

# Young Worker

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## BOYCOTT THE C. M. T. C.!

### Shanghai Red

#### Revolutionary Troops Take Great City

Shanghai, the largest and most important city in China, was evacuated by the Northern army on Saturday, March 19, and occupied by the Revolutionary Army the same day. This closes the first chapter in the struggle between the reactionary supporters of the foreign imperialists and the Kuomintang, the representative of the exploited masses. With the occupation of Shanghai, the Kuomintang government is now in control of the largest and most important section of China, the section where the densest population, the largest factories, and the greatest docks and harbors are located. Since the great masses of the Chinese workers and peasants sympathize with the Kuomintang government, the present position makes the Southern government impregnable, and the rest of the country will soon follow the example of the South.

The fall of Shanghai was caused not by the superior military power of the revolutionary troops so much as by the revolt of the workers within the walls of the city. Strike followed strike, and in spite of the greatest brutalities, the workers were not intimidated, but openly demonstrated their solidarity with the struggle for Chinese liberation. So powerful did the resistance of the workers become that the northern army was compelled to evacuate the city while the troops of the Kuomintang forces were still ten miles away from the city.

Shanghai has a population of a million and a half, of whom less than 40,000 are foreigners, and the rest are Chinese. Nominally, it was up to now a Chinese city, but was actually governed by the foreigners thru the concessions. The native city, that is that part under Chinese control, included less than one tenth of the population of the city. In the French and International settlements, which are both under foreign control, the total foreign population is only 36,800 and the Chinese population 1,100,000. The Chinese pay four-fifths of all the taxes in these concessions. Nevertheless, they have nothing to say regarding the government of these territories. This is one of the evils that the revolutionary forces are struggling against.

The foreign powers now have altogether 15,000 troops in the city of Shanghai, and some 30 battleships. There is no doubt that they are only waiting for an excuse to drown the city in blood, as France did with Damascus. This, however, will not save them. The struggle can only end with the complete expulsion of the foreign imperialists from China, and defeat of their henchmen, the Northern militarists.

### DON'T FIGHT FREEDOM!

#### PORTO RICAN APPEAL TO AMERICAN WORKERS.

SAN JUAN, Porto Rico.—The Porto Rican section of the All-America Anti-Imperialist League has issued an appeal to the sailors and marines of the Caribbean fleet, now visiting Porto Rico, asking them to demand "Hands Off Mexico and Nicaragua" and the withdrawal of all military and naval forces from Latin-American countries.

The appeal points out that American sailors and marines are being sent to Nicaragua and other Latin-American countries to protect the investments of Wall Street, to suppress the attempts of the people of Latin America to free themselves from foreign oppression.

The appeal continues: "If you cherish the ideals and traditions of your revolution of 1776, if in your veins flows the blood of those that died at Lexington and Concord and Valley Forge, you will protest against your being forced to play the part of Hessian mercenaries against the Latin-American people who are demanding the freedom of their country from foreign exploitation."

### Young Workers! Young Farmers! Students!

You are being called upon by your bosses, and by the representative of your bosses, the United States government, to enrol in the Citizens' Military Training Camps, so that you may be prepared to be used as cannon fodder in the next war. The Citizens' Military Training Camps may be for you the first step between your present position and China or Nicaragua. You may be sent to the fever-infested swamps of Nicaragua to prevent the Nicaraguan people from determining for themselves what government they shall have and to safeguard the millions of dollars that Wall Street has invested there to exploit the masses of the workers and peasants. You may be sent to Shanghai to help the British government the Japanese government, the French government, and our own government to fasten the yoke of slavery more firmly on the necks of the Chinese masses. You may be used to break the next strike of your own fathers, and brothers. The boys in the camp with you may be used to break your own strike.

Do you want that to happen?

You must not permit yourself to become the tool of your boss. The big bosses in this country are asking you to enrol, because in that way they will be able to use you against your own interest, and for their profit. You should know from bitter experience that what is good for your boss is generally not good for you.

Do not fall for the fine phrases that the militarists are dishing out. Don't let yourselves be lured to the camps by fine promises.

STAY AWAY FROM THE CITIZENS' MILITARY TRAINING CAMPS!

### Tapestry Union Organizes Young Workers in Phila.

(By Young Worker Correspondent)

For six months the Tapestry Carpet Workers' Union of Philadelphia has conducted a brave struggle against the attempts of the Carpet bosses to impose a 15 per cent wage cut and open shop conditions upon the 700 workers involved in the strike. These workers, who had in the past attained a degree of job control in their industry which other textile workers envy, claim correctly that they are fighting not only for themselves, but for the workers in all the other textile mills (and those of other industries). The attempts of the bosses to break the power of the union, and crush the Carpet workers into helplessness, is the signal for a general assault upon the living standards of the workers, which are already deplorably low. For this reason it is very important that relief is rushed into the Tapestry Carpet Workers' Union, 2012 E. Stella Ave., Philadelphia, Pa. The ability of the strikers to hold out until they win means the continuance of the power of the union, and encouragement to the 60,000 unorganized textile workers of this city to begin a drive for organization.

#### Young Workers Organized.

The situation in the carpet weaving industry of this city is of great interest to young workers. They show what intelligent and honest union

leadership can do for the young workers. Whereas in most industries, the young workers, who are mainly unskilled, are left to the mercies of the bosses, and barriers are left in their way of joining the union, the Tapestry Carpet Workers' Union has organized the trade from cellar to garret. Every single worker employed in a carpet weaving plant must belong to the union. The initiation fees are quite low, \$3. This allows even the lowest paid workers to join. In the agreements with the bosses that the union has won, a minimum wage of \$23 per week has been set. That means that the young workers are not exploited as bad as in the usual way, that is, paid about ten or twelve dollars a week. The 48-hour week prevails in the unionized shops. Some of the young workers work at "burling"—mending imperfections in the carpets after they have been woven. These get about \$45 to \$50 a week when they work.

In general the conditions of the youth are quite well protected. In the strike, as a result, the young workers are active on the picket line, in getting relief, etc. The tactics of this union towards the youth workers set an example that might well be followed by some unions which put actual walls of division between the adult and young workers in the same industry.

### STUDENT KILLED IN R. O. T. C.

(By Student Correspondent)

WAUKEGAN, Ill.—I am writing this letter because of an accident which happened in the military department of our school, the Waukegan High School.

On Feb. 22, two cadets of the R. O. T. C. rifle team were out on the rifle range—Cadet Capt. Dewey Lewis of the rifle team and Dayton Kramer, his team mate. Lewis was in the range house shooting, while Kramer was calling off the shots five feet away from the target, the position they usually stand at for this purpose. According to the report of Capt. Loyd, head instructor of the military course here, Dewey shot at the target. The bullet hit a spiked head, glanced off and hit Kramer in the abdomen. Kramer's intestines were punctured in nine different places. He was operated on and died.

This incident has created quite a stir among the students. Many openly question the truth of the story told by Capt. Loyd. The sights may have been wrongly set, or the wind rule was not properly calculated. In any case, it is certain that the report has left out some features. The school paper carried a story different from the one carried by the city press. This has made the students open their eyes.

### Demand that the A. F. of L. Fight the C. M. T. C.!

THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR THRU ITS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HAS ENDORSED THE CITIZENS' MILITARY TRAINING CAMPS. They did this in violation of the attitude of the overwhelming majority of labor, as evidenced by resolutions passed by the Wisconsin Federation of Labor, Pennsylvania Federation of Labor, and several of the largest international unions. The young workers, whether union members or not, must realize that this large labor organization is being used against

the interests of the workers. Get your local union, central labor body, executive committee, workers' and young workers' club, to adopt resolutions demanding a reversal of this policy, and send them in. Also send them yourselves as individual workers or young workers, giving your union membership if you are a member. Address all communications American Federation of Labor, Washington, D. C. Write the YOUNG WORKER that your demand has been sent.

# UNDER THE BANNER OF RUTHENBERG

## C. E. RUTHENBERG—COMRADE AND LEADER

BY MAX BEDACHT.

Our Leader, Comrade C. E. Ruthenberg, is dead. Ruthenberg dead; two conceptions so hard to reconcile: Ruthenberg, the incarnation of action; and death, the conception of stillness and motionlessness. But—irreconcilable though they may seem reality has reconciled these two concepts: the ever-active, the ever-organizing, the ever-fighting Comrade Ruthenberg is now still and motionless.

Comrade Ruthenberg's death left a tremendous gap for us to fill. One revolutionary fighter less; an able fighter, a valiant one; a fighter whose clarity of purpose and understanding of tactics made him the more valuable for our movement and the more dangerous for our enemies. To fill the gap left by his death is the task of the hour. Redoubling our energy, redoubling our readiness for sacrifice, is demanded by this task.

But the gap left by the fighter is not the only and not the greatest one left by Comrade Ruthenberg. Comrade Ruthenberg was not only our comrade, he was our leader. He was an able leader. He had the confidence of our movement. He had the spirit of sacrifice and the courage of shouldering responsibility so necessary for leadership. Without such a spirit the decisive moment is met with hesitation; and hesitation means treachery. Hesitation of a leader at the decisive moment means opportunism, means travelling the road of least resistance, instead of the way of revolution; means betrayal of the revolution.

Comrade Ruthenberg was a Bolshevik, a Leninist. His spirit of self-sacrifice was paired by an understanding of the principles and tactics of Marxism and Leninism. That, too, is an indispensable prerequisite of leadership. Without this knowledge the decisive moment is met with a lack of understanding, with inaction; and the result is again, treachery.

To know the task of leadership and the necessary quality for it is to understand the loss which our movement sustained by the death of Comrade Ruthenberg.

Leadership is as necessary to the success of our movement as is a monolithic, united centralized Party and League.

The Communist Party and the Young Communist League are the young of the working class. They are the conscious section of the workers. They must give direction and purpose to the workers in their struggles. Without their purposeful-

ness and without their direction the struggle of the workers is chaotic, aimless and negates itself. The role of leadership which our Party and our League must play in the struggles of the working class is the same which the leaders of our Party and of the League must play within these organizations and in the class struggle itself. No matter how centralized, no matter how monolithic our Party or League may be, without the clear direction given by a Marxist, Leninist, self-sacrificing and determined leadership, the success will be impossible.

The gap left by the fallen comrade in arms is filled by those left in the battle. They close their ranks, re-



Ruthenberg Addressing Anti-War Meeting in Cleveland.

double their energy and increase their fighting spirit. The gap left by the death of a leader must be filled by doubling the devotion to the Party, by increasing the loyalty to the remaining leadership, to the Central Committee, as the bearer of the policies and tactics of a dead leader.

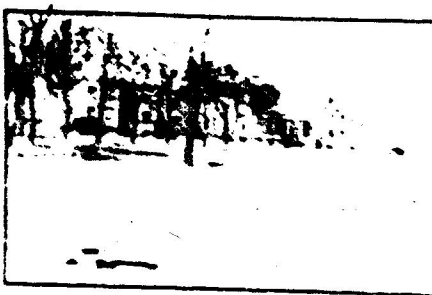
This is the great task now before us. It will be hard to fill the void left by the death of our Comrade and leader, C. E. Ruthenberg. But our determination must be victorious over all difficulties. Our earnestness of purpose must overcome all obstacles.

In memory of the dead fighter, Ruthenberg, we erect a monument of increased activity; and in memory of our dead leader Ruthenberg we pledge our increased loyalty to our Central Committee, the leader of our Party, so that the loss which our Party has sustained may be met and our Party may continue in the spirit and in the footsteps of our dead Comrade and Leader, C. E. Ruthenberg.

## Ruthenberg in Jail.

By ALFRED WAGENKNECHT.

I remember Ruthenberg's first year in jail. Hardly had the iron doors snapped behind his back then he revolted against the prison regulations and exactions. And for days he hung by the wrists in a dark cell, under ground. Every day the jailers would ask him: "Well you give up?" and every day he heard his deep "No." In this he expressed every injury of our class, all its protests and revolutionary purposes. He had been sent to jail for leading the workers



Canton Jail Where Ruthenberg Was Imprisoned.

not to obey the conscription laws, to fight against the imperialists' world war.

His hatred of the capitalists was always at white heat and they knew that is why he was sent to jail so much. And we can now only guess what by this frame-up at Washington his death has robbed his enemies the pleasure of taking.

His revolutionary labors know no time nor rest. They are now added to our tasks. We take them up as a duty to the cause in which he died.

## Ruthenberg's Contributions to the League.

BY SAM DARCY.

Our enemies can rejoice. They have won a distinct advantage in the loss of our leader, Comrade Ruthenberg. But sober minded workers will feel the loss and work harder in the movement to help sustain it.

If this applies to the adult workers, it applies infinitely more to the young workers who have so few able leaders among ourselves and so few among the adult workers who understand our problems, and can give us guidance. Comrade Ruthenberg was one of those who can serve as an example for all of us.

The history of his activities in connection with the working class youth the Left Wing within the Socialist Party dates back to the early struggles of Party in 1917-1918-1919. As the leader of the Left Wing forces in the middle west in the very early days he constantly worked with the existing youth organization and was largely in-

About a week after leaving the gates of Sing Sing he attended the first national convention of the Young Workers' League and worked to help it formulate its policies and program. Even those in the convention opposed to the position that Comrade Ruthenberg took on the various policies expressed admiration at the thoroughness with which he had studied our problems and the understanding he showed of them. The writer had expressed differences with a position that Comrade Ruthenberg had taken. At the convention when the position that Comrade Ruthenberg took passed by an overwhelming majority, and any other leader would be satisfied to "let well enough alone", he called the writer into conference and went into long and patient detail to show the correctness of his position.

Since then, as the leader of the Party, he constantly helped and gave guidance to the organization of the revolutionary young workers, the Young Workers (Communist) League of America. He often wrote on youth problems. In the previous issue of this paper one of Comrade Ruthenberg's articles is reprinted which gives even the superficial student of our work the feeling that here was a revolutionist who did not deal with general phrases but understood

After the last convention when the League was practically non-existent Comrade Ruthenberg again began studying the problems of the League. In a series of sessions with the writer he outlined a campaign for building the League. He brought his plan into the Central Executive Committee of the Party and there formulated the slogan, "Build a league unit wherever there exists a party unit." The campaign toward this end had to be postponed for a period because of many new developments in the movement which interfered. His subsequent death prevented him from completing the work. Let us however, commemorate the memory to Ruthenberg by carrying to a successful conclusion the work he outlined but which his untimely death prevented him from carrying into effect. Let the Party of Ruthenberg carry on in his spirit the actual tasks before it.

We can hardly appreciate the tremendous role that Comrade Ruthenberg played in the history of the American Communist movement. We are too close to him as yet to see his work objectively. When we look at the history of the Russian Communist Party we are most impressed by Lenin's leadership of the Bolsheviks during the developments of the Communist Party and subsequent Communist Party 1903-5, to the final victory in 1917. Ruthenberg played a similar role in the development of the Communist Party beginning with 1912 to the split in 1919 and the founding of the Communist Party subsequently. Only death prevented him from carrying on his work further.

He was undoubtedly the outstanding figure in the application of Leninism in this country. He led in every struggle to establish a Leninist policy and activity; the struggle for a legal Party and the recent fight on the Labor Party are only two of the many examples.

We have undoubtedly received a great blow in losing him. Shall we weep? Shall we express pious wishes and weak phrases? No!

We have his guidance. His last slogan was:

**"LET'S FIGHT ON!"**

With the exemplary integrity, his self-sacrificing devotion and his thorough understanding we will fight

strumental in winning them for the Left Wing.

It was, however, in September of 1919 that he began working with the youth on a national scale and giving in the careful personal guidance that steered it away from the betrayals of the Socialist Party and the inevitable destruction that lay in the conflict of the various Communist groups.

After the September conventions of the Socialist Party, Communist Labor Party, and Communist Party, Comrade Ruthenberg met in a joint committee with John Reed, Lewis C. Fraina and some other of the adult comrades together with Gerisch, Ball, Carlson, etc., of the Y. P. S. L., to work out a plan that would make possible the building of a Communist youth movement under the joint auspices of the C. P. and C. P. and C. L. P., thereby eliminating the utilization of the youth movement as a faction in the hands of one group or the other. It was the support to this proposal that made possible the formal splitting of practically the entire youth movement from the Socialist Party at the succeeding convention in Rochester.

By this time Ruthenberg had become one of the outstanding leaders in the struggle against militarism and the war in this country. He already had served in Canton, O., for an anti-war address in Cleveland against conscription. Like Liebknecht he learned the problems of the youth largely thru his anti-war and anti-militarist activities. In 1920 he again was indicted in New York state and served a

term in Sing Sing from which he emerged in April, 1922. Despite the tremendous volume of work that faced him and his weakened physical condition he arranged as one of his first tasks the studying of the situation in the youth League.



Notice the Cops at Both Meetings. on!

## Labor Must Fight the C. M. T. C.s!

We are giving below the text of the resolution against the Citizens' Military Training Camps which was presented by the representatives of dozens of miners' locals at the last convention of the United Mine Workers of America. This resolution was steam-rolled into oblivion by the Lewis machine, which referred it to the next convention of the American Federation of Labor, in spite of the fact that the overwhelming majority of the membership favored it. At the Detroit convention of the A. F. of L. the Citizens' Military Training Camps were endorsed. The resolution follows:

Whereas, the Citizens' Military Training Camps, the National Guard, military training schools, etc., are joint instruments of the bosses thru the Military Training Camps Association and the war department, for the purpose of giving military training to those young workers in shops, mills, and mines who will be expected to make up the army in the next war, and

Whereas, the Military Training Camps Association is composed of large open shop employers, including such infamous labor haters on its advisory board as Richard Crane, the late Cyrus McCormick, Frank O. Lowden, and thru the Pullman Company is connected with the war loving House of Morgan, and

Whereas, the experience of the labor movement is such that in time of strike we can expect little sympathy or mercy from the militia, the army, etc., as was conclusively demonstrated in our strikes of the past, notably the mining strike of 1922, when the soft coal fields were flooded with militia and soldiers of the regular army, whose sole purpose and function there at that time was to protect the imported strikebreakers who were at that time attempting to wreck the miners' union, and

Whereas, in this particular instance on more than one occasion it was discovered that many of these soldiers and members of the militia were sons of the striking miners, there protecting and defending the interests of the bosses who were attempting to lower the standard of life of their fathers, and

Whereas, realizing the grave danger hidden behind the guise of these camps and military training schools, the Pennsylvania and Wisconsin State Federation of Labor at their last respective conventions condemned them and exposed them in their true light, therefore be it

Resolved, that this convention of the United Mine Workers of America condemns the purpose and function of the Citizens' Military Training Camps and all other methods of military training and declares that it will not become a part of any move which aims to offer the machinery of our unions to the bosses for use in their war schemes, that we will at all times condemn any move to organically connect the United Mine Workers of America and the American Federation of Labor with the war department to further aid the bloody plans of the imperialists or to the imperialists or to in any way help in the recruiting of the young workers expected to serve as cannon fodder in another imperialist slaughter, and be it further:

Resolved, that we instruct our delegates to the forthcoming convention of the American Federation of Labor to present this resolution and to speak for its passage to commit the American Federation of Labor to a policy of condemnation of the Citizens' Military Training Camps and attempt to have the American Federation of Labor organize a counter campaign to be conducted on a national basis against the aims, purposes and propaganda of the military training camps, and be it further

Resolved, that this convention instruct the International Executive Board to wage a national agitation and organized campaign against the military training camps, this campaign to be conducted on the basis of the slogans "Against All Imperialist Wars!" and "Boycott the Citizens' Military Training Camps!"

## Coolidge Talks Disarmament— Approves Record Navy Bill

After much heralding of trumpets about the so-called "peace" policies of President Coolidge, we find him signing the main naval appropriation bill of 316 million dollars with additional minor appropriations totaling over 350 million dollars, a record for any peace year in the history of the United States.

As predicted in the Young Worker of Feb. 15th, when we said, "There is every reason to suspect that Coolidge himself maneuvered the entire affair, we now see the true Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde character of Coolidge, the signing American imperialism, who has signed "without comment" the bill already passed upon favorably by the senate.

The outstanding significance is the fact that among other items, the bill provides for the elevation of the long cruisers on the battleships of the American navy, equal to the British battleships. While Great Britain protested this action, American imperialism ignored her and proceeded to carry out the bill, regardless of the decrepit London conference agreement.

Important items provided for in the appropriations bill were: three new cruisers, completion of two new carriers, completion of submarine modernization of a fleet of battleships, elevation of long cruisers on battleships, improvement of naval stations at Coco Solo and Panama Canal Zone, Pearl Har-

bor in Hawaii, Sand Point in Washington on the Pacific Northwest and the San Diego Naval Station in the Pacific Southwest. The bill also provides for building 244 new airplanes and experimentation in giant airships and new models.

This action of the United States government, coming at the same time as the propaganda for a 5-power peace conference, demonstrates clearly what a joke "peace" or "peace conferences" are as long as capitalism exists. The United States, like all other capitalist nations, is madly preparing for new wars. Such preparation, not only serves to protect and extend their own political and economic influence but together can be mobilized in an attempt at armed offensive against the Soviet Union or Nationalist China.

### Chicago Democracy

CHICAGO.—As a result of the cleaning-up of the fakes that have been discovered in the recent Chicago primaries, 26,771 names have already been stricken off the rolls. Many more names will be lopped off before the register is finally approved. This is a good indication of the actual functioning of democracy in this great metropolis. Were it not that this year the business was a bit too raw, no one would even know of the fakes that have been going on here.

## C. M. T. C. Now Has Little Brother

Not content with luring 35,000 young workers, farmers and students into the Citizens' Military Training Camps where they receive training for strike-breaking and such heroic deeds as the invasion of Nicaragua, Porto Rico, etc., the militarists of this country have decided to extend their claws still further and have opened a military training camp for members of the Reserve Officers Training Corps (school units). Maj. Frank Lee Beals, commander of Camp Logan, Illinois, had just announced that six hundred members of the R. O. T. C. from Chicago high schools will participate in a special training course lasting one week at that camp. As usually, this militarization is gently cloaked under the name of "vacation," but the program consists mainly of drill, drill—and more drill. The students will be taught to shoot, to march, etc.

Not only will the students be compelled to drill practically all day, but they will have to pay for the privilege of doing so. For only one who soaks up ten bucks can attend, and if he puts up the money, and then fails to attend, he loses his money. In the schools, the propaganda is being assiduously spread that this is a fine vacation, that the students will have a fine time, will learn to swim, ride, etc., but they are very careful not to say anything about the drill.

Students are warned to beware of these fine fairy tales. Don't attend these fake "vacation" camps, which are actually military camps like the C. M. T. C.

## More Student Suicides

Two more students have committed suicide, bringing the total within the last two months to 36. They are: Dorry Mae McLeod, 14, of Jacksonville, Fla., who left a note saying: "I've quit worrying"; and Clarence Sweeney, of Dubuque, Iowa. Both used a shotgun to carry out their purposes.

Readers of the YOUNG WORKER are referred to the article on student suicides in the March first issue of this paper. In that article it was pointed out that the suicides are caused by the decay of capitalism—capitalism no longer has anything to offer to the young people in society. They have nothing to look forward. And the most sensitive elements of society, the students, feel this before anyone else. That is why we have a suicide wave among the students as a social phenomenon.

## PASSAIC STRIKER IS FREED BY JURY

By Young Worker Correspondent.

PASSAIC, N. J.—In spite of the usual red-baiting of Assistant Prosecutor John J. Breslin, Tom Regan, tenth of the Passaic strikers held after the bombing arrests, was acquitted on March 10 by a jury which acted solely on the merits of the case and refused to be bulldozed by the frothing prosecutor, who denounced Regan as an active delegate of the union and the "brains of the whole outfit."

Ten other strikers had previously been convicted mainly as a result of the intimidation of the juries by the one hundred percenters, who threatened the jury that acquittal would be considered as espousal of the Bolshevik cause.

### Police Are Oh, So Gentle!

The entire precious personnel of the Garfield detective bureau was rushed to the stand to testify as to the gentle ways and pleasant manners of the police in dealing with workers arrested for being active on the picket lines or, as happened in the cases of scores of young girls and boys, for laughing at the police, or singing on the line. Big, towering, hulking masses of beef, with shifty cruel eyes, these detectives, most of them former mill workers themselves yet possessed of neither the spark of sympathy nor the intelligence necessary to inform them of their identity of interests with the workers, sought to impress the jury with the utter tenderness of their ways and the absolute impossibility of any of them having tried third degree methods on Regan.

### Young Striker Next.

Young Joseph Toth, the last member of the eleven bombing frame-up prisoners, will be tried on the 24th.

### Union to Start Defense Drive.

The union intends to appeal the cases of those who have been convicted and sees in the acquittal of Regan a good chance for securing a reversal of the verdicts in the other cases.

If you like this issue of the Young Worker, you will surely like the future issues. Send in your sub now!

## IN MEMORIAM of Comrade Bessie Reisman.

With deep sorrow and great pain the District Executive Committee of the Young Workers (Communist) League of this district received the news that our most devoted, most sincere comrade, Bessie Reisman, passed away on the 22nd of February of this year, after five months of confinement in bed sick with tuberculosis which she has contracted from strenuous work and rotten conditions in the shops.

Comrade Bessie Reisman was one of the first builders of the Young Workers League of this district, and one of its leaders. She was a member of the District Executive Committee, of District Agit-prop, of the international press correspondents, of the Pioneer department, of the Jewish Subcommittee, and many other positions including her Nucleus organizer-secretary. She was also very active in the Pioneer movement on whose most important committees she served.

Comrade Bessie Reisman was known among the workers outside the Communist movement for her significant work. She has been the leader and organizer of a union in her trade and beloved for her good work in various clubs and organizations.

With the death of Comrade Bessie Reisman, the working class and the Communist movement of the U. S. A. has lost a brave fighter for the working class cause.

The workers of Boston, in and outside the Communist movement, mourn the death of Comrade Bessie Reisman who will always be remembered as a true fighter, who gave up her life to the cause of the working class, the building of Communism in the United States of America.

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE YOUNG WORKERS (COMMUNIST) LEAGUE OF AMERICA, DISTRICT No. 1.

NAT KAY, District Organizer.

# YOUNG WORKER

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## EDITORIALS

### Boycott the C. M. T. C.!

On another page in this issue, we carry the announcement that summer training camps will be opened for members of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps. It seems that the American militarists are not content with the Citizens' Military Training Camps—these do not take care of enough students. It must be admitted that the plans are ingenious. Nowhere else do we find the military system so subtle as in this country. You are enticed into the Citizens' Military Training Camps by the promise of a vacation in the open. You are bulldozed into taking military training courses in school by the promise of extra credits, or the threat that you will not be permitted to graduate. You are lured into the army with the argument that your pay comes regularly there—no strikes, no lock-outs, no lay-offs. And when you join the navy, you see the world.

American imperialism has learned that these are much better methods for organizing cannon fodder than the more brutal one of conscription. The workers, unfortunately, have not all been able to see thru such methods. Consequently large numbers of them join the C. M. T. C. every summer. Those of us who have already experienced the benefits of capitalist militarism must spread the message to the thousands who may be caught in the net—**BOYCOTT THE CITIZENS' MILITARY TRAINING CAMPS.**

### The Workers Will Remember.

The workers will remember C. E. Ruthenberg. They have shown this at the Ruthenberg Memorial meetings, where thousands of them paid tribute to the memory of the great leader of the revolutionary movement in this country. From all over the country come reports that these meetings were the largest in the history of the Party—thousands were turned away from the packed halls.

The masses have a long memory. They remember Comrade Ruthenberg not only in the present, but in the long years of struggle in the past—when Ruthenberg raised aloft the red banner of the revolutionary struggle in the darkest moments—when to be a revolutionist meant persecution, prison, even death. Comrade Ruthenberg will always have a place in the hearts of the workers. The dead, he remains our leader.

### War in the Balkans.

According to the reports in the capitalist press, Italy and Jugoslavia are on the verge of war. To those who have not followed carefully the course of imperialism in the Balkan countries, this may come as a surprise. But it is typical of the methods of imperialism. They talk peace day in and day out, and suddenly one wakes up in the morning to find war staring him in the face. The Communists have continually pointed out that the workers must not allow themselves to be lulled to sleep by talk of disarmament, peace, and other catchwords. So long as capitalism exists, so long will war exist. The only way to prevent war is to root out its cause, the capitalist system.

### The Attack on Russia.

Once more a carefully planned and carefully organized attack against the workers' and peasants' government of Russia has collapsed because of the staunch solidarity of the workers of other countries with the workers of the Soviet Union. The note of Chamberlain, which the reactionary press said would put the Bolsheviks in their proper place, was taken for what it was by the Russian workers—an empty bluff, and it fell flat. Not that England is not anxious to tear the Soviet Union to pieces. But England has to reckon not only with Red Army of the Russian workers and peasants, but also with the British working class and with the Chinese masses. Therefore, much as Chamberlain and Winston Churchill may rave, the British government can do absolutely nothing.

And in the meantime we must be prepared. At any time, another effort may be made to organize intervention or a blockade against Russia. The workers must stand by and enforce "Hands off Workers' Russia."

# Who Supports the C. M. T. C.?

The Citizens' Military Training Camps has the backing of every big corporation in this country. Why? Because the C. M. T. C. prepares men for war and big corporations profit from war. Also because the C. M. T. C. teaches obedience, loyalty to one's boss, hatred of labor unions, or any other workers' organization for better conditions. It brings the young workers up in the illusions taught in the public schools about the glory of war and the opportunities for young people in this country to become presidents of the U. S., etc. In a word the bosses support the C. M. T. C. because the C. M. T. C. is organized to give the young workers such ideas as will benefit the bosses and give them more profits. Here are a few typical examples out of the list of well over a hundred:

**J. P. MORGAN & CO.:** The biggest financial corporation in the world with millions upon millions of dollars invested in other countries. They need the C. M. T. C. to train soldiers so as to protect them from those people whose land they are robbing and whose natural resources and industries they are exploiting for profit in Asia, Latin America, Europe, etc. Fifteen other national banks are involved, and are giving similar support to C. M. T. C.

**SEARS ROEBUCK & CO.:** This company employing thousands of young workers for the starvation wage of ten and twelve dollars per week has earned for itself the name of the "prostitute maker". Girls enter houses of prostitution rather than work here. They want the C. M. T. C. because it teaches the young workers to accept rotten conditions and be satisfied. Many other similar corporations are involved including S. S. Kresge, etc.

**RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA:** Employs thousands of young workers making radio parts.

**STANDARD OIL COMPANY:** In addition to employing many thousands of young workers they have interests in every corner of the world that must have protection against the enraged peoples who would expel them. Such companies as this are directly involved in the war in China and the threatening war in Mexico.

**U. S. RUBBER COMPANY:** With investments in Philippines and other colonies. Also in Latin America.

**AMERICAN SUGAR REFINING CORPORATION:** Has tremendous investments in Cuba, the Philippines and every sugar cane producing territory in this hemisphere which produces the major part of all sugar.

We might fill this entire paper with similar examples of such corporations supporting the C. M. T. C. Lack of room does not permit however. We list a few additional ones however:

N. Y. Central R. R. Co.	International Harvester Co.
Western Electric Co., Inc.	Pennsylvania R. R. System.
Swift and Co.	U. S. Steel Corporation.
Packard Motor Car Co.	American Locomotive Co.
Fisher Body Corp.	American Tel. and Tel.
Edison companies in several cities.	National Cash Register.

Is there anybody fool enough to think that this aggregate of tremendous corporations are supporting the C. M. T. C. for any purpose but to make greater profits or more willing slaves?

### Young Worker and University Student Debate Communism

(By Young Worker Correspondent)  
LOS ANGELES, Calif.—During the month of April the subject of Communism will be debated by a representative of the Young Workers League and a speaker from the Forum Debating Society of the University of California at Los Angeles.

The question will read: "Resolved, that the Communist program offers more to the workers than Capitalism does."

The debate, which should prove of great interest to all young workers and students, will take place at the Music-Arts Hall, under the joint auspices of the Civil Liberties Union and the Young Workers League.

The interest created already is evidenced by the announcement that the law students of the Southwestern University have challenged the Young Workers League to debate with them on the same subject.

There is some speculation whether the board of education will attempt to stop the debate as they did two years ago under similar circumstances when the opponents of the League were forced to withdraw by a threat of expulsion from school, despite the efforts of Upton Sinclair, who interested himself in this case at the time he was writing his book "The Goslings," in which the incident is mentioned.

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**Did You Attend the C. M. T. C. Last Year?  
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# Sa-Id the Dreamer - - Mohammed Ali Tells a Story

(Continued from last issue.)

IN the beginning everything went along fine. Of course, the strangers made great demands on the brotherliness of the natives, they demanded that the natives should help them in building their houses and in cultivating their fields. The inhabitants of the valley had to neglect their own work and more than one began to murmur and grumble and complain. Sa-Id, however, reproached them and said:

"Consider: these people are still new here and need our help. Once they get accustomed to their surroundings then they will help us."

The inhabitants believed Sa-Id's words: only Mustapha, the smith, shook his head doubtfully. The leader of the strangers frequently came to Sa-Id and fell all over himself with praise for the natives and their noble teachings. "How beautiful it is," he cried in enthusiastic tones, "when men love each other! Such noble teachings must not go lost. To prevent this certain wise people among my followers have decided to open a school in order to teach the doctrine of love. Send your children to this school; my warriors also will attend to learn wisdom."

Sa-Id was beside himself with joy. From that day on, the children of the natives went regularly, every week, to the new school. There a sage from among the strangers taught them that all men must love each other, even though they do not treat you well. They must not fight back against any injustice done them by any man since that man is also a brother and you must bear anything a brother does. The perfect man remains very patient and knows but one thing: Love all men. Such were the teachings the wise man from among the strangers taught the children of the natives.

The foreign warriors came around once in a while to this school and then stopped coming altogether. And yet it was precisely these warriors that needed the teachings of love most since their manners were rude and their conduct towards the inhabitants of the valley was not exactly brotherly.

Selim, the black-haired son of Mustapha, attended the new school. At home he would always tell his father, the smith, what was being taught in the school. Mustapha would scowl and look worried; he felt something was wrong. But whenever he brought the question before the council Sa-Id was always able to bring the matter to nothing.

Mustapha had a sister, the beautiful Fatima, who was engaged to a fine young lad of the valley. Her parents being dead she lived in Mustapha's house, in the house of the smith. Every evening she, along with the other women, would go to the edge of the town to a great big well to draw water. One evening Marius, the leader of the strangers, went out for a ride and as he came near the well he was struck by the beautiful Fatima. He called out aloud to the girl and, as she came near him, he leaned over, seized her, lifted her into the saddle and went off. With fright and despair the women ran to the town to bring the news to Mustapha. The smith reached for his great hammer and ran forth. On the way he met Sa-Id. "What's the matter?" he asked noting the wild look in the smith's eyes. In a few sharp words Mustapha explained what had happened to his sister. Sa-Id begged him not to do anything thoughtlessly; he himself would see Marius and get Fatima back. Mustapha let himself be convinced and Sa-Id immediately left for that part of the valley inhabited by the strangers. There was a big wall around the strangers' settlement and the gate was

guarded by two armed watchmen. As Sa-Id noticed them, they elevated their lances and barred the way.

"Let me through," appealed Sa-Id. "I must speak to Marius."

"That doesn't make any difference to me," declared one warrior. "Without permission no one can approach our lord."

"Lord?" exclaimed Sa-Id. "But we have no lords or masters here. Let me through. I must speak to my brother Marius."

But the warrior didn't as much as move.

At this Sa-Id raised such a great cry that people came running from all sides. Among them was Zenobia, a native of the valley, who had married one of the strangers. She made a sign to Sa-Id for him to keep quiet and to go home. As the warriors were growing more and more threatening and began to beat him with swords and lances, Sa-Id decided to take this advice. With heavy heart he turned his steps home. His head swam, his eyes saw black all around him; he seemed unable to understand anything. The natives had been such good friends to the strangers, they had helped them so much, and now this was what they were getting in return. Had not the strangers declared that they too believed in the doctrine of love and brotherliness, hadn't they established a school to teach this noble doctrine? And then it suddenly occurred to him what little Selim had reported more than once—that for a long time no stranger had ever been seen in the school and that the doctrine of love was taught only to the children of the natives. Strange enough the sudden realization did not render Sa-Id suspicious; on the contrary, it comforted him. He thought: "Evidently the strangers have not yet grasped the noble law of love—that's why they act the way they do. I must get into that city with those big walls and speak to the strangers and then everything will be all right."

Meanwhile it had become dark. Sa-Id heard hurried steps behind him. He stood stock still and listened carefully. It was Zenobia. Breathlessly she spoke out in a hoarse whisper: "You want to speak to Marius? Tonight my husband stands sentry at the gate. He's promised to let you in if you come up quietly. And then after that, once you're in the city, I'll get you into Marius' rooms through a secret way. Now, hurry, quick!"

Sa-Id hurriedly thanked the woman. They waited a while and then headed for the city. Gracchus, Zenobia's husband, let him through the gate. Zenobia conducted Sa-Id through an underground passage into the stone house inhabited by Marius and then straight to his rooms.

Marius was lying on his couch—asleep. As Sa-Id approached him he sprang up in confusion and grasped his sword. Then he recognized the judge of the valley, put his sword across his knees, and commanded Sa-Id: "How do you dare to come before me unannounced?"

"Brother," answered Sa-Id gently, "you have done a great injustice. Surely you did it without knowing what you were doing. But certainly now you will make good your wrong deed, surely now you will let Fatima go home. Her relatives are wild with grief over her."

Marius looked furiously at him: "Who admitted you? Who showed you the way to my chambers?"

"Oh, the good Gracchus and his wife Zenobia," answered Sa-Id suspecting nothing. "The other warriors were so benighted as to refuse me admittance to speak to my brother Marius. And

now, friend, call Fatima and let me lead the maiden home. It's getting late."

Marius smiled scornfully: "Night is not the time for delicate maidens to be out in. Come to the gate tomorrow and you will receive your answer."

Well, Sa-Id had to remain satisfied at this. A warrior led him to the gate and let him out.

On his way home Mustapha came upon several inhabitants of the valley who were awaiting his return impatiently.

"Tomorrow Fatima will be returned to us," explained Sa-Id with a joyous heart. "We must all come to the gates. Do you believe now, Mustapha, that you must treat all men with love and then everything will be fine?"

Sa-Id slept quietly the whole night, long but Mustapha and his friends could not close an eye for they felt something terrible was in the air.

As soon as the first glimmerings of dawn broke through the curtain of the night the men of the valley got on the way. Sa-Id led them, joy and love in his heart. They came to the gate—alas. What did their eyes behold? Upon one of the pillars at the gate was stuck the bleeding head of the good Gracchus. Evidently he had been killed but a short time before for the blood was still streaming from it. With a loud cry Sa-Id turned his head away and there was Zenobia . . . Zenobia . . . both hands chopped ruthlessly off . . . holding her bloody mangled stumps to heaven . . .

From the walls a heavy warrior was proclaiming in a loud voice: "Such is the answer of our lord!"

Sa-Id, the judge of the valley consumed himself in his grief. In spite of the fact that the wretched Zenobia was always before him as a mute witness for the miserable woman had found a refuge in Sa-Id's house—the judge could not grasp the full horror of what had happened. Tears came to his eyes and streamed down his care-worn face as he saw the crippled arms. Zenobia gently tried to comfort the old man but with little success. Sa-Id was fast losing his mind with grief. And Mustapha, the smith, was there to draw the conclusion: "It's your fault. It's all due to your insane belief in sweetness and love. If only we hadn't trusted you, a dreamer, we would never have allowed these damned strangers into our valley. Now they are in possession of the most fruitful part of the valley but for us it's getting harder and harder to get enough out of our hard labor to support ourselves and our families. They are hungry and you are to blame."

"The men of the valley had to admit that the smith was right and only a few still held out with Sa-Id. These were the people that had the best fields and the smallest families. They did not feel the pressure of the strangers so much as the others. Sa-Id hardly dared to raise his voice in the council. He himself knew that he was innocent and yet he felt guilty. He frequently thought of the foreign prophet and could not believe that his beautiful teachings were false.

Once he met a warrior who was pleased to engage in conversation with the old man in order to make fun of him. Sa-Id spoke of the prophet and asked the warrior if he knew anything of his fate. The warrior burst out laughing and said: "Oh, you mean that Jewish fool? He was nailed to the cross. That's what happened to him and that's what's going to happen to any other idiot like that."

Sa-Id fell faint in the hot dust of the road.

(Continued in next issue.)

## Mongolian Youth Movement Growing.

MOSCOW.—Representatives of the Mongolian Revolutionary Union of Youth reported to the Executive Committee of the Communist Youth International that the number of members of the Union lately grew to 5,500, majority of whom can read and write, while in the whole Mongolia 90% of the population are illiterate. The total population of Mongolia is less than two million.

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## Law and Order in Illinois

According to the report of Rush C. Butler, president of the Illinois Association for Criminal Justice, there were 267,000 arrests in the state of Illinois in the year 1926. Since Illinois has a population of about 7,000,000, it means that out of every 26 inhabitants, on the average of one was arrested in 1926. This is a pretty good record for a state where law and order prevails.

## WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

1. What are the meaning of the following initials: E. C. C. I., R. I. L. U., C. E. C., N. E. C., R. S. F. S. R., U. S. S. R., C. P. S. U.?
2. What is the meaning of the terms "native city" and "foreign city" in connection with Chinese cities?
3. Why was Senator King refused entry into Haiti?
4. At what time did the first real Left Wing fight crystallize in the Socialist Party? On what issues?
5. What attitude has the officialdom of the A. F. of L. taken on the imperialist attack of the U. S. A. on Mexico, China, and Nicaragua? Why is this attitude taken?
6. What is the meaning of such terms as (a) "Utopian Socialism"; (b) "Scientific Socialism"?

### Answers to Questions in the Last Issue

1. "Workers of the world, unite," form the concluding slogan of the Communist Manifesto, written by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, in 1848 as the official manifesto of the Communist League.

2. Chang Tso Lin, former bandit, promoted to commander-in-chief of the counter-revolutionary mercenary North Chinese forces thru the support of Japan and later of England, popularly known as "the butcher of the North."

Kuomintang: "People's Party"; mass party of the workers, peasants, intellectuals of China, fighting for the unification of China and its emancipation from imperialism; at present in control of all of Southern China.

Sun Chuan Fang: military tool of England, former commander of Shanghai, deposed as a result of the mass resentment against his brutalities on the part of the population of Shanghai.

Chang-kai-shek: commander in chief of the revolutionary nationalist army; the most brilliant strategist on the Chinese scene.

Wa-pai-fu: leader of Chinese feudal aristocracy; formerly in control of all of Central China but now practically eliminated as a serious factor.

Hankow: most industrial and second largest city in China, now the capital of the revolutionary nationalist government.

Sun-yat-sen: great leader of the Chinese revolution; founder of the Kuomintang Party; first president of the Chinese Republic. He died in 1924.

3. Minnesota has the biggest farmer labor party; it is the second biggest party in the state.

4. The Paris Commune (established by the Paris workers in 1871) was the first workers' government ever established.

5. Parson, Field, Spies, Ling, the famous "Chicago anarchists", were working class leaders in Chicago in the eighties of the last century. Because of their militant leadership they were framed up of having thrown a bomb and killed some policemen (the

Haymarket "riot"). In a trial that was scandalous in its unfairness to the accused workers, they were condemned, some to death and some to imprisonment. They will always be remembered by the American workers as heroic martyrs in the cause of labor.

6. The two chief forms of labor unions are: industrial unions taking in all the workers in an industry and craft unions taking in only the workers in one trade. Industrial unions are much more effective in fighting the bosses because they prevent the workers of one trade from scabbing on the workers of another.

7. The chief form which the class struggle took after the American Revolution was a struggle between the creditors—the rich bankers, merchants, etc.—and the debtors—the poor farmers, craftsmen, frontiersmen, and soldiers. This and other conflicts entered into the great class struggle after the revolution, the struggle over the constitution.

8. Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels are called "the fathers of modern socialism."

9. American imperialism is especially active today in Latin America and in the Far East.

10. Vladimir Ilyitch Ulyanoff (Lenin) was the greatest Marxist and revolutionary of the 20th century.

11. The Soviet Union is called a "workers' and farmers' government" because the Soviet government is run in the interests of the toiling population and is based upon and operated by the workers supported by the farmers.

12. The opium wars were "wars" waged by England upon China in 1840 in order to compel the Chinese to permit the importation of opium. The British colony, India, produced a lot of opium. China refused to allow the importation of this poisonous drug because of its harmful effects upon the people but the British wanted a market and they forced upon China the poisoning and degeneration of their people.

## WHILE THE BOSS AINT LOOKIN'

SLEEP, DEAR FELLOW WORKERS, THE WORLD IS AT PEACE. We are writing this on March 21. In the Chicago Tribune of that date we noticed the following headlines:

SHANGHAI FALLS TO CANTON.  
BRITAIN BACKS ITALY TO HALT BALKAN WAR.  
DEADLOCK FACES ARMS PARLEY AT OPENING TODAY.  
LITHUANIA ARMS AGAINST POLISH INVASION MENACE.  
RUMORS OF WAR IN OFFING KEEP MEXICO ON EDGE.

This in addition to a long editorial demanding greater military preparations is the crop of a single issue. Sleep, dear fellow workers, sleep and slave. The cannons will soon be hungry.

### DICTIONARY.

We have decided to publish the meaning that the average worker gets out of certain words used in the Communist movement. We will appreciate any that you may have to add. Here goes:

- KARL MARX—Member of the vaudeville team Four Marx Brothers, or partner in the clothing firm Hart, Schaffner & Marx.
- THEORETICIAN—A cure like chiropractic or optician.
- CLASS STRUGGLE—A college holiday. Similar to class rush or class day.
- SOVIET—A highwayman with big whiskers.
- NUCLEUS—A word used only in difficult cross word puzzles.
- THESIS—A little germ-animal that sticks to the skin.
- C. E. C., N. E. C., Y. C. I., C. I., D. E. C., etc.—Degrees given to different classes of Communists, according to how many people they killed, or how many capitalists they ate in one sitting.
- PLENUM—Enough of one thing.
- THEORY—A disease cured by theoreticians.
- BOLSHEVIK—One of those guys that ruined Rooshia.
- COMINTERN—A new hand spring done by the best acrobats.
- CAUCAS—A country in Russia.

### Is Your Boss Meaner?

We have a base ball team in our shop. The boss says that we should catch the balls on the first bounce. It makes the ball last longer. He is near sighted and so he makes believe that he is English and wears a monocle so as to save the price of the other lense. He has heart failure and so buys railroad tickets from one station to the next. He picks up the pins from the floor. The other day he got stuck and is now sick with blood poison. He is happy however—that's how he became rich.

### SILENT

By Samuel A. Herman.

- SILENT,  
While huge, iron monsters  
Projecting from battleships,  
Threaten to speak  
With the voice of bursting powder,  
To countless Chinese toilers,  
Coolies no longer, with eyes to the sun;
- SILENT,  
While unemployed thousands,  
Drag wearied bodies  
To iron factory gates,  
Eager for imprisonment,  
Eager for work;
- SILENT,  
While plotting new wars,  
Though the oceans of tears  
The blood and the misery  
Of the last one, are yet with us,  
With asylums yet filled with the insane;
- SILENT,  
That breaker of strikes,  
That mythical strong man,  
That intellectual zero  
Of a class in decay;
- SILENT,  
Calvin Coolidge!

## BOOKS

### "BACKGROUND OF THE PLYMOUTH TRIAL"

By BARTOLOMEO VANZETTI.

(Published by Road to Freedom Group Boston, Mass. Price 25c.)

By DAVE RAPPO

The Sacco and Vanzetti case is now the talk of the day in the world of labor. Thousands of resolutions have been passed by labor unions and workers' organizations demanding a new trial for Sacco and Vanzetti. Hundreds of mass meetings have been held all over the country in protest against the proposed electrocution by the Massachusetts bosses the two labor leaders. Labor in the European capitals has demonstrated before the American embassies demanding freedom for Sacco and Vanzetti.

This little pamphlet written by Vanzetti himself "about his previous trial alone in Plymouth for an attempted holdup in Bridgewater in the early morning of Christmas eve, 1919, is one of the keys to the later trial of Sacco and Vanzetti together at Dedham."

This booklet presents you with a number of cold facts, which are showing you the class nature at this trial, and are convincing you much more than a thousand articles written by brilliant professional writers. In the most simple language Vanzetti analyzes every little detail of his trial at Plymouth and proves with irrefutable facts the frame up nature of the trial at which he was convicted of robbery.

Not only was the jury prejudiced against him as an Italian and a radical, but his lawyer, Mr. Vahey and his Italian acquaintance Mr. D. Geroni, had betrayed him and instead of working for his defense for which they were paid large sums of money by Vanzetti's friends, they sabotaged every possible attempt to bring out the innocence of their client.

This little booklet written in jail in the form of a letter to some Mexican comrades is a startling human document, which convinces you more and more of the innocence of these two working class fighters and the class justice of the capitalist courts.

I believe every young worker should secure a copy of the "Background of the Plymouth Trial" and read it.

Students can use these facts in debates with their teachers, college professors and school mates.

### "JENNIE GERHARDT" BY THEODORE DREISER.

By JIMMY.

To those who wish to see life in all its aspects; to get a glimpse of the sordid conditions under which the working class of today exists; to understand the philosophy of the bourgeoisie, besides undergoing the entire gamut of human emotions—to those I say, read "Jennie Gerhardt" by Theodore Dreiser.

The name of the book introduces us to the heroine. She is a daughter of hard-working parents, who look at the world thru the eye of conventionalty.

The girl, oldest of a family of six, disgraces home and parents by bringing into the world a child whose father has died before legally marrying the girl. The book consists primarily, of her life, her struggles and sacrifices, to provide at least a few of the luxuries of life for her family.

The story, tho immensely interesting in itself, is not the feature of the book. It is rather the portrayal of the various characters, painted by the skillful hand of Theodore Dreiser that attracted me most. The author does not quibble in calling "a spade a spade." He gives you a picture of life in its most open and pathetic form. And, after all, is it not the truth of the characters portrayed, which makes a book worth reading?

## Workers' Sports



### Baseball and Organized Labor

With the approach of spring, the country is beginning to teem with baseball activity. Many of the industrial corporations are making use of the great popularity of the game, to organize teams and leagues from among its members, thereby hoping to insure their loyalty. This action should point a lesson to the organized labor movement to do likewise as a means of keeping its members, particularly the youth, closer and more loyal. There is no reason why every local union should not have a baseball team and why every city should not have a union baseball league. The Labor Sports Union, 453 W. North Ave., Chicago will be glad to hear from any unionists who want to take some action in this direction.

### Hartford Union Forms Baseball Team

HARTFORD Conn. in order to give its members physical recreation, and not have to depend on the capitalist sport organizations, the Local Upholsterers Union has formed a baseball team as a beginning in its sport activities.

### Workers Club in Gymnastic Exhibition

One of the most interesting indoor sport events to be staged in Chicago this coming April, will be the Gymnastic Exhibition by the Czechoslovak workers' club "Youth" at the huge Pilson Park hall, the third. More than 130 athletes will participate in the various events on the elaborate program which includes turning, jumping, drilling, gymnastic dancing, and symbolic dancing, etc. This exhibition has been held annually for quite a number of years, and attracts thousands of spectators. The club is affiliated to the Labor Sports Union and part of the proceeds will be used to carry on its work.

### Soviet Sportsmen Win Honors.

MOSCOW It is reported from Oslo, Norway, that Soviet skaters took all first places in the international skating competition, which took place there. Mr. Kalinin has made 500 meters in 49 seconds, Mr. Molnikoff 1,500 meters in 2 minutes and 24 seconds and Mr. Koshin 5,000 meters in 8 minutes and 46.7 seconds.

MOSCOW Soviet skaters who successfully marched from Moscow to Oslo at a distance of 2,150 kilometers, returned to Leningrad.

GET A  
NEW MEMBER

# In Our League

GET A  
NEW SUB

## SOME ELEMENTARY PROBLEMS.

By JOHN WILLIAMSON.

The Y. C. I. has repeatedly pointed out to us our relation, as a mere sect, to the vast millions of the working class youth, and the tasks we have of influencing and organizing these young workers.

This is a huge task, but it is the one to which our organization is dedicated. Despite the objective difficulties and the lack of tradition of struggle amongst the working youth, we must shape our policies and our organizational structure, to accomplish this task.

Altho we have made progress, we have relatively only scraped the surface of the working youth. Generally speaking, we see two tendencies.

1. We tend towards issuing manifestoes, programs and slogans which affect no one outside our ranks and not all within them. This is because our League membership has not yet acquired the technique of carrying on everyday routine activity amongst the young workers, especially in the factory.

2. The other side of this deficiency, is that our League as yet does not react sufficiently to the political currents amongst the youth, and approach them with a concrete program.

Following close upon the heels of these two general tendencies, must be posed the question, "Why does the American League lack the enthusiasm and spirit of the European Y. C. Ls?"

In analysing the two tendencies and answering the question posed, some answers credit everything to the difficult objective situation of America. This is only partly true. While we have basically correct policies, adopted at the last N. E. C. Plenum, we still are not able to apply them to the everyday struggle with a great deal of success.

In considering this question and finding the solution, an important factor, is the social type and national composition of our membership. In this I believe we will find an important factor. A practically negligible number of our members are employed in basic industries—the industrial registration shows 50 per cent industrial workers, and of these only 14 per cent are in basic industries.

The bulk of our members work in small establishments where they can gain no contacts or be an influence in carrying out our policies. The national composition in the large cities is predominantly foreign, especially Slavic. Out of 98 registered members, Philadelphia has 97 foreign born. New York with 95 registered members has 69 foreign born, Chicago with 88 registered members has 37 foreign born. And that alone does not complete the picture, for many of the American born comrades are of Jewish extraction and not truly typical of the American youth in large industry. The social and national composition remains:

1. The lack of enthusiasm and spirit of our League.

2. An important reason why our policies do not find their effective practical application and why our League, as yet, plays practically no role amongst the American young workers.

By this I mean, that when the majority of our League members have been born in Russia, or Poland, they came to this country with a revolutionary tradition or even more important, in many cases right out of the war and post war revolutionary period in these countries. Location in America, the strongest link in the American chain, with a politically backward working class with little class consciousness, not even a reformist political party and few trade unions, discourage even the average member of our League, who joined when he "came over" because of the revolutionary traditions of the old country. This explains the lack of enthusiasm and spirit. But if we had a large League with a typically American membership, there would also be found spirit and enthusiasm.

Secondly, a large section of our membership, works either in stores, offices or light industries, such as the needle trades, etc. While we are interested in reaching all the working youth, nevertheless, we know it to be a fact that the least conscious elements are the "white collar" slaves.

These facts point out to us, the necessity of concentrating our efforts to reach the young workers in the basic industries and large shops. This has been emphasized before but not sufficient progress has been made, when we analyse our registration.

The question of shaping our organizational structure to enable us to have contact and possibility of mobilizing and organizing large numbers of the youth, is equally important.

For several years we raised the slogan of building shop nuclei. In our efforts we went off at many incorrect tangents. Our fundamental mistake was that we attempted to reorganize our League when the necessary prerequisites, namely, groups of Y. W. L. members working in one shop or mine, was lacking. Because we have realized this and for the past period have been stabilizing ourselves organizationally in shop and street nuclei, altho the first hardly exist, there arises the danger of neglecting the concentration of our efforts to build factory nuclei. This is already to be seen in some cities where there is great amount of energies being put in Youth Forums, etc., which in themselves are excellent but the mistake lies in this type of activity substituting factory work. Both must go along side by side and as a result of our factory work we MUST build factory nuclei as this is the only correct form of organization which enables us to reach the wide masses of young workers with our message and lends itself to concentration upon the everyday struggle and demands of the young workers.

## AGITPROP NOTES

Into the Ruthenberg Campaign.

The death of Comrade Ruthenberg, the leader and general secretary of the Communist Party of America, places upon us the great task of appropriating for the League and for the youth the rich traditions of the life and work of Comrade Ruthenberg, of using them as an inspiration and an example of acquainting our members and the young workers near to us with the history of the development of the Socialist and Communist movements, of drawing the masses of the young workers nearer to us, of utilizing the struggles of Comrade Ruthenberg against the imperialist war in 1917-18 in order to awaken the young workers to the menace of militarism and imperialism and to help stimulate the development of an anti-imperialist and anti-militarist movement. These are some of the basic propagandist and agitational tasks of the Ruthenberg Campaign.

The general bulletin issued by the National Agitprop "On the Ruthenberg Campaign" takes up all these in detail after examining very carefully the general political line of the cam-

paign, the role of C. E. Ruthenberg in the American Communist movement and youth movement.

The instructions also provide for the incorporation of the Recruiting Drive recently decided upon by the N. E. C. into the Ruthenberg Campaign. They make clear the role to be played in this campaign by the League anniversary (May). Under the head of "Organizational Tasks and Methods" are given the most important concrete tasks in the campaign.

Every Agitprop Director should have this bulletin. Copies may be obtained by writing to the National Office.

**The Elementary Training Course.**  
The National Agitprop is just completing a new revised, simplified, and reorganized Politiminimum to be known as the "Elementary Training Course." This will form the basis of the internal education of the League and will be made compulsory in all nuclei and for all comrades. As soon as ready copies accompanied with instructions will be sent to all districts for transmission to their city organizations.

National Agitprop.

## FOR PIONEER LEADERS

The Ruthenberg Campaign.

The bringing before the Pioneers and the masses of the workers' children, thru the utilization of the life and struggles of Comrade Ruthenberg, the example of Communist leadership, devotion and struggle, to inspire the Pioneers and increase their devotion to their organization, to draw the outside children closer to the working class movement and to us—these are the chief general propagandist tasks of the Ruthenberg Campaign as outlined by the National Pioneer Department. The chief immediate agitation task is to utilize the struggles of Comrade Ruthenberg against the imperialist war in 1917-1918 to awaken the American children to what present day American imperialism (in Mexico, Nicaragua, etc.) means and why they must fight against it.

The instructions provide for the incorporation of the Young Comrade Sub Drive that opened March 15 into the Ruthenberg Campaign. This, along with a Recruiting Drive to open with the Children's Ruthenberg Memorial Meetings, are the chief organizational tasks of the Campaign.

The "Organizational Tasks and Methods" of the Campaign provide for special meetings of committees and units, special discussions, Ruthenberg Corners, Ruthenberg evenings, Ruthenberg Story Contests, the distribution of the Young Comrade, school work, work in non-Pioneer children's organizations, etc.

Special material on various phases of the Campaign (Children's Memorial Meetings, Ruthenberg Corners, etc.) have already been sent out. All leaders and committees who need any

of the material should write to the National Pioneer Department.

The N. P. D. has recently issued two highly important bulletins that should be in the hands of every Pioneer leader and every one else doing Communist work among working class children (teachers in Workers' Sunday Schools, etc.). The first is the "Plan of Educational Work Among the Pioneers". This bulletin takes up briefly but concisely the chief theoretical and practical aspects of educational work among the Pioneers and gives, in convenient question and answer form, an outline for an elementary training course for Pioneers. This bulletin is absolutely essential for every Pioneer leader and is certain to prove of the greatest help to them in conducting their educational work on a systematic, uniform basis.

The second bulletin has just been issued, it is: "Bulletin on the General Forms of Activity of the Young Pioneers." It takes up in condensed outline form the purposes and chief forms of external activity of the Pioneers. In the school, in non-Pioneer children's organizations, in the family, in the factories where children work, among parents and adult workers—there are the forms of work considered. Leaders must send for this bulletin also.

To these two bulletins the N. P. D. intends to add two others—"Bulletin on the Internal Life and Activity of the Young Pioneers," and one on "The Relations of Leaders and Pioneers." These four, together with an Introduction, will later be published as a Pioneer Leaders' Handbook.

--National Pioneer Department.

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# PICTURE FRAME WORKERS FRAMED PROPER; MUST ORGANIZE

(By Young Worker Correspondent)

As a young worker employed in one of the largest firms in the picture frame industry, I know the miserable conditions of the young workers in our industry. We are forced to work fifty hours per week at tremendous speed, being constantly on the "go." A person who is not acquainted with our condition would imagine that for these long hours of work we are receiving high wages sufficient to pay our board, buy ourselves good clothes, and have a little left over for amusements, and a nice bank account. But what are the real facts?

In reality our concern pays only from \$15.00 to \$20.00 a week to young barely sufficient to keep a person existing. Besides, in the busy season when work is plentiful and everyone is kept busy all day long, our firm requires in addition that everyone work a few hours overtime and for this it only pays us straight time. In other words, they take away our recreation time, our evenings, and refuse to pay us extra for this. Then again, our work is very filthy and the hands and face get covered with dirt. Yet our firm is so economical when it comes to doing anything for its employes that it does not supply towels or soap, nor any hot water to wash ourselves.

### Foreman Like Kaiser.

The foremen act like little "kaiser" Bills and order us around as if we were dogs. They fire many young workers without any excuse whatsoever. I remember sometime ago when I attended the "Citizens' Military Training Camps," at Camp Custer, Mich., a big business man told us in a lecture that it is easy for a person to succeed and become rich. He said we must work hard, and not watch the clock. Well, I think it's a nice line of bunk, as I have worked pretty hard at my firm for over a year and I haven't been able to save a cent. Nor do I notice any other young fellows employed at our firm, looking rich either.

### Young Workers Must Organize.

In view of all this, it's about time the young workers took a hand and decide to get organized in a union. Such firms as Turner Bros. Mfg. Co., Illinois Moulding, Fred Lawrence, Newcomb MacKlin, Lawndale Art-craft, and our firm, will never give us a thing without some efforts on our part. Let us get together and become members of an organization, so that we can force our bosses to listen to our demands. Union men work only 44 hours per week, receive high wages, get paid double time for overtime, and live half way decently. What enjoyments in life can we have on our starvation wages? Union men can make the boss give them a raise because they stick together. They have powers and the bosses respect them. They can force the boss to protect the health of the workers who do dangerous work like some of the jobs we young workers do. If we were organized, the bosses would have to protect the lives and health of the young workers who spray paint on the picture frames, and do other disagreeable, unhealthy or dangerous work. How about us fellows getting together and doing what the carpenters, plasterers and others have done?

Some time ago I wrote to the American Federation of Labor and asked them what union I should join. They told me to join the Picture Frame Union, that meets every second and fourth Friday each month, at 30 N. Wells Street, Chicago. Let us show some spirit, fellows, and come over to the next meeting, which will be on

Friday, March 25th. Let us not merely grumble and continue to hold our head down working like mules, but organize. In organization there is strength. Join!

## Zeigler Mine No. 1 a Real Slave Pen

(By Young Worker Correspondent)

ZEIGLER, Ill.—When a man goes down the mine, he has to stay till quitting time. If he doesn't he receives a red slip and has to see the mine manager the next day. Sometimes, he gives the man permission to go down and sometimes he does not—and the men have no committee to take up their complaints. It's the same with the fines.



When a man is sick and goes to the boss for a slip to use the cage, if he is in good with the boss, he gets it—and if not, the boss says "Walk up the air shaft. That will do you good." But he doesn't give the condition the air shaft is in. The steps of the air shaft are partly broken and covered with ice in winter, and slime in summer. And yet we have to take it all in and say nothing. We hope that some day they will get such treatment themselves.

Write Us About the Conditions in Your Shop!

## KANSAS MINERS REPUDIATE LEWIS HENCHMEN

Another glaring example of the results of the activities of Lewis & Co. in the United Mine Workers, was the recent convention of District 14, U. M. W. of A. (Kansas), which was only a scarecrow of its former self. Following out Lewis' instructions, the Lewis appointed president and executive board conducted a pogrom against all opposition elements immediately prior to the district convention.

Despite the two years activities of Lewis in suspending such outstanding militants as Howat, Dorchy etc., the machine continued this and "suspended indefinitely" H. Allai; ruled out of the convention the delegates from many locals, and in every instance tried to duplicate Czar Lewis' tactics at the international convention.

As a result of these tactics less than half the membership in the district were represented, and the delegates only totaled 60. But despite this, Walters-Barr Co., the hand-picked officials of Lewis, could not muster 20 votes. Their reports were received with nonapproval and a new president, Stahan, was elected. Delegates on the floor criticized

## Long Hours, Low Pay at Buffalo Plant

(By Young Worker Correspondent)

The Republic Metalware Company, Buffalo, N. Y. is a large and important industry in this city; it employs great numbers of young workers, both male and female.

The hours are long, nine hours and forty minutes a day, 54 hours per week. The conditions are far from being good. The lack of suction fans and poor ventilation in various departments are very hard on the health of the workers.

Most work is on the basis of piece work and so the speed up system that is so common nowadays in all industrial plants is used here also to make more and greater profits for the owners.

Wages are miserable, girls working piece work are able to make only \$13 a week.

Youth and married men that work on piece work are able to make the magnificent sum of \$19.00-\$22.00 per week. On this they are supposed to support themselves, feed and dress the family, send children to school and have a good time besides, all on the above mentioned sums.

No extra pay is given for overtime and the door is shown promptly to all who kick.

This shop is situated in the industrial district of the city, and as work is poor the workers who are there think they are lucky to have jobs and so stick to them and work their long hours and by the speed up system and overtime they create so much surplus products that very soon they will be walking the streets along with Buffalo's unemployed army of about 50,000.

These are the general conditions that face the youth in the industry and as in all casts the youth are those that suffer the most.

## LOW WAGES AND BEATINGS AT THE NATL. PANTS SHOP

(By Young Worker Correspondent)

The National Pants Shop of Washington, D. C. is one of the many sweat shops in this country which subjects young workers to the most rotten conditions imaginable. This place, which employs about a hundred and fifty workers in one shop, the majority of whom are young girls and young colored fellows, pays an average wage of about \$10 to \$12 a week.

It would be bad enough if starvation wages were the only objectionable feature of a job in this sweat shop. But there are also other forms of oppression. One of the foremen, a "jewel" by the name of Jake, and as vulgar and brutal a booze distributor as ever lorded it over workers, is not satisfied with his one wife, so he tries to force the girls in the shop to make dates with him. He is continually making advances to them in an insulting way. When the girls do not yield to his intimidation, he "punishes" them by transferring them to harder work and seeing that they get even more rotten wages. This is easy for him, because the piece work system is used in the shop. Not even the older women escape the attentions of this "shelk". The workers of the shop report that not a day passes without some girl or woman being insulted.

### Beats Young Negroes.

Another favorite pastime of the foremen in the National Pants Shop is beating up the young Negro workers. Two such beatings took place recently. The last time the foreman attacked a young colored worker with a board and almost split his head. It seems that the bosses of this shop believe that the workers should work for starvation wages and then allow the foremen to insult and beat them to show how thankful they are for the jobs. But the workers don't think so. They want a living wage and freedom from oppression. Realizing that they can't win these demands as individuals, they have begun to organize in earnest.

A group of the workers recently got together and issued a fine little shop paper which exposed the miserable conditions in the shop and called upon their fellow-workers to organize a union. This bulletin was received enthusiastically by the workers; even the neighbors agreed that a union was necessary. Other bulletins are soon to be issued. When the workers are convinced of the necessity of organization Mr. Boss will be confronted by demands for decent wages and the betterment of conditions. And this time there will be no beating or firing, for the workers will be strong and powerful through their union. This time Mr. Boss will have to "listen to reason". As an indication of what organization can do, we point out the sweet behavior of Jake after the distribution of the bulletin. He's afraid that soon he will be fired, in accordance with the demand of the workers. The issuance of the bulletin shows that soon the workers will be strong enough to win their demands.

The Young Workers' League, always on the job to fight for young workers, is helping these National Pants Shop employes to get out and distribute their bulletin, and in every other way to win their fight for a union and decent jobs. The Young Worker will also be on the job to carry the news of their struggle, and help in its way. Go to it, workers! We're with you, and you're going to win!

-J. W.