

The Young Worker

Official Organ of the Young Workers League



March 1923

Price 10 cents

Call for Second Nat'l Convention of the Young Workers League

Comrades:—

Nine months have passed since the Young Workers League of America held its first national convention and entered the struggle for the organization of the masses of young workers against American capitalism and imperialism.

Events since have more than justified the coming into being of a revolutionary youth organization. The Open Shop Campaign has hit the young workers strongly, resulting in a more miserable exploitation of the youth. The so-called Child Labor Laws has been declared unconstitutional and there are now more than a million and a half child workers, between the ages of six and fifteen, in the shops, factories, mills and fields. The vast majority of the young workers are still unorganized in order to meet the attacks of the employers. But these attacks have opened the eyes of the workers as never before. (Witness the amalgamation movement and the Labor Party agitation.)

The Young Workers League has now more vital problems before it than ever—tactical ones chiefly. Our Second National Convention, which will be held in Chicago, May 13-14, 1923, will face the task of analyzing the recent changes and developments in the American Labor movement, and then to devise the best possible means of reaching the masses of young workers and students with our Communist message and for attaining a militant organization of Communist youth.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE OF AMERICA

Note: A special blank is being gotten out by the national office for the soliciting of funds for the delegates to the convention. The branches should not stop there. Every city organization should be able to raise the necessary \$50.00 between now and the convention time so that they may be represented. This assessment might seem high, but the National Executive Committee has had the matter under consideration for more than a month and this is the only possible way of raising anywhere near the necessary amount with which to run the convention.

A specific arrangement is to be made for the financing of delegates from the West Coast. They, unfortunately, will have to work harder than the Leagues in the East and Middle West; but the national office is going to do all it can to help the Pacific Coast Leagues to send at least two delegates. Seattle is now working on plans; Los Angeles and San Francisco likewise have been communicated with, and there is no doubt that some satisfactory arrangement will be arrived at

AGENDA for the SECOND CONVENTION OF THE YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE OF AMERICA to be held in Chicago, May 13-14, 1923.

Submitted by the N.E.C.:

- I. Report of National Executive Committee.
- II. Report of Workers Party representative on Party problems.
- III. Report of Young Communist International Delegates.
- IV. Program of the Young Workers League of America,
 - a) Economic struggle of the young workers.
 - b) The young workers and the trade unions.
 - c) Education.
 - d) Militarism.
 - e) Recreational activities.
- V. Constitution,
 - a) Relations of the Young Workers League to the Workers Party.
 - b) Shop nuclei reorganization.
 - c) Children's (junior) sections.
- VI. Resolutions,
 - a) International Relations.
 - b) Press.
 - c) Miscellaneous.

REPRESENTATION.

1) Every good standing chartered city organization of the Y. W. L. is entitled to one delegate to the second national convention of the Y. W. L. up to and including 75 good standing members, provided the following decisions are complied with. (See finances.)

2) A delegate will be allowed for each additional 75 members in good standing or major fraction thereof.

Finances.

These provisions must be compiled with before delegates can be sent to the convention:

1) Each city organization sending delegates is assessed \$50.00 for each delegate sent and for proxy delegates \$25.00.

(Proxies must be good standing members of the Y. W. L.)

Funds can be raised by—

1) Affairs.

2) Assessments on the membership by the branch.

3) By means of blanks furnished especially for the purpose by the National Office, and

4) By any other means thought advisable by the city organization.

Birthdays of Political Prisoners

Birthdays in March of political prisoners still confined in American prisons, are announced by the Workers National Prison Comfort Club, 2923 Chestnut Street, as follows:

At Walla Walla, Washington, Box 520. Mar. 4, Britt Smith, No. 9408; March 4, Ray Becher, No. 9413; Mar. 16, O. C. Bland, No. 9409.

At San Quentin Prison, San Quentin, Calif:



Mar. 6, Richard Bendig, No. 35713; Mar. 12, Wm. Baker, No. 35714.
At Folsom Penitentiary, Repressa, Calif.: Mar. 21. James McLaughlin.
At Leavenworth, Kansas, Box No. 7: March 10, H. F. Kane, No. 13161; Mar. 13, Geo Voetter, No. 13584; Mar. 18, James Slovik, No. 13142; Mar. 20, Edw. Quigley, No. 13578; Mar. 22, Godfrey Ebel, No. 13567; Wm. Hood, No. 13573; Mar. 28, Joe Graber, No. 13156; Michael Sapper.

THE YOUNG WORKER

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March, 1923

No. 3.

The Work of the Communist Youth of the World

By MARTIN ABERN

(Delegate to the Third Congress of the Young Communist International)

AT a time when the entire working class and especially the young workers are undergoing great hardships; when the capitalist offensive and reaction is still heavy against the workers; when the dangers and signs of another World War are to be seen, the Third Congress of the Young Communist International opened in Red Moscow.

On the morning of Dec. 6th, 1923, over ninety delegates to the Third Congress of the Young Communist International, coming from all parts of Asia, North and South America, Australasia, Europe and Africa, representing nearly one million revolutionary young workers filed their way into Sverdlov Hall within the Kremlin walls. A few minutes and all were seated. The bell rang. Comrade Shueller, secretary of the Young Communist International arose and speaking successively in German, French and English declared the second session of the Congress open and ready for work. The opening celebration (first session) had taken place the night previous in the Bolshe Theatre. The delegates rose and sang the Internationale. A minute later, comrade Lazarus Shatskin of the Russian Young Communist League began his report for the Executive Committee of the Young Communist International on the accomplishments since the Second Congress.

Much Work Is Done.

It will be impossible to cover the actions and decisions of the Third Young Communist Congress in such detail as might be desirable. I shall, hence cover the more important matters generally and in future articles deal at length with special subjects and decisions of the Congress. First, a brief review of the activities of the Executive Committee and the Leagues since the Second Congress.

Comrade Shatskin pointed out that the Young Communist International and the Young Communist Leagues had relinquished their roles as the political leaders of the masses since Communist Parties, the logical leaders, had arisen in most of the countries and had assumed their proper positions. The Young Communist Leagues must become **Mass Organizations**—this was the task set before the Young Communist International and the Leagues. To become mass bodies of the young workers, the Leagues must throw open their ranks to the young workers, class conscious and not, break with sectarianism and enter into all the activities and lives of the young workers. By waging the struggle for the bettering of the economic con-

ditions of the youth, by fighting capitalist militarism, by striving for their education and physical upbuilding, by seeking to bring the wage-slave, peasantry and the children of the workers into the Young Communist organizations and into their activities—by becoming organizations for **Militant Education** of the youth, only thus could the slogan of the Second World Congress, "**To The Masses**," be realized. The various decisions arrived at by the Second Congress to carry out this slogan had, as comrades Ziegler and Shueller showed in elaborating on Shatskin's report, on the whole been vindicated in practice.

Must Do More Trade Union Work.

The Young Communist International recognized that the Young Communists had to enter into intimate economic and trade union activity. Much material was collected on the economic conditions of the young workers in Germany, Austria, Sweden and Norway. These Young Communist Leagues especially propagandized the economic demands and needs of the young workers. Thru their efforts many trades unions and other working class organizations paid attention to the young workers' problems and formulated and fought for demands on behalf of the Youth. In numerous instances, in Germany, Rumania, Jugoslavia, Belgium, France,

the Young Communists were in many strikes and fights of the workers, very often taking the lead in these movements. Pride can be taken of the achievements of the Young Communist organizations in this work. More so since, because of the numerous defeats inflicted upon the workers during this period of the capitalist offensive (1920—1922), the militant spirits of the workers waned. The reactionary elements hit even more strongly against the Young Communists, forcing many of the Leagues underground.

Fight Against Militarism.

The campaign against militarism is always one of the big points in the activity of the Young Communists. Comrade Doriot of France reporting on this question said that not much progress over the previous year had been made. When the capitalist class is pressing hard upon the workers, then anti-militarist agitation is met with the severest of reprisals. Many Young Communists met death in combating this capitalist scourge. Yet, the French, Spanish, Greek, Norwegian and other Young Communists carried on much anti-military work among the soldiers and recruits. Better conditions were obtained for the soldiers in Norway and



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A GROUP OF DELEGATES TO THE THIRD CONGRESS OF THE YOUNG COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL.
Reading from left to right, they represent the following countries: Top row: Belgium, Sweden, Korea, Russia. Bottom row: France, America (Abern), Russia, England, Japan, Italy.

Sweden. Particular attention is being paid to perfecting cooperation between the Young Communist Leagues of France and Germany that they may better handle their anti-military actions and other problems arising out of the criminal Versailles Treaty.

In America, tho the expenditures for the army and navy and other capitalist murder agencies are second only to Great Britain, the anti-military work of the Workers Party and the Young Workers League, it was pointed out, has been only of a general nature. However, the Washington Disarmament Conference farce, the activities of the American White Guard organizations such as the Ku Klux Klan with their "imperial wizards", etc., striving to establish American Imperialism in name as well as in fact, and the blood-thirsty (for workers blood) American Legion have done much to arouse the American working class to the need of combating American militarism and also to the need of protecting themselves in more ways than those offered thru the capitalist courts.

Education Thoroughly Discussed.

Now from militarism to education. Education, gotten not only from books but also from experiences in the class conflict in the daily battle for bread, in the labor and political movement—**Militant Education**—that is what the Young Communist International stands for. The Young Communist Leagues of Norway, Sweden and France have developed a sound system for educating their members and training functionaries. Germany and Austria, comrade Zeigler of Russia said, had carried on the best popular and propagandic educational work.

The Young Communist Leagues are educational organizations—schools for communism. The Young Communist movement is, however, a section of the labor movement; the young workers have their own particular economic problems and ideas which must be understood and regarded. The Young Communist and Workers Leagues, besides their political, educational and anti-military work, therefore must and do take

part in the daily industrial struggle, in the union work both as fellow workers and as communists who understand best the worker's problems.

Results in other directions of the decisions of the Second Congress could be given but since these as well as others link themselves with the questions handled by the Third Congress, I shall, if necessary, deal with them hereafter while taking up some Third Congress decisions.

Perhaps the most important matter completed at the Third Congress was the drafting of an Economic Program for the young workers. It is not sufficient for the Young Communists merely to say that they will participate in the economic struggles of the young workers. A basis, a definite program must be had if decisive intelligent work is to be done, and thus laid the work is to be performed. The Young Communist International therefore correctly decided upon an Economic Program.

"Socialist Reorganization of Youth Labor."

The foundation and aim of the program adopted at the Third Congress is: "The Socialist Reorganization of Youth Labor." In a fine pamphlet issued by the Young Communist International, (reviewed in the February "Young Worker"), "Fundamental Problems of the Young Communist International", a lengthy definition of this slogan is given. We think it well to repeat it:

"It means a **complete transformation** of the situation of the youth and juvenile labor. To realize the Socialist reorganization of youth labor means to put an end to the exploitation of youth in the fields of labor, and to get the young workers to pay serious attention to their education; it means to deal with the position and fate of the youth in society, not from the point of view of the **exploitation** of labor, but from the point of view of **educating** and developing the highest mental, physical and moral qualities, to create for the entire youth, and without exception, a rich, decent life, corresponding with the needs of the youth."



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The program demands that the youth till 19 years of age, shall not be subject to exploitation. To care for those under eighteen from a social, a socialist view, really to educate youth in a civilized manner and not in the present barbaric and savage and bloody capitalist fashion, is demanded by the Young Communist International.

Admittedly, to realize these demands would be to achieve the Social Revolution. Indeed, this demand cannot be obtained while capitalism lasts—yet it is the only sane solution to the youth problem, to the workers' problem. Such a revolutionary aim can be attained only in a Soviet Government functioning thru a dictatorship of the working class. And that is the purpose and aim of the Young Communist International and the Young Workers League of America. We shall work with those who will for a quick establishment of a Workers Soviet Republic. But while striving for that, we must do our utmost to better the conditions of the workers now, and to make them better fighters.

Formulate Partial Demands.

So the Young Communist International and the Leagues adhering to it, also formulate an economic program of partial demands, always keeping in view our final aim. The question: Can a revolutionary organization have a program of partial demands is answered: Yes. The breaking up of capitalism prevents it from giving to the workers, if it would, a decent standard of living (witness the horrible lowering of the living standard in all countries—Asia, Europe, America), and hence a struggle for partial economic and political demands, wisely conducted by a communist organization, becomes revolutionary. Moreover, unlike the Social-reform adult or youth organizations which make **minimum** demands of capitalism, the Communists fight for demands suitable to the workers needs and not the capitalist's desire. It is questionable in the extreme, it is, in fact, impossible for instance for capitalism to grant a six hour work day in America or an eight in Europe, and not disturb capitalist economy beyond repair. But care and discretion must be used in arriving at an economic program.

In the Economic Commission, many changes which made for clarity were made in the original draft. Comrade John Edwards and myself spoke for the insertion of certain clauses which would make it more satisfactory to America.

The Swedish and Norwegian comrades also made many suggestions. An acceptable draft was gotten and unanimously adopted by the Congress.

To Draw in Masses of Young Workers.

In drawing up this Economic Program, the Young Communist International laid one of its most important stones which would result; first, in a greater work of the Leagues directly on the industrial field—in the shops, mills unions etc., secondly, in attracting thus the mass of young workers to the Young Communist or Workers Leagues, and hence realizing the aim of the Young Communist International—to become Mass Organizations.

With the matter of education I shall deal briefly now. The Young Communist International demands book learning, theoretical, understanding, yes. But it also requires that this education be supplemented and completed thru participation in the political and economic life of the workers. We want knowledge that we may know how to destroy capitalism and, after that,



JOHN EDWARDS
Delegate to the Third Congress of the
Young Communist International

how to reconstruct society on a communist basis. We shall learn and we shall experience revolutionary Marxism. Theories have their origin in material things. Ideas in conflict with social and economic facts will remain ideas only, if they continue to exist at all. Marxian theory and education turn on the pivot of reality—are based on experiences in the relations of man and man to his tools and nature.

The Young Communist International declares that our education shall be threefold: political, general and physical. The political education which is by far the most important, is not just theoretical but must be carried on within the organization, among the organized and unorganized young workers, and must be systematic, properly coordinated in a National Department. In America, our educational work has been of too general a character, has been characterized by looseness. More definite and intensive work must be outlined. The Workers Party must extend help—teachers, etc.—to the Young Workers League in this field of work.

Shop Nuclei Organization.

For these many years now, the geographical or territorial basis of organization has been accepted and used. The Young Communist League of Russia tho, has demonstrated that the most successful form of organization has been that based on the Shop Nuclei—or organizations of the Young Communists within a given shop, factory, mill, etc. The comrades can get together easier, perhaps during the dinner hour or after work, can discuss the problems confronting them in the shop—hours, wages, conditions, strikes, etc. Political and economical matter are grasped more realistically; their application can be better understood because of the workers nearness to the physical reality.

The Third Congress decided to carry out more widely the decisions of the Second World Congress to transform the Young Communist or Workers Leagues from the territorial basis to the Shop Nuclei one. The Con-



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gress recognized, of course, that the problem of Shop Nuclei organizations is not a matter of over-night ending, but that a transition period, requiring in many countries several years, is needed for the accomplishment of this task. The preliminary work necessary is the registration of the members of the Leagues. In a future article, I shall more fully discuss the Shop Nuclei and its application to the Young Workers League. If possible the speech of Comrade Zetlin of the Young Communist League of Russia on the Shop Nuclei will be translated and sent to the League membership.

Much as I would wish I cannot deal fully herein with the remaining problems at the Third Congress, and indeed shall have to eliminate much. Each country had its own particular problems and experiences to set before the Congress—Czecho-Slovakia, Italy, England, and others.

Comrade Corelli of the Young Communist League of Italy told graphically of the struggles against the Fascisti cut-throats; how the Young Italian Communists have been the leaders in the armed resistance against these deadly enemies of the workers. Take note, American comrades and workers, that Commander Owsley the head of the American Fascisti, the American Legion, has declared that the American Legion would, if necessary to prevent the workers from throwing off their chains, take on the reigns of the American Government, even as did their fellow-breed, the Italian Fascisti mongrels. The struggles of the Young Communists of Italy against the latest reaction has been magnificent. Fascism is not a phenomenon peculiar to Italy, but is an international one, differing in the capitalist countries only in form and degree of oppression and depending on the development of the class struggle. The courageous Italian working class will defeat the Fascisti, however long and fierce the conflict may be. The American workers will learn from the Italian comrades how to handle such capitalist tools as the Ku Klux Klan and the American Legion.

Should Throw Open Doors.

The Italian comrades were criticised because their League had not thrown open widely, its doors to the masses of young workers. The tendency had been to band by themselves. Hereafter the Italian League was instructed to strive to become a mass organization and not to fear "contamination" by the not yet fully-communist youth. In this connection comes up the matter of the unity of radical forces in Italy.

The Young Communist International aims quickly "to bring about a fusion between the Socialist Youth organization, after it has been purged of all reformist elements, and the Young Communist League of Italy." All attempts are being made to attain the United Front of all the workers in the battle against Fascism.

The Young Communist International has tried at all times to establish the United Front of all the working class youth, and also of adult and youth labor, against the capitalist offensive and reaction. The comrades will remember that the Young Workers League of America accepted the call last year of the Young Communist International for a **World Congress of Young Workers**, and sent a delegate to Europe. The Young Communist International desired to unite the forces of the working youth of the world, and to formulate plans for effective struggle against the increasing pauperization of the youth and the growing militarism. But the reformist youth organizations of the Second

and Two-and-a-half International declined to participate in such a Congress. Thus, like their adult yellow father bodies, they revealed their yellow blood corpuscles. These yellow youth organizations are not interested in fighting the capitalist class, but rather the Communists. The workers will learn the true character of these treacherous bodies and deal harshly with them.

Unite Against Capitalist Wars!

With another World War imminent, in which the young workers will again be the cannon fodder, the Communist and the Young Communist Internationals are determined in their attempt to unite all workers, whatever be their political and economic views, in a battle to prevent the slaughter of the workers for the capitalists' benefit. To this end the Young Workers League of America heartily subscribes and will work.

In many countries, Children's Groups have now been firmly established. In America however, we have done comparatively nothing thereon. Yet, if we can instill communist ideals and thoughts into the minds of the children, these ideas will be lasting. We must as far as possible prevent bourgeois clap-trap and rot from reaching the ears of the workers' children. The coming Young Workers League Convention will have to prepare details for the organization of Childrens' Sections—in fact, not only in name.

Likewise the Czecho-Slovakian comrade pointed out the necessity of the young Communists reaching out into the sports organizations where there are hundreds of thousands of young workers subject to capitalist influence. The young workers must have recreation. Wherever we can, we must establish our own sport clubs, associations, etc., where we may bring the young workers. The young workers will listen if we approach them on a common ground. If we cannot bring them to us, then let us go to them and carry on with them. We have thus far not as seriously as we should, taken up the matter of Sport Organizations. Considering the influence exercised upon the young workers by the huge capitalist sport and recreation clubs, like the Y. M. C. A., it is high time that we approach this problem. A study of the activities of the Red Sport International will indicate the importance of such work. The Norwegian, Swedish, Finnish and German comrades have had a great success in forming workers sport clubs or in getting into capitalist clubs and pulling the young workers away from their bourgeois influences.

It will be highly pleasing to the comrades of the Young Workers League to know that the Young Communist International has a fine opinion of the Young Workers League, and expects as we grow, great things of us soon. Such work as we have been able to do, we have carried on in a true communist fashion and spirit.

The Young Communist International has accepted the Young Workers League of America into its ranks as a sympathizing or fraternal body, and hopes the time will soon arrive when the Young Workers League can affiliate to it. In this connection I can only say—and comrade Edwards will agree—that there is only one place for a revolutionary youth organization, such as the Young Workers League of America, and that it is in the ranks of the leaders of the young workers of the world—in the Young Communist International.

All that I have witnessed in Russia at the Congress convinces me that at our next National Convention, May 13, 1923, the Young Workers League of America

should make application to become the American section of the Young Communist International.

Death Occurs During Congress.

Towards the last day of the Congress, the comrades were saddened by the death of one of the delegates, Comrade Morris, who directed the young communist work in the Balkan States. Suddenly taken sick at the Congress, he died at the hospital a few days later. A tried and true comrade, he passed away while on active duty for the communist cause. The Young Communist movement, the revolutionary movement, mourns his loss—our great loss.

Many amusing stories and interesting events of the Congress, of the experiences of the comrades in their countries, could be told; yet the actual acts of the Congress I have considered more important and have presented them to you. In carrying out these acts and decisions will be found the true romance of life.

Comrade Gregory Zinovieff, Chairman of the Com-

munist International, spoke to the Youth Congress at the last Congress session, December 16th. He emphasized the role and importance of the Young Communist movement in the world revolutionary work and promised aid from the Communist International.

Zinovieff's speech concluded, comrade Shueller declared the Third World Congress of the Young Communist International at an end. The band struck up the "Internationale". We sang song after song. Comrades were tossed into the air—a Russian custom. Singing, shouting, talking. The minutes whirled by. At length we started to pass out of Sverdlov Hall.... It was high night and cold. But the sky was clear and starry. The stars twinkled brightly as if pleased with our gayety and laughter and song. Thru the gates of the historic Kremlin Walls we passed. Red stars were glowing, Red flags flying. And the Third Congress of the Young Communist International was over—and also just beginning.

Review of Activities of the Y. W. L., Seattle, Wash.

PREVIOUS to July 26th, the form of the League was provisional. It was more or less an informal group of young people who recognized the class struggle and sympathized in general with the point of view of the National Young Workers, altho the matter of affiliation with the national group was still a matter of question. While in its tentative form, the organization participated in certain activities of the local labor movement chiefly in the work of the Labor College and the Russian Relief.

As a definite organization the history of the Seattle branch begins with the vote to affiliate with the Nat. Y. W. L. on July 26th. At the same meeting the following temporary officers were elected; Organizer, Lillian Reiseroff; Sec'y Treas., Clara Reiseroff; Educational Director, Sam Krieger; Remaining members of Ex. Board, Carol Bristol and S. Borgeson.

The By-Laws of the local league were adopted on July 30th. On the same date, the following permanent officers were elected. Organizer, Lillian Reiseroff; Sec'y Treas., Clara Reiseroff; Educational Director John Williamson; Other members of Ex. Board, S. Krieger and S. Borgeson. Charter members received membership cards during the first month.

On August 10th it was reported that there were branches of the Y. W. L. in Aberdeen, Astoria and Portland.

Following out the principle of keeping in contact with the actual labor movement, various efforts have been made to place the activities of the League before the unions. Several members have spoken to the Laundry Workers, Blacksmiths, Machinists, Boilermakers etc. Members of the League sold literature at several of the meetings of the striking shopmen. Over a 160 copies of the strike edition of the Voice of Labor were distributed there. Volunteers from the League sold and distributed literature at the Stadium Grounds on Labor Day.

In support of the work of the Nat. Labor Defense, the League turned over to the N.O. \$18.50 from assessments and proceeds of the dance.

The League has taken an active part in the work for the Russian Relief. Our membership has helped in the June Bazaar of the F. S. R., in the collection of

instruments for medicinal aid, the F. S. R. picnic in July the F. S. R. Tag Day in August, the Russian Anniversary Celebration in Nov. and the recent Bazaar on Dec. 14—16. We also worked at the Bazaar given for the relief of the striking miners.

As regards educational activities, we have distributed and sold a large amount of literature, and have held regular study classes for our own membership. The class work has been based on such pamphlets as the "Manifesto", "Youth under Americanism" and assigned topics on the Near East conflict and certain theories of the State. We were represented on the Labor College Board during the period that it was a delegate body and at present our organizer, Comrade Williamson is a member of the Board of Directors.

A bundle of 50 Young Workers is disposed every month, as well as other publications sent us by the N. O.

Looking back over the activities of the League in the last six months we have every reason to feel encouraged. In the face of adverse conditions we have kept an active and interested group that could always be relied upon for whole hearted work. We have kept in touch with the progressive activities of the Labor movement of this city and other organizations look to us for cooperation with a good deal of respect, and a large measure of faith in our future. Our study classes have been well attended, altho in this matter as in many others, we have been feeling our way by a process of experiment. We feel that we have at last hit upon an effective method of dealing with the sproblem as well as that of recreation and that with the coming term we wil begin a new systematic way of conducting these activities. The Open House was a success. We hope that the Liebknecht Day Celebration will be an even greater success in another field (it was). The League is growing. The Executive Board believes that the next term will see a strong enthusiastic Y. W. L. that will play a significant part in the Labor movement of Seattle.

Fraternally submitted
 J. Williamson, Organizer; Clara Reiseroff, Sec'y Treas.
 Milda Krauklis, Educational Director; Ben Mottleson.
 Executive Board.

The Spark

By S. B. FIELDS

BOB had looked forward to going to work with a light heart. It was true, he had to go to work. He could no longer stay at school because his people couldn't afford to keep him up. But, then, he was sick of school anyway and sick of having to beg for what he wanted. At work, he would earn his own money. He would be independent. He could then buy what he pleased and what he wanted.

The job wasn't as easy to get as it seemed. It was pretty though sledding. Wherever he went he found a mob before him, a mob that surged back and forth about the place of employment, a mob of fifty, a hundred or two hundred often trying break through doors and windows in its eagerness. Often Bob would start out before it grew light, but of no avail. Finally, by going from place to place, from door to door, asking if there was any help wanted, he got his long sought-after job in a can factory.

The whirling machines crashed and banged. Their movement filled the air of the vast shop with deafening noise. But to Bob it was music. Out of it all he caught a rhythm that called forth response in his being. He sat at his punch press and pushed his lever in harmony with this rhythm. Nothing but machinery within the immediate vicinity of him, his voice drowned by the din, he sang away the lifelong day. He sang whatever came to his mind, all sorts of snatches and ditties—often he would compose mixtures of all kinds to suit his fancy.

He was now on piece work. Though he liked to make more money, he was not exactly money mad. At first he did not take his piece work too seriously. He rather played at it for amusement's sake. He would race against himself and see how he could beat one hour by the other. In this way time passed quickly and pleasantly.

The days wore on. It became less and less amusing to race against himself. Monotony began to creep in. It began to wear on him. The thought struck him that he was racing himself at tremendous speed and spending his strength. At the end of the day he would be entirely exhausted. But once having gotten up to a certain speed, he had to keep it up—he didn't want to see his wages decrease; he could use every cent of it. And he didn't want to make a bad showing to the boss. Now he kept up his speed with a stubborn monotony. Every hour impressed its deeper gloom. His energy was being sapped—the faster he went, the quicker he grew tired. When he went home now he was completely fagged out. If he stayed in he couldn't read much. Reading made him sleepy. If he went out a comfortable seat in a movie was the safest bet.

It was difficult to get up in the morning. Why should he be doomed to get up in the morning anyway. Bob knew fellows at school who didn't have to go to work and slave all day. He saw them once in a while now. They were either going to high school or college or having pretty soft jobs where they could come in nine or ten o'clock and had only to work six, seven or maybe eight hours while he had to work ten—fifty-four to the week.

Bob dragged himself out of the comfortable bed,

tired and feeling the need of sleep, hurried to work, and then again that banging of the machinery—the damnable grind of it. The rhythm of it he still felt—his sense did. But now it seemed outside of him, something foreign. He saw what wonders it accomplished. It turned out millions of cans; it turned them out in the twinkling of an eye—it was a marvelous power. "But damn it all, who gets the best of it. Am I a machine to race myself to death hour after hour. And what do I get for it. Twelve dollars, sometimes thirteen or fourteen when I speed like a maniac. Those girls working at the foot presses get less than nine at the most—I wonder how they get along?" Bob no longer sang—questions like these kept revolving through his mind—his being was shaken with aversion to the slavishness of it all.

Bang! Bang!! Bang!!! The machinery crashed—Bob remembered Kipling's poem "Boots." "Boots, boots, boots, going up and down again. There's no relief in war." There was no relief here. Yes, he, too, must work thus—thus would be his days, his weeks, his months. A day off once a week, a short day and then again work. Towards what end—just to keep on making a living. And what a living—he didn't have much more than a few cents left anyway at the end of the week if he had anything left. He couldn't quit. He had to work. And there was the boss coming around once in a moon, tantalizingly parading around a little while and then off again in his machine. Bob also would like to ride in a machine and go about to see the country side or to the dandy shows—but, what was the use of dreaming.

Crash, crash, crash. Bob sneaked out for several minutes to the washroom for a respite. The washroom faced the street. Opposite was the dark, blackened wall of another factory, the yard in front of it littered with odds and ends. Bob was used to dark, blackened walls and yards littered with odds and ends. He thought for a moment of the houses along the boulevard and near the park—the memory of these beautiful structures made him shiver at the dark, blank walls. His mind reverted to his own home and then he remembered the comfortable home of an old pal of his with whom he had gone to school—how comfortable and cozy that chap's home had been.

A couple of boys were playing baseball in the street. He pressed close to the window, his eyes followed the players up and down the street and drank in the scene with eagerness. He forgot all about the factory for the moment. His boy's soul yearned to be out there in the freedom chasing around with other kids—his nose pressed close to the window.

"What the h---- are you doing in here?" The voice of the foreman brought him down to earth with startling suddenness. Something broke inside of Bob. Fury possessed him. Bitter words came to his lips. But they remained unuttered. Seething and boiling, burning all over he went back to his machine.

Crash, crash, crash. Bob no longer sang—he worked along in silence with clenched teeth. Bitterness mingled with chagrin. Rebellion had sown its harvest. The spark was there to be blown into full life or to lose itself in sourness and pessimism.

To the Working-Class Youth of the Entire World!

SOLDIERS AND SAILORS:

NEW imperialist wars menace the world!

The French capitalists' occupation of the Ruhr Valley, the war in the Near East, the wrangling among the imperialist powers at the various conferences, the enslavement of Austria, the refusal of the Baltic states to accept Soviet Russia's proposal to disarm—all this demonstrates how **ominous** the situation is. The standing army alone, which numbered six million before the war, has today been augmented to eleven million. The capitalist states are arming for new wars!

Closely connected with these preparations of the capitalists stands the advance of reaction in all countries. The White Terror rages in many states. In Italy, it attained supreme control a short time ago. In England and Poland it recently insolently raised its head again. The master class bristles with armaments, which it will not only direct against the working class at home, but which it is also determined to use in imperialist wars abroad.

Comrades, Proletarian Youth!

All this shows with portentous clarity that the capitalist states ceaselessly prepare for a new war!

The working class youth was always and will always be the first to be sacrificed in war. They serve as cannon fodder, they must undergo the most terrible suffering and privation.

They must therefore be the first to take up the determined battle against a new war.

Working youth!

Millions of your adult brothers of all races and nations were slaughtered in the last war in the interests of the bosses. Instead of the alluring promises given to you during the war, the only gain the working class obtained from it, whether of conquered or "victorious" capitalist countries, is bitterest poverty.

A peace conference was recently held in the Hague which led to no practical results. No practical and real measures of the struggle against war were decided upon. The working class youth can wait no longer. They must begin the necessary propaganda to stir up the working class of the entire world. Only thus will develop an effective battle against the menace of war.

The third congress of the Young Communist International instructed the Executive Committee to propose to the two social democratic youth Internationals, despite all differences of opinion, the formation of a united front against imperialism and reaction, and the organization of an international propaganda week against war, to take place March 11-18, 1923.

Young Workers, Soldiers and Sailors!

The working class is not defenceless. In united

struggle it will obstruct the plans of capitalism and repulse the latter's assault by its unwavering opposition.

Join with us in the struggle against a new imperialist war! To combat it with all means. In case of war, a revolutionary general strike and uprising.

For the annulment of the peace betrayals of Versailles, St. Germain, etc., which mean the enslavement of millions of workers, and must be the cause for new wars. For the cessation of war preparations. For revolutionary propaganda in the army and the formation of revolutionary nuclei among the troops, including the colonial and semi-colonial troops.

Against the fatal theory and practice of the defence of the "capitalist fatherland."

Against the false and capitalist and petty-bourgeois pacifism.

Against international reaction, against Fascism!

For the complete disarming of the reactionary organizations and the bourgeoisie, for the arming of the proletariat—.

Young Socialist Workers!

For the second time the Young Communist International proposes to you and your leaders a united battle against capitalism and militarism. Once before your leaders blocked the united front, and you tolerated that—. Today we again propose a united front of the working class youth of the entire world for the struggle against the new war and reaction. What answer will you give your class comrades in misery?

The first propaganda week against war must be made a powerful demonstration of the working class. Against the new slaughter, against the imperialist international bourgeoisie, stained with the blood of millions.

Respond to our call!

Down with the imperialist war!

Down with reaction!

Long live the United Front of the working class against war!

Long live the victory of the working class!

For the third world congress of the Y. C. I., the E. C. of the Y. C. L. Moscow, December 28, 1922.

DO WE GROW BETTER WITH EACH ISSUE.

Judge for yourself: Here are some of the articles, which will appear in the April issue of the YOUNG WORKER, "Youth in the Labor Movement" by H. M. Wicks, associate editor of the WORKER; "Jazzophobia" by Therber Lewis; "Worth While Literature" by C. Revilo; "An Old Tale Retold," by S. F. J. L.; "A Thought Provoking Situation—and a Suggestion," by Max Sachtman, as well as many other equally interesting articles, illustrations, cartoons and editorials.

THE YOUNG WORKER

Vol. II.

MARCH

No. 3

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THE CONVENTION DRAWS NEAR

THE best reason for the success with the masses of young workers of the Young Communist International and the Young Communist and Workers League affiliated to it, is that they have at all times taken direct part in all the struggles of the youth—in the shops, mills, fields, in their strikes, in the army, in the young workers organizations, etc. The Reformist Youth organizations of the Second and Two-and-a-Half Internationals, the Y. P. S. L. and the like have, on the other hand, only mumbled words of accord and support, and have talked of "cultural movements" of the young workers—when these young workers wanted bread and clothing. The young workers have full confidence in the Young Communists. Shoulder to shoulder they have fought against the capitalists brutal attacks further to impoverish the workers. Tested in the tubes of daily conflict and found to be pure metal and steel, the Young Communists of Europe approach the young workers with the message of communism, knowing that they will be listened to and their words carefully thought over.

In America, the Young Workers League, in full conformity with the policies and decisions of the Young Communist International, is striving, too, to become the mass organization of the young workers. At our Second National Convention, May 13-14, 1923, we shall have to discuss thoroughly and arrive at sound conclusions for reaching the young workers. With the young workers in their daily economic struggles and their political battles—this method has proved successful with communists everywhere. It is also correct for America. We shall have to formulate an economic program based on the needs of the young workers. We shall then further have to fight for these needs. Thru the struggle will come understanding of our purpose and the correctness of our communist view. The Young Workers League is for MILITANT EDUCATION—education gotten through both theory and practice—for our members and those we are trying to reach. We must, however, most carefully draft the economic section of our program. Send in your views to the League. What shall go into the program? What shall not go in—which is probably even more important? And then, our program, founded on Communist understanding, which is scientific understanding, must be FOUGHT FOR, not just talked about. Thus wise we will have begun to make beginnings among the young workers for Communism.

The "Young Worker" is a credit to those responsible for it.

I had the pleasure of coming in contact with the Y. W. L. on the Pacific coast. They are a credit to the movement and their remarkable enthusiasm and energy commands the admiration of all those who witness them in action.

Where the adult movement is active, one can sense the presence of the Y. W. L.

JACK CARNEY.

UNITED FRONT AGAINST WAR

A letter has been issued by the Executive Committee of the Young Communist International to the Young Worker's international and the International Working Union of Socialists Youth organizations proposing a united front against the "danger of new wars." No reply has been received at this date.

That the danger of war is present none will deny, and that a combined resistance of all workers against war will do much to prevent an armed conflict is the belief of every intelligent worker. Then why not a united front of workers to stop the slaughter of their brothers? This is so simple and direct a question that it would be impossible almost to find two young workers who would quibble over it. With the blind invasion of the Ruhr by France the possibility of war assumes amazing proportions—war threatens in the Near East and in the Balkans. These are facts, undeniable realities. Yet we must keep in mind the betrayal of the interests of the workers by the Second International, and especially the traitorous actions of the two Youth internationals addressed by the Young Communist International in the letter referred to above.

The Second International failed the workers when the last war broke out; the two youth internationals betrayed the interests of the young workers when they refused to join in a united front with the Young Communist International to stop the onslaughts of capitalism against the youth and the rapid pauperization of the young workers everywhere.

Will they fail their followers, the young workers, now? Will they stand aloof while the imperialists butcher workers? Despite the actions of these organizations, the Young Communists will not rest content with words. Wherever war threatens there will you find evidence of the militant activities of the Young Communists, fighting against war, not as pacifists, but as Communists—as workers who realize the true nature of war.

It is needless to say that the Young Workers League flatly takes a stand for the Young Communists International on this issue. We are for war against war! We are for a united front of all workers against the slaughter of workers for the gain of the world capitalists. And small as we are, we shall use our whole organizational strength in unison with our comrades everywhere to strike a death blow at capitalist wars.

GETTING THEM YOUNG

THOUSANDS of dollars are being spent by the Boy Scouts in a monster organization drive which is now being carried on. It is needless to go into details as to the source of the money. It is an old story. The Boy Scouts—the future soldiers of the Gompers, so-called labor leader, president of the American can bleed and exploit workers. So long as the boy Scouts act as useful tools in the hands of the ruling class against the workers, so long will the bosses pay to organize them.

Most striking in the present campaign is the fact that Samuel Gompers, so-called Labor leader, president of the American Federation of Labor, has lent his name as one who "agrees" with General Pershing, Herbert Hoover, Harding and a host of other labor-haters, that the Boy Scouts should be organized.

We would like to call Mr. Gomper's attention, as well as the attention of all union men, to the fact that the Boy and Girl Scouts, in cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce in New Bedford, Mass., in 1919, spied against the workers and defeated their just demands for higher wages. Has Mr. Gomper's read the report of the Chicago Federation of Labor on the Boy Scouts? In not one instance have the Boy Scouts aided Labor; at every possible opportunity the capitalists use these deluded sons of workers to fight and talk against their fathers and brothers.

The most oft-repeated and loudest-proclaimed word in the creed of the Boy Scouts is OBEDIENCE—obedience to the master whoever he be—employer, army officer, scab-herder, or white guard scoundrel. The psychology of the Fascisti is the psychology of the boy scout. What is most treacherous of all, the young fellows are taken in when their minds are extremely plastic; when they will believe anything told them in all solemnity by some older person; they are screwed up to patriotic fever-heat and are told whatever they do under the command of their leaders is for "their" country, for "their" home and "their" flag. In that frame of mind the yong fellows can be lead to do anything, and the impression made lasts through their entire lives. And yet workers will leave their children to the tender mercy of scout leaders to be used some dag against themselves.

THE CHILDREN MUST ORGANIZE

WE must not stop at trying to organize the youth of the working class 14 years of age and over; there are millions of children, who, if we do not endeavor to interest in our movement, will be left to the mercy of the capitalist teachers and Sunday schools.

There was at one time a fairly well developed Socialist Sunday School movement in this country, even though it was infused so much with Christian socialism. There are yet scattered all over the country groups of junior, or children's organizations, supervised either by Workers Party members or members of the Young Workers League. But there is no unity of purpose; no general understanding of what is wanted. And the scope of the work is very limited. Not even one-tenth of the children of the members and sympathizers of the Workers Party are in these children's sections. No energetic attempt has been made to enrol the children.

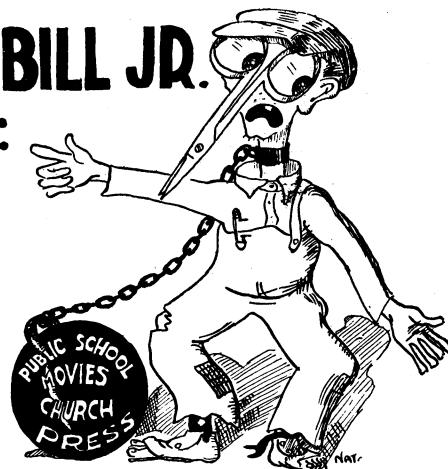
This is a sad state of affairs when we examine the way the problem is handled by the workers' movements in other parts of the world. They al lhave some form of children's organization. In Sweden, Norway, Germany, Russia, France, England these are well-functioning bodies with periodicals written for and by the children—"The Junge Genosse (The Young Comrade) of Germany is a model for papers of this kind. It is profusely illustrated with pictures that interest the worker's children. The articles are well written and teach the children their true position in society, without becoming morose. They teach them that they are the children of a class who will inherit the world—but they must fight for it. We have much experience—of others—to rely on.

But we must get to work. We can build up a children's or junior section—either under the direction of the Young Workers League or the Workers Party. The question should be thoroughly discussed, and what is primarily necessary, a survey of the immediate conditions of this problem in the various cities in which our Leagues are organized should be made and conclusions arrived at so that at our second national convention something definite can be done. Every moment that we leave those children who we can get into our ranks remain under the tutelage of the capitalists, means we shall have to fight so many days, weeks and months harder in later years to win these future workers for the worker's cause.

Just last year the first International Conference of Children's Section was held and a definite program was laid down for this work. The worker's children of the United States were not represented. Another conference of the same kind is contemplated; and there the children's sections of the American revolutionary movement should be represented so that it may take part as an actively functioning body.

SCISSOR-BILL JR. SAYS:

"How jealous Mussolini, the fascisti dictator would be if he saw Gompers in a boy scout uniform."



"Who did you study about in Sunday school this morning," queried the visiting minister of Scissor Bill Jr's younger brother.

"About God," was the response.

"But you have heard a lot about God before, haven't you?"

"Yes, sir, when dad is putting on the spare tire on a Ford."

"William" said the teacher, "if coal is selling for \$14 a ton and your father orders \$65, worth, how many tons will the coal man bring?"

"A little over three tons," said William promptly.

"Why, William that is not right," said the teacher.

"No, ma'm, I know it ain't right," said William, "But they do it any way."

"Well, little chap," said the stranger in the family, picking up one of the children. "What are you going to be when you become a man?"

"Nuffin'," was the reply.

"Nothing?" cried the stranger in horror, "you should strive even while young to be a great man when you grow up. Why do you say nothing?"

"Because," replied the child, "I'm a girl."

"A YOWL in New York reads the February issue of the **Young Worker** and came running into his YWL Branch waving the paper above his head.

"This is an outrage!" he shouted, "The **Young Worker** is talking about the Subsidy Bill too much. That is only propaganda for the shpping interests."

"Where does it say anything about the Subsidy Bill?" asked one.

"Right here!" pointed the furious YOWL.

"That isn't 'Subsidy Bill', that is Scissor Bill Jr."

Employment Agent: — What is your occupation, young man?
Young Worker: — Cement mixer, sir.

— Good! Just the man for the vacency I have in mind.

1st Yowl: "What do you think of Scissor Bill, Jr.? Don't you think he is dumb?"

2nd Yowl: "Dumb! He is so dumb that he thinks the class struggle is a wrestling match."—From the "Voice of Labor."

In Chicago, Scissor Bill Jr. is recognized as a very important personage, and has received comment from some of the leading labor journals of the city. Why is it that nothing is said of him in New York? Is he never in that city? No one has seen him there. "The reason that I have not been noticed in New York," says Scissor Bill Jr., "is because the New York YOWLS are too dumb to recognize me when they see me."

What the Leagues Did on Liebknecht Day

LIEBKNECHT Day in the United States and Canada was a tremendous success. Anybody who attended one of the many meetings arranged all over the country will tell you that. The young comrades were praised again and again by the older workers in the movement for the pep showed both in arranging and at the meetings. Most of the literature gotten out was sold—5,000 copies of the Young Worker; 5,000 Liebknecht Buttons; 3,000 Liebknecht Booklets, as well as other reading matter. Thousands of young people were reached and the message of the revolutionary youth given to them.

It is the opinion of the writer that the San Francisco branch of the Y. W. L. (though it did not hold the largest meeting) merits first mention. We will let the organizer of that branch, Harold Coy, speak:

"The meeting was opened by the singing of the "Internationale". Louise Todd, Secretary of the Branch, who acted as a chairman, gave a short introductory talk on the condition of the proletarian youth of America and an outline of the work of the Y. W. L. Inasmuch as she will probably be too modest to give herself due credit when she reports the meeting, I think I should tell you her talk was excellent, in fact so much better than my own, that I regretted that she had not been made the main speaker of the evening.

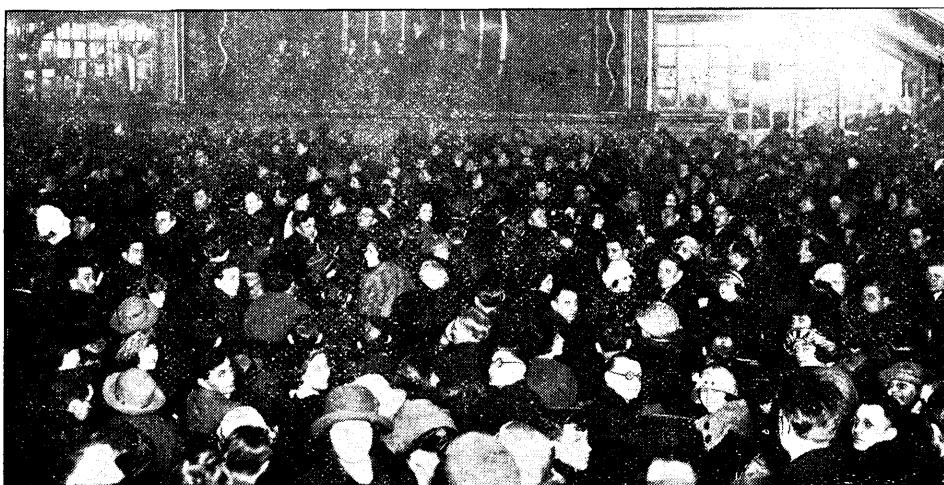
"A couple of musical numbers, the music furnished by Frank Weitzel, Rosalie Todd, and Louise Todd, all of the S. F., Y. W. L., were offered.

"I gave the first speech, outlining the outstanding events of Liebknecht's life, particularly in regard to his anti-war campaign, his relation to the German Social-Democratic Party, and the Spartacan uprising of 1919. I realize that I was never meant for a silver-tongued Demosthenes, but the audience received my humble effort very kindly.

"Dick Reeve, former educational director of the Los Angeles Y. W. L. gave a splendid talk on the lessons of Liebknecht's life, and went into the revolutionary youth movement of the world in some detail. Had it not been for his co-operation, it would have fallen upon me to have delivered a lecture covering an entire hour, and I am sure that would not have been conducive to the well-being of the Frisco League.

"The big hit of the evening proved to be our original one-act farce, of which you have a copy, "Risen From

the Ranks, or From Office boy to President: A Melodrama of Capitalist 'Success'". I think I can truthfully say that it was little less than a sensation. The audience was kept in a continual uproar, and the applause was prolonged and oft-repeated. Enthusiastic congratulations were showered on us from every side after the meeting, and the older folks in the W. P., inspired by our success, are already planning a farce of their own, to be given at a later date. If our respective egos have not been swelled to incredible dimensions, it can only be due to our deeply ingrained modesty, for since the play we have had the honor of being waited on by a committee bearing invitations to the cast to attend a masquerade ball in costume, and that a couple of those in the audience are urging organization with which they have been connected in Los Angeles and in Australia to offer the play. I think its success can be explained in the fact that propaganda when offered in the form of humor, or satire, holds the



VIEW OF THE LIEBKNECHT DAY MEETING IN NEW YORK

This does not do the New York comrades justice, as it shows but a portion of the hall

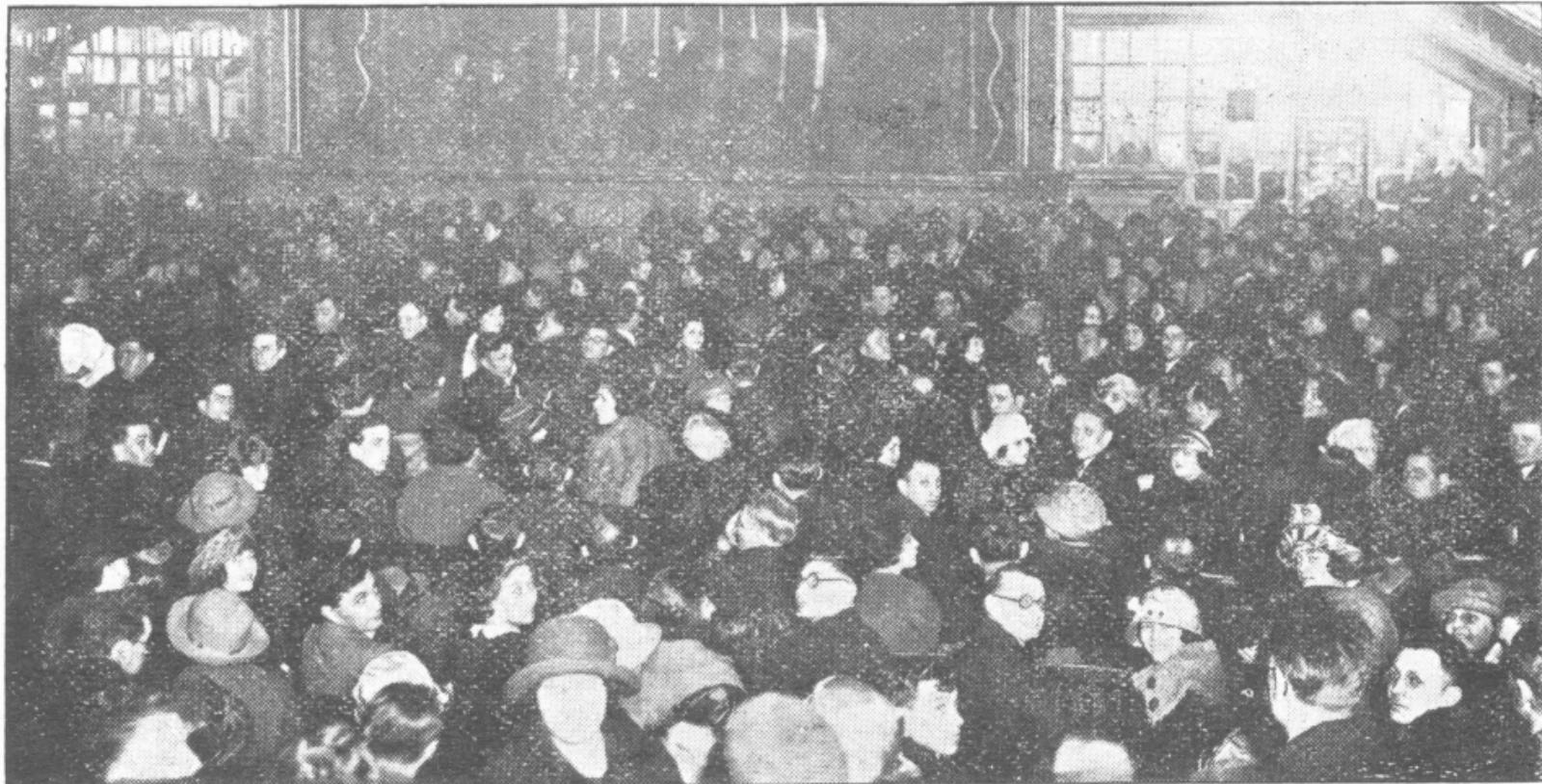
attention of the audience so closely, that the lessons drawn are much more effective. In my limited experience in labor journalism I have noted that a cartoon will convey a propaganda message much more effectively than will a profound dissertation occupying the same amount of space."

Liebknecht Day in Winnipeg.

WINNIPEG.—The Liebknecht day demonstration in this city was held in the Strand Theatre, Main Street Sunday, January 21st at 2.30 P. M. Despite the fact that the meeting was not very well advertised owing to the late arrival of supplies, an enthusiastic crowd of about 500 workers turned out to commemorate, and protest against the assassination of the martyrs, to whose memory the meeting was dedicated.

A splendid program of violin solos, piano solos, recitation, singing and the performance of the mandolin orchestra, together with two excellent speeches, one from a Workers' Party member and the other from a member of the League served the double purpose of providing an entertaining as well as educational afternoon, which could hardly be surpassed.

The members of the league themselves, it is needless to state, were bubbling over with enthusiasm and performed their assigned tasks in a faultless manner—the lasting impression made upon the audience even the next day manifesting itself in the hearty congratula-



VIEW OF THE LIEBKNECHT DAY MEETING IN NEW YORK

This does not do the New York comrades justice, as it shows but a portion of the hall

tions of several outsiders, who have announced their determination to join with us in the good work. The Y. W. L. in Winnipeg is fortunate in the possession, in the form of about twenty or so, of its members, of an accomplished mandolin orchestra, and the success of the meeting was due in no small degree to the wonderful efforts of these comrades.

The orchestra opened the meeting by playing and singing the International, later rendered the Revolutionary Funeral March, as the audience arose to pay their respects to our assassinated comrades, and finally ended the programme by singing and playing the Workers' Marseillaise.

Literature and badges were sold and a collection taken, the entire receipts being well over the Seventy Dollar mark, which, at this time of year may be taken as a rather generous response from so small audience.

Taken as a whole, it is safe to say that from the standpoint of providing experience for the youth and entertainment for all as well as from the standpoint of disseminating Real Propaganda, the meeting was a brilliant success.

By way of a general report it may be said that steps have already been taken, the object of which is to form branches of the Y. W. L. throughout the entire district of which Winnipeg is the centre. In the very near future, if not immediately, there will be another eleven or twelve, real live branches in this district, and then—the revolutionary youth movement of Canada will certainly be on the map.

Also, the Winnipeg branch has settled upon having a dance in a little over a week and the proceeds of which shall be used for the purchase of three instruments and together with the other comrades, who already have instruments we will have a modern orchestra, all our own.

The members of the league indulge in outside sports regularly, once a week—every Saturday night there is either a tobogan party, a snow-shoe hike, or a moccasin tramp. In this way work and play are practically correlated and a vigourously healthful enthusiasm kept alive in everyone.

In the way of education we have readings, discussions and, at times, speeches from outside as well as from members themselves. The next educational meeting will be addressed by one of the members, and his topic will be, "We should not cooperate in the Boys' Parliament movement" which has been launched recently by the Capitalistic Plotters for the further delusionment of the already sadly misinformed youth. Such an address will bring out many points and the discussion ensuing will be of great benefit in the way of clarifying our minds as to the real position of the League on this subject.

The above will serve to show the direction in which the youth movement is drifting, in this city, and that we are really on the way to becoming what we have set out to accomplish namely, to become the vanguard of the working-class youth in Canada.

Only two months', old but—watch us go!

— P. G. HERD.

New York Has Monster Liebknecht Day Meet.

In New York the young comrades were busy in arrangements and were successful in getting the *Freiheit* (Jewish Daily) and the *Volks-Zeitung* (German Daily) as well as the *Worker* to run advertisements on their meeting. Over 1,200 people attended; and as for

an array of speakers New York had them all beat. There was Ludwig Lore, editor of the *Volks-Zeitung*; Louis Engdahl, editor of the *Worker*; C. E. Ruthenberg, secretary of the Workers' Party; A. Bittleman, C. E. C. member of the Workers' Party, and E. Elston, member of the Young Workers League.

Comrade Adam Hoffman, who is responsible to a large measure for the success of the Bethlehem, Pa. branch of the Y. W. L., reports that bad weather conditions prevented a large meeting. Three hundred attended the meeting in Seattle. John Kennedy of the Seattle Labor College was the main speaker. Says the secretary of the Y. W. L. there: "The meeting was well attended and enthusiastic. Everyone said it was one of the best radical meetings in months." Boston had 100 present. A general membership meeting was addressed by L. Marks and H. J. Cantor.

Max Salzman Speaks at Kansas City.

Max Salzman, member of the N. E. C. was the main speaker at the Liebknecht Day celebration in Kansas City. Due to the thorough advertising campaign carried on by Comrade Barney Mass, a large audience was present. Milwaukee held a fair meeting. "Due to the fact that many of our comrades have returned to school," writes Julia Schulner, "our organization has been somewhat handicapped."

St. Louis held its Liebknecht meeting at the Labor Lyceum. Comrade Salzman was the main speaker at this meeting.

Chicago Hall too Small for Crowd.

"The hall was not large enough, and many were turned away," says Robert Garver, city organizer of the Chicago Central of the Y. W. L. A collection of \$31.66 was taken for the Labor Defense. John Edwards, fraternal delegate to the Y. C. I. spoke at this meeting; also Earl Browder, associate editor of the *Labor Herald*. A small meeting was held in Racine, Wisconsin.

Astoria, Oregon, Makes Good Showing.

The Finnish comrades in Astoria, were on the job and arranged a Liebknecht day celebration that was well taken. Both English and Finnish literature was sold. Harold R. John of the Workers Party conducted the Liebknecht day meeting in Reading, Pa.

Browder Speaks in Gary.

Right in the heart of reaction our young comrades had Liebknecht Day demonstration that was very well attended. Two speakers from Chicago addressed the meeting—Earl Browder and A. D. Albright. A collection of \$14.00 was taken for Labor Defense.

In Providence, R. I. though recently re-organized, the Y. W. L. carried through a good Liebknecht-Day Mass meeting. "In order to have a larger and better meeting," writes Ralph Kominsky, "the Y. W. L. co-operated with the Swedish branch of the Workers Party and held one large meeting at the headquarters of the Swedish branch."

A. J. Murphy Reports for Monessen, Pa.

The Monessen branch of the Y. W. L. of A. held a very successful Memorial meeting in memory of Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht Sunday Jan. 21st. The meeting was called to order promptly at two fifteen p. m. by Comrade A. J. Murphy, acting as chairman.

The first number on the program was singing the International by entire audience. Second number of the program was an orchestra selection by the Y. W.

L. Orchestra which was very well rendered and appreciated by the audience, third number of the program was a Reading in memory of Karl Liebknecht by comrade Lula Nieminen which was very appropriate for the occasion, fourth number on the program was comrade Helen Murphy of the Daisytown branch, Y. W. L. who very ably addressed the audience on the Life of Karl Liebknecht pointing out the good work Liebknecht accomplished in behalf of the working class of Germany and the Youth of the World. This address was listened to very attentively by the audience and appreciated very much which they showed by their applause. Fifth number of the program was a vocal solo by comrade Gus. Sederholm, which was very nicely rendered. Sixth number of the program was a talk on the Memorial Booklet by comrade A. J. Murphy, while the comrades Carrie and Aune Maki passed among the audience and sold the booklets.

There were many other interesting numbers on their program.

Los Angeles Growing Better.

The program was as follows: Comrade Wm. Schneiderman, chairman. 1: singing of the International, 2: talk by chairman on the activities of the Y. W. L. and the activities the European Young Communists, 3: piano solo by comrade Gordon, Y. W. L., 4: dramatic number by comrade Goldberg, Y. W. L., 5: talk by comrade Levin, W. P., sec. on Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg, followed by a talk for the collection. The program was very interesting. By the way this all took place a Sunday Evening, Jan. 21, in a small hall, as we did not anticipate a large audience.

Perhaps this is a small showing in comparison with the mass meetings of your Eastern cities, but I can happily state if the Y. W. L. of Los Angeles can draw such an audience when they are unanticipating it, they will be able to do much better later on.

Liebknecht Day at Neffs, Ohio.

Liebknecht Day 1923, was the first celebration, the Neffs branch of the Young Workers League of America was able to take a part in. Organized in September, by the Polish branch of the Workers Party, it is already doing good work.

Liebknecht Day was set for Jan. 20th at 7 o'clock p.

A SNAPSHOT

By JANE FIELD

A cold wind was blowing violently; a thin aslant rain was scratching against the window-glasses as if in a helpless morbid wrath; the bare branches, tossed by the wind, added their plaintive shiver to the utmost gloom of the day. A grizzly light of a winter forenoon enveloped the empty streets. On the porch of one of those houses in the residential district which, surrounded by spacious lawns, look like impenetrable sanctuaries of comfort and ease stood a man, apparently hesitating to ring the bell. Had it not been for this time of the day and this kind of weather one could think that he was drunk. His watery blue eyes were wandering around as if in search of some invisible thing; there was a feverish restlessness in his movements—he was shivering, terribly, painfully to one's sight as if every blow of the wind sent throughout his body a whir of stinging needles.... He rang the bell. "Some work?" he mumbled out to the lady when she opened the door. "I am sorry..." "A cup

m. to proceed with the program at 8 o'clock. Long before this date, the comrades were active in arranging a program. To pull a big crowd, we put out our local posters, besides those of the national office to advertise especially an one act play, which was a part of the program and admission tickets were sold in advance.

Saturday, Jan. 20th, came about and promised to be a nice day, but about noon, it started to rain and kept on the whole aternoon and evening. This made us believe, that our work was in vain. But nevertheless the hall was crowded by 7.30 already, many had to stand. This made us proceed with the program at 7.40 o'clock.

Comrade Emitt Krotky opened the celebration with an inspiring talk for about 15 minutes, explaining the purpose of this day and received long applause. This comrade acted as chairman for the whole entertainment. He introduced five boys and five girls of the junior group who presented the "Orginal of the Red Flag", a song with recitation, a snappy entertainment event. Next was a recitation, "In Memory of Karl Liebknecht and Rose Luxemburg", by Mary Hornik. This is a very fine recitation and produced by her father, member of the Workers' Party, especially for this day.

The chairman then presented the main speaker—comrade J. J. Hoge of Bellaire, member of the Workers' Party. He spoke for about one hour on the subject Karl Liebknecht's and Rosa Luxemburg's Life and Work." "He is well known in the revolutionary movement for years and in the last miners election was the candidate for president of the 5th subdistrict of district 6 on the program of the T. U. E. L.

The Neffs branch of the Young Workers League took an active part in his campaign. But he was defeated this time, because nothing was too low and too dirty for the reactionaries to use in the campaign against him.

Next was the play "A Free Union" by Mary Marcy, played by members of the Young Workers' League to the great satisfaction of the audience. All the players were young people and for the first time on the stage, but one would think, that their occupation is the stage only. Several other interesting numbers combined to make this the most successful meeting ever held in Neffs by the Y. W. L.—Adolph Rattay.

of coffee?" he interupted her hastily. The lady looked at him compassionately, slipped a dime into his hand and slammed the door. He walked off, staggering.

Hardly half an hour passed as another figure appeared on the steps of the same house. It was a man with a somewhat sprightly look, resembling by his appearance one of the jolly-looking agents that bore continually the many-patient inhabitants. He rang the bell and when the lady opened the door asked her, taking off his hat: "Is there any work I can do?" She answered her inevitable "I am sorry." After a moments silence he added in a by-the-way-tone: "Have you an extra overcoat?" "No we haven't."

Walking off the stairs, he glanced around the street. A green Christmas wreath with a bright ribbon was smiling to him invitingly from the window of a neighbouring house; a house across the street stared at him gravely with a sign: "Another good neighbour Community Fund Subscriber" placed their to keep away all the charity solicitors. He shrugged his shoulders; glanced once more hopelessly around and walked away into the infinity...

The Sanctity of the Home

By HARRY GANNES

FOR many hours at a time I have sat in the capitalist law courts and listened attentively to learned judges and lawyers discuss the sanctity of the home; and what tomes of authorities the learned attorneys would produce to show that the home of the citizen is his castle, is inviolable and sacred. Most often the home in consideration would be that of some rich criminal from whom the state authorities had wrung some incriminating evidence.

Yes, the home of the rich man is sacred; it is well protected in every way. And though there is a theoretical barrier around the shack termed home inhabited by the modern wage slave, capitalist production has been able to shatter it and throw its sanctity to the winds.

The homes of thousands of the workers in this country are in reality workshops where they witness the exploitation of their own children; where their children work before and after school time, and where some of them stay home all day to work regardless of age or physical condition.

Though our modern system of production has developed to a place where most commodities are produced by the machine process, there are yet little odds and ends in connection with the manufacture of a large number of trinkets, clothing, wearing apparel and other small commodities, that require simple hand operations. This work a large number of factory owners find is done at less expense in the home of those families whose income from wages is so low that they are forced to find some other means of sustaining life.

Whole families engage in home work for one reason —because the husband's wages are below a level required to feed and clothe the family decently. Furthermore, homework is not even considered seriously by a family without children; children are the back-bone of home work. Parents observe the exploitation and the destruction of the health of their offsprings in their homes and can do nothing to prevent it. Thousands of them invite it. They consider it beneficial to be able to obtain this form of work from the manufacturers.

Child labor in home work does not come under the supervision of the law in the vast majority of states. True, few states have "joker" laws (about four or five) "regulating" this form of child labor, but as we intend to shov, they are ridiculous in actual practice, for as the Report of the Select Committee on Home Work to the English Parliament states, "No proposal

which fail to increase the income of these people (the workers involved) can have any appreciable effect in ameliorating their condition." An increase in wages can be obtained, not by the good heartedness of the capitalists, or by the "efforts" of philanthropists, but only by the vigorous and conscious class action of the workers themselves.

If home work is based on low wages and the general impoverishment of the working-class, then, it is logical to expect a great increase in the number of home-workers and the intensity of their exploitation at this time when both the money and real wages of the workers have been and are being slashed.

What are the facts at hand relative to the scope of home-work in this country? There has been no general survey in this country pertaining to the prevalence of home work. There have been a few investigations, all showing about the same facts.

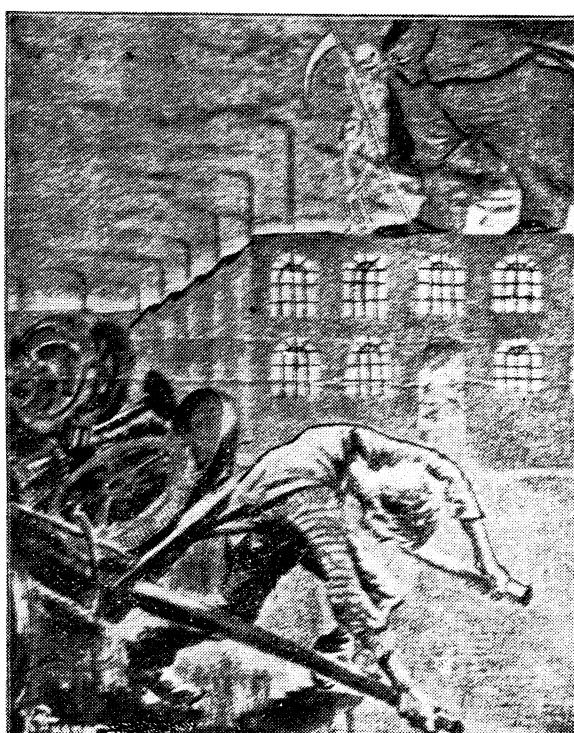
For instance, in the state of Connecticut, from 1917 to 1918, when the wages of the workers in this country were relatively higher than at any other period in history, there was in that state a 15 per cent increase in the number of home workers, and a increase of 51 per cent in particular, in the city of Bridgeport. No doubt these figures would apply with slight variations to cities with similar manufacturing establishments; and many industrial centers would

show a greater increase due to a particular kind of work more adaptable to home work.

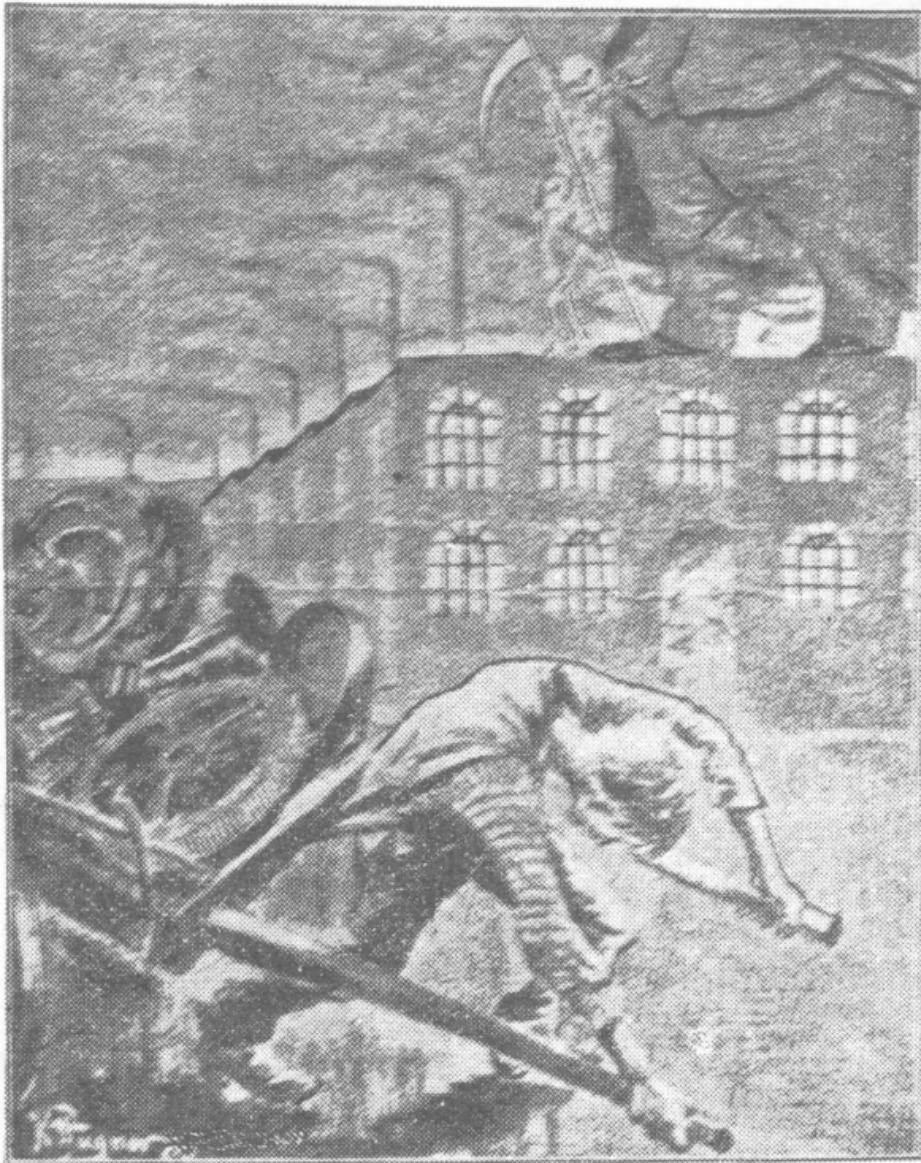
Home work provides exploiters of labor with a good means of evading the already poorly kept child labor laws.

Though state and federal child labor laws were in existence, prohibiting children sixteen years of age and under from working in manufacturing establishments or mills, the Rhode Island manufacturers found ways and means of evading the law by doling out home work.

The United States Department of Labor made an investigation of home work among the children in three cities in Rhode Island, Providence, Pawtucket and Central Falls. The result of this investigation revealed that 5,006 children, sixteen years of age and under were doing home work. This was not the entire number doing home work, but just the number which investigators were able to ascertain through various means; and they emphasize in their report that this is not ALL. Eighty-six per cent of the children doing this work were 14 years of age and under, a large number being



CAPITALISM SAFEGUARDING THE YOUTH



CAPITALISM SAFEGUARDING THE YOUTH

between the ages of five and seven.

The work was not heavy, but of a kind that destroyed the health of the children, kept them from school, and sapped their strength so they could not devote their energies to study while in school. Beading, chain-making, lace threading, and the like, formed the greatest part of the labor done by the children.

Nine tenths of the children engaged in this work were native born. Most of the 5,006 children doing home work labored in this fashion to help along in the support of their families and themselves. "The fathers of these home working children were employed in various industries; the largest group in any one industry, comprising almost one fifth of the fathers, worked in the iron and steel industries," declared the report (p. 11). The steel industry is known for its notorious underpayment of laborers and its health-destroying conditions of labor and long hours. At the time of writing, common labor received 30 cents an hour in the steel mills. Hence the children, almost from the moment they could move their fingers in an intelligent way, were forced to labor to aid in their own support. School children were deprived of even the slimmest means of education.

Home work was not restricted to the poorer districts. All class of workers had their families doing this type of labor. Usually it was a family occupation, the mother, and sometimes the father, taking part. The homes in most instances were in bad shape. Poor ventilation and lighting were the rule, and the result was that the children strained their eyes. They complained of blisters and callouses on their hands, and especially of listlessness and weariness in school. Some children would stay away from school days in order to work at home.

The school teachers were not oblivious to this practice of home work. They encouraged it. "Public schools countenanced home work to the extent of permitting children to do it in school as manual training, or to earn money for various war drives." (p. 13). Other teachers thought it did the children good because they were naturally lazy. The teachers would have the children stay after school to do the work in order to earn some money for the war loan drives and for war savings stamps. This happened in public schools. Incidentally we see that teachers are not immune from the charge of being assistants to the capitalists in their particular districts.

A child has but a certain amount of energy, and if most of it is spent in producing commodities so that some manufacturer may reduce his payroll, and thereby fatten his profits, certainly the child cannot exert the required amount of effort in study. Child home-workers were in many instances two years behind in their schooling.

The manufacturers were not interested in the children but in their business. Of course they were liberty-loving American citizens, but that has nothing to do with production, over-head expenses and wages. In their lodges and manufacturers associations they talk about the immortal goddess liberty, and about the other virtues of "democracy," but in conducting their business such silly things have no place.

The attitude of the Rhode Island manufacturers with regard to home-work is frankly stated by one of them in these words: "The ablest time in a child's life is from 12 to 14; the fingers are nimble and quick to catch on.

The Government steps in and says the child can't work in the factory under 14; ergo, home work. Able, healthy girls from 14 up want to work and need the money. Government steps in and says they can't work more than 8 hours; again home work is forced upon the manufacturer. The Government does not seem to see the point of view of business or labor."

Poor manufacturer! The Government passes a law (later held unconstitutional) prohibiting children from working more than eight hours a day. The manufacturer "is forced" to have the children work more than eight hours by giving them home work. The child is not considered at all. Education be damned. The Government temporarily passes a measure that curtails the profits of the manufacturer; but the nimble fingers of the "healthy" children should not remain idle while the noble American citizen's plant could use them to much profit. And a simple device is resorted to that solves the problem—home work.

Regarding the use of child labor in home work, the United States' Department of Labor in its report on home work in Bridgeport, Conn., states: "Children work at ages when their employment in factories is prohibited by law. This results in depriving them of recreation which they need and is often reflected in irregular attendance or a lower standing in school." But as one woman interviewed said, "Home work isn't worth bothering with if the children don't help."

In the Bridgeport report it was found that the only reason for home work was the insufficient income received by the families effected. "Among the 100 households (investigated), in 13 the father, normally the chief breadwinner, was dead, and in 12 he was not employed. In 75 households, or exactly three-fourths, there was a man breadwinner. Of the 58 men, heads of families, who were employed and whose earnings could be ascertained, one-half received less than \$20 a week and only six received \$25 a week or more. For the large families, of which this group of home workers was composed, these earnings alone would be obviously insufficient. The income was increased, therefore, by home work"

Here is the opinion of a Connecticut manufacturer on home work: "Home work is not our choice; it is a necessity. We do it for two reasons. One is, we are constantly being applied to by people who want assistance, and it is a great benefit to them. Home work is their support. The other is that it is difficult to get it done under the roof."

There is an especial advantage to the factory owners in doling out home work. The workers must provide the quarters in which the work is to be done, lighting, heating, etc. And as the government report sorrowfully explains: "There seems to be little reason why a group of workers should be obliged to carry a large part of the overhead expenses of the manufacturer supplying housing, heating, lighting, equipment, and frequently machinery, while at the same time earning in many cases lower wages than do the workers who are employed in the factory itself." The writer of this document assures us that the findings in all such investigations on home work "have been practically identical."

In 1917 for carding buttons the manufacturers paid 4 cents a gross (in the factory). Then they cut it to 2 cents. The girls refused to do the work for so low a price. The manufacturers resorted to home work.

The New York Factory Investigation Committee found that the average home worker made 25 cents a day and the weekly earnings of entire families was six dollars. Also, the commission incidentally said, "It (home work) is to be condemned because it is injurious to the health of the women and children directly engaged in this work and because it unjustifiably invades their homes." So the legislature that year (1913) passed a law regulating home work in tenement houses. The National Child Labor Committee in a letter dated May 13, 1913, gleefully announced to the world, that a "bill to protect children under 14 from manufacturing in the tenements passed the New York Legislature on May 3rd." (Emphasis as in original.)

But in 1918, Mary G. Schonberg of the Child Welfare Committee, Woman's City Club, of New York, made an investigation of home work in the tenements of that city. Five years of "protection" for children had gone by. Miss Schonberg tells us that 500 homes were casually visited for study. "In the homes of the out workers the little children are . . . penalized by being compelled to turn hours of freedom, which should be devoted to healthful recreation and study, to hours of work, and little fingers and little minds are forced at tasks which tire eyes and backs and fingers, and deaden

hearts and minds." The bill is still in existence. The exact number of home workers was impossible to obtain in this investigation, but it was the conclusion of the investigators that the number was very large; and in harmony with other reports, it was found that home work is not thought of without child labor—without the children in the family, regardless of age, helping in the work. One woman, responding to inquiry said: "Sure, we take this work home for the children to do after school and in the evening . . . it brings in a few cents, which we can use now, with everything costing so much."

Unlimited night work is possible when working at home. When necessity demands it, the whole family will sit up late at night diligently working so that some bill might be paid; and the next morning the children go listlessly to school. The work is very monotonous for the children. They either sit or stand work nimbly with their fingers at the same operation for hours. When the work is finished, children deliver it in most instances, and often they walk miles to save carfare. Pregnant women, sometimes, deliver the work, which consists many times of heavy loads. The workers' children are even handicapped before birth.

"Dominick's Sickness"

By PAUL PAULOWICH

MY name is Paul, and I am 12 years old and I am in the seventh grade. My teacher says I write the best stories in the class, but my grammar ain't no good, and it's because my parents are foreigners and don't talk English. But my sister Mary who graduated from the same school I am going to, and who works in a department store talks English all right and she says I am going to be a writer some day, but I know I ain't because I don't know nothing to write about even if I am pretty good at putting my ideas down.

Anyhow, I am writing this story because I told my sister Mary about it and she said I should and she'd give me a quarter. She belongs to a club called the Young Workers League and she said they might put it in their magazine. But I don't think they will because there's nothing exciting in it and besides they must be awful hard up for writers if they put in anything by a kid. But gee, it would be peachy if they would and I could show the kids my own words printed in a book. Anyway, what I wanted to write about was something that happened at school last week. We got a kid in our class named Dominick and he's a whiz at arithmetic and memorizing things. He is always the first one to learn a poem by heart. He's only 12 years old but Jimminy, he's big! Every night he seems to grow a little. I guess that's what makes him so skinny and pale and jerky. Somehow or other he can't sit still very long or keep his hands still. He's always twitching and moving his hands and feet and winking his eyes, and gee, but teacher gets sore, even if he is the smartest one in the room.

So anyways, they put some signs up on the walls for us kids to read and they had some junk on them about how to be healthy. Each idea was put down in

a little poem and teacher made up us copy them and learn them by heart for home work. One of the poems went like this:

The proper foods for me to eat.
Are simply ones and clean
A pint of milk each day I need
And vegetables green.
The time to eat is during meals
And never in between.

There were five more like this and they were all about washing your teeth and going to bed early and taking baths often. Next morning when teacher asked us who knew all the verses, by heart, Dominick was the only one who did. That's pretty good ain't it, but teacher never praises Dominick because his twiching gets her nerves.

That morning I went into the penny lunchroom in the basement and bought a nickel's worth of sandwiches and Dominick looked at me so hungry that I gave him one but the bell rang before he could eat it all up so he put the rest in his pocket. Afterwards when we were supposed to be studying our geography, he tried to eat it up, but he was out of luck 'cause the teacher caught him. Jimminy, but she was sore. She yelled: "You big idiot, do you think this is a lunch room? And what of the health poem you recited this morning? Didn't it say you mustn't eat between meals?" Poor old Dominick was so scared he began to twitch and wink and this got the teacher so sore she yanked him out of his seat and shouted. "You go home and bring your mother!"

In the afternoon Dominick brought his mother to school and she came into our room. She was dressed real poor and she had a baby on her arms and it kept on making funny faces and us kids could hardly keep

from laughing. Anyway, teacher asked her what was the matter with Dominick and why was he such a bad boy. But I guess Dominick's mother didn't understand English, cause she only kept on shaking her finger at him and saying:

"I give him the good lick. I give him the good lick."

Gee whiz, I was sorry for poor Dominick. He didn't do nothing. And I guess that got teachers goat because Dominick's mother didn't answer and she said loud and fast like when she's bawling us kids out and has that mean look on her face:

"I think there is something wrong with Dominick. He's got some sort of sickness or he wouldn't act the way he does. I can't do anything with him. You go to the doctor with him, and find out if he can't be cured, or else we will have to send him to the parental school."

Then she said: "Dominick you explain to your mother what I said." But poor Dominick was too scared

to talk, so he just shook his head and blinked and then teacher said he should go home with his mother.

Dominick didn't come back to school for two days and when he did; I asked him what the doctor had said about his sickness. And guess what? He told me the doctor said that he wasn't sick at all but he was growing real fast and he wasn't getting enough to eat! So I asked him why he wasn't getting enough to eat and he said that his father was only making \$20.00 a week and there were five kids younger than him in the family and they only got one quart of milk a day and they didn't have enough money to buy any more.

It's kind of funny ain't it? Here's Dominick, the smartest one in the class and the first one to memorize the health poems but what good does it do him to memorize a poem about drinking one pint of milk a day and eating green vegetables, when his pa can't earn enough to give him as much bread and butter as he wants.

The American Fascisti is Organizing

ITALY has taught the capitalists of the world that democracy is not necessary to lead and keep the workers in slavery. The Fascisti of Italy have shown that force and white terror can, for a time at least, keep the workers in subjection—and misery—and the American capitalist class is taking note of the lesson. The World War Veterans, an organization of workers-soldiers, has issued the warning to the workers of America that a Fascisti is being organized in this country. Here is what they say:

"The Fascisti are organizing in America! Do you wish them success?

"Mussolini's 15th Century condottieri have spread to the United States and now claim a membership of 200,000. Col. Alvin Owsley, commander of the American Legion, recently declared ***** the Legion would not hesitate to take things into its own hands—fight the reds as the Fascisti of Italy fought them. ***** Do not forget that the Fascisti of Italy are to Italy what the American Legion is to the United States and that Mussolini, the new premier, was commander of the Legion—the ex-service men of Italy." Perhaps more notorious is that secret and clandestine organization, the Ku Klux Klan, with its "super-government" supported by cowardly punishments, that prohibits the free play of opinion, foments civil religious strife, and seeks to divide America into two classes,—one to rule,

another to obey. This they call "one hundred per cent Americanism." *****

"There is one ex-soldier's organization that declares fearlessly for industrial and political freedom and real law-abiding Americanism. We of the World War Veterans live up to our principles. Our record is clean. So no banker contributes to our welfare; no government diverts funds to our treasury. Whoever joins the American Legion gains distinct advantages—social entertainment, industrial preferment, political prestige. Whoever joins the World War Veterans sacrifices himself for an ideal. We stand firm against fascism, but hamstrung by poverty, are unable to launch a counter attack unless the progressive spirit of the nation is aroused to reinforce us.

"Are we to remain asleep while the net is spread? Shall we squirm helpless under torch and rope, machine guns and bayonet? Or shall we now with organization and education spike their guns before it is to late, and by force of arms in the name of "law and order," "representative government" and "one hundred per cent Americanism,"—all of which interpreted invariably means unfettered freedom of the financial and industrial kings to hold the masses in silent, unresisting slavery?

"The ex-soldier carries the Fascisti gun in Italy. The reactionary hands him the same gun here. Every lover of justice and freedom must assist us with a contribution to launch an educational campaign among the ex-service men. Their eyes must be opened. The poisonous Fascisti propaganda must be counteracted. Every man and woman laying claim to the name progressive must not fail to help us crush the structure of fascism at its foundation—the sentimentalism of the ex-soldier, and the gun will be dropped before it is turned on the people."

The young Workers League must enter into the fight against all the white guard element in the United States, and the members of the League wherever they may be should aid the World War Veterans in enlisting masses of working-class ex-soldiers. All organizations of the working class must present a united front against militarism which has become so popular in the daily press recently.



"The Future Belongs to the Young"



Some of the old fogies around Chicago don't seem to think so, though. In fact a good many of the old timers are known to be preparing for a show-down on this question—and of course the test will come at the rollicking Red Revel on March 3, when every male in the big city will get a chance to show that he is still human by devoting himself wholeheartedly to the gentle art of whirling somebody else's sister over the polished dance floor of the West End Club Hall, to the intoxicating music of the Greenwich Village Band. Pretty girls, daring costumes, a midnight surprise, dancing, confetti, color light and merriment! All the shieks and shebas will be there. For once in our lives we are going to have a damn good time making money for the Voice of Labor. Tickets 50 cents in advance; 75 cents at the door. Watch for the surprise at Midnight!

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Where Do You Stand?

Are you for America under the rule of Burns and Daugherty?

Are you for Government by stool pigeons and secret service agents?

Are you for free speech and free assemblage or are you for complete subjugation of the thoughts and acts of the workers to the will of the steel trust, the railroads and the coal barons?

Under the Michigan criminal syndicalism law, in their prosecution of William Z. Foster, C. E. Ruthenberg, William F. Dunne and seventeen other militant trades unionists, the Burns- Daugherty anti-labor outfit have taken action.

What Action Have You Taken?

Inactivity implies your agreement with the anti-labor campaign. Activity means that you will support the LABOR DEFENSE COUNCIL which is carrying on the legal defense of the twenty labor militants now being prosecuted in Berrien County under the Michigan criminal syndicalist law.

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FRANK P. WALSH, Chief Counsel,
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