

2nd Weekly Young Worker Greeted By Comrades in Chicago and Philly

The leagues in Philadelphia and Chicago have held large affairs to celebrate the appearance of our weekly YOUNG WORKER. In Philadelphia, the comrades raffled off the first bundle of the weekly YOUNG WORKER they received. Comrade Samuel Epstein was the lucky winner. For \$9 he got the first bundle of our organ.

The Chicago Banquet.

In Chicago a monster banquet was held. Over a hundred and fifty young workers were present to greet our Weekly. Forty dollars were turned in at this affair for subscriptions, and thirty dollars more as donations. Over \$100 has been pledged by the Chicago units of the Juniors and of the League and Party for the weekly YOUNG WORKER.

On page three you will see the great stride forward that Chicago has made in the campaign for 10,000 subs. Starting with Los Angeles sending in fourteen subs, we have seen many leagues make splendid efforts to assume the lead in this important work. Chicago has opened wide the throttle and threatens to lead the field thru the whole campaign.

How to Do It.

This is how it was done: First of all our comrades in Chicago elected a real city committee with Comrade Israel Gabin, a real live wire, at the head of it. This committee then laid out its plans and began work. Thru a complete canvass of all subscribers whose subs had expired, the Chicago league was able to obtain many subs.

Old Timers Called Upon. The comrades then got a list of all old league members and solicited these comrades for subscriptions, also trying to get them back into the league. Every branch member was assigned to a task in this campaign and the result is that many of our Chicago comrades already have assured their good standing in the

league and received their RED STAR MERIT STAMP. Unless each member has one of these stamps in his membership book he cannot be considered a member in good standing.

Following this action, the Chicago league assigned its members the task of visiting every party branch. Many comrades have already spoken before these branches and good results have been obtained in each case. The city committee is now seeing to it that the other members go out and do likewise. The results promise to push Chicago still further ahead of any other league in the country.

On Chicago's Heels.

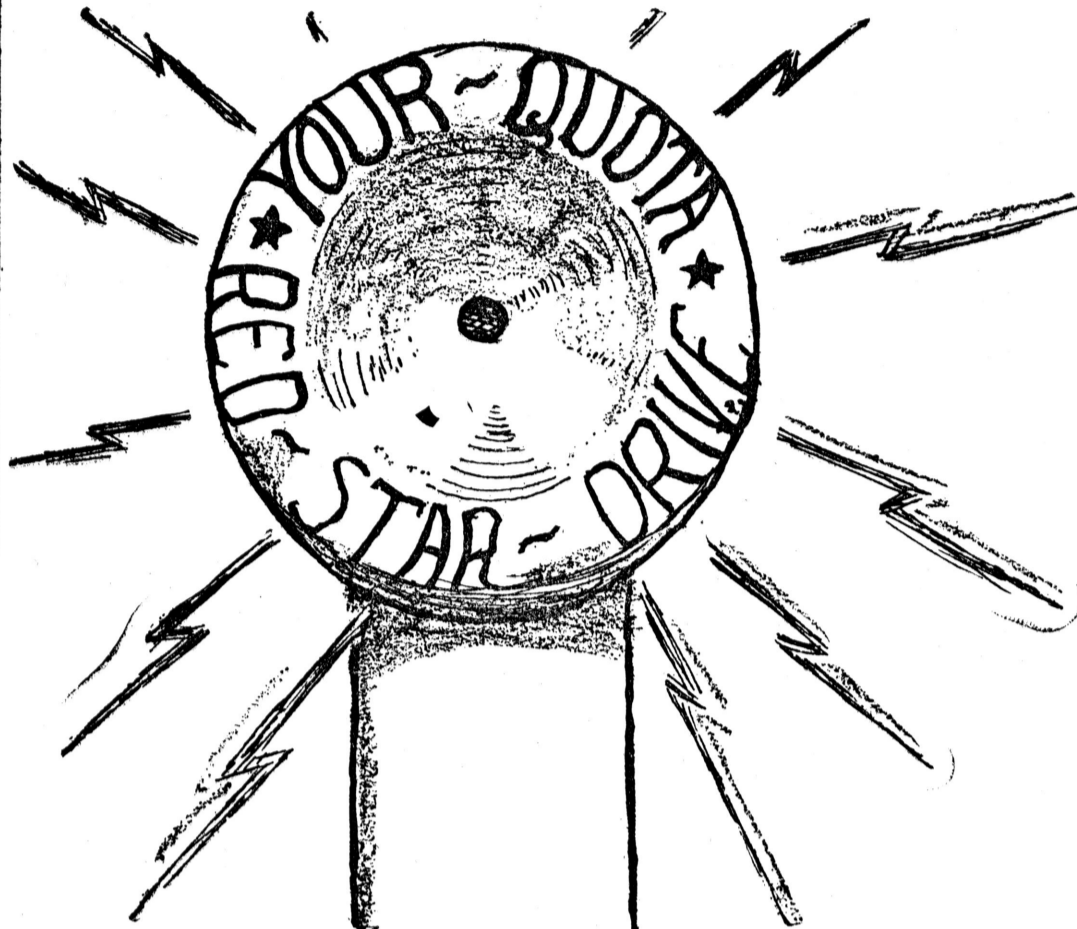
In Philadelphia, Comrade Milgrom, in Detroit, Comrade Gimboza, and in Springfield, Ill., Comrade Schuchardt, have already gotten into action and the work is under way.

Our leagues in Cannonsburg, Pa., Palisade, Minn., and Cloquet, Minn., are also on the job. The small in numbers, these leagues are showing equally as good results in proportion to their membership as any other league in the country.

The race begins to get hot. Chicago jumps far ahead this week. Will your league take the lead next week? Remember, to the winning league a banner from the Y. C. I.!

RING THE BELL!

Chicago Hits Hardest Blow of Week



PRIZES FOR THE WINNERS

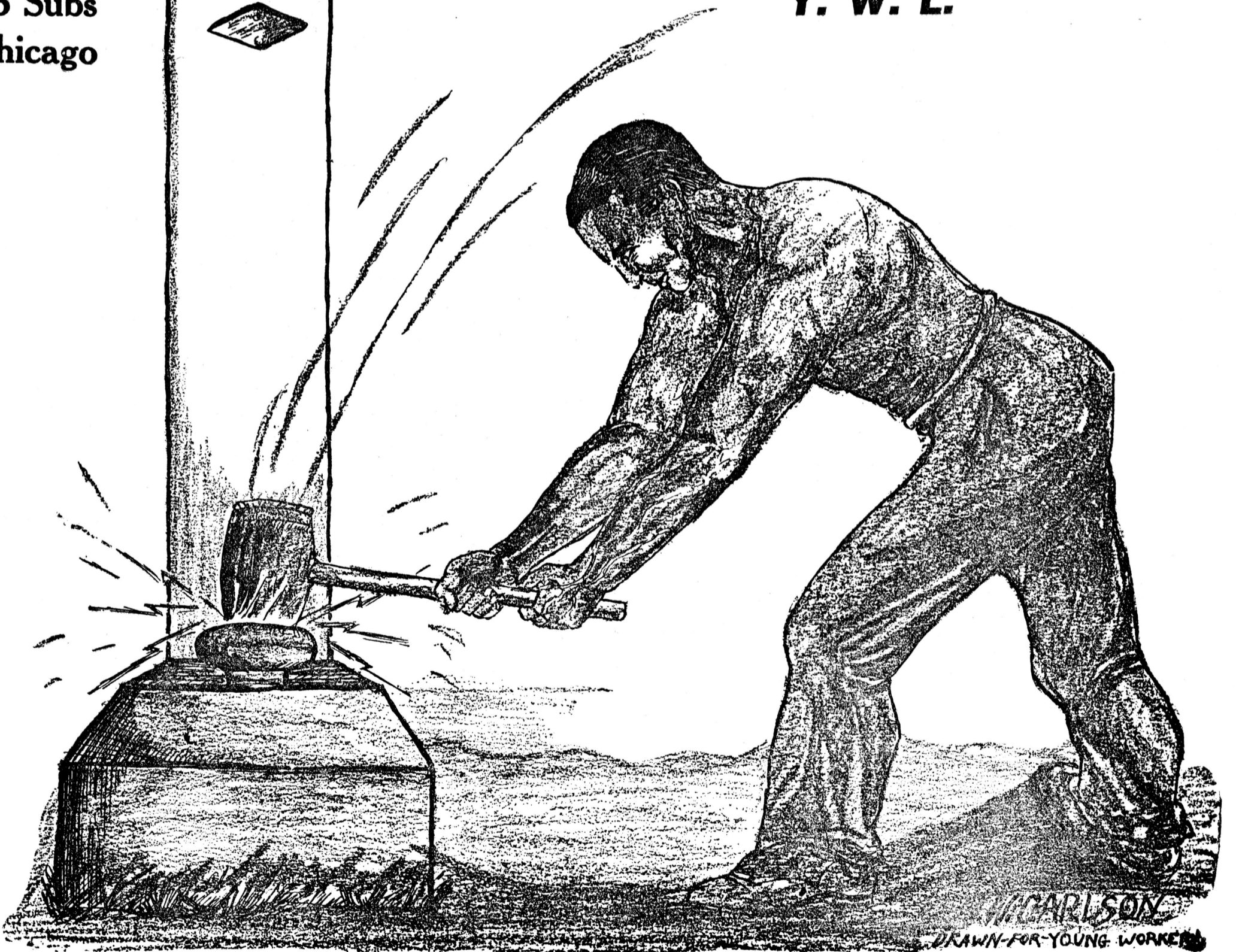
- 1 Comrade obtaining most subscriptions will receive a REMINGTON PORTABLE TYPEWRITER.
2. Branch sending in most subscriptions will be awarded a thirty volume MARX-ENGELS-LENIN LIBRARY.
3. City organization getting most subs will receive a BANNER FROM THE Y. C. I.
4. Each comrade sending in a sub will receive a RED STAR MERIT STAMP, showing that he or she is a member in good standing and a worker for the weekly YOUNG WORKER.
5. Branches and city organizations will be awarded the above prizes on the basis of MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING thus giving large and small units AN EQUAL CHANCE in every respect.
6. SEE that your league is one of those to head the list.

HOW THE DRIVE STANDS

1. Chicago	55 subs.
2. Los Angeles	14 "
3. Kenosha	6 "
4. Owen, Wis.	6 "
5. Pittsburgh, Pa.	4 "

55 Subs
Chicago

Chicago
Y. W. L.



TOILING YOUTH

By HARRY GANNES.

CHAPTER IV.—Continued.

In Jersey City, Hoboken, Newark, Bayonne and other New Jersey cities young children are forced to toil from early morning until ten o'clock at night in sweatshops. A good many of the children work from four to fourteen years of age labor all hours of the day on clothing, shirts, artificial flowers, dolls and toys. Even children of two, three and four have been found to work in the homes. Such, in brief, is the tale of the life of the child workers in the United States.

The story is not a closed book. The number of child workers is constantly and unceasingly increasing. Incomplete figures by the United States department of labor show an increase of 43 per cent in 1922 and 38 per cent in 1923. Commenting on this increase, Grace Abbot, chief of the children's bureau of the U. S. department of labor says:

"Its (child labor's) growth in the last six months of 1922 as compared with the last six months of 1921 was serious. For the 21 cities from whose work permit offices the children's bureau has received reports as to the number going to work each month the increase in child labor between these two periods was 43 per cent."

The 1923 survey in 30 cities scattered all over the country showed an increase of 36.3 per cent in the number of children working during the first six months of 1923 as compared with the last six months of 1922. The largest number was in Waterbury, Connecticut, a highly industrialized city, where almost eight times as many children went to work during 1923 than did during the same period of 1922. Other Connecticut cities reported increases of from 98 to 178 per cent.

All these figures of increase do not take count of the children under 14 years of age, of whom there are hundreds of thousands employed in the United States.

Have not these horrible conditions aroused opposition on the part of the working class elements of the United States? Yes; but the organized labor movement has wasted its efforts in trying to get the capitalist government, which is controlled by those responsible for the employment of the children, to pass laws prohibiting or limiting child labor. Some liberal elements, chiefly, the National Child Labor Committee, have carried on a struggle for a betterment of the conditions of child workers on humanitarian grounds; while at the same time in no way seeking to injure the capitalist exploitation of the youth. The National Child Labor Committee does not object to making profits from the youth but they want it regulated.

Two national child labor laws were passed by Congress, the first in 1916, and the second in 1917 (?). Both of these laws were declared unconstitutional and without effect by the United States Supreme Court, an aggregation of old men who repeatedly declare their solidarity with the capitalist interests in the United States. Three million children were doomed to slavery (and the number grows to tremendous proportions daily) by a group of nine (?) old men.

That is the state of the child labor question today (1924). There are several useless and ineffective measures before Congress which provide for the passage of a constitutional amendment for the regulation of the labor of children up to 18 years of age. Even were all of these laws passed they would be of no value in trying to aid the children; for child labor is not established or abolished by capitalist law. The basis of child labor is first, the need of the capitalist for cheap and efficient labor, and second, the competition and low wages within the working class. To do away with child labor, a fight must be levied against the entire capitalist system, with an effort to get the children themselves to join in the struggle on the basis of their immediate conditions, and in that way to broaden the campaign for the abolition of child labor to its logical end: the abolition of the capitalist system.

Little children slaving away their lives appeal to many soft hearted people in present day society as an unnecessary means of profit making. Child labor, comprising those legally employed under the American capitalist law, receives practically no attention.

There are in the United States over six million boys and girls between the ages of 14 and 21 employed in gainful occupations. This number gradually increases each year.

The improvement and development in the method of production in highly advanced capitalist countries, and especially in the United States, makes the use of young and unskilled labor very profitable. Where in the early process of manufacture highly skilled workmen were absolutely necessary, the constant technical betterment of machinery lessens the skill needed by the individual workers. It takes but a short time to learn the work process. The modern factory is a very good example of this. Every motion is part of a mechanical series of operations; each worker performs a simple function that goes along with the machine process, and that is learned in a very short time. The young fellow need not acquire much learning in school, and we have shown how the economic system forces the majority of working children out of educational institutions before they have gone through to grammar school grades.

The employers of labor find it a lot easier to control youth. The nimble fingers of the young workers are profitable to the bosses. The labor process, being simple, is readily mastered by the juvenile workers, and for that reason the unrestricted use of young workers in a highly developed system of production such as exists in the United States today becomes an accepted state of affairs.

(To be continued.)

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