

# CHALLENGE

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Official Organ of the Young People's Socialist League

Price 5 Cents

## TODAY'S FIGHT

First Public Schools.  
Steel Trust Plots.  
T. o School Systems.  
Child Labor or School.  
BY SPARTACUS

### Defend the Free Public Schools.

One hundred and three years ago victory perched on the banners of the early organized American labor movement which had made its first public demand the establishment of a system of free tax supported public schools. That victory, won against the forces of aristocracy and privilege, has remained the most enduring achievement that the American working class has bequeathed to its children.

Today danger signals are flying! The forces of reaction are making a desperate assault on the system which seeks to offer to every American child regardless of class advantage, an opportunity to prepare to live and be useful.

The first blow was struck in 1929 in Monessen, Pa., a steel town above Pittsburgh, the "Essen" of the Monongehala valley. The local steel trust unit had for years escaped taxes on its immense property. When its exemption no longer worked it demanded and received the right to reorganize the public schools to eliminate "frills." The frills were music, manual training, athletics, art work, etc. The three "R's" were to be retained to train industrial cannon fodder for the trust if they should be needed.

This was the "Steel trust" which had savagely crushed with starvation and bullets, the attempts of workers in its mines and mills to organize and demand better wages, a shorter day. This was the Steel trust which between 1901 and 1932 paid out \$92,700,000 in cash dividends to a privileged owning class on common stock which was issued on nothing but water, blue sky, thin air.

Today such ghouls of the profit-taking class through their political hirelings have extended far and wide their campaign of thieving the rights of posterity. The Chicago school board carefully selected by Democratic Mayor Kelly, have stripped the Chicago school system as his Republican twins in the Pennsylvania steel town scarcely dared.

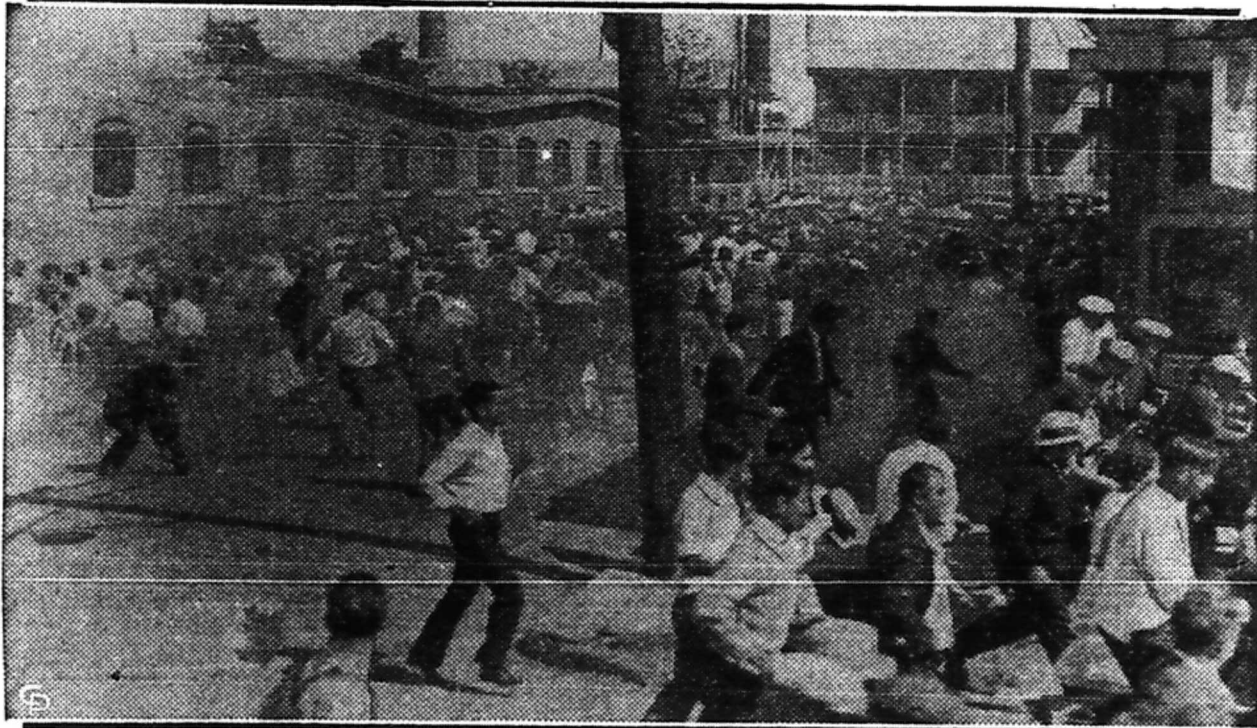
The attempt is being made to erect a class system of education by setting up one system for the children of the rich and privileged and another for the children of the working class. The Chicago school board members send their children to private schools or public schools in exclusive leisure class suburbs. They cheerfully would rob the public schools of everything but the lean training which will make useful human robots. No training for the enjoyment and use of leisure and life. Cut off the avenues of higher and technical education. "No need for, or profit in the training of unemployed, of people who will never have jobs," figure these fat swine.

Last year only 55 per cent of those eligible for high school were in the schools but enrollment was rising. The NIRA codes which eliminate child labor will send it shooting higher. Education costs must increase one-half or one-third

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# LABOR REVOLT SWEEPS AMERICA

## STRIKES DRAW SUPPORT OF THOUSANDS



The upper picture shows the scene of a police tear gas attack on a picket line of the dye workers in New Jersey where for the first time the dyeing industry is

on strike solidly along with all the workers in the silk industry who in turn are conducting their first successful national strike. Below is the picture of the Edge-

water, N. J., plant of hard-boiled Uncle Henry Ford where the workers walked out in response to plea for solidarity from the strikers at the Chester, Pa., plant of the Ford corporation.

## Socialist Ideas Debated Over Conn. Station

For the third time, members of Sr. No. 1 YPSL of Bridgeport will give the Socialist point of view on important subjects in debates over the air under the auspices of the Pro and Con Debating club. The Pro and Con club was organized following an active Yipsel campaign to open the night high schools which the city administration tried to close on the pretext of economy. Through this organization, space was freely obtained from "W. I. C. C." under the heading of an educational program.

Carefully selected teams are chosen from the membership with fair Yipsel representation and have made great success in broadcasting Socialist ideas to large and otherwise indifferent audiences. Judges are selected among prominent citizens of the city to give it an impartial effect.

The last debate was on the Recognition of Russia and was won by the affirmative. Another debate on America's Intervention in Cuba will be held within the next week or so. Weekly debates are also held within the club and thus contact has been made with many people unfamiliar with the radical movement.

Symore Landau and Alex Ribak, among many others, have been prominent in the club's activity.

**MOTHER TAKES POISON.**  
Mary Salecky, mother of nine children in the depression-struck rail town of Braddock, took poison and died. Local newspapers report "no cause."

## LOS ANGELES OBSERVES YOUTH DAY.

Los Angeles will follow up its observance of International Youth Day with the calling of a STUDENT AND YOUTH CONGRESS. The Congress will meet in late October at the Workmen's Circle Camp. Two hundred delegates are expected, representing 20,000 youth. Epworth leagues, Y. W. C. A. groups, League for Industrial Democracy and War Resisters groups are to the fore in the organization of the Congress.

## Army Officers Fan Discontent Among Regular Soldiers

FORT SHERIDAN, Ill.—Smouldering discontent among regular army men because the Roosevelt forest army boys get higher pay than the doughboys grew louder at Fort Sheridan when it became known that officers were fanning the bad feeling by their convention action in Chicago. Officers during the World war in the three combat branches meeting in Chicago as the Military Order of the World War pointed out in resolutions that the forest boys get \$30 to \$45 a month while the regulars who are detailed to the same camps get only \$17.85 under the Roosevelt economy rule. The foresters also got papers and magazines and sport equipment free while the soldiers have to pay for theirs.

## Yipsel Group Helps Unions In Middlesex

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.—A handful of Yipsels in Middlesex county, New Jersey, have succeeded in organizing 1,550 workers in 26 silk dress shops into the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union during August and September.

Led by three Yipsels who are union organizers, Yona Finklestein, Perry Moore and Sophia Dobin, a group of about 40 Yipsels have done all the necessary tasks to make these great gains.

Not satisfied with this work, the Young Socialists are organizing blouse, wash dress and boys' suit factories. Comrade Finklestein reported the stoppage of six of them before the close of September.

## "NEITHER LOST STRAYED, NOR STOLEN"—OSCAR

Nobody stole the Socialist platform. What is going on in Washington is a heroic attempt to patch up Capitalism. In the meantime, no one has stolen the only Socialist plank in the Socialist platform, namely: "We demand the common ownership and democratic management of the means of production and distribution."—Oscar Ameringer.

## Miners Fight Despite Plea Of Officials

### AMERICAN LABOR AWAKE AT LAST

### From Maine to California Workers Up in Arms to Protect Rights.

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—"Today you are conducting a strike; tomorrow you would be conducting a rebellion." In these words Vice President Murray himself of the United Mine Workers, pleaded with local leaders of Pennsylvania and Ohio miners to end their strike without gaining the binding recognition which they demanded of the H. C. Frick Co., anti-union mining concern belonging to the United State Steel.

In spite of their own national officials, the miners stubbornly refused to let the NRA break their strike. Pit committees were sent to the steel trust mines to test out the "theoretical" recognition which Gen. Johnson said they had. Meanwhile the western Pennsylvania miners held locked in an iron grip of strike, the whole immense western Pennsylvania soft coal district.

#### Strike Wave Mounts.

Inspired by the doggedness of the miners, barge employes hauling in scab coal from the south, struck on the river fronts. The strike of steel workers, started at Wierton, W. Va., against the National Steel Co. and spread to United States Steel at Clairton, Pa., by the miners marching picket lines, gained new recruits. Pittsburgh manufacturing plants felt the stir.

American labor is on the march in a sense and to a degree that the quiet and conservative William Green of the American Federation of Labor never dared to dream of when he released his famous statement last winter.

From Maine to California, workers are up in arms for their rights and their lives after four years' peaceful acceptance of 'ruthless destruction of their living standards.

#### Mustering in the Recruits.

Down at Washington, D. C., the 53rd annual convention of the American Federation of Labor was meeting in the national capital for the first time since 1883 and listening to President Green present a program which would have been looked upon with positive suspicion by Green as well as other federation officials two years ago.

"A 30-hour week of five days, six hours, increase in all minimum wages proposed under NRA codes, skilled as well as unskilled, representation of labor in every stage of code making, speeding up of public works, adequate relief appropriation by congress, distribution of surplus agricultural products to the unemployed, taxation for relief on higher incomes and surplus profits, relief for labor from stringent federal economy measures and preservation of educational budgets."

The revolutionary difference between this and many a previous convention was most plainly seen in a jump in membership of the federation from a little over 2,000,000 at the beginning of 1933 to nearly 4,000,000 as the convention opened.

An entire volume of working class history lies behind that growth.

#### Rumblings Afar Off.

At Cincinnati at the close of 1932 the A. F. of L. convention advanced the demand for a national 30-hour week and unemployment insurance.

In early 1933 President Green issued an important interview promising a shift from the previous past

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# YOUNG SOCIALIST MEET SHOWS UNITY

## Upholds Vote Of N. E. C. on Chicago YPSL

### Add New Departments on Educational and Student Subjects.

READING, Pa. — The seventh national convention of the Young People's Socialist League of America held at Reading, Pa., Aug. 26-27 was easily the largest and most significant since the first one held in 1919. One hundred and forty-seven delegates were seated representing 101 circles, 37 cities, 14 states and one Canadian province.

The secretaries' reports showed 204 circles chartered and a membership of around 4,000. Alternates, visitors and fraternal delegates from the many circles not entitled to full delegates because of recent organization ran the attendance to over 400.

#### Students and Industrial Dep'ts.

The convention authorized the addition of regular student and educational departments to the industrial departments set up in 1932. These three secretaries are elected by the national executive committee. Winston Dancis was unanimously nominated to the Socialist party national executive committee for re-election as national secretary. Arthur G. McDowell was elected national chairman, succeeding the retiring Chairman Julius Umansky.

The new national executive committee in addition to Dancis and McDowell includes Hyman Sheanin of Los Angeles, Calif.; Austin Adams of Reading, Pa.; John Domurat of Holyoke, Mass.; Aaron Levenstein of New York, Robert Parker of Cleveland, Ohio; Paul A. Rasmussen of Illinois, John Strobel of Milwaukee, Noah C. A. Walter, Jr., of New York, and Milton Weisberg of Pittsburgh.

William Gomberg of New York was elected national student secretary, Gus Tyler of New York educational secretary, and National Chairman McDowell will continue as industrial secretary.

#### Statement of Principle.

An important part of the convention action was the adoption of a comprehensive report of the resolutions committee covering the YPSL position on united front, general Marxian position, democracy, soviet union, international action, trade unions, discipline, Fascism, war, national industrial recovery act. Separate resolutions were adopted on class war prisoners, the Scottsboro case, Fascist attacks on workers' rights and on party membership requesting admission of YPSL members to the party at 19 after two years of membership in YPSL.

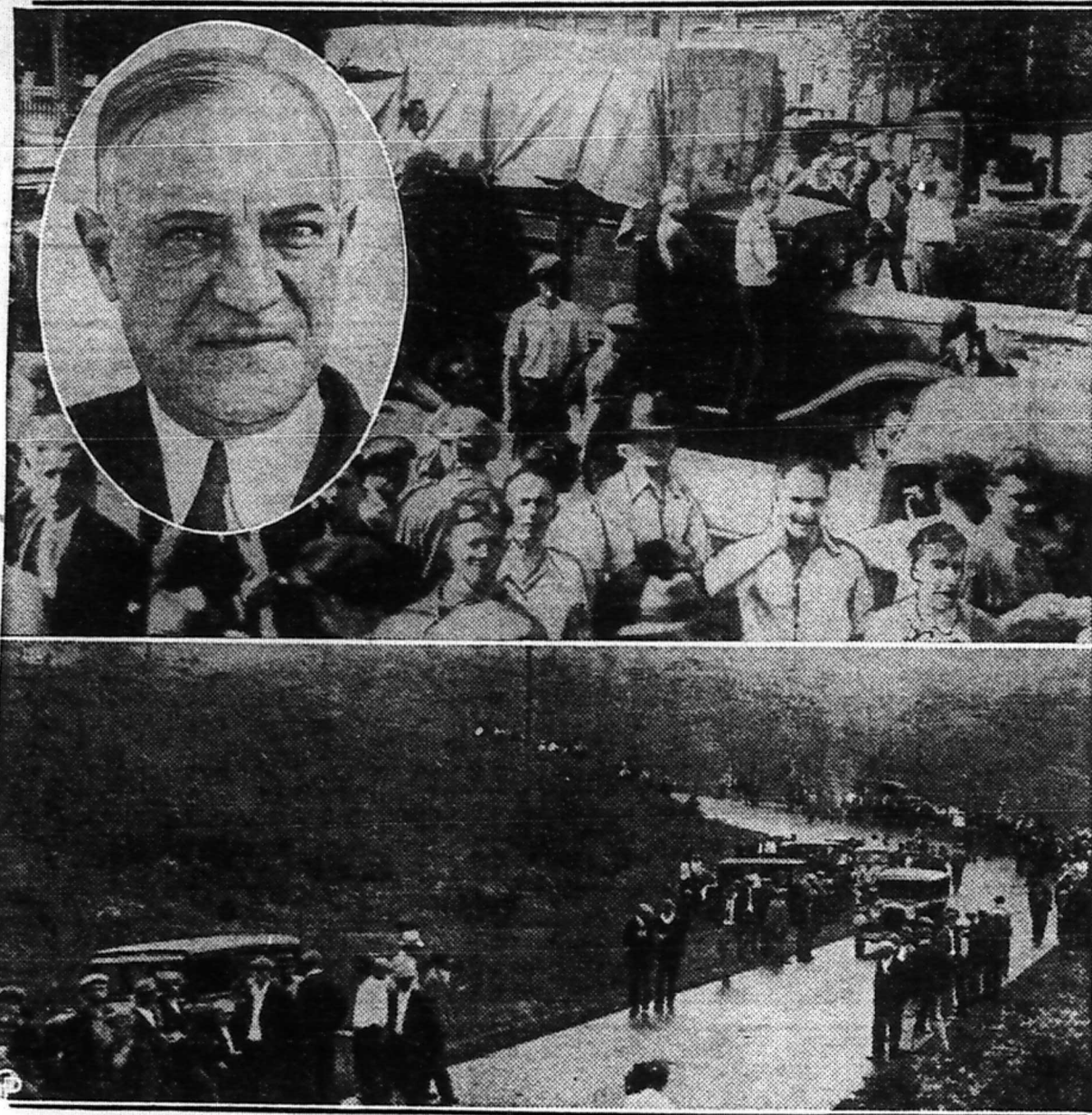
The attempt of a group of detached members of the YPSL under Communist party inspiration to divide YPSL ranks and disrupt the organization met short shrift at the hands of the convention. Former National Secretary Smerkin, who was made the spearhead of this disruptive campaign following his removal from office for betrayal of his trust, was given the floor upon motion of McDowell on behalf of the national executive subcommittee which had called for Smerkin's removal.

After the convention had heard Smerkin, the action of the national executive committee in the case of both Smerkin and the Chicago YPSL was upheld by a vote of 110 to 9, and the convention turned to the business of building the Socialist youth movement, having repulsed the most serious attempt to shatter the YPSL since the successful attack of 1919.

#### NEW YORK MEMBERSHIP MEETING.

A general membership meeting will be held on Oct. 14 to discuss ways and means for the YPSL to support The New Leader and to discuss the International Socialist conference. Organization, school, educational, industrial finance and executive committees are to be elected.

## WORKERS CARRY OUT NEW STRIKE TACTICS



In the picture above (inset) is Senator Robert Wagner head of the National Labor Board whose arbitration is supposed to be a substitute for strikes under the NIRA new deal. When Ford workers at Chester, Pa., went on strike as a last resort to get recognition of their union from capitalist-anarchist Mr. Ford and Ford announced he was going to

retaliate by shutting down the Chester plant, Mr. Wagner's board announced it was helpless to prevent an owner doing what he wanted to with his plant. The Chester workers then helped themselves by trekking to Edgewater, N. J., and getting the workers there to strike. The miners in western Pennsylvania and Ohio pulled the same stunt by march-

ing to Clairton and picketing the coking plant of the Steel Trust which refused to deal with the union miners in its "captive" mines. Workers still have to fight for everything they get. Senator Wagner's board will award them just exactly what their organized strength has already wrung from the employer anyhow.

## New York Yipsels Organize Vanguard; Acts As Colorful Unit in Mass Action

### Blue Shirts and Red Emblems Worn by Young Socialists.

NEW YORK CITY—The Royal blue shirts and red emblems worn by hundreds of young Socialists in New York city will lend great color to future activities on every field here. A Socialist Vanguard has been organized, under the plans of the organization and propaganda committee of the New York Socialist Party.

Young men and women, as well as boys and girls, are creating a disciplined, uniformed band that is expected to add color and strength to demonstration, massmeetings, Socialist industrial work and even the smaller political activities of the movement in local regions.

The Vanguard at this date has about 40 squads of eight each, with a captain at the head of each squad. Jack Altman, for many years an active Yipsel and now a party worker, is the leader of the entire body, while the borough leaders are Eddie Dawley in Manhattan, Eddie Smith in Brooklyn, and Ben Fischer in Queens.

#### Vanguard Has Emblem.

Three arrows inclosed in a circle is the emblem of the Vanguard, borrowed from the now-destroyed Iron Front in Germany. The arrows stand for the slogan of the Young People's Socialist League: "Organization, education, solidarity."

Though not yet uniformed in their blue shirts, the Vanguard members made their debut at the Town Hall ratification meeting, September 24, when nearly 2,000 comrades gathered to hear Norman Thomas, Charles Solomon, mayoralty candidate, and other Socialist leaders.

The Vanguard, wearing white

shirts, red ties and Young Socialist arm bands, opened the meeting with a parade through the hall, finally lining the aisles while comrades bore some fifteen flaming red flags onto the stage to make a vivid background for the opening of the important New York election campaign.

#### On the Picket Line.

On the industrial field the Vanguard has functioned as a group for two months, along with the YPSL. Within the past two months about 200,000 workers have been on strike in New York city. In addition great organization drives have been made in industries in which there have been no strikes as yet. In almost every case young Socialists, working through either the Vanguard or the YPSL, have been on the front lines of the workers' struggles.

The Vanguard and YPSL both helped in the difficult and important job of first organizing the transit employees of the city. At this time a strike is already in the air which will completely smash the hold of the company unions which have kept the transit workers bound for many years.

Socialists in New York played a heroic part in the great struggle of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' general strike last month, when 60,000 workers put up a remarkable show of strength in the city. Vanguard members and other Yipsels were active on every front, picketing, pulling down shops, doing office work, or whatever was needed to be done.

#### Aid Bakers' Strike.

Under the industrial committee of the New York YPSL, hundreds of young Socialists aided the efforts of the Bakers' union to regain decent conditions in strikes throughout the city. Here young comrades picketed, distributed leaflets, demonstrated and spoke at street meetings against the anti-picketing injunction issued by Justice Strong of Brooklyn, aimed to break the strike.

## Organization BY THE NATIONAL SECRETARY.

Iowa organization revived. . . . National chairman in Milwaukee and Cleveland. . . . New Jersey leads protests against warships in Cuba . . . National Executive meets in Pittsburgh. A word on national organizers. . . .

### YPSL Circle For Every Cornstalk.

The slogan hit upon by National Organizers Everett O'Connor and Nat Titleman, after a three-day stay in Burlington, Ia., is given above. The circle has been reorganized and a three-month educational program has been made up. Subjects include: The Case for Socialism, The Story of Eugene V. Debs, Most Frequent Objections to Socialism Answered, Collapse of Capitalism, Incentives Under Capitalism and Socialism, and Farming Youth.

Organization stops will be made by this pair in Minneapolis, Fargo, Omaha, Cheyenne, Denver during the next month. A week will be spent in several of these cities, so that real spade work may be done.

#### Special Organizer "National Chairman."

The key spots of our league, the city organizations, will receive special attention from National Chairman McDowell during the next few months. A minimum of a week will be spent in those cities that are not making fast enough progress in organizing youth for Socialism in our time. The last few days of September and the first week of October will be spent in Milwaukee, and conferences with educational and industrial directors will occupy much of McDowell's time. The Cleveland organization has not continued the upward trend that was so marked during 1932, and Comrade McDowell will devote Oct. 12-20 to special efforts for the local organization.

#### Cuban Intervention Protests.

The New Jersey organization took the lead in sending a telegram to President Roosevelt urging the immediate withdrawal of American warships from Cuba. On Sept. 21, the same day that the telegram was sent, all of the circles in the state were instructed to hold public protest meetings.

The last September mailing of the national office to circles has included a suggested leaflet entitled, "Demand Hands Off Cuba." This anti-imperialist agitation should occupy a prominent place in the International Socialist Youth Week activities.

#### Middle Atlantic Organizer.

Comrade Joe Zameres of Los Angeles has been devoting his energies to building the Wilmington, Del and Baltimore circle. Much co-operation was given to the Leather workers on strike in the first city, and a two months' educational program should do much to strengthen the second. Washington, D. C., organization is being revived, and a trip into Richmond, Virginia, will be made during the early part of October. Comrade Zameres will continue this follow-up work during the month.

#### National Executive Meeting in Pittsburgh.

The NEC will meet on October 21-22 in the Smoky City. Most of the work of getting the League units squarely behind the National Convention program will be considered at this meeting. The District Organization Committee will report on their plans, a circulation drive for The Challenge will be initiated, and the winter program of the Industrial, Student and Educational departments will be approved.

#### Cook County Organization Established.

As a result of the NEC action granting full charter rights to the Chicago League, a new County organization has been set up, with new officers, constitution and program of action. Ernest Erber has been elected at a County membership meeting to the position of Executive Secretary, Hoot Rasmussen was chosen Industrial Director, Emma Krechefsky the Educational Director, Buens Krop Propaganda Director and Jesse Reid is the new Cultural Director. These officers constitute the new County Executive and a membership drive will be held during the balance of the year. Active participation in the partial Chicago school strike, held on the opening days of the term, and co-operation with other groups in the Labor Youth Council reflect local militancy. Neckwear workers and leather goods unions have leaned heavily on Chicago YPSL in their organization campaign.

### 2,000 Comrades Gather to Hear Speakers at Meeting.

In the course of this struggle, Julius Bertman, industrial director of the city YPSL, Sol Rosenberg and Sam Rubin were arrested and in at least one case beaten.

Work has been done and is going on in countless other union struggles. Some of the important ones with which the young Socialists are engaged are those of the National Shoe and Leather Workers, the Cloakmakers stoppage, the Doll and Toy Workers' union, the Edison workers organization drives, and also in the Patterson and other New Jersey silk strikes.

#### Indoor Rallies Planned.

Though as many as 200 Yipsels are sometimes active at the same time in this widespread industrial strife, the organization has its numerous other tasks. About a hundred indoor campaign rallies are already scheduled for the city, and in all of them Yipsels take a leading part distributing leaflets and manning the meetings, as well as speaking at many of them.

Also Yipsels are active in street meeting work, preparing for a great Oct. 7 demonstration at Madison Square in celebration of International Socialist Youth day, extensive student work, and educational work.

The Vanguard has taken a leading part in the national drive of the League Against Fascism for funds. Tag day parades have helped swell the funds greatly.

#### Convention Proceedings.

Copies of the complete report of the work of the seventh national convention are available now. The minutes, resolutions and committee reports are included in the blue-bound volumes. Orders for copies from the national office must be accompanied by 10 cents in stamps or cash.



# The Challenge

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## Face It Out—Young America

We are the new generation, we belong to today and tomorrow. We face the future. When we graduated from high school, or from college, we believed that robust, well-fed citizen who said that we were welcomed into the world of work, into the world of business and finances, into the professions, into the shops and factories, that they, the older generation, were sure that they had left the world better than they found it and that it was our task to step into their shoes.

It hasn't taken very much tramping of the streets for us, very much living off our parents or friends, very much bumming around the country looking for work, very much thinking and looking to discover that somewhere, everything is not as it should be. As far as the welcome is concerned it usually consists of a "No Help Wanted" sign, or—"Boy Wanted—\$10.00 Per Week."

It hasn't taken very much looking for a lot of us to see that there were several millions out of work and millions more working for starvation wages. Not only since the crash in 1929 either, but for a good many years, millions, men, women, and children that should be in school, working for less than enough to provide them with the barest essentials of existence.

Poverty, unemployment, hunger, destitution and want is pretty well evident to us. Not only is it evident, but from the looks of things we are going to have a pretty tough time keeping over the line ourselves. Jobs are scarce, wages are low when we do work, the professions are overcrowded, all of them from doctor to engineer—so that things don't look so rosy for us. None will be happy spending very

many years in forest camps under army supervision at \$1.00 a day. None of us want \$10.00 or \$15.00 a week jobs all our lives . . . after all \$15.00 will buy for a man and his wife only the cheapest of food, clothing and shelter, and they will have to think pretty fast to make the fifteen stretch out for a week, especially when they find the value of the dollar dropping day after day, and ability to buy cut more and more.

WE'VE MADE UP OUR MINDS THAT IT IS NOT A QUESTION OF A NEW DEAL BUT OF A NEW GAME, a game where the workers have a decent living and get paid for the work that they do.

We've decided that it doesn't matter how you deal the hand as long as you still have the same marked cards so that most of us are bound to lose.

We've decided that the bottom of the whole trouble is that a nation as rich as ours, with as much wealth, in machinery, raw materials, motive power, and labor should belong to all of us instead of to a few, who, because they own the very necessities of our existence, exploit us and rob us for their benefit and our mutual ruin in the long run.

To us, it's not a question of watching things up, of limiting profits—or fixing minimum wages—which to be satisfactory to the bosses have to be pretty low—but a question of eliminating profits—eliminating the profit system and eliminating the wage system too. Pay the worker the value of his product—pay the man that does no work—nothing! Operate the industries of the nation for the benefit of the people instead of the profit of a few.

These are the things that we believe—whether you believe them or not. Youth of America, dare to think and you will dare to do what our fathers in America have failed in—to make the nation serve our common humanity amid an order of peace, brotherhood and plenty for all.

## A Mother Before a Military Monument

(Reprinted from World Affairs.)

Was it for this I braved a pathless, dark  
And chilling void, in travail while the hiss  
Of death grew loud and near; from that abyss  
To stumble back, enfolding in the arc  
Of love-warm arms an infant life—a spark  
I fanned to ruddy glow? Was it for this  
I succored childish needs—healed with a kiss  
Each wound that left on flesh or pride its mark?

Ah yes, for this I led my stalwart son  
In paths of rectitude; abhorring vice  
And choosing honor's way, he tossed the draft  
That brimmed youth's cup. Bereft and old, I run  
Through war's red ledger—scan the costly price  
I paid for laurel wreath and marble shaft!  
Winnie Lynch Rockett.

on strike in Allentown as part of the nation-wide silk strike.

LIMA, Ohio—Syd Devin spent his vacation in Lima, Ohio, as a national industrial organizer, returning to the University of Chicago much to our regret. His last job in Lima was to launch organization work among the 1,500 or more cigar makers in that city and Fort Wayne, Ind. President Ormbrund of the Cigar Makers has complimented Syd on that work but we badly need a YPSL circle in Lima, according to the observation of the industrial secretary on his stop there.

TARENTUM, Pa. — YPSL members in this Allegheny valley above Pittsburgh have been very active as individuals in the successful organization work related to glass, aluminum and steel workers but our organization must strengthen itself internally if we are to be of more than occasional aid.

Basic Industries—What are the 10 basic industries spoken of so glibly by President Roosevelt. According to our information they are 1, textile; 2, railroads; 3, public utilities; 4, construction; 5, mining (both coal and metal); 6, machinery (including automobiles); 7, food; 8, iron and steel; 9, lumber and forest products; 10, water and air transportation equipment. One of the projects of the YPSL industrial department is to be able to list a key YPSL member in each one of these industries in every community where the industry is at all typical. This is something to shoot at, industrial directors. The battle is on.

### Monthly Circle Report Blanks.

In order to develop a more disciplined and closely knit league, all circles will be required to send monthly reports to the national headquarters. The September report must be in by Oct. 10. Our convention plans for stimulating Socialist work among students, building organization on the industrial field, increasing the paid circulation of The Challenge, enlarging the number of members in good standing, and educating our members, require complete co-operation of all circles.

## Solidarity

By the National Industrial Secretary.

Patterson on the job . . . Philadelphia changes directors . . . basic industries . . . A Chicago Yipsel has a vacation in Lima . . . Districts.

PATERSON, N. J.—The industrial secretary stopped in Paterson on his eastern trip in the very middle of the silk strike. The Paterson circle is small and of recent organization but is imbedded in the working class movement in a fashion that might be the goal of other circles. Aaron Sawicky is a weaver and on the national strike committee of the silk strike.

Another Yipsel was a cutter in the local white goods trade and when NIRA chiseling drove the girls to revolt, he took the lead in organizing the nearly 1,000 workers into the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union. Another YPSL member assisted on a full time basis and individual members of the YPSL who were foot free turned out in great style.

Vivien Vines, circle secretary, is also doing the secretarial work for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers' local. The YPSL industrial secretary, through the co-operation of these active local Yipsels, spoke to some thousands of workers in three meetings of dyers, silk weavers and white goods workers all reached in the less than 24 hours spent in the silk city.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. — Alex Wollod, who did such excellent work with Quaker City YPSL during the pioneering garment strike last spring has succeeded Morris Gutkin as county industrial director. Recent work has brought the YPSL in contact with garment workers (ILGWU), meat slaughterers' and newsboys' union. The entire Logan circle adjourned its meeting and went down to picket the local Linton's restaurant whose employees were on strike.

ALLENTOWN, Pa.—Ann and Althea Moyer, the double A team, have been working with the silk workers

## Education

By the Education Secretary.

Events to build your educational work around:  
International Youth day, Oct. 8.

Debs' Memorial—Seventh anniversary of his death, Oct. 20.

Nov. 11—Anniversary of end of World war—Climax of week set by Socialist International for demonstration and agitation against war and Fascism.

### POLICE POWER CRUSHED CHICAGO SCHOOL STRIKE.

CHICAGO—Every school building in Chicago's enormous education plant, boasting a half million children on the rolls, had police stationed at the entrance on the second day of the fall term. Detectives mingled with the children in the corridors and in the school yards and on the sidewalks. Squad cars cruised about the expected trouble zones. School board attorneys were on the qui vive. The red squad hovered busily around the building of Crane Junior college, now converted into an ordinary high school. Zero hour was at hand.

It was the day set by opponents of the school board's drastic economy program for the student strike. Over 1,200 teachers had been laid off, Crane Junior college abolished, physical training and swimming pool facilities restricted, continuation schools and adult education practically cut out and education in short almost reduced to the three R's. At the last minute, to silence the rising storm of protest, some of

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FRATERNAL GREETINGS

Andrew J. Biemiller  
Educational Director  
Milwaukee Socialist Party

## House of the Silver Screen

Challenge Photoplay Reviews

This is a new feature in The Challenge, which will be carried every month. Challenge readers are urged to send in their reviews.—Editor.

**CAPTURED**, Warner Brothers' production based on Gibbs' "Fellow Prisoners." "Captured" is the story of a German concentration camp during the war; with a change of officials it could be a prison of the allies just as easily.

This particular camp is for officers of the enemy, whom one might assume would be subject to treatment a little different than that accorded mere privates. Upon arrival the men are thoroughly searched, stripped, showered, and thrown into crowded quarters.

The unnecessary brutality of the officers in charge during this procedure, where at times to hurry the men along they deliberately tear their clothing off in shreds, shows forcefully the effect of a situation where one group of people have complete power over another.

### General Riot Begins.

Unnerved by shell-shock and uncertainty, one prisoner grabs a gun from a guard and starts shooting, beginning a general riot and fumbling attempts to escape. The machine guns of the Germans soon end the insurrection, and in punishment the men are thrown into a cellar, one on top of the other, and left there on short rations for months.

There is a scene in the front line trenches well worthy of note. An English officer had escaped from the German camp on the night when a peasant girl had been found raped and killed. A letter to the English asked for his return to stand trial on this charge, and the request was acceded to. With the prisoner in tow the soldiers raised the white flag; the Germans follow suit and firing ceases.

### Soldiers Exchange Greetings.

Two men from each line hoist themselves out of the trenches and walk to a half-way point, where they exchange greetings in comradely fashion. The Tommies produce cigarettes, the Germans have matches and the amenities of "light-

ing up" are observed. The prisoner is delivered, both groups return to their places, and firing begins again. In another minute one of the soldiers has been struck by a bullet, is killed, is no longer the good natured "Tommy" but only a mass of bloody flesh.

It is obvious here in a graphic way that even the most dull individual could not miss, that soldiers have no personal animosity toward each other. They fight in war from motives of patriotism, adventure, or because they have been drafted.

Here and there, for a moment, the rules of decency and civilization are asserted, only to be engulfed, drowned in the red tide of mass murder and destruction which rushes irresistibly down the track laid out for it by the "peace time" plans and preparations of the militarists hired by the ruling class in every capitalist country. J. A.

### National Organizers.

Complaints have been sent to the national office about league members who have represented themselves as official organizers, and have proceeded to instruct circles on what to do and how to do it. All national organizers have proper credentials (ask to see them) and circle secretaries are always notified in advance of their coming.

International Youth Day Greetings

Otto R. Hauser  
Mayor's Office

To the YPSL  
Yours for Working Class Solidarity

Jac. F. Friedrich

### GREETINGS

Walter Palm

Deputy Commissioner of Public Works  
MILWAUKEE, WIS.

### GREETINGS

On International Youth Day

Carl R. Hampel  
Insurance—All Kinds

### GREETINGS

City Treasurer's Office  
MILWAUKEE

International Youth Day Greetings

EMIL BRODDE  
SUPERVISOR  
18th District

CORDIAL GOOD WISHES TO THE YPSL

ED. KNAPPE

Assistant City Attorney  
MILWAUKEE

### GREETINGS

On International Youth Day

Paul E. Schmidt  
City Treasurer's Office  
MILWAUKEE

Fraternal Greetings to the YPSL

Frank B. Metcalfe  
SUPERVISOR  
MILWAUKEE COUNTY

## Fraternal Greetings

To the Y. P. S. L.  
on International Youth Day

## Typographical Union No. 6

24 West 16th Street  
New York City



## Soc. Youth International Fights War

PARIS—The executive of the Socialist Youth International held a special meeting in conjunction with the International Conference of the Labor and Socialist International, on Aug. 26 and 27, the same days on which the Young People's Socialist League of America was holding its seventh national convention at Reading, Pa.

Representatives were present at the Youth International meet from the Socialist youth federations in Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, France, Georgia, Holland, Italy, Latvia, Austria, Sweden, Switzerland, Spain, Hungary, the United States and the International Students' federation.

### Congress at Liege 1934.

Dave Lewis of Montreal represented the Young People's Socialist League of America. The executive decided that the Third International Socialist youth meet will be held at Liege, Holland, at the beginning of August, 1934, as a massive world-wide demonstration of youth against war on the 20th anniversary of the beginning of the World War.

The headquarters of the Youth International were transferred to Prague permanently, having been temporarily in Amsterdam following the forced flight from Berlin upon the advent of the Hitler terror.

### South American Secretariat.

Comrade Ollenhauer was continued as international secretary although sharp criticism was voiced by French and Spanish delegations over the failure of the secretariat and the German movement to adequately prepare for underground work before Hitler came to full power.

Of special interest to the American movement was the decision to set up a special South American secretariat. This work was for the time being entrusted to the Spanish organization. Dissatisfaction of American Socialists with the lack of aggressiveness and limited European outlook of the Labor and Socialist International is leading to the discussion of a Pan-American Socialist federation to supplement the L. S. I. in the western hemisphere.

The Young People's Socialist League of America already affiliates Canadian as well as United States' organizations and would be glad to draw closer to the Latin-American comrades, through the new South American secretariat.

### Against War and Fascism.

Supporting the resolutions of the Labor and Socialist International conference on tactics against war and Fascism, the international called on its affiliates to exert every power in a campaign of education and recruitment to train the young workers physically and intellectually to resist both of these hideous menaces.

Socialist youth will devote International Youth day, Oct. 8, to demonstrations against the forces of militarism and reaction, and will take an active part in the world-wide demonstrations planned for the week beginning Nov. 9 planned by the International Socialist movement against the danger of war and its twin, Fascism in Germany, Italy and elsewhere.

### International Youth Day.

Reading, Pa.; Holyoke, Mass.; New York city, Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia will see International Socialist Youth day demonstrations participated in by the War Resisters' league, the YPSL, the Young Circle league, Young People's League, Intercollegiate League for Industrial Democracy, DTJ (Workingmen's Gymnastic Assn.), and other workers' cultural organizations.

### "MADONNA OF THE PICKET LINES."

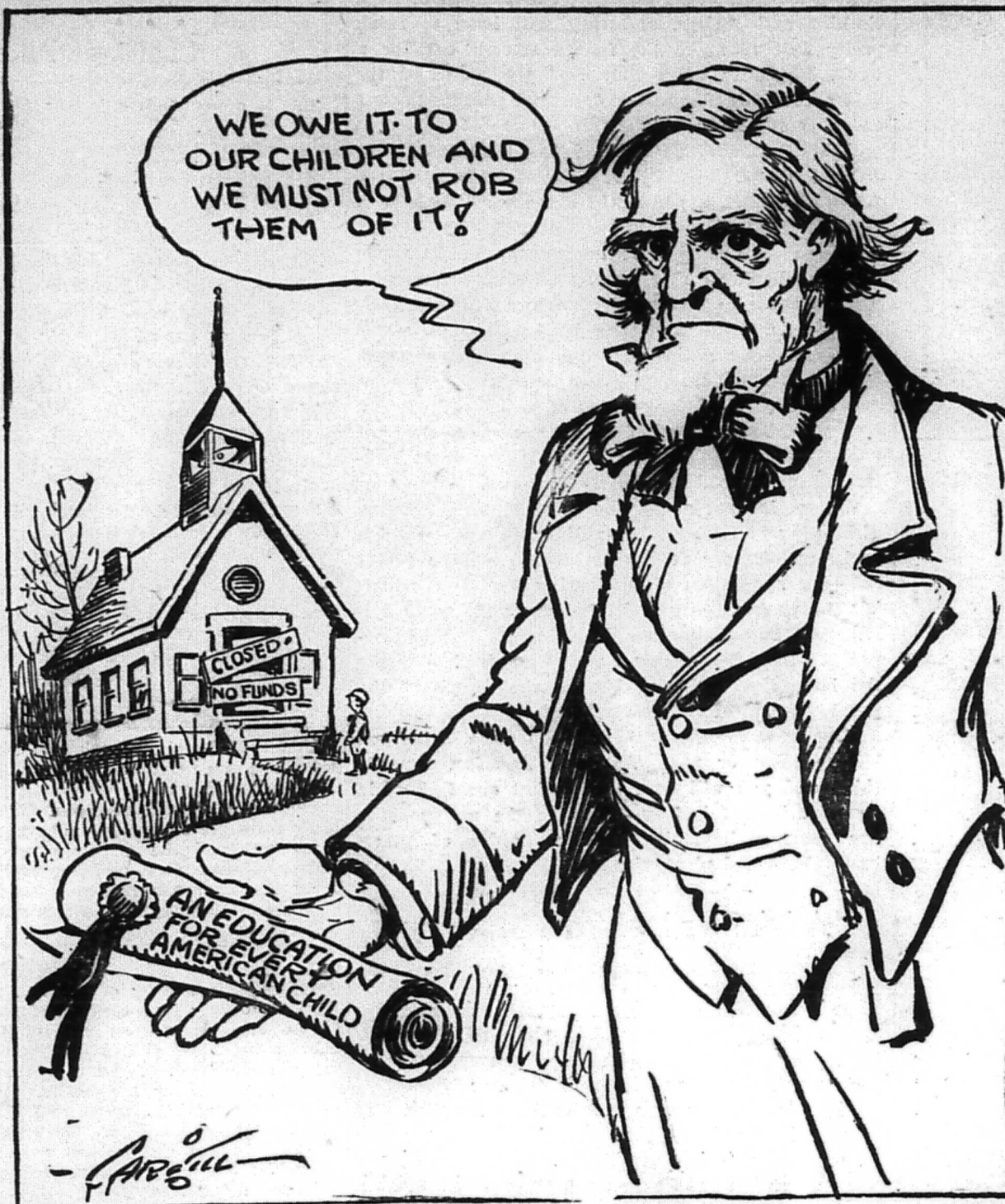
Soft eyed and sad of face,  
You walked  
Slowly by my side,  
Thru tall gaunt canyons.  
Stone flanked;  
Steel temples built of gold,

Gauntlets of club and brass,  
We passed.  
Slow was our stride,  
We of the downtrod class,  
Labor enmassed;  
Life lines in battle drawn.

Dirge-like they trod the street  
Feet trudging;  
Slowly as mammon died,  
Belching his death gasp—  
Factory smoke!!!  
Watched by the picket line.

GAYNE SULLIVAN.

## NOT ONLY A DEBT, BUT A SACRED OBLIGATION!



### Miners Object to Official Requests

Continued From Page One.

sive tactics of the A. F. of L. to an aggressive forward "march" for the 30-hour week and other program.

Senator Black introduced his bill for the 30-hour week and the A. F. of L. backed that program.

The Amalgamated Clothing Workers, at the time independent of the A. F. of L., started an organization campaign against sweatshops and child labor exploitation in the very teeth of depression, made gains.

### Continental Congress Held.

Independent and left wing A. F. of L. leaders, organized farmers, unemployed and the Socialist party issued a call for a "Third" Continental congress for economic reconstruction to meet at Washington May 6 and 7. Over 4,000 delegates directly representing 2,000,000 organized farmers and workers, met and adopted an advanced program calling for political measures in the interest of the producing classes.

### Saving the Plutes' Bacon.

The "brain trust" induced Roosevelt to propose the national recovery act which along with the agricultural adjustment act was hoped to preserve capitalism and the profit system and keep political initiative in the hands of the upper middle class and their allies rather than permit it to fall into the hands of the working class.

President Green of the A. F. of L. succeeded with the support of railroad labor bodies in writing the labor clauses into the NRA under section 7.

### Advance by Forced March.

Led off by the needle trades unions under such men as Leo Krzycki, American workers with the mental illusion of an individualistic America shattered by a government that went out to organize their already fairly well organized bosses, began to assert themselves.

Hosiery workers, clothing workers of all kind, laundry worker, taxi drivers, coal miners in Pennsylvania, metal miners in Montana, steel workers crushed under the memories of the defeats of Homestead in 1892 at the hands of vindictive Frick and 1919 at the hands of the pious Gary, miners on the borders of starvation for years, silk workers, aluminum workers in Andy Mellon's tyrannical empire, ship builders, auto workers, rubber workers, glass workers, textiles, chemicals, all in revolt.

Rushing to Concord to take over

the command of raw rebel Continentals, Washington asked anxiously of the Bunker Hill survivors if the untrained militia had stood their ground. "Like veterans," was the reply. The same thing can be said for the hitherto unorganized workers of America battling today on a thousand fields for a better day for themselves and a real new deal for the next generation.

### Continued From Editorial Page

the scrapped courses and facilities were partially restored.

These concessions accounted for part of the failure to respond to the strike in such sections as the militant Hyde Park school where middle class family students expect to go to pay colleges and did not feel the abolition of Crane Junior college and where the restoration of athletics reconciled many. The basic reason was of course the presence of a division of the 500 police on school duty in addition to traffic officers. Seven hundred more police, it was later learned, were held in reserve.

### John Marshall Students Fight.

Strike calls were written upon classroom blackboards and the more aggressive and militant students, principally from the high schools, marched with banners demanding an elective school board to replace the present graft-ridden one appointed by the mayor and the restoration of previous normal schooling facilities. The most effective strike was that at John Marshall where the tactic was pursued of stopping the students before they entered the school instead of trying to bring them out through the police lines in the middle of the morning as was attempted elsewhere. This group picketing at the doors, carried out principally by some plucky girls, was done right under the nose of the hard-boiled cops.

Later a picket line was formed to parade around the school but it was immediately broken up by the police who chased the pupils several blocks on some cases, some were taken into custody and then released. Nevertheless the picket line reformed four times before it was finally dissolved.

### Arrest and Terrorize Leaders.

Ten student leaders were arrested before the strike began. Jack Light, head of the student committee on public education, who were nominally the leaders of the strike, was arrested repeatedly merely on sight even when not engaged in any sort of strike activity. Teach-

### Labor! Aid Plight Of Public Schools

Continued From Page One.

in the next decade or the system will go by the board.

Instead kindergartens have been eliminated or curtailed in 170 cities, art instruction removed in 100 cities, music completely or partially dropped from the public schools of 160 cities.

Four thousand badly needed rural schools have not been built. Eighteen thousand have not been able to make necessary repairs. A quarter of a million children attended school part-time last year due to lack of room. Eighty thousand teachers are unemployed but there will be 15,000 less teachers to teach 300,000 more students this year.

The labor movement must rally to the aid of the institution of free public schools which its struggles won. Workers and farmers' organizations must join in this fight, let not only student but working youth rally to defend this American heritage. Let the taxes on great inheritances pay the price for the maintenance of this common and rightful inheritance of every American child. Soak the rich, don't merely tickle them.

Defend the free public high school, expansion not restriction of the educational system is the demand of the present hour. Youth of America arise and fight!

ers were informed that giving aid or showing sympathy with the strike would mean their jobs. Two students, Lawrence Singer and Morris Teitelbaum, were stood on a table at a station line-up and Lieut. Samuel Peterson of the Fillmore street station said to the police of his command: "See these boys? They are radicals. I want you to beat them up whenever you see them on the streets. Crush their skulls, break every bone in their body." As a further piece of persecution, Teitelbaum, a bright, quiet boy, was rushed to the psychopathic hospital for examination. He was quickly dismissed as perfectly sane.

Under such unlimited brutal tactics the strike dragged to a close after a few days but a valuable fund of experience is now in the hands of the student leaders and the students have been forced to reflect on certain aspects of police power, etc. The student general

## Challenge Column

AN OPEN LETTER TO READERS AND SUPPORTERS OF THE CHALLENGE.

Dear Challengers:

The seventh national convention of the Young People's Socialist League has passed into history, but only after laying down a program and statement of policy and principle more complete and advanced than any previous convention has ever attempted. "The Socialist youth organization in America is coming of age" is the acknowledgment heard from all divisions of the labor movement that are at all alert.

Running through all the divisions of revolutionary work which the convention considered and defined the tasks of, was the sense of the importance of the Socialist press. Students and leaders of the Socialist vanguard of the working class movement ranging from Marx to Lenin to Debs have defined the press as the greatest mass organizer in existence. Certainly the major portion of the task of building The Challenge into an organ for mass education and organization of youth for Socialism in our time is as yet undone.

Tragic indeed it is to confess that at this critical moment the editorial board going over the past record and future financial prospects of this effort of ours, have been wondering whether the child would survive the "after convention sickness" which the neglect and failure of the YPSL circles to follow up the convention program of support for our enterprise, has brought on. To you, Comrades and friends of this Challenge of ours, we will say frankly that support must be forthcoming and that quickly if we are not in all honor to turn our attention to paying off our debts and surrendering our hopes of a strong Socialist youth paper.

Back bills for bundles must be paid by circles. If this had been done before we would face no financial crisis. The convention program must be carried out. This included:

1. All applicants for admission to the YPSL to be charged an initiation fee to cover either a six months' or year's subscription to The Challenge. Six months where the organization already has an initiation fee.

2. Circles and city organizations to order enough copies by bundle to give each member five copies for propandanga work.

3. Circle and city organizations to keep Challenge funds separate from rest of treasury.

4. Fraternal organizations and unions should be solicited for funds.

5. Volunteer Challenge agents throughout the country to solicit subs and ads.

Get busy. Every Circle order a bundle order of the October issue from the national office. New rates; orders of less than 100 copies 2c per copy, 100 or more copies 1½c per copy, orders of 500 or more will be given special rates on application.

From those who are not connected with a YPSL organization we ask for an exhibition of faith in our NRA program which calls for New Revolutionary Activity. Let every present Challenge subscriber pledge themselves to get one new subscription or a contribution of an equal amount. We have never made this appeal before in contrast with almost every Socialist paper in existence. If the response is adequate this time, we believe that we can paddle our own canoe from now on, but act now if you have any sense of the importance of our Cause.

Yours for Socialism in Our Time,  
ARTHUR G. McDOWELL,  
National Chairman YPSL.

### COMING ATTRACTIONS.

Worker Am I—A series of autobiographical sketches by young workers in various industries will start in the November issue.

Student Notebook—A department on doings of students in all fields will be conducted by William Gomburg, new national student secretary of the YPSL, also beginning in November.

Question Box—The national educational secretary will conduct a question box on theoretical and historical questions relating to the Socialist and labor movement.

Know Your Yipsels—A continued review of various figures in the labor youth movement and contributions from readers which are beginning to come in steadily for the first time.

strike as a weapon is not broken; it is merely being perfected. Some of the concessions which have been and are being granted flow directly from the student strike which was even effective as a threat.