

THE YOUNG WORKER

An Organ of the Militant Young Workers

Published twice a month.

Washington Blvd. Subscription price \$1.00 per year. The Young Workers League of America, publishers. "Entered as second-class matter Sept. 17, 1922, at the post office at Chicago, Ill., under the Act of March 3, 1879."

CHICAGO, ILL., AUGUST 15, 1924

VOL. III. No. 16.

PRICE 5 CENTS

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!

MAKE WAR DAY PLANS!

BEHIND THE MOBILIZATION DAY DRIVE



N. B. C. Drive Nation-Wide

YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE DRIVE ON NATIONAL BISCUIT NOW NATION-WIDE; YOUNG WORKERS RESPONDING

By BARNEY MASS.

The young workers in the National Biscuit Company of Chicago greeted with enthusiasm the last "Young Worker" containing the exposure of their rotten conditions. When the league members appeared with the paper, over 650 were sold the first night. The night following some 350 and a few more for the remaining days of the week. Over 1,000 "Young Workers" were sold.

That the bosses of this notorious open shop were deeply concerned with the Young Workers League efforts to get the biscuit makers awakened to their position, was shown by the police secured to intimidate the workers from purchasing the Young Worker. League speakers addressed the employees thru street meetings situated near the factory and explained the purpose of the campaign. Not only is the Chicago league in the campaign, but New York, Detroit, Pittsburgh, Cleveland and many other leagues are getting into the drive with this issue. Not only will the young biscuit makers of the Chicago plant receive our message, but those working for the National Biscuit everywhere.

ROTTEN CONDITIONS REVIEWED.
Let us review the conditions under which the girls and boys are forced to toil in the hot, dirty biscuit plants. The buildings in every city are practically built on the same basis. The newer plants have a more efficient speed-up system and are able to extract more profits from the workers.

Working in suffocating rooms, standing all day on their feet, toiling for 9 and 10 hours per day and not being paid for overtime. (I am including the overtime they work each day in the above estimation.) Keeping the girls and boys divided on issues of nationality, religion and what not is another means the bosses use in wringing more profits from their labor. Much discrimination between the help is practiced by the company and the workers have up to now suffered for this trick of the boss. The company has made enough profits to enable them to raise the pay of the employees to the standard of what a man being should receive.

PROFITS AND THE H. C. OF L.
In 1922 the profits were \$11,024,980
(Continued on page 2.)

HERE IS THE RESULT OF THE LAST GREAT WAR TO END ALL WAR

10,000,000 workers were killed in the Great War.
15,000,000 workers were wounded in the Great War.
4,000,000 men were under arms in 1913.
12,000,000 men are under arms today.
\$330,000,000 voted by the United States for war purposes.
The British "Labor" government has provided 2,000,000 pounds for the air fleet.
290,000,000 pounds have been spent by Great Britain on armaments since 1918.
France has an air-force of 350,000.

YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE HOLDS CITY CONVENTION

With some fifty odd delegates the Chicago league finished its convention Sunday, July 28. The sessions of the conference throughout were peppy and the newly elected City Executive Committee promises to be a very successful one. The factory campaigns and shop nuclei was given more discussion than any other point on the agenda. The sentiment of the delegate was one which determined to get down to work until the next convention will be held. Everyone is of the opinion that the next city convention great results will be shown.

THE WAR TO END WAR"

Berlin Paper Exposes New War Pact

BERLIN.—The "Berliner Tageblatt," a conservative paper in this city, has published a secret agreement between France and Czechoslovakia which provides for mutual assistance in the event of war, particularly in the event of a state of belligerency in which Poland shall be involved. Where is the war that was supposed to end all wars?

PRIVATE GETS 10 YEARS FOR SICKING HIS LODIE A WALLOP ON THE FACE

SAN ANTONIO, Texas.—Private William Cosmos, army pugilist of Ft. Sam Houston, was sentenced to 10 years' hard labor by a general court martial here for striking his first lieutenant in the face. Lieut. Clark H. Mitchell was the complainant.

THREE YEAR OLD KIDS SLAVE ON COTTON PLANTS

Children Subjected to Dangerous Ills

WASHINGTON.—Under the Texas law no child is too young to work in the cotton fields, according to statements in a pamphlet issued by the United States children's bureau.

"While it is generally true that children working on farm work under the supervision of their parents at tasks which need not involve danger or undue hardship and which may have a distinct educational value, it is important that consideration be given to the extent to which rural child labor does not involve long hours, physical strain and serious interference with education," states the pamphlet.

ILLNESS ALWAYS THREATENS.

It is shown that cotton picking in Texas involves considerable exposure to cold and dampness, as well as to heat, inasmuch as it lasts from late August or early September into November or December, a period during which thermometers climb to 99 degrees and fall to 20 degrees above zero.

TINY ONES SLAVE.

"Some of the cotton plants grow shoulder high, with cotton bolls nearly all the way to the ground. Little children can pick without stooping, but older children and the adults have to stoop or move along on their knees. The worker puts the cotton into a big sack which he drags along by a shoulder strap. Full bags are carried to the wagon, weighed and emptied.

EVEN 3 YEAR OLDS!

It is shown that babies 3 years old work in the cotton fields. The bureau representatives say: "Working 12 hours, a 6 year old girl who had begun field work at the age of 4 picked 80 pounds a day, and 4 year old twins in the same family working beside their mother in the field put into her bag on an average 12 or 15 pounds a day."

Cotton pickers are paid on an average of \$2 per 100 pounds.

CAPITALISTS AND BANKERS BACK MOBILIZATION DAY AS WAR STEP

By HARRY GANNES

WAR is exactly right, says Judge Gary of the United States Steel Corporation. That is what he said about the last war. He sold plenty of war munitions. That is what he thinks about war preparations—it is exactly right. Steel production is down. Another war would knock it sky-high.

War is 100 per cent American, declared Frank Vanderlip, of the American International Corporation, and former president of the National City Bank. The big banks finance the war supply corporations. War means intensive business; big armaments mean huge profits.

Wall Street wants war. When the Wall Street bears and bulls smell war in the air they go raving mad. Just before America entered the last war, some 300 brokers sang "The Star Spangled Banner!"

The moment war opens the big bankers begin to loan the government money; they begin to loan money to the steel corporations, the ship building concerns, and the entire host of munition factories. The Du Pont de Nemours Company, the largest ammunition manufacturers, do everything possible to bring on war.

Bribing the Press.

Newspapers are bribed to cry for war, speakers are bought to talk for war, preachers indirectly are subsidized to shriek for war—all in the interest and behalf of the munition Americans. The history of American war making is the history of the big munition factories in harmony with the American imperialists "creating" business.

The stock exchange wants war. War raises industrial, railroad and other securities. Bethlehem steel rose 30 points when war was declared in 1917. Stocks are down now, way down. The big industrialists crave a war to see the tickers tell the tale of high stocks, of big profits.

Mobilization Day First Step.

Mobilization day, September 12, is looked to as the coming of Christ by the war-mongers. September 12 means actual preparation for war. Guns will be hauled about, men will be dressed in uniforms, flags will be floated, projectiles will be shot, rifles put to use. Vast expenditure of money for war supplies will be made.

The big corporations that supply the flags, the bullets, the projectiles, the guns, the cannons will have more business. To them it will be a taste of that monstrous feast that war brings them.

It is these bankers and industrialists, the munition makers, that are behind the monster of American capitalism. Behind the bankers stand the steel interests. The banks and the steel companies have interests that are intertwined like the nerves in a living body. The soothsaying of one part pleases the entire system. Profits of war make the nerves of capitalism glow.

Cry for Greater Army.

Not content with getting \$150,000,000 to build ships and \$330,000,000 for army expenditures, most of which finds its way into the pockets of the bankers, and their subsidiary steel and munition corporations, the pro-war agitators call for a larger army and a larger navy. September 12 will be the jumping off place of a continuing campaign for more expenditures for war supplies.

With the United States government spending eighty-three cents of every dollar received in taxes for war purposes, with the army and navy increasing in size, it seems as if the bankers and munition manufacturers have the upper hand. Do they control the United States treasury outright? Do they say whether money shall be spent for the goods they make and then pocket that money?

Are they the ones who decree that mobilization days shall be held? All available facts point to an emphatic YES as an answer to all these questions.

NAVY LEAGUE AND WAR.

Who controls the Navy League, with headquarters in Washington opposite the War Department and with its manipulative fingers right at the very executive buttons of that department? Congressman Clyde Tavenor showed that the leaders of the league were leading munition manufacturers.

They want war and they make plans to get it. It is good business to spend millions in buying up the government when there are billions of profits in the offing.

The National Security League is another military organization that seeks (Continued on page 2.)

War Against War! Is Communist Call

ON September 12, the first big step of the American imperialists towards the preparation of this country's youth for war will be taken.

On September 7, the revolutionary youth of America will demonstrate its reply to capitalist exploitation and capitalist war.

September 12 is Mobilization Day of American Imperialism, the culmination of months of propaganda in the press school and church for preparedness.

September 7 is International Youth Day, the culmination of a year of communist activity of the Young Workers League of America.

The war-mongers of America, the munitions manufacturers, the steel trust, the industrialists and financiers, are plotting for the control of the world. The struggle for this control is a struggle which leads to war. Millions are destroyed in war time, but millions of profit are made by the victor. The capitalists of the United States intend to be victors in the next war and they demand the biggest army, the most powerful navy, the largest air fleet, the hugest reserve army at home.

The eyes of capital in America rove over the four corners of the earth. They already control the islands of the Caribbean. They want Mexico, and the entire South American continent. They are preparing to take over political and economic control of the Pacific ocean, of China, as they have already done in the Philippines. American loans are the order of the day in Hungary, France and Germany. The United States sends its leading officials and bankers to the London Conference of the Allies and there they hold the whip hand.

Suppose rebellion against American financial and political rulership should arise inside a nation? Suppose attempts are made to oust America from control in favor of France or England or Japan? Will the United States sit by idly? Of course not! The next war will break out!

It is for this war that the imperialists of this country are rallying the workers of America to Mobilization Day. Not all the protests of the pacifists, not all the excuses of President Coolidge, not all the apologies of the War Department will hide the fact that this huge maneuver is intended to be the first step towards war—the measuring of power, strength, available forces.

Remember the last war! Remember the preparedness drive, remember that it was also said to be "a peace move"! Remember how the workers were dragged into the war by their hair, how they were sent to murder other young workers with whom they had no quarrel; who had no quarrel with them, but who all fought for the profits and investments of their nation's bosses.

What are the workers of this country going to do about Mobilization Day this year? In what manner are they going to raise their voice in protest, in what manner will they show their determined opposition to the approaching holocaust which threatens their lives?

The international day of the communist youth offers an opportunity to the young and old workers to unite against war. International Youth Day will be celebrated this year on September 7. Under the international leadership of the Young Communist International and its American section, the Young Workers League, the young workers will rally to the standards of Communism to protest against capitalist exploitation and imperialist war.

Against the coming imperialist war we raise the battle-cry of the Young Communist International in the days when the battlefields of Europe were reddened with the blood of the workers of the world:

WAR AGAINST WAR!

Against imperialist war we call for the war of the classes, the war of the workers against their exploiters!

Against the imperialist Mobilization Day we offer the internationalist, communist International Youth Day!

Rally to the red standards of communism!
Boycott the drive of American imperialist towards war!
WAR AGAINST WAR!

LABOR CONDEMS PLATOON SCHOOL AS CASTE PLAN

"Tools of Industrial Interests" Charge

By JOE CARROLL.

CHICAGO.—Switching school children direct from the elementary school into the factory is what the platoon system of education looks like to the Chicago Federation of Labor. Platoons were condemned by unanimous vote.

The Chicago school board intends to try out the new plan in a number of buildings in the fall. Children march by classes from room to room as they change subjects and teachers, or turn from recitation to study or recreation. This trooping around the building gives the system its name of platoon.

Is Tool of Industrial Interests.

Speeches and the report of the executive board of the labor central body charged that the school board is the tool of industrial interests in the attempt to enslave the young mind and the young body to the low-skill, low-factory system.

Although 66 cities are experimenting with the system no large city has adopted it generally and New York threw it out in 1917, according to Secretary Olander, Illinois State Federation of Labor, one of the principal assailants of the plan.

System is Inefficient.

Teachers under the platoon system can't come to know their young pupils or to knit their subjects in with the rest of what is being taught, it was charged. Children sit waiting for the bell to march into the next room instead of tending to business.

Propaganda by the school board and the interests and their newspapers for the platoon is heavily colored, it was asserted, by showing up only the bad points of the present schoolroom with one teacher in charge of the children most of the day, while the alleged good points of the platoons were over-played and the rest suppressed.

Young Biscuit Workers Haven't Improved Their Conditions Since 1898

(Continued from page 1)

other huge open-shops, among them the notorious American Can Co. Rockefeller himself has his hands in the profits, while the company is directly controlled by such men as Francis L. Hine, E. S. Moore and Paul Moore. Francis L. Hine is president of the First National Bank of New York and a director in some sixteen powerful corporations, including mines, railways and even colleges. Hines also controls the American Can Company along with Moore.

Starvation Wages Bring Dough.

The great increase in the profits during the first six months of 1924 show what a success the company can make out of child labor and starvation wages. In a year when very few companies are gaining, the N. B. C. succeeded in increasing their net earning to \$19.50 a share on the old stock or \$39 a share annual rate. One reason for this increase is that the company has stopped spending money on improving the plants, the condition of which they are not interested in as long as they do not get bad enough to impair the speed of work which the bosses always maintain. The only expenditures the company is making now are on additions to plants and in building new ones.

Break Boss Control!

If the N. B. C. workers would realize their strength long enough to break the open shop traditions of their company, the bosses would have to give them back some of the wealth which they produce, at the least, increasing their wages. But so far the rule has been the more wealth the N. B. C. workers produce for their bosses, the less pay they receive themselves, so that after 26 years of increasing profits for the National Biscuit Company the workers find that they have permitted the bosses to take all and that they are no better off than in 1898.

Sign on the Dotted Line!

This will insure you a prompt monthly delivery of the only journal giving a keen, reliable analysis of the latest developments in the world's first workers' government.

You will enjoy it even more with the large number of interesting photographs that appear only in the pages of

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WITH THE YOUNG WORKERS ON THE JOB

HEATER BOYS ORGANIZED.

Chicago, Ill.

The Young Workers League has put Hegewisch, Illinois, on the map in so far as the revolutionary youth movement in this country is concerned. The Western Steel Car and Foundry Company, located in this suburb of Chicago, known for its intolerable conditions and hostile attitude towards the labor movement, again forced the workers to rebel against another attempt to reduce their wages and increase their hours of toil.

This corporation demonstrates conclusively its opposition to any organization on the part of its employees by refusing to meet the demands at the cost of a considerable loss in its business. The strike practically paralyzed all work, but we find these predatory interests with their insatiable demands willing to spend thousands in order to keep organization away from the car builders.

As usual the young workers, heater boys, took the initiative in leading the workers to revolt against a proposed reduction in salary. The riveters, buckers and reamers followed the lead of the militant heater boys. "We are out to put a stop to Mr. Buckley's (manager of the company) wage slashing and speed up system this time," said one of the lads. This psychology expresses the sentiment of the strikers.

The district committee of the Y. W. L. immediately took cognizance of the situation and, with comrades Mass and Shachman representing that body, succeeded in organizing the young workers on strike into a nucleus of the Young Workers League. In exploiting the condition prevailing in Hegewisch is demonstrated the ability of the Y. W. L. in taking advantage of favorable situation for its own interest. By showing these young workers that we are capable of defending their most elemental and primitive needs their confidence in the organization becomes established. Such work will lead the Y. W. L. unto a mass movement.

The league members did more than agitate and propagate the ideas of the class struggle into the minds of the youthful toilers. It displayed competency in furnishing direction and taking supervision in conducting the strike. Contributing in the discussions, helping in organizing the picket line and much other necessary activity, it became the inspiration, flesh and muscle of this rebellion. The newly organized league members from the vanguard of this mass of workers. The captain of the pickets is an officer of the Y. W. L. Branch. Nearly all the responsibility rests on the shoulders of these young revolutionists.

Means and ways of financing the strike is being formulated by this branch of the Y. W. L. It is furthering all the work of the strike activity. Only through their becoming members of the Young Workers League of America was made possible the important role being played by these young rebels. I think the Chicago district organization has set a precedent for the membership nationally to follow. It proves the necessity of being wide awake and of participation in the class struggle through deeds and not by words. It is giving the proper interpretation to the program of Y. W. L., which proves undoubtedly successful and correct when put into execution. Onward, comrades, more work of this nature will realize our slogan "To the masses."

Fraternally yours,
BARNEY MASS.

IN SUNNY CALIFORNIA.

Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Comrades:

Being conscripted into the army of job-hunters, I made my way, in answer to an advertisement, to the New Method Steam Laundry. The foreman looked me over and asked me cautiously if I was old enough to stay away from school. I replied that I was, at which he was quite relieved, and gave me a job in the sorting and distributing department.

It was very near noon, so he asked me to go up on the third floor to the cafeteria, and explained that work began at 8 a. m., stopped at 11:30 for lunch, began at 12 m., ended with the 4:30 p. m. whistle, and used up as much of Saturday as there was work to be done.

I thanked him, went up on the third floor, and took a good look at the array of food offered for sale. It consisted of three kinds of sandwiches, greasy beans, water-fed tomato soup, and various kinds of pies, ice cream and pop. The company evidently anticipated displeasing reactions, for they placed gloom-dispelling free coffee service in the dining room. However, not being in a position to grumble over such trifles as profit, I let calories fly to the winds—or hot steam—which is more appropriate.

The next day I observed that I had to wait in the cafeteria line for fifteen minutes, which left me only fifteen minutes in which to eat and rest. For I forgot to mention that there is not one blessed vestige of a chair where I worked notwithstanding the fact that I was on the go the whole eight hours, lifting armloads of finished laundry off of movable racks, pushing the racks, loaded and empty from room to room, and speedily putting the articles into allotted customers' piles on the shelves. I am short, and

the shelves are high. This involved constant stretching and lifting, until the palm in my arms and legs grew fierce. For this reason, I looked forward to the 11:30 whistle. In my fifteen spare moments, then I chewed over the food problem.

I observed that the employees had several alternatives. First, they might bring their own lunch, which, in order to be easily and conveniently carried, must necessarily consist of dry sandwiches. Second, if they had no scruples and were not rebellious of stomach, they might supplement a small home lunch with part of the company's junk. Third, they could buy a sub-sandwich a day after day on company junk (with free coffee)! Lastly, they could go elsewhere to buy their lunch, which is absurd because they could never accomplish it in half an hour. What most of the employees did was to avoid real food, but to buy that which killed the appetite quickly: pie, ice-cream, soda pop, and candy. Year in year out, sustenance for muscle laborers! Nature puts her stamp on them very quickly. I learned to read their diets on their faces.

Came a day when my body went back on me. It was not from over-work, but it was a condition which so blurred my senses and sapped my strength, that I was unable to do anything. I managed to get the attention of one of the other girls, and she directed me to the rest room. Before I flung open the door of the "rest room," let me say that even though I worked hard, mine was not the sweat of the manglers who are enveloped in steam all day, nor the anxiety of the shirt ironers, who wear bedroom slippers to ease their arches. They are the ones who would be more than likely to need rest. But most of them get paid by that system invented by the devil and known as "piece word," and having dependents and large families at home, they slave like mad. In order to accumulate more pennies they work through sickness, noon periods, anything. How is a woman going to stop and rest, even when she is on the verge of breakdown, when she knows that those at home will be denied by it?

I opened the door of the room designated to me. In it were the following: One straight-backed chair, heavily dust laden; a dresser, upon which stood a once white, now grimy wash bowl, containing a broken pint milk bottle filled with slimy, aged-old solution that I guessed was water; a bed—I hesitate in describing that ever—covered with the filthiest, most chaotic, repulsive bed-clothing that ever reposed on a cracked iron bedstead.

I devoted what little energy I had left to figuring out how I could lie down on that mess, for I felt that lie down I must. Finally I pulled up a blanket in preference to the all but

crawling sheet and put my head on my purse in lieu of a pillow. For an hour and a half I lay there, the machinery whizzing and swishing and puffing in my ears, my eyes on the dirt-carpeted floor and I tried to remember that I was really in laundry which I had all my life associated with cleanliness. The paradox in my limbs then being over, I got up and demanded action. Soon there was a girl in the room changing the bedding and sweeping. She explained she was supposed to do it every day. I wish I could not say with such certainty that the room had not been touched for over three months.

Soon afterwards, eight days after my arrival in the plant, my services not being required, I was summarily dispatched with a check, and I departed into the job-hunting army once more. I reflected that the only laundry union in Los Angeles was the auto delivery drivers' union; that I

NUCLEUS WORKING IN CLEVELAND.

Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Comrades:

We have a nucleus in the Empire Rolling Mills. This plant employs 400 workers and of this sum 100 are young workers. The work is very hard. The mill is organized under the American Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers. All the members belong to the union.

There is much discrimination between the employees. The laborers are not included in the union. They work 12 hours, whereas the others work only eight. This issue will be taken advantage of by the nucleus.

The nucleus acts as an organized fraction in the union and has strong influence therein. At our meeting we succeeded in getting a motion thru for the discussion of the C. P. P. A. and the F. L. P. Our members exposed the C. P. P. A. for what it actually is and went on record in favor of the Workers Party national ticket with Wm. Z. Foster for president and Benjamin Gitlow for vice-president.

I think that within the near future we will have another nucleus organized. All the branches in the city are taking an exceptional interest in the nucleus activity. I hope the comrades will follow our lead.

Fraternally yours,
GEORGE PAPCUN.

TRADE SCHOOLS IN DETROIT.

Dear Comrades:

Lured by promises of well-paid jobs after only a few weeks' training, many jobless men are induced to part with their last few dollars to so-called trade schools.

One school, known as the "Manufacturers' Training Association,"

claims to be run by the organized manufacturers of this state. The assurance that the school is run by the employers is enough to win the confidence of many victims.

Besides this school, which is at 528 Woodward avenue, this same gang have an office at the General Motors Bldg. Here they are known as the "United Construction Co." This company has never been known to construct anything, but it answers for the purpose of advertising for men willing to work and gain experience in plastering, brick laying, plumbing and all other building trades. When men apply for work efforts are made to induce them to enroll in their school at a cost of \$75 in cash or \$100 in part payments.

Another one of their methods is to advertise something as follows: 60 men wanted at once, phone Empire 072. When men apply they are told to call at the address of this school. It is notorious that the men who go to these schools are taught so little that bosses never hire them for very long except as scabs. This shows the necessity of the labor unions taking over completely the apprenticeship training of all those who wish to enter the industry.

Fraternally yours,
PHILIP RAYMOND.

HOW R. O. T. C. IS RECRUITED.

Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Comrades:

No stone is left unturned in order to get recruits for the high school Reserve Officers' Training Corps. In the high school a "crack" platoon is organized, and sent to the junior high schools before the end of the term in an attempt to make "rookies" out of the prospective students. Military games, etc., are played to make an impression.

When the term has started, placards are placed in the hall advertising for fresh cannon fodder. Recruiting stations are established and every member of the R. O. T. C. is a recruiting agent, parading the halls, grasping the newcomer's arm and making wild promises. As an inducement for doing this they are offered a corporalship if they get seven new ones.

Then, as a last resort, a special auditorium call for boys is issued. There, the principal showers meaningless praises upon the local army which makes the members chuckle. He is followed by an appeal from the captain and the colonel. In a high school which the writer attends, the colonel admitted to the R. O. T. C. would be used to "stem the tide of discontent which foreigners, jealous of our good (for Doheny) government, have engineered."

Fraternally yours,
I. SPENCER.

'KEEP THE NAVY' SAYS BRITON- BUT NOT FOR WAR

Admiral Kids the U. S.
With Piffle

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—"It is just as important for the United States and Great Britain to keep their fleets up to this ratio as it is to keep them down to it," was the brilliant remark made here by the British Vice Admiral Sir Frederick L. Field in addressing a luncheon of 800 navy veterans and fat business men.

The vice-admiral went on to make more nonsensical remarks. "One great thing has happened since the war. It was the Washington treaty started by the United States government. Its provisions have cut down the great and costly competition of armaments and have created more money for peaceful pursuits. The people do not always realize what a wonderful thing this has been and what it means for peace."

Peace—It Ain't!

The piffle being spread by the naval gentleman will not be believed by any intelligent worker. It is well known that in spite of the Washington disarmament treaty, the nations involved have continued to perfect and improve their naval and military forces. This has been done for no other purpose than the preparation for an oncoming war.

Those who remember the speech made in congress by Representative Fred Britton, of Illinois, in which he advocated the elevation of American battleship guns so that they be a least on the level of those of the British fleet, will recall also his statement to the effect that in the event of a war with Great Britain, America would have to be on at least an equal basis in order to win. In the debate on the proposition, the provisions of the Washington conference were recognized as things to be ignored, and that it amounted to "every man for himself."

How About Japan?

Other military and naval experts are calculating America's strength when it comes to a war with Japan and many others are wondering how England will line up when the inevitable war with the Japs comes about with the basis of it being the control of the Pacific ocean and the coal and iron fields of China.

If England should happen to line up against the United States in order to protect the interests of its own imperialists and financiers, all this bunch about the amity between the U. S. and England would suddenly be forgotten and the Britishers would come as bad as the "Huns" were said to be during the last war.

They Spill the Dope.

In the meantime, the peddlers of nonsense continue to speak their pieces before Chambers of Commerce and business men's associations and the newspapers print the stories if the hopes that the young workers who will form the armies of capitalism in the next war as in past wars will fall for the sloop and fall in line when the next draft comes along Good! Into the army, and work for the workers.

ATTENTION!

WILL all readers of the YOUNG WORKER, who have friends or acquaintances in the regular army, navy, marine, aircraft forces, national guard, state militia, or federal and state armed forces of any other kind please send in their names and addresses to the national office of the Young Workers League? We must want to get as large a list of names of these young and old workers who are in the service of this country. Send in your list by putting down the names and service addresses of those you know and any others you can get from other friends. Send them to 1113 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago Illinois.

Let us be fellows working in the harmony of association for the common good.—William Morris.

WAR TRAINING CAMP TEACHES YOUTH THE WAR AGAINST 'REDS'

(Special to "The Young Worker")

ROLLING PRAIRIE, Ind.—The big militarists of the United States, dominated and backed by the big capitalists, are hot on the job of teaching the young "militarists" of the country what their future jobs as counter-revolutionary agents are to be in the army. The men, most of whom are boys, in Camp Roosevelt, citizens' military training camp here, were given the problem of evacuating a company of "reds" which were supposed to be camped in Laporte.

The "bl

SHOWS ILLINOIS NATIONAL GUARD AS BOSSSES' TOOL

Foreman Gives Away the Whole Game

CHICAGO.—Now we know what the Illinois national guard is for... It is kept going primarily to shoot hell into the union coal miners of the state.

No Communist agitator but the commanding general of the 33rd division is authority for the statement. He admits it and drives it home to one of the big downstate coal companies. He clinches it further by an appeal to the Chicago national guard commission of which F. O. Wetmore, head of the First National (Standard Oil) bank is president.

Gives Himself Away.

Maj. Gen. Milton J. Foreman, the man who had charge of the state military investigation of the Herrin mine war in 1922, gives away the state militia gag in a letter to a coal company official, one of whose employees had resigned from the guard just before the 1924 training period.

The Franklin County Coal Company has mines just north of Williamson county where the luckless attempt to run non-union mines during the 1922 coal strike was made. Edwin B. Keeler, vice-president of the company, who had endorsed the resignation of his employee from the national guard, received the following plain-spoken tip from Gen. Foreman:

Tipping Off the Boss.
"I may be permitted in passing to express my very great surprise that, in the light of past events, a coal company whose mines are located as yours are does not appreciate the wisdom and see its way clear in its own interests, if for no other reasons, to arrange for and insist upon the performance by its employees of their military duty."

The militia general tells one of his real employers, a coal magnate, that the national guard exists to shoot down union miners and help the bosses by bayoneting union labor in time of trouble.

One Million German Workers CHAINED TO THE ROCKS



600,000 Miners Locked Out
400,000 Workers on Strike
7,000 In German Prisons

WIVES AND CHILDREN

STARVING

The German workers are fighting for the preservation of their rights and the eight hour day.

Their fight is our fight.

If they lose, we lose. If they win, we win.

Capitalists are quick to learn from each other.

Today it is Germany. Tomorrow it may be America.

HELP HAMMER AWAY THE CHAINS

5c A BLOW 5c

OUR AIM:

To give aid to all needy workers and class war victims without conditions, without political discrimination, whenever and wherever the existence of a working class is menaced by an economic or natural catastrophe, or by political oppression.

INTERNATIONAL WORKERS' AID,
19 So. Lincoln St., Chicago, Ill.

Please send me 5c stamp books (\$2.50 each) and I will get as many people as possible to take 5c hammer blows at the chains now enslaving German labor.

Enclosed find \$..... as my contribution.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

CITY: STATE:

Committee for International Workers' Aid

The Workers and the Last War

By KARL REEVE

WHEN the great demonstration exploded which announced that the world war was over, the gnarled old Scotch and shipfitter who was working with me in the Hog Island shipyards at that time, spat a wad of tobacco down over the poop deck into the Delaware River and said, "The war is over; now labor can go to the hell."

The ship-yard worker during the European war had plenty of chances to learn that the war "to make the world safe for democracy" was in reality a capitalistic slaughter to enable war profiteers to protect their capital invested in foreign lands, and to turn the blood of the American workers into millions of dollars at home.

Workers Were Swindled.

The ship-yard workers were supposed to be the reserve line trenches of the American army in France. In

token of this they were given a badge for every three months service in the shipyards. Yet every ship-yard worker knew that the large ship yards had sold ships to the government which had not yet been built, on a cost-plus basis. This meant that a percentage of the money spent was given the ship-yard owners over their expenditures, and the game, consequently, was to spend as much money as possible. This money was supplied by the workers in the Liberty Bonds that the employers forced the laboring men to buy.

Business As Usual.

In the Harriman shipyard at Bristol, Pa., for instance, the Harriman interests sold twelve ships of 12,000 tons to the government for hundreds of millions of dollars. When the war ended, not one ship had been completed and placed at the disposal of the United States Government, yet millions of dollars were given the Harriman company for spending the workers' Liberty Bond money.

The changed attitude of the employers toward labor immediately

upon the ending of the war was first and most sharply noticeable in the shipyards and other war industries. The war graft of the profiteers was great while it lasted. The war profiteers sold their rotten supplies to the government for hundreds of millions of dollars, and the government later burned these supplies or resold them to the capitalists for a few dollars.

Deflation Process Begins.

But labor had to be "put in its place" after the war. Labor, because of the scarcity, demanded a slightly inflated wage during the war, just as the capitalists demanded a greatly inflated price for their commodities. Labor, although not wise enough to make hay while the sun shone, and strengthen the trade unions when labor was in demand, grew a little self-confident during the war. The process of beating this self-confidence out of the workers started instantly the war ended.

The Open Shop Drive.

In the shipyards around Philadelphia, including the New York Shipbuilding Corporation, the Cramps ship-

yards, Hog Island, the Sun Shipbuilding Company at Chester, the Harriman company at Bristol, the Taylor yards and others, as soon as the war was over, put the clamps on labor. All overtime work was cut out. Wages were reduced. Thousands of men were laid off and rehired, sometimes the same day, at greatly reduced wages. Time clocks were installed and it was made compulsory to punch them four times a day. Work was greatly speeded up. Loafing on the job was stopped. Trades union members were fired and blacklisted. The world was safe for democracy, and the open shop drive was on with full force.

The Disillusioned Veterans.

The ex-soldiers who struggled back into the industries after getting off the transports, were a sad and disillusioned lot. Many of these men entered the shipyards. They were given no advantages over the others, however. Most of them had only their uniforms. They had to sell their transportation home to buy something to eat. Immediately the returned sol-

diers were also made to feel the open shop drive. Their old jobs were often filled by cheaper labor. If they got them back they had to work at open shop pay. Soldiers over-ran the cities, begging, stealing, doing the most menial work in order to exist.

How About the Next War?

Most of the shipyards workers and ex-soldiers were young men. They lost their delusions about the war to end war. They found that women and child-labor had been brought into industry and together with the open shop drive, reduced the standard of living of the masses in this country. They found that "dollar a year" men who had handled the war contracts in Washington suddenly blossomed out into millionaires. They found that the only ones who benefited by the war were the big business men and the financiers. They found that the war had brought more intense wage slavery instead of workers control of industry.

Let us hope that if another capitalistic war is broached they do not forget their lesson.

NUMBER OF CHILD LABORERS JUMPS IN OLD VIRGINIA

RICHMOND, Virginia.—Virginia today offers a good example of how child labor is growing worse in many states thruout the country (especially the south) at the same time that the "intellectuals" and "Liberals" in certain sections of the nation are raising such an ineffectual cry against it. Statistics gathered by the U. S. Department of Labor and published in the June "Labor Review" show that by the end of 1923 a total of 8,390 children were being employed in the state of Virginia. This is an increase of practically five thousand over the number of children employed in this state in 1922; the number having multiplied more than three times.

Increase in Manufactures.

The number of certificates granted for children in mercantile and manufacturing establishments alone has grown from 1,846 in 1922 to 4,446 in 1923, some 2,800 more children going straight from grammar school into industry without the chance of any further education. These figures only refer to children from 12 to 16, any older being considered an adult in this state.

In 1923 the number of children employed in factories in Virginia in violation of the child labor law was especially large, 717 cases being discovered by factory inspectors—almost three times as many violations as in 1922—while many children under fourteen must have continued working without being detected.

Street Trades Also Jump.

Especially noticeable is the increase in the number of children granted badges for the street trades, the total number employed in the streets mounting to 3,924 by the end of 1923. Of this number nearly a thousand were twelve years of age, an equal number were thirteen, while the remaining two thousand were fourteen and fifteen.

While a few manufacturers of the north who find the employment of children unprofitable for certain heavy industries are trying to prove their generosity and political benevolence by supporting a national child labor law—other manufacturers in this state and throughout the country

who find that in their industries the exploitation of children is very profitable, are doing their best to see that the number of child workers shall increase rather than decrease.

Big Profits From Children.
Tobacco and the silk and cotton mills are among the leading industries of Virginia—the tobacco industry ranking first in the state. The fact that all three of these industries can employ children at great profit accounts for the greater increase of child labor in this state than in certain other states.

In the same issue of the "Labor Review" alongside the figures showing the increasing child labor, other statistics show that, as usual, the employment of children is in no way necessitated by a shortage of labor on the other hand all the industries employing children register in unemployment while in the state of Virginia as a whole, the number of workers employed shows a marked decline.

Two Dollars a Week is Maximum Compensation to Thousands of Kiddies of Mine Accident Dead

CHICAGO.—Tears for the old days when children went to work at nine and ten years of age are shed by Clarice Hickman, who used to do the hiring and firing for The Fair, a Chicago department store.

"A few years ago," Clarice tells the 47,000 sympathetic members of the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, "there were no labor laws to curtail the ambitions of youth in its infancy and the product of those days was a group of commerce builders."

"The large department and retail stores were developed and the cash

and errand boys and girls who were on the pay roll at the age of nine or ten have progressed to presidents, general managers and super-executives and planted a field of golden opportunities for the youth of the generations succeeding them to harvest; the youth that has a tendency now to dissipate its hours in the movies and the dance halls."

Clarice leaves the impression that every nine-year-old cash girl in the golden days of yore is now a super-executive. If any girls failed to rise it was probably because of death from overwork or because they were run down by the midnight express on their way to the job.

ATTENTION!

PICNIC

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 1924

AT NATIONAL GROVE

RIVERSIDE, ILL.

SPEAKERS: BARNEY MASS, Young Workers League

Athletics Dancing Music Games Refreshments

Directions: Take any car to 22nd St., 22nd west to end; take LaGrange car to National Grove.

Tickets in advance, 35c; at gate, 50c. Gates open at 10 A. M.

AUSPICES: YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE OF CHICAGO AND SOCIETY FOR TECHNICAL AID TO SOVIET RUSSIA

MASS REVIEWS NATIONAL FACTORY AND ECONOMIC DEMANDS' CAMPAIGNS OF THE LEAGUE

cured from this activity.

This article will serve another purpose which is to explain briefly to the other branches the manner with which to proceed with this work. Some few branches have written the national office requesting an organizer to help them in carrying on their work in the campaign against the National Biscuit Company and for obvious reasons it has been impossible to fulfill these demands. These demands makes incumbent on the national committee to elaborate on its work in the Chicago district to stimulate their activity on a national scale.

Campaigns Are Reviewed.

In reviewing the past activity of the Chicago-St. Louis district, we find that already it has to its credit the participation in three factory campaigns, and two strikes. That the committee under the supervision of the N. E. C. correctly interpreted its tasks can be verified by the results obtained. It is indeed old stuff to rehash in detail for the Chicago membership the experience gained in the Bunte Chocolate Company drive, National Biscuit Company, Western Electric and the strikes in Pullman and Hegewisch. It is the intention of the writer to show the fundamental issues involved and the benefits se-

primitve and elemental needs. The only thing left is the proper tactics to be adopted in carrying on this work. With this in mind we will interpret our experience gained in the above enumerated movements.

Nucleus From "Nabisco."

Considering the National Biscuit Company drive of more importance, as we are now engaged on a national scale in this campaign, we will begin with it first. The result obtained is an existing potential nucleus, also the sale of eleven hundred YOUNG WORKERS, the furthering of the shop economic demands, popularizing the league through these demands and the general propaganda values. Many things were neglected, such as the technical work of preparing a mass meeting, etc., but the fundamental features were handled in a very efficient way. Leaflets were distributed for two days announcing the coming exposure in the YOUNG WORKER, before it made its appearance. The league membership carried on personal conversations with the workers as they came pouring out of the gates. The street meeting held was very successful. About two hundred names were obtained and these will be used to the greatest advantage possible by the local organization. This

short analysis displays what work of this nature means and shows the opportunity of realizing a mass organization.

And Another in Hegewisch!

In the strike at Hegewisch the league succeeded in getting 21 header boys, the backbone of the strike, organized into a branch of the Y. W. L. To keep the branch in the sphere of influence and make it serve and play the proper role in the strike, it was immediately got into activity. The league immediately organized an entertainment, the proceeds of which will go to the strikers. This action on their part automatically received the admiration of all the strikers and increased its prestige. It must be understood that it is a nucleus and not a branch, giving consideration to the time, when they will go back to work. The Hegewisch nucleus also played a prominent role in getting the union interested in the situation and made this issue popular through persistent agitation. This is an example for the membership! It must be considered as an accomplishment well worthy of favorable comment. A few of the girl comrades of the Chicago league attended a mass meeting of the strikers and helped to sell literature and gave full co-operation

to the comrades in Hegewisch. In addition to this, many Chicago members attended the league meetings of the nucleus there, giving moral encouragement to its work. This is activity based on the class-struggle, not mere discussion of theory.

Where Are You?

Should Chicago be permitted to get so far ahead of the other leagues? And it is up to the other branches to demonstrate that they are yet to be considered as an entity in the struggle for leadership over the masses of the young American workers. Our slogan: "Each branch adopt a factory." This slogan if carried to its conclusion will contribute more to making our organization take on a mass aspect than anything conceivable at the present moment. The branches should immediately begin calling for volunteers for this kind of work. Let us make each member an organizer, qualified to step into any situation and furnish the proper direction.

Let us back up this slogan by getting behind it in sending in reports on work. Let us settle down and continue our work on this practical basis. Let us popularize this slogan to realize a mass organization, "Each branch adopt a factory."

SEND IN YOUR EXTRA BUNDLE ORDERS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY ISSUE OF "THE YOUNG WORKER"

THE YOUNG WORKER

An Organ of the Militant Young Workers of America

Vol. III. AUGUST 15, 1924 No. 16

Published Twice a Month by the
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE OF AMERICA
MAX SHACHTMAN, EditorSend all orders and articles, and remit all funds to
THE YOUNG WORKER
1113 W. Washington Blvd. Chicago, Ill.
SUBSCRIPTION: \$1.00 per year. Single copies 5 cents. 3 cents per copy for bundles of 10 and over.290
Member of The Federated Press.

If War Should Come

SUPPOSE war should come again to America! Suppose the young workers of America, now toiling in the industries of this country, were to be drafted once more, dressed in uniforms and a rifle and shipped off to shoot down other young workers with whom they have no real quarrel? Suppose the entire world were once more to be thrown into the frightful march of the slaughter of the universe.

Are these things impossible? Not at all. We have pointed out time and again in The Young Worker how the basis is being laid for the coming war. We have indicated the preparations being made for it, the increases in the armies and navies of the world, the intensification of the training of the young workers in various camps maintained by big business or the government.

The basis of modern war is the capitalist system of society; and wars will never come to an end unless this system of society is overthrown and destroyed. The robbery by the capitalists of the surplus produced by the workers in the industries continually seeks a market where it can be bought. The profits of the bosses of this country is always on the hunt for new fields of investment. Inevitably, the imperialists of the separate nations come into conflict with each other over the control of new territory. Diplomatic letters are exchanged. The papers get excited. The preachers rave about the inferiority of the enemy. The professors write books about it. The movies prove it by showing a typical enemy as a villain who blows up bridges and tries to violate the desperate American virgin. In an amazingly short time, the two countries are at war and beautiful slogans are coined to hide the sordid reality of the struggle for profits by both powers concerned. The slaughter has begun to be ended only when rivers of blood have been shed.

It is against this coming slaughter that the Communist and Young Communist Internationals have arranged for the demonstrations of the revolutionary, class conscious workers of the world as a sign for their forcible protest against imperialism and its father, capitalism. It is against the danger of war that the Workers Party and the Young Workers League of America have called upon the workers of this country to demonstrate.

Our struggle against imperialism and capitalism is not a pacifist one. For every sky pilot that now throws his eyes to the sky and pleads for peace and harmony among nations, there will be a hundred of the same stripe that will bellow for murder when war is declared. For every one of them that finds a passage condemning strife in the Bible, there are scores who will justify war by quotations from the same book just as they did when Negro slavery divided this nation.

We are for war! We are for war to the end, but not the kind of wars that the bosses are interested in. Not the war for the profits of our masters. We are for the war of the workers against their exploiters until the latter together with their system are wiped off the face of this long suffering earth. We are for a more and more militant war of the classes, with us using every weapon which is now turned against us by the rulers and their servants.

We cannot hope to sway the imperialists by pacific appeals. The only inroads that we can make on them in that direction is to agitate and propagate among their armed forces which are to a great extent made up of young workers. We must get in touch with young workers in the armies, navies and marine corps of American capitalism. From within we must and for the rank and file of the recruit against the overbearing officers, for better conditions of food and rest and work, for increase in pay and for political rights which are now denied to them. Our aim must be to achieve the accomplishments of the French and German Young Communist League which have their members in the army formed into military nuclei which are at the same time the nuclei of the workers' army of the future.

If war should come between this country and any other we shall not take the attitude of the old Y. P. S. L., that is, of refusing to register. On the contrary, we shall enter the army with the avowed purpose of turning the imperialist war into the war of the workers against the profit-greedy bosses who have turned them into murder machines.

That is the only real way to end war. The workers' war against the capitalists' wars, is our slogan.

In this anti-militarist week being conducted by the Communist movement of the world, let all the workers, young and old, rally to the red standards for the final struggle against capitalism.

Down with capitalism and imperialist wars!

On to the labor control of the militia and army and navy!

On with the war of labor against capitalism!

Long live International Communism and the Soviet Republic of the World!

The Congress of the Y. C. I.

AS this is being written the congress of the Young Communist International, following directly after that of the Communist International, has come to an end. The huge gathering of the leaders of the revolutionary young workers of every part of the world has finished the tasks before it and left the rest to the

hundreds of thousands who have rallied to its standards.

An international young communist congress sets itself a number of tasks. As the leading body of the youth movement, it discusses the problems of the international and of the various national leagues, in the light of the new developments in the capitalist world, in Soviet Russia, in the ranks of international communism with a keen view of the experiences gained in the work and activities of the time since the last congress.

The great problem before the young communist movement in every capitalist country today is the winning over of the mass of the young workers to its ranks. In order to do this, the young communist leagues are slowly assuming the leadership of the young workers all over the world. How is this done? The leadership of any mass of people can only be secured by standing for and fighting for their elementary needs. The masses of the young workers will eventually follow and join with the organized section of the youthful proletariat which fights for its interests. The elementary needs of the young workers all over the world today, with the exception of Soviet Russia, are the fight against capitalist exploitation in the industries and the struggle against the danger of war which swallows the lives of the youth wholesale. On this basis the Young Communist International and its national sections have taken their fundamental stand.

The Young Communist Leagues of Europe, especially, have been intensely active in fighting against the danger of new imperialist slaughters. When war threatened as a result of the French occupation of the Ruhr valley, the German and French youth organizations began a widespread propaganda among the troops of both nations against the greed of the steel gang in France, who were back of the entire move. In other instances, the same action was taken and not without terrible sacrifices being made by our fellow workers for the cause of the proletarian revolution.

The leagues have also become more and more active in furthering the economic demands of the Young Communist International, thru the building up of a network of shop nuclei. The German, Swedish, Czechoslovakian and French leagues have been most successful in this attempt. The Russian league has been on a nucleus basis ever since its inception.

The executive committee of the youth international has many times in the last year attempted to bring about a united front of the communist and socialist youth against the increasing boldness of the capitalist class in oppressing the youth. However, the socialist youth, under the close watch of their papas in the yellow ranks of the resurrected Second International, declined to strengthen the forces of the working class youth in this manner. It is gratifying to note that the socialist movement among the youth is losing strength even more rapidly than among the adults, with a noticeable gain for the communist organizations all over the world. In this country the socialist youth organization exists on paper, receiving occasional hypodermic injections from the yellow socialist bureaucrats of the needle trades internationals.

The congress this year has, as always, taken up the various leagues and discussed their work and tasks thoroughly. None has escaped criticism—but a criticism which is made for the sole purpose of correcting the line of work where it has strayed from the communist point of view. The Young Workers League, fraternally affiliated to the Young Communist International, has its delegates to this fifth congress of the red youth of the world. When they return their reports will be avidly listened to and read in our press.

We are proud to emblazon on our banners: The Young Workers League of America American section of the Young Communist International. We are that in spirit and action.

On Successful Murder

THERE is only one way in which you can become a successful murderer—that is, to get away with it—and that is by being rich. If you want to murder anyone and you happen to be only a poor dub, with no money, no influence, then you will hang or be electrocuted just as sure as fate.

For example:

The yellow, sensational press all over the country is now filled with the morbid details of the murder of young Robert Franks by Nathan Leopold, Jr., and Richard Loeb, all three of them the sons of millionaire parents. When they were arrested they were not given the "goldfish" by the police. They were not beaten up, or mistreated in any other way. They got columns and columns of write-ups, their features smear the pages of the papers and the stenographic evidence of the case is daily reprinted.

Everyone is pretty well aware that neither of the young men will hang. There is too much money behind them. Remember Harry K. Thaw who killed the architect, White—and got away with it. Remember the millionaire son-in-law of Edward K. Stotesbury, of the House of Morgan, who killed Dorothy King, and got away with it. The baking King, Ward, who killed Clarence Peters, the poor sailor, is free today.

The two Chicago gentlemen who killed Robert Franks are the sons of millionaires. They wanted an additional kick out of life. They had nothing else to do. Far was it from them to go to work, of course, since that is done only by the slaves of their parents. For Albert Loeb is the vice-president of Sears, Roebuck & Co., notorious for its slave-driving among its young employees, who are only a few years younger than the murderers; and Leopold, Sr., is the head of a paper box company in Morris, Ill., which employs scores of children who sweat their young lives away in order that Nate Leopold may find spare time to study perversions and kill lads for excitement.

The young slaves can have the satisfaction of knowing that it is their toll which is providing these degenerates with the means of perverted enjoyments. And while they watch the process of the trial which will not result in the hanging of the two defendants they can have the additional pleasure of knowing that their lives are a slow process of torture while they pile up profits for Sears, Roebuck & Co. and the Leopold plant in Morris, Ill.

BY JACQUES DORIOT
Secretary, Young Communist League
of France and Member, French
House of Deputies

TEN years have passed since the declaration of war. That period, however, has not weakened the contradictions inherent in imperialism, but, on the contrary, made them stand out more acutely than ever before. The peace of Versailles, which has redivided the world, has thrown one imperialist power against the other in most violent opposition, and they are now again about to fight insanely against one another. The proletarian youth must understand this dangerous situation and

must arm for the struggle. The experiences of the last war were altogether too bitter to permit them to forget.

It is the young generation that has participated in the war to the greatest extent and has thereby suffered the greatest loss. Official German statistics state that young men between the years of 19 and 25 suffered 44 per cent of the entire losses of human life in that slaughter; while in France the classes of 1913, 1914, 1915 have been completely annihilated. In England the system of compulsory military service brought the entire youth to extinction. And in Belgium, owing to the fact that no one above 30 years of age was called to arms, the entire burden of military service was thrown

upon a small section of young workers.

misery that they endured.

The Betrayal.

Aside from the terrible losses that the proletarian youth has suffered on the firing line itself, one must also reckon the suffering of the working youth of still lower ages that had not yet been mobilized. In the name of national defense the protection of the youth was thrown overboard. Real young people, in fact children, had to enter industry to replace those called into slaughter service, and had to work for the longest number of hours.

The immense increase of epidemics (tuberculosis, etc.) among the working youth exploited during the war years is clear proof of the terrible

The London Conference Leads to War

By ALEXANDER BITTELMAN

ALOCKED. They may continue in this fashion for another week or two, and then break up. They cannot very well agree because there is too much at stake. Even a makeshift arrangement is something that the London Conference will hardly be able to produce.

Isn't the German Loan.

Reading capitalist news and interpretations of the London Conference only confuses one's mind. According to them the main reason for the deadlock is to be found in the unwillingness of inability of the French Government to accede to the so-called security demands of the English and American bankers, which is true, in a measure. But the explanation touches the surface of the matter.

It is true that the French government, in line with the interests of the French heavy industrialists, wouldn't relinquish the right of the Commission on Reparations to be the sole judge and executor in the matter of imposing sanctions upon Germany in case of the latter's default. It is also true that the English and American bankers are opposed to the position of France in this matter, their main argument being that the prospectus investors will not readily come forward with their money for the proposed 200 million dollar loan for Germany as long as the French government through its control of the Reparations Commission remains the sole judge in the matter of sanctions. All this is perfectly true, because these are the outward manifestations of the conflict that is at present taking place at the London Conference. However, what we should concern ourselves mostly with is not so much the outward signs as the inward causes which brings us to the old issue of

Who Shall Dominate Europe?

For this there are three great pretenders: France, England and America. The capitalists of these three countries are being driven by the logic of the economic situation and by the logic of mutual antagonisms and

jealousies, to seize control over the most important sections of Europe. America, because of its coal and iron resources in the Ruhr and because of its comparative helplessness, offers at present the shortest and most effective way for securing domination over Europe. Germany has therefore become the chief stake in the imperialist game of the great powers.

France has made two attempts to secure for herself the coal and iron riches of the Ruhr basin. One was at the close of the great slaughter when the infamous treaty of Versailles was written. Clemenceau had then tried to annex to France all of the industrial Rhineland. In this he failed, because the capitalists of England and America wouldn't stand for it.

But French Imperialism was not ready to give up so readily one of its most cherished dreams. Consequently another attempt was made, the famous march into the Ruhr by Polonaise. The original purpose of the invasion was probably the complete annexation of the province to France, or failing in this, to secure for French capital such a measure of control over the industries of the Ruhr as to make the latter practically French possessions. The combined opposition of the capitalists of Germany, England and America prevented France for the second time from realizing its ambitions. Then French Imperialism began evolving a scheme based on the idea that the Ruhr industries be controlled jointly by the heavy industrialists of Germany and France. In other words, French Imperialism was getting ready to compromise with its German brethren on the division of spoils in the Ruhr basin.

The industrialists of Germany were quite willing. Barring a few differences that were yet to be settled, big capital of France and Germany was about to join hands in the battle for the conquest of Europe. Then something happened. American imperialism jointly with the English stepped into the affair and said: No. It shall not be. This categorical No was delivered through the socalled

Experts' Report commonly known in America as the Dawes plan. And in order to touch French imperialism to the quick, American and English bankers fooled around for a little while with the French franc chasing it down almost to the same value as the German mark in its critical days.

French imperialism took the hint intelligently. It acquiesced in the Dawes plan (theoretically, at least), and expressed a willingness to negotiate. The result was the London Conference.

What Are They Negotiating About?

The concrete question is this: Who shall control the coal and iron industries of the Ruhr basin? To this question the replies are as follows: France—the heavy industrialists of France and Germany, America and England. All of us, meaning by this that in such a joint control America would come first, England second, France third, and Germany fourth. Or, if France remains obstinate, Germany might come third and France last.

The Co-Relation of Forces.

This imperialistic battle, which is a continuation of the great slaughter by means of diplomacy and economic pressure and which is preparing the ground for a new and still bloodier struggle, the forces of the combatants are co-related about as follows: In France: Heavy industrialists are in favor of exclusive Franco-German control, the petty-bourgeoisie and the labor aristocracy are distrustful of it. The latter are more inclined toward accepting the Dawes plan.

In Germany the situation is about the same.

In England the entire capitalist class (big, middle and small) and the labor aristocracy are opposed to Franco-German control and in favor of the Dawes plan. In America, big capital is naturally in favor of the Dawes plan and opposed to the French scheme. Middle and small capital as well as the labor aristocracy have not yet made up their minds on the proposition, the chances being that these groups will

IMPROBABLY

Senator Moses, of New Hampshire, is going into Wisconsin to give battle to LaFollette. He will organize and make speeches and the papers will give space to Moses and his bull rushes.

WHAT HOSPITAL IS HE IN, BRICK?

I'm against war. I abhor fighting, on principle and in practice—but that guy that slandered the Young Workers League won't do it again!

BRICK LAYER.

HAVE A CIGAR, LADY!

I am strong against war
But believe in conscription
Of all the Young Workers
To hand in a subscription,

RED'S WIFE.

SMALL QUESTIONS IN SMALL TYPE

Is it due to the large percentage of there that Washington is called the seat of the Government?

CURRENT FICTION

(The Week's Best Seller, Entitled: "My, What An Odor!")

The Republican party reaffirms its stand for agreement among the nations to prevent war and preserve peace. As an important step in this direction we endorse the permanent court of international justice and favor the adherence of the United States to the tribunal recommended by President Coolidge."—Republican Platform.

Get in the Union in Your Trade!

The politician who before election is so anxious to "serve the people" usually does afterwards, on a plate to Capital.

CONTINUOUSLY AND ALL OVER

I don't like to repeat it—really. But no less an upright and honorable gentleman than Clarence True Wilson, corresponding secretary of the board of temperance and public morals of the Methodist Episcopal Church, says this about LaFollette:

"The only party and the only wet candidate running is Robert M. LaFollette. He has been continuously wet."

OFFICE BEANE.

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talist society. We, the young Communists, set ourselves the goal of gaining these young workers for the cause of the revolution. We sacrifice their lives, the Communists advocate the workers' war against the bosses.

Slowly, painfully, the workers are learning that it is sometimes wise to take a leaf out of the book of capitalist tactics. Only good Christians and fools turn the other cheek when he is slapped. The fighting miners of West Virginia learned the lesson of the struggle against oppression when they took up their rifles and went gunning for the thugs of the coal operators. The miners of Herrin, Ill., learned a similar instructive lesson. The same lesson will have to be learned by every single worker in the United States as well as elsewhere.

To the war of the capitalists we oppose the war of the proletarian revolution. If war should come, our only alternative will be to turn the energy, blood, sacrifice of the fighting soldier-workers into a war against their oppressors, the scheming plutocrats who refuse to yield their position and make way for a sane social order.

At the present time, the armies of capitalism are made up of misguided young workers. It is our duty to point out to these young workers their real place in the make-up of capi-