

# YOUTH AND UNEMPLOYMENT

By I. AMTER

(Written in Jail)

During and since the World War it has become the practice of the bosses to use young workers in the place of adult workers, women and girls in the place of men, the reasons were obvious, women and girls took the place of men during the war, which was the period of the beginning intensified speed-up, it was established that young workers could stand the speed-up better than men, their wages were far lower, hours longer, they were less liable to accidents (and compensation) and more adaptable to changing methods of production.

Now we are in the midst of a crises that extend throughout the world and continues to become deeper. Owing to the fact that the American crises, 8,000,000 workers are in the streets begging for work—and among them are a great percentage of young workers.

But there is a big section of the young workers at work in the shops receiving wages that no adult worker could live on; wages are being cut, as for instance the 10 per cent at the National Cash Register without a moments notice.

The workers are showing more and more resentment and discontent with these wage slashes, more and more they are going into strike against wage cuts. The young workers play a significant part in these struggles.

In the jobless demonstrations throughout the world the young workers have shown that they too are willing to struggle against unemployment. They have been in the front ranks battling the police, defending the demonstrations.

The young workers are practically unorganized. The American Federation of Labor has barred its doors to the young workers, by fixing huge initiation fees, etc.—and particularly by organizing the skilled section of the young workers. The young workers of today have grown up in a period when skill has lost its importance, when machines have taken away most of the skill needed in the industry. Hence the A. F. of L.

playing the role of betrayers, have refused to organize the unskilled workers in order to keep the most exploited section of the workers in chains.

The crisis, in which the United States is at the present time, will become more intense. For the first six months of this year building contracts amount to only 49 per cent of the first six months of last year. This was the year of Hoover's "big" building program for unemployment relief. Mass wage cuts, speed-up come one upon the other immediately after the bosses promised Hoover that they would not cut wages.

The struggles of the workers are becoming more widespread all over the capitalist world. On the other hand Socialist Industry and collectivised agriculture in the Soviet Union is going ahead at a speed not equalled at any other time. This is being achieved under the five-year plan. The achievement of the five-year plan must be made known to all the workers of the capitalist countries and especially to the young workers. For the whole capitalist world, realizing what the growth of industry in the USSR means, is preparing to overthrow the only workers and peasants government in the world. War is being prepared against the Soviet Union and the young workers will be the first drafted in this war.

The fight for the jobless insurance bill, against wages cuts, against Imperialist war and for the defence of the Soviet Union are all one fight.

The young workers must be organized into the Trade Union Unity League, by the formation of shop committees in every shop, mine and mill composed of both adult and young workers. These shop committees must be linked up with TUUL and must prepare the young workers for the strike against wage cuts. The shop committees must be linked up with the unemployed councils in the fight for unemployment insurance. The slogan of Not a cent for armaments—all funds for the unemployed, must be made the main issue.

This winter will be a very

hard one for the American workers as well as the workers throughout the world. The task of the Young Communist League is to organize the young workers, to organize them into the TUUL. Out of the struggle the best fighters will come forward. These young fighters must be taken into the Young Communist League.

Never before did the Young Communist League, as well as the Communist Party face a better time to tell the workers the nature of the capitalist system, and the necessity of a change. The struggle is not in the future, the struggle is here right now. Every member of the Communist Party and Young Communist League has a task to do now.

1. To organize a shop committee of the TUUL in the shop where he or she works.
  2. Link it up with the Unemployed Councils.
  3. Spread the Young Worker, Daily Worker and Labor Unity.
  4. Get Worker Correspondents for the paper.
  5. Form campaign committees in the shops to support the Communist Party in the election campaign.
  6. Issue shop papers in every shop.
- And last but most important at the present time:—
7. Fight for the unemployment insurance bill.

## UNRESTS IN BOMBAY

BOMBAY, India—On International Red Day, which in India at the same time is the 10th anniversary of Mr. Tilak's death, police batoned down a demonstration in Bombay, in the course of which 275 persons were injured and 180 arrested.

On August 4th serious collisions occurred in Sukkur, where 5 Indians were killed and 95 injured.—In Ballia a demonstration of 15,000 took place. Police interfered and 5 Natives were killed, 16 injured.

Casualties reported on August 5th as a result of disturbances in four provinces total 28 dead and 185 injured.