

Young Workers of America! Stand Solidly Behind the General Strike of 5,000,000 British Workers!

N. E. C. DECIDES TO HOLD PLENARY IMMEDIATELY AFTER PARTY SESSION

Opens for Constructive and Wholesome Discussion of League's Problems by the Membership. Agenda Issued.

The N. E. C. has already decided to hold a plenary session of E. C. members, N. E. C. candidates and district organizers. All those concerned have already received official notification. This session will take place immediately after the Party C. E. C. session. The exact date is not decided upon yet but it will be approximately May 23rd.

This plenary session of the N. E. C. will to a large extent take up the work which the last convention left undone, namely, the outlining of our youth activities. This has been facilitated by the recent resignation of the Y. C. I.

The N. E. C. has already decided that membership meetings be held in the principal cities previous to the E. C. members leaving, where discussion shall take place on our activities during the past period and what is necessary to improve it in the future.

Beginning with the week of May 15th the Youth Column of the Daily Worker and The Young Worker will appear for all Y. W. L. members to discuss in a constructive manner the problems facing our league and how we can improve our activity. The principal subjects upon which we urge discussion are the following:

1. Organization activity.
 - (a) Membership drives.
 - (b) Co-ordination of activities.
 - (c) A. B. C. of organization.
 - (d) Financial stabilization of League.
2. Reorganization.
 - (a) Establishing of shop nuclei completion of reorganization.
 - (b) Recruiting of youth in large shops and basic industries.
3. Economic Trade Union Activity.
 - (a) Anti-Militarist Activity.
 - (b) Workers' Sports Movement.
 - (c) Negro.
 - (d) Pioneer League.
 - (e) Anti-prop.

4. Press—increasing circulation; better contents.
 5. Youth Column.
 6. Youth Column.
 7. Youth Column.
 8. Youth Column.
 9. Opponent organizations. All members should aim at condensing their contributions to the discussion so that the greatest possible number of members can present their opinions based on activity and experience. Let us make this a constructive and wholesome discussion of our activities!
- Young Workers (Communist) League of America. National Executive Committee.

AGENDA FOR N. E. C. PLENARY SESSION

The tentative agenda for the Young Workers (Communist) League Plenary session is as follows:

1. Party report. By Party representative.
 - (a) Relationship between Party and League.
 2. Y. O. I. report. Reporter Sam Darcy.
 - (a) Mass work.
 - (b) Internal work.
 - (c) Special reports:
 1. Industrial work. Reporter John Williamson.
 2. Anti-Militarist. Reporter Max Schachtman.
 3. Agit-prop. Reporter Morris Yusen.
 4. Negro work. Reporter H. V. Phillips.
 5. Sport work. Reporter Nat Kaplan.
- Special conferences will follow the plenary on Pioneer work and organization work. (Org-conference.)

General Strike in Great Britain!



The answer of 5,000,000 British workers to the Tory government Coal Commission Report!

BRITISH WORKERS WERE WELL PREPARED FOR PRESENT GENERAL STRIKE

Young Communists Led in Organizing Youth for Struggle!

The solidarity of labor's forces is the keynote of the world's greatest strike taking place in England at the present time. Just before May Day (the international holiday of the working class) was ushered in, on Friday at midnight, 1,000,000 British miners downed tools. An effective answer to the dastardly report of the Tory government Coal Commission!

On Saturday, May 1st, the "toy monarch" of the Britains proclaimed a state of siege, which set up the Baldwin government as an open dictator of the big capitalists of England—no longer responsible to parliament.

The special British Trade Union Congress in session at the time stuck to its former pledges of support to the miners; it took up the challenge of the government by voting for a general strike—delegates of 3,653,529 workers voted for, 49,911 against. Today 5,000,000 workers are on strike taking in the following occupations: Miners, Railroad men, Rail Clerks, Builders, Transport workers, Seamen, Printers, Ironworkers, Electricians. New Masses of workers are joining the ranks of the strikers from other trades daily.

Background of Struggle.

For some time the Baldwin government of England has been facing a serious crisis. On every side it was beset with the deep-rooted contradictions of the rotten capitalist system. The British colonies and dominions are no longer the same dumping ground for the industrial products of the mother country as they were in the past. Capitalism has grown in the colonies and dominions helped by the invested capital. The colonies and dominions have begun to lose their character as the market for British products and have themselves become competitors of the industries of the British Isles. "Dying capitalism" has in England a glaring example.

The growth of national independence agitation in the near and far east worked to the havoc of English imperialism and led to the greater animosity of the ruling clique of that country against the Soviet Union—around which the oppressed colonies were rallying.

The home industries of England were hard hit. The Dawes Plan which Morgan fastened on Germany was a tremendous setback for the coal and steel industries of the British Isles. The army of the unemployed increased at an alarming rate.

John Bromley



John Bromley is the fighting leader of the Engineers who have stopped England's train service to help the miners win their struggle.

Thus gradually the skilled workers of England lost their specially favored position. The ruling class could no longer afford to bribe them with a higher standard of living than the masses of the unskilled workers. Was it any wonder that a greater homogeneity and the steady impoverishment of the British working class was the result? Was it any wonder that this process germinating in the ranks of labor caused the movement toward the left, as exemplified by the Scarborough Labor Congress, the approachment between the British and Russian trade unions for World Trade Union Unity, the present general strike?

"The workers could see the coming struggle in the more or less open alliance of the Baldwin government with the Fascist O. M. S. (Organization for the Maintenance of Supplies) through which a nation-wide strike-breaking apparatus was being perfected. They could see it in the arrest of the 12 leaders of

Raise the Question of Support in Your Local Union and Other Workers' Organizations

NO SCAB COAL FOR ENGLAND

TORY GOVERNMENT FACES UNITED LABOR FORCES

Young Workers Advance

By ALFRED B. COHEN. (Secy. Nat'l Amalgamated Furnishing Trade Assn.)

Note: The following story was written specially for the Young Worker. Just before the miners of England went on strike which culminated in the present heroic general strike of the British workers.

LONDON, England. — The country is faced with a big mining crisis in May. The Tory government elected a commission of "impartial" gentlemen to report on the crisis. They have reported among other good little things that the miners must have a reduction in wages. At a meeting between the mine owners and the miners, the owners have refused to budge from their demands, i. e., reduction of wages, increase of working day, district agreements.

THE MINERS' CONFERENCE

The miners called a national delegated conference on April 9th to discuss the commission's report and the owners' attitude. The conference agreed that they would fight to the bitter end, not only against wage reductions, but for an all round increase, and furthermore, they would allow no increase in the working hours. They also refused to enter the bosses' trap and accept district agreements, thus getting district to fight district and split the ranks, but declared for one national agreement.

The miners have decided to fight and they are being backed up by the workers up and down the country. A. J. Cook, the left wing miners' secretary, addressed packed meetings of workers who declare they will stand behind the fight of the miners whatever happens.

THE MACHINISTS' SCRAP.

The engineers (or machinists in the U. S. A.) are demanding one pound increase per week and it looks as if a battle will take place shortly. Every union in the country is faced with reductions or have put in counter demands for increases and all have started campaigns for 100 per cent organization. In this connection the Young Communist League has done fine work in getting the unions to organize campaigns for the young workers.

UNITY YOUTH AND ADULT

I myself, at the present time, am engaged in one of these campaigns. Whatever happens, we young workers will stand together with the adult workers in the coming struggle.

the Communist Party of Great Britain, among them the secretary of the Young Communist League.

WORKERS PREPARE FOR STRUGGLE.

The report of the tory government Coal Commission was published on March 11th. This report was a direct challenge to organized labor. As one Yorkshire miner expressed it: They had brass, they had, nothing to come off the melons they cut; nothing off the royalties then; dukes drew—but lower wages and longer hours for us. That was their solution of the whole problem!"

The Communists and the Mi-

Active Material Support for British Strikers Demanded by Young Workers

The Combined Attempt of the Coal Operators and the breaking Coolidge Government to Smash the U. M. W. Must Be Answered.

The heroic struggle of the 5,000,000 British workers is a huge and mighty task on the shoulders of the young workers of this country. We, the young workers of America, must be a dynamic force which makes for the solidarity of the labor forces of this country behind our fighting British brothers. We can do this!

In the recent labor struggles of this country we have ourselves the most militant, the most class conscious of the working class. As part of the great mass of the unskilled workers in this country, suffering untold miseries as young workers, we have forced recognition from the labor movement because of the part we played in the Passaic Textile Strike, the Furriers' Strike, in the struggles of the needle trades, etc. Even now the young workers are raising their voices for a more aggressive policy in organizing the unorganized among the coal diggers and in the steel industry. Large sections of us have refused to enter the camp of the big bosses at the tail of the reactionary trade union leaders.

Now that the British workers are engaged in their mighty struggle what are "our leaders" of the trade unions doing? In the press we read that John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, after conferring with Secretary of Labor Davis stated that labor conditions in the mines of this country were satisfactory. One young miner after the other writing for our Young Worker, has branded this statement as a complete and downright lie. Even while the coal operators of this country are engaged in a sinister campaign to smash the United Mine Workers of America by shifting operations from the union to the non-union fields we are assured by Lewis that everything is "jake."

Practically in the same breath William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, after expressing a wordy sympathy with the demands of the British miners, discusses the move of the German miners to prevent, if possible, the exportation of German coal to England and states: "Non-union mines of this country would make any similar move by union miners in this country ineffective."

Young workers of America! Young miners! Will we stand for this policy of "defeatism" of passive sympathy for our struggling British brothers? No! We must organize for action and demand action from our trade union leaders on a two-fold policy (1) active material support for the British strikers. (2)

present representing a million workers. For the setting up of a joint committee, the Young Workers Defense Committee demand that soldiers' ratings should be given to refuse strikes service from this important. It was real preparation for the gigantic struggle to come.

ANSWER TO THE REPORT.

On Monday, May 1st, the Conference of the National Miners' Minority Movement in London declared: "This conference of 5000 miners from 2000 (Continued on page 2)

SUPREME COURT TO AGT ON RUTHENBERG APPEAL



C. E. Ruthenberg.

WASHINGTON — A demonstration of the peculiar nature of "democracy" under capitalism will be staged when the U. S. supreme court reviews the case of C. E. Ruthenberg, general secretary of the Workers (Communist) Party. The charge is "assisting with" the Communist Party of America at the Bridgman, Michigan, convention in 1922. Thirty one defendants, leader comrades of the Party, are involved. Isaac E. Ferguson will present the brief for the defendants.

HUGE SUCCESS PREDICTED FOR FOREIGN BORN WORKERS

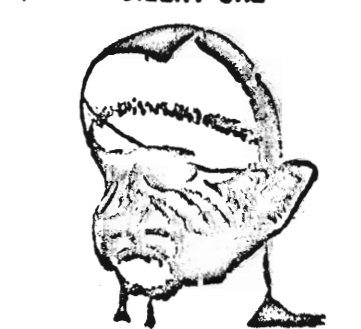
PITTSBURGH, Pa. — Reports reaching the office of the Western Pennsylvania Council for the Protection of Foreign-Born indicate that the National Conference which will be held at the Play House, Washington, D. C., Saturday and Sunday, May 15-16 will be a huge success. The Pittsburgh Council elected 2 delegates, the chairman and the secretary of the conference. Local Union 2881 U. M. W. A. elected a delegate to represent it at the Washington Conference. News came from New York that the Council there expects to send its full quota of five delegates. Detroit, Boston, Cleveland, Buffalo and numerous other cities are making arrangements to send delegates.

TOM MANN.



Veteran labor leader of the British minority movement which is composed of more than 1,000,000 left wing members of British unions.

"SILENT CAL"



The father of the foreign-born discrimination laws.



Young Workers

TIGHE CHOKES MOVE TO ORGANIZE UNORGANIZED YOUNG STEEL WORKERS

By a Young Steel Worker.
PITTSBURGH, Pa.—If the young workers had any hope that the recent convention of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers would take any steps towards organizing the steel industry, that hope has been blasted. The reactionary machine ruled by Mike Tighe, refuses to organize and at the convention conclusively proved that it does not want to organize the steel workers but that year by year it is losing the few organized workers they remain in the industry.

In Western Pennsylvania, advertised as "The Workshop of the World," we find that with the single exception of a small local in Cannonsburg, there is no semblance of an organized labor movement in the steel industry.

As a result, modern improvements, remarkable inventions, are making bigger profits for the steel barons instead of shortening hours and raising wages. Thousands of men are thrown out of work and the ranks of the unemployed increased which results in wage cuts.

The Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry reports that the average wage of the steel worker is \$27 per week. It must not be overlooked that this average includes the wages of the superintendents, foremen, etc., which makes the average really much less. This results in much misery in the homes (or rather shacks) of these workers. The principal victims of the starvation wages are the young workers and children of the steel workers.

The report of the Tuberculosis Association of Beaver County, a steel center, for 1924-25 shows that 14.3 per cent of the children attending school, are seriously underweight. One town in particular, West Bridgewater, has 35.4 per cent of the school children seriously underweight.

SPEED-UP SYSTEM CAUSES MANY DEATHS IN STEEL INDUSTRY

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—The steel companies of Western Pennsylvania not satisfied with paying the men starvation wages, are always speeding them up. A typical example of how the workers are driven can be seen from the speech of President Clyde of the Carnegie Steel Co., at a safety meeting held in the Edgar Thomas Works at Braddock. He congratulated the men of mill No. 4 for breaking all previous records. This mill is 51 years old.

As a result of this speed-up system, injuries and deaths are common, every day occurrences. The newspapers rarely print any news of accidents in the mills. It is a terrible sight to see the long line of injured reporting every day at the company hospitals.

For a Young Workers' Conference in N. Y.

By M. BURCHETZKY.
Member Local 10, Furriers' Union.
Shortly there will be held a mass working youth conference in New York City. This will be an event of great significance in the history of the American labor movement.
An important task of this conference will be to seriously take up the question of unifying the young workers and organizing the struggle for the improvement of their economic conditions.
Let the young workers in the factories and shops take up the question of sending delegates to this conference! Let the conference be the expression and will of the young workers that desire to be organized together with the adult workers in order to fight their exploiters!

YOUNG CLOTHING WORKERS EXPLOITED IN ZION'S

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—In the Sol Zion Clothing factory here conditions are rotten even tho it is supposed to be a union shop. There is a big army of young boys and girls here. They are hired and fired, they come and go. Wages for the youth range from \$7 to \$18 a week. Those who get \$18 are working on machines which should net \$35 a week. It is only when the young workers enter the union and kick out the reactionary officials that conditions can change.



"Textile Committee Enters Putnam"

IT seems to have become a mania with the police in textile towns to cock and achieve publicity. This publicity is not of a very favorable nature. A strike of several hundred textile workers in New London, Conn., was progressing peacefully and quietly. The owners of Bloom Company, Inc., did not bother much about importing scabs, calling the strikers to conferences, or anything to show that they were alive. The strikers smelled a rat somewhere. They knew that the orders were coming in thick and fast at the time that the storm broke. They immediately understood that the orders were being transferred to the other plant in Putnam. The old game of the textile barons of separating their mills and then slashing the wages in one mill, work the orders in the other, smash the strike if one takes place, and then follow it up with wage cuts in the other mills, then repeat the same process, was being played here. The strikers understood the game and proceeded to take steps to smash it, by sending a delegation to the other mill and to report back just what they learnt. Following this, of course, the purpose was to organize the Putnam workers and then call them out on strike.

The cops suit in. The committee did not have the chance to get any more information that day. A big touring car drove up before the mill and two uniformed cops got out. They went into the superintendent's office and came out a minute later. The car drove up to where the strike committee was quietly standing and talking to the workers. They got out again, approached the committeemen and began questioning and examining them. When one worker protested against the whole procedure he was told to shut up. When another protested and conjured up the so-called spirit of the U. S. Constitution and reminded the officer that he was breaking the law, he was answered by the officers of the law that constitution or no constitution, he was going ahead with what he was doing—and furthermore, he was going to ship them all out of town. Yes, the whole committee was

deported from the respectable American community of Putnam, Conn., by the bosses' agents—the police. Pinched! Charges: Small Car. As the workers got back into their car and proceeded for home, followed by the entire police force of Putnam, the chief of police suddenly hit on a bright idea, he would lock them up on a charge of overloading their car—seven strikers in a five-passenger car. He stopped their car, ordered them to drive to the station, took their names and addresses; kept them waiting for a half hour in a stuffy room and then came back to inform them to get the hell out of town. He'd let them go this time—the big hearted, fat-bellied chief of police said.

The committee left the town after this very hospitable reception at the hands of the police, but the effect was just the reverse of what Ed. Bloom, Inc., had expected. The striking textile workers became more determined than ever to win the strike. The striking textile workers became more determined than ever to win the strike. The workers at Putnam became more sympathetic when they heard of the incident—it spread like wildfire thru the town. The workers in New London were going to send two car loads of strikers into Putnam the next day. And thus these raw, unsuspecting workers in New London, Conn., received their first lesson in the use of government agencies as strike breakers.

—P. Frankfield.

Eight-Hour Day is Myth in Tin Mills

(By Young Tin Mill Worker.)
McKEESPORT, Pa.—I work in a tin mill here. The McKeesport Tin Plate Co. owns the mill. About 3,000 workers are employed. A good many of the workers are young. Most of them are employed in the semi-skilled or unskilled work. We have heard so much about the 8-hour day in the steel mill. Well I want to tell you here that tin laborers are working from 10 to 12 hours a day at 40 cents an hour. When you are working as a laborer, you cannot even be a minute late, for every morning when you come in, and in the evening when you quit you must punch a clock. If you are late about 10 or 15 minutes you are dooked an hour.

Hot Mill. Then we have the hot mill. With 9 to 10 fellows working in a gang which is called the hot mill crew. We work in three shifts, eight hours a shift; that is we change every eight hours. One week we work from 8 a. m.

Soft Coal Crisis As Operations Shift to Non-Union Fields

(By Young Coal Digger.)
DOWELL, Ill.—The masses of miners in District No. 12, U. M. W. A. are showing great dissatisfaction. The operators' offensive is destroying the industry in soft coal. There are only 120 out of the 480 mines that are operating and these are mainly small mines in northern Illinois that work part time. But the main mines in southern Illinois are practically all closed.

The entire mining industry has moved from the union fields to the scab fields of Kentucky, West Virginia and stretching across the country to Alabama. The reactionary officials of the union do nothing to remedy this situation which is undermining the union. From time to time, they make false pretensions.

John L. Lewis' famous phrase of "no backward step" is but mere words and a desk drawer resolution. In fact, that phrase



is but one of the many jokes that the coal operators amuse themselves with.
When we look at the situation in southern Illinois we can see that new, militant, policies are needed if the miners' union is to be saved. This is also a national problem and will effect the miners all over the United States.

YOUNG MINERS PLAY BIG ROLE IN CAMPAIGN TO SAVE THE UNION

DOWELL, Ill.—The young miners will play a big role in fighting against the attempt of the operators to smash the miners' union by shifting operations to non-union fields. The young miners are an important part of the

union membership and in the industry hold posts of importance which only the youth can tackle.

The young miners have the most dangerous occupations since the bosses see that it is a great advantage to have young blood doing certain jobs. The motormen, trip riders, and trappers are all dangerous youth jobs, since their work is to transport the coal to and fro in the mines among much difficulty. The bare wires that have high powered electricity, must be continuously dodged by the young miners as it criss-crosses along their passage. The young miners are mainly affected in mine fatalities. Healthy means of recreation are neglected since they work continuously in the artificial means of ventilation in the mines.

The Young Workers (Communist) League is solidly behind the fight of the young miners to save their union and improve their conditions. The only solution for the present crisis in the soft coal fields is the complete organization of the unorganized miners and the nationalization of the mines. Of course, the labor fakirs are against these demands in practice. The scab fields must be penetrated and unionized. That if the central task facing the young miners.

—P. Frankfield.

WRITE AS YOU FIGHT!

PASSAIC YOUTH DEMANDS MORE ENERGETIC SUPPORT

14th Week of Strike Secs Victory Drawn
By JACK STONE.
PASSAIC, N. J.—In the fourteenth week of the strike the Passaic strikers are moving very quickly. We may soon see the successful conclusion and a union being built solely along a strike line. A union in which the young workers are to play a great and important part. This I pointed out in an article—how the young workers better equipped, organized and therefore have received a share of responsibility in the building of the Strike Committee.

News Briefs on the Passaic Strike

April 15th.—We had a picket line of seven workers in front of the Passaic Worsted Spinning Company. As we were singing union songs, four cops came over, hit one of the pickets on the nose, which caused the flood to flow. Three pickets were arrested and while going to the station were beaten up badly.

April 16th.—A victory for the solidarity of labor defense was achieved with the formation of a joint committee for defense. The joint committee unites the International Labor Defense, the American Civil Liberties Union, The League for Industrial Democracy, the Emergency Committee for Strikers' Relief, The Federated Press, the U. F. C. of T. W. and the Passaic Strike Relief Committee.

April 16th.—The attitude of the U. F. C. to so-called conciliation committees that were formed was expressed as follows: To such committees as the committee of clergyman or the honest citizens' committee headed by Judge Cabell, we extend co-operation. The dishonest efforts of the East Side Merchants' Association, by Mayor McGuire, by Secretary of Labor Davis, etc., which call for the strikers giving up their demands are repudiated.

April 18th.—With the New Jersey Textile Strike in its 14th week, more than a quarter million dollars has been raised by the joint committee for Defense of Passaic Strikers as a fund with which to continue its fight for free speech.

April 30th.—A signal victory over the agencies of the bosses was won on Friday, when Sheriff Nemo was forced to open Belmont Park Hall to the strikers for a meeting under the auspices of the A. C. L. U. An injunction was issued restraining the sheriff from interference in the meeting.

May 4th.—The International Workers' Aid celebrated May Day by taking seven truck loads of food, shoes and clothing, including one of bread, to Passaic for the relief of the strikers. The Boston Pioneers at their regular meeting have decided to spare the money from two ice creams every week for the children of Passaic strikers.

FURRIERS' CONFERENCE WITH BOSSES BREAKS UP

NEW YORK CITY—A 15-hour conference between the Furriers' Union and the manufacturing broke up Sunday morning, May 5th, without having made an approach to a settlement of the strike of 12,000 furriers a large part of which are young workers.
On April 23rd William Green came to New York to bring about a settlement. He spoke before a mass meeting

Young Workers Become More Radical

MOSCOW, U. S. S. R.—Speaking before the enlarged executive of the Young Communist International, Comrade Vuyovitch drew conclusions from the Comintern's appraisal of the economic and political world situation, for the youth movement. In part he said:
The Capitalist Offensive.
"An increased economic offensive against young workers more virulent than the offensive against adult workers was a characteristic feature of the year 1925. Systematic reduction of wages introduction of a longer work day, refusal to grant the unemployment dole, such was the order of the day everywhere. In many cases, the bourgeoisie succeeded in making workers to reduce the wages of workers. These phenomena resulted in constant worsening of the position of the young workers. Moreover, growing unemployment among young workers. This is particularly the case in Germany, Britain, Austria and Czechoslovakia."
"The fact that the position of young workers in Europe is gradually worse and that on the other hand their position in the U. S. is steadily improving, causes masses of the young proletariat to turn to the left."

N. E. C. STATEMENT ON MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The N. E. C. of the Y. W. L. after carefully discussing ways and means of increasing the circulation of both the Young Worker and the Young Comrade and of improving the management of all our publications decided to appoint a management committee to take complete charge of the business management of these publications.
Specific instructions will be sent out to the units immediately. The N. E. C.

Why Not Become a Worker Correspondent?