

# Young Worker Most Potent Weapon for Drawing Youth Of America Into Ranks of the Revolutionary Movement

## Y.C.L. Now Penetrating Bourgeois Youth Organizations

By I. AMTER

AT THE 7th Congress of the Communist International, it was made perfectly clear that the Young Communist Leagues are not to be youth Communist Parties, but are to serve for the education and mobilization of the broad masses of young workers in the shops, factories, offices, and in all the mass organizations. For too long the Leagues have regarded themselves and have been regarded by the Parties not according to the view of the 7th Congress but just as young Parties. As a result, the youth activities have been fashioned after those of the Party and have neglected all those youth features that are so necessary in order to really rally masses into the revolutionary movement.

The bourgeoisie is very skillful in its attitude toward the youth. It does not leave it to ill-advised youth leaders to organize such activities as will encompass the millions of youth. In the U. S., we find even the big capitalists and prominent men of all stations occupying themselves with youth matters. The organization of the National Youth Administration and the outlining of its program shows clearly that the government has clear intentions of mobilizing the youth under the program of the "New Deal" against the revolutionary movement.

The 7th Congress showed conclusively that the Young Communist Leagues of the U. S. and of France have broken decisively with the practice condemned by the 7th Congress, and have begun to penetrate all the mass organizations set up by the bourgeoisie for the youth. The Y.C.L. in the U. S. has gone

directly into the Y's, Settlements, churches, and there reached the masses of youth that are not yet organized into the unions and sport organizations. We will meet the arguments and efforts of the bourgeoisie directly on their own field, and on the basis both of youth activities and the correct program of struggle, rally the youth against the bourgeoisie and for the revolutionary movement.

### Progress in United Front

The organization of the two youth Congresses, involving shop workers, trade unionists and all mass organizations, and the securing of the endorsement and participation in the Second Youth Congress by Central Trades Councils, shows clearly how far the work of the Young Communist League has proceeded on the basis of the united front. Even though the efforts of securing the united front with the Y.P.S.L. were successful at least formally, and resulted in their participation in the Second National Youth Congress, nevertheless it must be stated that the main driving forces and most active elements in the organization of the Congress were the Young Communists.

The 7th Congress has made it a task of the Parties to assist the Young Communists in the building up of the Y.C.L.'s and of broadening the united front. This becomes all the more important in view of the imminence of war and the development of fascism.

### A Popular Paper

The change in the life of the Y.C.L., at least in some sections of the country, is reflected in the organ of the Y.C.L. The Young Worker. An examination of the Young Worker from the first year to date shows this change. Up to the beginning of the year, The Young Worker was an organ primarily for inner consumption and for such young workers as already were class conscious. The character of the

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articles, the make-up of the organ were such that no young worker who had not yet been imbued with an understanding of the class struggle would be at all interested. The character of The Young Worker was due to the isolation of the Y.C.L. from the broad masses of the toiling youth. Hence its inner orientation. Hence the raising of theoretical questions in the same manner that the Communist Party raises them. Breaking with this isolation and adopting new tactics for penetrating the mass organizations of the youth, a drastic change was also made in the character of the paper.

Today The Young Worker is one of the most popular organs of the revolutionary movement, and approaches the needs and desires of large sections of young workers. The features that are being discussed as perhaps valuable for the Daily Worker have become an integral part of The Young Worker, such as sports, short stories, etc. Articles on Americanism, the history of the U. S., apt comparisons of conditions in the U. S. and the Soviet Union, shop and union news, reports of struggles, conferences, etc., show the approach to the young people. The Young Worker is well illustrated, speaks the language of

## Party Members Must Actively Support the Young Worker

the American boys and girls, and thus can make an approach to the young workers that hitherto has been closed to us.

However, in view of the splendid growth and improvement of The Young Worker, we have to ask the question as to why the Party which has the task of assisting the League in building up its ranks so seriously neglects The Young Worker. This organ can be a means of reaching many young workers and drawing them into the movement. Speeches by comrades about the need of building the Y.C.L. but failure to carry out those activities which are necessary to build it, puts such comrades in the class branded by Comrade Dimitroff as "windbags and not revolutionaries."

The Central Committee of our Party insists upon the districts, sections and units assisting the corresponding organs of the League in building up its ranks. There can be no better recommendation to every Party member and sympathizer than to buy a copy of The Young Worker and convince himself of the tremendous improvement in its content and make-up, and of the potent weapon that it is in our hands for reaching the young workers and drawing them into our ranks. Whoever is really interested in rallying the youth for the revolutionary movement and out of the hands of fascism in the U. S. must make it his task to make of The Young Worker the most widely-read organ of the Communist movement. This will be but one step in carrying out the task assigned to us by the Communist International as a most important measure in this period of developing wars and revolutions.