

3 Million Students Face "Lockout"

First American Youth Congress Rejects Reaction

INDORSES PROGRESSIVE SOCIAL PROGRAM

New York.—Meeting in New York, the First American Youth Congress vehemently rejected the spokesmen of reaction and adopted a progressive program around which the young people of America are urged to rally.

The Congress had been organized by the Central Bureau of Young America, an organization of obscure antecedents, headed by Miss Viola Ilma, former editor of the magazine, Modern Youth. Though all national youth organizations had been invited to attend, Miss Ilma steadfastly refused to allow all participants elementary parliamentary rights.

At the opening of the Congress, it became apparent that the lady had appointed herself as permanent chairman together with an Executive Board of her followers in which all powers were lodged. The Congress was not even to have the power to adopt its own resolutions.

Congress Votes To Run Self

The question was promptly brought to the floor at the first opportunity. Waldo McNutt, representing the Rocky Mountain Range Conference of the Y.M.C.A. moved to proceed to the election of a chairman. The motion was seconded by Aaron Levenstein, of the Young People's Socialist League, who analyzed the set-up of the convention in a detailed speech and demanded the drafting of democratic rules of procedure. The motion was overwhelmingly carried, but the Ilma group thereupon adjourned the session.

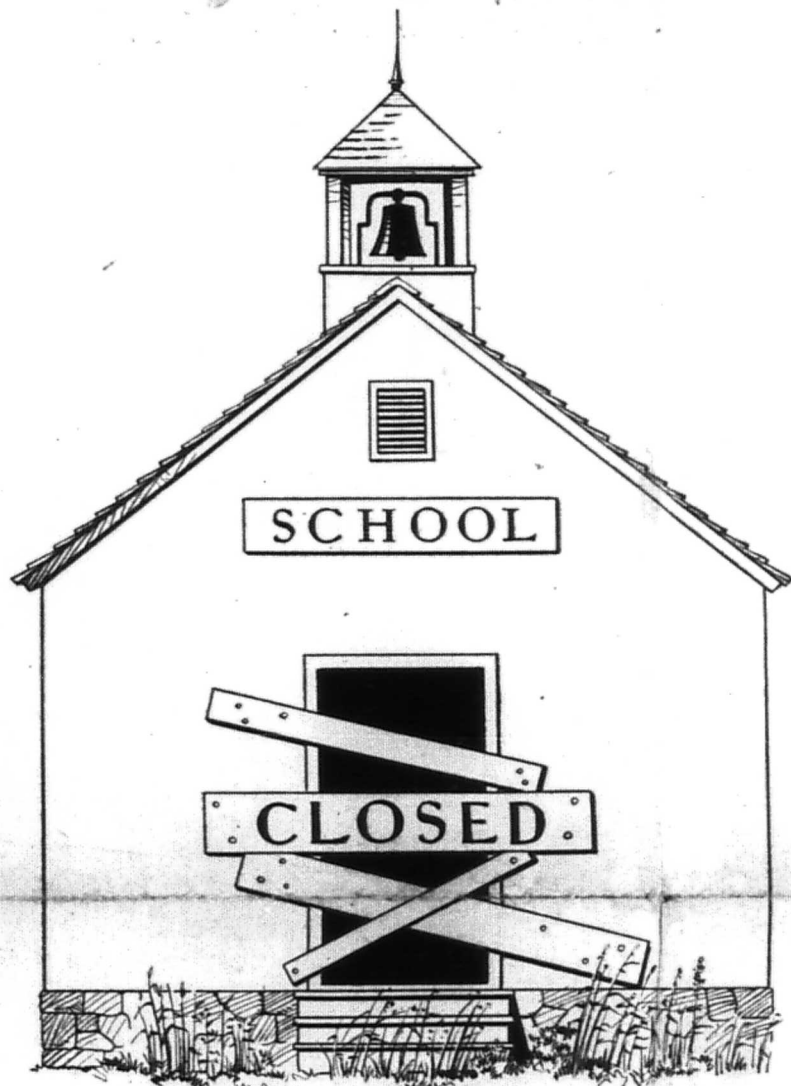
The progressive group, including the American Red Cross, Y.M.C.A., the Y.C.L. and the Young People's Socialist League, elected McNutt chairman and the work of the Congress proceeded. The Ilma faction, numbering about fifty split off but the majority continued with the sessions. Five round table discussions were held on various youth problems which drew up a set of resolutions that were acted upon by the full body of delegates.

Progressive Measures Indorsed

Unemployment insurance and various labor measures were endorsed by the young people gathered here. Particularly strong was the resolution on war and fascism, which enumerated tendencies on the American scene pointing in those directions. The New Deal was carefully analyzed, special attention being given to its failure to meet the needs of youth in industry. The increasing use of violence against striking workers under the New Deal and the starvation wage level were pointed out. The Youth Congress denounced the placing of young workers in CCC and transient camps as part of a program of militarization. A continuation committee was elected to agitate for this program.

At the same time, the Ilma handful drew up a set of resolutions after listening to their much-advertised "Joan of Arc" describe President Roosevelt as the "leader"—verbiage closely resembling the language of the Hitler youth along the lines of which she seeks to pattern American youth. Her group even opposed the Child Labor Amendment!

"OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL"



Over the countryside and in the cities, a new sort of monument to Capitalism's ravages is being dedicated, this time at the cost of millions of America's youth. Thanks to such reactionary bodies as the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, those schools not totally closed have not been left unmarked by "retrenchment."

U. S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CAMPAIGN AGAINST EDUCATION BEARS BITTER FRUIT FOR YOUTH

Anti Fascist Youth Body Issues Paper

New York City—Featuring an article by Norman Thomas entitled "Crush Fascism Now," the first issue of Free America, official organ of the Youth Committee Against Fascism, made its appearance September 1.

Of great interest to young Socialists is the first published picture in this country of 21 year old Joseph Gerl, Austrian young Socialist hero, whose last words before being sent to the gallows by Dollfuss, "My ideals are higher than my head," have become a byword in working class circles.

Prof. Charles A. Beard, famous historian and expert in Government, contributes an editorial whose theme is that the "Most Dangerous Delusion of Our Time is That Hitlerism Doesn't Concern Us." Other articles include an expose of the arming of Nazis and Silver Shirts with U. S. rifles.

The paper can be secured by writing to 175 East Broadway, New York City. Bundle rates per hundred are seventy five cents plus half the shipping cost.

SCHOOLS SINK AS CRISIS DEEPENS

CHICAGO—Despite millions of dollars of federal money poured into the public schools of the nation, for at least 3 million children of school age, "free public education" has become a thing of the past. With alarming rapidity, the formerly much-vaunted education system of America is disintegrating under the combined impact of five years of capitalist crisis and the militant "retrenchment" campaign of our reactionary privileged class.

Since the momentous report of George F. Zook in 1933-34, when he was U. S. Commissioner of Education, in which it was revealed that 2,280,000 children of school age were not getting schooling, at least three quarters of a million more will be deprived of school facilities or of the means with which to attend school when the 1934-35 term opens this month.

Rural Schools Hard Hit

Rural schools have closed up by the thousands. In Kansas alone over 700 have been boarded up. Arkansas and Louisiana have suffered almost as badly while thirty other states have had rural schools shut down in appreciable numbers. Fifteen hundred commercial schools and colleges have followed suit.

Where schools have not shut down outright, they have been crippled by shortening of the school term. At best, school terms in this country are short, averaging during 1933-34, 172 days per year as compared with 200 days in France, 210 in England, and 246 in Germany and Denmark. Barely half of our students receive the traditional nine months schooling. Over two million get less than half that time!

How has the teacher been affected? As these words are being written thousands of Chicago school teachers, all vestiges of professional dignity forgotten, stand in a block-long line, six abreast, awaiting almost a year's back pay which is being deluged out of federal funds. That they are able to collect at all, these teachers have only to thank the fact that their voting power has taken on a new significance in the eyes of Mayor Kelly whose federal patronage will be stopped if Democrats in sufficient number do not reach congress this fall. The average wage of teachers over the country is below the NRA minimum for unskilled labor! 300,000 school teachers are unemployed and 40,000 would-be-teachers are being turned out of normal schools and teachers' colleges every year.

"Chamber of Corruption"

No small part of this crippling of the school system may be laid to that traditional enemy of all who work, the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, which in the summer of 1933 sent a list of 200 suggestions to its local bodies. What has happened in Chicago, where the city administration has entered whole-heartedly into the spirit of this "economy" program is typical.

Not one "gym" class, not one class in manual training or domestic science, outside of the purely technical schools, can now be found in the Chicago school system. The entire Junior High School set-up has been abolished.

(Continued on page 2)

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH WEEK!

DEMONSTRATE! OCTOBER 1-7

The National Executive Committee of the Young People's Socialist League of America calls upon all sections and upon each comrade of its League; calls upon all the other Socialist youth organizations, to demonstrate their international solidarity with the awakened young workers and students of all countries. Let us mass our strength in parade and rally to show the world that there exists a body of determined youth that shall yet prove the insurmountable barrier which will stay the terror of fascism and defy and crush the monster of War!

Let us make this week an occasion of rededication to our Socialist Cause; let us rally our forces against war and fascism; let us rejoice at the resurgence of the Socialist Youth movement as evidenced by the mighty International Demonstration at Liege, August 5; and lastly, let us use this week to redouble our activity in organizing and educating the youth of America into a fighting body that shall yet win for the workers and farmers of America, for the toilers of all countries, **SOCIALISM IN OUR TIME!**

HALF DAY STRIKE WINS IN TENNESSEE CCC. CAMP

Cosby, Tennessee.—A half day strike in C.C.C. Camp No. 1213 was successful in ironing out all of a list of four grievances. The Captain asked the fellows to elect a committee of two when the strike occurred, to iron out grievances.

Four points, all of the most important ones were granted as follows (1) hot lunches to those working on the trail. This means that trucks bring up the hot lunches to where we are working instead of as heretofore when only dry sandwiches were rationed. (2) Improvement in quality and quantity of all food served. (3) Strict enforcement of all sanitary regulations in the kitchen (4) no penalization or pay loss to men for time lost in half day strike.

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NEW YORK YPSL ACTIVE IN LABOR STRUGGLES

Hailed As Labor's Vanguard By Union Workers

by Ben Fischer

New York.—As the titanic struggle between capital and labor unfolds across the national scene, this city is exhibiting one of the most heartening spectacles that has yet occurred in the history of American Labor. For, marshalled by the Industrial Committee of the Greater New York City Federation of the Y. P. S. L., the spirit and energy of scores and hundreds of Socialist youth has been massed to the support of the organized workers in their struggle for a decent livelihood.

Called out with but ten hours notice, nearly a hundred Young Socialists reported for duty at 5 o'clock in the morning to issue the announcement of the general strike called by the International Ladies Garment Workers and the United Textile Workers unions in the knitgoods industry, at more than 200 shops throughout the city. Throughout the strike, the Ladies Garment Shipping Clerks Union, organized by Young Socialists, fought the battles of the non-manufacturing help in the trade, while League members generally did the varied and necessary jobs to help make the strike effective.

"Fightin' Females"

Ten thousand painters in New York City are out on strike against wage cuts that wreak havoc in their homes. Reinforced by scores of Young Socialist girls, their wives and daughters, formed a picket line that stretched for three long miles down the exclusive Park Avenue. Overhead they bore stirring banners calling upon the women of the neighborhood to refuse entrance to scab painters into their houses. The press gave much space in this unusual sight of women and children fighting with their husbands and fathers for wages sufficient to provide the decencies of home-life, while class conscious workers throughout the city rejoiced with the painters at this effective weapon.

Youful Vendors Organize

To the rescue of the young workers who, by adverse economic circumstances, had been forced to eke out a bare pittance by selling refreshments on beaches, came the YPSL and other organizations when these young workers were made the victims of a vidous attack by the Coney Island Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with the local police. Using the local YPSL headquarters as their meeting place, and aided by Harold Siegel of the Socialist Lawyers Association as their legal advisor, about 100 of these lads have organized into a union. They are demanding of Mayor LaGuardia that he give them jobs or adequate relief, or they will continue to earn their meager living by selling refreshments regardless of city ordinances.

Movie Strike Brings Action

The most courageous work of the YPSL has been in connection with the organization and strike campaign of Local 306 of the Moving Picture Operators Union. In many parts of the city the battles of the union are borne almost solely by high school lads and girls inspired by their Socialist faith.

The YPSL is sponsoring nightly meetings appealing to the workers of the various neighborhoods not to patronize the scab theatres. Battle after battle has been won, the union boasting for the Young Socialists, that it was they who gained victory.

Picketing De Luxe

In the Bronx, more than two thousand people gathered in front of the DeLuxe theatre listening to Socialist speakers and cheering on the mass picketers whose liveliest section was manned by Yipsels. More people were outside than inside the theatre! In other cases, more people were on the picket line than in the theatre! As a result of the leadership of the Young Socialists and the remarkable solidarity and militancy of the workers in the neighborhoods, the theatre magnates were forced to give in on every point to the demands of the striking workers. The other theatre employes, electricians, carpenters, etc., who had

STRIKERS WIVES DEFY VIGILANTES



After Okey Odell, militant leader of Ohio's onion strikers, had been kidnapped and beaten by several hundred vigilantes, wives of the strikers armed themselves to defend their homes while their husbands picketed the farm lands.

Young Socialists Fight Farm Exploitation

DAYTON, O.—Forced by the pinch of want to accept dollar-a-day farm laborer jobs, Vic Macon, active Dayton YPSL member, aided by Eddie Roder and Al Petty, Socialist sympathizers, organized and led two successful strikes in the same day against working conditions that included an intolerable work day of 12, 13 and even 14 hours.

So splendidly did the workers, many of them much older than these three lads who bore the brunt of the strikes on their youthful shoulders, show their solidarity by refusing to budge until their demands had been granted, that not only were hours sharply reduced but increases in wages were granted.

Second Strike Necessary

A second strike was necessary on the same day because the owner had tried to divide up the workers by putting them in widely separated fields. This second strike not only squelched this attempt but won the abolition of piece work.

Socialists in Ohio have been in the vanguard of the organization of farm workers—one of the most driven and exploited sections of the working class. The story of the McGuffy onion pickers strike has been told in these pages before. Out of these strikes has arisen the nuclei for a strong, militant agricultural workers' union. In the Dayton area, several of the young workers active in this new union, are forming the nucleus for a new circle of the YPSL.

Marched out in sympathy with the movie operators, also gained improvements in their conditions.

Slugged and Jugged

At the DeLuxe and in various Brooklyn theatres, Young Socialists have been slugged and even arrested in the course of this struggle. Hired thugs have seen sent in by the bosses to break up Socialist meetings. But with the union men militantly behind them, the Yipsels have come back every nite to hold their meetings until they win for organized labor. And so far they have won every time!

Already plans are being laid and machinery set up for relief and picket duty for the wave of strikes which is mounting ever higher as the summer passes. The Shipping Clerks especially are preparing for the strike which is being called in their industry. And when the General Strike of the courageous textile workers is called, the Eastern YPSL is preparing to participate on a scale that will dwarf even their past achievements in the industrial struggles of the working class.

The Young Circle League of America has just issued a very attractive "Game Book." Ninety-one games are included in the volume "in answer to the every-crying need for social activities that will satisfy young folks."

Copies of this book may be obtained from the Young Circle League, 175 East Broadway, New York City for 25 cents.

"Lockout" Tactic Used Against Student Youth

(Continued from page 1)

kindergartens entirely eliminated, 10% of the teaching force fired, teachers salaries reduced 23%, the city college closed, half the principals eliminated, and the size of classes increased as high as 100%.

At the height of "prosperity," in 1928, but 2.74% of the national income was being spent for education. This gives the lie to the hypocritical cries of "extravagance and frills" raised by industrialists and bankers who themselves hesitate not one whit to spend millions of their stockholders' earnings to place anti-public ownership and pro-capitalist texts in every school and library possible.

The Method in Their Madness

What do these reactionary forces want further? Tuition fees for high schools is but one example of their specific proposals. But underneath these superficial demands is the attempt to deprive the children of the working masses of America of the opportunity to gain an education. For the capitalists of the nation are intensely class conscious and remember well that among the earliest demands of organized labor was the demand for the public school and free education.

With universal education comes the means of knowledge to the very class whom the plutocrats would keep dark concerning the method of their bondage. Today it takes the full-powered force of a gigantic propaganda machine in the form of press, movie and radio to gain from the masses of workers and farmers even half-hearted passive support of the capitalist system of exploitation.

But even universal education has not been attained, for in 1930, according to one of the "School Economy Series" edited by Ray Lyman Wilbur, Sec. of the Interior under Hoover, 600,000 youthful illiterates still existed in the U. S. From this same book comes the statement that "universal free education is only beginning its task when it has abolished illiteracy."

But the culture of capitalism is but a thin veneer meant only for the privileged few. If knowledge and culture and civilization itself is not to crumble to the level of feudal barbarism, the Socialist Commonwealth must be attained. It is our task to prepare the youth of America for citizenship in this workers' commonwealth.

YPSL Aids Labor In Great Variety Of Industries

Industrial activity intensified as strike waves continue over U. S. Industrial activity of the Young People's Socialist League during the past month has been engaged in by circles of many sections of the country and in a range of industries as diversified as those covered in mail order catalog. Here are a few samples.

Aside from the large scale activities featured in a special story elsewhere in this issue, the New York YPSL has held protest meetings and demonstrations for the striking workers of the cruelly exploited laundry industry. Numerous circles have assisted by raising relief funds.

Socialist "Secret Service"

The long drawn out Radio workers' strike has settled into a routine picketing and leaflet distribution that daily sees its quota of Yipsels doing their part. Comrades of several circles have been acting as special investigators to track down runaway sweat shops for the unions of the needle trades.

Philadelphia League members are on daily strike duty with the Fruit Clerks and the Delicatessen workers unions. Mass literature distribution, picketing, and office work is being done for the Knit Goods union.

Fired—Despite 7(a)!

In Chicago the International Fur Workers' Union has received picket assistance, ywhile one young Socialist, Harvey Renfrew, lost his job at Hearst's newspaper office for attempting to organize his fellow employees. His case for reinstatement is being fought before the local Labor Board by Joe Jacobs of Chicago Socialist lawyers' organization.

The Toledo comrades are picketing for the Tailors' union, and except for one emergency pants-tearing case have been 100% effective. Local party and YPSL members of Bethlehem, Pa., have engaged in an organizing campaign among the furniture workers with great success.

Labor's Well "Bred" Youth

The Richmond, Va., Circle seems to be specializing in fighting discrimination cases before relief and NRA authorities. Milwaukee's militant youth are the real "doughboys" of that cities bakery strike, avers our correspondent.

New Jersey is the banner state of the month. In Roselle, an enthusiastic squad of singing Yipsels are assisting Local 190 of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers on the picket line. Newark's butchers lost their strike, but not before the YPSL had given such stirring aid on the picket lines as to win the invitation to visit the children of the strikers and get them into the League. Passaic's circle is aiding the organization of a hankerchief workers' union.

SCHOOL LIFE

For these who wish to keep informed of the conditions of the public school system, the magazine "School Life" published by the office of Education of the Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C., will prove an excellent source of information.

It can be subscribed to for \$1.00 per year and for those unable to subscribe, it can be secured at almost every library.

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Thumbing My Nose

by Belly Acre

Special Despatch from Austria.

From underground Vienna comes the true story of the recent events. The fact is that the unlamented Dollfuss was shot by the Nazis with a water-pistol and that death resulted from drawing. Amidst pomp and splendor, the peanut chancellor, arch-enemy of the Austrian workers, was laid to rest in a cheese-box.

According to the bloody Emil Fey who saw Dollfuss shortly before he died, the chancellor wanted Dr. Rintelen, the Nazi, to succeed him in office. Had he lived a little longer, Dollfuss might have written a note to Rintelen: "Everything's okay. Just putsch 'erself in my place."

(Don't hit. Belly Acre is allowed one pun per column.)

Officers of the Law. Speaking of Dollfuss reminds us of Dillinger. New York Yipsels regret the killing of the notorious bandit. Every time the police disturbed a picket line or a street meeting, the young Socialists would taunt their foe with a lusty chant:

"Go and get Dill-in-ger."

Judging from the vocabulary of the average brass-buttoned Little Boy Blue, the most popular course in the English Department of the Police College is Profanity. We have it on reliable authority that to become a cop you must take an elementary school examination, and if you pass, you're not admitted to the force—you're too clever.

The ears of New York's "finest"—finest what?—are very sensitive. They'll allow you to call a scab a rat, but you may not call anybody—no, not even a rat—a scab.

The Movies. There's quite a howdy-do about the wicked movies. This tripe of entertainment will probably be subjected to censorship before long by the vice societies, made up of gentlemen who enjoy filth so much that they make the search for it a profession.

A Censor sees the dirty show Only, of course, to razz it. So Mr. Longnose eats his cake And also has it!

Cocktails for Few. The ruling class in America is regaling itself with the Roosevelt cocktail administration, the ingredients of which are conservatives and alleged liberals, radicals and bolsheviks. Dr. Harry W. Laidler recently described how the cocktail is prepared. You put in sugar to make it sweet and lemon to make it sour; you put in gin to make it strong and water to make it weak; include cracked ice and shake it up. You pour it in a glass; say, "Here's to you"—and drink it yourself!

A Political Suggestion. Mr. Merwin K. Hart, speaking for a New York taxpayers organization, demands that the unemployed be deprived of the right to vote. Have a heart, Mr. Hart! (We'll have a piece of bread.) About the only thing the jobless have now besides the right to vote is the right to starve.

Mr. Hart is afraid they will vote Socialist, and he knows that Socialists are going to abolish this latter right. Under Socialism, no one will have the right, sir, to starve—others.

Not a Typographical Error. The United States is ruled today by the Brain Rust collected by President Roosevelt.

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UNCIVILIZED

An ancient ape, once on a time,
Disliked exceedingly to clime,
And so he picked him out a tree
And said, "Now this belongs to me.
I have a hunch that monks are mutts
And I can make them gather nuts
And bring the bulk of them to me,
By claiming title to this tree."

He took a green leaf and a reed
And wrote himself a title deed
Proclaiming pompously and slow;
"All monkeys by these presents know."
Next morning when the monkeys came
To gather nuts he made his claim;
"All monkeys climbing on this tree
Must bring their gathered nuts to me,
Cracking the same on equal shares;
The meats are mind, the shells are theirs."

"By what right?" they cried amazed,
Thinking the ape was surely crazed,
"By this," he answered, "if you'll read
You'll find it is a title-deed,
Made in precise and formal shape
And sworn before a fellow ape
Exactly on the legal plan
Used by the wondrous creature man,
In London, Tokio, New York
Glengarry, Kalamazoo and Cork.
Unless my deed is recognized,
It proves you quite uncivilized.

"But," said one monkey, "You'll agree
It was not you who made this tree."
"Nor," said the ape, serene and bland,
"Does any owner make this land,
Yet it and all of its hereditaments
Are his and figure in his rent."

The puzzled monkeys sat about;
They could not make the question out
Plainly by precedent and law,
The ape's procedure showed no flaw;
And yet, no matter what he said
The stomach still denied the head.

Up spoke one sprightly monkey then;
"Monkeys are monkeys; men are men,
The ape should try his legal capers
On men who may respect his papers
We don't know deeds, we do know nuts
In spite of "ands" and "ifs" and "buts"
We know who gathers and un-meats 'em
By monkey practice also eats them.

So tell the ape and all his flunkeys
No man-tricks can be played on monkeys."
Thus, apes still climb to get their food
Since monkeys minds are crass and crude
And monkeys are so ill-advised
Still eat their nuts uncivilized.

—Edmund Vance Cook.

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WASTING LIVES TO HELP PROFIT GRABBERS

Some day when the walking is good take a walk over Mt. Penn and see the CCC boys at work. They're doing all kinds of things in which they have no real interest: Chopping wood which they will not burn; building shacks which they will not occupy; cleaning roads over which they will never drive a pleasure car; walking slowly or jauntily as their moods dictate; living, just living, without knowing or caring anything about tomorrow or the days when they will be old.

At first you'll remark how brown and healthy these youths are. But if you think a bit you'll know there's tragedy in their existence. Their young lives are being wasted. They are merely being kept busy because the world has no proper place for them.

These boys might be producing shoes and food and beautiful homes. They might be rearing fine families. They might be living in civilized comfort. Why aren't they? Is it because people don't need their services? Is it because society isn't physically equipped to use them. No, the reason these boys—and millions of other Americans—are either idle or doing useless work is because there is no way to put them to work and at the same time make profits from their labors.

That's capitalism. It uses workers like workers use tools—and casts them aside in the same manner.
—Reading Labor Advocate.



Not in Your Textbooks

by AACON LEVENSTEIN
(Concluded from August issue)
It's The Workers Who Pay

Some people think it is the employer who pays the worker. On the contrary, a man must pay the owner of the factory or the shop for the privilege of working on the machine or in the office. He pays for it by the goods that he makes or the value of the services he gives, of which he gets back only a small part. The rest goes to the machine owner, to the employer. This is called profit, and this is what we must remove from industry.

The Socialist method is to have all the people own the machines that are needed by all the people. Just as everybody is entitled to breathe the air merely because he needs it to live, so every one is entitled to the job without which he cannot live. No one claims ownership of the air, yet your employer claims the right to own your job. Socialists call for the common ownership of all things, including the machines, that are commonly needed.

Do You Agree With The Socialist Program?

There are many who do not agree with this. Too many, we think. But if you are among them, ask yourself these questions.

Why do a few men, who don't work on the machines, want to own all the machines in the country?

Would these men want to own the machines, if they had to work on them in order to get their profits?

Where do the profits they get come from, except the wealth that is produced by the men who do the work?

If a few men, who do not work, own all the machines, are not all other men at their mercy?

How can anyone get a job if the men who own the machines say they can have no jobs?

How can anyone ask for a wage that represents the full value of his work when the owner wants a share of that work as his profit?

Answer these questions for yourself. Don't let anyone convince you that you are not intelligent enough to be able to figure out the answers. We are sure that your answer will agree with ours—that those who work are entitled to own the machine.

What About Government Control?

There are many people who think that it would be enough for the government to control industry. Disregarding the fact

VIVA VILLA!

Heartily recommended to Yipsels, Viva Villa is as good a picture on a revolutionary subject that can be expected of capitalist Hollywood. Departing liberally from historical facts, the picture nevertheless depicts lustily and forcefully the life of that picturesque and adventurous fighter, Pancho Villa.

When in the '80's a decree was issued depriving the peasants of their land, a group of them gathered to appeal to the authorities. "We were men, now we are dogs," pled Pancho's father, and for this he was lashed to death, as an example. The young son shot the official who had ordered the beating, and then disappeared into the mountains, to be heard of in his manhood as a bandit at the head of a force which in Robin Hood fashion came to wreak vengeance upon those who abused the peons.

In a campaign to defeat Diaz, an intellectual by the name of Madero appealed to Villa for aid, and the banditry was turned into a purposeful and successful struggle for state power, on a platform of land reform.

Before the new laws could be put into effect, however, Madero was murdered, and Villa set out to revenge the enemies of the peons anew. With an adoring peasantry behind him, he was irresistible, and soon entered Mexico City in triumph. Realizing that he had not the qualities for statesmanship, he returned to the land, there in his turn to be murdered by personal enemies.

Wallace Beery is superb in this role. With the swaggering insolence of the confident leader, he blusters through the picture, drinking gaily, loving lightly, worshipping Madero tenderly, trying for his sake to tone down the cruel methods of his warfare. No angel is General Villa, nor does the picture attempt to soften the arrogant qualities of his character.

Methodist Youth Conference to Face Social Problems

Evanston, Ill.—Rallying around the theme of "Building a New World," over 700 delegates will convene for the National Council of Methodist Youth, at the First Methodist Church of this city, August 30 to September 2. In accord with the current trend in church groups, much of this conference will concern itself with such social problems as "The Way Out of the Crisis," "War and Military Training," etc.

The main approach to social problems by church folk is through the ethical point of view. Many Methodist Conferences have gone on record as favoring a Socialist Society as being much nearer the Christian ideal than Capitalism. Many church groups have pointed to participation in War as morally wrong and have advocated pacifism, as for instance a recent Baptist youth conference.

Such social-minded church youth groups are the natural allies of young Socialists in their struggle against War and Capitalism, for it is becoming almost self-evident that these systems are beyond the pale of any type of sane morality.

The cry of the peons for land is carried through the story. The elder Villa is making his plea picked up a handful of earth, crying for just so much for his people. Madero was working out a law to restore the haciendas to the workers, when he was assassinated, and the first thing which Villa insisted upon when he ruled the country, was for Madero's law to be found and put into effect.

The brutality, the indifference, the injustice of the ruling class is presented time and again throughout the picture. Eagerly the peons rose to combat their oppressors; faithfully they followed their leaders into battle.

that industry unfortunately controls the government, isn't it clear that it is much easier to manage what you own than it is to manage what someone else owns? There are a thousand and one ways in which the employers have gotten around government regulation, and they can always do it as long as they have the ownership of the property. We Socialists do not ask for more regulation or different regulation, such as under the name of National Recovery Act. We have had enough regulations, enough anti-trusts laws, enough public utility laws, to prove that regulation is not satisfactory.

Imagine a policeman trying to prevent burglary by regulating the burglars, by saying to them in a firm voice: "Now, gentlemen, this burglary-business must stop. We really can have no more of it. None of you must carry a jimmy more than four feet long. Any burglar caught with more than twenty skeleton keys will be sent to prison." Yet that is practically what government regulation amounts to. The jimmy of the capitalists is his ownership of the tools with which his employees work.

Owners And Managers

Now let us interrupt ourselves. "After all," someone says, "the capitalist does manage the industry which he owns. Isn't he entitled to something?" It is easy to answer, "Yes, something—but not everything. If a man devotes his time to managing an industry, then he is entitled to be rewarded for the work he does, and for nothing else. His return should come by virtue of the fact that he has worked, not because he owns. As a matter of fact, however, the owners of industry today don't even manage their factories. They own the

plants by holding stocks and bonds, and very often don't even know the individual who is at the head of the works. Technicians, engineers and managers are hired just like other employees—and production goes on as a result of the labor of these workers of hand and brain."

The Socialist Goal

The ownership of these factories must be transferred to the people who actually do the work of running them. It is not Mr. Ford who operates the automobile factory but the men he hires to manage the plant and to make and assemble the parts. Mr. Ford can be in the middle of the Atlantic on an ocean cruise, but the factory runs just as well. Nevertheless, Mr. Ford gets just as much profit in the middle of the ocean as when he is at his mahogany desk in Detroit.

Under Socialism, this could never happen. Those who work would get the value of their work and there would be no profits for any man merely because he owned a factory. Goods would be produced by the nation on the machines and from the raw materials owned by the nation. Whatever the people needed would be produced, not in the small amounts that people have the money to buy, but in the amounts needed by the people for their happiness. Decent homes, for instance, would be built to take the place of the slums. Children would not starve in the cities while at the same time the farmers would not go crazy looking for customers to buy their milk.

You are living in the richest country in the world. We have enough wealth to take care of all our people. What more do we need? We have the men who can work on the materials and the machines to create abundance. The only trouble is, that they have been kept apart. The men have not been allowed to come near the machines because it was not profitable for the few men who own them. We Socialists intend to bring the workers and the machines together.

That is what the Socialists want. The Young People's Socialist League is helping to bring these things into actuality. Do not lay down this pamphlet and say that Socialism is a thing for tomorrow. If it is good for your grandchildren, it is good for you. Millions of men and women in the various countries of the world, young and old, are working to carry out these plans. If you believe that we are right, you must join with us in an effort to bring greater happiness into human life.

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AMERICAN LABOR AT CROSS ROADS

On with the Challengers

by Syd Devin

1934 Labor Day Sees 1889 Labor Issues Still Unmet

A. F. OF L. CONVENTION OPPORTUNITY FOR LONG OVERDUE REORIENTATION

CHICAGO—Forty five years since Labor Day was first inaugurated, the issues the then young American Federation of Labor strove to avoid by its adoption, are again pressing upon its attention with all the accumulated force of the industrial and social evolution of the past half century. For in 1889 the American Federation of Labor adopted the first Monday in September as the "official" holiday of organized labor in America in order to circumvent the growing Socialist sentiment among American unionists who were beginning to make International Socialism's May First holiday their own.

What are the momentous issues that today face the American labor movement? They are threefold and upon their solution rests the fate of America's toiling masses and, with strong probability, the destiny of all mankind.

Industrial Unionism

Of paramount importance is the question of industrial unionism. Although increasingly machine production is developing along industrial lines, the A. F. of L. has for decades clung to a craft form of organization, a form that has long since lost its technological base in the factory system. Without industrial unionism the vast masses of workers in America will never be organized.

Although section 7(a) of the National Recovery Act has been lauded by high union officials for its benefits to labor, less than 15% of America's 45,000,000 working men and women are in labor organizations. Already, largely through the device of "federal unions," the A. F. of L. is taking steps, hesitant though they are, towards the industrial organization of the masses in basic industries. Class conscious workers are greeting these signs of progress with the hope that they will develop into the industrial unions that must provide the basis for labor's emancipation from exploitation.

Working Class Political Action

The second major issue facing American labor today is the building of a working class party to fight for the interests of the workers on the political field as the trade unions fight on the industrial field. For too many years American labor, as expressed by the A. F. of L., has been fighting capital on the picket line while at the ballot box it has been casting the vote that perpetuates its enslavement. A political party, based upon the class interests of workers and farmers, must be built if American labor is to secure for itself its emancipation.

The Socialist Philosophy and Goal

As Oscar Ameringer puts it, "the Socialist movement without organized labor is like a spook without a body; but the labor unions without the Socialist ideal is a corpse without a soul." The third problem confronting American labor today, is its adoption and advocacy of the Socialist philosophy and goal. For if American youth is ever to be won to labor's cause, it will not be by grub-like "business unionism" but by the justice, the idealism, the hope, the spunk and spirit of labor imbued with the Socialist faith. Youth wills to act. If it is not to act for the Hitlers of the world it must be won to labor's cause.

A.F. of L. Convention an Opportunity

On behalf of the youth of America, the Young People's Socialist League awaits with hope and sympathy, the results of the 54th annual convention of the A. F. of L. in San Francisco, beginning October 1. For no group on earth is capable of the sacrifice and devotion that is the offering of youth to the cause it makes its own. And no cause is more worthy of this sacrifice and devotion than that of the working class in its struggle for

THE SHAME OF AMERICA



Sixteen million destitute Americans, the majority of them children and youth, are forced to subsist upon the meager ration doled out by the government. Per-

manent poverty of mass proportions has become the rule of Capitalism. For "How Long, Oh Cruel Nation?"

RED FALCONS SPREAD WINGS OVER MIDWEST

CHICAGO—Spreading their wings over this new territory, the Red Falcons, organization for working class children, has recently opened a Midwest office at 549 Randolph Street in this city.

Falcon Guide Courses are being conducted all over the country, the largest being those in New York City and Milwaukee. Chicago comrades are being canvassed for volunteer Guides with gratifying results. A surprisingly large number of qualified comrades have been found to teach courses in Nature Study, First Aid, Child Psychology, Handcraft, Manual Training, Athletics, etc. The Guides' Training course is scheduled to begin by the second week in September.

As the Red Falcons of America are part of the International Red Falcon movement, they are actively spreading the message of the international solidarity of workers by setting up committees of correspondence. Many of these letters are published in the Falcon Call monthly magazine of the organization. Each issue of the Call contains also a short story of the life of an outstanding Socialist or Labor hero.

A Falcon Builders organization, consisting of all persons sympathetic to the movement, has been set up and will be affiliated with the International Friends of Children organization, a subsidiary of the Labor and Socialist International. Every Falcon builder is pledged to "support and extend the organization of workers' children into a movement which will surround them with a working class culture and instill in them the tradition of their class."

a classless society. But American Labor must put its house in better order if it is to fully deserve youth's allegiance.

ORGANIZATION BY THE NATIONAL SECRETARY

NEC meets . . . New League pamphlets . . . NY Badgers Band . . . School activity . . . Wisconsin takes air.

N. E. C. Meeting In St. Louis

The next regular quarterly meeting of the National Executive Committee will be held in St. Louis, Missouri, on October 13-14. Circles and members are urged to send proposals and suggestions which they wish considered at this meeting to National Headquarters.

Not In Your Textbooks

An attractive, twelve page pamphlet of this title has just been published by the League. The first half of its contents were published in the August Challenge and it is included in this issue. The pamphlet sells for two cents per copy. A wide sale for it is expected among high school and college students, at circle meetings, election rallies, and at open-air street corner or park meetings.

New Yorkers Protest Black Shirt Band

More than 100 New York Yipsels protested the appearance in the city of Mussolini's Black Shirt Brass Band by leading a mass picket line in front of Carnegie Hall before and during their first concert, Saturday, August 25. A detail of about 150 police preserved "law and order" during the demonstration.

Reading Builds For Socialism

Intensified agitational and organizational activity toward Socialism are being carried on by the Berks County YPSL following its recent reorganization. An active committee to plan and direct the League's work was set up and is now functioning. A membership committee interviews all applications for membership and arranges special individual programs of study and of League work.

Cleveland Starts School Work

Cleveland Yipsels anticipated the opening of high schools by starting

work on the organization of a special circle of high school students. Activities for all the schools are being planned.

Philadelphia League Reorganizes

The "Unit" system, whereby circles are divided into units of five to seven members whose activity is under the direction of a Unit leader, has just been installed in the Philly League.

Defying a police edict, the League is holding street corner meetings in the Strawberry Mansion District. Three comrades were jailed and fined for holding a meeting. Upon an appeal, the fines were returned, although the court continued to maintain the defendants' guilt.

More Brights Spots

From Olean, N. Y., National Organizer Harry Fleischman reports that the newly organized circle held a campaign supper charging 25c per plate, making ten dollars and securing eight new members. Florence Curtis Hanson, Secretary-Treasurer of the American Federation of Teachers, will speak at the next meeting on "Socialism, Education and Youth." A study course in Socialism will be started early this month.

The Kenosha, Wis. League has distributed five thousand copies of their latest leaflet, printed on their own press, announcing in attractive form the Socialist Sunday program given over WTMJ between 12:30 and 12:45. WTMJ can be heard in all the north-central states.

A Youth Rally will feature the joint YPSL-Socialist Party picnic on Sunday, September 2, at Navarre Park, Toledo, Ohio. Dominic Gianasi of Kincaid, Illinois will be the main speaker.

UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE

Frank Pearlman, 193 Shenango St., Sharon, Penna., has a supply of cheaply priced grammars and dictionaries in Esperanto, so that anyone interested to the extent of 15 or 20 cents can get a working knowledge of the language.

Now that summer is on the wane we can breathe more freely. For it wasn't an easy job to maintain the steady growth of our paper through this simmering summer, was it Challenger? But not once since January of this year have we fallen below the 200 mark in new subs—but it was a close shave during August.

But now for our Fall Campaign! The Goal? Fifteen hundred new subs in the next four months of this year! That means new subs totalling more than the entire subscription circulation of the next largest working-class youth paper!

Every month during these coming four months will see at least 250 letters going out to key people throughout our League and kindred organizations. Every month will see a thousand sample copies mailed to selected lists of potential subscribers. Lists of expired subscriptions which have not yet been renewed will be forwarded to the nearest circle to be relentlessly tracked down.

So let's get going Challengers! Shake off that summer lethargy. Snap into a rousing campaign that will bring our Young Socialist Challenge to the youth of hundreds of new communities. And, in those communities where we have already broken the ice of apathy and indifference let us amplify our whisper to a resounding roar!

NEW YORK (55) Greater New York City: Not only does the Empire state seem to have gotten an unshakable hold on first place, but it adds five new Challengers to our army. Goldie Hiller, with 7, Mildred (Dutchy) Scheinfinkel with 4, Harry Levine with 4, and Murray Gross of Local 22 of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, also with 4, all enroll in our ranks. Welcome comrades!

Circle 12 Sr. Kings and our good comrades of Branch 611 of the Workmen's Circle each get in clubs of 5. David Karmazin wins his copy of "Rhapsodies in Red" with his 2nd half dozen.

Utica: Ruth Oxman and Ned Warner together send in the top-notch club of this month with 16 subs.

PENNSYLVANIA (40) Ashland: Not satisfied with organizing a circle here, State Organizer Paul Walk gets in a total of 9 subs. Bethlehem: And from another comparatively new circle William Matonis sends in his first 6 subs and a bundle order.

Pottstown: Raymond Strohl gets in another 4. Looks like Strohl and Walk have been running around together of late. Scranton: Rose Kaplan gives this town its first Challenger with 3 subs. Tamaqua: John J. Miske from this velvety-titled town joins with a club of 4.

Pittsburgh: Steel Mills may be running at only 22% of capacity but Clay Mestelman continues to operate at full speed with 8 more subs. And here's Tillie Smith (of the Pittsburgh Smiths with her third club of 4 to win a copy of "Rhapsodies in Red.")

WISCONSIN (32) Milwaukee: Three rousing clubs from this state makes the first line of the Badger song seem more apt: "On Wisconsin, On Wisconsin, grand old Socialist state!" Rosy-cheeked Doris Zumach and Nicholas Petersen get in their first clubs of 12 each! And Jerry Rubin wakes from his summer siesta with 9 more to add to his imposing total.

NEW JERSEY (15) Camden: John Tisso repeats with 3. Dover: Sam Verne starts off his organization tour with an 8 sub club. Roselle: Lillian Bass sings a high note with her first club of 4.

OHIO (9) Dayton: It may have taken Jules Verne 80 days to circle the globe but Sam Verne got over here in plenty of time to send in his second club of 8 during the month.

CALIFORNIA (9) San Diego: Branch 358 of the Workmen's Circle sends in 8 subs. Thanks comrades!

WASHINGTON, D. C. (9) Phil Treibitch gets in 9 subs in between experimenting on the Blue Eagle with Flit. None of the subs, says Phil, is for Gen. Hue (and cry) Johnson.

RHODE ISLAND (6) Harry Silverman and Bernard Seltzer thumbed up 6 subs while hitch-hiking across this Dollfuss-like state.