

# CHALLENGE

## READING STRIKES MAKE HISTORY

### Mo. Youth Acting As Pickets

#### Yipsels Aid New Strikes In St. Louis

#### Participate in Jackes-Evans Co. Struggle and Feed Pickets.

##### BULLETIN.

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — Immediately with the issuance of the General Strike call to garment workers by the International Ladies Garment Workers, the YPSL of St. Louis was in the midst of the fight. Louis was in the midst of the fight assisted by five Los Angeles Yipsels on their way to the national convention at Reading.

The Yipsels drilled the strike columns in song of solidarity and the picket line, and then led over a hundred picketers to parade for three hours before the only shop that hadn't walked out, the National Dress Co.

The boss finally called the police who, after efforts to disperse the picket line by intimidation failed, backed up the patrol wagon and loaded 18 of the pickets among whom were Eva Monson, Bert Elstein, Everett O'Connor, Joe Zameres and Abe Monson, all of Los Angeles and Gloria Waldron of St. Louis. Bonded after two hours in jail, the case was continued the next day at the request of the police who said they wished "to collect evidence."

The same afternoon the picket line was reformed and although 20 pickets were arrested, the workers of the National Dress a little later walked out in a body and joined the strikers, making the movement 100 per cent strong.

##### BY OUR ST. LOUIS CORRESPONDENT.

After taking part in the Amalgamated Clothing Workers' strike and drive for members in June, the St. Louis Yipsels did not cease their activity. July found them busy with the metal workers' strike at the Jackes-Evans Co., and also in the garment workers' strike at Lang and Kohn Co.

In the Jackes-Evans Co. strike, one of our members, Thayer Burbank, was selected as secretary of the strike committee. Yipsels and members of the local S. P. co-operated on the picket line, with publicity, and also with the feeding of the strikers, totaling 128 in number.

A mass meeting was held in interest of the strikers and in protest of the arrest of several Yipsels and party members on the picket line. The Yipsels among those arrested were Thayer Burbank, Gloria Waldron and Eugene Henschel. They were held on the charge of "attempting to incite a riot," but these charges were later voided.

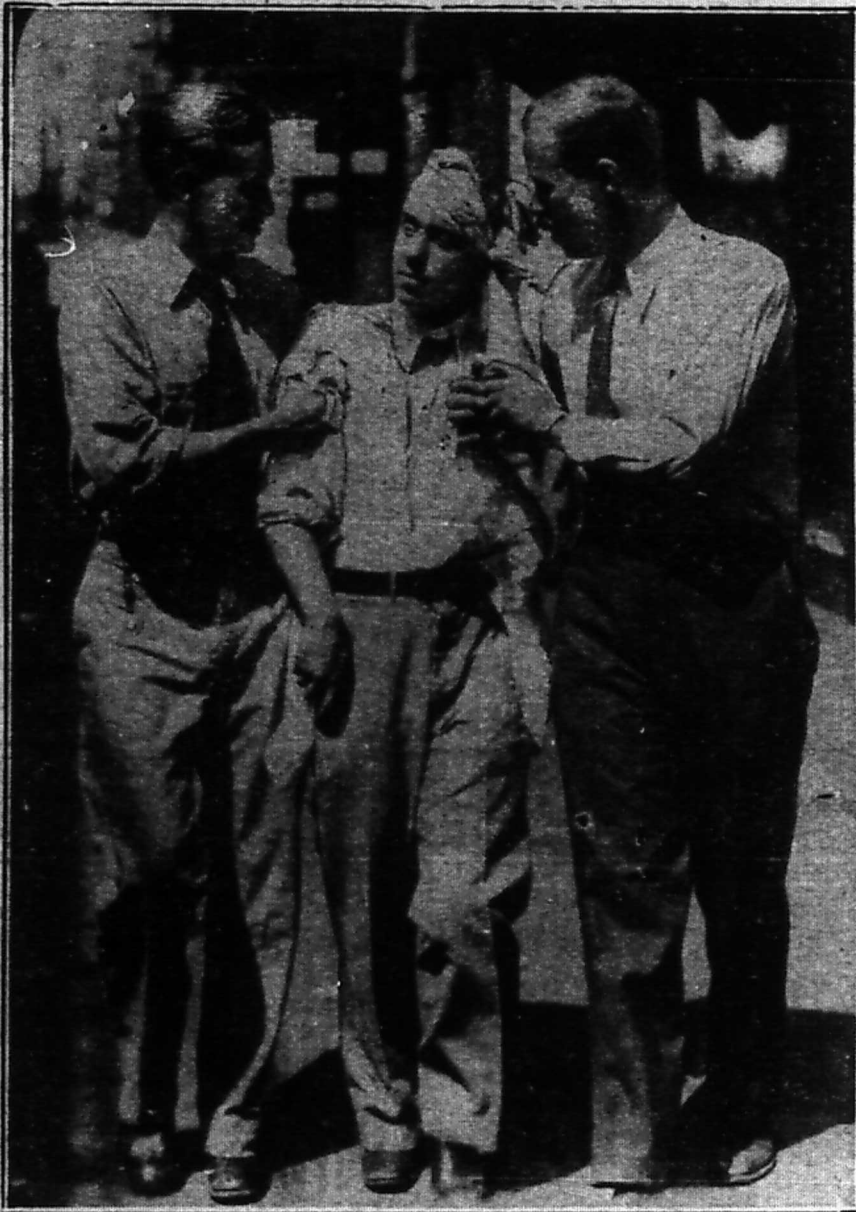
With the I. L. G. W. U., the Yipsels have distributed leaflets at different times and are at present helping with the Lang and Kohn strike, picketing and distributing literature. Thayer Burbank was arrested while distributing leaflets announcing a union meeting, on the charge of "littering the streets."

The picket line was increased from 15 to 50 through work of the Yipsels and songs were led by them. Some of the signs used on the picket line were: "Is This the Deal?" "This Is Every Worker's Battle," "Don't Scab" and "We are Doing Ours, Lang, Do Yours."

July 28 a meeting was held to protest against child labor. It was successful in reaching a small but interested group. Membership gained by about 15 to 20 members.

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#### CLUB YOUNG SOCIALIST PICKET



Steve Stark, young Chicago Socialist, being led away from the police station after police had yanked him out of a picket line at Lipson Brothers where the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union is on strike, and beaten him over the head until the angry crowd grew so threatening as to force the officers to stop. On the right is Maynard Krueger, chairman of the Cook County Socialist party, and to the left is Paul Rasmussen, in-

dustrial organizer for the Young Peoples' Socialist League in Illinois, who was arrested along with Stark. Socialists and YPSL members helped the union break the injunction secured by the bosses, which forbade picketing or sign carrying within fifty feet of the door of the plant in downtown Chicago. Stark was carrying a sign with an NRA eagle bearing the inscription: "We Do Our Part, Lipson's Do Not," which aroused police fury.

### Chicago Circles Rebuild Rapidly; Plan Constitution

CHICAGO—The Chicago YPSL is rapidly rebuilding its dissipated strength into an effective movement. A constitution and plan of organization for all of Cook county have been devised by a special committee of the City Advisory committee and will be submitted to the six functioning circles for ratification before the convention.

More than a score of Yipsels have been functioning as an industrial squad in aid of the unions, speaking, distributing literature at factories and picketing for the International Ladies' Garment Workers, the Mattress Makers, the Pocketbook Makers and the Paper Box Makers' unions. Ben Larks has been selected as Cook county industrial director. Hoot Rasmussen is his assistant.

The Chicago YPSL took the initiative in the formation of the Chicago Labor Youth council, an alliance of Socialist aligned youth organizations for joint cultural edu-

cational and industrial organization work. The council has applied to the Cook county committee of action for recognition as the youth section of the Continental Congress locally.

##### MORE PROGRESS.

CHICAGO—According to information reaching the Cook County Action Committee of the Continental Congress, NRA at the Century of Progress fair means either "No Recovery Around" or "Nothing Really Altered."

Workers for the concessionaires have been told that the World's fair employers will not come under the NIRA blanket code and will resist any attempts to bring them under that or any other code which would restrict hours or boost wages.

Col. Isham Randolph, trouble shooter for the "Fair," has gone to Washington with the plea that no attempt be made to affect wage or hours arrangements at the "Century of Progress." "Most of the employees at the fair are union men working at union rates of pay and hours," Randolph is quoted as reporting. Such lying hypocrisy has surely no equal in the last century, workers at the Fair agree.

#### CHALLENGE'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT

MILWAUKEE, Wis.—James Quick, associate editor of The Challenge, has never had a word printed in The Challenge. Jim has worked on all four previous editions, and is hard at it on this issue, his official capacity being make-up man. He promises, or rather, threatens to slip in a bit of his own copy one of these days when the editor isn't looking.

### Dixie Strike Leader Jailed

BY NORMAN THOMAS.

High Point, N. C., is one of the industrial cities in that great industrial area known as the Piedmont. What is happening there at present sheds a lurid light on the bootlegging being done under the NIRA and on the battle being waged to keep genuine organization out of the south. Here is the story as I found it on a recent visit to High Point.

About three weeks ago the unemployed in High Point had the nerve to strike. They were getting 80 cents for a six-hour day for hard unskilled labor—some of it ought to have been classified as skilled—on the municipal golf club and elsewhere. They got from two to five days a week work according to the size of the family. Their leaders were promptly arrested on one petty charge or another.

Larry Hogan, the dynamic organizer for the Full Fashioned Hosiery Workers, and Beulah Carter, who has done a fine job for the hosiery workers in Durham, stepped into the situation to give a little encouragement to the strikers. The bosses saw their chance. Not only could they disorganize the unemployed but they could strike a blow at labor organization. They persuaded their police department to order the arrest of 15 persons, nine white and six colored, for trespass and for inciting to riot which never occurred.

They woke up Beulah Carter about 1 o'clock in the morning to arrest her. Hogan was out of town when this happened on some organization work. When he got back he gave himself up.

With difficulty ball was finally found, first for the white workers and later for the colored men who had been arrested. The latter had been obliged to stay in jail for almost two weeks. Three or four of them in a cell measuring six feet by four with only two bunks, without light or direct approach to the air. This in the summer heat!

The obvious intention of the prosecution is to get Hogan and Miss Carter and by removing them to cripple indefinitely the organization not only of the Full Fashioned Hosiery Workers but everybody else in this area.

The bosses are alarmed. They don't like the code either in textiles or in furniture making. They are using every trick to beat the codes. A local company union in the seamless hosiery industry turned against the bosses and gave them a real battle.

Discontent is general and the workers are ripe for effective organization. I wish I could tell you all the stories I heard the few hours I spent in High Point.

Hogan is a natural leader to whom all of the workers look. If

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### 15,000 Strikers Picket Former Open Shop Strongholds.

READING, Pa.—Round the state of Pennsylvania these days there is ringing word of that freedom that comes only to men and women, old and young, who are willing to fight to win their rights. Once men twitted free spirits in the Keystone state with the unchallenged reaction of its rulers and the docility of its workers. Six weeks of one of the most remarkable uprisings in American working class history that has just taken place in this industrial center of eastern Pennsylvania, have banished that reproach, it is to be hoped, forever.

One of the first groups of organized workers in America whose leadership recognized working class opportunity in the program of recovery legislation which the rulers of America had been forced to adopt, was the American Federation of Full Fashioned Hosiery Workers. This union, industrial in form of organization and considered radical among A. F. of L. groups, quickly grasped the changed situation which would be brought about if some charter of labor's right to organize was included in the recovery legislation which was being rushed through in a race with chaos and possible civil war.

##### Into the Field.

Emphatically supporting the demand for the inclusion of the labor clauses in the sweeping new act of congress, the union stretched every nerve when it became law. With the passage of the act, strikes began to break out among the hosiery workers, each strike an act of bravery deserving its mead of honor, in the face of the millions of unemployed of every craft.

From Philadelphia, headquarters of the union, the bright flare of strike revolt spread to the industry in adjoining sections until in the city of Reading and the county of Berks, the very stronghold of the bitter non-union hosiery employers, immense new gains were being registered in the last days of June.

Towering above and dominating the knitting industry stood the Berkshire Knitting mills, producers of 15 per cent of the nation's product and firmly entrenched in their "little Prussia" in the suburbs of Reading. For years the union had toiled ceaselessly and without success to penetrate this non-union autocracy.

##### The Ground Prepared.

Months before the recovery legislation gave new hope to organized labor, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers had daringly launched on a campaign against the sweatshops exploiting child labor which had sprung up during the depression in the clothing, particularly the shirt, industry.

The Challenge on behalf of the Young People's Socialist League had hailed this brave campaign and the YPSL industrial department had dispatched Industrial Organizer Mike Shulman to the Allentown sector to lend a hand. Extending throughout the eastern industrial section of the United States, this drive of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers was the forerunner of the revival of the American labor movement now in progress.

For years Reading had been a center of Socialist party strength in spite of the non-union domination of its economic life. Working class solidarity had been preached from press, platform, ballot box and radio. As the drive of the organiza-

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# PENNA. LABOR DEMANDS ITS UNION RIGHTS

## Workers in Organization Wide Drive

Continued From Page One.

ing of the hosiery workers gathered momentum, a new development was witnessed. Workers in allied industries in the community like silk and cotton, began to walk out in sympathy and in demand for certain rights in their own lives such as only recognized organization of their number in each industry could secure.

### The Revolt.

On the day following Independence day the first week of July, the mighty Berkshire mills fell before the advance of militant unionism when over 3,000 men and women poured out of the hosiery plants to join their fellows singing and rejoicing in the picket lines outside the high iron fences.

The air was electric. Over 10,000 hosiery workers were on strike in the immediate Reading area. Pretzel bakeries, clothing mills, shoe factories, broom factories, department stores, rope works, hat factories and the hardware plant were out on strike in a demand for a voice in their job.

### A General Strike.

Lester Mike Shulman had been made a member of the National Industrial Committee of the YPSL at the Milwaukee meeting of the national executive and was on hand to aid and advise the Reading YPSL. An industrial committee of three was enlarged to 10, song sheets were printed, strike details were appointed to unions work. Some picture of what approached a general strike can be secured from the fact that out of 27 Yipsels working when the strike broke 25 were out on strike the first week of July.

Many Yipsels led their departments out. Five members of the YPSL were on the strike committees at their mills. The strike spread to adjoining counties to find the Pottstown Yipsels on the job. Industrial Organizer Mike Shuman together with two Junior Yipsels went to Meyerstown and pulled out a shirt factory and a silk mill, all in the same afternoon.

Over 15,000 workers of all occupations were on strike in the Reading district itself. As fast as an employer yielded here and there, other workers revolted. Silk mills, glove makers, dress shops, paint and enamel workers, laundry workers, taxi drivers. Union recognition was their demand above all others. George M. Rhodes of the Federated Trades council with Shulman organized the newsboys 100 per cent and won all demands without a strike.

### The Counter Attack.

Hard-boiled open shop employers could not believe their senses. Then they tried mediation with government officials but the Bourbons had learned nothing and refused to believe their workers were members of the union unless they could "interview them individually." Loud and scornful laughter from the picket lines was their answer.

A request from Washington to call off the strike pending the adoption of a code was indignantly rejected by President Emil Rieve of the Hosiery Workers Union. The employees counted on the publishing of a tentative code to break the workers' ranks and rumors were carefully circulated that the strike movement was weakening.

### Their Answer.

In answer, the embattled workers of Reading decided to show their strength. On July 12 some 25,000 strikers and their sympathizers among the organized unemployed and other unionists, marched through the streets of Reading in a history making demonstration. "Who in hell wants to work for minimum wages," queried Emil Rieve. In 50 years of labor experience, declared Veteran Jim Maurer. I have always found that the only way to get anything from the bosses is to organize and take it from them."

The vast assembly echoed their words. In an iron palisade of class solidarity, the striking workers and their brothers in Reading stood firm. The mills were opened by the hosiery bosses with great ado and out of thousands less than a score returned to work. Immense increases in wages were offered without union

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## YIPSELS IN STRIKE PARADE



Picture shows members of the Reading YPSL beginning to form their ranks in the historic parade of Reading workers showing their solidarity behind the strike movement in that city. More than 100 Yipsels marched in this tre-

mendous demonstration which numbered 25,000 people in line. Proportionate support for such a demonstration in a city the size of Chicago would mean that three-quarters of a million people would have to turn out.

## Challenge Current Publication Review

### GERMANY, YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW.

(Swastika Over Germany, by Siegfried Lipschitz; 48 pages; Rand School Press; 15 cents.)

No understanding of the persistent course of the leaders of the German Social-Democracy during the last few fatal years can be arrived at without acknowledging the real material gains of the German working class under their leadership in the post-war period.

In addition, the German worker gained something in civil and political rights which the Russian worker and peasant would have been unprepared to use and which the American worker had been so long accustomed to as to discount heavily. None of these gains balanced the failure to inaugurate successfully a program for displacing the basic foundations of capitalism.

This fatal failure for a Socialist party seems inevitable after the failure to firmly grasp power in 1918. On this point it would be impossible to sum up better than in Dr. Lipschitz' own words. "The Republican heirs of the empire started from false premises. Instead of stabilizing their own authority over a people degraded and yearning for peace; instead of firmly establishing the spirit of the new democratic regime in the hearts of the masses who only yesterday were ruled by an autocracy, they called for a national assembly on the basis of the broadest suffrage that the world had seen.

"These Socialists asked a people in democratic swaddling clothes to give itself a new liberal constitution. It is true that the Weimar constitution put the German people on its feet again and that it proved itself, in the most difficult periods after the war, a great power for maintaining the unity of the reich. . ."

"All this, however," says the author, "could have been achieved by a determined popular government conducted by the German labor movement."

Lipschitz is not hesitant about criticizing his own comrades so there is no reason for objecting to his pitiless analysis of the record of the Communist party of Germany, a record which includes seven calls for a general strike to which not even their own followers responded and official opposition to the only successfully general strike ever carried out, that against the Kapp Putsch in 1920.

Perhaps the saddest item is the invention of the bland lie of Social-Fascism—a phrase meant to conceal by a phrase, by an epithet, the fact that in spite of the flagrant mistakes and errors of the Social-Democracy, the mass of the class-conscious German workers were unable to give their confidence to Communist party leadership.

It was perhaps a sense of this lack of confidence that confirmed

the mad course of German Communism in constantly announcing as its chief aim the destruction of the Social-Democracy at the same time that it flirted with the Nazis in the Prussian referendum and the Berlin transport strike, to the mental confusion of thousands of workers.

This negative program of the Communists is perhaps the key to the crazy fluctuation in their vote which in 1924 rose to 3,600,000 only to fall to half that number within the year. From March to April, 1932, the left party lost 1,200,000 votes, gaining again in July and November only to decline immediately under the pitiless blows dealt by Fascism, large blocks going over to Hitler with banners flying.

No Socialist can afford to be without this brilliant handbook on Germany and no youthful Socialist should neglect this record of the labor movement's supreme tragedy, both left and right.

### United Fronts, Actual and Apparent (The United Front, by August Tyler: 20 pages Rand School Price 5 Cents).

The educational director of the YPSL in this sharp spoken and timely political document displays his talent for working up material of an interesting nature not generally available. Perhaps the most important and telling point that he makes in this frankly partisan pamphlet, is that the historic and urgent offer by the Labor and Socialist International of a United Front against Fascism issued on Feb. 19 of this year with the events in Germany in view was not and has not been answered by the Communist (Third) International.

Instead, an address was issued to the various national sections of the Communist International after the debacle had taken place in Germany, instructing them to approach the national and local sections of the Socialist parties with "united front" offers.

He quotes undisputed authorities among Communist party leaders to show that the "United Front" as conceived by the Comintern from 1921 forward was not a device for united action for specific ends but a tactic to divide and weaken other organized labor bodies and if possible enlist their membership under the Communist banner. Posing the question of whether there has been a change in this fatal position on the part of the Comintern, the author answers vigorously in the negative and documents his answer from Communist sources.

One glaring piece of bad logic is evident in the closely argued little pamphlet. While stating that by 1922, the new Third International had split every Socialist party in Europe and America, and expressing contempt for this role of the Comintern, the author then goes on to describe the basic principles of the Socialist and Communist alignments as so basically different as to make amalgamation unthinkable.

## Veteran Sarah Limbach Remains Vigilant Fighter On Labor's Battle Front

In that memorable Congressional campaign of 1912, in the district of New York that actually sent a Socialist representative to congress, there appeared at the door of Party headquarters, to volunteer her services, a little worker very much in her teens. By chance she presented herself to the head of the ticket himself, kindly beloved Meyer London.

From his lips she was addressed for the first time as "Comrade." In the days that followed she folded immense sheafs of literature, climbed literally miles of stairs and personally interviewed an army of voters in her own city block.

It was in this great rally of the east side working class that succeeded in sending London to Congress, a feat that was repeated two years later, that Sarah Limbach received her first baptism of fire. It was Jack Haikin, then YPSL, organizer, who promptly ushered the rather diminutive worker into Circle No. 8, where in a short time she was serving the Manhattan league as financial secretary.

### Remains True to Her Class.

From that date onward to the present moment Sarah Limbach has been in the Party service, her years crowded with Party and Labor Union activity. Even with the added responsibilities of a family of her own in later years, she has never for a moment left the ranks or stepped aside from a labor struggle.

Beginning as a millinery worker,

the siren call and sold his quota of liberty bonds.

A prominent International Union official spent an entire afternoon walking miles across to Brooklyn trying to convince the slight but fiery person at his side that the thing to do was to sink a Party's principle for real working class gain as seen by Gompers "who would not forget" those who were effective labor aids. Sarah didn't budge. She was Socialist to stay. The official door was closed.

### War Times.

Morris Hillquit was running for mayor in war-ridden New York standing four square on the St. Louis declaration against American participation in the war. Sarah Limbach captained her precinct. One hundred fifty thousand votes were cast for Hillquit in a huge protest against America's entrance into the war.

In the year following when it became sedition to speak one's mind she managed the west side campaign of Scott Nearing for Socialist Congressman. Today she can tell with some amusement of the cooperative cleaning of candidate and manager after contact with the vegetables inspired by war-minded audiences.

### Steel Strike.

Sarah Limbach came to Pittsburgh in the immediate post war period for 70 miles into the heart of Pittsburgh one could see but a continuous line of flaring furnaces and coke ovens and mills. But the steel strike, last great post-war movement of organized labor, was afoot.

In the Pittsburgh area alone, 100,000 men deserted the mills in protest against the 12-hour day, the seven-day week and a succession of wage cuts.

She joined the relief forces which for more than six months supplied relief and medical care. The proportions of the relief job have never been approached before or since. Still highly prized among her possessions is the letter of commendation from the steel strike committee to Sarah Limbach. The committee in defeat had nothing else to give.

### On the Job.

Miners' strikes in '22, '27, '31 found Sarah Limbach taking a leading part in relief work as well as ready aid to any union that asked for experienced help whether they be an "Outlaw" Shopmen's strike or the most regular of unions.

Nine years ago when party organization was at its lowest, Sarah Limbach took up the reins of the state Socialist organization in Pennsylvania. The party machinery had been uprooted by the war and the reaction that followed. Painful and bit by bit the organization must be recreated. It was and today Pennsylvania leads the nation in the spread and effectiveness of its organization of some 160 branches and locals.

"The Socialist party is too politically minded," complained a raw youngster. "What do you expect a political party to do, knit?" was this Yipsel of yesteryear's dry response.

Yet today when workers want organization on their job a surprising number seek out this familiar figure in the Pennsylvania state office and find a keen and ready ally.

Company officers, executives, superintendents and their personal assistants are free to work as long as they choose, under terms of the Black 30-hour bill.



SARAH Z. LIMBACH.

she joined in the first efforts to organize the women in the hat trade. She was made an organizer for the new local. Organizing new shops, setting up picket lines, shrewdly negotiating with employers, fighting out grievances, such were all in a day's work that only a sturdy spirit could maintain and keep the fires of idealism and class loyalty clear.

Recognized by the men in the trade for her fighting qualities, she was accorded the distinction of being the first woman to preside over an International Convention of the Hat and Cap Makers.

### Paths Divide.

In 1917 came the American participation in the war. Samuel Gompers thought he saw American labor's supreme opportunity for material gain. The Socialist Party saw "the crime against humanity." Speedy advancement was open to the labor official willing "to go along."

William Z. Foster departed from the Socialist party in 1911 because it was too "pink" surrendered to

## Workers Present Sports Festival and Track Meet

STICKNEY, Ill. — One hundred and fifty gymnasts performed before an audience of well over 1,000 at the Sports Festival of the Workmen's Gymnastic Assn. here. Groups were present from St. Louis, Cleveland and both German and Bohemian groups of Chicago.

This Sunday event followed a track meet in Douglas park in Chicago on Saturday afternoon, whose events displayed an ability equal to any group of middle class athletic

associates. Dr. Franz Soukop, president of the Czechoslovakian senajur and a member of the bureau of Labor and Socialist International was a speaker at the Sunday festival. Many Socialist and YPSL branches were represented and the Chicago Labor Youth council had endorsed the affair to its members.

It is hoped to vastly strengthen the cultural organizations of labor in the near future through the use of such organizations as the Workmen's Gymnastic Assn. (DTJ).



# YPSL CONVENTION, READING, AUG. 26-27

## Gathering to Make Plans For Future

### Berks County Socialist Organizations to Act as Visitors' Host.

BY NATIONAL SECRETARY.

Plans for building a powerful Socialist youth movement will be the main work of the Seventh National Convention of the Young People's Socialist League of America. Preparations were practically completed for the sessions at Reading, Pa., on Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 26-27, as *The Challenge* went to press.

An elaborate program has been arranged in co-operation with the Berks County Young People's Socialist League and Socialist Party organizations and will fully occupy the time of the delegations that will come from all parts of the country by truck, bus, auto, freight, and hitch-hiking.

Besides the regular Convention and Committee work, mass meetings, a banquet with workers' plays and social entertainment, mass singing and a parade will feature the week-end at Reading.

#### Sessions at Socialist Park.

All sessions will be held at the Socialist Picnic grounds, at Sinking Springs, Pa., which is several miles from Reading, and delegates, alternates and visiting members will register there or at the Reading Socialist headquarters, 628 Walnut st. Badges and cards will be given at time of registration.

A Welcome Meeting will be held at the Socialist Park to greet the Ypsel delegates on their arrival, on Friday night. Red Mike Shulman and several local strike leaders, prominent Party and YPSL members of Reading, National Chairman Umansky, and others will speak. Local radical tunes will become "nationalized" during the evening.

The Seventh National Convention will be officially called to order on Saturday, Aug. 26, at 9 a. m. Credentials will be examined and reported on, and the report on League activities since the last Convention, held at Cleveland, will be presented by National Secretary Winston Dancis. Industrial Director Arthur G. McDowell and Educational Director Gus Tyler will also present reports of the year's work in their fields.

#### Parade Through City.

*The Challenge*, official monthly paper of the League, started in April of this year as first official organ of the League will be reviewed. Additional greetings will be heard and the election of the Convention committees on Organization, Industry, Students, Challenge, Constitution, Resolutions and Finances will be elected during the morning session on Saturday.

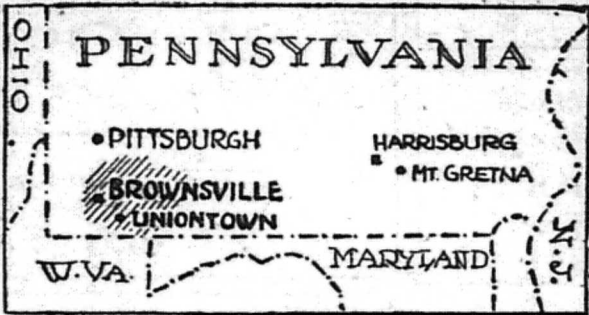
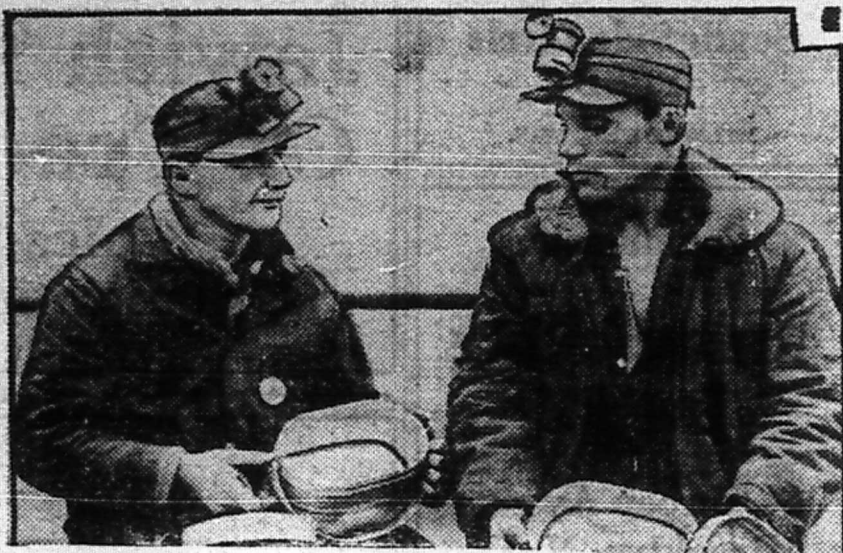
Saturday lunch will extend from noon till 2 so that the parade will be able to start promptly at 2 p. m. The march will start at Second and Washington sts. and will proceed to the corner of Tenth and Chestnut sts., where the mass meeting will be held. National color will be provided by League banners and placards from all parts of the country, and the best orators and agitators of 48 states and the Canadian provinces will expound the doctrines of Socialist internationalism and apply them to the present situation.

#### Must Work Fast.

The second session on Saturday will be from 4 to 6 p. m. and will consider regular convention business, including the first reports of committees.

Saturday night, given over to recreation and entertainment, will be a period of varied activity. First in order will be the banquet. Then will follow short, very short, speeches, mass singing (a new song book, with music, will be used for the first time), dancing to music furnished by Reading comrades and several skits and plays. Among

## USE SOLDIERS IN PENN STRIKE



Picture shows typical Pennsylvania miners displaying empty dinner pails very often the kind carried to work in recent years. Inset map of Pennsylvania shows position of Brownsville and Uniontown, centers of the recent strike against the Frick Coal Co., in relation to Harrisburg from which Gov. Pinchot dispatched state militia shown below, from Mt. Gretna.

those presented will be "Foil the Reds" by Reading YPSL, and "Sic Semper Tyrannis" by the Los Angeles comrades, and New York and Philadelphia will also be represented dramatically.

Sunday will be entirely devoted to Convention business, starting early in the morning at 8:30 and continuing, with a brief intermission for lunch, until adjournment. Action will be taken on all of the committee reports, and constitutional changes will be made, as also plans for the carrying on of student, industrial and organization work more effectively. The new National Executive Committee will be elected, and also all League offices will be filled.

#### Organizers' Encampment.

A special Organizers' Encampment will be held on Monday. Organizers who have been on the road all summer will swap experiences with other experienced and active comrades and circle and organization problems will be discussed and League technique improved. All comrades who will be able to stay over the extra day are invited to attend and participate.

A fee of \$1 is charged as the board and lodging cost for delegates, alternates and visiting members. This fee will take care of dinner Friday night, and all meals served on Saturday and Sunday, including the banquet.

Arrangements for housing provide that male delegates will be put up on cots in the Socialist Park, and are advised to bring blankets as protection against the cool Reading night air. Girl delegates will be housed by comrades in Reading. All meals will be served at the Park picnic grounds. Trucks will transport comrades from the town (Labor Lyceum) to the Park.

#### Forward From Reading.

The convention is eagerly looked forward to as a means of demonstrating the increase in the strength of the Young People's Socialist League. It will provide an opportunity to equip the organization to proceed most energetically during the coming year on behalf of the workers' struggles. The Seventh National Convention will be of great help in consolidating the strength of the young workers, students and unemployed youth into one powerful movement for the abolition of capitalism and the establishment of the Socialist commonwealth.

## Miners Take Promise In Good Faith

Pennsylvania miners believe that a union is the only way to fill empty dinner pails and thousands of them struck against the attempt of the Frick Coke Co. (U. S. Steel) to force them into a company union so that the company can evade the Recovery Act. The Governor of Pennsylvania who happens to be at odds within the Republican Party with certain industrial interests in the state, sent militia from Mt. Gretna into the strike area with instructions to protect miners' civil rights as well as mine operators' property. This embarrassed the mine owners who had started to crush the strike the usual way by having their thug armies shoot down pickets.

The National Recovery Administration saved them further embarrassment by stepping in and "demanding" a truce between the coal interests and the United Mine Workers. Brownsville miners refused to go back at the order of President John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers because he and his officials had not called the strike in the first place.

They did go back on the pledge of the good faith of the United States government given by Edward F. McGrady that the coal operators would play fair. Woe be to the good name of government and McGrady if they do not force the steel trust to keep its word to its workers for once. Already McGrady has over a hundred cases of miners fired by Frick in violation of the agreement.

A unique honor is held by Jerry Rubin of Milwaukee, a member of the Victor L. Berger circle. His claim for a niche in the hall of fame is that he gets the first copy of *The Challenge* as it comes off the press.

## World's Fair Shows No Progress for Workers

BY CARL HAESSLER.  
Federated Press.

CHICAGO (F.P.)—Out on the roasting lake front of Chicago amid the mechanical and structural wonders of the Century of Progress exhibition, labor hundreds of workers at starvation rates of pay. Some manage to get a little steady pay in wages, some glean a scanty sum in commissions, others work for nothing but hope to get enough in tips to pay for lunch and carfare.

But tips are few and commissions are slender, because the World's fair has been so thoroughly and ruthlessly organized for the exploitation of the visitor that the tourist has neither cash nor goodwill left by the time he has paid the high admission fee of 50 cents, spent numberless dimes to get from place to place in the three and one-half mile length of the great exposition, yielded exorbitant sums for meals (\$1.75 for dinner in the so-called Streets of Paris), submitted to the turnstile-cash toilet arrangements, been cheated at dishonest sideshows of which one was thrown out by the management after a prosperous existence, and has been alternately amazed and edified by the external beauty of the structures and the wonder of the exhibits and on the other hand exasperated and humiliated by the get-his-last-nickel spirit of the whole affair.

#### Girls Get 30 Cents a Day.

On the Enchanted Island where the Post Office News Co. handles the souvenir concession a girl salesman put up \$300 bond and was to get 7 per cent commission on sales. The bond precaution was hardly necessary since she made only 20 cents a day, her 7 per cent commission on less than \$3 of sales. The colored girls who had paid \$15 for their wage-less jobs in the pay toilets and agreed to split tips 50-50 with the boss were collecting tips of 30 cents a day after they had won a brief strike. The boss agreed to remit half of the \$15 and to let them keep all the tips. So now instead of making only 15 cents a day they actually make 30 cents.

The boys who push the wheel chairs are paid 30 cents an hour but only when they are under hire. They make nothing while waiting for clients. They report however

that tips are more liberal, perhaps because their customers don't get so hot and tired as the tourists on the hoof become.

While our statesmen gabble glibly of planning and look enviously to the Soviet Union where planning is not merely talked about but put in practice, this Century of Progress is far from such realities. This has occurred even to the impressive ballyhoo given to the fair by *The New York Times* feature writer who splashes three pages of a Sunday section with his lavish pen but manages to say:

"The fair does not really show man making, deliberately and systematically a new civilization. We drift with our river of invention and discovery. Let us make as good a raft as we can. Such is the moral of a Century of Progress."

#### No Regard for Workers.

The progress is there but it is the progress that the tyrants of Egypt achieved 30 or 40 centuries ago—awe-inspiring material achievement but not a thought for the slaves that sweated and starved and died to produce it. As *The Industrial Worker* comments: "The Century of Progress is truly a monument—a monument of omission! It has forgotten the all-important thing—the human element. Any progress that does not add to the sum total of happiness is a questionable variety of progress."

#### Philadelphia Advances.

A league dramatic group has been organized and expect to present results soon. National Organizer Noah Walter contacted and addressed a group of young Negro workers at the Catherine Street Y. W. C. A. "Excellent activity for the unions continues."

The Young Circle League trouced the YPSL in baseball for the fourth successive year at the Ulmer Park picnic (The Yipsels want a return match, with debating as the weapon).

#### Buffalo.

Louise Gugino of the YPSL national industrial committee reports the Buffalo Yipsels to be doing fine work in co-operation with the Amalgamated Clothing Workers for which she is organizer.

## Solidarity

**Industrial Organizers at Reading.**  
The industrial department hopes to arrange for a special discussion section for industrial organizers and directors at the organizers' encampment, which will take place at Reading the day following the national convention.

#### Digging Ourselves In.

An increasing number of YPSL organizations are providing themselves with industrial directors. Following are a number recently reported to the national office: Forrest Jones of Berks County, Pa.; Lawrence Rudick, Youngstown, Ohio; Irving Mutter, New Jersey state; Morris Gutkin, Philadelphia, and Ben Larks, Chicago.

#### Program.

Tactics and program for industrial work will be gone into detail at Reading. To those local industrial directors who have been asking so many questions about procedure, the industrial department would ask a few questions. Do you know your local trade union movement, where its headquarters are, who are its officers, what it is doing? Could you teach a bunch of strikers picket line and solidarity songs? How many members of the YPSL could you get together on fairly short notice, for literature distribution at factories, for aid in picketing? Do you know the nature and national and local history of the national industrial control act? Are you selling YPSL members the party pamphlet on the subject? Do you know the Socialist party's stand as given in the statement of the N. E. C.?

#### Cleveland.

Members of the YPSL continue to co-operate with the Bakers, International Ladies' Garment Workers, Amalgamated and the Metal Trades council which is making a frontal attack on the automobile and other non-union metal works.

#### Rochester, N. Y.

When 6,000 relief workers here struck against the wage cutting policy of the bankers who some time ago took over control of city financial affairs, the YPSL was one of the first outside organizations to pledge solidarity and offer aid to the strikers. The workers were unfortunately divided among themselves. Comrade Volpie spoke at the strikers' mass meetings, setting forth the Socialist stand against wage cuts and pledging aid. The strike was settled on a compromise wage, but the strikers received pay for the time spent on strike.

#### Ashtabula, Ohio.

Hy Fish was given leave of absence from *The Challenge* and an industrial organizers' commission the first of July to take up organization of the white goods workers in Cleveland for the ILGWU. He reports from Ashtabula where he is in charge of a strike of 150 dress makers of the S. Korach and Co. When the city manager barged into strike meetings in an attempt to get the workers back to the sweatshop, the strikers under Hy's leadership turned the tables by invading the city council and presenting a series of charges against the manager who is local head of the NIRA.

#### Lima, Ohio.

Syd Devin of Chicago has been credentialed as national industrial organizer for his work in organizing Marvel Maid strikers for the ILGWU and assisting Socialist Organizer Keller in re-establishing the Lima Central Labor union.

#### Bridgeport, Conn.

Comrade Landau reports the Bridgeport circles, senior and junior, up to their neck in work in aid of the Pocketbook Makers' union and the Amalgamated Clothing Workers in their drive for cleaning up and unionizing the long list of sweat-shops in this industrial city.

#### New York City.

National Industrial Committee-man Julie Bertman reports New York Yipsels active in the 15 weeks' old bakery strike, the organization of clerical workers, and 100 members of the YPSL organized to aid the impending Dressmakers' strike. Assistance was rendered the American Federation of Radio Workers at the Fada plant and Bertman is engaged in organization of shipping clerks.

#### Philadelphia.

Industrial Director Gutkin reports participation in industrial situations involving hosiery workers, leather workers, radio workers, bakers, millinery workers and knit goods workers. Sam Bakely is doing full time work with the knit goods workers.



# Convention Greetings—Read

Joseph Belsky, Benjamin Levine  
and Isidor Leff  
OF THE  
Hebrew Butcher Workers' Union  
GREET THE  
Yipsel Convention

Greetings From  
South Side Circle  
YPSL  
MILWAUKEE, WIS.

Jewish Federation  
Of Trade Unions  
Chicago, Illinois  
Organization Committee

Compliments  
Workmen's Circle  
Branch 4

74 Throop Avenue  
Brooklyn, N. Y.

**B. C. Vladeck**

Fraternal Greetings  
From Socialist Party of  
Pennsylvania to YPSL  
National Convention

Fraternal Greetings  
Socialist Party  
4-14 A. D. Kings  
289 So. 3rd Street  
BROOKLYN, N. Y.

### FRATERNAL GREETINGS

From  
**MAX  
PINCUS**

Organizer, Restaurant and  
Cafeteria Workers' Union,  
Local 302, A. F. of L.

Greetings From  
Circle 1 Sr.—North End  
Organizer: Henry Cote  
Circle 2 Sr.—South End  
Organizer Sam Shaer  
NEW BEDFORD, MASS.

ONWARD TO VICTORY  
TRENTON YPSL  
Trenton, N. J.

Greetings  
Julian H. Weiss  
BUFFALO, N. Y.

Greetings From  
YPSL Circles 1 and 2  
BUFFALO, N. Y.

Greetings to the YPSL  
Convention

From  
Jewish Branch  
Socialist Party  
PITTSBURGH, PA.

Fraternal Greetings From  
CITY COLLEGE  
YIPSELS  
Expelled and Suspended for  
Socialist Activity

Young People's  
Socialist  
League of  
Cook County

Karl Marx Circle 1 Sr.  
Norman Thomas Circle 2 Sr.  
Circle 3 Sr.  
Eugene V. Debs Circle 4 Sr.  
Jack London Circle 7 Jr.  
James Maurer Circle 10 Sr.

Convention Greetings  
New York Farmers'  
Holiday Assn.  
BRONX, N. Y.

ITALIAN LABOR  
PUBLISHING CO.

1011 Blue Island Ave.  
Chicago, Ill.

**Louis Marcus**

**GREETINGS**  
TO THE  
**National Convention**  
OF THE  
**YOUNG PEOPLE'S  
SOCIALIST LEAGUE**  
FROM THE  
**HEBREW BUTCHER  
WORKERS' UNION**

3 W. 16th Street New York City

Campers and  
Workers at  
Unity House  
Forest Park, Pa.

Send Fraternal Greetings

The State Office of the  
Pennsylvania Y P S L  
Greet the Comrades  
From All Parts of the  
Nation

Yours for Socialism in Our  
Times

Winston Dancis

Comradely Greetings  
West Allis Circle  
YPSL

WEST ALLIS, WIS.

Fraternal Greetings  
From  
Local Allegheny  
Socialist Party

Greetings  
From  
Socialist  
Party

Buffalo, N. Y.



Reading, Pa., Aug. 26-27, 1933

**Socialist Greetings**  
 From the  
**Young People's Socialist League**  
 of Greater New York  
 52 Circles  
 CITY OFFICE, 7 EAST 15TH ST.

Circle 1 Sr. Bronx	Circle 6 Sr. Kings
Circle 4 Sr. Bronx	Circle 10 Sr. Kings
Circle 8 Sr. Bronx	Circle 15 Sr. Kings
Circle 11 Jr. Bronx	

**A. N. Weinberg**

**George R. Kirkpatrick**  
 Circle 5, YPSL  
 LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

**Willie Goldberg**  
 LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

**SIGMUND HEYMAN**

**Nathan and Harry Lopatin**  
 Circle 2 Sr. Kings

Greetings to the Convention  
**AARON LEVENSTEIN**  
 City Executive Secretary  
**MICHAEL C. ARCONE**  
 City Financial Secretary  
 NEW YORK CITY

**Clarence Senior**  
 National Secretary,  
 Socialist Party of America

Compliments of  
**READING LABOR ADVOCATE**

Greetings to the Young People's Socialist League  
 From

**CHARLES DANN**

**JOHN (JACK) HERLING**

**MRS. MINNIE WEISBERG**  
 Brooklyn, N. Y.

Fraternal Greetings  
**Workmen's Circle, Branch 1, New York**

**Convention Greetings**  
**BAKERS' UNION**  
 LOCAL 505  
 315 GRAND STREET.  
 NEW YORK CITY

Greetings to the Young People's Socialist League at Their Seventh Annual Convention  
 We wish you success in your deliberations.  
 CHICAGO JOINT BOARD  
 Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America

Greetings From the  
**UNITED NECKWEAR MAKERS' UNION**  
 NEW YORK CITY

**Greetings---**

Local Berks greets the members of the Young People's Socialist League of America.

We extend our warmest welcome to the delegates to your seventh National Convention, which will be held in our own beautiful Socialist Park.

**LOCAL BERKS SOCIALIST PARTY**

**Comradely Greetings**  
 to  
**YIPSEL CONVENTION**  
 from  
**MR. and MRS. MORRIS BERMAN**  
 Pleasantville, New York

Greetings From  
**ILGWU, Local 22**  
**LOUIS NELSON**  
 Vice Chairman  
**CHARLES ZIMMERMAN**  
 Secretary-Treasurer

**WELCOME DELEGATES**  
**Berks County YPSL**  
 Labor Lyceum, 628 Walnut St.  
 Reading, Pa.

COUNTY OFFICERS  
 Chairman—Robert Seiders  
 Executive Secretary—Herman Bezler  
 Educational Director—Austin E. Adams  
 Financial Secretary—Frank Hummel  
 Industrial Director—Forrest Jones

CIRCLES

Circle 1 Srs. Southern	Circle 6 Srs. Central	Circle 10 Jrs. Newmantown
Circle 2 Jrs. Northeastern	Circle 7 Jrs. Northwestern	Circle 11 Jrs. Sinking Springs
Circle 3 Srs. W. Reading	Circle 8 Jrs. Central	Circle 12 Srs. Berkshire Heights
Circle 4 Srs. Northeastern	Circle 9 Jrs. Southern	Circle 13 Jrs. Leesport
Circle 5 Srs. Kenhorst		



**Organization**

**BY NATIONAL SECRETARY.**  
**International Socialist Youth Week.**  
 Arrangements have been started for nation-wide demonstrations during International Socialist Youth Week, Oct. 1 to 8, 1933. A conference has been held with representatives present from the Young Poale Zion Alliance, Young Circle League, Intercollegiate Student Council of the League for Industrial Democracy, and the YPSL, and a joint national call to all young workers, students and unemployed will be issued. Special buttons will be made and available within a week after Labor Day at the latest. Local joint councils of all Socialist youth groups should be set up immediately in order to arrange for central and neighborhood, indoor and outdoor, youth rallies and parades, and to issue our message to thousands of young people.

**Watch Indiana Grow.**  
 Circles have just been chartered in Evansville, Indianapolis and Marion. A second application is pending from Indianapolis, Gary, and South Bend, Ind. Columbus will soon join our active ranks. National Organizer Emanuel Muravchik has specialized on Indiana organization during the past month.

**Ohio Federation Next?**  
 The question of forming a State Federation is seriously agitating many local comrades and a caucus of Ohio delegates will consider the matter at Reading. National Convention decisions on organization will determine the future forms of league machinery, but our 12 circles (and the number is growing) will be a strong force for Socialism. Organizer Charles Youngstein spent the last two weeks of July on a swing around the state map.

**Pennsylvania State Convention.**  
 Delegates from all circles in the state will gather at Socialist Park, Sinking Springs on Friday, Aug. 25 at 3 p. m. for the regular State Convention. New Castle has two circles already and may soon join Philadelphia, Reading and Pittsburgh with a fourth city organization in Pennsylvania.

**Convention Organization Fund Stamps.**

All circles received during the latter part of July booklets of the 5, 10 and 25-cent stamps for national organization fund and convention delegates expenses. These stamps are an assessment on the membership, the price paid depending on the finances of the individual comrades. Party members and Socialist sympathizers should be urged to purchase these stamps, the number of booklets issued to any circle is limited only by the abilities of the local comrades to sell them. Special emphasis should be put on the sale of these stamps, since the national organization gets one-half of the proceeds and will devote it to a special organizers' fund and sustaining fund for The Challenge. The circles will use their share for delegates' expenses, or for local propaganda.

**Upper New York State Tour.**  
 Hal Goldstein and Al Levy have just completed an organization trip across the Mohawk valley and the southern tier of the Empire state.

**Additional Summer Organization Trips.**  
 A tour of YPSL circles and contacts in the southern part of Michigan peninsula brought Organizer Ed Smith into Grand Rapids, Lansing, Battle Creek, Jackson, Ann Arbor and Detroit. Harold Luxemburg will spend the 10 days prior to the National Convention at Baltimore, after following the Mason-Dixon line to St. Louis and back. The services of a group of California delegates, headed by State Secretary Hy Sheinin, traveling in a co-operative car, were used for a series of stops on the overland route. Special emphasis was placed on reorganization work in Omaha, Neb. Renewed activities in Fairmont, Clarksburg and Philippi, W. Va., resulted from the week spent there by Milt Weisberg. A return trip is being planned for the beginning of September.

Greetings From  
**Midwood Branch  
 Socialist Party  
 of New York**

CONVENTION GREETINGS  
 Chicago, Ill.

J. A. MALADRA  
 ALBERT CASELLI  
 SAM GABRIELLI  
 D. ZOTTA

Socialist Greetings  
**Jugo-Slav Youth  
 Club**  
 English Section 37  
 Milwaukee, Wis.

Best Wishes  
 For a Successful Convention  
**North Side Circle**  
 Milwaukee  
 YPSL

Comradely Greetings  
**LEVITZER PROGRESSIVE  
 YOUNG MEN'S BR. 465  
 WORKMEN'S CIRCLE  
 NEW YORK**  
 J. FRIEDMAN, Sec'y.

Fraternal Greetings  
**HARRY AND ESTHER SCHACHNER**  
 SP 4-11 AD Kings  
**ETHEL SCHACHNER**  
 YPSL 10 Sr. Kings; SP 4-13 AD Kings  
**ELEANOR SCHACHNER**  
 YPSL 15 Sr. Kings; SP 18 AD Kings  
**MONROE SCHACHNER**  
 YPSL 6 Jr. Kings

We hail the YPSL and hope that the Convention will prove that the Yipsels are worthy of working class leadership.

**SOCIALIST PARTY  
 OF OHIO**

SIDNEY YELLEN,  
 Secretary

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 FOR YIPSELS ONLY**  
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A substitute for Bridge—more amusing than "500." 52 blue cards; pictures on many of them. Just the thing for your next YPSL circle social! Price (postpaid) 18c per deck. Distributed by the War Resisters' League.

**War Resisters' League**

unites those determined to give no support to any war, without regard to the reasons—political, religious or humanitarian—which have led them to make this stand.

Write for free literature.

Jessie Wallace Hughan  
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171 WEST 12TH ST.  
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Socialist State Representative  
 of Pennsylvania

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GREETINGS FROM  
**Commonwealth  
 Co-operative**

Makers of Union Cigars  
 Karl Marx—Schmitar—Commonwealth  
 READING, PA.

Comradely Greetings  
**Eugene V. Debs  
 Circle, YPSL**

Hartford, Conn.

**BEN PARKER  
 and  
 MARY MILGRAM**

**M. Rubinson**

COMPLIMENTS OF  
**THE MILWAUKEE LEADER**

J. L. AFROS — NORMAN DORFMAN

Greet you on behalf of  
**Young Circle League of America**

Greetings  
**Amalgamated Bank**

11 Union Square, New York City

Greetings  
 to the  
**YPSL CONVENTION**

From the  
**STAFF OF CAMP EDEN**

Operated by the  
**JEWISH SOCIALIST VERBAND**

**Individual Greetings**

**HARTFORD, CONN.**  
 Martin Rhodin, State Organizer  
 Joseph Gordon  
 Anne Krugman, Sec'y., YPSL

**BUFFALO, N. Y.**  
 Lewis Somers  
 John Newton Thurber  
 John Ellison  
 Hazel Y. Bowers  
 Robert A. Hoffman  
 Christ N. Hawkland  
 Arthur L. Bowers  
 Louise Gugino  
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 Rose Dickert  
 Irene Sabo  
 Gustave Strebel  
 Esther Erftenbeck  
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 Dan Sachter  
 Isaac Chriss  
 John S. Sciens  
 Milton and Sam Weisberg  
 Julius and Eva Weisberg  
 K. K. Hall  
 Helen Mravintz

**ST. LOUIS, MO.**  
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 15th Ward Branch, SP  
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 George Kovaka  
 B. Cohen  
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 Sidney Rissman  
 Mrs. R. Keane  
 Pansy Waldron  
 Circle 1, YPSL

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 James Jensen  
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 Raymond Zander  
 Adolph Zander  
 Arthur Benson

**CHICAGO, ILL.**  
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 Theresa Kerr  
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 Ben Larks  
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 A Friend  
 Morris Klein  
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 Morris Cohen  
 Julius Schurman  
 Ben Belsky  
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 Hy Belsky  
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 Julius Drieblatt  
 Irving  
 Rebecca Jarvis  
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 Jimmie W.  
 Judie  
 George Baron  
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 Pentaj  
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 Bob Rodner  
 Marly Raphael  
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 Ben Beerstein, Youngstown  
 Dr. Herbert Hard, Columbus  
 Vernon E. Carter, Ashtabula  
 Karl Cerny, Bedford  
 Joe Martinek, Jr.  
 Caroline Urie, Yellow Springs  
 Abe Berkowitz  
 T. Roy Sarbin  
 Noah Mandelkorn  
 George Wallers, Dayton  
 David T. Davis, Columbus  
 Mildred Fingerhut  
 Adell Kochman  
 Circle No. 1 Senior  
 Cleveland, Ohio  
 Max R. Wohl  
 Leo Kochman

**TOLEDO, OHIO**  
 Socialist Party, E. E. Ledford,  
 Sec'y.

Karl Pauli  
**HOLLYWOOD, CALIF.**  
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**TRENTON, N. J.**  
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 Eddie Levinson  
 Minnie Seldin  
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 Roger W. Cornell  
 Nat Turkel  
 Herman Saltzman  
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 Richard Rohman  
 Jesse Gross  
 George Steinhardt  
 Anna Caples  
 A Young Worker (Males Most)  
 Wm. E. Bohn, Rand School  
 L. Rothman  
 Nat Rosenberg  
 Hyman Fernerman  
 Simon Friedman  
 Ida Yavner Kaufman  
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 Evelyn West Hughan  
 Dr. Jessie Wallace Hughan  
 Joseph Greenstone  
 Jack Dubno  
 Herman Woskow  
 Jacob and Dorothy Jaffe  
 Blanche and Abe Jaffe  
 Abraham L. Nisenbaum  
 Jerome R. Cohen  
 Morris Miller  
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**MILWAUKEE, WIS.**  
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 Steele Comrades  
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 Henry Hust Family  
 H. O. Groth  
 Art A. Schmidt  
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 R. Boehme  
 Ruth Ritter  
 Pearl Zimmerman  
 Al Benson  
 Herman O. Kent  
 Andrew J. Blomiller  
 E. C. Frye Family  
 Henry Rutz  
 Puncer Comrades  
 Otto Hauser  
 H. B. Wagner  
 Wendelin Pfaff  
 Carl P. Dietz  
**RACINE, WIS.**  
 Joseph Becker  
 William J. Kristopeit  
 L. P. Christensen

Central Committee of the Jewish Socialist Verband Branches, Chicago, sends its greetings and best wishes to YPSL in their Seventh National Convention. Let your deliberations help to build a strong organized Socialist Party in our country.

M. BLUMIN, Sec'y.



# The Challenge

Official Monthly Organ of the Young People's Socialist League of America  
549 Randolph St., Chicago, Ill.  
Member Federated Press

\$5.00 per year—Special Bundle Rates

Arthur G. McDowell, Editor

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James Quick, Bob Parker, Jack Jaffe,  
Aaron Levenstein

Contributing Editors

Andrew J. Biemiller, Powers Hapgood, Norman Thomas, Raymond Hofses, Upton Sinclair, Oscar Ameringer, John W. Edelman, Hy Fish—Business Manager, Charles Hryniewiecki—Staff Artist



## The Red Falcons of America

The greatest enemy of the working class in America is the capitalist class control of the public schools which is used to poison the minds of the children, drill into their minds the psychology of false patriotism and of a competitive profit-seeking order.

Socialists must build up counter influences to protect their children not only against the propaganda dispensed thru the public school but also against such auxiliary supports of the present order as are found in middle class youth organizations like the Boy Scouts.

The philosophy and system of ideas of Socialism should be instilled in the human being from childhood. All this is done by the Red Falcons of America, the movement for workers' children in America.

The Falcon youngsters are already recruits in the army of class-conscious workers.

### WORKING CLASS CULTURE

In an effort to combat the effects of owning-class indoctrination as practised in the schools, the Falcon movement in America was organized about one year ago. Its aim is to bring the youngsters nearer to the Socialist and Labor Movements.

To meet the needs of the children, it stresses outdoor and sport activities. Socialism is not made a matter of lectures but is presented rather as a new way of life, a new method of thinking. The Falcons work and play in an atmosphere of Socialist comradeship, in an environment where labor's struggles are known and sympathized with.

Their heroes are not the Generals who have devastated the homes and lives of the workers in bloody war. The youngsters are taught instead to respect emulate those men who have sacrificed themselves in the struggle to abolish war and to emancipate the working class of which they are part.

Internationalism takes the place of jingoism in

the education of a Falcon. Co-operation is taught to him as the basis on which to build his life and on which to build a new social order.

The American Falcon movement is divided into two age groups: Red Falcons for those between the ages of 11 and 15, and Young Falcons for children between the ages of 8 and 11. The leaders for the groups are recruited from the ranks of the Young People's Socialist League and the Socialist Party. There are now about 45 such groups with a membership of around 900. Some groups are already publishing mimeographed papers.

In this work, the Red Falcons of America invite the co-operation of the Young People's Socialist League. Childhood, youth and age have a common interest in the destruction of capitalism and the establishment of a Socialist commonwealth.

The Red Falcons proclaim to the Socialist movement: "We are working-class children and we are proud of it. We are eager to join our comrades in the battle for Socialism."

RED FALCONS OF AMERICA.

7 East 15th St., New York.

### THE STRIKER!

Many have sung the soldier  
From the rude red days of old,  
To this madder hour of more murderous power  
And death schemes manifold.  
But no one has sung the striker  
Tho a better fighter he,  
For the living cause and the larger laws  
Of the empire that is to be.

Many have sung the statesman  
Of nation and state and clan;  
Tho he served himself from the purse of pelf  
And lorded it over man.  
Yet greater than he, the striker,  
Lacking both fame and fee,  
At the cost of all he has built the wall  
Of the city that is to be.

Many have sung the scholar,  
Maker of book and school,  
Tho his ease was earned by the throng unlearned  
Who slaved that the few might rule.  
But the lore and the law of the striker  
Setteth the whole world free;  
Neither ease nor toil shall the spirit spoil  
In the knowledge that is to be.

Many have sung the saintly,  
The pure of all times and creeds;  
But, alas the good have denied the food  
For even the children's needs;  
Kinder by far the striker,  
And truly more righteous he,  
For he stakes his meal on the common weal:  
And the justice that is to be.

Some day, when all are toilers,  
And nobody toils for naught,  
When the worker rules over kirks and schools,  
And shapes all the realm of thought:  
They shall sing the song of the striker,  
No longer an outcast he,  
But with arms abreast he shall stand confessed  
In the triumph that is to be.

—Robert Whitaker.

# Disclose Rise of House Of Mellon in New Book On the Aluminum Royalty

PITTSBURGH, Pa. — From the shades of a gathering obscurity, which would have been lightened a little perhaps by the licking flames of new revolt of coal miner and steel worker now bursting forth around the grimy Workshop of the World, Harvey O'Connor has brought blinking again into the bright light of day Andrew W. Mellon and that colossus of modern owning class families, the House of Mellon.

In "Mellon's Millions" for the first time, Andrew W. Mellon, secretary of the treasury, ambassador to the Court of St. James and above all, head of the world's richest family, is adequately introduced to the America into whose life his power enters to lay tribute at so many points.

Perhaps in the multitude of the avenues of human use upon which this ever-growing fortune levies its secret of the "mystery" which this recent book so authoritatively dissolves. Those swaggering brigands of oil, railroads and steel specialty, Rockefeller, Gould, Carnegie have long been the subject of familiar biography.

### No Publicity Wanted.

To the Mellons, says the author, himself a veteran labor newspaperman, "reporters were the delegates of the mob" and to be avoided like the plague. There is a touch of irony in the fact that it was a member of the avoided fraternity who has finally brought to judgment the achievements of Thomas Mellon's son, Andrew. In spite of its sensational title, this book represents one of the most significant researches into the anatomy of industrial America yet attempted in a like readable and interesting style.

More than one great publishing house has been interested in the book since it was completed nearly a year ago. One after another the conservative houses checked the book off as too daring, and at least one after having submitted the manuscript to the Mellons without the author's knowledge, and having received an emphatic expression of disapproval from this royalty of Pittsburgh finance and industry.

### The Mellon Plan.

Andrew Mellon's grandparents were Scotch-Irish immigrants who left Ulster partly because of the burden of taxation imposed by the Napoleonic wars and settled in Pennsylvania just in time to fall heir to the considerable hardships incident to the panic of 1819.

Thomas Mellon, son of the Ulster farmer, at the age of 17, stood overlooking the farm that he was to own when he became of age and it was paid for and on which, to quote his own words years later, "If I should marry I was to spend my lifetime making an honest, frugal living, but little more" . . . "all my air castles and bright fancies of acquiring knowledge and wealth or distinction were wrecked and ruined, and to be abandoned forever."

In a frenzy, the father of the present Mellon oligarchy made his way on foot to Greensburg and halted the deal whereby his father was binding him to service to the land. Instead, Thomas Mellon took his way to nearby Pittsburgh, chose the law rather than the ministry and opened his law office in 1839 furnished and equipped with \$700 gained through speculation in the purchase of the property instruments of the day, mostly real estate.

Shrewdly laying his land speculation athwart the path of the needs of the growing population of the city between the rivers and the hill Judge Mellon delivered to his sons a substantial fortune and a rigid training in the technique of acquiring and retaining money.

### Appointed to Cabinet.

After 50 years of building that fortune into one of the three largest in America, Andrew Mellon emerged from the smoke-cowled city of Pittsburgh into the public press as the secretary of the treasury under Harding. In five years in that office he secured his immense fortune against the inroads of radically minded legislators by the "Mellon plan" which the author indicates contributed as much as any one government policy to the immensity of the collapse of 1929.

This plan in successive installments climaxing in 1925 reduced the surtax on the plutocratic incomes like his own from 65 per cent to less than 20 per cent, radically scaled down the inheritance tax, and abolished the gift and capital stock taxes. The tax load of the rich and prosperous was cut \$700,

000,000 in two years or better than \$2,000,000 per day. Under the Mellon "liberalization" or the department of internal revenue, refunds of \$1,271,000,000 in paid-in taxes were made to large taxpayers between 1922 and 1925.

### After Me the Deluge.

The stock in trade of the Mellon plan propaganda was an attack on "tax-exempt bonds" issued by government bodies to pay for schools, highways, parks, bridges, etc., projects which when completed returned no profit to a private pocket by their operation, a prime objection to a Mellon. These bonds were a means of tax evasion and the withdrawing of money from investment in the extension of private industry, said Andrew.

In vain, Labor, the railway workers' journal, protested that it was purchasing power to buy the products of existing factories, not new factories, which was the need of the hour. The voice of the few economists who pointed out that the policy was diverting national income from reduction of the national debt and would open the way for a ruinous expansion of industry and speculation that would sooner or later plunge the nation into unprecedented catastrophe, these voices were lost in the acclaim of the articulate owning class press. The years of delicious boom prosperity followed.

### The Crash and Exile.

In 1932 the greatest secretary of treasury since "—" left the treasury to become ambassador to England, leaving the greatest peace time deficit in history, and a nation wallowing in the trough of the



ANDREW W. MELLON.

worst collapse in the history of depressions. But the fortune goes marching on.

The market value of Rockefeller's holdings in 1932 were \$150,000,000; the Ford Motor Co. was valued in 1933 at \$628,000,000. The Mellon fortune measured at \$2,000,000,000 and the Mellons were associated in corporations whose assets and resources were nearly \$10,500,000,000.

### Miners and Machine Guns.

In labor policy the Mellons were neither better nor worse than their peers among plutocracy. In describing R. B. Mellon's testimony before a senate committee in which he testified as to the necessity of machine guns in operating mines, the author points out that the Mellons merely followed the current fashions in industrial relations, in hiring special police forces to crush rebellious miners, and in presenting the members of the state militia with complete sets of aluminum cooking utensils after the bloody mopping up of the Massena, N. Y., aluminum workers.

Associated in a close personal partnership with the "sullen and vindictive" Henry Clay Frick for 50 years, Andrew Mellon had watched with approval while Frick crushed the coke workers' union in Fayette county in 1889-90 and ended unionism in steel for a generation in the Homestead battle of 1892. There was little change in the technique of the destruction of the United Mine Workers by the Mellon Pittsburgh Coal Co. and its allies in 1925-27.

Aluminum, "the perfect monopoly," has successfully resisted the organization of its workers and boasts 20 cents per hour wages even under the new deal, while ways are sought to resist hated government "interference" in the vast Mellon empire of steel, coal, coke, gas, aluminum, chemicals, oil and transportation, to mention only a few from the author's detailed charts of Mellonia.

MELLON'S MILLIONS, By Harvey O'Connor. John Day and Co., publishers. \$3.

# Socialist Youth Movement Stronger; Facing Heavy New Responsibilities

The year since the Cleveland convention (July, 1932) has witnessed further growth in the Young People's Socialist League of America. Particularly healthy has been the increasing strength of the city leagues in New York, Philadelphia, Reading, Pittsburgh, Milwaukee and Los Angeles.

The YPSL is not yet as solid structurally as required for our tasks. The membership total, as measured in regular and exempt dues stamp sales has averaged over 1,700 during 1933; but reports of local groups gives a total of attending, active, card-holding members of twice that figure. Additional state organizations have been set up, and these federations are now functioning in Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, New Jersey and California.

The number of volunteer traveling organizers has increased considerably over previous records. More than a dozen comrades were on the road, simultaneously, during this summer, and full use was made of week-ends and periods of unemployment of capable comrades during the year. The northeastern section of the United States has been concentrated on in this sphere of action.

YPSL dues sales and our share in party dues have been the main sources of league income. Organizers expenses have been the largest steady cost. Postage, printing, supplies, and the small salary of the industrial director, have put the league in the class of those that spend now all that they have.

In accord with the last convention decision, The Challenge has been published since April of this year. Ten thousand copies are being printed monthly. Most of these are being disposed of in bundle orders of league units for resale to members and at public meetings.

Several outlines and study guides have been issued by the educational department. More are needed in

order to give proper assistance to new groups and to make available more complete data for circle programs.

### On the Industrial Field.

Industrial activities have taken a decided turn upwards during recent months. Members of the league have been particularly active in local strikes. Special mention should be given to the comrades of Reading, Philadelphia, New York, Allentown, Cleveland, St. Louis and Chicago for their support by distributing leaflets, picketing, speaking, etc. The results of local and national tag days and collections for relief of striking coal miners have not been large. The depression explains this in some degree.

Further strength has been added to Yipsel party ties during the past year, and mutual co-operation is the usual local order. All Yipsel resources and support was thrown into the presidential campaign and a large part of the burden of distributing leaflets, committee work and speaking was allotted to the youth section. Since November, most of our political work has hinged about local efforts in connection with the unemployed.

### An Old Tradition.

The unbroken tradition that no national secretary has finished a full term in that post was not disturbed. George Smerkin, nominated at Cleveland and elected by the party NEC, was removed from office on May 6. Smerkin admitted the charges of faithlessness and violation of league decisions and discipline. Winston Dancis, city secretary of New York, was chosen to fill the unexpired term, and handle league affairs till the Reading convention. A high standard of activity has been maintained by the members of the national executive committee, with occasional lapses by one or two.

Organization has started during the past year among a hitherto neglected age group, those below

junior age. The Red Falcons are for youngsters between 8 and 15, and organize them into local "fights", in which sports, recreational and cultural work is conducted under the supervision of senior Yipsel and party member "guides". New York city is the center of this new development, and more than 400 have been enrolled there already.

### Knitting Local Unity.

Joint demonstration on International Social Youth week, Oct. 2 to 9, 1932, and mass meetings against war and Fascism have cemented our ties with kindred youth groups. The organization of local councils for joint action with the Young Poale Zion alliance, Young Circle league and League for Industrial Democracy, and local Socialistic groups, must be extended further.

The Young People's Socialist League of America will enter its seventh national convention at Reading, Pa., this Aug. 26-27, with a stronger organization than it had at Cleveland. Much attention at Reading will be devoted to the problem of obtaining a more positive discipline and better development of new groups, so that unanimous effective, national action will follow organization decisions.

### Out Into 1933.

The declines in educational opportunities resulting from local "economy" programs, the continuing inability of large numbers of graduates and others below the age of 25 to obtain employment, and the setting up of intolerable minimum wage codes for apprentices and those between 16 and 18 in the national recovery act structure, will all operate to make youth more conscious of the misery, poverty and insecurity of present existence. Intelligent and well directed efforts at organization and education will bear increasing fruit during the next few years and the decisions of the seventh convention of the Y. P. S. L. will determine the rate of our progress.



# CHICAGO GENERAL SCHOOL STRIKE LOOMS

## Educational System Cut By Bankers

### Workers Organize to Save Schools From Tax Cutters.

CHICAGO—As Chicago's plutocracy-dominated school board proceeds with its plans for reduction of the public educational system to an affair of the three "R's" suitable for training the robots of a modern slave state, Chicago students are talking a general strike. Plans for action when the authorities try to open school in the fall are now under discussion in two bodies.

The first is the outgrowth of the Student Committee on Public Education which was formed to work in co-operation with the organized teachers in the campaign against the bankers last school term.

The other is the Chicago Labor Youth Council, which is an alliance of labor youth groups including the Workingmen's Gymnastic Assn., the Young Circle League, the Young Peoples Socialist League and the Young Poale Zion Alliance. The latter organization was formed on the very night that plutocracy struck a body blow at public education.

#### Chicago the Beginning.

An editorial in the June issue of *The Challenge*, carried the warning that labor would soon have to raise the cry of "Save Our Schools From Capitalism and Its Minions" and students would have to get down in the trenches to fight for the very existence of adequate public education.

On July 12 the forces of reaction struck. For months the pliant Democratic mayor of Chicago has been packing the school board with men pledged to the bankers' program of destructive cuts in public education. With a safe majority whose children do not attend Chicago schools or are sent to private ones, a secret meeting was held in the luxurious Sky-line club where the details were agreed upon.

#### Police Guard Wreckers.

With 24 policemen guarding the hides of the carpet-baggers at the directors' table from around 300 assembled school teachers, the program was read and the rules suspended for its immediate adoption while the spectators stood aghast, scarcely able to believe their own ears.

With only one dissenting vote, the Chicago school board voted to abolish junior high schools, wipe out Crane Junior college, discontinue swimming pools, make every high school teacher teach a minimum of seven periods, reduce physical directors 50 per cent and wipe out school coaches, discontinue music instruction and purchase of instruments and suspend purchase of new textbooks, abolish continuation schools and a long list of other activities of an advanced educational system.

#### Plutes Adamant.

A thunder of protest has gone up from parents and teachers alike but the School Board was picked to do this foul work and stick to their job of destruction. Five thousand teachers marched down Michigan Blvd., in protest.

Over 25,000 parents gathered at the Chicago Stadium in protest, where the Democratic NEW DEAL had been inaugurated a little over a year ago by just such individuals as the present Mayor Kelly of Chicago. All in vain. Those most concerned, the students must stage the rebellion that will challenge this dastardly attack.

Students everywhere must organize, for Chicago is the testing ground where if successful, the privileged classes will take the signal throughout the land, to flock like Harpies to the dismemberment of public education, the condemning of the children of the majority to just that education necessary to make docile, accurate robots to serve without challenge, a privileged owning class. Workers' children must join with workers' organizations in this struggle.

## THE TRAINED SEALS



### St. Louis Yipsels Ail General Strike

Continued From Page One. In the last month even though extremely busy otherwise.

Comrade Bob Stone has been selected as an organizer for the Laundry Workers' union, which has gained about 200 new members in the last week largely through the efforts of some Yipsels. Fred Simms has been appointed labor editor of *The St. Louis World*, a bi-weekly newspaper. He has also assisted in the organization program of the Barbers' union. Comrade Viola Graves has been selected as the secretary of the I. L. G. W. U. St. Louis office.

One of the new members is Frank Wall, hard working president of the Unemployed Citizens' League. A new circle is to be organized at an early date. At present there is preparation for a general strike in the garment industry in the near future. The Yipsels will be in the thick of it.

If you're a Jew in Berlin, the only qualifications you need to be able to practice law are a pre-war record in the profession, an honorable discharge from the army and a few relatives who died in the war.

Downs, Ill., is voting to abolish itself to save taxes.

### Advice to Strikers

Our department is indebted to *The Reading Labor Advocate* for the following hint: **How to Neutralize a Tear Gas Attack.**

"Pickets who are threatened with a gas attack from hostile policemen will do well to carry a bottle of ammonia with them. When the attack is launched, the effects of the fumes will be neutralized by saturating a handkerchief with ammonia and waving it in front of the face. Don't get the ammonia too close to the face. As the gas and the ammonia fumes meet a harmless smoke will be formed."

### Girl Workers Hold Session

CLEVELAND, Ohio—The fourth session of the Workers' Institute, two week summer school for girls in industry, will be held this year at Mary Eells Camp of the Y. W. C. A., Aug. 19 to Sept. 4.

The institute, formerly sponsored by the Y. W. C. A., is sponsored this year by the Cleveland Workers' Institute Committee. Miss Freda Selgworth, metropolitan industrial secretary of the Y. W. C. A. will direct it, as she has in the past.

Any girl who has been employed in industry for two years is eligible to apply. She need not necessarily have worked in industry for the past two years; she must have had two years in industry at some time in her life.

Twenty girls will be chosen from the applicants by the committee on admissions, and these will attend the institute on scholarships.

### Dixie Strike Leader Jailed

Continued From Page One. The bosses and the police can get him in the chain gang they know that they will have labor back in chains no matter what may be the nominal terms of the codes. They will be able with impunity to fire those who fight for their rights, to reduce veteran workers to the status of apprentices and to work all the other tricks I heard about.

For this reason the defense of Hogan, Carter and the rest of these people becomes a national issue of concern to all workers, employed or unemployed. Of course the Full Fashioned Hosiery Workers are interested. A North Carolina defense committee is, as I write, being formed to handle the case. A special committee is being formed in New York to help raise funds.

In the meanwhile the Emergency Committee for Strikers Relief, 112 East Nineteenth st., New York city, of which I am chairman, will be glad to transmit funds for this all important defense in which are involved directly or indirectly the question of unity of workers, unemployed or employed, white or colored, and the right to organize and strike.

### Reading Rebellion Sign of Awakening

Continued From Page Two. recognition, but the strikers were not to be bribed.

#### The Enemy in City Hall.

In 1931 a fusion of capitalist political parties succeeded in wresting control of city hall in Reading from the workers organized in the Socialist party. Funds from the hosiery and other employers had played a prominent part in that working class defeat which put the police again back in the hands of the owning class.

The police were being pushed constantly into strike breaking actions during the early progress of the strike. At the turn of August with the strike a month old and solid as Gibraltar, plans were laid to attack the strike at a weak point, namely, the shoe strikers under the leadership of the National Association of Leather Workers.

Without warning a gas attack was launched on pickets at an important plant, a police inspired riot among the thousands of people assembled being only averted by a cool-headed appeal from Ralph Bigony, Socialist organizer, and Socialist Councilman Jess George.

#### Special Police.

The mayor demanded 50 special policemen to meet the strike needs of (?). The police were commissioned by a vote of 3 to 2 after the two Socialist councilmen had failed in their amendment to chose the police from among the strikers. The raw police were hooted and booed by the picket lines. Tempers grew short. The more decent among the "specials" turned in their badges.

More than 300 miles away in the other end of the state, coal miners without a call, had marched out thousands strong in protest against the company union tyranny of the Frick Coal and Coke Co., part of the United States Steel. The miners wanted a real union. The strike spread fast. Industrial America threatened to take Reading for a model.

In alarm, the president of the United States and his recovery administration interfered. An industrial peace board was set up amid announcements that sounded menacingly like compulsory arbitration. The appearance of concessions was wrung from the Mellons and to a lesser extent the United States

## Challenge Column

ASHTABULA, Ohio—Being 450 miles away from *The Challenge* office, it is not possible for me to say how successful the convention number of the paper is selling or how fast greetings and ads are coming in. The excitement and work connected with a strike of 150 garment workers in Ashtabula makes it impossible to keep in very close touch with the business end. Arthur G. McDowell, who is now playing the dual role of editor and business manager, writes me that the circles are not paying up for back issues as fast as they should.

The July issue of the paper has aroused a great deal of favorable comment wherever I have been. The improvement was made possible by the numerous letters containing suggestions from our readers. The editor and the business manager welcomes all suggestions. We want to make *The Challenge* what you want.

If you would have seen how eagerly the strikers here grabbed *The Challenge*, read it and then discussed it, you would realize how important it is to get a larger mass circulation.

Many of our hiking organizers report that the paper is more effective in converting young people to Socialism than a dozen speeches.

This month letters were sent to all the state secretaries of the Socialist party asking them for their co-operation. They were asked to inclose a form letter to all branches in their states calling for support of the official organ of the Young People's Socialist League.

The following states have already ordered letters and have sent them out to their branches:

- New York
- Illinois
- Louisiana
- Wyoming
- Washington
- New Jersey
- California
- West Virginia
- Oregon
- Ohio

The National Recovery Act—we have found out from our correspondent in Washington—does not affect sub solicitors. Challenge readers who are busy soliciting subscriptions are exempt from the 40-hour week provision. I was kind of worried about this but now I know our supporters will be on the job all the time and more yearly subs will come pouring in. Because of the misunderstanding about the NIRA we did not reach our quota in July. We can make up for it in August. How about it, Challengers?

I'll be looking for all *The Challenges* in Reading at the national convention. Step right up and say, "Hello." You'll probably find me in a brown suit (the only one I have). Height, 5 feet 10 inches. Weight, 135. And a birth mark on my left shoulder blade. It is interesting for me to meet people I have been corresponding with. And it may help business. Maybe we'll get all *The Challenges* together for a gab fest and exchange ideas as to the best way to sell the paper and get subscriptions. Some of you have been using some novel stunts, others haven't stirred their stumps.

Do your stuff at the convention by getting all the delegates who are not Challengers in a corner and talking to them about promoting *The Challenge*.

This is being written in the wee hours of the morning and I have to be on the picket line at 6:30. So good bye until Aug. 26 in Reading.

HY FISH  
Business Manager.

Steel. The miners went reluctantly back to work, depending on the good faith of the United States government.

Attention was turned by the so-called peace board to Reading. Workers' representatives and the bosses were summoned to Washington. Aug. 10 saw an agreement reached to return to work in the hosiery mills with no discrimination, a 25 per cent increase in wages, a vote under the supervision of the "peace board" for representatives of the workers to deal with employers. Other strikes continue. The hosiery workers are back in the mills but it will never be the same oyster for the owning class down in Reading.