

THE YOUNG WORKER

Official Organ of the Young Workers League of America

5 cents

Published twice a month at 1009 No. State St., Subscription price \$1.00 per year. The Young Workers League of America, publishers. "Entered as second-class matter September 17, 1922, at the postoffice at Chicago, Ill., under the Act of March 3, 1879."

VOL. III.

CHICAGO, ILL., APRIL 15, 1924.

NO. 8.

DAUGHERTY, "DEPT. OF JUSTICE," AS CROOKED AS REST

By CHARLES WITTER

(Special to "The Young Worker.")
WASHINGTON, D. C.—On top of the scandal of the Teapot Dome, which has conclusively shown that the officialdom of the United States government is nothing but a tool in the hands of the capitalists of this country, ready to sell out to them at a moment's notice, the Wheeler Senate Investigating Committee has had evidence presented to it which proves that Harry Daugherty, head of the "Department of Justice," chief law enforcer of the United States, is nothing but a crook and grafter who has used his high office to make money for his own pocket, breaking the laws of the country in order to do this.

Shady Deals Exposed

It was shown that Daugherty conspired with his fellow crooks to break the law against transporting fight films across the states, thus adding to his and his associates' purses hundreds of thousands of dollars. His closest associate in crime, a Mr. Jess Smith, has had a mist of mystery thrown about him by the strange manner of his death. Rumor is rife that he was done away with because he knew too much about the shady deals of his colleagues.

Because of the revelations made about his crookedness, it is said in authoritative circles here that Coolidge may be forced to can Harry Daugherty, whether by demanding his resignation, or in the politter way in which Ed Denby, ex-secretary of the Navy, was bounced, that is, by Daugherty handing in his resignation.

Daugherty's being involved in the mess is a fine piece of satire on the "justice" which is a part of the government of this country—nowadays. Here is the man who is notorious for his stern and vicious handling of labor's end of getting a square deal. Here is the man who was so punctilious about the law when he got an injunction out to break the shopmen's strike. And yet all the time he was engaged in breaking the laws he was supposed to be enforcing in order to line his bank account with nice long yellow bills.

We are anxiously awaiting to find out who is next in the series of the greatest of scandals this country has ever seen.

"Thou Shalt Not Scab," Rule Of Norway Students

KRISTIANIA.—The growing influence of the revolutionary movement in Norway can be seen by the election of a communist president of the students' society at the University of Kristiania, together with an executive committee elected on a communist platform.

In view of the fact that a number of students had acted as scabs in the recent transport workers' strike, the society ruled that no student may remain a member who acts as a strikebreaker.

Olav Scherf, prominent leader of the Norwegian Communist Party, has recently addressed the students on Lenin and Leninism.

Reveal Mexican Civil War as Struggle For Control of World's Oil Market by British and American Money Interests

By ELLA G. WOLFE.

(Staff Correspondent of Federated Press)

MEXICO CITY.—"The Mexican government possesses sufficient information to show that the principal directors of the oil company El Aguila (the Eagle) frankly lent their aid to the recent rebellion led by Adolfo de la Huerta."

This statement is made by President Obregon to the press. El Aguila gave all sorts of facilities to the rebels, while obstructing the government forces. At the same time evidence that American oil interests want to separate northern Mexico from the rest of the country is at hand.

Capitalist Groups in Fight
Great emphasis has been placed on the influence of foreign capital in the recent Mexican counter-revolution. The reactionary rebellion was for the most part a final attempt of the landed interests to regain complete control of Mexico. But it was also a part of the world-struggle between the British owned Royal Dutch Shell (of which El Aguila is a subsidiary) and American Standard Oil.

The charges that American oil aided de la Huerta in his rebellion are questionable. On the advice of A. B. Fall, Doheny's Huasteco oil concern advanced 10,000,000 pesos (\$5,000,000) to the Mexican government. Secondly, the facts recently discovered point unmistakably to British aid to the rebels.

Lay Basis for New War
Nevertheless, Fall and Doheny and the whole group of American oil interests have made one assault after

Child Labor Amendment Sabotaged By Congress And Senate Committees

By CHARLES WITTER.

(Special to "The Young Worker.")
WASHINGTON.—Stalling, blocking, sabotaging and every other slick maneuver is being used in the House and Senate committees of the judiciary to delay and obstruct the reporting out of the child labor amendments which are up for consideration.

In the house committee, the reactionary chairman, Graham of Pennsylvania, is demanding that no report be made to the house until the record of the hearings is printed in full and an opportunity is thus given to argue against the amendment. Previously, all the heavy guns of the child labor exploiters had been brought to bear at the public hearings against the amendment. The National Association of Manufacturers, textile interests from North Carolina, directly aided by state officials, and dozens of others have testified in opposition to the amendment.

In the senate committee, the amendment is still in the hands of the committee of the judiciary. And the Wadsworth-Garrett amendment to Article 5 of the Constitution is being strongly pushed. This amendment is intended to make any change in the Constitution—even now a most difficult proposition—more difficult than it is.

Thus, while Congressmen and government officials are running wildly in the circles of investigations and scandals, the child labor amendments are being forgotten and the buck-passing act is being overworked. In the meantime, the employment of children in American industry and agriculture is increasing by leaps and bounds to an extent unheard of heretofore. But Congress isn't worrying!

British Shipyard Youths In Strike For Higher Pay

(Special to "The Young Worker")

LONDON.—One hundred and thirty heating "boys," employed at Vickers, Ltd., in Barrow, have struck, demanding 31 shillings 6 pence per week for boys under 18 and from 33 shillings 6 pence to 37 shillings 6 pence for the older youths. At present they are supposed to be getting from 24 to 26 shillings, but in numerous cases this wage is not given to them by the bosses. The strike committee has drawn up sheets showing that many of the youths received only 9 and 7 shillings per week for their work.

The heating boys have struck because they are not content to be used as cheap labor to drag down the wages of the adult workers, and the Young Communist League, the Communist Party and the Unemployed Committee have offered the strikers their rooms and organization to help them win.

SAN FRANCISCO.—The San Francisco Labor Council is investigating fake trade schools in this city which, it is claimed, accept contracts and send inexperienced students to do work of full-fledged mechanics on scab jobs.

Bureau Session Called Off; Fourth World Congress Young Communist International Is Called Instead

The following communication has been received here from Moscow, sent to the Young Workers League of America from the executive committee of the Young Communist International:
Moscow, March 7th, 1924.

Dear Comrades:

Our invitation to you for the Bureau Session sent a short time ago, owing to a series of changes, has now become inoperative. The Presidium of the Communist International has decided to call no Enlarged Executive Session for April of this year, as very many of the Parties have put forward requests for the postponement of the Session of the Enlarged Executive. That, however, at the same time would have meant the postponement of the next World Congress of the Communist International also, and the Presidium was of the opinion that this was impossible, and therefore it has decided not to call a Session of the Enlarged Executive at all, but to call the next World Congress of the Communist International for June or July of this year.

It is true that the Presidium has approached us and the most important of the Parties to discover whether we are in agreement with this alteration; it is, however, as good as certain that the decisions of the Presidium must hold good.

The Executive of the Young Communist International has dealt with the change in the situation in its last session and has decided not to call an International Bureau Session for the beginning of May, but instead to call the Fourth World Congress of the Young Communist International immediately after the World Congress of the Communist International.

For the present, with fraternal greetings,
THE E. C. OF THE Y. C. I.,
OTTO UNGER, Secretary.

Y.M.C.A. IS MASK FOR KU KLUX DOPE IN MINNEAPOLIS

(Special to "The Young Worker")
MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.—The Young Men's Christian Association Industrial Committee of this city, in league with the bosses, is out on a holy mission to save the workers from thinking of their own interests. This committee gives entertainments at all of the big railroad and machine shops, regularly, once a week at the noon hour.

A lady sings a couple of hymns and then a preacher talks. "Two weeks ago a holy one spoke on 'The Golden Rule' to the workers in one of the local shops. First, he told them what it was; then he told them a man practiced it in business and became a president of a \$4,000,000 concern in a four-year period. This representative of the church of the 'pure' piously glorified this man who had so honestly wrung millions of dollars out of his workers. In telling about this man the speaker went into a tirade against the Catholics, Jews, the foreigners and the 'reds.' Not openly, but very cleverly, did he put over this klan propaganda.

It must be said that the Ku Kluxers are active here, and that they are quite thick with the Y. M. C. A. The Klan was an issue in the last city election, and many 'Y' men were active in supporting the Klan candidate.

Hoodlums Spirit Away I. W. W.

(Special to "The Young Worker")

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—The police of Los Angeles Harbor are now investigating the kidnapping of a young member of the Industrial Workers of the World, who was spirited away from a small group of members of the I. W. W., who had been talking in little groups after the adjournment of a meeting that had just been held.

While standing in little groups, three automobiles rushed up, a man jumping out of one of them and seizing a young Wobblie into the machine, and then dashed off again. The police say that the kidnapped youth was one of the leaders in the last strike and that he may be either tarred and feathered or else whipped. Whatever will be done to this young worker, one thing is certain: The officials of the city will not take any too strong steps to punish, or even discover who the kidnapers were. All's fair when workers are oppressed by the organized representatives of the bosses.

LABOR ARTIST, 21, TORTURED IN SPAIN BY FASCIST RULERS

BARCELONA, Spain.—Juan B. Archer, known as Shum, has been condemned to death because of pro-labor cartoons. Shum's talent is like that of Art Young or Robert Minor or Fred Ellis of America. When the army generals seized power in Spain they arrested Shum, who is 21. He was then a sick man, having been wounded in an explosion. But the authorities nursed him back to health to submit him to a third degree which was so revolting that Shum's resistance was broken and he confessed everything they asked him without knowing what he was saying. As a result the death sentence was imposed. The Spanish workers are making an international appeal to save his life.

Germany Is No Better

BERLIN.—George Grosz, the German communist artist, whose biting cartoons have got under the skin of the scoundrels now ruling Germany, has been fined 500 gold marks (\$125) for the "obscenity" alleged to be pictured in his book of illustrations, "Eccce Homo." The illustrations portrayed conditions and characters in Germany as they actually are, and in spite of the fact that such men as Max Liebermann, the painter, Maximilian Harden, the publicist, and numerous others testified in his favor, he was convicted.

\$16 for 51 Hours Work for Pulp Girls

(Special to "The Young Worker")

WASHINGTON.—An average of about \$16 a week is being paid to cutter and plater girls in the paper and pulp mills of this country for work which averages 51 hours a week, according to reports just made public by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics.

In wrapping paper mills the hours of work extend even up to 53 hours per week.

The men are not much better off. They average about 53 hours per week and get about \$25 for their work. In spite of the fact that such positively rotten wages are being paid, the workers are laid off in many mills for considerable periods of time. Twelve book paper mills closed down for periods of from 6 to 69 days. Two new-spring mills were closed down for from 105 to 151 days. Similar conditions prevail in other branches of the industry.

Join the Young Workers League!

Increase of Building Trade Apprentices Being Used by Contractors to Beat Down Wages of Organized Construction Workers

By MAX SHACHTMAN.

CHICAGO.—Commenting on the increase of apprentices in the building trades, especially among the bricklayers of this country, the American Contractor, organ of the big constructing interests of America, urges that the building trades bosses should look more and more to the young workers for their labor material.

"Contractors will be doing a wise thing if they lay down a law to their foremen and demand the hiring of apprentice boys be encouraged instead of frowned upon," says the magazine.

YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE CONFERENCE CALLED OFF BECAUSE OF POSTPONEMENT OF Y. C. I. BUREAU SESSION

The May 30th conference of the Young Workers League has been officially called off by the National Executive Committee of the league in a communication just sent out to the branches of the organization. The reason for the calling off of the conference is the information just arrived here to the effect that the Fourth Congress of the Young Communist International is soon to be held (see another part of this issue). The official communication to Young Workers League branches is as follows:

POSTPONEMENT NOTICE. TO ALL SHOP NUCLEI AND BRANCHES OF THE Y. W. L.

Dear Comrades:

It becomes necessary to cancel the National Conference of the Young Workers League set for May 30th, 31st and June 1st, in Chicago. The purpose of calling our National Conference was fully explained in the call. However, there have been changes in circumstances the past few days, which necessitate cancellation of the National Conference. The Young Communist International had called a Bureau Session in the month of May to take up its immediate problems and its regular Fourth Congress was to begin on International Youth Day, in September, 1924. The regulations of the Y. W. L. call for a national convention of the League within four months after the Congress of the Young Communist International. The Y. C. I., however, has decided in view of the change by the Communist International of the C. I. congress, to call the regular Congress of the Y. C. I. in June.

Since it would be necessary to call a convention of the Young Workers League shortly after the Y. C. I. congress, it would mean, if we should hold our National Conference as scheduled, for May 30th, that the Third National Convention of the Y. W. L. would have to follow but a few months after our National Conference. This would be a financial and technical impossibility for us. Therefore, we are calling off the National Conference and instead will call the regular Third National Convention of the Y. W. L. a few months after the YCI congress.

In the Young Worker you can read the letter from the YCI informing us of the cancellation of their Bureau Session and the calling of their Fourth Congress, from which follows, logically, the postponement of our National Conference.

Since you have had the call and agenda for the National Conference but a few days, there should not be any great inconvenience caused because of the cancellation. We ask you to continue energetically with the work of the League, discuss more closely than ever the immediate and future problems, lay the basis for district organizations, so that when the Third National Convention of the Young Workers League is called we shall be able to note large strides forward for the League.

With Communist Greetings,
(Signed) MARTIN ABERN,
Executive Secretary,
Young Workers League of America.

Alaskan Packers Sued
SAN FRANCISCO.—Ramon Ruiz has entered suit against the Alaskan Packers' Association for redress for the death of his son, Julio Ruiz, foreman for the association in 1922, claiming that the Alaskan climate and the conditions of the salmon canneries made his son ill; that the boy was not given any medical care; and that, when fevered to insanity, he killed himself, his employers threw his body into a pit in which several other bodies already lay.

Safe and Sane Education
SAN ANDREAS, Cal.—Although forbidden by State law to teach any sort of partisan politics in the public schools of the State, a G. A. R. veteran told high school students that "You here in the hills are fortunately shielded from bolshevism, socialism, infidelity, and other enemies of the country."

Federated Party and Central Union Protest Against Cop's Illegal Action Against Houston Young Communists

By BLACK DIAMOND.

(Special to "The Young Worker.")
CANONSBURG, Pa.—About two weeks ago a 2 by 4 constable of Houston, Pa., appeared in one of the homes of a member of the Young Workers League, a young boy, 15 years of age. It is alleged that he was drunk at the time of his appearance at the home of our young comrade. This tipsy condition of his is not an unusual sight. This upholder of the law, who himself violates the law, attempted by means of petty scheming to have the young comrade drop his membership in the Young Workers League. This he refused to do. Seeing that his attempt at convincing him failed, he threatened him with being sent to prison. This constable seems to have life tenure on his job. For the past 15 years he has been unopposed at the election campaign and this fact makes him think that he is a tin god in the vicinity. This time, however, he may be greatly surprised, for the Federated Farmer-Labor Party of Washington County is getting into action.

This unheard of illegal act of the constable's in his effort to prevent a citizen of the community to have his free choice in joining any organization he desires aroused the fury of the Chartiers Valley Central Labor Union against such an action, and the chairman of the Education Committee of the C. L. U. threw a challenge in the face of the petty inquisitor by defying him and the petty officials to do their damndest. A letter signed by the chairman of the Educational Committee of the Chartiers Valley Central Labor Union appeared in the local paper, which we quote in part: "If this school that Constable Rathbone decries is so much against his tender patriotic heart why did he not raid this school 8 or 9 weeks ago?"

Replying to this letter the versatile brainy constable has this to say, "hat any one who says he is opposed to the church or any Sabbath or Sunday school, which is true to name states what is positively false."

We wish to inform the sanctimonious constable that as we do not recognize him as an authority on Sunday School, moreover we insist upon our own opinions as to what Sunday schools ought to be and will continue these despite the fact that it may make the dear constable feel hurt.

3 KILLED IN PERU AS STUDENTS AND WORKERS PROTEST

(Special to "The Young Worker.")

LIMA, Peru.—A student, a worker and a policeman were killed here in a sudden attack on a peaceful protest parade by mounted troops of the reactionary government.

The cause of the protest parade was the issuance of a warrant for the arrest of Haya de la Torre, radical leader of the students and prominent teacher of working class educational institutions, who has subsequently been exiled from the country.

Claridad, a revolutionary students' magazine of which de la Torre, the exiled president of the Students' Federation, is the director, has been suppressed by the government, whose head is the U. S. State Department manufactured president, Leguia. Jose Carlos Mariategui, Oscar Herrera and Amario Accinelli, editors of the paper, were arrested, and though later released, the publisher, Lorenzo Rego, remains in jail.

The reactionary Leguia government is being supported by American battleships and is controlled by the American Standard Oil Company.

Y. W. L. Gets Goat Of 'Frisco Labor Skate At Conclave

(Special to "The Young Worker.")

TRACY, Calif.—The nanny goat of Dear-Sir-and-Brother Paul Scharrenberg, prominent labor skate in the trades union movement of California, and fervent supporter of the equally fervent supporter of William J. Burns, Hiram Johnson, was neatly nabbed here by members of the Young Workers League at a meeting of the State Committee for Progressive Political Action.

The meeting, the first of a series all over the State to boost the politically worn stock of the jailer of Tom Mooney, was attended by members of the San Francisco League, who took a flying trip here to distribute labor party leaflets. The leaflets apparently made such an impression on the audience that Brother Paul was felt called upon to attack those in favor of an independent labor party. His intellectual capacity and wide knowledge may be gauged by the fact that he classed the supporters of a farmer-labor party with Emma Goldman!

Isn't that enough to make Emma turn a flip-flop of rage?

Safe and Sane Education
SAN ANDREAS, Cal.—Although forbidden by State law to teach any sort of partisan politics in the public schools of the State, a G. A. R. veteran told high school students that "You here in the hills are fortunately shielded from bolshevism, socialism, infidelity, and other enemies of the country."

FASCIST HORRORS TOLD BY MEXICAN YOUNG COMMUNIST

By ELLA G. WOLFE.
(Staff Correspondent of Federated Press.)

MEXICO CITY.—Rafael Carrillo, the leader of the Communist Youth of Mexico, and a delegate to the last Congress in Russia, sent us the following letter from Vera Cruz: "Since the beginning of the Fascist rebellion the activities of all workers' groups ceased. All workers' organizations without distinction of color or affiliation or ideology were suppressed. Under these conditions the Communist group of Vera Cruz organized an illegal organization. Secretly we provided the agrarian forces under our Comrade Galvin, with arms and ammunition.

"The Secretary of the Communist Youth, Guillermo Lira, was taken prisoner by the rebels and hanged. The peasant youth organizations were dispersed and annihilated. Hundreds of peasant leaders were captured, tortured first and hanged afterwards, and their bodies left to the vultures."

Comrade Carrillo goes on mentioning other atrocities committed against the workers and peasants by the tools of the exploiting classes. But all this brutality, all this beastliness and injustice has been branded deeply into the souls and minds of the workers of Vera Cruz, these workers that last year were divided into several groups, strangling each other, but are now forming a united front. They are resolving all their differences. A commission has just been elected by 12,000 of them to draw up a platform on which they will unite in their struggle against their exploiters. It is a pity that the workers have to pay so dearly for their education.

Mocking Bird Bee Mocks For Defense

In the canny judgment of the Young Workers League of Los Angeles, bourgeois justice is mock justice. So it has arranged to stage a big mock trial, by means of which it will demonstrate to the local Junior Dubbs just where the "mock" comes in. Incidentally the affair is expected to provide a rousing good time. Net proceeds will go to the Labor Defense Council, which is resolutely carrying forward the appeal of C. E. Ruthenberg against his mock-conviction in the Berrien County Court of the State of Michigan.

Struck by the possibilities of the Los Angeles idea, the Labor Defense Council is now asking all its branches, as well as other sympathetic organizations, to hold "mock hearings" of an "appeal of the Michigan Criminal Syndicalism Law against conviction before the bar of history." Material for preparing these hearings will be furnished by the Labor Defense Council.

A number of organizations have responded and are already arranging mock hearings, which should furnish funds for the local groups and funds for the Labor Defense Councils. In most cases, the work is being undertaken by branches of the Young Workers League.

THE WORKERS' VICTORY IS THEIRS!



Courtesy of Soviet Russia Pictorial.

This is the strong and sturdy youth of Soviet Russia, the republic of the Russian workers. These are the new generation, Russia's hope. They are the builders of the new, filled with the fire and enthusiasm and spirit of the proletarian revolution.

Here we see the revolutionary youth of Moscow in a huge celebration of International Youth Day. They are celebrating their release from the iron heel of capitalism, from the chains of slavery. They are happy in the knowledge that they are the men of the New Society of the Earth.

They are marching with determined steps and labor's red flag. And all over the world is being heard like an echo the sound, growing greater in volume, of the countless feet that march on to the day of the freedom of the working class, the army of the workers' revolution, with the youth in the vanguard!

EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION---A DREAM

By BENJAMIN P. CHASS.

It is nigh sixty years ago that the Emancipation Proclamation was signed. This was to be the death-knell of chattel slavery in free America. This was to be the ushering in of a new day for the black men, women and children of the United States. They, too, were to be given the liberty, equality and opportunity that the white race enjoyed.

Yesterday the Negro was a chattel slave; today he casts his lot with all the other white wage slaves. Whether the Negro is better off today than yesterday requires a microscope to see the better life and opportunities that are accorded the African race. Yesterday, while the Negro was tied down to one master with all the concomitant miseries attached, he at least was assured of some sort of food, clothing and shelter, for it paid the slave masters for keeping their slaves in good, strong condition for the simple reason that, if the slaves got sick or died, the slave master would be forced to buy other slaves—and slaves cost money. While today, since the Negro is "free," no master is responsible, nor does any capitalist care for the welfare of his workers, for there are always more workers outside the gate waiting to take the vacant place left for him by the sickness or death of some other worker. Today the capitalist need not buy his workers. Today the

workers are the wage slaves to the capitalist who owns the job.

But this dream of what the Emancipation Proclamation gave to the African workers causes the average Negro to proudly boast of his liberty and equal opportunity. Yet the only freedom the Negro has today is to take the job that the capitalist master offers to him at the starvation wage given to him by this same master. As far as equal opportunity is concerned, the Negro has none, as everyday life bears this out. The Negro is offered but the lowest, menial work at the very lowest wages, and in turn this same race is charged the highest prices for everything they must buy. They are robbed coming and going. It is only comparatively recent time that the Negro is given the opportunity to join together with his white brother workers to demand better conditions.

It is in the South where the colored workers are more exploited than anywhere else in this country. Here one sees men, women and children slaving on the truck farms. Mothers and their little tots are seen here breaking their backs picking strawberries and other fruits and vegetables. Here are seen the worst crimes committed against the growing boys and girls. Child labor here practically starts from the mother's womb.

On the truck farms in Norfolk, Va., exists the blackest hell on earth for the black children of the South. Here boys and girls from the early age of four and on up to fifteen are seen daily slaving for long hours at the lowest wages possible. The report of the Children's Bureau of Labor of the United States, as it concerns the work of mothers and children on the truck farms in Norfolk, is filled with tales of misery and poverty.

Every radish, every strawberry, tomato or cucumber we eat, which is raised and picked by these children, is covered with the young blood of these exploited children. By this slavery of these babies, boys and girls, the Southern capitalists gather huge profits. At the same time these children that make the gold for their masters receive a mere pittance for their slavery. For working as high as thirteen hours a day they receive as low as five cents an hour, the wages per day averaging around fifty cents to not over \$1.25, the latter wage received by the oldest children only.

Where do these mothers and children live? "Most of them were housed in one-room shacks, sleeping on hay or on wooden crates, cooking over campfires and having no toilet accommodations." Most of the families did not even possess any privies. The most diseased and contaminated conditions prevail thereby. "One shack, for example, had three rooms, each of which sheltered twenty-five

men, women and children." No decency or privacy at all, yet the Southern preachers preach about morality, and the upholders of the present slave system rant about the sanctity of the home!

Many of the mothers who worked on the farms brought their children along with them. The farm was the home and playground; here they are reared into manhood and womanhood. "Lack of time and fatigue in the case of mothers who were away from home working in the fields all day were, no doubt, factors, along with poverty and ignorance, in causing irregular and unsuitable meals." Most of them had but two meals a day and many but one meal. "One family, consisting of the mother, a girl of fifteen and a boy of twelve, had picked strawberries from 6 a. m. until 3 p. m. 'We just can't seem to get up early enough to get to breakfast,' said the mother, who went straight through the day with 'nothing to eat but snuff.'" The food that they did eat was of the poorest and lowest quality. Milk is a luxury for these slaving mothers and children.

In reviewing this picture of the slaving mothers and children, how can any 100 per cent American shout about the "grandest country on the globe?" How can any one dare to boast of America's riches and success? Where are all these good things we hear so much about in the capitalist organs of molding public opinion—the papers, movies and schools? Soon a new picture will be shown on the screen called "America." It will show so many "good" things that America has. Will it show the mothers and children slaving on the Norfolk farms? Or the other abundant slavery that exists every where in "grand old America?"

APPRENTICES USED BY CONTRACTORS TO LOWER WAGES

(Continued from Page 1)

That these observations are not isolated is shown by the statements made by F. F. Meyne, of Chicago, at the last convention of the National Association of Building Trades Employers:

"What is required is the initiative of determined groups of contractors in each locality to organize, support and demand the installation of preliminary courses in the building trades, so that boys may be interested in these crafts and have a background of familiarity with them when they come on the job. If the schools provided these courses, our trades would get economically valuable material for further training."

And Mr. Meyne goes on to suggest that the burden of educating the youth to take the places of the adults be shifted from the shoulders of the bosses to those of the "public," that is, making the public schools direct agencies for the training of workers to become "economically valuable material"—for the bosses.

The American Construction Council, also, has undertaken to inaugurate a national program for apprenticeship training in the construction industry, and its apprenticeship committee met at Buffalo December 5, 1923, to discuss plans. Plans were laid for a nation-wide survey of the apprenticeship needs of the industry.

The Young Worker has previously pointed out the menace that uncontrolled apprenticeship training presents to the organized trade unionists of this country. In many cases apprentices, who do just as much work as the adults, are paid lower wages, and the bosses, quick to see the advantages to an ever greater extent to displace the journeyman mechanic.

The trades unions of this country must immediately take cognizance of this danger and move forward to a better relationship between the regular mechanic and the apprentice. The unions must no longer regulate apprenticeship jointly with the bosses, but must make it a strictly union affair. The bosses look after their own interest well enough without the unions helping them. The fundamental principle of equal wages for young and old workers must be made a part of the unions' laws and agreements.

The apprentices themselves must help their brother unionists against any attempt to have the youth used to break down the union conditions brought about by long years of hard struggle. The united front of old and young workers is the only solution to the malicious schemes of the organized bosses to break the union shop in industry.

Out of Work Youth Finds Job Getting Tough Proposition

By JOHN MONOT.

I am informed that The Young Worker, the young communist paper of this country, is willing to print letters from young workers who are so bitterly exploited. I will therefore ask you to print the following experience which I had.

Two years ago I worked in a metal factory from which I was fired on account of misbehaving. Then I went looking for work. After a few days I succeeded in finding a job where the boss promised me the following conditions: Eight hour day, Saturday five and a half hours, and 35 cents an hour. The work is hard, as you can imagine work in a metal factory would be. After working two years the conditions the boss had promised me changed entirely. I worked up to \$25.00 a week and the boss—up to 50 hours a week.

One week before Christmas I was fired. Nothing hurt me as much as this Christmas present of the boss. A short time after I was fired I came back and asked for work. The boss promised that a little later, "after I had taken a rest," and with such phrases and words did the blood-sucking exploiter seek to pacify me.

I went looking for a job but none was to be found. I would wait early for the paper to come out, near the newspaper office, and immediately the paper was off the press, the many workless ones who would wait on the sidewalk, as I did, and when the boys came out with the papers, then the flock of unemployed waiting for them would rush at them and hopefully and hastily scan thru the "ads" for a job. It was thus impossible for me to find a master to exploit me. Then I decided to go from door to door in my efforts to find work. I thought I was the only one seeking work in this manner but great was my disappointment when I realized that there were many, in the same plight as I looking for work from door to door.

I then went again to my boss to see if he could do anything for me. I could see in the shop that the workers were busy. The boss said, "Do you want a job?" "Sure I want a job." "But," said the boss, "we can get workers much cheaper than \$25.00 a week. This gave me an insight into his manner of reasoning and I decided to sell myself for a cheaper amount. With this decision I went up again to the boss and asked him for work for as much as he thought I was worth. The answer was—I will let you know by a letter.

I knew what hopes there was in this and I decided to go out seeking for work again. I did, and day after day I wandered hopelessly through the streets, often suffering great cold. When the cold would get unbearable I would go inside a ten cent movie. The airlessness, the terrible odor there would make it impossible for one to stay long and as I grew more hopeless I decided that the only way to assure myself of at least food would be to sell myself to the capitalist army. It is to be understood, though, that, of course, my communist ideals and my loyalty to my class I would never give up, and that I would be ready to die with my comrades in the cause of the movement.

This decision I reached on a Thursday and decided to carry out on the following Monday, but Friday morning I received a letter from the boss asking to see me. I went to see the boss and he offered me a lighter job at \$22 a week, and upon these conditions I agreed to go to work. The boss however did not keep his word and put me to work at much harder work at \$25 a week. I worked there a week, thinking that he had no other place for me and I thought, naturally, that I would get the wage per week that I had been getting, at the same kind of work before, \$25. But at the end of the week I merely received \$22. I therefore went up to the boss and told him about it. His answer was: "If you don't like it, you can quit."

The young workers must therefore suffer terribly handling and exploitation at the hands of the bosses. But, young workers, do not stand still. Join the Y. W. L. for a greater and stronger workers' army, to fight for the freedom of the workers from capitalist exploitation!

Form Reading Labor Party

READING, Pa.—The Labor Party of Reading was formed here at a conference of political organizations, trades unions and fraternal bodies. J. Newton Brown of the American Federation of Railway Workers was elected chairman and James Master secretary. The question of delegates to the June 17th convention will be taken up at the next meeting of the conference.

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And played their ta-ra-diddles
From G flat to C sharp.

CHORUS

That's how they made a little dough
And sent it in to the N. O.!

—Sustaining Fund Anthology.

What we mean by the above sweet sextette (or is it rosette) is that the Young Workers League Orchestra of Chicago made \$5.00 for playing their wondrous instruments and very kindly turned it over to the National Office Sustaining Fund.

And they were followed by a donation of a similar sum from the South Range League.

And ditto, ditto, ditto, by a donation of \$30.00 by the Christopher, Ill., League.

And we hope that there will be lots of dittos in the very, very near future. For as the famous poet J. Pierpont Rockefeller once wrote:

Oh, Oh, Oh, Oh!
You ought to know
That we need the dough!

So don't waste another minute and send in your donations immediately to the

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News of the Leagues

A Shop Nucleus for Cleveland
Now Cleveland can come into the ranks of leagues that have started on at least their first nucleus. Besides the old branches doing well, a new comrade, George Papson, who became interested in the Young Workers League thru reading this paper, has now organized Cleveland's first shop unit in the steel factory where he works. He collected a group of twelve young workers in his shop and formed a unit. All of them are union members and we may expect some real live news from them pretty soon.

This is an example of the shop nucleus work which can be done by almost every member in the league. Comrade Papson is not the only one. We'll bet that there are dozens upon dozens of other comrades who could do just as well as Comrade Papson if they made a real conscientious effort. What do you say?

Partly Good for Ashtabula

The Ashtabula, Ohio, branch of the Young Workers League, though one of our youngest, is also one of the swiftest growing. Not a single meeting passes by without at least three or four new members being taken in. Most of the young reds are working in the mines and we ought to be hearing of some "underground" nuclei in operation in a short time. What's your answer, Ashtabula?

Right Off the Reel!

No sooner does Comrade Gus Shklar go to Milwaukee to do communist work there than we hear of the formation of a branch of the Young Workers League and a junior group. Comrade Shklar has been very much interested in the young communist movement in the past and we are sure he still is and will be. His work before now in the South Bend League has been of great benefit to it.

More Nuclei in Cleveland
But steel mill nuclei are not the only ones in Cleveland. Two high school nuclei are already formed and a third is in the process of birth. Talking about "boring from within!" Among the members of the nuclei are an editor of the school paper, a star debater, room presidents and six members of the Student Council. The Young Worker is advertised on the bulletin boards of the school whenever it comes out. All of which you might call: Not bad at all!

We're Sorry There Are Only Two

For this time we can report the organization of two new branches, one in Baltimore, Md., and the other at Fort Bragg, Calif. Both are very promising youngsters, and there is good reason to believe that they will be heard from favorably in a short time. Baltimore is near to Washington and the Baltimore League may be among the first to invade the White House. Who knows? Such things will happen, you know.

Christopher for the Fund

Within a period of five days, the league branch at Christopher, Ill., has sent in \$12.80 for the Ruthenberg Appeal fund of the Labor Defense Council, \$12 to the Friends of Soviet Russia and Workers' Germany, and \$30 to the Young Workers League Sustaining Fund. Good stuff! Has your branch of the league sent in its share of the fund yet? We need the dough, comrades, and we need it soon!

And while we speak of Christopher, the branch is carrying on good educational work. After every meeting the comrades discuss a five-minute talk of some comrades; or else parts of "Youth Under Americanism" are read and taken up for discussion. The members are very much interested in this method of education. Your branch can do the same. Have you tried it?

How to Form A Shop Nucleus

On the Building Up of Nuclei and Upon Their Practical Work as the Basic Units of Organization

The Young Workers League of America has to perform an important task. It has to win great masses of the young workers for our struggles to enroll the best elements of the working class youth in its ranks, and in this way to become a communist mass organization of the youth.

This task can only be performed by the efforts of the whole forces at the command of the League and the most active work of every single member in the League.

An organization of the communist youth is a mass organization only when, first, it embraces in its ranks a considerable and class conscious section of the working class, second, it is able to bring its influence to bear upon the broader masses, third, by its activity it possesses a permanent and firm contact with the working classes, and fourth, it has developed its whole activity in such a manner that it can consider itself as the only leader of the working class youth, and is considered as such by the other organizations of the working class (the communist party, the trades unions, the shop committees, etc.).

Such an organization supports itself upon the industrial and therefore upon the class conscious proletariat.

The youthful section of this proletariat is the most determined part of the working class youth and therefore it must constitute a majority in any organization of the working class youth which wants to play a decisive role in the class struggle.

Up to the present, the Young Workers League has had little influence on the broad masses of the working class youth. In place of this it must make its aim the winning of the permanent confidence of the working class youth in its slogans, its work and activities and thereby win a permanent influence on the mass of the young workers. This can only be done by continual daily touch with the working class youth, and by continually making them aware of our work.

The chief place for such a connection is in the shop, where a member of the League can make the influence of the League felt. If the Young Workers League wishes to do successful work amongst the masses of the young workers in the shops, it must combine its members in the various places of work for systematic activity in concrete organizational units. This organizational unit is the shop nucleus. It forms the most important support the cornerstone of our organization.

Work in the shop for the establishment of a nucleus and work in the nucleus when established, that is the first task of a member of the Young Workers League.

What the member does in the shop for the League by communist propaganda and organization is the first and the best proof for his membership in the Young Workers League. Every Factory Should Be Our Stronghold

It is the duty of all members of the League to see to it that young workers, no matter how far they may appear to be from our organization, are won for us and our League thus extended. They must organize still more energetically than in the past their fellow workers in the shops and form with them nuclei.

It is the duty of all the comrades in the shops to inform themselves on the general situation of the young workers, upon their number and ages. They must distribute the literature of the League amongst them and should invite them to the

meetings and socials of the Young Workers League. Their personal contact with their comrades in the shops will enable them to do this.

They must develop a permanent and strong propaganda activity, and must utilize all political and economic events to inform the young workers of the opinions and the slogans of the Young Workers League.

The Organization of the Nucleus

Every League must issue the general slogan, "Form Shop Nuclei!" And this must be made the duty of all members. As far as the work depends upon the National Executive Committee of the League, and upon the divisional and local committees, these must organize their work systematically, i. e., they must concentrate their work upon the most important places, and give them the greater part of their attention and support. The N. E. C. must select the industrial districts and must first of all concentrate its work for the shop nuclei upon these districts. The divisions on their part must concentrate themselves upon the most important localities, and the local committees upon the most important and favorable shops. Everywhere the N. E. C. and the divisional and local committees must participate personally in the work. This is extremely important, much more important than twenty circulars.

Apart from this, however, as already said, everywhere where there are young communists in a shop, a shop nucleus must be built. Where members of the League work in a large or medium-sized shop, they must immediately begin to form a League nucleus, either by a first meeting of the comrades themselves, or, if there exists such a possibility, by a meeting of the young workers in the shop. Although this latter is more effective, usually the formation will have to be done in a smaller circle. The district committee plays a great part in the formation of a nucleus, for it must connect the various members in the shop, who are often unknown to one another. In a large town it must give the branches in the various quarters of the city information on the various members working in their territory; it must provide speakers and organizers for the shop meetings where shop nuclei are to be formed. In general, this first work of the formation of the shop nuclei is rather easy where we have already comrades working in the shops.

Why There Are Prostitutes

TORONTO, Can.—As low as \$7 a week has been paid to experienced women workers in the printing, paper and bookbinding trades in this city, according to the official statement of the chairman of the provincial minimum wage board. And then they wonder why girls are driven to prostitution!

What Is A Shop Nucleus?

For the best answer read the best book

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explains in detail just what a shop nucleus is, why it should be, and how it can be. A simple exposition of the shop nucleus, which should be the guide of all who are in the work of building a network of nuclei throughout the industries of the country.

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'EVERY MEMBER A NUCLEUS ORGANIZER!' IS THE SLOGAN OF THE YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE ON SHOP NUCLEUS ORGANIZATION

By MAX SALZMAN

In my visits to various branches of the League throughout the country I find that almost all of the members accept the shop nucleus idea, but very little has been done to put the resolution adopted at our convention into practice. So far very little has been done toward organizing nuclei. This is due mainly to the fact that the membership does not understand the importance of nuclei activity. Also to the fact that very few of the members have studied either the resolution adopted at the convention or the pamphlet, "From Isolation to the Masses," by Comrade Gypner. While the study of these two documents will give one an understanding of nuclei work, it becomes necessary to answer some of the arguments against the immediate application of shop nuclei that were brought to my attention while I was on the road.

T. U. E. L. and Y. W. L. Nuclei Are Different

One of the arguments given against the building of shop nuclei is that this task is the work of the T. U. E. L. and not that of the Y. W. L. This argument has no foundation whatever, because the T. U. E. L. was organized in order to organize the militants in the trades unions so as to carry on their work more effectively. The shop nuclei are organized in order for us to carry on our work in the shops whether they are organized or not. The E. C. C. I. has the following to say in its resolution on the organization of factory or shop nuclei: "The nuclei should in no circumstances be confused with the Communist fractions in the trades unions, co-operatives, etc., whose function cannot be replaced by the nuclei. The functions of the fractions are narrower than those of the nuclei." I believe it is clear to the membership that shop nuclei have a function that the T. U. E. L. does not and can not carry out. The shop nucleus is the basic political unit of the League.

The New York comrades particularly use the argument that it is necessary for them to form industrial branches before they can form nuclei. Just what do they mean by industrial branches?

Industrial Branches Not the Solution

To my knowledge, industrial branches are branches consisting of workers who are employed in the same industry. This means that comrades, regardless of where they work or where they live, would belong to the same branch if they work in the same industry. It would then be much harder for the comrades to function. They would have to travel long distances. They could not discuss at the problems in their shops, as there would be so many of them from so many different shops that it would be impossible for them to do so even if they met every night.

Furthermore, if we organize industrial branches, machinists would belong to machinists' branches, office workers to office workers' branches, and shipping clerks to shipping clerks' branches, in spite of the fact that some machinists, office workers, and shipping clerks might work in the same shop. With shop nuclei functioning all workers in one shop would belong to one nucleus regardless of what work they do in the shop.

Some comrades contend that if we carry on our activity in the shops our members will get fired. Such an argument against the immediate formation of shop nuclei is absurd. These comrades might just as well contend that by carrying on our struggle against capitalism we are liable to arrest. It is no doubt true that in carrying on our shop activity some of our members will lose their jobs, but it is equally true that by fighting against Capitalism some of our members are sent to prison. If we should not carry on shop activity because of fear of being fired, as these comrades contend, is it not equally logical that we should give up our activity in the movement because we are afraid of being sent to jail?

Foreign-Speaking Branches and Nuclei

Many of the foreign speaking comrades are afraid that the formation of shop nuclei eliminate the foreign speaking branches. The mere fact that these comrades bring this matter up shows that they are more concerned with the existence of foreign speaking branches than they are with the development of the influence of the Y. W. L. or the party among the masses of workers. Our problem is not whether or not we have foreign speaking branches, but how can we best carry on our work among the foreign speaking workers. The nuclei will not in any way interfere with the work being carried on among the foreign speaking workers. On the other hand it will increase this

activity. It will probably be essential for the meetings of the shop nuclei to be conducted in English, but the comrades can carry on their work in the shop in the languages that the workers in the shop understand. For instance, if in a large shop there are workers employed who speak Russian, Italian, Jewish, and English, and the nucleus consists of comrades speaking the same languages, it will be the duty of each of the comrades to carry on the work of the nucleus in the language they can speak so as to be able to reach all workers. Thus we find that the formation of shop nuclei instead of interfering with the work of the foreign speaking comrades, helps to broaden their activities.

Nuclei Resolutions Quoted.

When comrades bring forth the argument that the immediate formation of shop nuclei would disorganize the league they fail to understand the resolution adopted by the second convention. I quote from the resolution adopted by the convention:

"Transition from the present territorial branch to branches organized on the basis of shop and school nuclei, (constituting as it does one of the immediate tasks of the Y. W. L.), is a lengthy process during which numerous difficulties will be encountered. A beginning should be made wherever it is easiest. Transition of the territorial branches is only possible, however, once the nuclei have been carefully and systematically organized and placed on a working basis, as long as the old branch is not yet reorganized, it continues its present functions."

In order to further show that these comrades do not understand what is to be done in putting the shop nucleus form of organization into effect, I quote from page 52 of "From Isolation to the Masses":

"One rule however must be universally applied—That old forms of organization must not be blindly destroyed before the new organizational apparatus has been solidly established."

If the comrades who use this argument would read the resolution adopted by the convention and the pamphlet, "From Isolation to the Masses," they would not make the unfounded argument that the N. E. C. will immediately order that all branches change into shop nuclei and therefore disorganize the league. A reading of the resolution adopted by the convention and "From Isolation to the Masses" by comrade Gypner, will avoid a great deal of unnecessary discussion.

One or Two in a Shop Sufficient.

If any of the leagues are asked why they have not formed shop nuclei they will answer that they have not sufficient members working in one shop. The comrades use this as an excuse for their not carrying activities that will lead to the formation of shop nuclei.

Where only one or two comrades are working in one shop it shall be their task to carry on the work in the shop so that they can win sufficient members to form a nucleus. We must adopt the slogan, "Every member a shop nucleus organizer." Thus will we be able to spread our influence still further among the masses of young workers.

The question of first strengthening our league before we can form nuclei is often brought up by some of the comrades. We have been continually trying to strengthen our league, but we find that only a few of our members are active. We find that this few does all the work, while the membership does nothing but attend meetings. Our present form of organization uses the best in a few of our members, the officers we elect. The shop nucleus form of organization would give each member a task in the shop. And certainly with all our members active our organization will become much stronger than it is now.

'Every Member a Shop Nucleus Organizer'

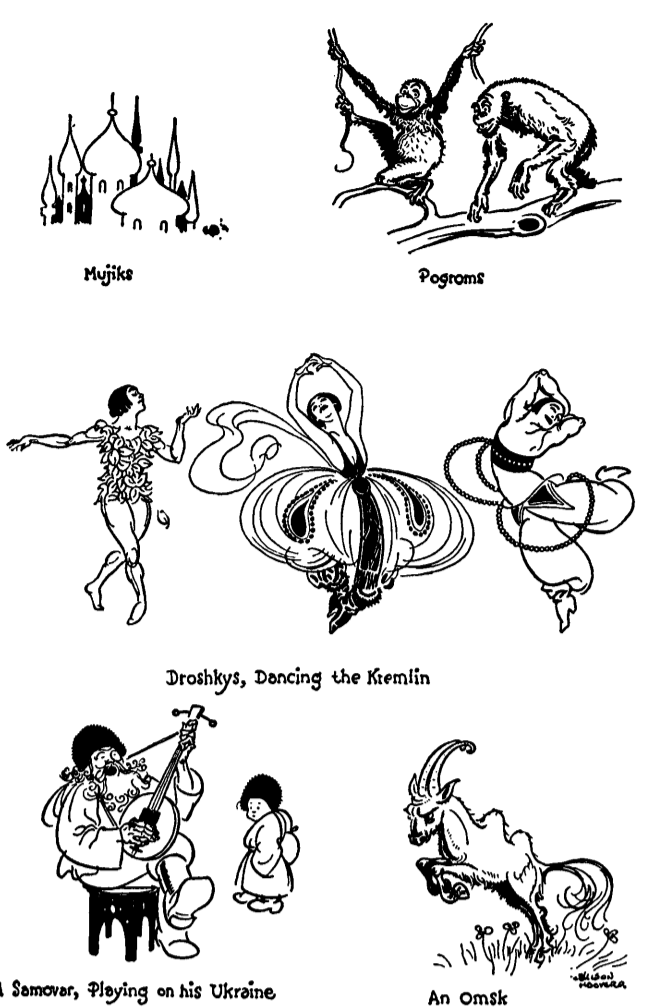
Let our aim be to form shop nuclei immediately. Let every group of comrades who are working in the same shop form a nucleus immediately. Let every comrade who is the only communist working in his shop proceed to carry on work so that he or she can win enough members in the shop to form a nucleus. We all want to develop a mass organization. We can only do it by organizing on the basis of shop nuclei. Let our immediate slogan be, "EVERY MEMBER A SHOP NUCLEUS ORGANIZER."

Send in your dollar and get the YOUNG WORKER for a year.

Don't be a slave. Fight for your class!

ARE YOU ONE OF THESE?

Well, here's what we call a durn funny pitcher, by cricky! And we think it points out pretty well the current misconceptions of what Russian terms really refer to. There are oodles and oodles of people who think that two Chekas are worth at least five French francs; and that a nagaika is one of the best drinks in Russia; and that every night, as the soft wind rustles thru the leafy chernovetz, some tall Russian youth, dressed in a bright red Gay-pay-oo, plays a Komsomol on his Volga or sings a sweet Radek to his girl!



On the Job

Systematizing the Steel Slaves

Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Comrades: This is the stronghold of the steel trust. The arsenal of the open-shoppers. This huge plant with iron gates and barred windows. Some three thousand workers pass the gates each morning; pass before two big, wild-eyed Irishmen. Only tagged dogs pass; you got to show your number.

Conditions? There are none! It is unconditional surrender of oneself to a machine, whether it be mechanical or official. Here "system" is the official machine; all workers must bow before it; routing systems, checking systems, time-card systems, all sorts of systems down to the "police and spy" system.

The wage systems are many. The scale: Laborers and machine helpers get from 35 cents per hour to 50; machinists and mechanics from 45 to 60. On production, piece-work is the rule. Here they have the rates cut down so "systematically" that one must work as if mad to make his wage. And where they cannot sweat one with piece-work they use the time-card. This last is a system by which one is given a certain amount of time to do a job. If he does not complete the job in the given time, he is considered "no good;" then pressure is made to bear on him until he is off the payroll.

The workers all grumble, but they think of nothing concrete. In this place there is no workers' organization, no instrument of expression whatever. If there are any changes in hours, wages or conditions to be made, orders are posted by the boss. The worker reads them, looks sheepishly at his fellow-worker and walks away. So much is he in the power of his employer. But—at the present time only.

SANTA.

Unemployment Rife in Copper Mines

Hancock, Mich.

Dear Comrades: In this district there is only one industry and that is mining. The industrial situation is very quiet. The workers have gone elsewhere to seek jobs. The price of copper is very low and the mines are running on part time and pay very small wages, averaging about \$4 a day.

As the mines are not making any profit there is not any employment of labor. In other words, when there is no profit there is no production. This situation has prevailed here since the World War. The mines are not organized. The Western Federation of Miners was crushed by the copper strike of 1913-14 and no attempt has been made to organize the copper mines since.

Fraternally yours,
AINO OSTERBERG.

Agitating on the Job
New York, N. Y.

Dear Comrades:

I am working in a printing shop and during lunch hour and in my spare time I am trying to get members for the Young Workers League. Up to this time I enrolled only two members, but the interest taken in my agitation by the people I approach makes me feel confident that I

I will succeed in enrolling many more.

Your Comrade,
EUGENE RICHMAN.

Rhode Island Capitalists Are Afraid

Providence, R. I.

Dear Comrades: There was a group of older comrades talking about how the big guns are getting afraid of the radicals in Rhode Island. One of the comrades turned to me and said:

"I'm with the Young Workers League because you are the only ones in little Rhody that are really working for a movement so great. I also pity you because you do not know that there are machine-guns on all buildings in the downtown district ready to shoot you down any time you have a procession or a big open-air meeting. It's nothing to be afraid of, because it will take a long time to make a large procession, but it shows, no matter how small we are, we are harmful to the Big Guns. The time when they put the machine-guns up on the roofs was on the last May 1st, and hundreds of secret service agents were set free to bring all evidence against us."

That was all that the comrade said to me that was news.

Little Rhody is also noted for its refusal to let any popular speaker in the labor movement speak. Why? Answer it yourself. "The Fifth Year," a Russian picture, could not be shown, and Comrade Roberts of the F. S. R. ridiculed the police of Providence. About a week ago a professor of Brown University and a member of the Civil Liberties Union approached the commissioner and still capitalism holds the mightier hand.

I hope the reader can now understand the title of these paragraphs.
NAI LYONS.

Shocked at Youth's Audacity

Watchung, N. J.

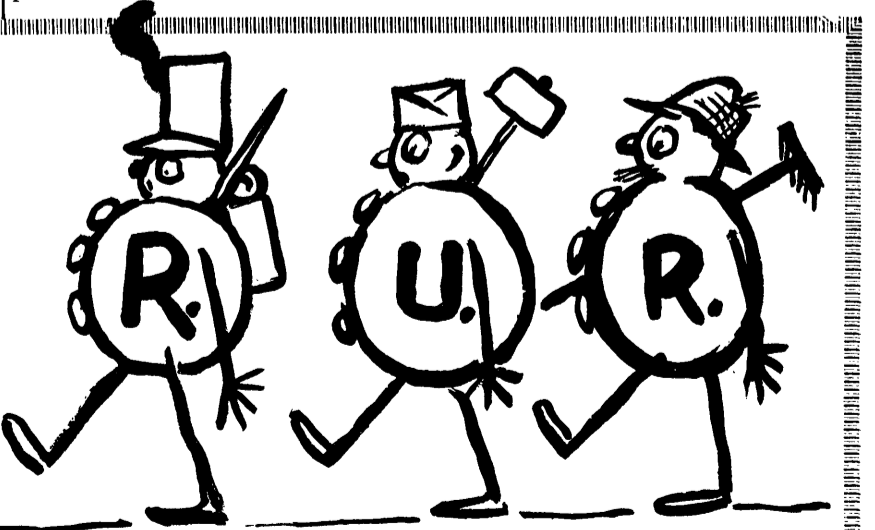
Dear Comrades:

I have thus far succeeded in staging two public meetings, which were successful to an extent. The first was a "Karl Liebknecht" meeting, with Rebecca Grech as the principal speaker. The meeting was quite well attended and the speakers were enthusiastically applauded. It was the first meeting of such nature ever staged in Plainfield. The K. K. K. and the Legionnaires are quite strong around this vicinity and I was told that many people were scared away.

Then came the Lenin Memorial meeting, and it sure was the talk of the town. We entered into a united front with the Workman's Circle. The next day I was told that some of the leading bourgeois expressed regret that I was not arrested for being so brazen as to stage a Lenin Memorial meeting in the Queen City of New Jersey.

Yours for the revolution,
MAURICE GRABOIS.

The Robots Are Coming!!



THE YOUNG WORKER

Vol. III. APRIL 15, 1924. No. 8.

An Organ of the Militant Young Workers of America

Published Twice a Month by the

National Executive Committee

of the Young Workers League of America

Max Shachtman, Editor

Send all orders and articles, and remit all funds to

The Young Worker

1009 NORTH STATE ST. CHICAGO, ILL.

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For A Farmer-Labor Party

The decision at the various conventions recently held in Minnesota for a united front convention, to be called on June 17th, opens the way to American labor and farmer organizations to organize themselves on the political field in a huge, solidified opposition to the capitalist parties and for expression of the workers and the oppressed farmers on the political field.

The call for the June 17th convention is the result of long years of experience by the labor movement in trying to work for their interests thru the old parties, of years of agitation and organization pointing out that the beginning of a solution for the ills from which the masses are suffering today can only be started by the formation of a unified all inclusive political party of the producing masses. And it is with just pride that the organized communists can point to their untiring energy in putting the situation and the solution before the masses of workers and poor farmers. That these latter have appreciated the efforts of the communists is shown by the growing recognition of the communist movement and the knowledge that it has a legitimate place in the labor and progressive farmer movement.

June 17th is of the highest importance to the producers of this country, for it is then that a declaration of independence from capitalist political parties will be made. Labor has learned from the lessons of the past and present. Injunction government, strikebreaking government officials, graft, corruption, robbery in the highest circles, and the complete domination and direct control of the Democratic and Republican parties by the big business men and bankers has hammered home the lesson to the workers.

The complete inability of capitalism and its parliamentary representatives to improve or even halt the progressive decay of the farmers has been opening the eyes of the millions of agricultural slaves. The growth of capitalist development has gradually transformed the independent farmer into one whose farm is mortgaged up to the lightning rod, or else a laborer on the farm, or a tenant farmer, paying toll to a boss he never saw; added to this has been the rakeoff made by the railroads and banks, which have left the so-called independent farmer a peasant. This proletarianization of the farmers by the gradual concentration of the land into huge holdings, and the driving of the farmer to the city is the natural course of capitalist development and was predicted by Karl Marx many years ago.

The workers and farmers are being driven to a Farmer-Labor Party, and June 17th will see the culmination of our efforts.

It is our duty to make of June 17th a huge gathering of toilers' representatives, which will rightly impress the entire nation with the strength of the producers. All efforts must be directed towards having the working class organization of which YOU are a member send delegates to the June 17th convention. Wherever possible, also, state farmer-labor parties must be started so that the new national party will have a firm local basis on which to organize and work.

June 17th must be made a success in the organization of a mass, class farmer-labor party. We cannot depend any longer on the vacillations of the Conference for Progressive Political Action with its convention in Cleveland on July 4th. We shall organize our class party, and if the labor organizations, which go along with the C. P. P. A., break from it, they will be received into the new party with open arms. The June 17th convention cannot be put off until the C. P. P. A. meeting. June 17th represents class forces; July 4th represents almost every element, from labor to ordinary disgruntled capitalist politicians. We want the best working class elements of July 4th and we feel that they will come over to us.

All together! All working class and toiling farmers' organizations must unite in a tremendous drive to put June 17th over the top. Strike the blow which means another nail in the head of capitalism!

The New Jesus Drive

In a previous issue we pointed out that religion is losing its hold on the minds and hearts of the masses of workers in this country. Now we are corroborated by no less an authority than an ecclesiastic named Monell Sayre, who is recommended by the Episcopal Bishop Freeman, and who, in a horrified pamphlet, recently issued, bemoans the sad state of the world and the threatening collapse of organized heaven mummery.

"Christianity has lost its hold on the masses of the people. The industrial classes have ceased to be influenced by it. It has shrunk into a concern of the middle and upper classes. This is a condition, which, if allowed to continue, means that Christianity in America will soon enter definitely into the status of a decaying religion. . . . Whenever the workers in factories and mines and shops turn from a religion it begins to be of the past."

And so the inspired soul saver proposes that the Episcopal Cathedral here be made a center for the training and sending out of revivalist preachers: Episcopalian Billy Sundays, equipped, we presume, with the latter gentleman's remarkable ignorance, vulgarity, gestures and filthy language.

We pity these poor fellows and Episcopalians are not the only ones concerned. Recently a united front conference was held in which all the Heinizian varieties of sky pilots were represented and it was decided that intensified efforts must be made to inculcate religious training—of some kind, any kind—into the minds of the young who are degenerating to unmentionable depths. Being a section of the hired lackeys of capitalism they are obliged to get the heavenly ears of the masses of workers in an attempt to take their minds from the miseries they are undergoing right here on earth—without waiting for purgatory or gehenna. But the masses, in spite of it all, have a

Read Leon Trotsky's Absorbing Story of Revolution and Adventure!--Start Reading It Today in This Issue.

My Flight From Siberia--By Leon Trotsky

RUSSIA was pushing down thru Manchuria to Korea. . . . The Russian people were, of course, innocent and ignorant of this trouble that was being made for them half-way round the world, and the wiser Russian statesmen were against these foolish thrusts; but a gang of financial adventurers, including the Grand Dukes and their cousins, surrounded the Czar. They had gambled deeply in the prospective looting of Manchuria and China, and they would suffer no withdrawal. So there began a transportation of great armies of Japanese soldiers across the sea to Port Arthur and Korea and the sending of endless trainloads of Russian peasants along the Siberian railway to die in those distant battlefields.

"The Russians, badly led and dishonestly provided, were beaten on sea and land alike. The Russian Baltic Fleet sailed round Africa to be utterly destroyed in the Straits of Tsushima. A revolutionary movement among the common people of Russia, infuriated by this remote and reasonless slaughter, obliged the Czar to end the war (1905)." (From H. G. Wells's "A Short History of the World," Tauchnitz, 1923).

Thus Mr. Wells dismisses the revolutionary uprising of 1905 in Russia. But it is not quite the whole truth to state that the common people were "indefinitely" by this remote and reasonless slaughter. There were far more potent reasons for the rising of the Russian proletariat. The war was merely the culmination of that long, endlessly long, period of despotism under which the Russian people had suffered, and it was the "liberals" rather than the "common people" who forced the Czar to conclude the war. Already in 1904, October 20th, a hundred well known

men from the Zemstvos, (the provincial administrative bodies), had demanded a bourgeois peace and the creation of a people's representation in the legislative body of Russia, but they did not even mention that alarming word "constitution."

These demands for a Duma found supporters even among the "Right" adherents of the government, but the students in the Russian schools and universities sensed the lack of real substance in the demands and approached the city workers. Two street demonstrations, one on December 10th, in Petersburg and the other on December 18th—19th in Moscow, resulted from the declaration of this slogan. They were not content with the wording of the liberal resolution, and they had the courage to demand forthwith and outright, a constitution.

But only the aristocracy of the workers joined in these student's demonstrations. The actual workers held aloof. The constitution was not what they wanted. It would not suffice. They addressed themselves to the Czar, directly, in the appeal which follows:

"Sire, we workers, our children, our wives, and our old helpless parents, have come to ask from thee, Sire, justice and protection. We are in poverty; we are oppressed; we are borne down with unendurable labor; we are sneered at; we are not recognized as human beings; we are treated as slaves who must bear their lot in silence. We have endured dreadful misery, and we are being pushed deeper and deeper into the gulf of poverty, of injustice, and of ignorance. Despotism and tyranny choke us, and we suffocate. We have no more strength, O Sire! We have reached the end of our patience. That terrible moment has come to us when death is better than the continuation of our unendurable suffering."

Thus this famous petition begins. It continues with the enumeration of the miseries and suppressions which the workers had endured—from the cold draughty factories in which they must work to the lack of rights under which they suffered. It demands the amnesty of prisoners, the liberty of citizens, the separation of the church from the state, the eight hour working day, a wage standard, and the giving over of the land to the people. But its first and strongest demand was that a constituent assembly should be called, on the basis of common and equal electoral rights. The petition ends:

"These, O Sire! are our chief needs, on account of which we have come to thee. Decree and swear that you will grant them and you will make Russia happy and glorious, you will stamp your name on our hearts and the hearts of our children for all time. If you do not grant them; if you do not heed our prayers; then we will die here, on this spot, before your palace. There is no other way before us, no other goal. There are but two ways—either freedom and happiness, or death. Show us, Sire, one of these. We will enter upon it without complaint, even if it is the road to death. May our lives be sacrificed for Russia. We will give our lives gladly."

On January 22nd a great procession formed to take this petition to the Czar's palace. A strike had begun on January 16th, and by the 20th it included 140,000 workers. The radicals were not satisfied with the merely economic character of the strike and strove to give it a political character as well.

The procession moved thru the streets quietly, without song, without flags, without speech. They were dressed in their holiday attire. In some parts of the city they carried holy pictures and crosses. Every-

where they encountered soldiers, they begged the soldiers to let them proceed peacefully to the palace. They wept, they pleaded, they sought to break thru the ranks. The soldiers shot into the masses. Hundreds were killed, thousands wounded.

The news of this "bloody Sunday" spread over all Russia. One town and village after another ceased work until millions of men were on strike. Industries, railroads, mines,—all participated. For the remainder of the year 1905 Russia was in the throes of an agonized struggle against the tyranny and despotism that centered in the palace of the Czar. Here and there small concessions were gained, rights of assembly, the right to hold student's meetings, mild concessions aimed to satisfy the liberal elements, but the ranks of the police and the gendarmes increased and strengthened. Still panic reigned in the government. Soldiers began to appear at meetings. Officers of the army began to assure the people that at least a third of the army might be depended upon. The government lost its confidence in the army. A railroad strike was causing the government tremendous difficulties, and eventually the fall of Russian paper on foreign exchange began to affect the government.

On October 31st, 1905, it was announced that a constitution would be granted. The news was received with amazement and incredulity. Then the throngs that filled the streets began to ask themselves and each other—"What does it mean? How far dare we go? What are the things we dare not do?"

Soon came the news that the Polytechnic Institute had been fired upon by soldiers during the preceding night—that it was occupied by soldiers at that moment. A bomb set by an agent provocateur was the excuse. There was not much question

RUSSIA'S NEW CHIEF



ALEXIS I. RYKOV

Since the death of Lenin the world has focused its attention on his successor. The first statements and acts of the new chairman of the Council of People's Commissars, A. I. Rykov, have been anxiously expected to show the first signs of the disintegration of the Soviet State, so long predicted by Labor's opponents.

In the new issue of Soviet Russia Pictorial the "premier" of Russia outlines the strict adherence to Lenin's policies in a most impressive statement of the course to be pursued by the Soviet government. It offers hope only to Russia—and the world's workers. That this policy is in operation with success is attested to by further articles in this issue on the progress of Soviet Russia in both the economic and political fields. Of extreme interest is the article by L. B. Kamenov, acting chairman of the People's Commissars, not on the much discussed views of the world in regard to Russia but of Russia in regard to the world.

Studded with most interesting photographs of Russia and Germany, beginning with a photograph on the cover of a youth demonstration in Russia, this issue of Soviet Russia Pictorial reaches a high standard that has established it as the most reliable source of interesting facts on Russia and Germany today.

peculiar way of thinking where tomorrow's food and shelter is coming from. And all the tracts, hymnals, bibles, Sunday schools and homilies do not prevent the open shop drive, lower wages, longer hours, unemployment, child labor, war and all the other attendant miseries of the society we live in.

So the masses look elsewhere for comfort and they finally find that comfort is to be found only in united action of themselves to better the conditions NOW without waiting for the glorious opportunity to wait uncertainly in a non-existent purgatory, so that they may graduate into a similarly non-existent heaven or the other resort. And the hordes of sky pilots tear their collective hair and gnash their united teeth and beat their combined breasts. The masses are forsaking the teachings of the Christ, of the Jehovah, or whoever the gentleman may be.

The masses are learning, Brother Sayre admits, that there is a prevalent belief that the church is an instrument of the employing class working against the interest of those who live by wages." Quite correct, brother Sayre: take up the collection!

The efforts of the frantic gentlemen of the gospel and the talmud to regain their flocks from among the workers are doomed to failure, for we cannot think of any recent—or remote—even which has led the masses to lose that "prevalent belief that the church is an instrument of the employer class working against the interest of those who live by wages."

The world wide celebrations of International May Day are coming on and the class conscious revolutionary workers of the world will demonstrate their strength to the masters in greater numbers than ever before.

In this country, the May Day celebrations will be held by the Workers Party and the Young Workers League, both communist organizations co-operating to the fullest extent in making these gatherings the most successful ever held. The slogan of May Day, 1924, is the call for the united front of the workers and farmers of the United States to unite on the political field into a huge Farmer-Labor Party for a concerted attack on the government, which is symbolized by thievery, lying, grafting, scandals, attacks on labor, and general, un concealed reaction of the blackest type.

On to May Day, young comrades, and let our voices be heard and our presence be felt by the masters!

IMPROPAGANDA

STENO'S SPRING SONG

Sing a song of springtime,
Stores all full of clothes:
Nothing in my wardrobe,
Holes in all my hose.

Sing a song of springtime
On twenty bucks a week:
Spend it all for food and room,
While landlords grow more sleek.

Sing a song of springtime,
Girls in limousines—
All that I can ever use
Is Underwood machines.

—I. D.

BEFORE HE FELL OFF THE WAGON.
Twenty Years Ago Today.

March 23, 1899.

"Topeka, Kan.—An order has been placed with a Chicago liquor house for 500 gallons of wine for the Democratic banquet in Topeka, March 30. W. J. Bryan will be the principal speaker."—Chicago Tribune.

The cheapest way to get a real education—subscribe to The Young Worker.

CURRENT FICTION

(The Week's Best Smeller)

"LONDON, England, March 17.—The Prince of Wales' twelfth riding accident—is made the text of editorial homilies by several newspapers, which tell him that the people are much concerned over the manner in which he continues to risk his life. The writers remind him that he is not a private person, but a national asset, and say that, although he is fully entitled to recreation, it is time he restrained his plucky spirits."—Associated Press.

Correction—The dash in the word "asset" above is our mistake. To preserve this royal shiek from falling off his horse, there is nothing else we can do.—We just will have to glue his shirt tail to the saddle!

But if God and McDonald allow him to ascend the throne—he had better not fall off. Angry Labor gets so very, very rough!

Some people find this life a grind,
They strive and sweat and toil;
While others smoothly slip thru life,
Their paths well greased with oil!

—CASTOR.

THE LAND OF OPPORTUNITY.

A Russian prince is working as a porter in New York for \$23 a week. If he is still ambitious, saves his pennies, little, works lykell, joins the American Legion and prays each morn and night—he may own the building some day.

And then again—if he doesn't put the proper polish on the spittoons or they get a cheaper porter—

BRICK LAYER.

If you are in the Trade Union Educational League and in the Young Workers League, you are in three leagues—
You are also in league against the bosses!

Together

With

WALT CARMON, Impropropagandist.

Graft and Graft and Then Some

The Teapot Dome is not the only big scandal which this country has had. Look back into our history, told and untold, and you will see that graft, scandal, robbery and corruption are not such terribly remarkable things in our government's lives, but a part of the entire capitalist system of robbery and exploitation.

There was the case of the treason of Aaron Burr, vice-president of the United States, and his fight for the leadership of the New York bar (not beer) against Alexander Hamilton, another swindler.

During the second administration of Washington, Edmund Randolph, governor of Virginia, member of the Constitutional Government and Secretary of State in the cabinet was found guilty of bribery from the agent of France Fauchet. He resigned and died politically.

Then there was the Credit Mobilier and Union Pacific railroad scandal during Grant's administration, in which all kinds of congressmen, senators, Speakers of the House, Vice-Presidents, Secretary of the Treasury and others were involved. Congressman Oakes Ames was given a vote of censure—that's all!—and the Speaker of the House, Schuyler Colfax, killed his chances for the presidency by being in the mess too. Under the same Grant, William W. Belknap, Secretary of War, was about to be impeached for selling Indian lands trading posts when he resigned. You can't fire them; they resign.

So it goes thruout American history: Richard Achilles Ballinger, Russell A. Alger, the Tweed Ring, down to our own Denbys, Daughertys, Dohertys and other crooks. Every national administration, every state administration, every city government has its "scandals."

This is the kind of a government which we are taught to look up to as sacred. Sacred! Can you beat it?

as to what the constitution meant. It was granted, it is true, as a result of the strikes and the uprisings, but it held no real rights for the workers or for the revolutionary students.

And yet, inspired by the news that a constitution was granted, the cry for amnesty of political prisoners went up. It needed no agitational speeches. It was on the lips of everyone. The Social Democrats demanded that the soldiers be withdrawn from Petersburg; that the police be recalled; and that people's militia should be formed. Speakers addressed the crowds from the balcony of the University of Petersburg. Students pulled down the flags that flaunted everywhere, tore away the white and the blue parts, and waved the red. At four o'clock that afternoon great masses marched to the prisons to demand the release of the political prisoners.

It soon developed that in spite of the granting of the constitution the despotism remained. Free assembly was permitted—but all meetings were surrounded by militia. Free speech was guaranteed—but the censorship remained in force. Free science was allowed—but the universities were occupied by troops. Everything was granted and nothing was given.

The proletariat refused to accept the knout, even tho it was wrapped in the parchment of the constitution. The Soviet of Workers' Delegates decided that the general strike should be continued.

The strike did continue until November 3rd, when at noon hundreds and thousands of workers—still maintaining their revolutionary and proletarian discipline—returned at the same hour to the factories and resumed their work.

Now the government began its career of revenge. Pogrom, plundering, murders, over all Russia, went on for the next few months. Drunken police and secret service officials went where they would and did what they would. In Petersburg alone no actual programs occurred, altho the Jewish

inhabitants lived in perpetual anxiety and terror. The revolutionary parties and the Soviet began to arm the workers. On November 11th, by a common impulse, all factories and workshops where iron or steel were handled, produced their own weapons—daggers, pikes, wire whips, steel knuckles, were hammered out by the thousand. On the evening of that day at a meeting of the Soviet delegates, one after the other, mounted the platform, held their weapons aloft and solemnly assured the workers who had elected them that they would suppress the program at the first indication of its appearance. The workers formed their own militia and appointed their own night patrolmen. This fact reached the ears of the government circle. The workers' militia was broken up, their weapons confiscated. But in the meantime the danger of pogroms in Petersburg had disappeared.

During all this time the Soviet of Workers' delegates was organizing and preparing the masses for further action, as well as sharing in the activities that were going on. The delegates—all good Marxians—understood that as long as the army was not prepared to fight for the workers, as long as the revolutionary forces all over the land were not closely bound together; as long as the peasants and villagers remained aloof from or ignorant of the struggle, the principal aim of their actions must continue to be directed towards the of the enemy. The time for assuming control for establishing the dictatorship of the proletariat, was not yet ripe. But they did not, like the Mensheviks, content themselves with resting on their theory. They went ahead with their work, as if the succeeding day were to be the day of their triumph. Every new decree from the palace or from the ministry met with a defiant answer from the ranks of the workers. Everywhere in every possible way, the workers placed obstacles in the way of the despotic march of the Czar's Black Hundreds.

To be continued.)