

The Young Worker Is Four Years Old Today

FTER four years of struggle to establish our paper as a mass organ we look back upon the road that we have travelled and take pride in the progress that we have made. Our paper was born as a small magazine in which there was much expression of youthfulness but little of the struggle that the youth are conducting for better living conditions. Today it has become a factor not only in the most important but also in hundreds of the minor struggles of the young workers.

From every section of the country our comrades are requesting special editions for their particular city. These requests have come from Los Angeles and New York which places the paper must travel for three and four days after publication day. In the textile mills in Passaic, in the coal fields in Eastern Ohio, in about two hundred industrial and farm cities and villages throughout the country, in dozens of factory campaigns that we have engaged in, the YOUNG WORKER has cried out the miseries of the workers and fought bitterly for their betterment. Thus it is today—bitterly scathed—but dynamic and militant reaching into the hearts and minds of the young workers, preparing them for the great final struggle—the overthrow of capitalism. This struggle must be continued. Our organ must be built—to larger size and issued with greater frequency. The whole of the revolutionary youth must rally unitedly for this purpose. Our slogan must be:

BUILD THE CIRCULATION FOR A WEEKLY BY MAY DAY!

**JOIN THE
YOUNG WORKERS (COMMUNIST) LEAGUE**

Young Worker

**BUILD THE CIRCULATION FOR
A WEEKLY BY MAY DAY!**

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BETTER CONDITIONS FOR YOUTH IN BISHOP'S SWEETS FACTORY

Our Greatest Need at This Moment is to Organize.—We Must Form Shop Committees and Join a Union.

By a Young Bishop Factory Worker.
LOS ANGELES, Cal.—Bishop's Factory, where all varieties of sweets are manufactured is far from being sweet for the workers employed there. This factory, like all other factories was not built to improve the lives of the workers, but to make profits for the boss. Consequently, the conditions are very bad, and are similar to conditions in many other factories in Los Angeles, the city of the infamous American plan of open shops.

About 800 workers are employed at Bishop's, the majority being young workers, especially young girls. They start to work several months after they are raised to \$14.00. Then they are ready to begin on piece work. Girls in the packing departments, for example, receive 1 1/2 to 2 cents per box for packing Easter eggs. This means that they must work at top speed in order to make a decent wage. The chocolate dippers, who work about seven months out of the year, get for one pound of chocolates, which means about 50 chocolates, the magnificent sum of 3 whole cents.



Los Angeles Boss-Pot: Keep California green, says I, by deporting these long Ballahevekal!

PLUMBERS HELPERS' CLUB IN LOS ANGELES

By G. ROTHBLATT
Plumber's Helper

LOS ANGELES.—The young plumbers and helpers are among the most unfairly exploited of the young workers. The conditions that the plumbers helpers must face are as follows:

When a young worker is starting to learn the trade he must do the hard and dirty work, such as digging ditches, and cutting the pipes from 2 to 4 inches. The boss cheats the helpers by making them do the work of laborers, which has really nothing to do with the trade, and leaves very little chance to learn the trade itself.

The wages are very low. At the beginning, a helper doesn't get over \$3 a day, and for this slender wage he must slave a long time before he gets raised. The system of the bosses is to hire a helper just when they need him to do all the hard work, and after this is done, they fire him immediately. In Los Angeles it is not the easiest thing to find a job, so the fired helper has a pretty tough time finding another helper, in order to be able to live.

The young plumbers do not even get the protection of the union. It is very difficult to join. The entrance examination is extremely hard, and as a result many young plumbers who would like to join are kept out of the union. Why the young plumbers and helpers should not permit such conditions to exist. We must demand from the unions that all such restrictions be done away with. No discrimination against young plumbers who want to join. Young plumbers and helpers, are you going to let our miserable conditions continue? Individually we can do very little. Individually, we are weak, and the boss can do what ever he wants with us. Let us organize. For the plumbers' helpers there is all \$12.00 per week, and after

Mr. Bishop Looks.

How about Mr. Bishop, the boss? Does he work eight long hours, behind dark dreary walls, doing the same weary thing minute after minute, in order to make enough to live on? Positively not. He comes and goes from the factory in a limousine driven by a chauffeur, not in jammed street cars like us workers. He sits in the office, doing nothing worthwhile. He does not even serve as a decoration. For this he gets all the profits. In just one single part of one department, he makes \$5,000 in three-quarters of an hour. Contrast his large profits with the puny wages of his employees. Quite a difference. Has he a right to all these millions? Where does he get them? From us, from his workers.

Remedy in Organization.

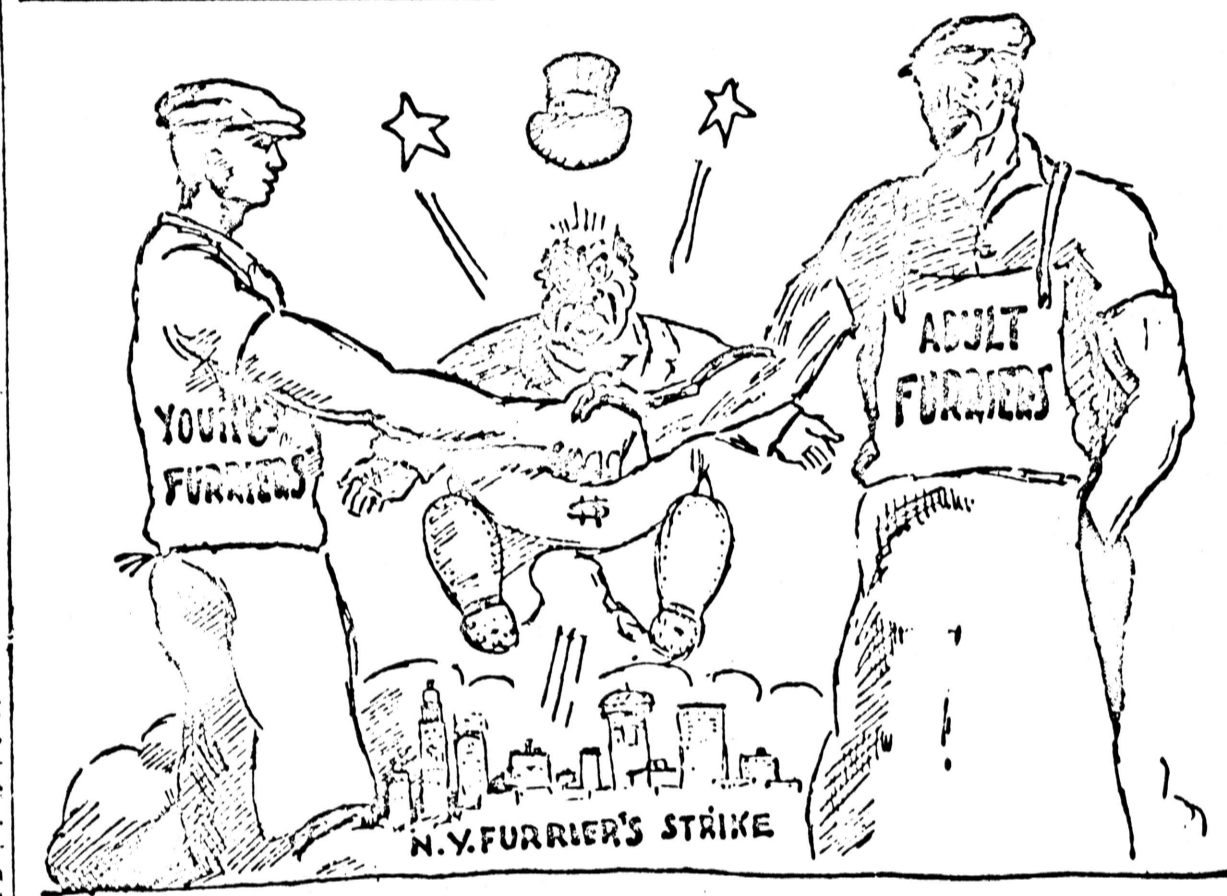
Fellow-workers of Bishop's factory, are we going to continue to be robbed and cheated in this way? Are we going to continue to be slaves to the useless Mr. Bishop? Our remedy lies in organization. If we want to better our conditions, we must all get together; we must unite our forces. Fellow-workers, we have great strength, but we don't know how to use it. If we only want to, we, altogether, are powerful enough to gain anything. Our greatest need at this moment is to organize. We must form shop committees, immediately; we must join a union immediately. Then we can more effectively demand higher wages, shorter hours, better conditions. "In union there is strength."

There are many kinds of obstacles to joining the union. The plumbers' helpers should follow the example of our fellow-workers in New York, and organize a "Plumbers' Helpers' Club" right here in Los Angeles. Let us not wait for others to do it, but let us take the initiative ourselves. Only thru organization, can we succeed in being recognized by the union, and get our rights. Only when we are united in a strong organization, can we demand lower initiation fees and enter the union en masse. Our slogan must be "A strong Plumbers' Helpers' Club."

Organize the League in the shops and mines; there is where it COUNTS!

Thousand of Young Fur Workers Strike in New York Complete Unity Between Young and Adult Strikers

Against the Old Pro-Boss Agreement!



BOSTON YOUTH CONFERENCE TO FIGHT MILITARISM

By AL SCHAAP.

BOSTON, Mass.—A youth conference was held here last Friday and Saturday which had plans to carry on work in Boston and vicinity against capitalist militarism.

At this conference were gathered some 50 delegates from schools and colleges where compulsory military training is enforced and from liberal youth organizations. There were also delegates from the Young Workers (Communist) League.

This conference was a preliminary one to the calling of a Greater Boston Youth Conference to secure the co-operation of all progressive youth groups in a united campaign against capitalist wars.

For the purpose of this second conference a committee of five members was elected. The committee is composed of representatives of two student organizations, Y. W. C. A., the Y. W. L., and the American Negro Labor Congress. Representatives of other groups will be drawn in.

EAST OHIO CONFERENCE.

Detailed material on the East Ohio Young Workers Conference will appear in the next issue of THE YOUNG WORKER.

NEW YORK YOUNG FURRIERS FIGHT OLD PRO-BOSS AGREEMENT

Young Workers Form Large Part of 12,000 Strikers Who Now Demand: Equal Division of Work All Year Round; No Discharges and the Complete Abolition of the Ruinous Overtime System.

UNITY BETWEEN YOUTH AND ADULTS.

By R. YOUKELSON
Editor of the Fur Worker.

It is already an established fact that the general strike of the fur workers in New York was forced upon the union by the tactics of the Associated Fur Manufacturers, Inc., of New York. How did it come about? Here are the facts of how it developed in a nutshell:

The "collective agreement" between the Manufacturers' Ass'n

and the Furriers' Union, which was in force for two years, expired January 31st. This old agreement practically gave no protection to the fur worker, while it was very servicable to the manufacturers. Under the old agreement the employer had a free hand to exploit the workers to suit his money interests. Under that agreement the manufacturers had the privilege to "lay off" a worker on Saturday (any

(Continued on page 4.)

IMPORTANT DECISIONS MADE BY EASTERN OHIO YOUTH CONFERENCE

Mass Meetings Being Arranged All Over Eastern Ohio to Popularize Demands of Conference.

By MAX SHAGHTMAN.

BELLAIRE, Ohio — Fifteen young workers, representing most of the important industries of Eastern Ohio, gathered here at the Bohemian Hall to consider the problems of the youth and to draw up a program of demands and an outline of work for carrying them out.

The conference, which had been called by the Young Workers conference arrangements committee, was composed of delegates elected at meetings of young workers in the shops, factories and mines in this territory.

The first point on the agenda of the conference, under the chairmanship of Harvey Murphy, was the election of a credentials committee which was followed by a report on the conditions of the young workers in Eastern Ohio by George Papcun. Papcun showed how their economic conditions were going from bad to worse, how their wages had been slowly and steadily cut to the bone, hours increased and conditions of work made worse. He pointed out the fact that union organ-

YOUNG FURRIERS IN FOREFRONT OF NEW YORK FURRIERS' STRIKE

The Old Bureaucracy Closed the Union Doors to the Young Strikers—The Left Wing Leadership Says: Young Comrades, You Are Welcome Into Our Ranks!

By B. GOLD
Manager Joint Board Furriers' Union.

NOTHING is more inspiring, nothing calls forth so much courage and enthusiasm as our youth serving in the ranks of the strikers. The youth is not in struggle for sport; they are not followers; they are a class conscious fight army. Fearless and undaunted are our young comrades.

Months before the struggle broke out, our young workers were busily engaged in union activities. They grasped the importance of building up our union.

They understood the importance of becoming acquainted with the problems of the fur workers and their union. They appreciated the value of experience. They have been preparing themselves for the present struggle and have proved themselves ready.

The general strike of the furriers is only two weeks old, but our youth have already distinguished themselves. The old, yellow bureaucrats used to keep the young workers out of the union. They didn't want them. They chased the young workers from the shops not withstanding their miserable economic conditions.

Youth Conditions Bad.

Who drives these youngsters into the shops? What a talk with some of them. Fatherless, mother is sick, the children go to school, and he the "man" of the household is the only supporter. He must work. I have often sat and looked at these youngsters when they came to the union office for permission to work in a union shop or for a union book. They would actually plead with me: "I want to become a union man. I must work. I am the only supporter, etc."

Union Now Fights For Youth.

The yellow bureaucrats chased the young workers from the shops. They refused to allow them to enter the union. They refused to protect them against the merciless exploitation of the bosses. Thus the young workers used to be driven into the camp of our enemies and became objects of unlimited exploitation.

2,000 PRESENT AT TWO Y. W. L. MASS RALLIES FOR PASSAIC STRIKE

(Telegram to Young Worker.)

PASSAIC, N. J.—Held two overflow mass meetings in Passaic under auspices Young Workers' (Communist) League. Thousands were present. A spirit of enthusiasm prevailed throughout the hall. When the official organ of the League, The Young Worker, was mentioned, an ovation lasting two minutes followed. The speakers, Comrades Pat Tooley, Rose Rubin, Charles and W. Gershanowitz, the pioneer speaker, were well received. The Pioneers then started a play called "School Days," and received with tremendous enthusiasm. The Young Workers (Communist) League was also applauded. All invited young workers should join the Young Workers' (Communist) League. SAM DON, District Organizer.

organization was growing weaker and workers to strike, as in the past that the trade unions were not like glass works, they were paying much attention if any to the problems and conditions of the young workers. Unemployment was increasing, especially among the miners, and where conditions drove the young

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BOSSSES EXPOSE CONDITIONS IN TELERADIO CORPORATION

They Consider Workers Too Low to Get Decent Toilets and Sanitary Conditions.

(By a Young Worker Correspondent.)

NEW YORK CITY.—The young workers of the Teleradio Engineering Corporation were mystified one morning by a leaflet which appeared seemingly from nowhere. But the no one knew where it came from, everybody agreed what it said was very true. It pointed out that the workers were getting low wages, averaging \$15 a week; working long hours, with a vicious speed-up system including piece work and a mythical bonus. It also called attention to the unsanitary conditions in the shop, and the general disregard for the workers which the bosses showed.

IMMENSE PROFITS IN RADIO INDUSTRY AND INTERSE EXPLOITATION OF YOUTH

By R. M. BENDER.

NEW YORK CITY.—Since the beginning of the radio industry little or no attempt has been made to organize the radio workers. The industry has grown immensely and huge profits reaped the bosses, but miserable working conditions and low wages is the lot of the radio workers.

In 1935, the first year in which the radio industry assumed size and shape over \$45,000,000 worth of radio wares was produced. The year 1935 is the only year in which the radio industry was separately included in the census of manufacturers but several times the above value is a safe estimate for the two following years, 1934 and 1935. Although radiating at present it will undoubtedly expand considerably more this year.

Today there are hundreds of thousands of workers employed in this ever growing industry, about 70% being youth and child workers. The production of sets and parts is cleverly systematized and young boys and girls between the ages 14 and 21 years are working from 44 to 48 hours a week. Their meagre pay averages about \$18. Due to the seasonal character of the market many workers are affected in spring by layoffs and reductions in wages.

When looking for work the radio worker in many cases is forced to pay outrageous fees to so-called Labor Agencies to get the job and then stands the chance of being fired for little or no reason at all after the time of one week has elapsed. Many factories are poorly lighted, unsanitary, old and unsafe. These many intolerable conditions are a constant hazard to the workers and have caused many injuries.

Against the bosses and the intolerable conditions all radio workers, young and old, in all branches of the industry, must organize and fight for better conditions, protection, higher wages and shorter hours. Only in this way can the radio worker save himself from becoming the lowest paid wage slave.

The most important part of all, however, was the last paragraph headed: Workers of the Radio Industry unite! That is the part which made some of us think. That is also the part which worried the bosses. In fact they were so worried that they gave one worker a very grueling hour, quizzing her about every sentence in the leaflet and especially about that paragraph. They incidentally made some interesting revelations.

They admitted that the majority of the workers make \$15 or \$16, but tried to bluff us with an average of \$20, which was gotten, by dividing the payroll, including the wages of the foremen and the rest, by the number of employees. They also let it out that they consider factory workers too low a type of person to be given decent toilets, towels, drinking water, etc. They were very much annoyed because the rheostats radio instruments) are costing them all of 9 cents a piece—while no radio fan can get even the cheapest for less than a quarter.

Rally to the Y. W. L. Young workers of the Teleradio Corporation that leaflet did not come from the sky. The Young Workers (Communist) League is a live organization, an organization of young workers, who are tired of wearing themselves out for the bosses, who are determined to get decent conditions. Shop Nucleus No. 2 of the New York League exists right in your factory. Are you interested? Write to 108 East 14th street, the League office, or drop in some evening. We are not going to be snubbed by the bosses or by a threat of being fired. We are going to get our demands.

Come Ahead Into the Young Workers League



The final stage of capitalism.

EDISON ELECTRIC CO. FIRES YOUNG WORKER WHO REFUSED TO TURN SCAB ON STRIKERS

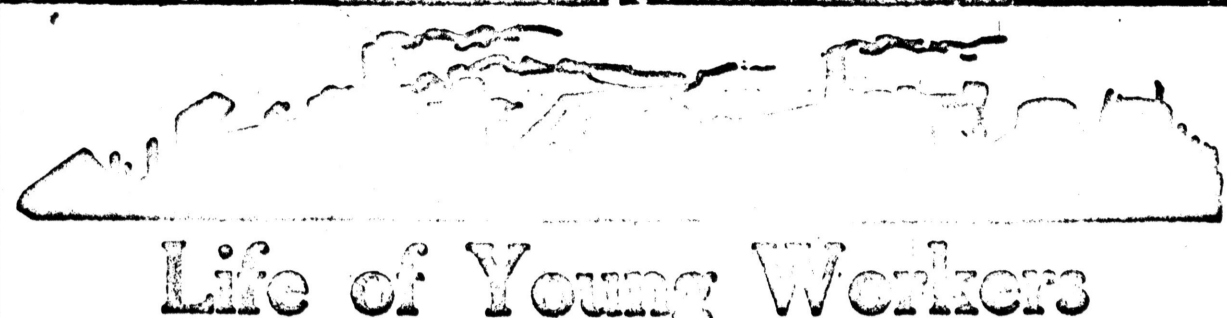
(By a Young Worker Correspondent.)

CHICAGO, Ill.—One day forced by circumstances usual with any worker, I applied for a position at the Edison Electric Appliance Co. In order to convince him that I was a good slave and in order to get a job which they had vacant, I told them of the many years of experience that I had in many kinds of work. In reality I never knew a thing about the work. But this was the only way to secure a job in the scabby slave pen and be tied to their nerve racking machines. After having slaved there for a few months, I had worked in almost every one of their departments. My reward was 40 cents an hour which is all they pay. In the assembling departments, married men with families, also receive 40 cents an hour.

One morning while working in the machine shop department, Mr. Lloyd, one of our ambitious "flunkys" who hires and fires workers whenever he feels like it, came up to me and

told me that he had work for me in another building. He called me into the office where he gave me directions. Then he took me into another building adjoining the factory and showed me a stock room filled with old books, invoices and number of different kinds of recording books. After having removed these books from the stockroom to the outside gate, having been watched like a prisoner for every step I made, Mr. Lloyd gave me instructions to load these books on a truck which would arrive. After they were on the truck I was to take them over to one of the branch offices, file them away, and stay there for awhile.

Know About the Strike. I knew that a strike was taking place at the Edison's factory branch situated at 19th and 52nd. I then told him that I refuse to go to this place because a strike was in progress there. He called me into his office and told me that there was no strike,



Life of Young Workers

YOUTH ON ALL COMMITTEES AND PICKET LINES OF NEW YORK FURRIERS STRIKE

By H. SOVIETSKY
Local No. 10, Furriers' Union.

NEW YORK CITY.—During the old administration of the Furriers' Union, where graft and corruption were rampant, and where the mass of the rank and file were treated as dumb-bells who should know less and give more, the young apprentice was looked upon as a "disease" hard to get rid of. He was looked upon as one bad for the trade; as one who would scab against his fellow workers in time of a strike. And special difficulties were actually raised in order to make it hard for him to join the union, such as special grafts in order to drive the young worker away from the trade.

As a result many young workers were forced against their will to be scabs and work in non-union shops.

It is unnecessary to state that the workers in the trade, and especially the young workers, were never told of the importance of being organized. But one form of education was always free, namely, beatings for not obeying the machine.

Since the new administration, since the lefts have taken power the young worker feels himself to be a free man. The union is not anymore a milking station where you merely pay and pay, but also the place where the workers congregate, freely express their opinions, discuss the problems of their trade, etc.

Much is being done in the form of open forums to educate the workers which are held

every day in the office of the union. What a contrast to our former experience when the union office was used as a card gambling joint.

In particular is the change felt by the young worker, the staunch upholder of the present administration; the left administration knows full well that it is the young element that feels the responsibility of the union most.

The older element does not possess as much energy to carry on the class struggle as the young worker and it is for that reason that the Left Administration is making every attempt to educate the young worker and to draw him into the activity of the union. We can say with certainty that the work

has been crowned with success. It is the young worker who is most active in the work of the union; whatever is necessary, pull out a shop, picket, come to meetings, the young worker is "Johnny-on-the-spot!"

Now that we are striking the young workers are represented in all committees, and on the picket lines. The young worker will not scab on the job. The furriers' union has educated the better, the more energetic elements of the labor movement, the young furrier worker, who will help the present administration to lead our greatest struggle to a successful victory.

Furrier Workers! Let us fight energetically for our just demands. The young furrier worker will fight shoulder to shoulder with you.



"O'wan, I dare yuh strike me!"

UNIONIZATION OF BUILDING TRADES YOUNG WORKERS NEEDED

Against Boss-Controlled Apprentice Schools and for Lower Initiation Fees in the Union.—100% Unionization of Youth.

By D. RAPPAPORT, Young Painter.

LOS ANGELES, Cal.—Although the building trade workers are organized, there is no organization to take care of the young workers who are entering the building industry to learn the trade. I am a young painter, and I wish to describe the difficulties that every young worker undergoes, while learning the trade.

When you start to work you get two and a half dollars a day, doing all kinds of hard work on the job. The young painter's helper must remain two months on the same job before he gets a brush in his hands to paint. All day long he must sandpaper the woodwork and doors, and because he is not accustomed to it, his fingers get scratched until they bleed. He must also scrape the plaster off the window, and the dust gets into his throat, eyes, lungs, so that he can hardly breathe. Although he gets very little pay the boss wants him to do the same work as a regular man. So the young worker sweats and rushes all day long, and in the evening he can hardly move his body.

The boss takes advantage of the apprentices, and wants them to come an hour earlier, and prepare everything for the regular hand. In the afternoon, he must remain after quitting hours, and wash the brushes, and clean the shop. If the apprentice protests, he gets fired, and that means weeks, and often months of unemployment. The boss does not give the young painter's helper a chance to learn the trade, but uses him for all the hard, dirty work, such as sandpapering, plaster scraping, floor sweeping, etc. An apprentice may remain in the trade for a long time, and never learn to become a painter.

What about the union? The union does not take a great interest in the young painters; no special efforts are made to organize and regulate them thru the union. The initiation fee is the same for the young worker as for the adult, although the young workers earn far less than the regular painter. The union should take over all the apprentice schools, and should line up a program of demands for the young apprentices in the building industry. The apprentices should demand that the union immediately starts a campaign to unionize the non-union apprentices, and thus improve their conditions.

To the Factories with Young Workers League

him and would only have lost my job. **No Scabbing; No Job.** Mr. Lloyd then called up Mr. Zelders, who hires men to slave for the struck branch factory. He asked me: "Why don't you want to go over to the other factory?" I gave him the same reason. He then said: "Well, I am sorry, but I have no work for you to do right now as things are slackening down."

That morning at the employment office they hired about 10 men and in every department things were in full swing. Thus, Mr. Zelders fired me for the reason that I would not scab on my fellow worker

I GOT THE AIR AND SUNSHINE; BUT NO WAGES

By LOUISE LIBORT, Unemployed Young Worker.

LOS ANGELES, Cal.—This town is one of the beauty spots of the United States, with hills and mountains of an imposing height. But when it comes to finding a job, there are more workers piled up in front of the employment offices than the mountains are high.

Of course, it is the interest of the Chamber of Commerce of L. A. as representatives of the capitalist system, to drive more and more workers in to slave for them, and help them build up the town with all the luxuries that are necessary for the capitalist class. And of course, the more workers there are, the lower are wages.

I have stood in line for hours, with hundreds of others, where only one was necessary for the job, and the "lucky" one was compelled to go work on the company's conditions, which means a non-living wage. The youth, especially, are exploited in this manner. This is because they are unorganized, and the employers use this condition to their own advantage.

Unfortunately, I was the "lucky" one. I found job. After being idle for months, I was compelled to accept a position at a hunger wage. But after the cravings of my stomach had been satisfied, my class-consciousness protested against such slavery, and I "touched" the boss for a raise. He raised me clear out the front door to absorb some "California Special" sunshine. This can only happen when the workers are unorganized. The youth of Los Angeles does not seem to realize that they are the worst paid in the country; their wages are mostly by climate and sunshine. But sunshine isn't very filling, and air isn't very sustaining.

The only way that the youth of L. A. can demand and get higher wages and better living conditions is to organize, and to realize that only if organized can they get anything. Organize thru the unions and thru the Young Workers (Communist) League.

YOUNG WORKER CORRESPONDENTS

We make it a practice to publish all articles, stories and letters sent in by our Young Worker Correspondents. If you have written us a story which was not published, please let us know so we can trace the error.

SPECIAL SPORTS SESSION.

A special enlarged session of the National Sports Committee of the League will be held this Sunday in the National Office. Party and League comrades in various Sports Organizations will be invited. This session will discuss how to organize the Labor Sports Movement in Chicago.

YOUNG STRIKERS OF BELLVILLE LOCKED OUT! RELIEF NEEDED

Union Officials Held Union Men on Job, Young Workers Struck.—Show Need for Relief Between Young and Adult Workers.

(By a Young Worker Correspondent.)

BELLAIRE, Ohio.—The Imperial Glass Co. employed at 500 men and boys. Of this number 350 were boys, the rest being adults and mostly members of the Glass Workers Union. You have here the spectacle of unorganized workers going out on strike and union men staying back because they did not want to strike but because their agreement would have been broken, and union officials held them back. So the boss played union men against non-union men, and out of the wages of the nonunion men cut those that were getting \$5.30 a day of \$4.80, from \$4.80 to \$4.20, and from \$4.00 to \$3.30. So 342 went out on strike.

They were out on strike for about three weeks and then 123 were taken back; those that were the meek and timid and promised that they would organize non-union. The rest were locked out.

They have a manager in the glass works whose name is Lampart. He used to be manager in the glass works in Moundsville, W. Va. He is a brute and bully; the workers chased him out of

Moundsville and Okla. far, for they refused to let him. In Moundsville he was manager a young boy up to him and asked him as he was sick and he smashed him in the jaw. Here in the glass works an ad appeared in the paper and in every town around advertising for young workers and when the young wanted to put an ad in the paper there was a strike and the papers refused to give no reasons. What kind of education for what side the press takes they are fighting the boss.

So there is no longer a lockout, and union workers working with scabs; they are locked out still so they are suffering. They can't work here as the mines are working two or three days a week. Next Saturday we will have a meeting of us and young glass workers as we will make plans for relief fund.

YOUNG WORKERS! YOU MUST RELIEF TO PASSAIC STRIKERS

TAKE this question up in your unions, clubs, other organizations. Relief is the crying need of the heroic textile strikers.

Food for families of little children. Fuel for work to keep warm. Shoes and warm clothing to cover them as they continue their fight for enough to eat. These are the needs of the Passaic strikers.

The relief organization is under the direction of International Workers' Aid and is composed of strikers who themselves handle the actual relief work.

Send money, clothing, shoes to the Relief Committee of Textile Strikers, 743 Main Ave., Passaic, N. J.

POLICE DON'T STOP PASSAIC STRIKERS; RELIEF IS NEEDED

By ANTONIO ANNAZONE, Young Textile Striker.

PASSAIC, N. J.—A strong picket line formed by 2000 strikers of the Botany Mills picketed the Forstman and Hofman plants of Garfield, Passaic, and the hell hole of Clifton, on Feb. 9.

The strikers started their line at Parker Ave. and President St. and took the way of Monroe Street down River Road and up Outwater Lane. There we were stopped by the Garfield police, who, however, were not strong enough to hold back 2000 strikers. Thus we broke thru the police line.

The strikers went up Outwater Lane and by the way of Lanza Ave., Garfield and thence up to the F. & H. plant. We picketed in front of the doors for two hours and everything was going well.

After the two hours were up, the pickets decided to go home. As we got to Outwater Lane and were about to cross the Garfield bridge, 40 Clifton police came

down on us from the side and started to beat women and children and young men who were the head of the picket line were walking peacefully

I could not see how the ton police could have the to beat up the women. Police did not have to beat strikers, they could have ed them if they wanted their so-called duty. But told why themselves.

The police told some strikers that the chief of the order to beat up the women and that the F. & H. was paying the police to - After the police had up the heads of the strikers did not speak or scared. On the contrary, made their way back to in an organized manner. A mass meeting was being on strike for more than weeks now and the police force is not stopping. Hunger may stop them, therefore, the biggest thing right in relief. This must be just in steadily to us here if we to win.

If we stick we will surely our demands.

Operators Break "Sacred" Agreement

By Young Coal Miner

PINEY FORK, Ohio.—Every time the miners strike to better their working conditions or whatever they may do, the operators raise an endless cry how "sacred" the contract is that it shouldn't be broken and other sob stuff to get away from the real point of the controversy. But when it is to their interest they forget all about the "sacredness" of the agreement.

When the Jacksonville Agreement was signed the operators agreed that the dues and assessments would be checked off. When the union levied the special assessment the Jefferson Coal company refused to collect it. Three local unions representing over 1,000 miners arranged a mass meeting in Piney Fork, Ohio and decided to strike. The situation came to a climax. Even the Sub-District officers had to favor the strike because the violation of the

agreement was so open. The entire board of Sub-District voted unanimously to call out men.

Word went to Lewis and he immediately summoned the to Philadelphia. Lewis as never did not want the miners to violate the agreement any more. That's what he got when the operators violated the agreement the first time. It was two years ago. Lewis his hands were full handling anthracite strike. Now the is over and yet he has done ing. In this case the check-off does not mean much. Lewis issue in the anthracite strike the check-off. Here where check-off was won by not Lewis the miners which cost more than one life and misery for thousands. Lewis refused to let the miners go out on strike, to defend the agreement rotten as it may be. It is not permissible to strike to defend the agreement. What is the consistency, Mr. Jaws?

UNITED NEGRO MASS MEETING HELD IN BOSTON BY A. N. L. C.

(By a Young Negro Worker.)

BOSTON, Mass.—Lovett Fort-Whiteman, Negro labor organizer and head of the American Negro Labor Congress, appeared before an audience of white and Negro workers, more than 1,000 gathered at the well known Buttrick building, 1095 Tremont St., Boston. At 7:00 p. m. there were almost no seats left and many had to be seated to stand up, as the hall and the balcony was soon packed with an eager crowd of Negro and white workers.

The meeting was opened by the speaker, Comrade Jackson, who in a short address pointed out the intentions of the Provisional A. N. L. C. committee under whose auspices this meeting was held. Among other things he said: "Since the civil war many things have taken place but so far the Negro worker is not an equal, not freed, not the existing organizations," he continued, "have not succeeded in bringing together the Negro and white workers because they are not workers' movements. The A. N. L. C. has already proved that it sincerely does bring the white and Negro workers together." He pointed to the white workers in the audience: "This is the proof," he exclaimed with emphasis.

The first number on the program was a piano solo for which the audience expressed very much admiration. After this the chairman introduced one of the speakers, a white worker, who was given a good reception, as it is the first time in the history of Boston where the whites and Negro workers have a joint meeting. The speaker in a common language expressed his appreciation of the fact that he may address fellow workers of that race. It takes a progressive, if you please, radical worker to sincerely stand his fairness to all the workers, for our cause is common, our enemy is one, the capitalist class, the class which rules at present, and whose interest it is to keep us workers divided in groups, creeds, and nationalities. "Let us join hands and shoulder to shoulder fight for our rights, under the banner of the A. N. L. C.," he concluded his address. It took quite a while before the large audience quieted down. A violin and piano solo were then introduced, given by two young working girls which brought the crowd much satisfaction and enjoyment.

Comrade Kenne was introduced by the chairman to give the welcome address. He pointed out with much enthusiasm the fact that he had the pleasure to introduce Comrade Whiteman to the Boston working crowd of both

UNITED NEGRO IMPROVEMENT ASSN. HOLDS CONVENTION

The national convention of the Universal Negro Improvement Association is scheduled for Detroit, Mich. on March 12. The leader of this movement Marcus Garvey is imprisoned at the present time. H. V. Phillips, secretary of the American Negro Labor Congress, when interviewed said that the convention will make a turning point in the association since there will be a struggle for leadership between Garvey and Sherril forces. Dungees has already left for Detroit as the representative of the A. N. L. C. and will keep the labor press supplied with latest developments.

Phillips said, the young Negro must step into this situation and fight for the correct program. They must stress the need for unity between the Negro and white workers.

It is with thanks to the inspiration and influence of Comrade Whiteman's mission that gave energy and set the pace to the work in Boston, to further that movement which in reality brings about the united efforts of both black and white workers to stop discrimination, division and inequality. Then Comrade Whiteman was given the floor.

Before he could have the chance to speak it took some ten or fifteen minutes, as the audience was simply tearing down the building with their applause. "Comrades, fellow workers, men and women," he began, "I am very much moved by the reception which you have given me. Boston is supposed to be the cradle of liberty, and yet I understand that this is a town where the Negro population is not even given a representative in the legislature who would some time present the grievances of the people.

He emphasized and stressed the point of the different remedies and movements among the Negroes which have failed to emancipate the Negro worker due to the fact that they were catering and themselves upkeeping segregation for they were having many good positions which they would not sacrifice for the interest of the working people. The remedy is not separation, segregation and division. No, it is in just the opposite way, namely, unity, mingling and inter-racial enterprise among the workers of all races that will bring upon the emancipation also of the Negro for it is in the realization of their class adherence that they may succeed in defeating those who are deliberately separating, crushing, by means of law, prisons, schools, churches and newspapers the efforts of the working people to

Tasks of Individual Member in Factory

By H. ZAM.

THE reorganization of our League on the basis of concentration groups does not mark the end of the work for the reorganization of the League—rather does it mark the real beginning of the reorganization and further on the basis of shop nuclei. The concentration groups are not permanent forms, and they can only serve a useful purpose if they make possible their own speediest liquidation. Concentration groups must serve as a stepping stone toward shop nuclei as a means for the activation of our members in the factories. This work can only be successful if it is bound up with intensive recruiting work from the shops and factories.

Our League is still very small. Our members work mostly in small industries. We have not yet sunk our roots into the broad masses of the young workers in the heavy industry in the large factories. Until we do that, we will not have the basis for the development of a mass Communist youth League in this country. The drawing in of new members from the large factories becomes our foremost task. Recruiting must be bound up with all the work of the League. Not a single campaign must pass without systematic plans and work for recruiting of new members. We must make use of every form of our activity for the expansion of the base of the League. Recruiting is the work of the entire League, not merely of the officials selected for that purpose. The small size of the League's few members have made working together in large groups make recruiting a specially important function of the individual comrades working alone in a factory. We must therefore make very clear the

activities of a comrade in his factory, the methods by which he carries on his work, and how he can best utilize his activities for the strengthening of the League.

In this connection there are two extremes which must be avoided if work in the factories is to be carried on successfully. There are comrades who the first day they come into the shop, make it known to everybody, including the boss, that they are Communists, that they intend to carry on intensive Communist propaganda, capture the shop, etc. These comrades generally are not able to carry out their promises for the simple reason that they are generally fired the day after they arrive. While we can admire the energy of these comrades and their enthusiasm, we certainly cannot admire their methods of carrying on work, for they are continually isolated from the workers. On the other hand, there are comrades who are so careful, that they can work in a factory for years and no one will know that they are Communists. In their entire period of work in the shop, they will never take the initiative in a fight against the boss. Such comrades are absolutely useless to the movement. Our comrades must avoid both these extremes. They must learn to carry on Communist propaganda and organization in a factory in such a manner as to win over all the workers in that factory, and at the same time avoid unnecessary exposure to being fired. A good deal of the Communist youth movement will depend on the way in which our comrades carry on their work among the young workers in the factory.

First of all, it must be remembered that we must not isolate ourselves from the young workers in the factory.

Students in U. of C. Donounce Militarism

LOS ANGELES, Cal.—The United States is constantly preparing herself for war. In Los Angeles, the high schools and colleges are training future officers thru the Reserve Officers Training Corps. Recently, at Roosevelt high school, the R. O. T. C. was established. In order to trick the students, who are composed mostly of working-class youth, into joining, extra credits, and similar concessions are given.

At the same time, all kinds of bills are being passed in congress for increasing the appropriations for the army and navy. Also, the youth in industry is being trained for soldiers by the Citizens' Military Training Camps. This latter institution has features which are designed to appease the young workers, but its real purpose is to train soldiers to fight in the wars for Morgan and Rockefeller, not for democracy. What does all this mean? It means that a war is approaching, and the U. S. is making herself ready. There can be no doubt of an approaching war. The international situation testifies to this. The enmity between England and Turkey, the rivalry between America and England, together with the colonial unrest, are all leading to a coming war. In case of war, the young workers will be the first to be mobilized. We will be the first to be murdered in order to make space for the profits of the American capitalists, not to make world safe for democracy. The workers never profit by war. What did they get out of the last

war? All they got was unemployment, poverty, broken arms, crippled bodies, and very little thanks. Who, then, profits by war? The millionaires. That is why they spread a lot of bunk about protecting your country, etc. However, there is an encouraging sign. In the University of California, Southern Branch, the students are awakening. A student movement is on foot, denouncing compulsory military training, opposing the manufacturing of soldiers for the bosses. All over the country, similar movements are taking place, and many universities have been forced, thru the organized student protest, to abolish compulsory military training. It is up to the militant students of the University of California to follow these brilliant examples.

Young Workers and Students. Are you going to sacrifice yourselves to protect the gold of Morgan? Are you going to let yourselves be used as cannon fodder? You must refuse to fight in a war which holds nothing but misery and death for you. You must expose the real meaning of the R. O. T. C. and the C. N. T. C. Organize your protest. Follow the Young Workers (Communist) League, which is leading this fight against capitalist wars. Join us in our struggle for victory. Young workers, and students, all power lies in your united forces.

It was plain to see that the crowd which was composed of those toiling people who felt every statement made by Comrade Whiteman to be true, were eager to assist, promote this American Negro labor movement. More than 60 applications for membership were signed up. A collection amounting to \$24.95 was gotten and every one present left unwillingly, and with the deepest impression and readiness to assist in this great movement.

If the young workers eat their lunch in the shop at the bench, our comrades should not run out to the restaurant, and if the young workers all go to lunch room nearby, our comrades must be careful to go with them also. If the young workers play handball during the lunch hour, it would be entirely wrong for our comrades to assume a superior attitude and read books during that period. If possible they should also play handball; and if not possible, the least they can do is watch the game and take an interest in it. When the work is over, do not put on your street clothes and rush home. Go out with the crowd. Talk to the young workers on the way. Many of them may live in your neighborhood. Go home together with them. These may be small matters, but they are important, for they will determine whether you will have a means of approach to the young workers or not. Remember that even if your theories are correct and your proposals good, the young workers will not follow you if you do not have confidence in you if they do not feel that you are one of them. And this can only be done by being careful of these small things.

We must learn all about the young workers and become their friends in life. Our method of approach must depend a good deal upon the background of the young worker we want to win over. There is a difference between the method of approach to a young worker in the factory, who, for example, has to support a family on his meagre wages, and one who is only working in order to earn enough money to take him thru the next term of college. A young worker whose parents are radical, who has received a more or less radical upbringing at home will of course be much easier for us to reach than one who has been brought up in a 100% patriotic home. Our comrades in the shops must select some of the promising young workers and learn all about

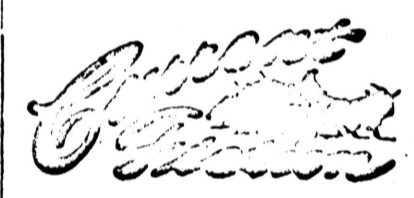


Oh! Yes! The bosses don't think, it ain't gonna rain no more!

war? All they got was unemployment, poverty, broken arms, crippled bodies, and very little thanks. Who, then, profits by war? The millionaires. That is why they spread a lot of bunk about protecting your country, etc.

However, there is an encouraging sign. In the University of California, Southern Branch, the students are awakening. A student movement is on foot, denouncing compulsory military training, opposing the manufacturing of soldiers for the bosses. All over the country, similar movements are taking place, and many universities have been forced, thru the organized student protest, to abolish compulsory military training. It is up to the militant students of the University of California to follow these brilliant examples.

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After betraying the miners Lewis says:

"It would be just as unfair to take from the worker the right to decide for himself the wage for which he is willing to labor as to take from the merchant the right to decide the price for his merchandise."

Bakery Ad.
Wanted—A boy for bakery. Must come well-bred, be an early riser, born in the (1) year, a good mixer. He will get his dough every Saturday night.
—Hallway Garment Journal.

them. Not only learn about them, but actually become their friends. It is not difficult to do that. A book, a newspaper, exchange of opinion on conditions in the factory these lead very easily to close relationship. It will be a thousand times easier to get when you are on these friendly terms, the young workers into the League than when you are strangers except in proximity of the machine.

The activity among the young workers, the propaganda used, the subjects chosen, must depend upon the understanding of the young workers themselves. It would be ridiculous to begin discussing let us say the question of proletarian dictatorship with a young worker when he has not the slightest idea of what the proletarian dictatorship is. Not only the subject, but also the language must depend on the understanding of the young workers. Simple subjects, in which the young workers display some interest and which they are capable of understanding should be chosen for discussion.

For a Mass Organ Thru Worker Correspondents

OUT OF WORK?

You may be! You want to know what causes it—How to stop it!

READ Unemployment

By Earl R. Browder. 5 cents

YOUNG MINERS WORK EXTRA WITHOUT PAY

By AUGUST VALENTINE

BRADLEY, Ohio — Amongst the most exploited youth in industry, very few could compare their exploitation to that of the young miners in Eastern Ohio. One example is right in the heart of the field where the Eastern Ohio Young Workers Conference was held. At Bradley mine the U. S. Coal company has forced the drivers to work half an hour more. They are required to take off the harness from the mules. In many mines the drivers who are practically all young workers spent more than an hour getting the mules to and from work, harnessing and unharnessing. The coal company pays them only for the actual work that they perform. The companies do not consider going to the barn for the mules, putting harness on them and bringing the mules back to work.

It is in a situation like the above that the Young Workers (Communist) League will prepare the young miners to take the lead and make the union a militant organization to carry on the struggle against the coal barons in this section of the country, where the union officials fail to act.

PENNSYLVANIA MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS.

Membership meetings will be held in the following places: where Comrade Papen the do of the Y. W. L. will speak. Each and every member must attend these meetings.
Avela, Pa., March 1.
Monacaen, Pa., Finnish Hall, March 10, 7:30 p. m.
Woodlawn, Pa., March 14, 10 a. m.
Daisytown, Pa., Home Theater, March 17, 7 p. m.
Cauonsburg, Pa., March 21, 10:30 p. m.

YOUNG PIONEERS ORGANIZE AGAINST ROTTEN SCHOOL CONDITIONS

400 Sign Petition and Parents' Council Organized to Help of Young Rebels.

LOS ANGELES, Cal. — The Young Pioneers of the high school have long been dissatisfied with the unsanitary food conditions in the school. Upon certain agitation, they found that a great number of the school were also dissatisfied. A regular campaign was organized. A meeting of the high school nucleus was called. Demands were definitely formulated, and petitions were drawn up. These petitions were very popular and inside of a few days, over 400 names and addresses were secured. At the same time, a meeting of the Pioneers' parents was called, with the object of aiding the young rebels and at the same time to organize a parents' council, which will have for its object, a class conscious parent organization who will fight the capitalist class propaganda with which the children are fed.

Letters were sent to every address that we had on the petitions. A meeting was called in the public library. This institution, of course, did not dream of the true purpose of our meeting. At this meeting, to which about 100 parents were present, the children themselves, described the school conditions. They reported among other things that the lunch hour is too short, that the food has time and time again been found unclean, that the whole menu consists of starchy foods which have no food value, that the girls' court is very dirty, that the boys have no lunch tables and no protection from the rain, etc.

At this meeting a permanent organization was started and a committee was sent to the school with the demands of the children and of the parents. If this does

not prove successful, it was understood that a committee would go before the board of education and he made them all promises. However, when a committee of mothers presented themselves to the school during the week they reported that the improvement was seen, and more children were interested in this school, and another meeting of the parents was called. At this meeting a committee was elected before the board of education. There has been considerable position to this parents' school and from the school that they sent to the committee this, however, the parents and fathers of this school are exceedingly interested.

With the completion of school struggle, the parents remain in existence to help other miserable conditions of school. This will be ending all schools where Pioneers attend. Already we are sending a parents' meeting of the school and M. schools.

The school is the place of activity for the Young Pioneers as the shop is the place of activity for the adult. The junior group a school must be organized to stop other children not only the capitalist schools are the source of imperialist propaganda but that the only place a child is in an organization, fights the children's fight school, and who will fight workers' struggle in the world; The Young League of America.

NEWS OF THE INTERNATIONAL

By JACK KAPLAN, Young Worker Correspondent.
IN Germany, city of Bagden, the capitalist court sent eight members of the Young Communist League of Germany to jail for from 3 to 9 months. This was from the period of the fight between the Young Communists of Germany and the Fascist youth, in Oct. 28, 1924.
In Italy, the Young Communist League was propagandizing the young workers of the textile factories to go on strike. The government sent 29 Young Workers' members of the Young Communist League to jail for a period of from three months to a year and a half.
In Poland, the government sent 25 young workers to jail because they belong to the Young Communist League of Poland.
In England, one member of the Young Communist League who spoke on trade union at a union membership meeting was arrested and sent to jail from the capitalist court for days.
In Indonesia, the Dutch government arrested some members of the Indonesian revolutionary youth.

From the Front!
"Held two overflow mass meetings in Passaic under auspices of the Young Workers League. Two thousand present. Spirit enthusiastic. MENTION OF LEAGUE ORGAN, YOUNG WORKER, BROUGHT OVATION LASTING SEVERAL MINUTES. RECEIVED WITH TREMENDOUS ENTHUSIASM. Young Workers League cheered."
Telegraphic report of Passaic textile strike meeting of young workers.

You! Young Miners, Young Textile Workers, Young Garment Workers and YOU young workers in about a hundred shops who have used this paper in your fight against your bosses.
Are You Loyal Enough To Your Paper to Help It Financially?
It needs your help both in getting subscribers and in finances!
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YOUNG WORKER
An Organ of the Militant Young Workers of America

Published semi-monthly by the National Executive Committee of the Young Workers (Communist) League of America

NAT KAPLAN, Editor

Read all orders and articles, and remit all funds to THE YOUNG WORKER

1113 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, Ill.

EDITORIALS

FURRIERS' STRIKE.

THE center point of this issue of the Young Worker is the Furriers' Struggle in New York City against the Associated Manufacturers. It is a significant issue, in the sense, that for the first time the officials of a strong trade union have written into its columns the necessity of enrolling the young workers in the struggles of the union.

Only a left wing union officialdom could write in that fashion. Under the old bureaucratic administration, of the Furriers' Union of New York which was responsible for the pro-boss provisions in the so-called collective agreement, the union was not a symbol of class struggle for the young workers, but an instrument for their exclusion and discrimination. Under the left wing leadership the doors have been opened to the young workers. They need no longer be herded into seamy shops.

United efforts between the young and adult workers will remain a mere slogan if measures are not taken to realize it in actuality. Hence the question of the inclusion of the demands of the young workers in the general fighting program of the union is of paramount importance.

The young workers have taken their place in the forefront of the present strike. They must also look beyond the immediate issues involved. In the police interference can be seen the crying need for the establishment of a political party of the working class, separated from the capitalist influences—the Labor Party. The Labor Party will prove not only a political instrument for the adult workers but for the youth as well.

DEVELOP NEW COMRADES

The task of developing comrades from the basic industries, especially American young workers, for the active work in the league is of great importance.

In the League we don't divide intellectuals and proletarians. In the revolutionary organization of the proletariat such a division would be a dangerous mistake. This does not mean, however, that we should not pay special attention to develop proletarians for active participation in the work of the movement.

From an historical aspect the intelligentsia played a big role in bringing Socialist ideas to the proletariat and in some countries as China, India, they will play that role even today. In such countries as England and the United States where the industrial and cultural development progressed much further the role of the intelligentsia and intellectuals decreased to a great extent from the proletarian-revolutionary point of view.

We are opposed to the crystallization of a "noble proletariat" guild psychology and at the same time we are against over-estimation of the role of the intellectuals.

We emphasize that at the present time the task of the development of an active cadre of American young workers from the basic industries for leading work in the revolutionary class struggle of the proletariat youth; who would have a strong party conception on all questions, especially the trade union question, is of great importance.

FOURTH BIRTHDAY

YOUNG WORKER

The Young Worker is four years old. In four short years it has developed from a semi-pure literary magazine to a fighting weapon in the class struggle. Its development up to a short time ago was along a steady upward road. Then because of the acute financial situation in the League one temporary retreat after the other had to be made.

Let us not put ourselves on the back on this Fourth Birthday of the Young Worker. Let us rather guarantee another birthday for our fighting organ—which by that

The Second Congress of the Kuomintang in China

(By Mail from Canton to the Workers' Weekly).

THE Second Annual Congress of the Kuo-Min-Tang Party has just closed, after 19 days of the most serious and business-like discussions ever known in Chinese political life.

Over 250 delegates were present, representing 500,000 members of the Kuo-Min-Tang, including 87,000 abroad. It was reported that the strength of the party in Hong Kong had grown from 7,000 to 28,000 (10,000 of them workers) in less than a year. This notwithstanding constant persecution by the British authorities.

The Hong Kong delegates gave a graphic description of life under the British flag. "The Chinese population," he said, "has only two representatives in the government's Advisory Council, and these are nominated, not elected." (The population of Hong Kong is 666,000 Chinese, 16,000 non-Chinese.) "There is no freedom of the press or of association for Chinese. Any Chinese may be expelled from Hong Kong at a moment's notice."

Army in Fine Mettle.

The first four days of the congress were taken up with the na-

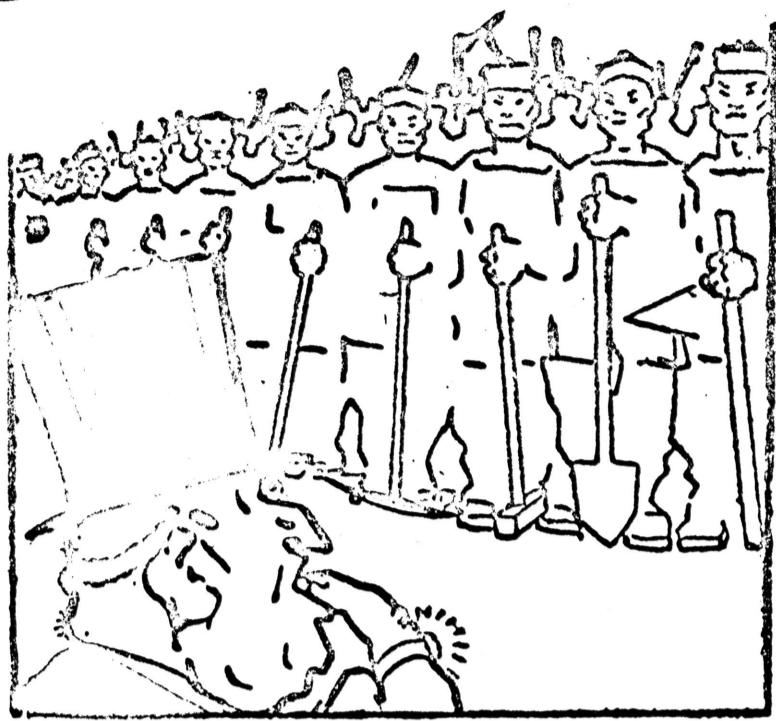
tional report of the executive committee, given by Wan-Chin-Wei, the head of the Canton government, and the report of the military situation by the commander-in-chief, Chang-Kai-Shi.

Great enthusiasm was aroused by the announcement that the national troops were in excellent condition, and had cleared the Kwantung province (of which Canton is the capital) of the Whites.

On the fifth and sixth days of the congress reports were made on the peasant and labor movements. With regard to the former, it was stated that the peasants, always groaning under heavy taxes and constantly harassed by bandits and lawless generals, were taking up the Kuo-Min-Tang call to organize in peasant unions enthusiastically. A Peasant Conference summoned by the party last May had been a landmark.

On the labor question, it was stated that the number of organized workers in China had grown from 600,000 last summer to 1,000,000 today. 125,000 of them being in Canton.

"The spirit of craft pettiness and localism is disappearing," he said.



Sun-Yat-Sen's Widow.

A moving incident at this stage was the arrival of Sun-Yat-Sen's widow, met at the station by 20,000 people, including the whole congress, all the members of the government, and thousands of workers and students. Elected the next day to the Presidium of

the Congress, she called for party unity, "as necessary today as during the lifetime of Sun-Yat-Sen." This was an allusion to the tactics of certain Right Wing groups, representing prominent merchant and manufacturing circles, who last November took flight at the continuing anti-imperialist

movement, and utilized the lack of centralization of the party to form committees at Peking and Shanghai, which claimed to act on behalf of the party and called for conciliation with foreign capital-ism.

The Congress decided to dissolve these committees and to expel the most refractory members from the Party, giving a stern warning to the remainder. The post of chairman of the party was abolished, and supreme authority vested in the central executive committee, which, like the congress, must meet "in territory where the party holds the reins of power."

Peking Next?

This at present means Canton, but an allusion to Wan-Chin-Wei at the close to the possibility of the next Congress meeting at Nanking or Peking, "after the victory of the revolution," produced tumultuous applause.

A special appeal for stricter party discipline and more effective agitation and propaganda work, particularly amongst the national armies outside Kwantung, and amongst women, was adopted on the motion of the Peking delegate.

Messages of congratulation

were sent to the nation and the Canton government for their successful fight against agents of foreign imperialism. With regard to the latter, following were laid down as the immediate program of the Kuo-Min-Tang members in the congress:

1. Emancipation from foreign dependence on Hong Kong.
2. Protection for the industries.
3. Lightening the tax burden on the peasantry.
4. Issuing of an interest-free loan of \$10,000,000 for public works (particularly the building of a commercial harbor at Whampoa 10 miles from Canton).

The Congress ended with a great ovation by the delegates when a member of the Standing Orders committee introduced a resolution of crimson silk, inscribed with the words "United Peoples of the World" and threw off the yoke of imperialism to the Second National Congress of the Kuo-Min-Tang of the Third International.

Review of International Situation

By Trotsky

Trotsky's speech at the Sixth Moscow Textile Workers Conference, in which he reports on the international situation and the internal situation of the U. S. S. R.

RIGHT now, our country, and to a great extent, the entire world, is keenly interested in our conflict with the Chinese General Chang Tso-Lin over the Chinese Eastern Railroad.

From the latest papers, however, we can see, to the satisfaction of all of us, that the threatened military action was prevented by diplomatic means.

If in this case there was not involved a Workers' and Peasants'

Government but a bourgeoisie one, even of the mild kind, the inevitable result would be the military occupation of Manchuria.

We have taken in this case a strictly business course and tried to have the comrades who were arrested released by means of diplomacy. And here we again learned that with general diplomatic notes have little effect. It was only thanks to the greatest care shown by our representatives that we were able to secure the release of the arrested, complete restoration of our union rights, etc.

Comrade Trotsky then estimates the conditions prevailing in Europe. Concerning England and France, many are already stating that even the coming year will bring serious political changes.

In England—the chief industry, coal—is in a very bad economic state. It is being subsidized with great sums of money by the government, to help keep the present wages of the miners. This agreement with the government is coming to a stop as it falls as rather a heavy burden on the English budget. A conflict is inevitable, which will undoubtedly shake up the entire British economic system.

In France the conditions of the economy are very bad. The parliament can find no way out of it. There is much which indicates that towards spring the French masses will find an open way out.

In Germany a wave of bankruptcy sweeps thru a great number of commercial firms and banks. Unemployment is growing threateningly large.

From these facts can be seen the helpless state of the European capitalist countries. Spring, as can be judged, will bring restlessness in Europe. The stabilization was not of such duration, as was expected.

If we shall now compare the forces of the proletariat with those of the capitalists we will see that the successful upholding of the revolution in the west is not in the objective factors of the world situation. Here history is working great. The proletariat is long ready for the struggle, but the parties are not yet ready for

leadership.

Our last Party Congress has rightly emphasized the necessity of bringing in a greater number of foreign Communist Parties to participate in the leadership of the Communist International.

They should take part in the collective guidance of the life of the world's proletariat.

Going over the problems of the Textile Workers Congress, Comrade Trotsky points out, that the congress is part of the world headquarters of the proletarian revolution.

Your union is talking of the necessity of transferring the productive ability from the individual efforts of the workers, to the

improvement of the means of equipment. This is entirely correct.

If we compare the technique of our productivity, with that of the most developed countries of the United States—we can see that our is considerably backward.

The way of our work is only the development of technique. Without it we cannot build a new world.

Together with the production stands the question of the quality of the products. The immediate task is to struggle against untidiness and dirt.

All the work must go to the slogan: Down with the culture! (Long applause from Nasha Gazeta.)

The New York Furriers' Strike

By R. Young

(Continued from Page 1)

Saturday) under the pretense that it is slow, or for any other reason—or give no reason at all—and go out on the "market" and pick another worker whom he would offer 10, 15 or 20 dollars a week, less than he had paid the former worker.

Fallacy of Old Agreement. The union, under that "collective agreement" had no right to enter the shops to investigate conditions or check up the general status prevailing in the shops. The union had to apply to the office of the Ass'n for the privilege of entering a shop for investigation purposes, giving, of course, sufficient reasons for such a sudden request.

The manufacturer, on the other hand, had a free hand to go out in the open market—should be called the open slave market—to choose any man or woman, non-union worker if he desires, to replace the one put out.

During the busy period the manufacturers had the right to work the shop overtime, which right they exercised, but they were to pay time and half, which most of them very cleverly lodged. In a great number of instances it occurred that while in some shops they would work over-

time, hundreds of fur workers were going around idle. The union in face of that intolerable agreement was helpless and could not compel the manufacturers to take in some more help.

Class Collaboration Policy. These are only a few of the bad features, which are characteristic of the "usefulness" of the old agreement for the fur workers. Such a "collective agreement" is the finest expression of an administration that sounds for an out and out class collaboration policy.

The new administration sought to do away with those evils and therefore introduced such demands in the new agreement which would illuminate those evils. The new agreement which was submitted to the Associated Manufacturers, contained among other things the demands of equal division of work all year around and no discharges, the complete abolition of overtime. Another important demand was that of a forty hour week spread over five days of labor.

While the former demand tended to eliminate overtime and unemployment to the very minimum, the latter demand aimed to preserve the strength and health of the furrier.

Unhealthy Industry.

If is a well-established fact based on statistics compiled by the research department of the Union Health Center, that the fur industry—the use of various chemicals and dyes in the production of imitation furs—is detrimental to the life and health of the fur workers.

The Manufacturers Ass'n refused to even discuss these important and urgent demands of the workers. At every one of the eight conferences held between the union representatives and those of the association, the latter insisted that unless these chief demands were withdrawn they would not negotiate any of the other demands. The other demands were—almost without exception—improvements or modifications of the points in the old agreement.

By the manufacturers taking such an attitude, it became clear to any close observer that they are interested in forcing the union into an open battle. The manufacturers needed a strike for many reasons. One of them is to compel the skin dealers to lower prices and they got busy creating favorable sentiment for their actions. The manufacturers of course did not change their attitude, but

fully repudiate the just demands of the fur workers. They knew very well that the furriers are perfectly justified in insisting on these demands. Moreover, the employers know, that the 40-hour week and the principle of equal division of work, are established in other sections of the needle industry for years, and those manufacturers did not get poorer, on the contrary, they get richer and grow bigger.

Cry of Communism.

The fur manufacturers then came out with the cry of "Communism," meaning that the new leadership of the fur workers' union, which they allege is composed of Communists, has presented radical demands, which have Communist tendencies; that such demands are "impossible, impractical and destructive."

The union membership "appreciated" the stand taken by the manufacturers and at two great mass meetings, in Cooper Union and in Webster Hall held Jan. 23rd, last, a resolution was unanimously adopted to empower the Joint Board of the Furriers' Union to declare a strike in the event the manufacturers do not change their attitude.

The manufacturers of course did not change their attitude, but

claimed that the workers are satisfied with the old agreement—which they (the manufacturers) are ready to grant—but that the leaders of the union are insisting on these demands.

The membership in answer to the insinuations of their exploiters, expressed their determination to get those important demands by voting a strike referendum. Over 7,000 of the New York membership participated in this secret ballot, of which fully 91% voted to strike for the new demands which are urgent to the life and existence of the fur workers.

Declare Lockout.

The manufacturers got angry and declared a lockout in the associated shops, on Feb. 11, 1926. Their declaration of the lockout contained a statement to the effect that they will not deal with the present leadership of the union, which is a Communist leadership and while they are most imposing to the principle of unionism, however, when they will decide to reopen their factories, operations will be resumed on the basis of the open shop principle.

To translate this into simple terms, would mean, that the manufacturers are out to destroy and smash the union. The fur work-

ers were well aware of the owners of the manufacturing every step made by them, and immediately disclosed to the and file of the union, by its

The great membership in its new revolutionary, conscious leaders. The are true and loyal to the struggle and always ready to sacrifice themselves for the revolutionary aspirations of the struggle everywhere. Such a attitude of the leadership is possible to unify and start a great New York membership about 12,000 strong, active, trained, class conscious, by an army.

Youth Rallied to Strike.

The youth, which comprises a great part of the membership, rallied to the strike call issued by the union on Feb. 16th. The youth is representing the liveliest, most energetic, class conscious and devoted element in the current struggle in which the workers of New York are engaged.

The youth in the fur workers' strike is in the vanguard and will lead the struggle to a successful end.

If you want to see the Communist movement grow, get

THE EAST OHIO YOUNG WORKERS' CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 3).

from Max Shachtman, representative of the Young Workers (Communist) League. Shachtman gave a concise review of the situation of the working class youth in America since the opening of the world war, showing that especially in the post war period the young workers were primarily the subject of a drive by the capitalists for the pauperization of the youth. Not only were the youth the most exploited and least organized section of the working class, but they were and will be also in the future the first ones to suffer

time should be a weekly organ. Boost the Fourth Birthday Parties of the Young Worker. Get behind and push with all your might the Sub Drive of the Young Worker.

fer from imperialist war and capitalist militarism. The campaign all over the world for intensified militarization was a sign on the horizon of imperialist war that a new war was coming on swiftly, and that unless the workers were prepared to meet this catastrophe by organized opposition, their lives would be the merest pawns in the hands of the bosses and the post war period would again become one of intensified misery for them.

Problems Discussed.

Following this talk, a discussion opened on the problems of the young workers of that section. Delegate after delegate arose and told of the rotten conditions under which they worked. Many of them showed how the young workers, despite the fact that they did the same work as the adults, were discriminated

against in the question of wages, hours and conditions.

One young miner reported that in Harpersville when the local wrote to the sub-district union office, for a ruling on wages to be given to the workers on a new machine for picking slate, they received a reply which asked whether boys or men were doing the work. Boys receive \$4.00 a day for the same work which men receive approximately \$7.00. Couplers and greasers are especially discriminated against in this respect.

In the Bellaire Enamel works, girls received only 24 cents an hour for their work, toiling fifty hours a week. With a weekly wage of \$12, it is not to be wondered that many of them are forced to sell themselves in order to make something like a decent living.

The conference adopted a number of resolutions which called for support for a labor party, for world trade union unity which would also mean the trade union unity of the adults and the youth, a resolution on political prisoners with support for the International Labor Defense, a resolution calling upon the trade unions to remove the barriers that prevent the young workers from entering, a resolution on the Citizens Military Training Camps which calls upon young workers to boycott them and a statement of demands. The statement of demands is to be printed in leaflet form and distributed broadcast to the young workers of Eastern Ohio. Committees in the various towns are already busying themselves with popularizing the decisions of the conference, and meetings are being arranged everywhere so that the

young workers can get a thorough out of the work of the conference.

The delegates were very enthusiastic over the work of the conference, which is the first to be held in this country. After the report of the representative

of the Young Workers (Communist) League, a resolution was unanimously adopted calling upon the league to continue its work of aiding to carry out the decisions of the conference and spread the influence of the conference through the districts

Workers' Sports



Conference to Discuss International Sports Collaboration This Month

MOSCOW.—The Presidium of the Red Sports International has proposed to the Lucerne International the holding of a conference in March of this year at which all questions of international sport collaboration can be discussed.