

The Fourth World Congress of the Y. C. I.

By JOHN WILLIAMSON.

(Continued from previous issue)

THE actual creation of shop nuclei is the comparatively easy step in the reorganization. The second stage, the building of the organization upon the new basis confronts us with other problems. Comrade Gyptner then dealt with the temporary bridge organizational forms to assist the complete reorganization.

It must be remembered that the nucleus is not only a shop fraction. It is the basic unit of our organization. It is a political unit. As such it has all the tasks of the present branches only be cause of the fact that it has its roots in the factories or mines, it can carry out these duties more successfully. The nucleus must not be considered as consisting of merely ten or fifteen members, but our goal must be to organize all the young workers in the particular place of work where it is located. Many times the nuclei will have from fifty to one hundred members. It puts us in daily touch with the young workers' struggle. In a short time the entire organization is composed of nuclei instead of territorial branches as at the present time. These nuclei will then be classified into various nuclei branches which will be based also on the district of work instead of residence. The longer the territorial branches exist side by side with the developing nuclei it will serve as a hindrance. So all the leagues must plan carefully but deliberately for a complete and rapid reorganization.

Gyptner then dealt with the necessity of the congress setting a date for the complete reorganization of each national section. The N. E. C.'s will then work out the plans and date for each district and subordinate units.

One point which must emphatically be understood is that no united nuclei can exist of league and party members. Once the party is reorganized we will exchange representatives, but we must maintain our independence of organization.

Unemployed Remain in Shop Nuclei.
A difficulty which presented itself to some leagues in their work was unemployment. We must correct one point in our previous decisions. In the future unemployed members of nuclei must still maintain membership in the nucleus until they find another job. In the case of the majority being persecuted by the boss they must still maintain their organization and again redouble their efforts to recruit more young workers in that particular shop who will maintain the nucleus.

In the country our league will also have to change its form if we are to have a complete reorganization. This will take various forms. Sometimes farm nuclei will be organized where there are enough youth workers. Again, village or town nuclei, combining various workers.

In conclusion, Gyptner pointed out the good start made by some leagues

and reiterated again the fundamental statement that we can never be considered a real young communist league until we are the organization of the masses of young workers, until we are the moulders and leaders of this struggle. Only through the complete reorganization of the leagues basing ourselves upon the place of work, can we sink our roots among the masses and rally them under our banner to fight for our revolutionary goal.

Trade Union-Economic Report.

THE report on economic trade union work was given by Comrade Hammater. He dealt at great length with the question from many angles, despite the fact that the conditions of the youth workers had become much worse during the past period the leagues had not increased their economic trade union activities in proportion. In many countries it is limited too much to a general propaganda by word and press. Only in a very few countries did we take an active part in the daily struggles. One reason is that the leagues did not acquaint themselves enough with the actual situation of the young workers and lay out a definite program. Every league neglected one very important thing—that of issuing popular mass literature in connection with the economic struggle. A start has been made in every country, however, and it is only a matter of clarifying ourselves and extending our activity. The economic trade union activities is an important part of the political struggle and we must react to every important event thru our economic trade union work. The nearer we came to a mass organization thru our shop nuclei the more virile and concrete must become our economic activity. We can only ourselves as a revolutionary mass organization if we become the sole representatives of the young workers in their every struggle. Since we all accept this truism, we must emphatically repudiate any attempt at forming youth sections in the trade unions. France was dealt with under this head at great length.

Internationally, we can observe the following three phases: A. That of the theoretical discussion of trade union economic work. B. The period of the general propagation of our demands. C. The period of the propagation of concrete demands arising out of the given situation and an actual struggle for them. The shop nuclei have not merely an economic trade union function to perform, but without shop nuclei no good work in the trade unions can be carried out. The existence of nuclei in the shops serves to help us keep our fingers on the pulse of the working class youth. We are thus in an advantageous position to become the leaders of the struggle. The nuclei must call shop meetings of all the young workers at which they take up the economic questions of the shop and advance demands to be fought for.

In the case of only one union existing within the shop the nucleus will automatically become the union fraction. If more than one union exist, the nucleus must organize and di-

rect the activities of the various league fractions. The nucleus must work in close contact with the trade union representatives in the shop and must report to the league, partly and trade union opposition press the daily struggles of the young workers. No struggle, however petty, no strike, must be allowed to pass without our active participation, both in strike work and in setting up specific youth demands, and at the same time binding up the every-day struggle with the general political class struggle. In the reformist trade unions, our communist forces must work to mobilize and win the masses against the bureaucracy. We must fight to organize the entire working class into the unions and bitterly oppose any attempt at secession. We must assist the party in establishing unions where none exist. We must at all times set up our league fractions without each union separate from the party fraction which will formulate the necessary youth demands and fight for their adoption.

Common Front of League and Party

WE must also insist upon the party fighting for our youth demands. It is the direct task of the young communist league to win the masses of young trade union members for the revolutionary trade union opposition. The Young Communist League must be present at all conferences of the trade union opposition and strive to have these bodies adopt our demands.

In various countries a majority or a large minority of the unions are affiliated with the Red International of Trade Unions. It has been necessary to fight vigorously against the theory of youth sections within these trade unions. We must continue to stress that through the election of young trade unionists to office, knowing the conditions of the workers, the trade unions can organize them without any special youth sections.

The offensive of capital and the pauperization of the working class youth on an international scale continues. Thus the congress stated that during the coming period we must actively participate in this form of activity. We must initiate and lead factory campaigns based both on individual shops and on industries. We must utilize every such struggle to strengthen our already existing nuclei or to organize one of none exists. Our efforts must always be to further our young communist league organizationally or in influence. As the offensive of capital increases, so must we persistently increase the struggle for our partial demands. The better we understand the struggles of the youth and how to deepen these struggles through our concrete demands arising out of the existing situations, the more confidence will the youth have in our league. The struggle for our partial demands must be only a lever in the struggle for the complete destruction of the power of capitalism. These struggles will prepare them ideologically for the greater and final struggle of seizing power and operating the industries for themselves. It will educate them to

an understanding that through these partial demands we must struggle for the final demand—the dictatorship of the proletariat.

THE sport question occupied considerable time. It was pointed out that the majority of the leagues have not given this the necessary attention. It is imperative that we have definite plans worked out by each N. E. C. to direct this work. We must build red fractions in all existing workers' sport organizations and gradually win control of these. It is necessary that we break the ideological control that the capitalist class have over the many workers organized in these clubs. These must take on a class character and be utilized for furthering our young communist league. In many countries these workers' sport organizations have reached great dimensions, and there they can be used to fight Fascism, bourgeois militarists, and reaction. Due to the physical education received, these organizations become of great assistance in forming the kernel of the proletarian defense organizations in Europe at the present time.

The congress stated that all the leagues must intensify their activities in this field and aim at form-

ing a national workers' sport organization, which should become the respective national section of the Red Sport International.

Other questions dealt with at the congress included the agrarian question, anti-militarist work, the Opponent Youth Movements, the Program of the Y. C. I. and Leninist education. But these must be dealt with in a later article.

Due to the increased work of the international, it was considered advisable to enlarge the Executive Committee to consist of 23 members. The policy of the Y. C. I. in bringing about a lowering of the age limit began in the E. C. itself, with all of the old members retiring, giving place to new and younger elements which have been developing. Shatzkin, Zloger, Hammater and others, including our own Comrade Carlson, are among those who are now passing out of the youth movement.

The new executive has a tremendous work ahead of it, but if the membership of the leagues everywhere will show the same willingness to put into effect the decisions made as did the delegations, then we can feel certain that their tasks will be fulfilled.

The delegation of the Y. W. L. was wholeheartedly in favor of the decisions arrived at and pledges to do its utmost to have our membership put them into action.

Discipline

A Statement by the National Executive Committee of the Young Workers League

ONE of the primary tasks before the Young Workers League today is the bolshevization of the organization, making of it a Leninist young communist league. In order to achieve this aim, it is necessary that a strict discipline be maintained in the league, that the comrades shall recognize the principle of democratic centralization as a fact and not a theory. The Young Workers League cannot be an organization in which the directives of the national committee are taken lightly or completely ignored. Such a condition would be fatal to any communist organization.

It is for this reason that the National Executive Committee of the league has just taken disciplinary action against four comrades and one section of the organization, for failure to adhere to the decisions and instructions of the committee on the question of anti-militarist work. Despite the fact that anti-militarist activity in a young communist organization is such that it permits of absolutely no excuse, if instruction on it are directly violated or ignored, the disciplinary action has been very lenient in consideration of the fact that our league is yet young, and various other circumstances entering into the question have induced the National Executive Committee to act mildly in this matter.

One of the principles of communist anti-militarist work is activity within the armed forces of the capitalist state. For this reason, the committee chose a number of comrades to enter the Citizens military Training Camps so that they might carry on work therein, and gather experience for

record of this. The comrade's record in the organization is, however, a clean one, and the members of the investigating committee, while personally assured of the fact that comrade Herd did follow out the instructions of the committee, realized that no formal evidence of this existed. Taking into account the account the comrade's record of good work and activity in the past and his desire to continue to work in the ranks of the Y. W. L. it was decided that the comrade be suspended from the organization for the period of one month, after which he will make application for re-entry into the organization to the N. E. C.

3. Al Schaap, another comrade who had been instructed to enter the camps, failed even to make application. His entire attitude, despite constant instructions, was decidedly uncommunist, and the times even flippant. The comrade took advantage of his position in the party to crawl out of the decision, asserting that he could not get the four weeks leave of absence to attend the camps; later when the camp term was over, he got a 3 week's vacation from his job due to circumstances which cannot at present be gone into, failed to make application for entry into the camps. Because of these circumstances, which by no means excuse the breach of discipline, the committee has decided that the comrade receive a public censure of uncommunist action and breach of discipline.

4. Morris Goldstein, member of the Y. W. L. of Chicago and later of Cleveland, another of those chosen for this work, made application to enter the

Don't forget also that we want a 10,000 circulation at the same time. In Chicago, the plan of every member taking a number of copies and collect-