

WORKERS
OF THE
WORLD
UNITE!

YOUNG WORKER

JOIN THE
YOUNG
WORKERS
(Communist)
LEAGUE!

Published semi-monthly by the Young Workers (Communist) League of America, 43 East 125th St., New York City
Entered as second class matter Oct. 12, 1927, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879
Subscription rates—\$1.00 a year; 50c for six months. Foreign Rates \$2.00 a year.

VOL. VII - No. 7.

NEW YORK, N. Y., MAY 1, 1928

PRICE 5 CENTS

WIN WORKERS STRUGGLES!

Striking Miners and Textile Workers Call For Support on Day Of International
Labor Solidarity — MAY DAY — 1928

**Youth Amendment
Adopted At April 1
Save The Union Meet**

C. M. T. C. MAKING SPECIAL EFFORTS TO ENLIST MINERS

By George Papcun

At this time when the War Department, the bosses, and the newspapers are making such a big campaign for recruiting young workers into the Citizens Military Training Camps, the bosses will make a special effort to draw into the Citizens Military Training Camps the young strikers in the bituminous fields, such as western Pennsylvania, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and the other districts where they are out on strike.

Must Not Be Fooled

The young miners must not be fooled by the enticing promises which the bosses thru their means will promise to them. The C. M. T. C. is closely connected with the National Guards? What Young Miners who has been in a big strike, as this one, has not felt their iron heel and their strike breaking activities. At the present time they are attempting to break the strike in Ohio, in the past they have broken strikes in Western Pennsylvania and in Central Pennsylvania in 1922. In 1916 in the Westmoreland county strike. In 1919 in the great steel strike and others to

(Cont. on Page 3)

**Fine League Member
\$150 For New Haven
Anti-CMTC Posters**

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—John Steubert, district organizer of the Young Workers (Communist) League of District 15, arrested recently while pasting up posters exposing the Citizen's Military Training Camps, has been fined \$150 by the reactionary local courts.

The heavy fine which will be immediately appealed, represents a strong effort on the part of the local authorities, with the added pressure of federal agents, to stop the flood of propaganda against the C. M. T. C. which has threatened to seriously counteract the propaganda of the New Haven bosses in favor of the camps.

New Haven papers as well as others thruout the state have carried much news about the campaign of Young Workers (Communist League) since it commenced and have been startled by the wide-spread distribution of stickers, leaflets and posters thruout the State.



Young Workers! Young Farmers! Students!

May Day was the first American Labor Holiday. It developed out of the struggles of the American workers for the 8 hour day and for the establishment of militant trade unionism to defend the interests of the workers against the bosses. May Day today is International Labor Day. On this day, the working class the world over lay down their tools to demonstrate the need of international solidarity in the common struggle against capitalism and for the establishment of the Socialist order of Society.

At no time in the history of the American working class, was the capitalist class so aggressive in their attacks against the working class. May Day in 1928, must become the day on which the American workers true to the traditions on the first May Day celebrations will lay down their tools and demonstrate their power and determination to fight against the bosses and their allies, the labor bureaucrats.

In the past few years millions of young workers and Child Laborers were drawn into the factories, mills and mines. They work long hours, at the most dangerous occupations for the lowest pay.

The young workers on this May Day must unite with their adult workers in a fight against the capitalist system from which they suffer most.

The young workers, who are the most exploited, must become the most militant force in the struggles of the American workers? The young workers must become the bearers of the militant traditions of May Day.

May Day 1928, finds one million miners, their wives and children fighting for their very existence against the coal operators, the government and the Lewis machine. In New England 30,000 textile workers have just begun a similar struggle. On this May Day, the day of working class solidarity, the young and adult workers must demonstrate their solidarity and pledge their support to the striking adult and young mine and textile workers.

May Day, 1928, finds American Capitalism carrying on war against the Nicaraguan workers and peasant who are fighting for their national and economic freedom from the rule of Wall Street. American and international imperialism are again actively preparing a war against the Soviet Union, where Socialism is being built, child labor completely abolished, the six hour day and five day week for the young workers established and special laws protecting the young workers are in effect.

The young workers, on this May Day especially should demonstrate their readiness to fight against capitalist wars and show their determination to fight only for the workers.

Rally to the defence of the Soviet Union.

Support the struggle of the Nicaraguan masses against American Imperialism.

Down with capitalist militarism and imperialist wars.

Support the striking coal miners and textile workers.

For the 6-hour day and 5-day week for young workers.

For the complete abolition of child labor.

Struggle for the demands of the toiling youth win labor's battles.

"The Lewis machine has criminally neglected the organization of the young miners. The young miners play a more and more important role in the coal industry. The shut-down of immigration, the introduction of new machinery, the opening up of the new mines in the South brought large masses of young miners into the mining industry. Everywhere the more dangerous occupations and the lower paid jobs are manned by young miners. Everywhere there is discrimination against them. The Jacksonville agreement expressly sets aside certain occupations for lower scales, and at the same time recognizes lower rates for "boys" engaged in the same work as the men. The Lewis machine has worked hand in glove with the operators against the mining youth and has tried to keep out the young miners from the union by such measures as raising the initiation fee to \$50.00 in the "Anthracite".

"The National Conference raised the following demands in the interests of the young workers: Fight against different rates for young miners, against discrimination in the distribution of work, for equalization of wages. There should be equal pay for equal work. We demand the abolition of underground work under the age of 18, and the decrease of the number of hours worked by young miners in outside work."

Amendment on youth demands to the National Program adopted by Save-the-Union Conference in Pittsburgh, April 1st.)

Young Miners Defy State Police Terror In Pennsylvania

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—Defying the unsurpassed terrorism of state police, the young miners in the unorganized territory are continuing to lead in the mass picketing and the organizing of the miners in the non-union fields. In every large arrest of pickets made during the past week, a big majority of those arrested have been young miners who at all times show themselves ready to fight for organization and for the winning of the strike.

Export Section Solid

Miners on the Export Section in Westmoreland county, who were the first to respond to the strike call on April 16th are solidly on strike, with the Westmoreland Coal Company completely tied up. Steps are already being taken to pull out the only two mines in this section which are still working and already many have left these mines, the Claridge and McCutlough, and steps are being taken to completely tie them up despite the fact that they are entirely within company property and heavily guarded.

At White Valley, Westmoreland County, George Privick, janitor of the White Valley public school, whose son attended the Save-the-Union Conference at Pittsburgh on April 1, was dismissed from his position by the board of directors on a charge of having distributed strike leaflets.

(More Mine News Page 2)

STRONG SECTION OF LABOR SPORTS UNION IN DETROIT

Detroit can boast of one of the best developed sections of the Labor Sports Union in U. S. A. At the present time there are eight clubs that are affiliated with the L. S. U. and contact is maintained with many more workers clubs that will soon join the L. S. U.

Have Union Club

One of the eight clubs affiliated is a trade union club that was just organized by the Bakers' Union of Detroit. This club was organized by the Detroit section of the L. S. U. upon the official request of Local 20 of the Bakers' union. Many other unions of Detroit are beginning to realize the need of organizing sport activities within the union, particularly amongst the young workers. It is expected that they will soon follow the example set by the Bakers' Union.

The Detroit L. S. U. has organized a Soccer League composed of six teams called the Detroit Soccer League. During the seven months history of the League it has proven its superiority over the bourgeois Soccer League (where hardly a game is played without a fight) by the comradely and sportmanlike spirit displayed by the players at all times. It is expected that many of the workers Soccer Clubs now in the bourgeois League will join the Detroit Soccer League with the opening of the next Soccer season.

Ball Team Planned

This summer an indoor baseball League will be organized. Plans are also being made to hold several track and field meets.

In order to centralize the activities of the clubs and interest the membership in the developments of the Labor Sports movement a monthly four page mimeographed bulletin was issued by the Detroit Labor Sports Union.

The issue was received with enthusiasm by the membership. It is planned to increase the bulletin to eight pages for the next issue.

In Miners Relief

Along with the activities in the Sports' field the Detroit workers' athletes also take a deep interest and active part in the activities of the workers on the economic field. They are actively participating in the miners relief. Plans are well under way to hold an LSU city boxing and wrestling show on the 4th of May, the entire proceeds to go for Miners Relief.

The Detroit Workers' Athletes take pride in these accomplishments and pledge themselves to greater efforts in building the labor sports movement and call upon all workers to do likewise.

Mr. Ford And The Young Negro Worker

By Wilfred Newman

The Young Negro Worker in the automobile city face tremendous odds in his struggle for livelihood. His avenue for employment are more limited than the white workers and they are the most physically laborious.

Do Heavy Work

In the foundry there is a large percentage of Negro workers; they with the foreign born workers do the heavy work such as: "Shaking out", setting the heavy molds, "closing up," taking the castings off the lines and putting them in the cleaning mills, tending the cupolas, and a hundred and one hazardous tasks to which he

Young Workers In The Auto Industry

During the boom period in the auto industry which started about 1922 and lasted until last year, when the auto industry was characterized as being the most prosperous industry in the country, with the best payed workers—the bosses did not feel compelled to hire a big proportion of young workers.

FEW YOUNG WORKERS

Altho the industry was one of the most rationalized in the country, much of the work was heavy and required able bodies men in their prime, wages were comparatively high so these men could easily be obtained out of the large number of farmers who had left their farms during the agricultural crisis; from the mining industry and others which had suffered from slight depressions and from industries which for similar work payed a lower wage.

This explains the fact that during this period there was hardly any child labor in the auto industry, and those young workers who were employed did not make up a big proportion of the force while most of those who were hired were between 21 and 25.

UNSKILLED INCREASE

While during this period the unskilled in the industry already slightly exceeded the skilled, the tendency already showed itself for a marked increase in the number of unskilled. And even during the boom period among those young workers and women who were employed was crystallized all the signs of changes later taking place in the industry—and already discrimination was marked against those elements in the industry which performed the cheapest and most unskilled labor.

For example, during the boom period the average wage for boys was \$3.62, for girls \$2.90 and for women \$3.50; while the average wage for unskilled workers in the industry during the same boom period was \$5.70 a day.

In other words the average wage for the young workers under 21 was \$3.62 while those between 21 and 25 received about an average of \$4.50 a day.

Already during the boom period night work was an established procedure and young workers and women were the rule rather than the exception for this work.

THE PRESENT PERIOD

Suddenly the young workers from a small minority in the industry have begun to assume a tremendously important role. The over-development of the industry, the saturation point in the home market and the restrictions of the foreign market

is mainly confined. The negro workers are also represented in large numbers in the machine shops and other divisions. There we also deal with the same discrimination.

Number Large

The number of Negro workers in the Ford plant are considerable. They are compelled to work under the same hard conditions as the adult negro workers. The result developed physically, it is harder on these young workers. The result is there is a great labor turn over among the young colored workers. Of course, during the present depression they try to hang on to their jobs, despite the fact that their wages have been cut and their jobs "speeded up." They hear the bark of the wolf and they know there are many young and adult workers walking the streets ready to take their jobs.

If the white workers need an auto workers union to protect them, it is even more necessary for the colored workers and particularly the young colored workers. With the proper crew of organizers and sufficient funds the industry can be organized; but not without the young negro workers, who will play an important part.

with the resulting price cutting war—have already begun to undermine the long existing prosperous situation in the industry. In order to maintain the high rate of profits of the past, and at the same time meet the competition on the market—the bosses naturally resort to reducing the cost of production and try to make the workers pay the price of the slackening of the boom in the industry.

This was the reason for such drastic steps as the shutting down of plants last year, the still further specialization of the industry as a basis for reducing the wages and increasing the speed-up: "the production."

How has all this effected the young workers?

In spite of the fact that the auto industry was already one of the most highly rationalized industries in the country, the above mentioned situation resulted in a more deep-going simplification which made possible the employment of a large number of young workers below and above the age of 21. Also the bosses policy to cheapen the cost of production to the extreme under the pressure of the most bitter competitive war any American industry has ever known, has forced them to hire ever larger numbers of young workers.

This has already been going on to the extent that a big number of adult workers have been fired and young worker hired in their place.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

We witness the following situation in the industry. The men in various departments are being laid off and boys and young girls hired in their place. Work done before by men on complicated machines is now being done by young fellows and girls on highly simplified machines. This is not an incident occurring in one department or in one plant but is a deep developing general trend in the industry at the present time.

1.—At the present time there is a large influx of women, and especially girls.

2.—Altho the policy of Ford during the boom period was not to employ a large proportion of young workers—now he carries on active propaganda to draw young workers into his plants.

3.—The standard of living of the adult workers in the industry is already being reduced to such an extent that they are compelled to send their children to work at an earlier age than during the boom period.

(Continued on Page Three)

DETROIT LABOR OFFICIALS FIGHT NEWSBOYS STRIKE

On the occasion of the recent raise of the prices of the Detroit News and the Detroit Times from 2c to 3c per copy, the "Labor News", official organ of the Det. Fed. of Labor, under the fake, treacherous leadership of Martel, editorially complimented these two bosses' laboring sheets upon their action, declaring that now they will no longer be under the corrupt influence of the large advertisers, the big business men and employers of Detroit, and that, moreover, this price-raise will consequently enable these capitalist papers to adopt a more and more sympathetic attitude toward labor. This is the hypocritical stand taken by the Detroit Federation of Labor, which instead should have attacked the price-raise as cheating the Detroit workers.

Furthermore, the newsboys of Detroit struck against these newspapers for a square deal which they thought was rightfully entitled to them. The newsboys appealed to the leadership of the Det. Fed. of Labor for support and moral assistance, but their appeal was turned down and the newsboys left flat by the misleaders of the Federation. The mi-

USE SLUGGERS TO BREAK STRIKE OF DETROIT NEWSIES

On April 8th the Detroit downtown newsboys struck. The newsboys' strike was in protest to the raise in price of the Detroit News and the Detroit Times from 1c to 2c per copy and the consequent slash and the newsboys' profits. The newsboys demanded, the 50-50 profit proposition, that is 1 1/2c per copy, for the price to the public was increased to 3c.

MILITANT SPIRIT

With the indignation of the newsboys at the action of these two capitalist yellow sheets and with the holding of several preparatory meetings, there resulted a militant strike sentiment amongst the newsboys.

The newsboys painted about thirty placards on which they stated their grievances and on which they inscribed their slogan of protest. Some of the typical slogans were: "Where would the News and Times be if it weren't for the newsboys?", "The News and Times are unfair to the Newsboys", "To the Public—Do not patronize SCABS", "Help the Newsboys Win Their Strike", etc.

READY TO PICKET

With these placards they intended to picket the circulating departments of both newspapers. On the 9th of April there was to be meeting of all the newsboys at the headquarters of the Young Workers' League and notices were distributed to that effect. The managements of the News and Times learned about the newsboys' meeting and therefore sent about a dozen of their gangsters to the Y. W. L. headquarters in a car. As the newsboys were coming in to hold their meeting, they were forcefully being dispersed by these sluggers. They even beat up several of the newsboys, and thereby broke up all possibilities of the meeting being held.

STRIKE LOST

As a result, the newsboys' strike was lost, but the newsboys have some valuable lessons to derive from it. First, the necessity of organization, solid and stable; second, the importance of having a dependable strike committee which will command the confidence and trust of the rank-and-file newsboys; and third, the necessity of a systematic preparation for the strike, in order to have 100% strike of all newsboys. The failure of the newsboys to respond 100% to the strike will encourage and inspire the bosses to give the newsboys even more cuts in profits in the very near future.

The newsboys should know that it is not late even now to organize and to revive strike sentiment among the newsboys. They must also revive their militancy and be prepared for a bigger fight against the bosses.

Militant workers of Detroit must organize to throw these labor fakery like Martel out of office and take control of their unions, for the general interest of the labor movement.

Six Shop Papers Issued In California District

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—From Los Angeles on the South to Fort Bragg on the north, the Young Workers League is publishing shop papers to reach the young workers of California. Two are published in Los Angeles, "The Young Furniture Worker," and "The Young Stone Worker." In Oakland are published "The Young Auto Worker" and "The Carmens Voice." San Francisco is planning the publication of the "San Francisco Young Worker," this month. In Fort Bragg, the first issued of the Young Lumber Worker will soon be published.

The combined monthly circulation of these six shop-papers will be about 3,000 to 3,500, in the automobile, railway, metal, building, and lumber industries.

COMMUNISTS GAIN IN THE BRITISH AND FRENCH ELECTIONS

PARIS—The Communists piled over a million votes in the elections held in France last Sunday. This is a 25% increase over the previous elections of 1924, and it to be considered a tremendous victory for the Communists. Not only did all parties combine in attacking the Communist Party, but hundreds of active members were arrested, and dozens of Communist candidates were in jail. The Socialists generally stood still, but lost heavily in all the industrial sections of the country.

Jacques Doriot polled the highest vote of any Communist. He is in jail, and was in jail during the entire campaign, because of his anti-militarist and anti-war activities.

Doriot is one of the founders of the Communist Youth International and was the leader of the Communist Youth League of France until he went over to the Party. He is at present a member of the political committee of the Party.

Elections in Britain

LONDON, The Communist Party received 16,000 votes against 31,000 for the Labor Party in local elections in various parts of the country just held. This is the first time the Communist Party has put up candidates against the Labor Party and the results show that the workers are rapidly leaving the Labor Party and going over to the Communist Party, because the Labor Party refuses to fight for work of the bosses and the government within the labor movement.

Mine News

STRIKERS NEED TENTS

WHEELING, W. Va.—1100 miners and their families who left the Elm Grove mines near here in response to the strike call of the Save the Union Committee are facing immediate eviction from the company house, and only speedy relief in the form of tents and food can make it possible for them to win the strike.

CALLED OUT OLD WEST MINE

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—Altho many of the miners in this section have already joined the National Strike, efforts are being made by the sub-district 4 Save-the-Union Committee to get out the Old West Mine which has been forced back to work under a separate agreement signed by the Lewis-Fishwick machine. The call reads in part: "Brothers, join our ranks and fight against wage cuts, in the fight for a national agreement and a clean union. Do not continue working under armed guards. Lewis and Fishwick and the other corrupt officials must go. Strike to Save the Union."

Thruout the state the militant miners, including a large proportion of the young miners, are falling in behind the Save-the-Union Committee in its efforts to get the Illinois districts to stand solid as in its strikes of the past and in its fight against the separate agreement betrayals of the Lewis-Fishwick machine. The machine is making special efforts to win over the young miners, utilizing letters in the Illinois Miner, etc., but the Save-the-Union forces are doing their best to get the young miners to fight for their own interests and not with those officials who have always betrayed them—and three youth conferences have been arranged to draw more young miners into the fight.

ORGANIZE LEAGUE IN AKRON, OHIO

The intensive membership drive launched by the Young Workers League in District Six has already resulted in a large number of new members in the League and the formation of a new branch in Akron, Ohio.

It is very significant that the League has been able to establish a branch in Akron of about 15 members, largely young workers of the rubber mills, Akron, which is mainly a rubber town turns out 52% of the entire out-put of the tire and tube industry. More than half of the tube and tire workers of this country are employed in the Akron rubber shops. The rubber barons are the most ruthless exploiters of labor. While Goodyear, U. S. Rubber, Goodrich, Seiberling, make tens of millions of dollars every year, the workers are greatly underpaid.

Speed-up in the rubber mills has reached the highest point of efficiency. The number of workers employed in the mills decreases yearly whereas the out-put is continually in the increase. Women, girls young workers—are employed at lower rates. They replace the older workers who have been in the industry for years and lower the whole standard of the workers in Akron.

The present membership in Akron League is only the beginning. They are determined to make greater inroads in the factories and build a real mass Young Workers League in that city.

C.M.T.C. MAKING SPECIAL EFFORTS TO ENLIST MINERS

(Continued from Page One)

numerous to mention.

The Citizens Military Training Camps are only one step nearer to what the bosses want to bring us young miners, in training us for the strike breaking purposes which they will try to use us for afterwards.

Like State Police

The state police, coal and iron police, are all formerly of the National Guards of the United States Army. We must watch ourselves or we will be fooled by the C. M. T. C., camps, and then they will try to draw us into the regular National Guards. Then they will proceed to send us out against our brothers, fathers and mothers, as they are now doing with the young workers who were fooled by them in Ohio. It must be understood all that in line with this, they are trying to train us for a coming war, in which they will try to get us to fight over their profits.

We must not be fooled by this, but must train ourselves on the picket line, how to fight against the state police and coal and iron police, and the state militia and deputy sheriffs! How to fight against the injunctions, how to lead mass picketing, off the labor fakers and union wreck-how to clean out our miners union and stronger, how to get better wages, how to make our union better es, how to organize the unorganized miners!

Our answer must be to the slogan of "Let's Go C. M. T. C." let's go and fight the coal operators and the bosses! Let's go and fight in the struggle for the workers.

CORRECTION

In the last issue of the Young Worker, reference was made to the U. M. W. local, orient No. 2. As having approved plans for three youth conference. This was a mistake—the local referred to was orient No 1.

"OUT OF SCHOOL" IS MAY DAY CALL OF N. Y. PIONEERS

Issuing the call: "Out of School on May Day!" all preparations were made to realize this slogan at a big conference for the celebration of May Day held Sunday, April 15 at Irving Plaza in New York City, and called by the Young Pioneers.

The conference represented working class children's organizations: Pioneers of America, the Jewish Non Partisan Schools, the Ukrainian Labor Schools, the Friends of Culture and including representatives of other workers children's organizations.

One of the workers children present pointed out that if the workers downed their tools on May Day, the children should down their pencils, pens and books, and if the workers leave their shops the workers' children should leave the schools.

The sentiment of the many delegates present was strongly in favor of a strike, and the conference went on record to get all left wing organizations to affiliate with the conference.

Also it was decided that all workers children who could be mobilized would parade to Madison Square Garden to the big mass meeting scheduled for May 1st, and mass meetings and leaflets were planned for this purpose.

Corrections For The Coast to Coast Tour

Dist. 6. — Columbus, Ohio — May 4; Cincinnati, Ohio — May 5.
Dist. 8. — Chicago, Ill. — May 6.
Dist. 3. — Washington D. C. — May 1.

Anti Militarist Conf. Held in Bay Cities

BERKELEY, Calif.—The Bay Cities Anti-Militarist Conference of San Francisco, Oakland, and Berkeley was held on April 13th and 27th, with about 50 delegates representing over 15,000 organized workers in the trade unions, in addition to students organizations and churches.

YOUNG WORKER IN THE AUTO INDUSTRY

(Continued from Page Two)

To summarize: the further rationalization of the auto industry made technically possible the employment of a much larger proportion of young workers. It lies now in the interests of the bosses to employ young workers between 18 and 21 at the same time as increasing the number between 21 and 25. Also it lies in their interests to employ more women as well as children. All of these factors are rapidly transforming the young workers into a real force in the industry, and a force that will play a decision role in the coming struggles of the auto workers against the lowering of their standard of living.

CONDITIONS AT PRESENT

The average wage at present for young workers both 17-21 and 21-25 is from \$18.00 to \$20.00 a week. One of the prevailing methods being needed to cut wages is that of increasing the number of jobs required from the workers. That is especially true of the young workers.

While the working hours have not been lengthened, the increased speed-up with the help of the changes in machinery, methods of production, etc. have the same effect as if there were an increase of two or three hours a day. This is especially felt by the young workers, and often the greatest specialization and speed up takes place in the most dangerous and unsanitary work, with the added danger that young workers who have replaced experienced adult workers perform the operation.

Australian Workers Support Vote Demand Of Communist Youth

SYDNEY, N. S. W., Australia—A conference of the Australian Labor Party held here went on record to fight for the extension of the franchise to the youth who are 18 years of age. Many of the leaders of the trade unions, and the bureaucrats were against it, but the rank and file workers who were present pushed it thru. The workers pointed out that a vote for those who are 18 would help the workers in their election campaign, as well as increase the votes for Labor.

The demand of a vote at 18 was first adopted by the Communist youth organization, but is now being supported by the advanced sections of the labor movement everywhere.

Editor's Note. In this country, the Young Workers (Communist) League is the only youth organization that is fighting for a "Vote for the Youth". The demand was first issued in 1925, but this year is the first time when it will be popularized on a national scale during the presidential elections. The only political Party that supports this demand is the Workers (Communist) Party, N. K.

Capitalists Afraid Of Votes For Youth

LONDON—Capt. Chas. Craig, Conservative, has introduced a bill into the House of Commons to limit voting to those who are 25 years of age or older. The present voting age for men is 21.

The Captain maintained that people under 25 are not "fit" to vote, which means that the capitalists are afraid they will vote for the workers.

The Young Communist League of Great Britain is fighting against this bill. The Young Communist League of Great Britain, like the Communist Youth Leagues of other countries, is fighting for the demand "A Vote for the Youth," to extend the franchise to all those who are 18 years old.

May Day Means: "Workers of the World Unite!"

All of these developments in the industry make the young workers assume an importance which is a challenge to the labor movement, and to those militant workers in the industry who want to organize to better their conditions and resist wage-cuts and a general lowering of their standards. They also bring before the Young Workers (Communist) League the important problem of reaching these thousands of young workers so that they will play a leading role in the fight for better conditions in the industry rather than let themselves be used to lower the standards of the adult workers. Already the Detroit League is mobilizing its forces not only to draw the most conscious young auto workers into the Young Workers (Communist) League but to put up an energetic fight in the interests of the big mass of young workers in the auto industry. As part of its fight for the special interests of the young auto workers, the League demands:

- 1.—Equal pay for equal work for young and adult workers.
- 2.—A minimum wage of \$25 a week for all young workers.
- 3.—Against piece-work and speed-up.
- 4.—6-hr day and 5-day week for all young workers under 18.
- 5.—No night work for young under 21. No overtime under 18.
- 6.—Work schools on company time for all young workers between 16 and 18 under union and young worker-student control.
- 7.—2 weeks vacation with pay each year for all young workers.
- 8.—Complete abolition of child labor, under 16 with state maintenance.



THREE MINERS CHILDREN

In many parts of this country May Day is celebrated by the public schools as "Child Health Day." The children are given lectures on how to keep their teeth clean, on what to eat, on what sort of clothes to wear, and so on. The children are told that they must get plenty of fresh air of sunshine, of eggs, milk and other good things. There is only one thing the teachers "forget" to tell the children and that is: **How are the poor children, the workers children, going to get all these good things when their parents hardly make enough money to keep them from starving?**

Ruthenberg's May Speech In Cleveland In 1917

"This is not a war for freedom. It is not a war for the liberties of mankind. It is a war to secure the investments of the ruling class of this country.

"The only reason we are in this war now is because it is to the interests of the ruling class, the capitalist class of this country.

"I am speaking to you as Karl Liebknecht spoke in the German nation, when he denounced the war as a war of the ruling class and stated his unalterable opposition to that war. And I say to you that if you are inspired with that which will bring about a better world, then you must stand up and fight for that ideal. You must fight side by side with those who are fighting this war."

LIEBKNECHT MAY DAY SPEECH

"Let thousands of voices shout: Down with the shameless extermination of nations! Down with those responsible for these crimes! Our enemy is not the English, French or Russian people, but the great German landed proprietors, the German capitalists and their executive committee.

"Forward! Let us fight the government; let us fight these mortal enemies of all freedom. Let us fight for everything which means the triumph of the working class, the future of humanity and civilization."

COMPARE THIS WITH U. S. A.

After a general meeting with the All-Russian Trade Union Council, the Social Alliance and the Central Committee of the Young Communist League of the Soviet Union decided to organize summer camps for the working youth. In 11 industrial centers, 10 colonies are to be established in which 100,000 young workers will be provided for monthly. In addition to this a special camp will be established for 100,000 radical workers. 1,800,000 rubles have already been appropriated for this purpose. Each young worker will pay only five rubles for a four weeks' stay. Camps will be organized in the mountains, on the coast, in the country, etc. will be provided for the unemployed.

HISTORIC MAY DAYS

May Day, 1886. Great strikes all over the United States initiate the struggle for the 8-hour day. The capitalist determination to crush this movement results in the execution of the leaders of the working class in Chicago.

May Day, 1890. The American Federation of Labor reopened the struggle for the 8-hour day.

May Day, 1890. Great demonstrations held all over Europe and America, as a result of the adoption by the workers throughout the world of May 1 as the International Day of Labor.

May Day, 1891. May Day demonstration in Fourmies, France, was attacked by the police, and nine persons killed.

May Day, 1892. 100,000 workers participate in a demonstration in Lodz which was attacked by the police, and many were killed and wounded.

May Day, 1892. Lenin, in prison in St. Petersburg, wrote a May Day manifesto which was issued to the Russian working class by the "League for the Struggle for the Emancipation of the Working Class."

May Day, 1898. The Social-Democratic Labor Party of Russia, which had just been founded, issued a May Day manifesto to the working class.

May Day, 1899. A 24-hour strike was declared in Barcelona, Spain, in sympathy with an insurrection of the peasants of Catalonia.

May Day, 1905. General cessation of work in the large cities of Russia on the call of the Bolsheviks in protest against the Russo-Japanese War. May Day proclamations were distributed among the soldiers.

May Day, 1911. For the first time, soldiers participated in the May Day demonstrations in Russia.

May Day, 1915. The International Socialist Conference at Zimmerwald (left wing) issued a May Day manifesto to the workers against the war.

May Day, 1916. A tremendous May Day demonstration was addressed in Berlin by Karl Liebknecht, who had just come from the front. He was arrested and the meeting broken up by the military.

May Day, 1917. After the fall off of the czar, May Day was celebrated as a general national holiday.

May Day, 1918. The workers of Russia celebrated the victorious workers' revolution.

May Day, 1918. C. E. Ruthenberg led a monster anti-war demonstration in Cleveland. He was arrested and the demonstration broken up by the police and militia.

May Day, 1919. The Soviet Republic of Bavaria was struck down by the army sent in by the Social Democrats.

May Day, 1919. The first May Day appeal of the Communist International, which had just been organized, was issued.



Day, 1916 in the height of the world slaughter, Karl Liebknecht, the founder of the Youth International, took tens of thousands of workers into the square opposite the Kaiser's residence and with the slogan "Down with war", "Down with the Government", issuing from thousands of workers throats, began the struggle which ended with the deposition of the Kaiser and the cessation of the war. In 1918, C. E. Ruthenberg led a demonstration of thousands of workers in Cleveland against the war. Both Liebknecht and Ruthenberg were arrested and put in prison for this activity. But the movement which they had begun kept on and is today under the leadership of Communist International and the Communist Youth International leading the workers to victory over capitalism.

In other countries also, May Day became a symbol of the struggle against the war. One of the first things which the left wing workers did when they met in 1910 in an International Socialist Congress at Zimmerwald, was to issue a May Day manifesto to the workers of all countries to take up the struggle against war. In this they were supported by the revolutionary youth organization. One of the first acts of the revolutionary government of Russia, after the overthrow of the Kerensky, was to declare May Day a national holiday.

Today, May Day 1928, calls upon the young workers of this country to live up to the glorious traditions which Karl Liebknecht and other revolutionary leaders have given to May Day. A quarter of a million miners struggling for the most elementary demands, are asking for our support. Thirty thousand textile workers are striking against the third wage cut. Millions of workers and peasants in the Philippines, Hawaii daily feel the heel of American oppression on their necks. The masses of the toiling youth in this country are living under the worst conditions and with no rights. Millions are unemployed. American marines are still conducting a war against the workers and peasants of Nicaragua.

On May Day the American young workers must take up the fight against these conditions. Support the striking coal miners and textile workers! Defeat the war against Nicaragua! Fight for the six hour day and the five day week for young workers! Struggle for the enfranchisement of the toiling youth! Defend the Soviet Union! These are the slogans which will make May Day a living symbol of the struggle for the rights of the toiling youth.

May Day and the Youth

By Herbert Zam

For generations May Day has been a day of solidarity of the oppressed classes. In ancient times the slaves, the serfs and the oppressed peasants would, on this one day of the year, down tools, leave the holes, the caves and the hovels which they called their homes and in the open fields under the clear skies and the bright sun, would give expression to their desires for freedom.

Force Concessions

Even though the celebrations assumed religious form, the social elements was the dominant one. The masters were compelled to make concessions to the oppressed on this day and permit the oppressed to play at being the rulers. This was then the form of what later became the slogan of the bourgeoisie, "all men are created equal." It was a method which the masters used to keep the slaves in bondage. The master tried to use May Day to show to the slaves and the serfs that it was the will of the All-Mighty Father that the master should rule for 364 days during the year, and the slaves should "rule" for one day during the year.

However, all the efforts of the master class could not confine the strivings of the toiling masses within this make-believe celebration, and as time passed, May Day became less and less a symbol of religious celebration and more and more a symbol of the struggle against oppression. In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, when the oppressed took up arms against their oppressors, May Day was generally adopted as the day on which the blow for liberation was to be struck, and consequently May Day became bound up with the rebellions, mutinies and revolutions of those who fought for freedom.

Day of Struggle

Modern May Day has been adopted by the workers the world over, as the day of international solidarity. Only the reactionary leadership of the American Fed-

eration of Labor refuses to recognize May first, and celebrates the capitalist Labor Day in September. In doing this, they are only endeavoring to hide and obliterate the revolutionary traditions of the American working class. For in the days in the birth of the modern working class movement, the American workers were pioneers in the struggle for labor's demands and May Day was adopted by them as a day of mobilization for these struggles. In 1885, the convention of the Federation of the Organized Trades and Labor Unions, the forerunner of the American Federation of Labor, was held in Chicago. The convention passed a resolution calling for the establishment of the eight hour day, and asking the workers to strike on May first, 1886 to enforce the eight hour day. On May first, 1886 thousands of workers downed tools to enforce the demands, particularly in the city of Chicago where the struggle centered. As a result of this struggle, four leaders of the workers were hanged, one was murdered in prison, and several others were given long terms of imprisonment, on fake charges of having thrown a bomb during a strikers meeting. These workers wrote a chapter in the revolutionary history of the working class and in the history of May Day, which is entitled the Haymarket Martyrs.

Can't Stop Fight

The brutal suppression of the workers movement did not end the struggle for the eight hour day. In 1880, when the second International was founded May Day was declared labor's International holiday, even Samuel Gompers who was present, representing America, voted for it. Later Gompers and other reactionaries turned renegade, and the American Federation of Labor turned its back on May Day.

As a day of International solidarity, of the struggle against capitalism and imperialism, May Day has also become a rallying day for the International struggle against imperialist wars. On May

LENIN ON MAY DAY

"In France, England, Germany and other lands where the workers have already closed their ranks and won important triumphs, the FIRST OF MAY is a General Holiday of the Labor."

"The workers leave the dark factories and parade the main streets in well-ordered lines with flags and music. They show the masters their power grown strong and join in numerous crowded assemblies to listen to speeches in which the victories achieved are recounted and the plans for future struggles are developed."

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

Send all orders and articles, and remit all funds to
THE YOUNG WORKER 43 E. 125th Street, New York, N. Y.
 Telephone Harlem 4570

VOL VII New York, N. Y. May 1st, 1928 No. 7

Education in The Struggle

THE opening session of the Second District Convention of the Young Pioneers of District No. 2 (New York and New Jersey) was attended by about a thousand workers and addressed by many section of the working-class movement. This alone is an indication of the importance that the class-conscious workers attach to the working class childrens movement as expressed thru the Young Pioneers.

One of the major weaknesses of the working class, and even the revolutionary movement in the past was the neglect of the younger generations; the children particularly were left entirely at the mercy of the capitalist schools, whose main function is to produce willing slaves for capitalism. At the best, the workers tried to establish Socialist Sunday schools, to counteract the teachings in the capitalist schools. But these schools generally failed. They were too detached from the struggle of the children as well as of the workers themselves.

The history of working class movements has demonstrated that no organization can develop away from the struggle of the workers, not even if that organization is composed only of children. The American Pioneers have grown up as a child of the American class struggle. They have written new chapters into the history of the working-class movement in this country. Passaic—the Mining Strike—Window Cleaners—all find the Pioneers mobilizing the children in support of their parents on strike. Even as the convention of the New York Pioneers was in session, a message was received from the fruit clerks, who had just won their strike, thanking the Pioneers for their assistance.

All power to the Young Pioneers of America, the fighters on the third front of labor's battles.

Rally The Youth On May Day

MAY DAY is the day of the international solidarity of labor. This is the day on which millions of workers in every corner of the world will lay down their tools, leave the factories, and join hands in the common struggle for freedom. Wherever the workers rule, May Day is a national holiday. In the Soviet Union, that was one of the first acts of the revolutionary government. While the revolutionists were in power in China, May Day was a national holiday. This year, the celebration of May Day has been forbidden by the reactionary generals.

But in the United States, where May Day was recognized by the early labor movement, the present-day official labor movement, under the control of the reactionaries, like Green and Lewis, refuses to join the demonstration for international labor solidarity. Instead, they celebrate, in the form of picnics and sporting events, a purely "American labor law" in September, which was adopted by the capitalists in order to try to draw the American workers away from the more revolutionary workers of Europe. The overwhelming majority of America's workers, including the organized workers, do not celebrate May Day as the day of labor's international united front.

How about the younger generation? They have not yet been corrupted by the ideology of the American Federation of Labor. They are growing up in the midst of some of the mightiest labor battles in the history of the United States. All their experiences bear the imprint of the class struggle. Wherever they turn, they see the life-and-death battle between the workers and the bosses.

May Day can be made to mean something to them. It can become the symbol for the struggle in the interests of the workers of this and other countries. On May Day, the three generations of labor's fighters—workers, young workers, workers children—present a solid working class front to the common enemy. "Out of the factories" becomes the cry of the workers, old and young; and those who are not yet old enough, must also leave their factories—the schools. "Out of school on May Day" is the slogan of the workers' children.

On May Day, the young workers gird themselves for the struggle in the interests of the workers and the young workers—for the miners and the textile workers who are out on strike—for the Pullman Porters who are about to go on strike—for the Soviet Union and against all its enemies—against imperialist war—against the Wall Street government's war on Nicaragua—against child labor—for the six-hour day and five-day week for the workers for a vote for the youth—against capitalist militarism.

On May Day, however, the older workers must also realize the necessity of recognizing the interests and needs of the young workers and the workers children, and must fight for those interests just as the young workers and the workers children will fight for the interests of the workers generally.

The International labor solidarity on May Day! One common fight—**one solid labor front: Workers, young workers, workers children.**

The Young Workers League meetings in California are held as follows:
 San Francisco, every Friday night, 1212 Market Street.
 Los Angeles, every Friday night, 314 Henne Bldg., 122 W. 3rd.
 Oakland, every Thursday night, Fraternity Hall, 7th & Peralta.
 Berkeley, every Wednesday night, 1819 Tenth St.
 Fort Bragg, 2 and 4 Tuesday nights, Comrades Hall.

Young Textile Worker in U.S.S.R.



MAXIM GORKI

WRITER and REVOLUTIONARY

Today, hundreds of thousands of workers, peasant, intellectuals, students, school-children, representatives of all social strata throughout the Soviet Union, from the Moscow Grand Theatre, through the workers' club and down to the village Reading huts are celebrating the 60th birthday and the 35th year of literary activity of the great Russian Proletarian and beloved writer, Maxim Gorki.

Spirit of Oppressed

The name of Gorki (which in Russian means bitter) is a household word throughout the world. His writings which are universally recognised to be masterpieces of creative effort breathing the spirit of oppressed millions who once groaned under the iron heel of a despotic autocracy are read and known in every corner of the earth. Gorki is essentially fitted to portray the misery, ignorance, superstition and destitution that prevailed among the Russian peasantry in Tzarist days. He himself, is a son of the people and sprung from its lowest and poorest stock. Born in a poor working family and raised in the family of his grandfather among numerous relations, living in the utmost squalor he was subjected to untold cruelties at the hands of his uncles and aunts who usually passed the time fighting among themselves. Right from his infancy a little Maxim tasted the bitterness of life.

At Work Early

Later, Gorki, still at an age when boys should be at school, struck out for himself. He shipped down the Volga as galley-boy and then over a period of a number of years was dock-labourer, baker, boot-maker, painter, watchman, railwayman, draftsman, lawyer's clerk, reporter on various provincial papers and finally he took the profession of writer.

He went on foot from one end of the country to the other and in many respects was a tramp pure and simple but with this vast difference that all he observed, the sufferings that he saw, the terrible squalid hand-to-mouth existence in the struggle for life that he came up against during his trappings was analysed, dissected, weighed and stored away in his heart and mind. These experiences and observations, were later, by their simple creative sincere intensity, to shake the world to a realisation of the indescribable hellish conditions and slave-like existence of the Russian toiling masses.

In Revolutionary Movement

At a very early age Gorki became associated with the young but growing revolutionary movement in Russia; first among the student movement and later with the workers.

His creative efforts expresses that period of gigantic social changes when the capitalistic elements had overthrown the feudal-landowning structure and when on the social-historical arena appeared a new Class—The Proletariat.

While he was preparing for entrance to the Kazan University (which he never succeeded in doing) he organised underground political circles among the students of the University. In 1892 at Mar-kope in South Russia he was arrested for organising a Cossack rising; and again in 1901 he was arrested in St. Petersburg (Leningrad), where he had established firm contact with the Russian Social Democrats, for writing a "criminal" and "treasonable" Manifesto to the Sormow workers.

Continuous Work

Continuing his political activities Gorki was delegated in 1907 to the 5th Congress of the Russian Social Democratic Labour Party which was held in London. Later during the period of reaction he settled himself on the island of Capri (1908) where he organised a school for Russian worker propagandists.

In 1910, just after the publication of "Mother" and "enemies" (two epoch-making books of the 1905 Revolution) Lenin wrote of Gorki thus: "Maxim Gorki is, without doubt, the greatest representative of Proletarian Art who has done much for it and who can and will do more. Without doubt the creative efforts of Gorki signalises the beginning of A Proletarian Art in our country."

WHOLE SECTION YOUNG SOCIALISTS GO OVER TO Y. C. L.

(Special to the Young Worker)

LONDON, England.—A remarkable development took place recently inside the Independent Labor Party Guild of Youth. At the Scottish Divisional Conference held on March 24 and 25 the left wing carried a resolution in favor of going over to the Young Communist League of Great Britain.

Altho the right wing minority split away and left the conference, the various local guilds have since endorsed the action of their left wing representatives and the Left Wing Committee has come out with a clear manifesto calling on all Guilders and sections of the Guild to go over to the Young Communist League, which says in part:

"We want to fight capitalism and build up a new social order. How can we do it? Only by entering the Y. C. L. which is a real organization with a revolutionary programme and a virile leadership."

BRULE CELEBRATES MAY 1

The Young Workers League had a program and a big dance at the Waino Hall, April 22.

The Young Workers League will have a big program on May first.

Our Y. W. L. has a very strong start. We are going to keep a Rob Leap Year dance on May 12-13.

Every one is welcomed.

By Ed W. P.

Y. C. I. PLENUM RESOLUTION

(Continued from last issue)

8. The organisational weakness of the Leagues finds expression not only in unfavourable numerical growth, but also in the great fluctuation in membership, the slight penetration of large factories and even the collapse of some factory nuclei in many leagues, the unsatisfactory provincial locals and in some places even central leadership. Despite the successes attained in factory work by some Leagues, (particularly the German), this work is still not beyond any criticism in all countries. Without undertaking the immediate complete reorganisation of the Leagues, the YCI puts forward as a main slogan of organisational work the creation of new factory nuclei and livening up of the existing ones as a necessary pre-requisite for the reorganisation of the Leagues. It is necessary to increase the attention of the Leagues to factory work, to establish systematic leadership over the existing nuclei, on the part of the committees to develop the illegal forms of nuclei work to help the nuclei in taking the leadership of all important and struggles of the young workers. It is necessary to strengthen in every possible way the local and district leading organs of the Leagues and liven up the local leading organisations. The intensification of organisational work on the part of the Leagues and the Executive is of foremost political significance.

9. Along the lines of intensification of work in the mass organisations, chief attention should be paid to the work in the trade unions. The weakness of organisation of YCL fractions shows that far from all YCL members have as yet understood the enormous importance of organised work in the trade unions. The liquidation of elementary prerequisites for work in the trade unions, is one of the most important tasks of the YCL. Much attention must be paid to the question of organising the unorganised young workers in the trade unions. It is necessary to intensify the activity in creating and perfecting the special forms of work among the young members of the trade unions, putting forward as the principal measure the creation of factory trade union youth leaders which should become the basis of youth commissions and sections. It is necessary to transform the youth sections into real mass, elected and permanent organs of the youth organised in the trade unions. It is necessary to proceed more courageously with the organisation of youth sections wherever we can by this means find more rapidly an approach to the young workers and gain much influence among them. The YCL's must intensify their recruiting work in the trade unions.

10. No less attention should be paid to the work of the Young Communist Leagues in the next important mass organisations, namely, the sport movement which embraces vast masses of the youth. This movement can and should become one of the most important sources of filling the YCL ranks, providing our activity in its ranks becomes more intensive. It is necessary to draw in energetically the Young Communist in the work of the sport movement, organising these Young Communist fractions, regulating their work, creating organs for sport work in our leading organs, giving it more space in the press, at Congresses, etc. Only energetic work can counter-balance the attack of the YSI and the II Inter-

national on the workers' sport movement, trying to find there a monopolist position. The Plenum lays particular stress on the necessity of the YCL of Germany, Czecho-Slovakia, Sweden and Norway strengthening their sport work.

Although this applies particularly to the workers' sport movement, the Plenum emphasises at the same time the importance of work against bourgeois sport organisations, particularly those established by employers in the enterprises.

It is essential to strengthen the work for the united front and unity in the workers' sport movement, in the reformist Leagues.

11. The Plenum marks the rise of new Jungsturm organisations in Austria and Greece and the absence of practical results in this sphere in Czecho-Slovakia, Sweden and Norway. Experience has shown that the necessary condition for the appearance of militant mass organisations such as Jungsturm is the existence of moods among the masses of the working class in favour of active struggle against Fascism or government repression. Wherever these conditions do not exist, propaganda in favour of the Jungsturm should be carried on among the masses and the workers' organisations (the Party, the trade unions, organisations) which will make possible the organisation of Jungsturm organisations when conditions will become mature. With the partial decline of the fascist wave, the Jungsturm of Germany and the Anti-Fascist Young Guard in France, experience certain difficulties which can be eliminated only by adapting their work to the new situation. Without giving up their struggle against Fascism they must devote greater attention to the struggle against war, against governmental repressions, and especially take part in strikes. It is necessary to retain the militant semi-military character of the organisation, finding for it specific militant tasks in all spheres of the workers' struggle.

12. The so-called "new methods of work", i. e., the livening up of the activity of the Leagues, the discarding of monotonous and uninteresting League work, developed successfully so far only in Germany. The vivification of the methods of work of the YCI still constitute one of the main slogans of the organisation. In order to materialise it, it is necessary:

1) Wherever there is no Jungsturm its methods should be applied in our Leagues (the nature of demonstrations, the uniforms on certain occasions, etc.).

2) To develop more extensively the cultural and educational work, taking up the questions of science, technique, literature in popular forms organising excursions, etc.

3) Extensive organisation of cultural entertainment for the youth.

4) Extensive application in the Leagues of simple forms of sport without competing with the workers' sport leagues, but on the contrary, collaborating with them.

Broadly developing the new methods of work, liquidating the monotonous and uninteresting forms of work which is, together with the organisation of factory nuclei, of decisive importance for the liquidation of the fluctuation in membership, it is necessary to give determined resistance to the ideas directed towards diminishing the political activity of the YCL's. "New methods" must be applied not only in Agitprop work

but in all spheres of mass work and struggle of the Young Communist Leagues.

13. The illegal YCL's are confronted with a series of specific tasks. The White Terror is aiming at the physical extermination of our organisations. It is necessary to take a series of well-thought out measures towards increasing and perfecting our conspirative work, particularly in Italy, and Bulgaria, so that the ranks of the Leagues may be saved from destruction. On the other hand almost all illegal leagues have been successful in finding legal forms of work. Such forms as trade union youth sections, legal leagues, educational circles, sport organisations, legal papers, etc., have fully been vindicated. At the same time one must continue to make efforts to strengthen the illegal Young Communist Leagues themselves. It is necessary to intensify the struggle against the attempts of the Fascist governments to gain influence and control in the youth organisations, carrying on work within those which consist of workers and peasants.

The Plenum of the EC YCI warns the illegal organisations of the necessity to carry on an energetic struggle both against desperado, particularly terrorist, moods as well as against liquidatory legal dangers connected with the necessary legal forms of work.

The Plenum authorises the Presidium to call a conference of the illegal YCL's in the immediate future.

The governmental persecutions confront many legal YCL's with the question of combining legal with illegal work. It is necessary to defend in every possible way all legal positions without surrendering any of them without a hard struggle. At the same time it is necessary to start right now with the organisation of a partial illegal apparatus bearing in mind the possible total illegality.

14. The Plenum of the EC YCI marks the heroic participation of the YCL of China in the revolution and the services it rendered in the struggle against opportunism in the Party. The Plenum marks the necessity for energetic struggle both against the tendency to reduce the political activity as well as against the putschist and vanguard ideas, broadly involved among the ranks of the Chinese YCL. The path of intensification of work among the masses of the youth for which purpose it is also necessary to make full use of the slightest possibilities of legal work for increasing its ranks by workers and peasants and making the League more of a toilers' organisation, particularly its leaders, is side by side with the preservation of the illegal organisation of the League from destruction, the most important task of the Young Communist League of China.

The experience of the Chinese Revolution has proven the possibility and necessity of organising YCL organisations in the advanced colonial and semi-colonial countries. The creation of a YCL is the foremost task of the YCI in India to which it must now devote its utmost attention as well as to the South American countries.

The Plenum authorises the Presidium to elaborate the question of work in the colonies and semi-colonies in all its scope for the coming Congress of the YCI. The present situation makes work among the youth in the rural districts particularly important. But the Plenum is compelled to say that with the exception of a few leagues (Poland, Roumania, Bulgaria)

our YCL's have not yet made a serious and systematic beginning with this work. There are but few YCL nuclei and organisations in the countryside and their work is inadequate. YCL organisations in rural districts must be strengthened. Conferences of young agricultural labourers and working peasants must be held, at which demands are to be formulated and committees elected. Special attention should be paid to peasant organisations among the peasant youth, and to young peasant organisations in general.

15. The Communist Children's movement is now experiencing great difficulties in the main capitalist countries. It is possible to overcome these difficulties: 1) By means of improving the YCL leadership which is at present glaringly inadequate; 2) By intensifying the activity of the Children's leagues in the struggle for the interests of the masses of children; 3) By introducing lively forms of work making them accessible and attractive for the children.

Energetic opposition to Socialist children's organisations is necessary. It is necessary to make a careful study of the situation in the Children's movement in the Presidium on the basis of which a series of concrete measures should be taken for the improvement of the situation.

16. The Plenum approves of the policy and work of the Presidium of the YCI. Especially, the organisation of a West European Bureau of the YCI, which improved the leadership over several Leagues has undoubtedly justified itself. It is necessary still further to improve and to perfect the work of this new institution. At the same time the Plenum calls the attention of the Presidium to the necessity of improving the Agitprop work of the Executive, the work of the Eastern Department, and the "Youth International." It is also necessary to intensify the activity of the Executive in the questions of work of the Leagues among the peasant youth.

Young Pioneers Will Give Free Vacation To Striking Miners Children

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—The Young Pioneer Camp of Philadelphia will this summer materially aid a number of striking miners' children by giving them free-of-charge accommodation in the tents of the camp. These children, whose fathers are out in a life or death struggle for their organization against the united front of the coal barons, labor fakers and government, will find themselves amidst an atmosphere of working class solidarity and will benefit greatly from the Camp educational program that aims at winning over the workers children for the working class.

This invitation of the Young Pioneer Camp extended to miners children is not an act of bourgeois philanthropy or charity. It is more an expression of working class solidarity as the relief extended to the striking miners by the workers of America, thru the Pennsylvania and Ohio Miners Relief Committee.

The Pioneer League of Philadelphia thru the Children's Relief Conference where they take a leading part, participate very actively in the miners relief. They have already sent some relief in money, clothing and food.

Now, when the summer is approaching and the time for the camp opening is drawing close the Pioneers see no better opportunity how to bring direct relief to the children of the miners, but to have a number of them at the Camp, and enjoy jointly a pleasant summer vacation.

"WRITE AS YOU FIGHT" PAGE

YOUNG FURNITURE WORKERS START AT 25¢ PER HR

By Young Worker Correspondent
GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., April 9th.
 I have been reading the Young Worker for some time and would like to tell you of the conditions of the young workers in the furniture industry of Grand Rapids.

Employs 1,000

The Grand Rapids Chair Co. where I work, employs about 1,000 workers with between 50 and 70 per cent below the age of 25 years. The wages of a young worker who starts in tending a machine is 25 cents an hour and this is all he receives as long as he tends a machine, regardless of the length of time he is employed there. When he receives a machine of his own to work at his pay is raised 5 cents an hour and after he has worked there for 2 or 3 years he gets another raise of a few cents more.

He works long hours (from 7 o'clock in the morning 'till 5 at night). The wages of the adult workers are not much better, the average being about 50 cents an hour.

Receive Less Pay

On every machine possible a young worker is placed, receiving 50 percent less wages than the older worker would get; thus, keeping an older worker out of a job, but making more profits for the bosses. During the lunch hour (from 12 until 1) the worker eats his lunch any place between the machines that he can find vacant (there being no lunch room), always inhaling the dust from the machines left around the machines. The company has provided a Club room to which the workers can go after eating his lunch, apparently for recreation, card playing etc. etc., but in reality used for spreading boss' propaganda.

Bad Sanitation

The sanitary conditions are very poor as the shop is only swept out once a week and then the job is only half done. Most of the workers chew tobacco to keep out the dust from their throats, and there are no spittoons and thus this adds to the dirt. There is only one sink on each floor for the workers to wash themselves at making a long line waiting for a turn at the sink which takes off some of their lunch time and makes them stay later after working hours in the shop if they wish to be clean. Also, there is neither soap nor towels for the workers. Instead they are handed pieces of old rags, which are bought from the ragmen, for wiping their faces and hands. There is only one sink on each floor and they are full of dirty and vile smelling (very seldom cleaned) that many workers are forced to steer clear from the sink if they are located in.

Is Fire Trap

The building is five stories high and there is only one fire-escape. The stairs are so narrow that only two workers can walk down at a time. In case of a fire the workers in the south end of the plant would be doomed because the only fire-escape is at the north end. And cars are allowed to be parked beneath the fire-escape which is another hindrance in case of a fire.

Working conditions in the shop itself are very poor. The system keeps the young worker on his feet from 8 o'clock to night; the foremen keep the workers on their feet and do not let them stop a moment to rest. There are no safety devices on the machines

NEW BEDFORD STRIKE

By Evelyn Smith

For the first time in sixteen years, the textile workers of New Bedford have shown their full strength. On Monday, April 16th, 30,000 workers left the mills and declared their intentions not to return until such time as the mill owners restore the wage cut. This attempt on the part of the mill owners to force a wage reduction of 10% of the meager earnings of these textile workers was met with a 100% resistance on the part of the workers.

Setting Pace

This struggle of the New Bedford workers is setting the pace for the development of similar strike movements throughout the industry. Already we see similar movements pending in Fall River, Manchester, and in Waltham. We know that a wage reduction for the Textile workers of New England will result in the manufacturers of other cotton and woolen centers following suit. On the other hand, resistance in New England will be the best challenge to the other mill owners and the probabilities for similar wage reductions would be lessened.

Of the 1,100,000 workers in the textile industry in the U. S. A. approximately 60,000 are organized. These 60,000 workers are organized into sixteen different unions, which divides the forces of the workers in their encounter with the mill owners.

Organize Unorganized.

The major problem facing the textile industry is that of organization of the unorganized. The unions in the textile industry have practically ignored this question. It is inevitable that such a condition will lead towards the worsening of their conditions and to disintegration of the textile unions.

The problem of the organization of the unorganized workers is a problem which cannot be solved thru lip service. It is a burning need of the workers, it is a problem which can only be solved thru the concentrated effort on the part of the organized labor movement in the textile industry. The time has now come for deeds not words.

Organization in New Bedford

It is from this angle that I wish to deal with the present situation in New Bedford. There are over 30,000 workers at present on strike. Of these less than 5,000 are organized in to the American Federation of Textile Operatives. The vast majority are still unorganized. The A. F. T. O., has made no attempt to organize these workers and from all indications these 25,000 workers will again be ignored by these unions in the course of this strike. Especially during a strike period does this condition present numerous dangers. When the vast majority of workers on strike are not organized, which in New Bedford are old and useless, and all has been allowed to drip from the bearings until the footing around most of the machines is insecure and a slip might result in a serious accident and injury.

The young workers are very discontented and always promise to quit just as soon as jobs open up somewhere else. The young workers and adult workers ought to get together and organize so that all will get the same wages for the same work and so that the bosses make the factories clean places for them to work in.

A Young Furniture Worker.

the case of a prolonged strike these workers have no organized body to defend them or aid them in their struggle, there is many a possibility that this desperate condition will drive these workers back into the mill.

Want Organization

They will not go back of their own choice, but they would be forced back because the leadership in the American Federation of Textile Operatives does not find it necessary to organize these workers. This is a danger which can be solved thru 100% ORGANIZATION, and this will be one step forward in bringing about a 100% victory in the present strike.

With this situation prevailing, it was imperative for the Textile Mill Committee to enter the situation. The Textile Mill Committees are a National Organization with units organized in the most important textile mills of this country. It was formed in a New England conference on March 11th in Boston, where it adopted a program of action which serves as a guide and directive in the struggle of the New England textile workers. One of the main planks in the program of the Textile Mill Committees is the Organization of the Unorganized. The role of the Textile Mill Committees in the present strike in New Bedford will be to organize these unorganized workers.

if they were to remain unorganized. It is the policy of the Textile Mill Committees to organize into a mill committee all workers who toil in one particular mill. This is a higher form of organization which was adopted by the Textile Mill Committees, which will bring about better organization, and concentrate the energies and struggles of all the workers in the textile industry against the common enemy.

Those who are members of any existing union and apply for members in the Textile Mill Committees will be admitted and exempt from paying dues, providing they show a paid up dues card in the organization of which they are a member. We tell the members of existing unions to remain within their organization and work energetically for the organization of one union in the textile industry, as a guarantee for more effective struggle, for better organization, for the consolidation of all the forces of labor as against the forces of capital.

Draws Lesson

The Textile Mill Committees have drawn certain lessons for the workers in connection with what has happened in Fall River just a short time ago, and has aided the New Bedford workers in determining their stand on the wage cut which they have received. In Fall River, the leadership of the A. F. T. O. has stolen the strike vote, and told the workers that there were 11 votes shy in order to carry the two thirds strike vote. In New Bedford the leadership of the A. F. T. O. made a move to delay the count of the strike vote, but it was the militancy of these 25,000 workers who were in the back of the hall at the time and shouted on the top of their voices STRIKE! STRIKE! STRIKE! that forced the hand of the leadership of the American Federation of Textile Operatives.

On the morning when the strike vote was to be taken the Textile Mill Committees issued a leaflet to the

MESSENGER TELLS ROTTEN CONDITIONS AT WESTERN UNION

DETROIT, Mich.—I work for the Western Union Telegraph Co. and I wish to disclose some of the conditions. When they hire boys they ask many questions about their life and give them a large sheet to fill out which includes your description, how many are you supporting and so on.

When You Get Job

When you finally get the job the company charges 40c a week for the upkeep of the suit and some boys hardly make over \$1.50 a day and not over \$3.00 a day. With this the company makes the boys go one day a week to school so as to lessen the pay all the more.

The company speeds up the boys so as to show the "unhappiness and speed" of Western Union. This and the added danger of getting killed or injured because of being speeded up all the time makes the life of a messenger boy very hard.

As Last Resort

Some boys work at the Western Union only as a last resort, either work or starve. Right now they are firing boys and rehiring them at lower pay.

A Western Union Worker.

Youth Classes At The S. F. Workers School

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—The Workers School of San Francisco, which will open on the 7th of May, to run for about 10 weeks, will offer a course on the History and Problems of the American Youth Movement, especially for young workers and students.

As there will be no District Summer School in California, this year, the Young Workers League is sending 6 California students to the Northwest Young Workers Summer School, to be held in June at Woodland, Washington.

Youth Conference For Miners Relief in L. A.

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—A preliminary meeting of the Miners Relief Youth Conference has been organized, with 9 youth organizations represented. A larger conference was called for April 16th. Already \$2500 was sent for Miners Relief.

There is also a well functioning Miners Relief Conference in Los Angeles, including 7 children's organizations, which has raised money for the striking Miners Children and they are preparing to hold an affair to raise more money.

workers. The Textile Mill Committees called upon the workers to go on STRIKE and wage a militant struggle against the wage cut, the speed up, and the 20% increase in wages, elimination of the speed up, 8 hour day and the five day work week.

It was this spirit of fight and of fearless struggle against the attempt of the manufacturers that brought about the militancy and determination on the part of the workers. It was this work of the Textile Mill Committees which has made this organization a vital factor in the present struggle in New Bedford and will stimulate the organization of the unorganized workers not only in New England but also throughout the entire Textile industry of the United States.

YOUNG WORKER

SPECIAL PAGE FOR CALIFORNIA DISTRICT

VOL. VII - No. 7.

NEW YORK, N. Y., MAY 1, 1928

PRICE 5 CENTS

YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE ACTIVE IN LOS ANGELES

The YOUNG WORKERS (Communist) LEAGUE in Los Angeles is quite active. We have gained several members during the last few months.

We are attempting to organize league branches in some of the nearby towns around Los Angeles, such as Glendale, Pasadena, Huntington Park, Inglewood, Oceaon Park and others. If there are any young workers in these and other town who are interested in seeing a local branch of league organized in their town they should get in touch with the secretary at the address given above.

Miners Relief

The league in Los Angeles has organized a Youth conference for the Relief of the Striking Miners in Ohio and Pennsylvania. There are several clubs affiliated for the preliminary conference and more being drawn in. All members of clubs and organizations not affiliated should see to it that their clubs or organization affiliated with this conference and help to carry on the work of relief for the starving miners and their families.

In Los Angeles there are about 80,000 unemployed workers, about 25 to 30 thousand being young workers. The WORKERS (COMMUNIST) PARTY is carrying on a campaign to organize these unemployed workers into an unemployment council which is to set forth certain demands for the unemployed in this city; the YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE is 100% behind the WORKERS PARTY in this work and makes a special appeal to all young unemployed workers in Los Angeles to join in the organization of an unemployed council, and to help in winning the demands of the unemployed young workers in Los Angeles. We especially call upon the unemployed young workers not to be drawn into the Citizens Military Training Camps, which are to be opened soon, because of unemployment. The CMTC is taking advantage of the unemployment to attract these young workers who do not know where their next meal is coming from. We must fight against the CMTC which is nothing more than a recruiting ground for more soldiers who will be sent defend the interests of Wall St., such as is being done in Nicaragua today.

Labor Shorts

A Workers Sport Club has been organized in Los Angeles, and is open to all workers and students. This club meets every Thursday at 2814 1/2 Brooklyn Ave. and is conducting classes in boxing and calisthenics, and also a baseball and tennis team with prospects of a soccer team to be organized. The club is giving an outing to Monrovia Canyon, April 29th, and assures us that a good time will be had by all.

There is also being organized a Junior Workers Spot Club which is open to those under sixteen years old. Those interested should get in touch with the secretary at the above address.

Open Forum

The YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE in this city holds open forums every Friday night at 122 W. 3rd St., Rm. 314 where we discuss all the problems which relate to the young workers. This is the only place where a young worker can get the unvarnished truth as to the conditions of young workers in this country of plenty. Every

Child Labor in California

By Wm. Schneiderman.

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—Despite the much-boasted Child Labor Law in California, the employment of children in industry is prevalent thruout the state. The loop-hole by which the law is evaded is the provision that a child under 18 may go to work providing he goes to school four hours a week; even this provision is generally ignored.

In Dangerous Industries

The employment of children in dangerous industries has reached alarming proportions, as indicated by the recent order of the State Labor Commissioner prohibiting children from working close to moving machinery, in building or construction work, and delivering goods from motor vehicles. This order was necessitated by the great increase in injuries to children in dangerous industries, often resulting in their death. 31% of these accidents being preventable.

At the recent Child-Labor hearings held in San Francisco and Los Angeles by the State Labor Commissioner, it was reported that in the past year a practice was started by the canneries to replace women with boys at the peeling and pitting machines, because they work for less pay. At these hearings Edgar R. Perry, representing two merchants and manu-

facturers' association was opposed to arbitrary rules being made that would prohibit or hinder minors from doing "some constructive work," meaning of course, that the employers demanded the right to employ child labor.

Accidents to Minors

Representatives of the Carpenters Union pointed out that the number of accidents to minors in California in one year is almost equal to the number in New York State, where there are admittedly many more children employed in industry.

A Redwood City employer demanded the right to use children overtime in their canneries, "to keep them out of mischief."

Only One Solution

Representative "labor leaders" could think of nothing else to say on the child-labor question at this hearing, than to praise "harmony and cooperation" between capital and labor.

The Young Workers (Communist) League must fight energetically for the complete abolition of child labor with maintenance for these children out of the profits of industry, and for equal pay for equal work, to prevent child-laborers from being used to cut down the wage-standards of adult workers.

HAND LEAFLETS TO SAILORS IN SAN FRANCISCO

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—On Monday, April 9th, 10,000 Boy Scouts paraded to the Civic Square with army officers, city officials, and police guardians to greet them. The occasion was the national Boy Scout convention being held here.

Beginning Tuesday, April 10th to 18th, was Navy Week in San Francisco, when the entire United States Battle Fleet was assembled in San Francisco Bay, preliminary to leaving for the Hawaiian Islands and other points in the Pacific Ocean where they will conduct naval maneuvers and battle practice, in preparation for the next imperialist war. Thousands of sailors swarmed thru the city during that week taking part in all the jingo and militarist propaganda being circulated.

Over a thousand letters and leaflets were distributed among the sailors, particularly at the Army & Navy YMCA, by members of the Young Workers League. An anti-militarist open forum was held during the week on the subject "Why the Marines in Nicaragua?"

young worker is urged to attend and participate in the discussions. We also point to young workers that they must read the YOUNG WORKER, which is the only paper in America which fights for the daily needs of the Young Workers. Recently we held a subscription drive for the YOUNG WORKER and many new subs were obtained. The workers who were approached were quite anxious to subscribe to the YOUNG WORKER once they were shown a copy and told just who the paper was for. We are sure that there are many young workers in Los Angeles who would feel the same way about it and we invite anyone to come up to the headquarters of the league, which is given above, and get a sample copy of the YOUNG WORKER free of charge.

Wall Newspapers Issued

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—The Young Workers Communist League in San Francisco, Oakland, and Los Angeles are issuing wall-newspapers. "The Young Rebel" in San Francisco, and "The Red Star" in Oakland just published a special Red Army issue in connection with the 10th anniversary celebration of the Red Army.

Los Angeles is also preparing an issue of their wall-bulletin.

Chinese Youth Organize In San Francisco, Calif.

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—A group of young Chinese workers have organized a Young Workers Club, which published paper and is now organizing the young delivery boys and waiters in the Chinatown restaurants into a Restaurant Workers Union. These young workers are exploited for 16 hours a day and more, and the union is demanding the 12-hour day as the first step toward bettering their conditions. They are receiving the support and encouragement of prominent labor officials of the powerful Culinary Workers Unions of San Francisco.

There is also a Chinese Students Association, which publishes its magazine and is very active among the student youth in San Francisco.

Leaflet Distributed To Unemployed Youth

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—A thousand leaflets were distributed in Los Angeles by the Young Workers Communist League among the unemployed young workers, containing our program and slogans.

In San Francisco, Oakland, and Berkeley, there is being published a special Unemployed Bulletin, for the young workers, "The Bay-Cities Unemployed Youth."

YWL TO ORGANIZE LUMBER WORKERS IN NORTHERN CAL.

FORT BRAGG, Calif.—The Young Workers (Communist) League of Fort Bragg announces that a new shop-paper, "The Young Lumber Worker," will be published soon for the exploited and unorganized young lumber-workers in Northern California. The necessity of this paper can clearly be seen from the conditions under which the lumberjacks and millmen have to slave. In the lumber-mills (Fort Bragg and vicinity) the working day is 10 hours, and the pay is from 35 to 38 cents an hour, barely enough to make a living.

There is no union to protect their conditions. In the logging camps the conditions are very bad. The food they are fed is often rotten. Recently a pig sickened and died, but the pig was used just the same, and the lumber-jacks had to eat it.

The working day is 9 and 10 hours, beginning 5 o'clock in the morning. Many are injured, but when sent to the hospital owned by the company, they are not taken care of properly. The workers call the hospital the "butcher shop". Only recently, when the company sold the hospital, did the treatment get any better.

"The Young Lumber Worker" shop-paper will help the Young Workers League to organize the men in the mills and logging camps of Northern California.

OPEN SHOP PAPER ATTACKS PIONEERS

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—The last issue of the National Industrial Review, newspaper of the viciously open-shop Industrial Association contains an article which deplores the influence held by the Young Workers League and the Pioneers over the young workers and children. It speaks of the YWL as a "military organization for children and youths in this country pledged to Russia and under the management of the Communist Party and about "orders from Moscow", as per the usual stories. The writer of the article is worried about our campaign to "offset the work of the Boy Scout organization in schools and making the army service unpopular," which he admits is "reaching a considerable number of children."

The article goes on to quote from the Daily Worker, the Young Worker and the Young Comrade about League and Pioneer activities in Philadelphia, Boston, and among the Negro youth.

Three Children's Camps In California This Year

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—Three Workers Children Camps will be conducted this summer in California by the Young Workers (Communist) League and the Young Pioneers. One is in Fort Bragg, in the northern California lumber regions, the second is in the Bay Cities Territory, near San Francisco, Oakland, and Berkeley, and the third will be in Southern California, near Los Angeles. Between 400 and 500 children will be accommodated at all 3 camps.