitting labors in the past, must be at the same time the beginning of even greater activities and achievements in the future.

It is upon the solid rock of the teachings of Lenin and the leadership of the Communist International and the Young Communist International that your organization has been built. It will continue to extend its influence among the working youth of America inasmuch as it loyally and persistently follows the teachings of Lenin and the leadership of the International organizations of which he was the architect.

Close and intimate association between the Young Workers League and the Workers Party, so beneficial to both in the past, will be enriched and made stronger by the Weekly Young Worker which you have created by your efforts.

Hail the Weekly Young Worker! May it grow and prosper by being always in the thickest of the fight for the toiling youth and for the proletarian revolution!

With Communist Greetings,
Central Executive Committee, Workers (Communist) Party,
Earl R. Browder, Acting Secretary.

Trotsky, as one of the central points of his article against the Comintern. And last of all, the bourgeois and social democratic press of the various countries greeted Comrade Trotsky's new book with delight. Our enemies know where the dog was buried: undermining the principles of Leninism and an attack against the Old Bolshevik Guard are death-blows to the Communist International.

Orthodox Leninism

More than a century ago, international opportunism proceeded to subject revolutionary Marxism to criticism. The orthodox Marxists—and Lenin above all—fought and conquered to the point of a life and death struggle against the revolutionists on behalf of revolutionary Marxism, the banner bearers on which the present time is the Communist International.

Comrade Trotsky has now undertaken to revise Leninism in every limb, and to substitute Trotsky's view for the most important elements of Leninism. He is becoming the rallying point of all anti-Leninist elements in the Communist International. And the tasks of Leninism now consist in defending the ideas of its teacher with the same passion and irreconcilability, with which Lenin himself fought for the ideas of Marx against the revisionists.

In Russia the revision of Leninism begun by Trotsky has already ended in a fiasco. As a result of his open, anti-Leninist position, he has repelled all the elements, party members, who formerly were to a certain extent his followers. While in the former discussion the overwhelming majority of the party and of the Communist Youth was opposed to Comrade Trotsky's policy, we can state that Trotskyism has now been unanimously cast aside by the Youth League.

Greet First Issue of Weekly Y. W.

Philadelphia Italian Br. (Y.W.L.) \$25
Philadelphia Y.W.L. CCC 5
Local Chicago. Y.W.L. 5
South Slavic Fed. (W. P.) 5
Greek Federation 5
Greetings from other branches, city central committees and Workers Party units will be printed in the next issue.

BOMBAY BOSSES PENALIZE WHOLE SECTIONS FOR STRIKE

BOMBAY, Nov. 8.—The entire working population of certain sections of this city is being penalized for the damages caused by the mill strike of last February and March. The chief presidency magistrate has granted a total award of Rs. 94,344 for compensation of damages. Since these damages occurred during the disturbances caused in connection with the strike, no particular person or persons could be held responsible for them. Therefore capitalist justice decrees that the whole body of workers should be penalized. The municipality has been asked to raise this sum by a punitive tax to be levied from the working class quarters of the city. Significantly, title-holders, government servants and municipal employees are exempted from the tax. It will be interesting to see how the Bombay municipality acts, because it is controlled by the nationalists.

SLICK WAGE CUTS PUT OVER ON WORKERS IN CLEVELAND

CLEVELAND, Ohio.—The industrial situation is growing very serious in Cleveland. Instead of openly slashing wages, the White Motor Co. and other large Cleveland plants which employ thousands of young workers, have just laid off large numbers of workers re-hiring a few weeks later. Either the old workers are forced to return at lower pay due to unemployment, etc., or as is often the case the older workers who have been getting higher pay are laid off and replaced later by younger and cheaper slaves.
So far this old trick of the bosses has succeeded and the workers in Cleveland have again been caught unaware and are in, no way organized as yet to resist the wage cuts. The Young Workers' League and Workers (Communist Party) are active in the fight against wage-cuts in Cleveland as well as in the textile industry, and are calling upon the workers young and old to put up a united front fight against these reductions in wages that are threatening in all industries.
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MARCHING IN THE PARADE!

The army of Weekly Young Worker supporters will parade in the first three issues of the "Weekly." Are you one of the soldiers in the parade. Send in your name and 25 cents before it is too late.

- Valeria Meltz
- I. Gabin
- J. Wolkowitz
- Fannie Golden
- Rose Mogul
- Ida Yampolsky
- Bessie Spiegel
- Austen Boileau
- Anna Lawrence
- Izrael Erenberg
- Sam Feldgreber
- Louise Morrison
- Albert Glotzier
- Gilbert Greenberg
- Walter Greenwood
- Stanley Dybcio
- Max Feldgraber
- Harry Kuperman
- Mary Krenick
- Ida Echles
- Weintraub
- Simon Stein
- R. Maslowisch

Further names cannot be printed in this issue due to lack of space, but the rest of the names received and any additional names will appear in the next issue.

Child Labor Grows In New York City; Must Fight Menace

NEW YORK CITY.—There were 4,000 more children working in New York City during 1923 than the year previous, and 7,000 more children in northern New York cities than the previous year, the New York department of labor reports. These figures do not include illegal child labor where no work certificate is furnished by the child laborers. There are thousands of such children slaving away in home industries and tenements.

Young Workers Get Lowest Pay Under Fascisti Rule in Italy

A comparison of the average daily wage raises of the five leading industrial unions shows that Fascist Italy is paying the lowest wages of the five.
With all workers' organizations driven underground and the Fascisti unions trying to smash the workers' unions, the wages of the Italian workers have been going from bad to worse. The young Italian workers who get the lowest pay, naturally feel the low wages most, and are active in the fight against Fascism.

REVIEWING THE JANUARY "Y.C.I. REVIEW" IN PICTURES

THE DOUBLING OF THE MEMBERSHIP AS THE NEXT TASK OF THE Y.C.I.

BY VUYOVITCH

OUR PERMANENT ORGANIZATIONAL TASKS

- (A) STRUCTURE OF THE LEAGUE
- (B) ORGANIZATIONAL EDUCATIONAL WORK
- (C) INFORMATION MARSHAL & COURIER SERVICE
- (D) REGISTRATION
- (E) ADMINISTRATION
- (F) FINANCIES

"WE MUST COMBINE THESE TASKS WITH OUR CENTRAL TASK, THE REORGANIZATION UPON THE BASIS OF SHOP NUCLEI."

BY RICHARD GYPTNER

SWEDISH Y.C.L. LEADS YOUNG GIRL WORKERS IN YOUTH STRIKE WHILE TRADE UNIONS TAKE PASSIVE ATTITUDE & RENDER NO ASSISTANCE.

SWEDISH WORST SPINNING WORKS - NORRKOEPING

Y.C.L. SWEDEN

FROM THE SOVIET UNION

THE WINNING OVER OF LARGE NUMBERS OF THE APPRENTICES TO THE BANNER OF THE Y.C.L. DRIVES THE MASTERS INTO A FURIOUS RAGE.

APPRENTICES

CZECHOSLOVAKIA Y.C.I.

LIAR

SEED FROM U.S.S.R. FOOD FOR CHILDREN

DOUBLE THE MEMBERSHIP BY THE COMPLETION OF THE REORGANIZATION OF THE LEAGUES, THE LEADERSHIP OF AN EXTENSIVE MASS WORK AND THE THOUSAND FOLD INCREASE OF THE INDIVIDUAL RECRUITING AMONGST THE YOUNG WORKERS AND PEASANTS.

SELF DEDICATION FOR REVOLUTIONARY PURPOSES & PEASANTS

THE Y.C.L. LEADS THE YOUNG WORKERS

IMPERIALISM

LABOUR PARTY YOUTH SECTIONS

LEAGUE COUNCIL MEET

AND DON'T FORGET THE GOOD WORK DONE!

THE BRITISH LEAGUE IS USING BOTH FISTS

BRITISH IMPERIALISM

I BALLY WELL KNOW THAT IT WILL GROW INTO A DANGEROUS PLAN.

Y.C.I. OF PERSIA

PERSIAN YOUNG WORKERS & PEASANTS

WRITE THE OPPRESSED DOWN WITH THE MILITARY INTERVENTION OF THE BRITISH IMPERIALISM

2ND CONGRESS OF THE CHINESE Y.C.L. ISSUES STIRRING MANIFESTO!

BRITISH CIVILIZATION IN EGYPT

"AN EXCELLENT PLAN FOR REORGANIZATION HAS BEEN SET UP BY THE CHICAGO LEAGUE."

YOU'RE PINCHED

TURKISH LEAGUE ACTIVE; MAY 3RD WHOLE NEC ARRESTED

RELEASE THE INDIAN POLITICAL PRISONERS

"70 NATIONALIST LEADERS ARRESTED IN BENGAL."

WHY ARE THE BOURGEOIS NEWSPAPERS SO SILENT ABOUT THE AID RENDERED BY THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT TO RELIEVE THE PARTIAL FAHURE OF THE HARVEST?

AND THEN THERE ARE SOME SNAPPY ITEMS ON OUR OPPONENTS

AND THEN THERE IS A FINE STATISTICAL PICTURE OF THE TWO DOVES OF PEACE -- MACDONALD & HERRIOT. ALL OF WHICH MAKES US SAY AS WE PASS OUT-- GET YOUR COPY NOW!

Har Kaplan

TOILING YOUTH

By HARRY GANNES.

This vast concentration of wealth in the hands of the few goes on all over the world where society is run under what is called the capitalist system, where the few own the means of production and distribution, and the vast majority toil.

During the war a slight change took place. The number of the wealthy increased a trifle. But how? Almost in every instance thru graft from the United States government.

Now the unavoidable lot of the few getting all is working more severely than ever. Our present day youth has no chance whatever. Only by crime or exploitation of their fellow workers can they ever hope to rise out of their class, and even then the chances are against them.

It is not necessary to go into detail of how the great corporations and trusts are swallowing up all the wealth. The trusts in turn are controlled by a few individuals, some of whose names you know—Rockefeller, Vanderbilt, Gould, Morgan, and so on.

With the ownership of wealth goes power. The Teapot Dome scandal showed how the rich try to buy the government officials much as they purchase automobiles. Even that is not necessary. The wealthy few, as a group, really control the entire governmental machine and use it in their interest.

Says the Industrial Relations Commission: "In some localities the control by the employers of the entire machinery of government is such that lawless acts on the part of agents of the employers go unpunished, while vindictive action against leaders of the strike is accomplished by methods unparalleled in civilized countries."

The young workers can readily see that as a result of the massing of wealth in the coffers of the few, the power to control the destiny of the nation (if the rich are left to their whims) is likewise given to them. On this point, Dr. King, whom we have quoted before, says: "Why is it . . . that economists have laid such stress on the question of wealth ownership? The answer is that the possession of wealth gives power. Whoever controls the property of a nation becomes thereby the virtual ruler thereof."



THE CLASS STRUGGLE AND ITS FORMS

Thruout historical times, society has been divided into classes. The principal class divisions have been between those who work and those who own the means of production.

Today, society is still divided into classes. We have on one side the capitalist class which owns the factories, mines and other means of production, and on the other hand we have the working class. And as in the past conflicts arose between classes (between master and slaves, and between lord and serf) so today we also have conflicts between capitalists and workers.

We saw in the last lesson how the capitalist makes his profits from unpaid labor-time—the surplus that the worker makes over what it costs to support him in wretched conditions. It is, therefore, in the interests of the capitalists to make the workers toil long hours and receive small pay. On the other hand the poor workers want more pay and shorter hours. The worker is interested in the conditions under which he works and has to live; the capitalist is interested in increasing production and cutting down expenses, at the expense of the workers.

Leads to Conflicts

These differences in interest lead inevitably to a conflict between the capitalists and the wage workers. This we call the class struggle. Every strike, every lock-out is an expression of this struggle. There is not let-up in the fight between these classes. The struggle goes on every day becoming more intense and more bitter as time goes on.

Now, we have seen how large scale industry takes the place of small factories. The large plants can produce more cheaply than the small ones. They can afford more and better machinery, they can support laboratories for perfecting and cheapening their products and they can take advantage of many methods of production which the small factories cannot.

Industry Centralizing

Large scale industry is, therefore, squeezing out the small business man and reducing what is called the "middle class." The capitalists are accordingly becoming fewer and fewer in number. However, the profits of these few become ever larger and larger while the share thrown to the workers does not increase. The difference between the capitalist and the workers, then, grows greater and greater. At the same time, the wealthy capitalists become better organized and use their combined strength to fight the workers. All of these things tend to make the fight between the classes more bitter.

During the middle ages the state power was not very strong. The individual lords ruled like little kings. The rising capitalist class, however, supported the state government whether it was in the form of a monarchy or a democracy. When the feudal system was overthrown, the young capitalist class took control of the government. The government of every capitalist nation has become the executive committee of the capitalist class. The state power is the strongest weapon in the hands of the capitalist class. When there is a strike of the workers the government sends its police and soldiers to help the capitalists defeat the workers.

Supporting the Boss Class

The government helps the capitalists not only in the home country, but in other countries where the capitalist wishes to sell goods because of the greater profit. The army and navy is really used to suppress the natives of various countries and help the capitalists get control.

The concentration of industry which enriches the capitalists increases their power, at the same time brings the workers together in larger and larger groups. The large factories of modern society have thousands of men working together. This increases the tendency of organization among the workers and enables them to better fight their common enemies—the capitalists.

The Youngest and Oldest



The proud boast of Pravda during the celebration was that it had printed 8,000 letters from workers during the past year. The above picture shows the oldest Pravda workers' correspondent, Comrade Karakozov, and youngest, Misha Zabludovsky. Our paper will become a mass organ, thus penetrating the factories thru workers' correspondents.

ITALIAN BRANCH SENDS GREETINGS

The Italian Branch of the Young Workers League in Philadelphia has sent \$25 as a greeting to the "Weekly" Young Worker. With the \$25 comes \$5 from the city central committee of Philadelphia.

The Italian branch has been the only branch in Philadelphia to collect money for the "Weekly" Young Worker Campaign Fund, and now that the Weekly has at last started they are enthusiastic in their greetings to the first issue of the Weekly Young Worker for the revolutionary youth in America.

RADICAL STUDENTS ON THE BAN COLLEGE BOSSES EVEN FIGHT LIBERALS

PORTLAND, Ore.—The regents of Reed college, a privately endowed Portland institution once famous for its liberal educational experiments, are giving notice to the students that there are some things in the established order that are sacred. When Pres. Richard Scholz died the students wanted Alexander Meiklejohn, ousted liberal president of Amherst, to be appointed but the regents named Norman Coleman, practically an unknown figure.

"The cry set up that youth is responsible for the dissatisfaction at Reed," says The Liberal, a liberal publication, "is a smoke-screen to hide the fact that economic teaching at Reed is to remain well in hand and that the students shall not do too much prying around the foundation stones of economic privilege lest they discover just what conditions are."

"These are days when you may be as radical as you please about the depths and structure of the 'sidereal universe or the chromosomes of guinea-pigs, but a little digging now and then on the question of the distribution of the economic income of the local community or the nation is held up as dangerously radical and evidence of an impulsive revolt of youth which must be sternly curbed."

"The Young Communist Leagues will only earn their names when they link up every step of their lesson, their education and training with the participation in the general struggle of all workers against their exploitation." — (Lenin: Address to the Youth.)

"Form new factory hundreds, send them into the struggle and recruit more strongly for them in the ranks of the working youth." — (Lenin at the beginning of the 1905 Revolution.)

Increases Struggle All these things increase the conflict between the classes in capitalist society—the conflict which must go on until the workers have taken power from the capitalist class and taken control of the mines and factories which they have built and in which they toil. The organizations of the workers which will help them wrest this power from the capitalist class will be described in the next lesson.

For further reading on the class struggle, read "The Communist Manifesto," by Karl Marx, and the "A. B. C. of Communism" by Bucharin.

Questions

- 1. Name the principal classes under former economic systems. 2. Tell why there have been conflicts between classes under these systems. 3. What are the points of difference between the capitalist class and the working class. 4. How do we know that there is a class struggle today? 5. What advantages do the capitalists have in the class struggle? 6. Give some reasons why the class struggle is getting sharper rather than softening?

My Flight From Siberia

By LEON TROTSKY.

It was after the noon hour before we could proceed. As usual we had been promised that we could leave soon after daylight, but it was, as usual, afternoon before we left. A lad accompanied us, this time.

The sun shone with a blinding light. It took the utmost effort to open the eyes for an instant, and even thru the closed lids the light penetrated like that of glowing metal. A cold wind prevented the snow from thawing. Not until we had entered the wood was it possible to rest one's eyes. The wood was like the one we had formerly passed thru, with numerous small animal tracks. I had learned to distinguish these, with Nikivor's help. Here a single rabbit had wandered, apparently aimlessly, hither and thither. There was a circle of many rabbits' tracks, with single trails leading out in every direction. One might imagine that there had been a great concourse of rabbits during the night, and that a patrolman of some sort had surprised them and made them flee madly. Here are the long pointed tracks of the cartilage-dainty feet, and nearby the trail of a fox that must have skulked after them. Yonder, going over that slope towards the river a great pack of wolves has passed, in single file. Everywhere is the light, scarcely perceptible, trail of the field mouse in dainty lacelike patterns; here and there the paths of the weasels and ermine—as if a knotted twine had been stretched out and dropped into the snow. Now and then the trail is crossed by great footprints—the path of some clumsy elk.

During the night we halted again, turned the reindeer loose to feed, lit a fire and made up. Morning found me waiting with feverish impatience for the reindeer to be brought in. Nikivor informed me that one of the animals had lost its pole.

"Has it run away?" I asked, anxiously. "He's not gone far," Nikivor answered, and suddenly he began to curse the owner of the reindeer who had brought no ropes, no tackle of any sort. I understood immediately that things were badly out of gear.

They caught one of the stags, not far from the sleigh. Nikivor snorted in reindeer fashion, to attract him, but the animal was suspicious and finally Nikivor made a lasso of one of the lines and buried it under the snow. Then he snorted again, and made cooling calls. Finally the noose caught the pole attached to the stag. The captured beast was lead further into the forest to act as a decoy for the others. . . . A long hour passed. It was quite light in the forest. Now and then I heard human voices in the distance, then everything was silent again. I remembered that I had heard tales of travellers who had to wait two or three days before their animals could be recaptured. Would I have to wait so long? Imagine my impatience. . . .

Finally they returned with all the animals except one. This one followed at a distance, strutted about as if to taunt us, but refused to yield to Nikivor's flattery. At last he availed himself of an instance when its snout was buried in the snow to catch it by the leg. It struggled and fell—Nikivor with it. Ah—Nikivor holds fast, he has caught it!

About ten in the morning we arrived at Sovarsk. Two of the youtas were closed, nailed up, and one was occupied. On the long beams inside lay the slaughtered carcasses of two newly killed animals, and two tiny calves cut from the womb of the cow. Every body was asleep—or drunk—stretched out in a row on the bare boards. No one paid the least attention to our entrance, our salutations. The cabin was large but incredibly dirty, and without furniture. A slab of ice served for a window. On the walls hung pictures of the twelve apostles, of the Czar and of his family, and an advertisement of rubber goods.

Nikivor built a fire on the earth. There upon an Ostiak woman, still staggering with drink, rose and came towards us. They had just returned from a successful hunt the preceding day and were sleeping off the effects of the celebration that had ensued.

How is it there are so many empty youtas?" I asked, "and all these people huddled together into one?" "Many reasons. If any one dies in a cabin no Ostiak will live in it again. Or if an unclean woman enters it—then the man has to change his dwelling place. During their periods the women live apart, in tents. Then the Ostiaks are dying out—that is why the youtas are empty."

"Nikivor—I think you had better not say any more that I am a merchant. When we approach the mines you may say that I am an engineer with the G. Expedition. Have you heard of this expedition?" "No, I've never heard of it."

"Well, there is a project to build a railway from Obdorsk to the White Sea, so that Siberian products can be brought to the seaports and shipped abroad. You can pretend that I have come to Obdorsk for this purpose." The day drew to a close. We were not more than fifty versts from Ivdell. We arrived at the Wogulischen youtas—Oikapan. I asked Nikivor to reconnoiter. He returned after ten minutes to report that the cabins were full of people—all drunk. The native Wogules were drinking in company with a number of Ostiaks, who were bringing merchandise to Nyaksmivoli. I refused to enter, fearing the effects of the drink on Nikivor. "I won't touch anything," he assured me. I only want to buy a little bottle for the journey."

A tall peasant approached our sleigh and spoke to Nikivor in the Ostiakian tongue. I could not understand them, of course, until they began to speak pure Russian. The peasant was not sober, and it soon appeared that Nikivor had availed himself of the ten minutes he had spent inside one of the huts. I joined in the conversation. "What is it?" I asked.

The peasant told me that he had asked Nikivor who I was and waere I was going and in reply Nikivor had told him to go to hell.

"Are you an Ostiak or a Russian?" I asked.

"A Russian—a Russian. My name is Shiropanov. I come from Nyaksmivoli. You are a member of the G. company, are you not?"

I was taken a little aback. "Yes, I belong to the G. company—but how do you know it?" I asked.

"They sent for me to come down from Tobolsk at the time of their first expedition. There was an Englishman with them then—Charles Williamson—I have forgotten his family name."

"Putman," I said quickly, at random. "No, not Putman. Putman's name was along but—ah, this one's name was Kruse."

"And what are you doing now?" "I am working with Shulgins, in Nyaksmivoli, taking out a load of their goods. But for three days I have been very ill—pains all over my body."

I offered him medicine. We entered the youtas. The fire on the hearth was almost out and nobody was bothering to replenish it. It was almost pitch dark, but the forms of people could be seen, on the plank beds, on the floor, all about the room. When we entered the women, according to their custom, covered half their faces. I lit a candle and shook out into my hand a few tablets of sodium salicylate for Shiropanov. Immediately I was surrounded by drunk and half drunk Ostiaks and Wogules, all complaining of their illnesses. Shiropanov acted as interpreter and I shared conscientiously the sodium salicylate and quinine that was to cure all their ills.

"Is it true that you live in the same place as the Czar?" an old emaciated man asked me in broken Russian. "Yes, in Petersburg," I replied. "I was there once—at the exhibition. I saw everything. I saw the Czar himself—the chief of police—the grand duke."

"Were you sent there as a deputation—in Wogulian costumes?" "Yes—Yes—Yes" there was much nodding of heads in affirmation. "In those days I was younger and stronger—now I am old and sick."

I gave him some medicine. They all seemed delighted, kept shaking my hand, asking me to drink with them, and were much grieved at my refusals. Nikivor at the hearth was drinking one cup of tea after another, and taking a drink of spirits between cups of tea. He ignored all my glances and hints. I had to wait until his thirst was quenched. "It is the third day since we have left Ivdell," said Shiropanov, "and we have covered forty five versts. We stopped with Mitya Lialin in Ivdell. He is an excellent fellow. He had brought new books home from the mines—a People's Calendar, and a newspaper. On the calendar we read about how much wages some of the big fellows were getting—some two hundred thousand and some a bare hundred and fifty. What do they do with it all? Tell me. I don't know who you are, sir, but let me tell you this. . . . I don't believe I don't want—well, the Duma meets on the twent-

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"And what are you doing now?" "I am working with Shulgins, in Nyaksmivoli, taking out a load of their goods. But for three days I have been very ill—pains all over my body."

I offered him medicine. We entered the youtas. The fire on the hearth was almost out and nobody was bothering to replenish it. It was almost pitch dark, but the forms of people could be seen, on the plank beds, on the floor, all about the room. When we entered the women, according to their custom, covered half their faces. I lit a candle and shook out into my hand a few tablets of sodium salicylate for Shiropanov. Immediately I was surrounded by drunk and half drunk Ostiaks and Wogules, all complaining of their illnesses. Shiropanov acted as interpreter and I shared conscientiously the sodium salicylate and quinine that was to cure all their ills.

"Is it true that you live in the same place as the Czar?" an old emaciated man asked me in broken Russian. "Yes, in Petersburg," I replied. "I was there once—at the exhibition. I saw everything. I saw the Czar himself—the chief of police—the grand duke."

"Were you sent there as a deputation—in Wogulian costumes?" "Yes—Yes—Yes" there was much nodding of heads in affirmation. "In those days I was younger and stronger—now I am old and sick."

I gave him some medicine. They all seemed delighted, kept shaking my hand, asking me to drink with them, and were much grieved at my refusals. Nikivor at the hearth was drinking one cup of tea after another, and taking a drink of spirits between cups of tea. He ignored all my glances and hints. I had to wait until his thirst was quenched. "It is the third day since we have left Ivdell," said Shiropanov, "and we have covered forty five versts. We stopped with Mitya Lialin in Ivdell. He is an excellent fellow. He had brought new books home from the mines—a People's Calendar, and a newspaper. On the calendar we read about how much wages some of the big fellows were getting—some two hundred thousand and some a bare hundred and fifty. What do they do with it all? Tell me. I don't know who you are, sir, but let me tell you this. . . . I don't believe I don't want—well, the Duma meets on the twent-

leth and this one will be better than the last. We'll see now what the socialists will do. I suppose about fifty of them will be socialists and a hundred and fifty belong to the People's Party—and a hundred cadets—just a few of the black element."

"Which party claims you sympathy, if I may ask?" "My convictions brought me over to the social democrats—they look at things from a scientific viewpoint."

"I had to rub my eyes. Here in the heart of the desolate Taiga, in a grimy youta filled with drunken Wogules the employe of a certain village profiteer tells me that the 'scientific' standpoint of the social democrats has won his adherence. I must confess that I was proud of my party."

"It seems a pity that, you must live in this desolate region," I said to him. "What is one to do? I need to be employed in Bernal but I lost my job. I am a husband and a father—so I had to journey out here. When one lives among wolves one must howl with the pack. I refused to go with the G. Expedition then, but now I would be only too glad to go. If you have need of a man send me a line."

I was rather sorry, I wanted to tell him that I was not an engineer—not even a member of the G. Expedition, but a fugitive socialist. . . . On second thought I said nothing at all. It was time to go. The Wogules accompanied us to the sleigh, holding the lighted candles they had begged of me. There was not breath of air, and the flames of the candles stood still and upright. We repeated farewells, and one young Ostiak tried to kiss my hand. Shiropanov brought out a stag skin and laid it on my sleigh. He refused to accept any money for it. I gave him a bottle of spirits—the last left in my "iron rations." At last we were off.

Nikivor was talkative once more. For the hundredth time he repeated the story of how he had been on a visit to his brother—of how the corporal had given him four roubles and told him to drive "this fellow." Having come to the end he began all over again: "Now I'll tell you once for all how it happened. . . ."

"Thank you, Nikivor. I shall never forget all your trouble and kindness. If it were possible I would have a tribute printed in the newspapers, something like this: 'I express my deepest gratitude to Nikivor Ivanovich Cheryonov. Without his aid I should never have been able to escape.'"

"Why can't you do that?" "Well—the police. . . ."

"Oh, yes, you're right. But that would be fine. I once came near to having my name printed in letters."

"How did that happen?" "Well, it was like this. A merchant from Obdorsk had got hold of his sister's money and I—to tell you the brazen truth—I gave him a hand. . . . well, not a hand exactly—I gave him a little help. 'You have the money,' I said, 'then it must have been the good God that gave it to you.' That's right, isn't it?"

"Not altogether—Nikivor." "Good. You see I did help him a little, but no one knew anything about it except one fellow, Peter Petrovitch Vakiakov, the rasca!—he smelt a rat. He went and had it published in the newspaper—'One thief, the merchant Adrianov stole the money, and another thief, Nikivor helped.' That was absolutely true, and so it got printed."

"You should have brought an action for libel against him," I said. "Perhaps you have heard of the minister,

Gerko, who had stolen or helped to steal, and when the facts came out he brought an action for defamation of character against the persons in question. You should have done that, too."

"I thought about doing it—but the fellow is my best friend, he didn't mean any harm. He did it in a joke. A clever peasant, Peter, he's up to anything."

We reached Ivdell at about four in the morning and went straight to the cabin of Lialin whom Shiropanov had recommended to me as a supporter of the "Narodnik"—the People's Party. He proved to be a most kind and hospitable man, for whose goodness to me I take this opportunity of expressing my thanks.

"We live very quiet lives in these parts," he commented, while we drank tea together. "Even the revolution did not affect us at all. Of course, we take great interest in what is happening, and follow up the newspapers. We sympathize with the progressives and the few radicals in the evenings we sit about the fire. . . . Oh, yes, you can easily reach Rudniki from here. . . . If there are any excuses here. . . . a few—three Laplanders, a teacher, and a circus artist. They are all working and not in special need of anything—living the same quiet life as the rest of us. In the prospect for gold days and in the evenings we sit about the fire. . . . Oh, yes, you can easily reach Rudniki from here. You can take the Zemsvy postal coach or you can hire a sleigh. I will try and find a driver for you. . . ."

I said farewell to Nikivor—a Nikivor that could scarcely stand upright. "Take care, Nikivor. I am afraid if you start back in your present condition you may have trouble along the way."

"That's alright. If the stomach holds out all will be well," was his parting remark.

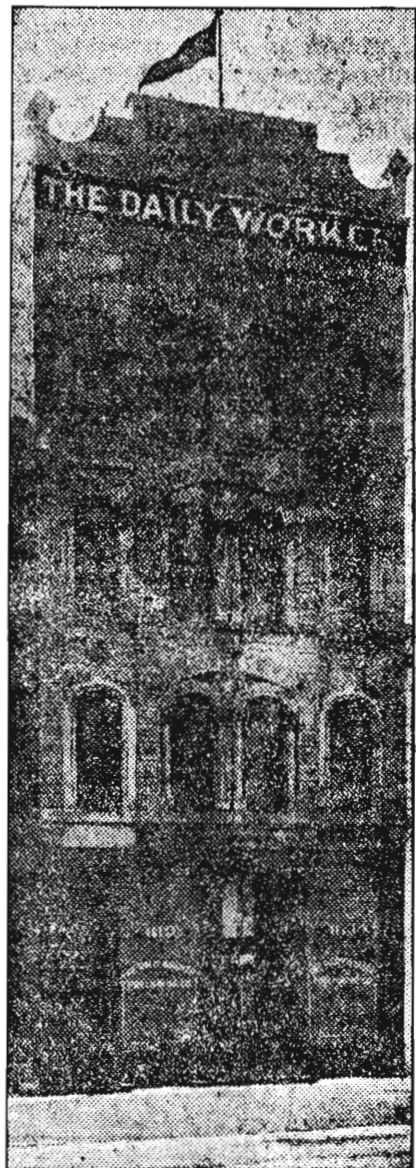
There is nothing heroic in the remainder of my story.

Circumstances seemed to favor me, as nature had favored me on that reindeer journey across the tundras. I travelled for a considerable distance in the same sleigh with an excise officer who was inspecting the liquor saloons in that section, and at last arrived in Rudniki, among friends. On February 25, I left, in a coach on the narrow grade railway that connected with the Perm line. This was a little dangerous, because every suspicious looking individual on this road was carefully observed, and then there was always the danger that a telegraphic communication might have come from Tobolsk, but when I reached the Perm line and found a comfortable coach that would take me back to Petersburg I felt that I was quite safe. The train passed thru the same stations where we had been a short time ago by police, officials and gendarmes with such display. But how different were my feelings now! In a short time I would be back again in Petersburg—after a long circuit.

The compartment seemed stuffy and oppressive. I went out on the platform where the wind was blowing thru the darkness of the night and involuntarily I gave vent to a loud shout of freedom and joy.

And the train carried me on and on and ever on. The End.

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Selling the Weekly

WITH the Young Worker now coming out every week we will have to sell our orders twice as often. The problem of selling our copies of the Young Worker was always a serious one, but now that the paper is a weekly it becomes of even greater importance.

THERE will be many new features in the Weekly Young Worker which will make it more interesting than ever to young workers, and appearing once a week it will be able to carry the message of the Young Workers League to the masses of young workers in this country if we do our part.

HOWEVER, the many possibilities of the Weekly Young Worker will not be realized unless the membership doubles its activities as the Young Worker doubles its appearance. It is up to the membership to take the responsibility of seeing that every week the Young Worker reaches more and more young workers throughout the country. In what way are we going to do this?

FIRST, we must increase our factory campaigns, always being sure that comrades are appointed to remain at the factory where the campaign was conducted every week after the campaign ends. Though, of course, the first sale of the Young Worker containing a special story about the factory, will be much the largest, the smaller, regular sales of subsequent issues must be kept up, as they represent a real interest in the League on the part of those workers in the plant who continue to buy the Young Worker week after week, and the comrades who sell the paper regularly at the factory can talk to these sympathizers and get new members for the Y. W. L.

IN what other ways can we sell our Young Worker except thru factory campaigns?

IT is very important that the Young Worker be sold at union meetings, and now that the paper contains more news and appears once a week, the necessity of selling it at certain unions regularly can be seen. Most unions meet twice a month, and certain members of your branch should be made responsible for taking care of some special union at every meeting.

WHAT about big party meetings and other city city mass meetings. Comrades should by all means be on hand with the Young Worker at every meeting of the Workers Party, where they will find that many of the party members who do not subscribe to the Young Worker will be glad of an opportunity to get a copy. They should also be on hand at all big mass meetings in the city, whether they are party meetings or not, and should also attend big socials and other affairs where the Young Worker can be sold.

WE must realize what a big task confronts us, and all City Central Committees must see to it that the sale of the Young Worker is regular and well enough organized to bring the necessary results.

To the Airmen of the World

Colleagues and Comrades!
WE have heard with feelings of the deepest sorrow and indignation of the crime of the Esthonian government: of the shooting, which took place on the 6th of December, 1924, of two Esthonian airmen for having refused to fire from their aeroplanes upon their brothers, the Esthonian workers.

AT the same time we admire the boundless devotion to the cause of the workers and the steadfastness of these two fallen airmen, who refused to act as slayers of their people and who would not convert aviation into an instrument for the execution of Esthonian workers when the latter were engaged in a fight for their rightful demands.

THE conduct of these two fallen Esthonian airmen fills us with the firm and profound belief that among you, the airmen of all the imperialist armies of the world, there are undoubtedly hundreds and thousands who under no circumstances will degrade their profession, their aeroplanes into guillotines, into instruments for the execution of the fighting workers of their country.

WE have no doubt that this class conscious section of the airmen of the air fleets of all imperialist countries will be equally determined and courageous as these two fallen Esthonian airmen have been when they refused to use their aeroplanes against their own brothers.

WE are profoundly convinced that the best among you and those who are in solidarity with us will join in our protest against the brutality and cruelty of the Esthonian government towards the airmen who were so devoted to the working class and towards the leaders of the Esthonian proletariat.

WE firmly believe that you also, when necessity arises, will have the ability and courage so to act as the interests of the working class dictate to you.

The Airmen of the Charkow Division of the Flying Corps of the S. S. S. R.

The Shop Committee

THE apathy of the Trade Union bureaucracy to organize the industrial young workers brings about a serious situation. Many industries, conspicuous for their employment of large numbers of youth and child labor are conducted on the open shop basis. Organization of any kind to these millions of young workers is some thing very strange. This situation makes it necessary for the Young Workers League to increase its efforts on the economic trade union field.

THE factory campaigns which the league has conducted to a great extent on a national scale have resulted in interesting some young workers in our propaganda. A good start has been made. However, from our experience, we have learned many lessons. In the future we must conduct our campaigns over a sufficient length of time to cover the whole industry and then call conferences of the youth employed therein. At such conferences one of our major tasks will be the popularization of the "shop committee."

EVEN to this day the last word has not been said explaining the role of the "shop committee." Many of our comrades seem to be confused with the terms "shop committee" and "shop nucleus." The shop nucleus is the basic political unit of the organization. It replaces the old territorial branch. It takes over the function of the old branch and carries on the political activity in the factory, shop, mill or mine. The shop committee consists of all the workers in the shop. It is the immediate organ of struggle of the workers. It looks after the time of the work day, wages, and protects the interests of the workers against the boss. Its function is complimentary in part to that of the trade union.

THE organization of shop committees performs several important functions simultaneously. It creates an immediate weapon for the workers' protection and organizes them on a permanent basis for the struggle against the exploitation of the boss. In view of this, we must now connect up this important issue with our activities. From now on our factory campaigns must be productive of not only a shop nucleus, but we must work also for the formation of a shop committee. When issuing the nucleus bulletin we must agitate the idea of a shop committee and when we have crystallized the sentiment favorable to it in a sufficient degree, organization must follow.

IN the large factories the initial effort must be made to get representation from each department. When a provisional committee has been established the next task is to interest all of the workers in the factory. The nucleus must take the leadership of this work and make it known to the rest of the workers. The nucleus must decide before hand on definite policies which are to be presented to the meetings of the shop committee. The particular function of the Young Workers League will be the representation of the interests of the young workers in the shop. The shop committee will offer a fertile recruiting ground for the league.

IT is very difficult but necessary to advocate the slogan of unionizing in most of our factory campaigns because of the difficulty in interesting the trade union officials in taking steps in this direction. But by advocating the shop committee we will be performing the work of unionizing as it is complimentary in part of this important activity and does not conflict with the interest of the trade union but adds to it.

WHEN we advocate an immediate slogan the organization of a shop committee it is possible for immediate realization, therefore, winning the confidence of the workers. In the future with the utilization of this effective slogan it is a foregone conclusion that our efforts will be fruitful of greater results.

Child Labor and Wage Cuts

WHEN the bosses started the present offensive against the working class by cutting wages in the textile industry, the close relation between child labor and wage cuts was realized.

THE textile industry, employing more than a million workers, is based on a large percentage of youth and child labor. When the strike movement against the wage cuts began in the East, the unions were forced to realize what an important part these young workers played in the wages fight, and were forced, to consider seriously the problem of organizing them into the union.

THAT the labor fakers have in no way allowed serious consideration of this problem before has been obvious, since even now in the textile industry some officials refuse to consider the problem at all. In Worcester, one official refuses to do any organizational work in the textile industry there for no better reason than that "the workers in the mills are only a bunch of kids."

ESPECIALLY now that immigration has been restricted and the bosses are drawing more and more upon the supply of cheap child and youth labor, the unions will be forced to listen to the demands of the Young Workers League and start organizing the thousands of young workers that make up such a big part of the unorganized workers of America.

BESIDES organizing the young workers, they must give more attention to the fight for the abolition of child labor and put forward the demands of equal pay for equal work and full maintenance of the children by the state, which are the only demands on which basis child labor can be abolished in America.

Young Workers League members were among the most active sections of the progressive miners in the last U. M. W. A. election. The progressives won but were counted out by the "votes" of the blue sky locals, i. e., locals which exist in the imagination of John L. Lewis or in the blue sky. They are not giving up the fight. They've got the fakers on the run, and when they begin to line up the young workers on the basis of our league program they will have a fighting virile army of enthusiastic young miners who will make John L. and his gang think a slather of coal fell on them.

The "Young International"

By OLIVER CARLSON

Did you ever hear of the "Young International"? Very likely not—and still, that was the name of the first organ of the American revolutionary youth. Some of you may say, "But what about the Young Socialist magazine. Was not that a revolutionary paper?" To which I must reply that it was too intimately connected with the history of the Socialist Party ever to have earned the name of a really revolutionary paper. And at the time when we were really trying to swing the Socialist Party and the Young People's Socialist League to the left—it was taken away from us before we could do much with it—and it began more or less of a red-baiting campaign under the auspices of the S. P. once more to attack the revolutionary elements within what had been the Y. P. S. L.

Begun by Few.

But the "Young International" begun by a handful of us in Chicago right at the time when reaction was at its height—in January 1920, declared itself for the Communist International and for a revolutionary international of the world's working youth. The decisions of the First Congress of the gram, were first given to the Young Communist International, its manifesto and program, English-speaking world thru the medium of this little four page paper.

Set by Hand.

How well I remember the dark little cellar on Chicago's North side, where we set by hand all of the notices for the paper, the sub, cards, its headings, etc. And how we toiled at the footpress (for we didn't have money enough to get it printed by a regular printer—

and the comrade whose small shop we were using didn't have a press that was run by any power other than that of one's own) for long weary hours to run off the few thousand copies of our paper. I believe that 'Bob' Garver and Harry Gannes are the only two active members of the Y. W. L. at the present time who were intimately associated with me in the work of bringing out the "Young International". Others are to be found in the party. Still others are outside of our movement. But the history of the revolutionary youth press of these United States can never be completely written unless they take into account those pioneering efforts of the few who sought to develop an organ for the exploited youth of this country at a time when reaction was rampant and triumphant.

The End of the Young International.

Three issues—and the Young International came to an end. And to the large outside world its coming and its going meant nothing at all. But to those young valiant souls who were determined that a revolutionary youth movement in America must be built its inception was hailed with joy—and its departure was sincerely mourned. If it served no other purpose, it at least broke the ground for the organization that was to follow it the next year.

Five Years Later: The Weekly!

Little did we think at that time, as we saw our efforts to build this little paper followed by failure, that within the short space of five years time we should have established in this country a WEEKLY YOUNG WORKER behind which stood

an inspiring army of several thousand of young and dauntless rebels ready to spread IT and ITS message into the sweatshops of New York, the steel mills of Pittsburgh and Gary, the automobile plants of Detroit, the packing houses of Chicago, the coal mines of Pennsylvania, Ohio and Illinois, —in short among all sections of young industrial and agrarian workers from coast to coast.

"Youth."

And how well do I remember when we launched the first issue of the present Young Worker in New York three years ago last January. (The first issue was called "YOUTH") we had no money with which to start. A mere skeleton of an organization in a few scattered cities was the extent of our youth movement. But we knew full well that where capitalism was, there too must be found the elements that would go to the making of a nation-wide organization of the toiling and exploiting youth. Our very first editorial stressed the fact that this magazine was to be essentially different from the many which claimed to represent the "advanced" youth. We said that those of us who were engaged in its production had little time to give to the necessities of diction and rhetoric, that we were too busy in the actual everyday struggles of the members of our class to bother about such things. Our paper had a definite purpose to serve: to sound the call for organization and education of the working class youth for doing away with capitalism and substituting in its place Workers Soviet Government.

A Paper of Action.

From that day to this, The Young Worker and the Young

Workers League have been close to this line of action—and because of that we are enabled at this time to send forth this new and enlarged weapon in the class struggle—a WEEKLY YOUNG WORKER.

Those of us who have been so closely and intimately associated with the revolutionary youth movement in this country as we prepare to pass out of it into the larger world of party work cannot but feel a justifiable pride to know that our work was not in vain; that newer and abler forces are taking our places to carry on the work. The actual problems before the Young Workers League and the Young Worker are ever so much greater today than what they were two, three or five years ago, and for that reason they demand of each and all the spirit and the determination to carry on.

The Weekly, a Fact.

The WEEKLY YOUNG WORKER is a fact. It follows the policy of an uncompromising fight against wage-slavery and for Communism. It is the strong right arm of our ever growing youth movement which is driving forward to the overthrow of capitalism.

I greet You, WEEKLY YOUNG WORKER! You symbolize the growing spirit of discontent against capitalism. YOU are the beacon light of working-class solidarity amongst the American youth! YOU will be found in mine and mill and factory—wherever the exploited youth are to be found—there to spur them on in the struggle. As William Morris put it so many years ago, YOU will give them "Intelligence enough, to will, power enough to compel" and as YOU do this YOU herald the coming of a NEW DAY.

One Half of Child Slaves Are Black

By WILLIAM F. DUNNE

In the south, with its ruling class beginning to understand the value of the Negro youth, recruited from its feudal rural sections, to growing southern industry, the most bitter opposition to the child labor amendment is found.

It is customary in certain circles, when discussing the hostility of the southern ruling class to such measures, to brand this attitude as "ignorant." Nothing could be further from the truth. This attitude is a conscious one and derives directly from the knowledge that the passage and enforcement of the child labor law would prevent the profitable plundering of thousands of Negro children.

Cannot Separate Problem

If we include the southern Negro children who are engaged in agriculture we get a clear majority of the total children gainfully employed in the United States for the former confederate states. It is clear therefore, that the problem of child labor cannot be separated from the larger prob-

lem of the Negro worker and the whole race question.

Figures compiled by the federal council of churches on child labor are illuminating when viewed from the angle of race as a factor in child enslavement.

Number of Slaves

In 1920, only 6.7 per cent of white children between 10 and 15 years of age were "gainfully employed"—the euphemistic phrase by which capitalist economists describe the process of turning the flesh and blood of childhood into profit.

A slight advance in age brings a rapid increase in the percentage of Negro children employed that shows the whirling power of the maelstrom that whips into industry the Negro youth.

Largest Percentage

The figures for the total number of Negro children under 16 years of age are a tribute to the keen sense of smell of the capitalists who have scented this source of profit: 16.3 per cent of all Negro children

from 10 to 13 years of age were employed in 1920.

The average is secured by dividing the total of the percentages of boy and girl workers—19.5 of the boys and 13.1 per cent of the girls were under a boss.

Negro boys and girls of 14 years were employed as follows: 30.3 per cent; 15 years of age, 37.7 per cent. As the age of the children increases, slightly the percentage goes up with lightning speed and we find that over 15 the percentage of these adolescents has increased to 48.2 per cent for the Negro boys.

Number Increasing

Translated into numbers the above statements work out as follows, when based on the number of Negro children at work in 1920 (later figures are not now available but it is well known that there has been a tremendous increase in the number of Negro workers in industry and consequently in the number of Negro children employed):

Age	Boys	Girls
10 to 13	96,470	64,982
14	45,471	29,392
15	49,656	30,980
16	66,351	41,371
17	74,217	42,178
Total	332,165	208,903
541,068 Negro child workers five years ago.		

Reason For Increase

The rapid industrialization of the south as indicated by the recent Morgan merger of already huge chemical, coal and iron mining, fertilizer and water power industries, together with the great influx of Negro workers into northern industry during the years 1923-24, have added great numbers of Negro child workers to the above enormous total.

What young worker, or old one for that matter, will say that the problem of race relations and of the Negro in industry does not make itself felt with the terrible force in the child labor issue?

Or that the opposition of the southern rulers is "ignorant" hostility?

How I Learned To Know Lenin

By OTTO UNGER.

Member, Executive Committee, Young Communist International
I DON'T know when I learned to know him better, on the day when I first saw him and heard him speak, or two a half years earlier, when I studied the lessons of his book, the "State and Revolution." His name I had known already for a long time. I still remember how his name was known amongst the Russian exiles in Stuttgart. It was very often mentioned in the heated polemic and not always in a flattering manner.

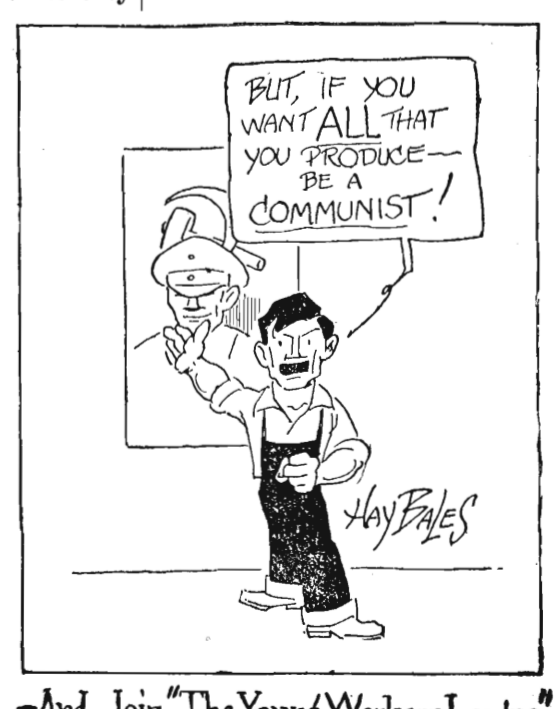
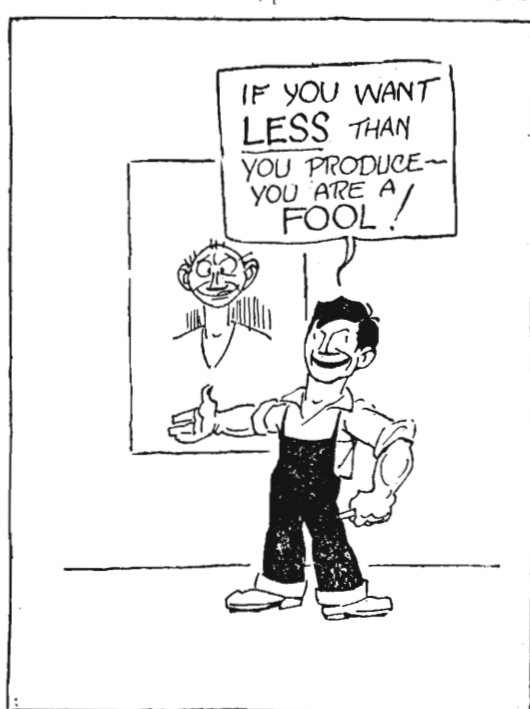
Then came the war. Only seldom news came from the headquarters of the revolutionary general staff to the horrors and the dirt of the trenches, which thought out its great task to the smallest detail and preparation in Switzerland. The censure of Ludendorff controlled the whole front and prevented anything uncomfortable from penetrating thru, up to the time when the memorable wireless message "To all" flashed the news of the Russian Revolution thruout Europe even into the field wireless stations,

from Leningrad. Then came again and again to us youngsters the beloved names, Lenin, Trotsky, Chicherin—Lenin, Trotsky, Chicherin. Naturally with the proper distortions, naturally only caricatured. When the censorship of Ludendorff was no longer able to hold up the wireless from the east, it began a counter propaganda, printing lies and cock and bull stories about Soviet Russia to the extent of their imaginations.

Did we believe it? There is a proverb: "If you fling enough mud, some will surely stick" and so it was with the mass of the soldiers. We ourselves were not a little sceptical and mistrustful of the leaders. The old ones had betrayed and sold us in 1914. The new? Who knows but what they

will do the same with us? How should we know that Lenin was no "new" one, but was an "old" one, and one of those few old ones who did not betray the working class in 1914. No one told us this, and so we remained sceptics. And only gradually, and as we grew, despite Ludendorff, to recognize the gigantic work of proletarian Russia, our confidence grew, and turned into enthusiasm for the heroic party which had created this, for the proletariat which had provided the fighting troops and the men, who in this immense collapse of an imperialist empire, laid the foundation stone of the new Russia.

(Continued in next issue.)



—And, Join "The Young Workers League!"