

# THE FOURTH CONGRESS OF THE Y. C. I.

**Y**OUNG rebels from all parts of the world, some facing the danger of being jailed and maltreated by the agents of the wealthy class of their country, will gather in Moscow around the early part of July to work out the policies of the Young Communist International. These are the red youth. These are representatives of those members of the working class young who are working the world over to arouse the toiling youth to join in the fight against decadent capitalism.

## Communism Is Binding Tie

An international congress is an inspiring spectacle. There is a common tie that binds the delegates, the interest of the working class youth; there is a single goal drives them on, communism.

The Young Communist International is young, not only in the age of the members under its leadership, but in the years of its existence. The Y. C. I. was born in 1919 in Berlin where it held its first congress. The congress about to be held in Moscow is the fourth.

## Leadership In Constant

The leadership of the Y. C. I. has changed but little since its birth. Lazar Shatzkin and Richard Schuller, present secretaries of the international are still at their posts—and are still very young. Both participated in the first international gathering of the communist youth. Nearly every member of the executive committee of the young communist international held a prominent position either in the international or in one of the leagues affiliated to it in 1919.

## Y. C. I. A Solidifying Force

Since the close of the war, when the

## By HARRY GANNES

elements now composing the Young Communist International were striving to rebuild the world organization, the Y. C. I. has been solidifying its forces. One of the big objects has been to draw together all the leagues affiliated to the international and put them under one generalship; to carry on the struggle not with a view solely to national prejudices or idiosyncracies, but with an understanding and with an outlook to the world political and economic situation. This does not mean that the national divisions were to be restricted in applying their forces with a knowledge of the local conditions, but history had taught these young rebels that a loose international organization at the time of a crisis (like the world war) spelt death and destruction. The revolutionary proletariat of the world must stand firm and under an iron leadership toward off the attacks of world capitalism.

## Mutual Aid Between Sections

This work of unifying and solidifying the ranks has progressed marvelously. Every section of the Y. C. I. has done its part to build up the international and the international in its turn has not stinted its efforts to aid in building up the national sections and has concentrated most where help was needed the greatest.

The fourth congress of the Young Communist International will represent young communist leagues that have established an organization and are ready for real work, and in many countries represents mass organizations of the working class youth.

## Fundamental Policies Unchanged

Since the second congress of Y. C. I. there has been but little change in the fundamental policies of the international communist youth. The problem has been to amplify the decisions, to apply them to practical work, to carry them out, and to broaden the struggle of the working class youth in every country.

## U. S. League With Y. C. I.

In the United States the league has endeavored to carry out the decisions of the third congress as well as the fourth bureau session. The N. E. C. most persistently strove to impress the members with the meaning of the theses and resolutions, to interpret them and to translate them into action. Our league did not have the unity of structure that was most desirable; but then we are even younger than the international. The league has expressed the will to carry forward

the struggle of the Y. C. I. as applied to this country. And today the work is proceeding at a rapid pace.

## Experience To Serve As Guide

There will be no especially new problems taken up at the fourth congress; yet the results of this congress will be of extreme importance. How has the German league fared during the reign of reaction? What has the French league done on the anti-military field? How have the Scandinavian leagues weathered the party conflicts? Is the Japanese league preparing for the developments that are taking place in that country? Questions such as these will come up and the experiences brought out will serve as a guide to the less experienced leagues.

## Nuclei and Anti-Militarism

Our old friend the shop nuclei will have its day. Anti-militarism will come in for its proper share of attention. The economic and trade union struggle is never overlooked by the Y. C. I.

We can count on this: The faults of the league during the past eighteen months will be brought out, the successes counted, the world situation reviewed, and a program of action based on actual conditions laid out. Then the work will proceed again.

## Program To Be Adopted

It is expected that the Y. C. I. will adopt a program at the fourth congress. This program has been in the making for a long time. It has been before the leagues for discussion. The tentative program has been printed in booklet form by the E. C. of the Y. C. I. and translated into about five languages. It is my view there will be but little change from the present basis, and that the program will be adopted unanimously with the addition of sections on religion, education, etc.

## Commission On U. S.

Because of the growth of the Young Workers League of America it is the belief of the comrades of the national executive committee that a special commission will be formed to delve into some of the unique problems met with in this country. This commission will be more than helpful in formulating special demands to be fought by the Y. W. L.

## Should Learn From Decisions

Our members should make sure to read and study the results of the fourth congress when these are available. For what avails the work of the delegates and E. C. of the Y. C. I. if the membership does not acquaint itself with the decisions arrived at, and then proceeds to put them into action?

# Siberia

rades.

Nikita was waiting for me. "You have just time to eat some supper and change your clothes. I told Nikivor to drive to the spot we have agreed upon when he hears the bell strikes twelve."

Near midnight we went out into the courtyard. The darkness seemed intense by contrast with the light room, but I could see a horse hitched to a sleigh. I stretched myself out on the bottom of the sleigh, after having spread out my "Gussi" Nikita covered me with a great truss of straw and bound it with twists of straw, to look like a load of some sort. He even scattered snow over the straw, so it would appear as if the sleigh had stood outdoors for sometime. The