

THE YOUNG WORKER

An Organ of the Militant Young Workers

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CHICAGO, ILL., JULY 15, 1924

THE YOUNG WORKER
Stands For
Unionizing the Youth!
Equal Pay for Equal Work for
Young and Old!
A 6-Hour Day, 5-Day Week for
Young Workers!
Abolition of Child Labor!
A Fight Against Capitalist
Militarism!
A Fight Against the Boss Class!
The Workers' Republic!

PRICE 5 CENTS

WHAT DANGERS TO YOUTH ON JULY 4

Show

SPEED UP AND
PIECE PAYMENT
FOR THE YOUNG

Boys and Girls Slaving
in Sweets' Shop

By BARNEY MASS.

Picture 1,200 young girls and boys, slaving in cold and hot rooms, straining every muscle in their bodies, dipping, moulding, cutting and wrapping chocolates. This depicts the daily eight and one-half hours of toil, which the young workers in the Bunte Candy Co. go thru.

Standing on hard cement floors, with the temperature registering 50 degrees, wrapped in sweaters and shawls, young girls and boys, some as young as 12 and 13 years, dip, cut, mould and perform other operations on the candy. Where the cocoa and other chemicals are cooked to be prepared for confectionaries, the rooms are chokingly hot and

we find girls, wearing only ons, perspiration rolling on their faces, laboring for a asly salary of \$16, \$17 or \$18 a week. The boys, with cloths apped around their heads, to keep the hair from falling into their eyes, operate various machines, demanding their alertness and attention.

\$20 For Young Workers
For heavy labor, the boys receive salaries ranging from \$20 to \$23 per week. The efficiency system cannot be surpassed. Each sort of candies goes thru a number of operations, and the young workers are forced to keep up a pace, meeting with the speed of the machines. While asking one girl, working in the cough-drop department if it was possible to receive any injury, she replied, no, but at the same time narrowly escaped getting her fingers entangled in a machine performing four to five operations simultaneously.

Machine Replacing Slaves
This machine replaces 25 to 30 workers. It loads, seals the cough-drops in each box. It was recently introduced and is only two months old, but the company is well satisfied with it. Another new machine is one compressing the candy to the share desired. Before, this operation was done by a boy sitting on top of a paddle with the candy placed in between. This old method is still in existence. The old way, is very inconvenient and wasteful, as the boy has to judge the time, sometimes causing the candy to be squeezed too tightly. The new policy hurries production and replaces help in periods of business revival. Another new machine is one cutting and wrapping caramels. A woman standing feeds the fudge into the machine, under a high nervous tension. While going thru the plant I noticed that she was replaced by another, within two hours time. More and more modern machinery is being introduced, causing the discharge of many, many workers, harder and speedier work. In some departments, the noise of the machine is deafening.

The Cocoa Packing Room
At the present time only one-half of the force is working. Sitting under two tubes, from which the cocoa steadily pours, a young girl and boy, apparently of the ages of 12 and 13, (Continued on page 2.)

Millions Sweated From Kids

YOUNG BOYS AND GIRLS
OF BUNTE'S FACTORY—
LINE UP FOR A FIGHT

In another column you see exposed the conditions under which you are working. The Young Worker is writing this story up, is not interested in it from the point of view of sensationalism. It is interesting because it is the paper of the Young Workers League of America, an organization of young workers, boys and girls like yourself, who are united to better their conditions wherever they work.

Do you know what our program is? We want you to join the Young Workers League of America and fight in the factory for the following demands.

1. Abolition of the speed-up and piece work systems.
2. No night work or overtime work.
3. A six hour day and five day week for all young workers.
4. A fully paid weeks annual vacation.

You can get these demands if you unite into one body and present your program to the bosses who are making hundreds of thousands of dollars while you have hardly enough to live on. While you sweat at your bench, your bosses are in Palm Beach, enjoying the best there is in life.

You can win if you get together. Join up with the Young Workers League of America and fight side by side with the other young workers of this country for a decent share in life!

Get in touch with us immediately at 1113 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, Ill.

Your fight is our fight!

HALF A MILLION IS BUNTE PROFIT AS YOUTH SLAVE

By JOHN HARVEY.

Throughout the United States, Canada, England, South America and the far-east, the Bunte chocolates and confections are piling up profits. The young girls and boys who are making the candies, on the other hand are being driven at a terrific pace, under what is commonly known as the efficiency system.

The net sales of these HIGH QUALITY CONFETIONERY increased within 2 years, six times as much. In 1912 the net sales were \$1,229,305 as compared with the sales of 1923 of \$6,284,264.

Pass Half Million Mark
The profits for the year of 1923 were over the half million mark. (\$547,944). The earning on the preferred stock per share for the same year was 50.51 percent; on the common stock per share \$4.13. The accumulative surplus at the end of 1923 was \$1,893,906.

In Chicago alone candy sales amount to more than \$50,000,000 annual. How much did the boys and girls receive who made possible by their hard labor and meager pay such enormous profits for the candy bosses? NOT EVEN A LIVING WAGE!

While the directors of the Bunte Brothers are realizing more and more profits without contributing any labor, the wages of the young workers (in relation to the cost of living) have been steadily decreasing.

The Chicago Tribune in its book "Chicago's Market Center" speaks

EDUCATION GOES WHEN CHILDREN ARE EXPLOITED

SAN LEANDRO, Calif.—That owners of asparagus beds in various parts of the state are exploiting children is the charge made by W. O. Davies, supervisor principal of schools in this city.

As early as March, he asserts, the exodus of children begins. The laws are invaded in some instances by movable part-time schools, which the parents transport with them. These are useless, according to Davies, because there is no supervision and no assurance that the children will attend.

Davies' charges are supplemented by a report of Dr. C. R. Blake, county health officer, who has investigated child labor in the asparagus beds of Sacramento valley.

**\$500 for Reply as to
Why Coolidge Should
be U. S. President**

SAN FRANCISCO.—How California schools are being used for reactionary propaganda is evidenced by several recent prize essay contests offered to school children by newspapers. The Los Angeles Times and the San Francisco Chronicle both offered prizes for essays on the federal constitution, based on Randolph Leigh's "The Citadel of Freedom," a book full of misstatements of fact and enthusiastically endorsed by the anti-labor Better America Federation. Now the California Republican offers a \$500 scholarship to a high school student for an essay on "Why Coolidge Should be Returned to the White House." At that, it is worth \$500 to find out why!

**Alleged Progressive
Votes Against Child
Labor in the Senate**

WASHINGTON.—Among the senators who voted against the proposition to keep the age limit "for future regulation" of child labor at 18, and to make it, instead, affect only those child laborers of 16 years and under, was the would-be progressive senator from Idaho, William Ewert Borah. Another of this progressive species, Reed, of Missouri, attacked the resolution because "it is supported by revolutionists who despise the constitution and regard its precepts as inferior to the teachings of the Communist International."

Gray Silver, of the Farm Bureau Federation, the organization of the rich farmers, also opposed the resolution.

"NOTHING TOO GOOD FOR 'EM."

ALBANY, N. Y.—Another and more thorough senate investigation of the U. S. veterans' bureau is demanded by delegates to the New York state convention, Disabled American Veterans of the World War, meeting in Albany. Graft, red tape and too much politics are charged laid against the bureau.

of the Bunte factory and its fourteen acres of land and 450,000 square feet of floor space, and tells how it is set in beautiful surroundings. However, like much of the company propaganda about the plant, it is very careful to omit mention of the revolting conditions inside of the plant with which the young workers are confronted but speaks only of the "beautiful exterior" which they see only early in the morning and late at night.

Build your shop nuclei!

\$20,000,000 IS DIVIDENDS FROM SWEATED SLAVES

**Six-Year-Olds Toil 15
Hours Each Day**

By LELAND OLDS.

Exploitation of entire families including women and little children under a contract labor system has enabled the American beet sugar trust to pile up huge profits for the year 1923-24. Reports of four leading companies controlling over 60 percent of the output show profits totalling about \$20,000,000, an increase of nearly 100 percent compared with the previous year.

The extent to which a high protective tariff served to enrich the profiteer rather than to protect American labor appears in the great profit margin which averaged \$1.99 a bag or nearly 2 cents a pound on the 10,057,504 bags of sugar produced by the four companies. These profits meant a return to owners of common stock running as high as \$18.25 on a \$25 share in the case of the leading corporation. This represented a return of 73 percent on their investment.

Detailed figures showing total profit, profit per bag and profit per share of common stock after all deductions for depreciation, taxes, interest and preferred dividends are given in the following table:

Amalg. Sugar \$ 2,688,86 \$1.82 \$ 2.62

Gt. Wstn. Sug. 12,004,304 2.02 18.10

Amer. Bt. Sugar 1515,972 2.04 8.10

Utah-Idaho Sug. 3,758,159 1.94 1.32

Total \$19,067,296 \$1.99

The nature of the exploitation which makes such profits possible is revealed in report of the Children's Bureau of the department of labor. The bureau found that the labor of mothers with little children and of boys and girls as young as 6 years is a regular thing in the beet fields of Michigan and Colorado. In fact, the possibility of turning tiny children into wage earners is one of the inducements offered by contractors in recruiting the slaves of the sugar trust.

In both Colorado and Michigan one-fourth of the child workers were under 10, another fourth were between 10 and 12 years old and only one-fifth in Michigan and a little over one-sixth in Colorado had passed the age of 14 years.

One-third of the entire number reported working under pressure for 11 hours or more per day and one-eighth reported a day of from 12 to 15 hours. These long hours were continued in some instances for weeks at a stretch, 10 and 12 years old and only one-fifth

The living quarters provided for this contract labor were found to be wretched. More than half the families lived in shacks built of tar paper or corrugated iron, or in roughly boarded shanties frequently with but one door and one window. Many of these were not weatherproof. Overcrowding was common with almost half of the contract workers living 3 or more persons to a room. Testimony before the senate committee showed the Mexican families were imported for this work in order to keep wage standards down.

ST. PAUL CONVENTION DECLARATIONS FOR 3 Y. W. L. PLATFORM DEMANDS

(Special to "The Young Worker")

ST. PAUL.—Among the numerous resolutions adopted at the Farmer-Labor party convention just concluded here were three of the demands presented by the Young Workers League of America. The convention declared its opposition to child labor and demanded legislation to insure its abolition. It declared also for opposition to imperialist wars. The league resolution on workers' control of capitalist armed forces was adopted in the following form:

The convention "declared that the working class must establish its control over the militia and other armed forces by organizing committees of working class members and of such bodies, in co-operation with the trade unions and other workers' organizations to prevent the armed forces from being used by the capitalist class against the workers."

PLOT TO SELL U. S. ANOTHER WAR REVEALED

Pershing Spills Beans in West Point Talk

WEST POINT, N. Y.—A conspiracy of the government, the army, and militarist propaganda societies to check the growing peace agitation and sell the next war to the people has come to light in the graduation address of General John L. Pershing at the United States Military academy, West Point, describing plans for a monster war demonstration next fall.

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Join with the Y. W. L.

Selfishness and Hatred know frontiers; Brotherhood knows them not.—Lamartine.

Send in those subs now!

CRY OF PATRIOTISM USED TO HIDE WAR PREPARATIONS FOR GAINING OF GREATER PROFITS

By MAX SHACHTMAN.

WHAT is behind all the speeches being made this July 4th? Who is backing up the huge celebrations and demonstrations on this one hundred and forty-eighth anniversary of the American declaration of independence?

What is going on in America while the youth of this country is listening with wide open mouth to the speeches of the capitalist politicians and their kept orators?

While the bunkshooters are shouting about the declaration of independence and the revolutionary war for freedom of 1776, the most monstrous and detailed plans for the taking away of what little freedom the workers of this country have left, and for the manufacture of another huge war, are being made by the capitalists and financiers of this country!

Unless the workers of this country, especially the young workers who suffer first, are awakened to the situation in this country today, they will soon find themselves in the midst of a war which will be much bigger than the last world war, which will bring more death and destruction than any other war since the beginning of history.

Do you remember how the last war began? Do you remember how the munitions trust was exposed in congress as being behind the Army and Navy League which was agitating for preparedness?

Do you remember that altho Wilson was re-elected as president on a "He Kept Us Out of War" platform, he asked congress to declare war on Germany within a few days after he resumed his office?

Do you remember how every attempt at giving the workers of this country a chance to state their opinions on entering the war, was frustrated by the militarists?

And finally, do you recall the tens of thousands of proud young men, who went across and never came back; and their buddies who did come back with broken bodies and torn limbs, while the millionaire "dollar a year" men sat at home making millions in profits wrung out of the workers, or else grafted other millions out of government bureaus?

The last war came swiftly and found the workers unprepared. Will the next war find them equally unprepared?

Is America preparing for war? Is the groundwork being laid for another slaughter of the young workers for the profit of the Morgan-Rockefeller-Gary gang?

The answer is given in almost every important news event of the day.

Under the false pretense of preparing for "the defense of the country" millions are being spent on the army and navy. Congress rushes thru a \$330,000,000 appropriation for the army; a few days later \$150,000,000 is arranged for the navy.

The most strenuous efforts are being made to fill up the quotas for the men in the army for the next war.

Why all these preparations? The beautiful posters which advertise the army, navy, marines, and training camps speak of the opportunity for the young fellow to develop his body and mind, to see the world and all the rest of the piffle. These slogans are being used to drag in the trusting youth so that American imperialists can have ready-made cannon fodder in the time of their need. But behind it all? General Pershing told the truth when he said that the C. M. T. C. are a good means for training the youth of the nation to be ready in the event of a war.

Why a war?

Only a few weeks ago, congress passed the Japanese exclusion law. Feeling is running high in Japan today. Suppose an irresponsible Japanese should harm an American subject in Japan. Immediately the hue and cry would be raised in this country. Our honor must be defended! Our flag must be apologetic to! Other "patriotic" slogans will be raised. And before we realize what has happened American battleships will be under full steam for Japan and a first class war will be begun.

Behind it all are the rich investments in the Philippines, the rich and unemployed coal and iron ore mines of China, the oil lands of Persia and Rumania,

SPEED UP AND PIECE PAYMENT FOR THE YOUNG

Boys and Girls Slaving in Sweets' Shop

(Continued from page 1)

load it into cans. The temperature in this room is very cold, to keep the stuff from sticking. The air is charged heavily with the odor of cocoa, and to an outsider it is difficult to catch one's breath. Yet for 8 hours these two young people (this is when production is at a low stage under normal times, this room employs 5 to 6 people) labor under such conditions for a insignificant salary of \$12 to \$13 per week. One cannot help but see that such conditions developing consumptives.

Hand Dipping Department

Girls crowded together, numbering 1 and 8, sitting on each side of benches, 15 to 20 in all, dip the confections. On coming into the room, seeing them with white caps, and going thru peculiar motions, exerting and over-exercising every muscle in their frail bodies, one is strangely impressed. Those who are more experienced go thru the action so fast, that even a machine would have hard times in beating the speed. One elderly woman was conspicuous, by her frenzied labors, in order to earn 20 to 25 dollars for her week's toll. That she earns contempt of her co-workers for her fanatical pace, could be judged by the expression on the faces of many of the younger girls. They are paid by piece work and probably this woman had many mouths to feed, this can explain her procedure to premature death.

The looks that greeted a person, when passing thru, were those of helplessness, apathy and resignation to a fate of gradual death. They earn from \$12 up. But to earn much more means the killing of all womanhood in every one of the young girl slaves.

The Wrapping Department

Here the girls stand, catching the candy from belts and wrapping them in tissue paper. They also get paid by piece work. As fast as the candy comes, so is their speed adjusted. The machine drives and unless they can keep up with it, discharge is the outcome. Shirkers is not tolerated, but the efficiency system must be upheld. The rooms in which they work are of the same temperature, as that of the cocoa packing room, about 50 degrees. Going out of cold rooms into the hot air, means the tissues suffer a sudden change and with regular repetition, causes irritation and tuberculosis sets in many times. Bunte's Quality Confectionery Manufacturers never boast of their producing tubercular patients.

The Hard Candy Department

In the future, lemon drops, etc. lose their flavor for me, especially after one sees that the flavoring includes human sweat and blood in its production. In hot rooms with no ventilation, the material is cooked, flavored, cut and shaped. Taking the stuff not from the pot, it is spread on greased tables, and then the process of beating, mixing in the flavor, takes place. Most of this work is done by young boys, as it is too hard for the girls... their sweat is even worse comparatively than the others.

As one boy confessed, a fellow "feels like nothing" after the day is finished.

In view of the Bunte Brothers' new advertising campaign, gaining world wide recognition for its quality, it should be noted the human side is not mentioned. The people who enjoy the delicious flavors of Bunte's choice candies, will have their appetites dampened and the taste will smack of filth, when once they see it produced.

By every timeclock, is a large sign, "Those running to clock before the whistle blows, will be immediately discharged." This means that the young wage slaves must remain at their post, dipping, cutting, moulding, etc. until they hear the sound of the whistle to deliver them from their living hell. They must not use the time of the company in washing their hands and making themselves suitable to return home, because it means that the company would lose probably a few dollars and this cannot be tolerated in an efficiency slave shop.

What have the young boy and girl slaves of Bunte's to say about their conditions?

Will they remain silent or get into action?

WITH THE YOUNG WORKERS ON THE JOB

FIRED FROM SCAB SHOP.
CHICAGO, ILL.

Dear Comrades:

I went around without work for several months and could not get a job. One morning I found a job in the papers; it was a curtain factory. I went to the place where they had asked for help. By the time I came there, there were many girls already waiting for work. We sat about an hour, then the boss came out. The first thing he asked the girls was if they belonged to the union. Many did belong to the union and he would not hire them. All those that did not belong were hired and offered eleven dollars a week. I was one of them that accepted the job. When we came in the shop it was a very dirty and unhealthy place.

I got to work and it was very hard work at eleven dollars a week. When all the time came around I talked to all the girls and became very friendly with them, though we did not have much time to talk. In the half an hour we were given for dinner. The next day I went over to one of the girls and told her that it would be a very good thing for us to belong to the union, so that we would slave less and have better wages. I also told them of the Y. W. L. They told me to mind my own business and go about my work; and that if I didn't keep my mouth shut they would tell the boss and I would be kicked out of the shop. They said I was there to work and not to make them Bolsheviks and tell them to belong to a union when they can get along without that stuff.

But there was one girl that understood me and she said that I was right. She will join the union for better conditions. We left the shop the very next day and I am now a member of the John Reed branch of the Young Workers' League, to help you with the struggle.

Yours for the revolution,
REBECCA MASLOVITZ.

SOUTH BEND WAGES.
SOUTH BEND, Ind.

Dear Comrades:

There are men and women running

up and down this town looking for jobs. Read the following and you will realize our situation here:

The Studebaker Corporation of South Bend isn't paying enough for a fellow to live on. The wages for common labor are 50 cents per hour for work like trucking and sweeping. But a fellow sure does have to work for that money, the boss riding you all day. He is always at your heels. There are some piece-work jobs which have to be done by two men, who could make 70 cents an hour, but they mustn't put out as much work as three men working day work for 45 and 50 cents an hour and they have to keep at their work in order to make that much. The "hurry up" call is always in the back of them. They have to work nine to eleven hours a day and five days a week.

The Singer Sewing Machine Company is worse than the Studebaker. They pay about the lowest prices in South Bend, from 27 to 40 cents an hour, and like the other companies men have to work hard for their money.

The piece workers can't make more than 60 cents an hour, and some can't even make their day rate, which is only 40 cents. They work nine hours a day and five days a week. The only good thing about the sewing machine place is that if they work 5½ days a week they get paid for six days.

The Oliver Chilled Plowworks is just about as bad as the rest. They just laid off about 900 men for two months. They pay from 25 to 60 cents per hour. Here is the same complaint from the workman: "The 'hurry up call' is always at our backs." They work nine hours a day and five days a week. Wages for high positions are higher than \$300 a month.

Some families pay \$20 to \$65 for home rent. There is as high cost of living here as there is at any other place. There won't be many flies here this summer, because they will have to starve to death. The people won't have enough to eat!

Fraternally yours,
JOHN TEZLA and
STEPHEN SZIGETY.

WHAT ARE WE COMING TO?

HOUSTON, PA.

Dear Comrades:

I have been reading in the past week about the garment strikers in Chicago, who are not allowed on the streets as pickets.

On the evening of April 6th, a few comrades and I were standing on the streets of a little town known as Meadowville, Pa., in front of a church or rather a piece down further where a Ku Klux Klan meeting was being held, when a constable known as Anderson, or better known around as the K. K. K. hireling, came over and asked us what we were doing. We answered by saying we were trying to have a little conversation. "Well," he said, "you fellows better get to hell out of here, and the began to scatter us.

We scattered, but that didn't appeal to one of the comrades, because another party was blocking the sidewalk not far from us. So he goes up to this constable and asks him why he doesn't scatter that gang. "Well, I will," he said, and walked down and began to talk to them; but he didn't make any attempts to scatter them, because the men were a bunch of Ku Klux Klan that were watching the other lowdown scum that were in the church.

So that goes to show that an officer of the government who is elected by the people when in office protects one class of people only and the others cannot even walk along the streets peaceably.

There should be a stop to this and the only way to do it is to join the Y. W. L. and help destroy this present system and establish a Soviet government as in Russia.

Yours fraternally,
MICHAEL OSSESSIA.

EXPERIENCES IN A COAL MINE.

DILLONDALE, Ohio.

Dear Comrades:

When I started to work in the coal mine, I was out on a job, being a trapper for drivers who haul coal from the rooms of the loader to the passway, where the motorman and the triprider get the loads and haul them outside. After a while on this job, I was put on a new job as switchman in the state of Illinois and also

boy for motorman and triprider on the motor road.

It was a snap job for me and I'll tell you that I was surely tired of no work. Then after being on the job for a while the boss came to me one morning and said, "Go down to the mule barn and bring the mule up to the pit mouth." I looked at him and said, "Where is the assistant boss?" He said, "He's down there." "Then he'll bring the mule up," I replied. "That's his duty." But he insisted on me to go for the mule, and I said I wouldn't. So he got mad and said, "Go to your car and sit down." I turned and looked at him, saying, "That's where I go every morning and I'm going again."

So I went with the drivers in the coal mine. First thing I knew the next day the boss came up to me and said, "No more company job for you. You can come up next day to load coal." I came up the next day when the mine worked and asked for a slip for loading checks. He gave it to me and I went to the tipple and got my checks and went loading coal with a friend by the name of James Velek.

I'll tell the world how the coal diggers work. The coal loader works so hard some days that he can hardly walk. Especially when a coal loader gets from thirty to fifty inches of stone, and cleans it away for nothing. That is surely hard work. And if the coal loader wants to make money he surely must work.

And that is not only with loading coal. The coal digger must set posts in order to be safe; also he must fix his own track for cars to run on, drill the hole, must shoot the coal down with powder and have coal ready to load.

Read The Young Worker.

Fraternally yours,
JOE KOBYLAK, Jr.

ILLINOIS MINES CLOSING DOWN.

Dear Comrades:

I just want to state a few things about the coal mines. Most of the mines in the state of Illinois and also

other states are closing down and what few mines are still working, are only working one and two days a week. In West Frankfort we have three mines closed and what mines are not closed are only working one or two days like the rest. But we have one that works better. It is a new mine and will be the biggest mine in the world. In this new mine they have loading machines. Two men are able to load 70 to 80 tons a day and they have one load of 100 tons. This mine works three shifts in 24 hours. If the work were evenly divided we would not have such large unemployment among the miners as there is.

Fraternally yours,
NOEL BERNARD.

IN A FINISHING CO.

Dear Comrades:

The small capitalists of the Finishing Co. are not satisfied with employing adult workers to work for reasonable living wages, so, for the past month (May) they have been advertising in the local bourgeois press for young men about 16 years of age.

Jobs could be found, a decrease of almost 50 per cent.

"With manufacturing employment declining more sharply May than at any time since 1921, with many mines closing and others closing, and with outdoor occupations held back somewhat by the continued cool weather," says the report, "the number of unemployed people in the state has become larger than at any time since early fall 1922."

Workers are flocking to Chicago in search of jobs and not getting them. Chicago's unemployment index for May, 1922, was 163.3, its worst since March, 1922. Some downstate cities have been hit more severely than has Chicago. They include Danville, "where there were nearly 4 job seekers for each available opportunity to work." At Decatur and East St. Louis there were more than two persons for each vacancy, the report declares.

In the metals, machinery and corvee group, "There were cutbacks in ten out of twelve industries. Depression in the mining industry is general. Employment decline was also noted in shoe factories, chemical industries, wearing apparel, factories stockyards and in the wholesale and retail trade."

That this situation is not confined to Illinois alone can be seen from the latest report on freight car loadings, which are an index to the business being done by the country. The revenue on Class I railroads totalled only \$19,904 cars for the last week in May. This is a marked decrease from the freight loadings of exactly a year ago of 112,780 cars and a decrease of 98.3% from the week just previous to this.

The workers of the country must begin to wake up to the fact that there is a huge crisis of unemployment coming in this country.

—A. H.

temporarily taking the place of "Dad" Walker of South Dakota, who is now ill.

The Party Now and Later

The National Farmer-Labor Party at present embraces, on the whole, the left section of the movement for independent political action. One of the main tasks of the party is to broaden and strengthen this left wing within the labor party movement until the labor party becomes an organization including the vast mass of workers who subscribe to independent political action. A big job for the Young Workers League and Workers Party members is to agitate and work for the affiliation of trades unions and other working class organizations to the Farmer-Labor Party.

The demands of the Young Workers League fared as well as was to be expected. Our demand for the abolition of child labor is included in the platform. Our other demands, such as the one calling for the cessation of armaments, were adopted by the committee in the form of the resolutions. The demand for the six-hour day and five-day week for youth labor was not specifically adopted, but that means only that the militant workers and farmers are not far enough advanced and that we, the young communists, will have to get on the job and see that in the future the young and adult workers and farmers are better acquainted and convinced of the correctness of our demands.

LaFollette and Our Candidates

The question of LaFollette was, of course, the biggest in the convention. But LaFollette had himself aided in his being discredited by his actions and words before the convention and at the Republican convention in Cleveland. That it was one of the most reactionary in its career, La

Follette has made no statement on it; he still remains a member of the party of Coolidge and Dawes. This, together with the stand of the communists against a "one man party" broke the backbone of the LaFollette support. The convention unanimously accepted the nomination of McDonald and Bouck as its candidates.

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Makes the communist position clear, so far as LaFollette's running on the ticket is concerned. However, we have not the slightest illusions about his accepting the nomination. The St. Paul nominees will probably stand.

The Basis for the Party

The convention has achieved what it set out to do. It has laid the foundation for a class farmer-labor party in this country. It has formed the basis for growth. In the hands of its national Committee, the new party will be molded and increase in size, strength and influence. On this committee we find men and women like Alexander Howat, chairman, A. C. Hathaway, Alice Lorraine Daly, Joseph Manley, Scott Wilkins, Wm. Mahoney and Alfred Knutson, who is

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'WE ARE ORGANIZING SHOP NUCLEI' SHOULD BE THE CALL OF THE Y. W. L.

By JOHN WILLIAMSON

In Russia it is impossible for our young comrades to understand why we are still organized in territorial ranches and not in shop nuclei. They like me so earnestly, "If our comrades in America work in shops, factories or in with other young workers, why don't they organize a league nucleus?"

Wish every comrade in America could be put in this embarrassing situation when confronted by such a simple question of a Russian comrade, am sure that within very few weeks we could report to the Young Communist International that we have 5 or 100 live functioning nuclei, and that our members find their activities as Young Communists so much more interesting, since they have actually unk the roots of organization into the workshops.

Now Have 9 Nuclei.

For over a year the National Executive Committee has been propagating thru bulletins, lectures, pamphlets and press the necessity of organizing our organizations upon a shop nuclei basis.

The National Executive Committee has spared no effort, but it was necessary for them to depend upon the local comrades to carry out these decisions in true Communist fashion. Today after several failures and innumerable attempts we find about nine actual shop nuclei existing. The comrades connected with these send in

Sister Leagues More Active.

But during that same period of time that we have organized, nine of our sister leagues have been more active.

In Czechoslovakia we find 108 established; in Germany, 250; in France, 40; in Britain, 20; in Sweden, 10, and so on. We find the United States—an ideal country larger than any of these—with industry concentrated, giving us advantages that our comrades in other lands are denied. In many of these countries our comrades must work under persecution at the same time while we in America have not yet felt the club of the policeman on a national scale. This is the situation that must be remedied. It will not suffice to talk and write about nuclei any more. We must have

Our American Young Communist League must stand before the other leagues at the Young Communist International congress and be criticized NUCLEI!"

WHO WANTS TO BUY TWO CHILDREN FROM A VET WHO HELPED TO MAKE THE WORLD SAFE FOR DEMOCRACY?

SAN JOSE, Calif.—George Parker went to war to make the world safe for democracy, was badly gassed, and is rated as a disabled veteran. Illness resulting from the gassing has kept him out of work and poor. Now he has announced that in order to make a first payment on a home under the state veterans' welfare act, and to keep up the instalments on his furniture until he can take advantage of the recent bonus measure, he will pawn his two children, three and four years old. With Mrs. Parker's consent, he has agreed to place the kiddies in pawn with any person who will treat them well and enable their parents to live until they are able to redeem them.

TRAGEDY OF UNEMPLOYED YOUTH IS BITTER COMMENT ON "PROSPERITY"

PEKIN, III.—After tramping the streets of Pekin and Peoria for weeks in a futile search for employment Emil Lemoine, a 21-year old bridegroom, slew his brains out with a 38 caliber revolver.

When the inquisitive newspaper men wanted the cause of the suicide, Lemoine's 17-year old bride of two months, pointed to a worn note book in which the dead boy had recorded daily his failure to find a job.

The diary furnishes mute evidence of mental anguish and disappointment.

"We'll send for you in a few days," one entry reads, and then he adds, "but he never asked my name or address."

The last diary entry, June 20, the day he killed himself, indicates his utter despair. "There is no work. What am I going to do?" he asks; and then answers his own question with a bullet.

There are thousands of unemployed miners and other workers in Pekin and Peoria.

A Good Time Will Soon Be Had by All Workers

They Are Now Looking to the Earth Instead

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.—Unemployment and lower wages over a long period of years is the prospect in the United States, President W. G. Besler, Central Railroad of New Jersey, told the American Railway Association in Atlantic City.

DO YOUR SHARE IN
COMFORTING CLASS
WARRIORS IN JAIL!

BIRTHDAYS in July of political prisoners still confined in prisons in the United States, are announced by the Workers' National Prison Comfort Club, 2923 Chestnut Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, as follows:

AT PITTSBURGH, PA. Western Dist. State Penitentiary July 4, Jacob Dola—A-12891.

AT BOISE, Idaho, Box No. 58 July 5, Jos. Doyle.

AT REPRESA, CALIF.—Folsom prison.

July 4, Warren Billings; July 26, James Price.

AT SAN QUENTIN, SAN QUENTIN PRISON, CALIFORNIA. July 3, T. O. Kleiberg, No. 38119; July 18, Wm. Flanagan, No. 37897; July 26, H. R. Hanson, No. 28114; July 30, Jac Varela, No. 38133.

AT MIDWAY-TEXAS—R No. 1—C. Ferguson Farms' July 28, Chas. Cline.

Cora Meyer, Nat'l Secretary, invites friends and sympathizers to send birthday cards and letters (money is adviseable for gifts) to these political prisoners. Books and publications to be sent directly from the publishers.

Political prisoner—A. Cisneros writes: "Words cannot express my appreciation for what 'Comrades' are doing (my tenth year in prison). Am sure they will never regret their efforts."

The Young Worker, 1113 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, Ill.

For the special anti-military issue of The Young Worker, August 15, 1924, please send this branch.....

more copies than its usual amount.

Secretary

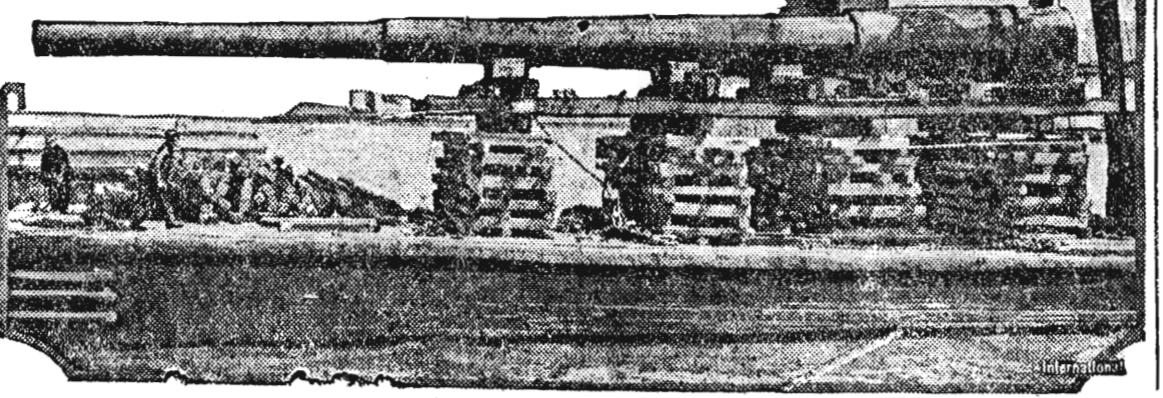
Branch

City

"The War to End All Wars"

Do you remember the late Woodrow Wilson? He was the famous author of the equally famous phrase, "the war to end all wars". Well, the war which was to end them is over, and the militarists of the world, which includes America, you know, are sweating their hair dry in preparation for the coming war. The picture below is a silent tribute to the "pacifist" Wilson and his last war fairy tales.

It is a picture of the world's largest naval gun, loaded on a lighter and ready for a trip to the Hog Island navy yard. It weighs 163 tons and is 58 feet long. It throws a 16-inch shell, weighing 2,340 pounds, a distance of 28 miles. Fifty men are required to handle the gun. This gun will probably be used in the next war to end all wars. Do you get the joke—on the workers?



My Flight from Siberia

By LEON TROTSKY

REINDEER have a jolly way of running. They hang their tongues out at the sides of their mouths and breathe quickly, and loudly. The road was narrow, the antelopes pressed their bodies closely together. One must wonder that they do not hinder each other.

"You must admit," said Nikivor turning to me, "that better reindeer than these are not to be had. They are strong as steers, and the very pick of the herd. There were seven hundred animals but there were none to beat these. Old Michael wouldn't listen to me at first. He said, 'I wouldn't think of giving up these stags.' But then when he had drunk a bottle he said, 'Take them.' But when it came to handing them over he began to cry. 'Mind you,' he said, 'this leader—Nikivor pointed to the foremost reindeer—cannot be paid for in cash. If you come back safe and sound I'll buy it for you again for the same sum.' That shows you what fine animals they are. And I paid down a good sum for them, too. But they are worth it, all right enough. The leader alone cost us twenty-five roubles."

There was a brief pause, then Nikivor began again.

"Only from Uncle Michael Ossipovich can one get a free loan of them. Uncle told me straight out, 'You are an idiot, Nikivor.' Yes, that's just what he said: 'You are an idiot, Nikivor. Why didn't you tell me at once you were driving this fellow?'

"What fellow do you mean?" I interrupted.

"Well—yourself—for instance." I had many opportunities to notice that "fellow" was favorite word in my guide's vocabulary.

We had gone scarcely ten versts when Nikivor suddenly halted his team.

"We have to turn off the trail here and go to a Yakut camp about five versts away. There is a gussi there for me. I wouldn't get far with only the malitsa before I'd be frozen right thru. I had a note about the gussi from Nikita."

I was taken aback by the thought of this nonsensical proceeding. The idea of stopping at a Yakut camp only ten versts from Beresov! I learned that Nikivor should have fetched the gussi yesterday—that he had spent the past two days drinking.

"No matter," I told him. "I refuse to drive over there. The devil only knows who or what may be there. You should have attended to that before. If you begin to suffer from the cold you may put on my fur coat under your malitsa, this coat I'm sitting on now. And when we arrive safely I'll give you the short sheepskin coat I'm wearing. It's warmer than a gussi."

"Good then," Nikivor answered, cheerfully, immediately agreeing with my plan. "Why should we want a gussi? We won't perish from the cold. Ho—ho!" he shouted to the reindeer. "We don't need the stick for these animals. Ho, ho!"

But his hilarity did not last long. The liquor overcame him. He wobbled about on the sleigh, fell into a deep sleep. Several times I woke him up. He shook himself each time, touched up the reindeer with his long stick, muttered, "What does it matter. These nimails will keep up the pace anyhow"—and fell asleep again. The reindeer slowed their pace, fell almost into a walk, and only my repeated shouts livened them up a bit. Two hours passed. Then I too fell asleep, but woke up in a few minutes under the impression that the reindeer had stopped. I was still half asleep and convinced that all was lost.

"Nikivor!" I shouted, shaking him by the shoulder. He only muttered, incoherently. "What can I do? I can't do anything. Let me sleep."

My situation began to seem desperate. We had gone only thirty or forty versts from Beresov. It would be quite easy to overtake us, in case my flight had been observed, if we paused here. I had no intention of pausing. I saw that strong measures were necessary.

"Nikivor," I shouted, pulling his fur cap from his head and exposing him to the bitter cold. "If you don't wake up and drive on and that promptly I'll throw you out into the snow and go alone."

Either my words or the cold on his exposed head woke him up a little. It developed that he had lost his stick, while he slept.

Reeling about, scratching himself, he found a hatchet in the sleigh, after a long search. With it he chopped down a young fir tree and removed its branches. With our new stick we continued. I resolved to keep my driver firmly in hand.

"Don't you understand what you are doing?" I asked him, sternly. "This is not a joking matter. I suppose you think the police will begin to praise us if they catch us!"

"Of course, I understand," Nikivor replied, waking up a little more.

NO PACIFISM FOR CATHOLICS, SAYS JESUIT SKYPILOT

NEW YORK CITY.—The Roman Catholic Church in New York is actively lining up with the militarists to defeat the No More War crusade. Edward P. Tivnan, a Jesuit priest and head of Fordham university, after attacking the peace pledges as "treachery," says:

"To this appeal Fordham university will make answer by establishing a unit of the reserve officers' training corps here." Cardinal Hayes, who spoke at the school graduation exercises after Tivnan, endorsed his "spirit of patriotism." "We realize our country is the of the making of God," was the startling statement made by the cardinal.

Books for the Youth

The American Labor Year Book, 1923-24. Rand School of Social Science; \$3.00.

Unlike the year book of 1921-22, this volume of the series is characterized by a square attempt to be impartial in its treatment of the various groups within the labor movement on all fields. In last year's volume, under the editorship of Algernon Lee, it seemed to the revolutionary fervor of the communists, a great collection of misinformation about the Communists. In this issue, however, under the direction of Solon DeLeon, the reports on Communist organizations are distinctly fair, but still not, of course, what is to be desired. For example, giving the defunct Socialist party twice as much space as the Workers Party is certainly a misjudgment of values.

However, there is other material in the book besides reports on Communist and socialist organizations. It is a handbook that ought to be the side partner of every labor agitator and worker in the country. It gives concise and valuable reports on such important questions as the distribution of income, the concentration of industry, wages, the cost of living, child labor, trade union organizations in America and the rest of the world, labor legislation, international organizations and dozens of other topics of importance to workers.

If you can at all afford the price of this book we urge you to get it for it will be of great value to any worker who needs information of various phases of the movement and who should not need to go to the trouble of doing the research himself. This advice is given in spite of the fact that, as implied before, the Communist viewpoint on many topics is not given in as full a fashion as it ought.

Good or No Good?

They find that "a number feel that the employee's morale has been definitely improved by this training," while other employers are not sure that business gets anything out of it, as yet. These doubtful employers are 64 per cent of the total, the all of them permit their workers to go to the camp.

M. S.

THE TASKS OF THE YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE ON JULY 4 ANNIVERSARY

By HARRY GANNES

INDEPENDENCE DAY (July 4th) originated as a revolutionary occasion of the rising American capitalists.

The American revolution was an armed rising against the British monarchs of that time. After grabbing for themselves thousands of acres of land, the American landholders could see no earthly reason for paying taxes to a dissipating monarch overseas.

The American people were whipped into a fury of rage over "no taxation without representation" and "liberty or death"; they gathered what armed forces they could and in a most illegal manner confiscated what by all known legal precedent of the time was rightfully, by the right of God and king, George IV's property.

July 4 Now and Then.

July 4, 1776, was a time of preparing the armed forces for the revolutionary overthrow of the British forces.

July 4, 1924, is being used as a day for preparing the armed forces of the American capitalists to protect their ill-gotten gains and to annex as much of the world's wealth as the size of their army and navy will permit.

Why the Army?

The peace-time army and navy of this country is larger today than it ever was in the history of the United States. No more do the American militarists depend on the regular army alone for its forces of murder and coercion.

There has been invented some new forms of military appendages, such as the Citizen's Military Training Camps, the Reserve Officer Training Corps and several other like bodies.

July 4th comes as a very convenient day for the entire tribe of militarists in this country to howl for a large army and navy; for millions of dollars for war preparation; for the destruction of the Communists and for the curbing of pacifists; for conscription or universal military training.

All Help for Militarism.

Every capitalist politician in the United States calls for larger armed forces. Secretary of War Weeks begins quite early. On May 24th he declared "the time is still far distant when America can lay down her arms."

The keynote of the entire press is: "Build a larger navy and a greater army to protect the independence won in 1776." And the American proletariat bids fair to fall for the reasons of imperialist rot that will be scattered.

Our Tasks Today.

We must continue to carry on with more fervor our propaganda among all workers, young and old, to arouse in them a consciousness of their class position and what the armed forces mean to them and to their immediate interests.

If possible, the concrete slogan of *No More Armaments* should be advanced in trade unions and other working class bodies.

Since the schools are today being used as military concentration camps, our Communist anti-militarist must find a conspicuous place there.

Just as the capitalists use July 4th as a pro-militarist occasion the enlightened sections of the working class should take advantage of this day as an opportunity of bringing out the class nature of capitalist armaments and wars.

The Work of the Nucleus

The Carrying of the Struggle Against Opponents, Anti-Militarism and Athletics

Struggle Against Opponents

THE shop nucleus should not only

be in close contact with the in-

those young workers who are mem-

bers of socialist youth organizations.

The separating barriers must fall in

the joint struggle against the offens-

ive of capital and the increasing pauper-

ization. The shop nucleus must

therefore always approach the mem-

bers of other proletarian youth orga-

nizations when dealing with the

shop problems, the abolition of bad

conditions, the setting up of wage de-

mands, and in short, in all economic

movements. Only in exceptional cases

should we appeal to the socialist

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On This July 4th

WHAT does this July 4th mean to the young workers of America?

From every platform he hears big fat politicians, silk hat in one hand and flag in the other, raving about the glorious declaration of independence, the noble war of the revolution, the holy constitution of the republic, and the greatest country in the world, the good old U. S. A. The spellbinders peddle a good line of bunk. And most of the young fellows, blinded by the spray of oratory to their actual conditions and the actual situation in this country today, fall for the bull.

But let the young worker look around a little and see how utterly different things are from what they are said to be.

What does the declaration of independence mean to the young fellow or girl who must slave 9 to 10 hours each day for a miserable wage at the end of the week?

What do the guarantees of freedom mean to the young and old workers who are not permitted to assert their alleged rights in their daily struggle against their bosses for better conditions, hours and wages?

What do the riches of the country do for the workers when all the wealth is owned by a small number of hog-jawed and huge-paunched individuals who do nothing but clip stock dividends?

What good does the phrase of the "right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" mean to the average worker when all he does is "pursue" these things without ever getting them?

There is no freedom or happiness or life of a decent kind for the workers in this capitalist America. They are doomed to slave for their bosses in the industries of the country; they are fated to die in the wars for the profits of their bosses, unless — — —

Unless they unite into working class organizations that stand ready to fight with them against the capitalist system which deprives them of the opportunity of life, liberty and happiness; the system which drags even the smallest child in the cogs of industrial life and maims its body and mind for the sake of profit; the system which produces frightful massacres of the workers in the form of wars "to end all wars"; of the system which divides society into separate classes, whose lives are as different as are their interests.

It is on the basis of these interests that the Young Workers League of America appeals to the young workers to enter its ranks. The young workers are part of the working class as well as the adults and the Y. W. L. of A. is organized to fight for the class interests of the youth.

If you are ready for the struggle for freedom which was only begun in 1776, then join with us, you young workers, join with us and help in the fight!

June 17 and After

IN spite of all the attacks against the convention, in spite of the attempts made by the news papers to split the delegates and bring about a bolt, the June 17 convention of workers and poor farmers carried thru its work successfully and nominated its candidates for president and vice-president, Duncan McDonald, an Illinois coal miner and William Bouck, a Washington farmer. In the three days that it met, it succeeded in laying the basis for the organization of a powerful class farmer-labor party, founded on the needs of the masses of workers and farmers. It is all set for the affiliation of all elements that are willing to carry on political action for the oppressed workers and farmers independently of the Republican and Democratic parties.

While the Farmer-Labor Party is not a communist party, and has no demand in its program for a working class revolution and the dictatorship of the proletariat, it is the beginning of labor's march on the road to emancipation from the capitalist system. It is a militant party, having a militant program and led by militant workers.

While the demands of the Young Workers League were not included in full in the program, our delegates presented them and they were accepted in the resolutions committee. Only one of them was rejected from the floor because it was stated that the demand was included in the program: the six-hour day, five day week for youth labor. This demand was not, however, specifically mentioned in the program. This merely proves that we shall have to continue to hammer away for our demands until we have convinced the young and the old workers of the importance of adopting them among the other slogans of the workers.

Let the members of the league get busy in supporting the Farmer-Labor Party, in affiliating to the state organization, in aiding in the electoral campaigns, in widening the influence of independent political organization and action among the working class. That, together with a campaign to have the Farmer-Labor party, nationally and locally, adopt our youth demands, is the job of the moment.

Into the Unions!

WITH the horizon becoming daily darker and darker with the increasing unemployment, one of the immediate problems of the young workers, and in particular the members of the Young Workers League, becomes more pressing than ever. That problem is to have every single member of the league a member of the trade union in his industry and also to become active in the Trade Union Educational League.

THE WORKING CLASS CHILDREN UNDER CAPITALISM

By BERNARD ZIEGLER.

THE crying needs and miseries of the children—these are the most touching paragraphs in Marx's "Capital." He outlines the fate of the proletarian child in capitalist society. What he describes there, the crushing of tens of thousands of helpless children in the mills of capitalist profit, belongs to the past, as far as civilized capitalist countries are concerned. A similar state of affairs exists today only in China, Japan, in parts of South America where European and American financial capital has all of a sudden built up gigantic factories and for handling the extremely simple machines it uses cheap labor power on an immense scale.

Terrible Conditions of Children. In the "mother land" of capitalism the bourgeois child massacre has acquired other forms. Here the children who grow up are not the healthy descendants of vigorous parents who are being drawn from the country into the than ever were attacked by tuber-

big cities. They are the children of proletarians who for generations have led the miserable life of wage-slaves in the gigantic cities of modern industrial centers. Parents, grand parents and original ancestors of these pale, thin children have grown up in the same dirty rooms, three or four of them sleeping in one bed, eight or ten of them living in one kitchen. They do not like to work in large factories, they are sent on the street and into small workshops to earn their living and when they are fourteen and fifteen years old, they are fully dependent upon their own earnings.

Children and War Misery.

The thousand-fold scourge of degeneration is visited upon the children. The inheritance of the previous generation and its miserable life becomes evident. The years of war during which milk and sugar were utilized for the production of explosive material while the proletarian revolution had to content itself with potatoes and turnips, when the parents more

culosis, syphilis and other diseases to which the proletariat is prone; these years of horror which the working class has gone thru have engraved still deeper wounds into the bodies of the proletarian children.

"Humanitarian" Capitalist Reform. "Humanitarian" capitalism has kindly established laws for the protection of child labor when it could no longer make use of it. How can the weak little arms of the anaemic, degenerate children be of any use to capitalism today? They could not furnish it with sufficient profits in spite of the starvation wages paid to the children. Child protection has been realized more or less in most capitalist states (except Japan). An exception is only found in agricultural work where even today in summer the children are "set free" from school in order to work in the hot sun in the fields. In Germany for four months, in Italy for six months, in Hungary for eight months and in Sweden for three months and degenerate as a result of misery lasting thru generations, too weak to be useful for capitalism as the children oughtn't to know.

A Communist Program for the Struggle Against Child Labor

THE following is the program adopted by the national executive committee of the Young Workers League at a recent session as the guide for the League in its campaign against the exploitation of child laborers. This is officially the policy of the Young Workers League and should be studied and acted upon by the League with that in mind.—Ed.

1. According to the statistics issued by the Federal Department of Labor and the United States Census Bureau, there are 1,060,000 children between the ages of 10 and 15 at work in agricultural, manufacturing and mining occupations. That this number does not represent the actual number of child slaves is admitted even by the Department of Labor which points out that no statistics were gathered on children under the age of 10, that the census (1920) was taken during January when many farm slaves go to school, and that no account was taken of employment like home industrial work, after school work, bootblacking, messenger boys, newsboys, etc. The actual number of child laborers in this country may be more accurately gauged from a comparison of the discrepancy between the total amount of children in this country and the total that attends school during the year. From this, it can be seen that the better figure would be 3,500,000. This makes the problem of child labor a most prominent one, requiring immediate action on the part of the Young Workers League.

2. The child labor laws passed by the congress were declared unconstitutional by the supreme court. Since then, of course, child labor has increased by leaps and bounds. The child labor amendment to the constitution now passed by both houses of congress, has to go thru a long-winded method of endorsements by state legislatures, 13 of which are enough to kill it; there are at least 13 states where child labor forms one of the props to important industries and this would assure the failure of the amendment's ratification.

3. We therefore continue to adhere to our program which demands for the complete abolition of child labor and the substitution of the communist vocational training (the work school), child labor being considered up to the age of 18. Our demand for the abolition of child labor and the institution of the work school differs from the demand for abolition of child labor and the institution of vocational education made by the Consumers' League, National Child Labor Committee and various reports by the Children's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, in that the latter have two purposes in mind: A. the abolition of child labor because they represent the bigger machine industries which require able workers and not the primitive industries like canneries, cotton picking, beet picking, and the like, and they see that the exhaustion of the child during youth produces unsatisfactory adult wage slaves; and B. the institution of vocational training because (a) "Waste in resources and production is caused by unskilled workers" (b) "Wage-earning power and satisfaction in

work are increased with skill." (From "Child Labor", Children's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor.) We demand the training of children so that they may be better fitted for social life under a classless society. Our fundamental demands, therefore, altho we put them forward for agitational and propaganda purposes, cannot be realized in the framework of capitalist society. We must therefore carry on a campaign for the amelioration of the conditions of the child slaves, in the process of which the Young Workers League, the junior section, and the Workers' Party shall participate and gain influence and numbers.

4. Our immediate demands must, naturally, be a step in advance of those advocated by the "enlightened" bourgeoisie and the labor movement, i. e. the trade unions. But on the following demands we can secure the adherence of the workers since they are based on the joint needs of the adult and young workers of the country:

a. Limitation of the workers' day to a maximum of four hours with no overtime or night work, or labor in dangerous industries.

b. Equal wages for equal work for young and old.

c. Strict supervision of apprenticeship solely by the trade unions.

d. Organization of the children into the labor unions.

Special demands will be necessary in certain instances, and will be formulated whenever and wherever necessary to carry on and broaden the child labor campaign.

The Campaign

5. While we have no illusions about the possibility of achieving all or any of these demands in full, the campaign should be carried on for the purpose of increasing, organizationally and as an influence, the Young Workers League, the Workers Party and the Junior Section. The campaign is divided as follows: Literature, Press, and Publicity; united front conferences and mass meetings. Under the first point, The Young Worker, The Young Comrade, The Daily Worker and the other publications of the Workers Party must be systematically filled with material; articles must also be sent to the trade union press. When the campaign assumes sufficient proportions, leaflets shall be issued. Calls shall be sent out to trade unions, local organizations of the National Child Labor Committee, fraternal societies and the like, to attend local conferences which will form permanent organizations for the propagation of our demands or as many as we shall be able to put over. The party and the Trade Union Educational League must be drawn into the campaign if it is not to be a failure. If we are able to form about 20 to 25 local councils we shall call a national conference.

We must propagate, together with the party and sympathetic elements, the organization of a farmer-labor party for the successful carrying out of the child labor program. Mass meetings shall be held during which a special issue of The Young Worker and The Young Comrade will be distributed. International Youth Day

should be used as a special day for the propaganda of the demands of the campaign.

6. The junior groups must be drawn actively into this campaign in order to gain membership a. d. influence and to give them a greater proletarian orientation by having them participate in a phase of the class struggle. This is necessary, for present most of the members of the groups are not in sufficiently close contact with the class struggle, experiencing it only weakly in the veiled form of the struggle within the schools. "It must no longer happen that a group leader, to the question as to whether there was child labor

exploitation in his country, should reply vehemently, Yes; but to the question as to whether the communist children's groups sought to reach the child laborers, replied with equal vehemence, No." (Hoernle, Die Arbeit in den Kommunistischen Kindergruppen.) In those localities where child labor is employed, efforts must be made thru the distribution of The Young Comrade, to establish connections with the children. Their organization into nuclei will then be a possibility and its realization will mean the carrying on of our campaign by and among the child slaves themselves.

The Making of the Communist

By BARNEY MASS.

BEGINNING with the time they were organized into branches of the Y. W. L., the young miners of Illinois led the life of continual struggle. They met the trials of burly, uncouth, ruthless, contemptible thugs, commonly under the leadership of the K. K. K.

It is indeed marvelous to see the branches still living and making progress under such adverse circumstances. Considering their limited experience and short time in the organization, the courage and determination of these young miners is to be admired. The class struggle is full of reality to these young comrades, and never is discussed abstractly. Each league has a history of struggle behind it, worthy of the sympathy from the whole membership. Some mention should be made of the West Frankfort and Dowell leagues, as they went through the most turbulent times.

The splendid support given the writer during the time that the K. K. K. attempted to break up his meeting in memory of the death of Lenin, by the West Frankfort comrades, and the period of reaction following, did not in the least deter them from their work. Much of their time, from then on, was spent in defending themselves from persecution, making organizational activity more difficult.

The comrades in Dowell, Ill., went through a more critical period, and as a result of the splendid battle we find only a few left to carry on the work of the Y. W. L.

First it was the most active comrades who were persecuted. This became obvious when comrade Germinal Allard was expelled from school and then later threatened to be sent to an industrial home for young criminals. With Allard out of the way, the mine bosses thought the rest was comparatively easy. But they found they were mistaken; many more willing comrades filled his place. In the face of this the bosses immediately began a campaign of organized intimidation, discharging by the bunch members of the league. The only alternative left was to leave for other parts and secure employment. Some went to St. Louis and have contributed considerably in strengthening the branch there. The others left for Detroit, etc. The ones remaining were abused through discrimination of the worst kind. Their fathers and relatives were thrown out of employment, etc. There remain only three comrades, one of whom, the brother of Germinal Allard, was recently hurt in a mine accident.

The members in the other leagues suffered to a great extent, but still they are to be found in the ranks, fighting more energetically for the proletarian revolution. Some went to St. Louis and have contributed considerably in strengthening the branch there. The others left for Detroit, etc. The ones remaining were abused through discrimination of the worst kind. Their fathers and relatives were thrown out of employment, etc. There remain only three comrades, one of whom, the brother of Germinal Allard, was recently hurt in a mine accident.

The present 350 members in the Illinois territory have the makings of the powerful communist party of the future. They are passing through all the tests, hardships to qualify as ideal communists. From this material will the future vanguard of the proletariat be formed. It is of this quality that leadership will be furnished for the workers' movement.

In the same spirit we should carry on our fight on a national scale. The American workers have confidence in fighters. We must demonstrate that all our members are aggressive fighters for the proletarian revolution, not by words but by deeds of action!

WALT CARMON, Propagandist.

CURRENT FICTION

(The Week's Best Smeller)

Entitled, "Blah-Blah-Blah!"

"The people—and all the people—have confidence in Calvin Coolidge. In the great array of rulers, Kings and Prime Ministers, intrusted with power, there is none who can surpass him in honesty of purpose, in courage, or in high devotion to the welfare of his country." — Ex-Senator Theo. E. Burton.

The workers and farmers have at last received some relief from Congress—it adjourned.

Senator Phelan of California who nominated McAdoo and according to the papers: who only recently recently returned from a trip to Europe was in the best of spirits."

An honest reporter would have written: "Senator Phelan who only recently returned from a trip to Europe had in him the best of spirits."

WIEW!

It is expected Madison Square Garden is to be torn down after the Democratic convention.

Probably have to. Fumigation can't kill all the odor.

CHICKIE? WE JUST ATE IT UP!

At last the girls in my office are convinced that I am one of those radicals." I am the only one in the place who hasn't read the soul-stirring and pathetic blurb about "Chickie."

COMRADE BILLY

A doctor says that a man may be drunk thru suffering a severe shock. Now we can explain that dizzy feeling when we pay the rent.

BUT IF IT ISN'T—WHAT IS IT?

"Tis at this time of the year that the college graduate slowly winds his way out into the world, for a post graduate course, in which he learns that the class struggle is not the yearly event between the freshmen and the shops."

OFFICE BEANE.

S'funny. But the new Farmer Labor Party which includes the Communists, who are against religion, received a blessing from St. Paul.

HOT STUFF

We read what the Republican convention said about the Democrats—and we agree. They are correct. We read what the Democratic convention said about the Republicans—and we agree. They are also correct. We believe what they said about each other. But they missed a few points we have in mind. Send a self-addressed stamped envelope with a sheet of asbestos for us to write on for the private opinion of

WALT CARMON, Propagandist.

By Siegfried Sassoon

THE Bishop tells us: "When the boys come back they will not be the same; for they'll have fought in a just cause; they lead the last attack on Anti-Christ; their comrades' blood has bought New right to breed an honorable race, They have challenged Death and dared him face to face."

"We're none of us the same!" the boys reply, "For George lost both his legs; and Bill's stone blind; Poor Jim shot through the lungs and like to die; And Bert's gone syphilitic; you'll not find A chap who's served that hasn't found SOME change," And the Bishop said: "The ways of God are strange!"

POLISH BOURGEOISIE MURDERS 18-YEAR-OLD YOUNG COMMUNIST

Comrade Engel, 18-year-old member of the Young Communist League of Poland, has been executed by order of the president of the Polish republic, says the Young Communist International in a message received at the national office of the Young Workers League.

A horrible crime has been added to the long list of crimes committed by the Polish bourgeoisie," declares the Y. C. I. "Our young Comrade Engel sentenced to death by court martial was executed immediately after the endorsement of the sentence by president of the Polish republic."

Poland, under the leadership