



THE CHALLENGE

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200,000 Graduate to Jobless Ranks

Norman Thomas will Tour Louisiana to Combat Huey Long

New Orleans, La.—Norman Thomas, former Socialist Candidate for President, has declared war against Senator Huey P. Long and his program, and will tour Louisiana during September in a campaign to deflate Long as a Presidential contender in 1936.

"I have two purposes in fighting Long in his own state," Thomas said. "First, I intend to report to the rest of the country the results of Long's dictatorship in Louisiana. Second, I intend to win the followers of his superficial and demagogic 'share-the-wealth' ideas to Socialism."

National Broadcast to Carry Fight Windup

"I am not concerned with pulling New Deal chestnuts from the fire. I and other Socialists were exposing the artificial scarcity program of the New Deal when Long was still on Roosevelt's bandwagon."

Thomas, according to Mrs. Louise Jagan, Socialist state secretary of Louisiana, will tour Long's strongholds with a sound truck and a caravan of Southern labor and farm leaders. He expects to end his tour of the state with a mass meeting in the New Orleans municipal auditorium which will be broadcast on a national radio hookup.

Finnish Youth Plan Active Fight For Socialist World

CAPITALISM DOOMS YOUTH CONVENTION STATES

By Tarmo Hannula

Fitchburg, Mass.—Sixty delegates, representing over 1500 members in sports groups, co-op clubs, social organizations and Young Socialist circles met here, May 4-5, to discuss problems facing the New England Finnish Youth Movement. Throughout the conference opinion was unanimous that capitalism held no hope for youth and that youth's place was with the working class in struggling for Socialism.

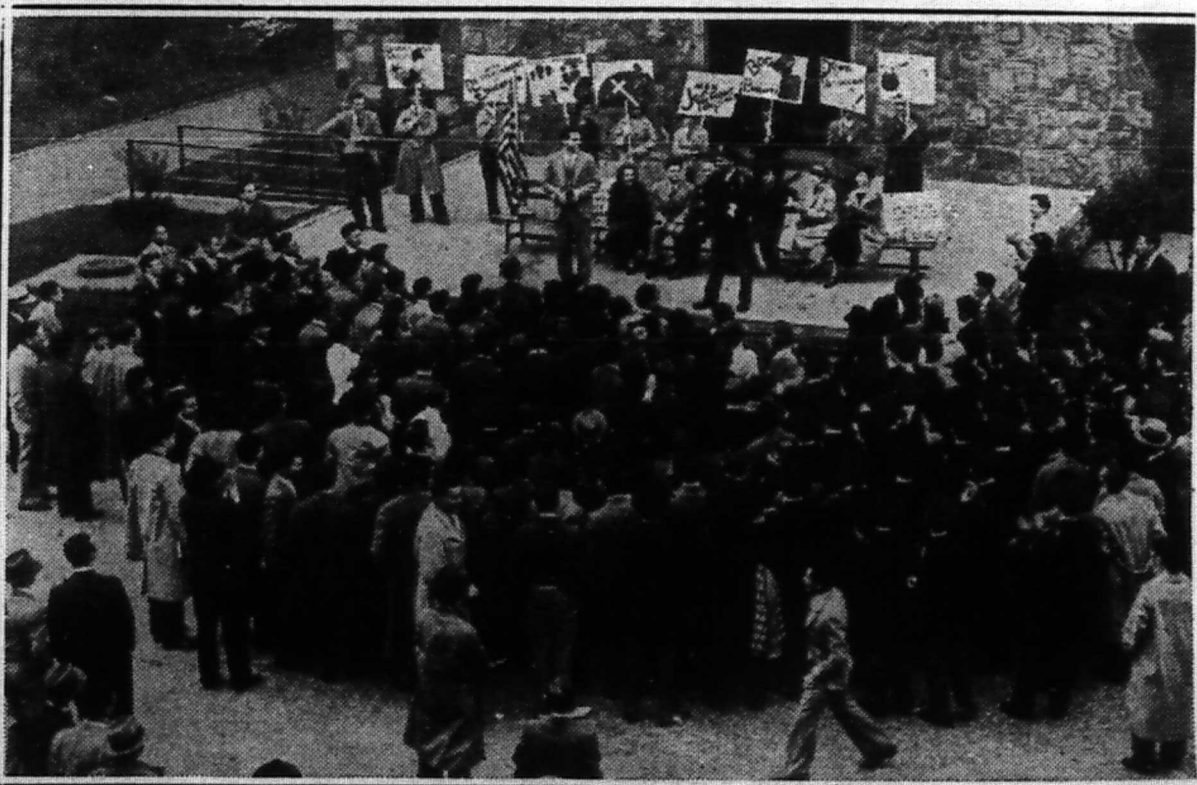
Educate for Socialism!

An educational program calling for summer schools in the New York City, Massachusetts and Middle West regions was unanimously adopted. Clubs were urged to build Socialist libraries, handle Socialist literature; members to subscribe to the various Socialist periodicals, especially The Challenge, the only Socialist Youth paper.

Each club is to elect a director to push this program of "Building for Socialism." A continuations committee, to carry on the work of the conference, was chosen and is to try to get one English edition printed of the Finnish daily. A number of resolutions concerning war, fascism, workers sports, Co-operatives, Trade Unions, and the Finnish Socialist Press, were passed.

Young Socialists of Belgium are organizing an international sports and gymnastics meet of youthful workers from many lands, to take place in Brussels on June 15 and 16.

ROTC DEMONSTRATES FOR PEACE!



First in War—And First For Peace! University meeting on the campus—and gave local army chiefs the horse laugh. The splendid peace agitation of the local Student LID chapter had a lot to do with this untypical ROTC behavior.

Chicago—The Italian Golden Glove team was turned back by the American boxing squad 5 to 3, in this city, Wednesday, May 22. Both knockouts in the fights were scored over Italian boys by the two Negro lads on the American team.

The following Friday Mussolini announced he would arbitrate with Abyssinia.

2nd American Youth Congress to Convene in Detroit, July 4

Detroit, Mich.—The second convention of the American Youth Congress is being scheduled for July 5, 6 and 7 in the city of Detroit. It is expected that the number of delegates will exceed a thousand and will represent church, social, political, labor, and sport organizations of young people.

One of the highlights of this 2nd Convention will be a symposium of representatives from all political parties. The YPSL will send delegates from all its circles and city organizations as well as from the national league.

PIQUA SOCIALISTS MOBBED FOR ANTI-WAR PROTEST

Piqua, Ohio—For marching in a parade in honor of Spanish War Veterans in this city, May 5th, bearing anti-war placards, four young Socialists were fined \$10 and costs each, to top off a beating administered by soldiers.

A banner calling attention to the fact that the Taxpayer is paying for capitalist war and armaments while schools are being closed for lack of funds, aroused the ire of a Captain of the National Guard unit in the parade, who beat Louis Moon, one of the demonstrators, and placed Mr. & Mrs. Whitaker and Asa Scott, the latter of the Ohio YPSL Executive Committee, under military arrest.

A wave of protest against the brutality of the soldiers, and the harshness of the court, which is under power trust domination, has brought much backing to the local Socialists.

2,000 Wisconsin Students Score Campus Fascists

Condemn Disruption of Student LID Meeting By "Athletes"

U. OF W. VIOLENCE LAID TO HEARST PROPAGANDA

Madison, Wis.—Anti-radical ruffians learned that University of Wisconsin students propose to maintain rights of free speech and assemblage, when 2000 students cheered and applauded at an assemblage protesting the raid of athletes on a meeting of the local chapter of the Student League for Industrial Democracy.

A mob of 150 self-appointed vigilantes appeared at the regular meeting of the Student LID, Wednesday, May 15th, disrupted proceedings by violence, and carried the speaker, Monroe Sweetland, half a mile away with the intention of throwing him in Lake Mendota. Ignoring the pleas of faculty members and other students, proclaiming themselves "Silver Shirts" acting on behalf of "Americanism," their courage failed them when they reached the shore of the lake bearing Sweetland. After stalling for 15 minutes by questioning him, he dove in himself to call their bluff.

"Preview of Fascism"

The attack had come without any warning. Sweetland, Student LID organizer, was scheduled to speak on "The Crisis on the Coast—A Preview of American Fascism." His thesis was most eloquently demonstrated by the mob. In the course of the evening the mob also threw off the dock a member of the faculty who came to plead with them, Stanley Fried, member of the New York YPSL, and had beaten up Cecil Crews, graduate student and active local Socialist. The next day a young woman student, known as a radical but not a member of any organization, was beaten by a member of

the football squad who attacked her without any provocation.

Sweetland Gets Ovation

On the following Friday night, the outraged sentiment of the whole University was eloquently expressed at an overflow mass meeting called by Pres. Glen Frank, and attended by more than 2000 members of the student body and faculty. The climax of the meeting was the appearance of Monroe Sweetland, when a five-minute ovation attested the desire of the student body to repudiate the act of the mob.

Dean Sellery brought prolonged cheers, also, when he said "The events of two nights ago will wreck the University unless we wreck the individuals who support such a principle."

Hoan First President

A resolution was introduced in the Wisconsin Assembly sponsored by Assemblyman Kiefer (Socialist) and Groves (Progressive), calling for disciplinary measures to be taken by the University administration and the District Attorney against the leaders of the mob. Seven of the mobsters were subpoenaed by the District Attorney Thursday afternoon.

The Wisconsin Chapter was one of the first chapters of the Intercollegiate Socialist Society, forerunner of the Student LID, and its first President more than 30 years ago was Daniel W. Hoan, now Socialist Mayor of Milwaukee. It continued to meet during the furious repression of the War Days and will continue its meetings at the present time.

Only One in Four Diploma Bearers Find Employment

400,000 MORE OBTAIN TEMPORARY WORK

Washington—Three out of every four graduates of America's high schools and universities this June, are doomed to a future of utter joblessness, or at best, the tantalization of temporary and part-time jobs.

This dismal statistical forecast is based upon employment records of graduates of the past six depression years compiled at the nation's capitol.

800,000 Graduates

Eight hundred thousand students will have graduated from either secondary, normal or professional school, or university, in the '34-'35 school year which ends with this June.

Two hundred thousand are doomed to lives of complete joblessness so far as participating in the productive work for which they were trained is concerned.

Four hundred thousand will have to eke out what solace and sustenance they can in the proceeds of seasonal, part-time, and other make-shift and temporary jobs.

Only one in four, the remaining 200,000, will secure and maintain jobs that can be called permanent.

Survey of Grads Show Job Chances Slim

Typical of the prospects facing all classes of graduates this June, are the results revealed by a survey made in the City of Meriden, Conn. It shows that of all young men who have graduated or left school since 1930 and were ready to work, 28% reported that they have never been employed, 50% reported part-time or temporary employment, and 22% reported employment.

A study of the graduating class of 1934 at Columbia U. showed only one-quarter finding jobs.

Those students who do find jobs almost inevitably are chained below the wage of \$21 per week which we are told is the average for the United States. Oppressive conditions of long hours and special work that "beginners" must do often add to the toilsomeness of the first few jobs, once they are gotten.

Consigned to stagnation, America's carefully trained youth watch their plowed-under futures buried in the fruitless soil of sterile Capitalism.

Workers March to Commemorate 'Gene' Debs' Canton Talk

Cleveland—The memory of Eugene V. Debs, labor and Socialist leader, will be honored on Sunday, June 16, by workers from at least seven states, on the seventeenth anniversary of the day upon which he delivered his famous anti-war speech at Canton, Ohio, for which he was sentenced to federal penitentiary.

The occasion will be observed by an anti-war pilgrimage to Canton, where a meeting will be held with nationally-known speakers in Nimsilla Park, where Debs made his famous speech. The meeting will be followed by a parade.

The Ohio State Federation of the Young People's Socialist League will participate in full strength, and its membership is being organized to perfect arrangements and act as marshals at the Canton commemoration.

Workers Sports League of America is Launched

BY BOB PARKER

With delegates present representing over 80 local clubs of the three existing workers sports organizations, final plans were made for the establishment of the Workers Sports League of America, at a national convention held Saturday and Sunday, May 11-12, in the beautiful Finnish Hall in New York City.

YPSL Pledges Cooperation

The convention opened on Saturday with greetings from Dr. S. Lipschitz, representing the Socialist Workers' Sports International and the Socialist Party, who expressed the gratification of the labor movement at the formation of a unified labor sports organization, and from Robert Parker, representing the YPSL, who pledged the cooperation of the YPSL in the work of building the sports league. Fritz Schade, editor of "Proletarian Sports," organ of the Workers' Gymnastic and Sports Alliance, was unanimously elected chairman for the convention, with Hugo Erickson of the Workers' Amateur Athletic Association as vice-chairman, and Hilja Lassila of the same group as secretary.

Representatives of the three sports groups, the WG&SA, the WAAA, and the DTJ (Bohemian Labor Sports Federation), all reported that polls of their memberships indicated an overwhelming desire for complete amalgamation of the three groups into a unified organization. On the basis of this report, the convention set to work adopting a constitution and a dues system, made plans for increasing membership and activity in the coming year, and affirmed its affiliation with the Socialist Workers' Sports International.

Plan First American Labor Olympiade

After a long consideration and discussion of the proposal of the YPSL to have the sports league adopt the CHALLENGE as its official organ, the convention decided to try to publish its own organ if financially possible, and temporarily tabled action on the CHALLENGE, thanking the YPSL for its interest and support.

A report was made by the DTJ representatives on the plans for the American Labor Olympiade to be held in Cleveland in July 1936, and the convention voted to fully endorse the Olympiade and to call upon all its affiliated clubs to participate in the gigantic exhibition of working class sports which is expected to draw over 25,000 participants and visitors.

Labor Sports Notes

The Midwest District of the Workers' Sports League has hired the University of Chicago Stadium for a huge Track and Field Meet on Labor Day. Besides regular field events, a mass calisthenic drill for all participants will be the spectacle opening event of the meet.

The first of many inter-city sports meets in the Midwest met in Detroit, May 4 and 5, when a combination team from the Reichsbanner and Free Players of Chicago met the A. B. Club of Detroit.

The Jeanette, Pa. YPSL helped form a basketball league and played through a successful season by winding up in third place. Mushroom is their next sports activity, writes in John Brasili.

Hy Rosenberg of the West End Circle in Boston reports coming in 12th in the New England A.A.U. 15,000 Metre walk at Franklyn Park. Who were the other eleven entrees Hy?

Talk about YPSL baseball! Newark, Chicago, and Milwaukee have all formed, or are forming, teams. In the latter city, a uniformed YPSL girls team is also being organized. Circle 3 Jr. Bronx has regular Sunday morning baseball games.

"Friendship!" is Slogan

The next convention of the WSL will be held in Cleveland in connection with the Olympiade, and a National Committee of nine was elected to carry on the organization's work until next summer, composed of Hilja Lassila, chairman; Hugo Erickson, secretary; Charles Marx, Frank Loukota, Henry Huefner, Fritz Schade, Tarmo Hannula (Member National Executive Committee of YPSL), Wachter and Poegelt. The convention adjourned with the singing of the Internationale in the four different languages represented, and with their newly-adopted greeting, "FRIENDSHIP!"

BUILD THE WORKERS' SPORTS LEAGUE!

The unification of the several workers' sports groups of the United States into the WORKERS SPORTS LEAGUE OF AMERICA fills a gap in the labor and Socialist movement of this country with an organization that deserves the enthusiastic support of young workers and students throughout the nation.

The Young People's Socialist League of America, and its official organ, The Challenge, congratulate the members and officers of the three pioneer organizations on their fruitful spade-work in promoting working-class athletics in America.

We congratulate the newly elected National Committee of the WSL on its unexcelled opportunity to build a workers' sports movement that shall be second to none in the world. That work will require the cooperation of every young man and woman within or sympathetic to the labor movement.

That cooperation must be shown in action. Is there a local club of the WSL in your city? Then join it. If there is not as yet a workers' sports group then start organizing one.

The Sports Department of The Challenge, 549 Randolph St., Chicago will assist by providing information to all who ask, and by putting you in touch with the Workers' Sports League. Build the Workers' Sports League in your community!

Pittsburgh Plans For 8th National Convention July

Pittsburgh—Plans for the 8th National Convention of the Young People's Socialist League of America, to be held in Pittsburgh, July 19-21, are being rapidly transposed from the paper stage into fact, according to the report of the Convention Arrangements Committee.

Headquarters have already been secured at the International Socialist Lyceum, centrally located and with facilities for serving meals and room for committee as well as convention sessions.

Crowded Schedule

A mass meeting on Friday evening, July 19th, with prominent local and nationally known Socialist speakers will greet the Convention which officially will open Saturday morning. A social affair in honor of the delegates will feature several dramatic productions. Sessions will continue all day Sunday and a dinner will feature the closing of the convention. A welcome journal is being prepared.

Stimulated by convention "doings," the local League has taken in many new members and chartered several new circles. An organization "trebled in strength, membership and activities" is promised the convention throngs.

10,000 Students Hear Norman Thomas

Cleveland—Ten thousand students heard the message of Socialism's promise to mankind presented by Norman Thomas in a two day tour of this city's High Schools and Colleges, May 20 and 21, under auspices of the YPSL.

"With proper social planning, machinery could be made to produce an income of \$3,000 to \$4,000 for each family, wiping out the poverty of unemployment," the students were told.

Glenville and Collinwood High Schools, and Flora Stone Mather and Baldwin-Wallace Colleges student bodies were addressed by Thomas.

Student Notes

"Our teacher treats plutocracy As if it were democracy; He's teaching us hypocrisy."

That quote comes off the cover page of the May "Social Frontier," journal of educational criticism and reconstruction. That is a magazine well worth the time of every student. The May number is a Youth issue, containing articles on "Youth in a confused World," "Youth vs Capitalism" and many others, by such authors as John Dewey and others.

THE CAMPUS STRIKES AGAINST WAR is the new 50 page pamphlet written by Joseph P. Lash, National Secretary of the Student League for Industrial Democracy, and published by that organization. Lash, who was a member of the National Student Strike Committee has undoubtedly written the most authoritative and complete analysis of the student anti-war movement in this country. It should be in every student's library and its price, 10c, is no bar to this.

Philadelphia: The Student LID chapter at Temple is growing. A Tom Mooney defense meeting is being held here. A Girl's High chapter of the Student LID has just been organized. 25 students attended the first meeting with Alice Hanson of the American Federation of Teachers as speaker. Chapters are being organized at Olney, West Phila., Northeast and Central Evening, High Schools.

Chicago reports a thriving county Student LID, with active chapters in most of the colleges and high school chapters being organized in 8 schools under the direction of Vivian Rubin, YPSL student director. A very successful Social affair was held May 18, with Monroe Sweetland, National Organizer of the Student LID, as the feature speaker. He gave a very interesting account of his aquatic maneuvers in Lake Mendota at the U. of W.

The War Department Appropriation Bill for 1935 provides a million dollar increase for setting up in schools and colleges new ROTC units. The Committee on Militarism in Education expects that most of them will be established in public high schools, with about two thirds of them on a compulsory basis. From 30,000 to 60,000 students will be affected, besides 148,000 now taking military training under War Department tutelage and finance. New Deal? Yes, a New Deal for the War Lords!

New York City continues to add High School Student LID chapters. Circle 3 Jr. in the Bronx has the unique distinction of having every single member also a member of the Student LID.

We've told you about the Student Outlook in this column before, but to clinch our argument here's news of Newark's student Socialists selling 50 MORE copies of our intercollegiate Socialist review.

Oscar and Karl Pennington of the Seattle YPSL were two of the prime movers in organizing a parade of University of Washington students to lay a wreath on the grave of a former student who had given his life in that "War to End Wars."

And don't forget the June 20th to August 3rd Annual Summer Training School for Student LID members to be held in N.Y.C. Write the Student LID office at 112 East 19th St. N.Y.C. for an application blank and literature on the school.

The farce of the State Senatorial Quiz of radicalism at the University of Chicago, instigated by Hearst and the dotting Uncle Walgreen, chain drug magnate, plus the more serious fascist rampage at the University of Wisconsin which shocked into protest students and teachers, appears to have stemmed the tide of the reactionary campaign against academic freedom in our schools. Now is the time to launch a counter-attack against the hysterics of Hearst and the propaganda of Plutocracy to perpetuate poverty! Put the bosses on the defensive by carrying the fight for Socialism to the workers in their shops, factories and mines!

New York—HR 2827, the Lundeen workers' unemployment insurance bill, endorsed by the Young People's Socialist League, was the overwhelming victor of a straw vote conducted by the New York Post.

U. S. War History Provides Memorial Day Meditation

"Nickle-Under-Foot" Motive Prominent As War Cause

by George F. Griffiths

Youth in its search for the truth has had to face the fact that history throughout the ages has been written and taught from the viewpoint of an owning class. Glorification of National figures; making of history the result of indomitable will of leaders rather than the play of economic forces has been the weapon of "status quo" apologists in shading and submerging historical truth.

Our American text book writers, especially in reference to American Wars, have not failed in this intellectual prostitution. With another "Memorial Day" just upon us, it is cause for wonder if it is not the days of fat boodle-getting wars our ruling class respectables are "remembering" rather than the boys in blue or khaki they sacrificed in the process.

Calhoun, Confesses

The war of 1812 was an American Imperialist venture with ambitions to bring Canada, Mexico and East and West Florida under American dominion. To prove this it is only necessary to quote reliable patriots of the time. John C. Calhoun, then a

member of Congress, made this statement in the House: "I believe that in four week from the time a declaration of war is heard on our frontier, the whole of upper Canada and a part of lower Canada will be in our power."

John Adair, noted soldier of the time wrote: "The Kentuckians are full of enterprise and although not poor, as greedy after plunder as ever the old Romans were; Mexico glitters in our eyes—the word is all we wait for." The war with Mexico to bring Texas into the Union was fought on the insistence of the southern slave owners, then in control of the government, who felt that this was the only way to guarantee that Texas would become a "slave state."

A Sugared War

The Spanish-American War was not fought because the Spaniards saw the battleship "Maine," but in the interest of the American Sugar Trust. It was necessary to bring Cuba under United States control in order to assure the American Sugar interests the domination of the sugar industry and the protection of their investments in Cuba.

One of the most distorted events in American history is the Revolution of 1776. In considering the causes of this conflict we must know the attitude of the British capitalists in regard to the colonies. At the time, there existed what historians have termed the Mercantile System. It regarded colonial trade as the property of the citizens of the mother country, to be monopolized by them and subservient to their interests. It meant that raw materials were to be shipped from the colonies to England, sold back to the colonies in the form of finished products. Raw materials were to be sold only to England. This latter gave rise to smuggling on the part of American merchant capitalists.

D.A.R. Heroes Were Smugglers They would smuggle goods and raw materials, duty free, into the world market, where they undersold British capitalists, who had to pay taxes on their merchandise. John Hancock

"Great Man" History Theory Gives Way To Economic Facts

"prince of smugglers" and Alexander Hamilton were quite active in this "illegal industry." Britain passed several laws to curb the activities of smugglers. The Boston Tea Party was a direct result of the British Government giving the East India Company a tax rebate on 17,000,000 pounds of tea, which enabled them to undersell Hancock and others in the American Market. Needless to say John Hancock was quite instrumental in organizing that famous tea party in Boston.

In the middle Atlantic colonies, a rising industrial capitalist class developed. This group violated another tenet of the mercantile system. They created finished products in the colonies and were able to undersell British industrialists.

The attempt on the part of British Fur Companies to stop western settlement hindered Washington and others in attempting to make fortunes from accumulating choice lands. The refusal upon the part of Britain to permit the colonies to print their own money, which they had constantly reprinted in order to enable American merchants to pay their debts to British merchants.

The colonies had been printing their

own money in such large quantities as to be practically worthless. This was done to furnish American merchants with paper to pay off their debts to British merchants. Britain therefore prohibited the colonies from issuing any more paper money.

The above are some of the outstanding economic causes of the American Revolution. The various acts (Stamp Act etc.) which text books tell us were causes of the Revolution were merely the methods used by the British Capitalists to end smuggling, debt repudiation, etc. on the part of the new owning class of America. The Revolution occurred and was inevitable because of the conflict of interest between the rising American capitalists and British capitalists.

Slavery Not Civil War Cause

One of the most important armed conflicts in America was the Civil War. Students are told that this war was brought about because of the existence of slavery. It is a beautiful theory, but does not bear out historic truth. Several facts bear out this statement. Indications are that slaves were better treated at the outbreak of war than they had been for hundreds of years previous, mainly because they cost more and it would be foolish to damage such valuable property. The North was no more moral on the question

For A Complete Picture of the Great Student Strike

The May Issue of THE STUDENT OUTLOOK 5c
Featuring "The Great Student Strike"
THE CAMPUS STRIKES AGAINST WAR 10c
by Joseph P. Lash

A 48 page pamphlet comparing the student anti-war movement of 1917 with that of today.

Student League for Industrial Democracy
112 EAST 19th STREET
NEW YORK CITY

"Silly Symphony"

Sing a song of Europe
Highly Civilized,
Four and twenty nations
Thoroughly hypnotized.
When the battle opened
The bullets began to sing.
Wasn't that a silly thing
To do for any king?

The kings were in the background
Issuing commands;
The queens were in the parlors
By etiquette's demands;
The bankers in the counting-house
Busy multiplying,
And all the rest were at the front,
Doing all the dying.

ORGANIZATION
BY THE NATIONAL
SECRETARY

Membership Drive... May Study
Street Meetings... National
Classes... Investigation Com-
missions...

Street corner meetings will get off to a late start due to the weather. Berk County promises to lead off with weekly meetings at 8th and Washington Streets... the St. Louis Yipsels concentrated on selling literature and Challenges at the big Socialist Party carnival held May 10-12... Aaron Levenstein represented the NEC in a speech of greeting to the delegates to the Workmen's Circle Convention...

A "share an organizer" arrangement has been made by the Detroit and Toledo Leagues, with Ben Fischer on the job in both cities Milwaukee County YPSL reports several new circles being added to its numbers. The county membership has elected Harold C. Schrubbe Secretary, and Chuck Hryniewiecki as County Organizer... Cleveland Yipsels promised a hot time to all at their Pop Corn Ball May 18. The County League promises to have five circles by the end of the membership drive instead of the present number of three.

Efforts in behalf of Tom Mooney's freedom are increasing. Reading, Pa. held a defense meeting on May 14 at the Labor Lyceum, with speeches and a Rebel Arts Mass recitation... Field Day will be held on June 9 by the New York City League at the Rice Stadium in Pelham Bay Park... Cultural work is spreading with drama groups active in Brownsville, Brighton, Boro Park and East Bronx. Dance groups are tripping in Brownsville and West Bronx... Melvin Willbach, New Jersey organizer, reports new circles on the way in Morristown and the Oranges.

Los Angeles is starting to hold Monthly News Summary meetings. A study class is being held using "Why Aren't We All Rich" as the text... San Francisco included attendance at the Symphony, and a violin concert in their cultural features, while their Treasure Hunt attracted much interest... Circle 2 St. Chicago members enjoyed a roller skating party... the Debs Circle of Cleveland heard an expose of the cosmetic racket in a talk on "Skin Deep." Study classes on Socialism are reported from all sections of the YPSL map. Cook County gets some of its members and friends up early on Sunday morning to attend the class conducted by Dr. Ross Stagner... Dr. Karl Turner is leading a bi-weekly study program for the New Britain, Conn. Circle... A more than 100% increase in membership in the Gardner, Mass. circle has resulted in the formation of a class to train them in the fundamentals of Socialism. Peter Wartianen is the teacher... The Outline on Socialist Economics, prepared by Gus Tyler is being used by the Westminster, Mass circle for study during the last half of the Membership Drive.

St. Louis reports two classes in Public speaking, and a study group on "Socialism, Utopian and Scientific." Bronx, New York Jr. circles are holding a joint study class for new members. The Cleveland Challengers circle will have their study class in the open air on Saturday... Buffalo, Toledo, Ashland, Pa., and Bethlehem, circles all report classes of their own, while Pittsburgh is continuing its County beginners group.

The leading circles in Membership gains thus far in the National Drive are 1 Sr. St. Louis, 7 Jr. Chicago and 1 Jr. Ashland, Pa. The circles which have done the most visiting of prospects and contacts thus far have been 8 Sr. Chicago, Newark, N. J., 7 Sr. Bronx and 1 Sr. St. Louis. In a house to house canvas, each member of Circle 7 Sr. Bronx contacted 60 persons who are definitely prospects.

The Bay View Sr. circle has arranged a study course in Socialism in cooperation with the Milwaukee Public Library. Members and friends are required to read at least five books on an approved list, and those who complete this reading course satisfactorily receive a Library diploma. Plans are being made to extend the course to other sections of Milwaukee... The latest addition to the list of YPSL local bulletins and papers is that issued by the Wisconsin State Federation. A "Name the Bulletin" contest is being held. Some suggestions already made include "The Voice in the Dark," "The Yipsel Yowl, Wisconsin Trail Blazer,

American Agriculture! Child Labor Exploiter No. 1!

This is the second of series of articles appearing in the Challenge on the conditions of youth in the United States by the Chairman of the New York State Youth Committee Against Child Labor. The first article by Plavner was on Child Labor in the Sweat Shop industries. The next will take us among working youth in on of America's basic industries.

By MURRAY PLAVNER

According to the 1930 Census, nearly 470,000 children 10 to 15 years were "gainfully occupied" in agricultural work, on April 1, 1930. This however is an under-statement of the member of children thus employed. It does not include children under 10 years of age, nor does it include the many thousands of children engaged in beet cultivation and other forms of industrialized agriculture whose work does not begin until after April 1, the date on which the Census was taken.

Agriculture in several respects presents one of the most serious of all child labor problems. It involves more than twice as many child workers as all other occupations together; it includes a large number of very young workers; it employs thousands of children as migratory workers; it presents difficult problems of control. Much of the work is characterized by long hours, repetitive processes, unsuitable and sometimes hazardous conditions, interference with school attendance and absence of supervision.

Nomads

Children are employed in farm work on three different bases: (1) Some work on the home farm which their parents cultivate as owners, renters, tenants, or croppers; (2) some work for wages, i.e., are hired out; and (3) some work with their parents under a contract system. Many of the latter groups are migratory workers, who go with their parents into the fields in the early spring and do not return until late fall. In some states they follow the crops from place to place during the greater part of the year. Such a

nomadic life not only creates educational problems but gives rise to grave social and health problems.

The New York Times of March 24, 1935 (not 1835) reveals a possible picture of American Youth at work—such as the cramped positions of child workers pulling and topping beets, weeding onions, or suckering and worming tobacco, the excessive heat under the tents in shade grown tobacco fields, the exposure to the dampness and cold at the end of the beet and cranberry seasons, the dangerous accidents from the use of knives and the operation of farm machinery by children who are denied the opportunities of comradeship, play and happiness, so that—but the reasons are too well known....

The Time's Picture

Let's see what the leading newspaper of America has found out about the conditions of the "flower of the nation": (N. Y. Times, March 24, 1935).

"To hundreds of thousands of boys and girls, many as young as 6, a Federal survey indicates, the coming of the end of the school semester means not the beginning of a time of freedom and play, but of a period of toil that often starts at sunrise and ends at sundown.

"In tobacco lands in harvest time, little boys of 6 put in ten and twelve hours a day, moving along on their hands and knees, gathering the lower leaves.

"In cotton fields they sling their bags across their shoulders and, from early morn until the last rays of the sun fall on the white bolls, gather the balls of fluff that will be packed into bales and marked off against the father's debt. One hears of the

yearning of a 12-year-old boy toward the day when he will be old enough to get a job in a mill and work only eight hours a day.

"Home on the Farm"

"Housing conditions in most places more than duplicates slum conditions in the most deeply congested industrial centers. Barns, shacks and tents are the rule as housing quarters, with sanitation equipment pared down to the most primitive.

"After an early breakfast, cooked as a rule, on an outdoor fire and eaten outdoors, the family goes off to its labors. For eight, ten, twelve hours a day, sometimes longer, the children stay there, busy at the tasks assigned them. Dinner is eaten in the fields and nightfall finds them back to their sleeping quarters.

"More vicious is the direct employment of children as wage earners. Most of these are recruited from cities, town and villages adjacent to agricultural districts. Children seeking employment in beet fields, onion fields, berry fields, tobacco fields, gather at certain designated places in their communities which by custom have become a sort of labor mart and there the farmers or their representatives meet them and make their selections....

Even Child Labor is a Commodity

"Sometimes they are hired on a per-diem basis, sometimes on a piece-work basis, varying with the time of year and the type of crop—so much a day for weeding, so much a bushel or quart or pound for digging beets, picking berries, plucking tobacco leaves. In some places they sleep in bunks near the fields, in others they are met by farm trucks in towns and villages every morning and returned there every night.

"Apart from compulsory education laws, differing for the various states, there are no measures to prevent the working of children in the fields, no laws regulating their work. In some states schools close for sowing periods in the Spring and for harvesting periods in the Fall, as well as during the summer months. Migratory families, often on the move from March until November, evade school regulations by crossing State borders and working in territory where, as non-residents, they are difficult to control."



and Yipsel Spotlight.

Milwaukee YPSL held a Hobby Show and Photo Exhibition at their County Headquarters at 2482 W. Walnut St. on May 22. Excellent opportunity for revealing views of capitalism as it is in photos of "how the other half (or 90%) lives." Concentrated efforts are being made to insure the success of the First Annual May Dance. An eight piece band will perform at the K of P. Hall, and admission has been set at only 25c.

Eight commissions appointed by the NEC to secure complete data on youth conditions have already gotten down to work in compiling the facts on how youth lives in the USA. The reports will be presented to the National Convention at Pittsburgh, and will later be published as a good propaganda pamphlet. The subjects being investigated are Military Training, Youth and Unemployment, Federal Aid to Youth, Youth In Industry, Child Labor, Public School System, and Student Problems.

SODA JERKERS UNITE

St. Louis—Rejecting a company union, soda jerkers employed by the Walgreen Drug Co., large chain drug store, have chosen the Soda Dispenser's Union, Local 74, in a regional board election, by a 33 to 23 vote.

MEMORIAL DAY MEDITATIONS

(Continued from Page 2)

of Slavery in 1860 than previously. Wendell Philips and William Lloyd Garrison, two ardent abolitionists were mobbed in Boston. Stephen A. Douglas, who favored slavery was sent to the Senate by the State that furnished Lincoln. Lincoln and the Republican Party campaigned on a program of non-interference with slavery.

Real Causes Were Economic

The war was not fought because the north hated secession and loved Union. New England threatened to secede because of the war of 1812. The west had threatened secession repeatedly, because it felt itself oppressed by the east.

Economic antagonisms between the industrial north and the south, which culminated in 1860 were the causes of Civil War. The South needed large areas of land in order to expand its cotton plantations. Northern capitalism needed land to expand its industries. There arose a struggle as to whether the states should be "Slave states" or not. Both groups tried

to use the government in opposite ways to advance their interests.

Cotton Imperialism

The nature of cotton raising, which laid waste large areas of land in a few years, forced the plantation owners to look longingly toward South America, Cuba and other southern territories. They were anxious for the national government to enter on a program of conquering new lands suitable for the raising of cotton. When the National Government passed into the hands of the Northern capitalists with the election of Lincoln and the Republican Party, the south realized that for them expansion was impossible. Unless the plantation owners could control the government they were doomed to economic failure. It was inevitable that they should attempt to secede and create a government under their control.

The North, on the contrary, had a strong interest in maintaining the Union. Northern capitalists regarded the south somewhat as a colony. They wanted a monopoly on the raw cotton of the south. Debts owned to northern capitalists by southern "gentlemen" were repudiated by the Confederate government. Northern capitalism had to expand and could best do so in territory under its political control. Result: Civil War and later the writing of a lot of idealistic and humanitarian "bunkum" in textbooks by capitalist apologists.

SOLIDARITY

By the National Industrial Secretary of YPSL.

Students for Labor!..... Colt Workers Strike..... St. Louis Turns Off Gas..... Militant ILGWU.....

Socialist youth has been playing a remarkably effective role in awakening students to the necessity of fighting with and for organized labor. Pittsburgh comrades carried the fight of Local 205 of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and Chauffeurs, on strike against the local subsidiary of the National Dairy Co., into the schools by organizing students to boycott National Dairy products sold in school cafeterias.

Hartford, Conn: Relief work for the Colt Arms Co. strikers of this city is being carried on throughout Connecticut by the YPSL. The Hartford circle is taking the lead, ably seconded by the New Britain YPSL. This latter circle is also doing fine work for the Connecticut truck strikers.

This Colt Co. strike is one to watch. For many long weeks, the workers fought on picket line and before every conceivable kind of government mediation and arbitration board. Finally, so outrageous was the behavior of Colt's management, that the National Labor Board ordered the Blue Eagle withdrawn from the company.

But the interesting and ominous thing has been that the War Department still insists upon letting armament contracts be filled at Colts. It argues that "national defense," and therefore the munitions industry, is more important than justice to its workers. Colt Co. workers have learned what militarism means to their class.

St. Louis: Thousands more of strike bulletins for the battling Gas House Workers were distributed by St. Louis YPSL'ers. Unemployed work via the American Workers' Union is being vigorously pushed.

Newark: Seven Yipsels and 5 SP members were jailed while working in the ILGWU organization campaign here. One of the members is putting full time helping the Jersey City truck drivers Federal Union now on strike, after a long period of service with the Dye Workers.

Passaic, N. J.: The Passaic Labor League is putting on open air meetings with Young Socialist aid. Roselle, N. J.: Two members have been assigned to aid in the ILGWU organization drive. All non union shops are being bombarded with leaflets. Other comrades are busy picketing and leading singing at the Atlantic Rubber Co. strike.

New York City: Several small strikes still keep the local Industrial Department busy. The Unemployed Union is receiving excellent support from many circles, notably 7 Srs. in the Bronx. Funds are still being solicited for that Rolling Strike Relief Kitchen which should materialize any day now.

Richmond, Va: Hilliard Bernstein, member of the National Executive Board of the Workers Alliance of America is taking the lead in his circle's efforts to organize the unemployed and relief workers of Richmond.

Seattle, Wash: Either the ILGWU is Socialist Youth's favorite union, or it is the most active union, (or both). Off on the west coast Yipsels are lending strike aid to the militant garment workers.

CCC work must be intensified! More and more our Socialist message is finding root in the ranks of the CCC if we may judge by letters we receive from these camps.

Watch events in the A. F. of L. this summer! All signs point towards momentous changes at the Atlantic City convention of the Federation this coming fall; changes long overdue in the direction of industrial Unionism in particular.

The National Office of the YPSL has an excellent outline on the History of Trade Unionism in America which will give every young Socialist the necessary background for an understanding of the labor movement as a preliminary to our active work within it. Send a dime to YPSL, 549 Randolph St., Chicago, for this outline.

Drama of Depression Youth Bared Thru Cold Statistics

Every Third Future Plowed Under By Capitalism's Collapse

By James C. Hill

In these United States live 22½ millions of human beings whose ages range the gamut from 15 to 25. This is a group that comprises almost 20 per cent of our population, one person in every five. This is the Statistical Youth Of America.

Behind these interesting but lifeless numbers are 22½ million human dramas, 22½ million stories of a new generation undergoing the immortal process of "growing up."

Cycles of life

A small fraction of these young men and women, even in these dark depression years, still mature in the warmth and security of wealth. Their lives flow smoothly through pre-terminated channels of grammar and high school, college, a place in dad's firm, and then marriage, to renew again this cycle of a life unblighted by the corrosive mold of want.

But for the vast majority of these 22½ millions, the depression has brought home the pinch of poverty and the insecurity-fostered dread of tomorrow, previously deemed possible only in "outlandish" China. Engraven deeply in the experience of most young men and women of this generation is the memory of those tense days when dad came home with bowed head and dulled eyes to announce, in gruff, strained tones, the new wage cut, or, perhaps, a "temporary" layoff.

Dramas of Depression

In an article appearing in January's PROGRESSIVE EDUCATION, Prof. Mark A. May, expert on Educational Psychology at Yale University, takes up the facts about youth's life during depression—the lives of these 20 odd millions of futureless humans.

The normal sequence of events in the life career of American boys is first school, then employment, then marriage and a new family. The same pattern applies to girls, except that until recently, employment was not a prerequisite to the average marriage. The usual school age for the masses is from 6 to 18; the age of the first job is 16 to 20; and the marriage age is from 20 to 30.

Broken Lives

A major break has now occurred. There are in the United States from three to five million young men and women between the ages of 16 and 25 who are out of school, unmarried, and unemployed. This represents from a fifth to a quarter of the entire population of that age range. About one million have been out of school for four or five years and have, at best, received only part-time or temporary employment.

Seven million youth in the age group from 15 to 25 were in school in 1930; 10 million were at work and 5½ million out of school but not at work of which 2 million were employable and looking for work. Since that census, unemployment has jumped tremendously in the age group from 20 to 25, which however, does not show up markedly in the totals for the entire 15 to 25 range because of the tendency for youth under 20 now to continue at school.

Youth Stagnation Forecast

Professor May concludes: that the growing transient army is largely recruited from jobless youth forced to leave home to find sustenance; that at least three quarters of a million marriages have been postponed as a result of depression conditions. The greatest danger of these 5 million stranded youth is that they will stagnate in aimless drifting in their communities.

We have all read a statement coming from the Office of Education in Washington that since 1929 12 millions have reached the employable age, and that as far as facts enable us to judge, at least half of the number have not found steady employment. The U. S. Census shows that more than 2¼ million young people leave the high schools each year. Of these far less than half have completed the course.

Whether schooling stops with a

The International Labor Office has published the following estimates of percentage of youth unemployed in various countries:

Country	Per Cent	Age Range
Czechoslovakia	22.8	14-24
Denmark	28.1	18-25
Finland	33.3	16-25
Great Britain	30.2	14-24
Hungary	42.0	under 24
Italy	41.5	15-25
Netherlands	27.8	under 25
Norway	27.0	18-24
Sweden	33.7	16-25
United States	27.6	15-24

In Germany since a national law was passed on October 1, 1934, making it illegal to employ young workers below the age of 25 in any factory, youth are almost totally jobless, except those herded into Hitler's compulsory labor camps.

The conditions which these figures reveal, are the basis for the petition to be presented at the International Labor Conference in Geneva, June 4, by the Socialist Young International, for special and urgent attention to the world problem of jobless youth.

college degree or after a few years of grammar school, the chance of employment is equally slight. This is as true in the country as in the city. Dr. O. E. Baker, of the Department of Agriculture, estimates that there are 3 million young people living on farms where their labor is not needed.

"Capitalism Preserves the Family"

The CCC camps were the administration's attempt to meet the problem of jobless youth driven out from home onto the road. But even today a recent estimate by Professor Thomas Minehan, of the University of Minnesota, shows a quarter of a million of the "transient youth" still "transient," and another study has brought out that between 25% and 40% of all homeless persons are under 21 years of age.

Freight cars instead of homes mean promiscuity, perversion, crime, and a complete unsettling of what we are fond of calling "normal life." Even for those who remain at home, normal sex and family relations are made well high impossible by the economic insecurity blighting their lives. The estimated recent drop of 750,000 in early marriages tells its own story.

Depression Lessons

"Growing up" in the depression! It is these now commonplace conditions that enable us to venture the one generalization we can make about 22 million youth. And that generalization is that six years of depression has immensely speeded the "growing up" process.

Thousands upon thousands of these young men and women, knowing themselves educated, trained, and fitted for a productive life, have at last come to realize that no matter what they do to better themselves in their own little sphere, they are on a world that is rapidly sliding from beneath their feet.

The Fundamental Discovery

The keener, more energetic ones, soon learn that not alone can they bring themselves the life they had been led to expect. They quickly make the fundamental discovery of all: That mankind is divided, for bread and butter purposes, into the class that needs jobs to live, and the class that controls these jobs because it owns the land and machinery.

Here is where the Young People's Socialist League takes these young men and women and turns them into conscious, educated fighters for the world of plenty. It educates them to know that only in the ranks of the workers and farmers of America is growing the movement that will eventually, if civilization is to progress, remove control of these United States from the hands of those who control the jobs for profit and give it back into the keeping of those to whom these jobs mean life.

YPSL ON PARADE



The leading banner-bearers of the YPSL contingent in New York City's greatest May Day Parade in which over 100,000 participated. Six hundred blue-shirted Young Socialists marched in perfect formation, while many others marched with their unions or student organizations. An equally colorful contingent was furnished the recent "No More War Parade" on May 12 by the New York YPSL.

Red "Falcon Call" Young Socialists! Appears in Print For Workers' Children Attend Summer Training Schools

By Janet McDowell

The escape of the Falcon Call from the mimeographed class is a matter for congratulation.

Leafing through the May Day number is a distinct pleasure. The variety of material presented is wide enough to appeal to the most diverse interests—stories, games, stamps, nature study, crossword puzzles and poems.

Profuse illustrations make the magazine attractive. Some of the pictures are amusing, such as the one at the top of the page of the story, "The Ship from Mars." Others are useful, particularly the ones illustrating "Fal Con-Craft." Those which are simplest are the best, as the detailed ones tend to be confusing to young readers.

"Wild West"

"Tom the Cowboy" is a very good type of story for children. It has the western atmosphere that children love, at the same time driving home an excellent lesson. "The Ship from Mars" has a touch of the supernatural which puts it in the fairy tale class, and the idea of the peace rays is a particularly inspired piece of writing.

The play, "Down South," will give flights material to work on for their entertainments. A few simple stage directions would not be amiss. Credit should be given to the authors of the various stories.

Letters and poems are excellent ways for children to express themselves. The crossword puzzle is workable (this adult reviewer did it in ten minutes). 23 down would be a real puzzle to readers west of the Hudson, but the cross words would

Chicago—Twelve Socialist Workers' Summer Schools will be held throughout the country from June through August, each lasting from 6 to 14 days.

The purpose of these schools will be to train workers to carry on Socialist and union organization work in their home communities. All members of the Socialist Party or Young People's Socialist League are eligible to apply for admission.

Cost is Dollar per Day

Tuition, board and lodging are all covered by exceptional low fees, ranging from \$6 to \$14. The course will cover history of the labor and Socialist movements, Socialist fundamentals, organization tactics and methods and public speaking.

New York City's Rand School will hold another SUMMER INSTITUTE, Sunday, June 23rd to Sunday June 30th, inclusive. The first five days will be in New York City, the last three at Camp Tamiment for labor conferences on "LABOR, INDUSTRY and the GOVERNMENT," with outstanding labor speakers. Board and lodging will be \$2 per day, and tuition costs may be covered by scholarships which Socialists and sympathizers may apply for. Information on these schools may be secured from YPSL, 549 Randolph St., Chicago.

give the solution even to that.

Story of May Day

"The Story of May Day" is very readable, and combines admirably the interesting story and the purposes and history of May Day. This type of article is particularly palatable to young people. The illustrations are graphic.

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On with the Challengers

By SUB CHASER

January, 1935.... 6,000 Challenges sold. April, 1935.... 7,000 sold. May, 1935.... 8,000 sold! But enough of commendation for you Challengers. We've got a real job cut out for us because instead of waiting to hit 10,000 circulation at the end of this year as originally scheduled, we're going to sell 10,000 copies of our 8-page July issue.... the National Convention Number!

That's jumping the gun by six months, but we can do it. Here's what we want:

1. Five hundred new subs in during this month of June.
2. Five thousand individual greetings to the YPSL in honor of its 8th National Convention. These greetings are but a dime each so that 5,000 chain is child's play!
3. Record bundle sales of 7,000 copies during July!

And incidentally, here's a promise! If all Challenge supporters do their stuff, the August issue will likewise be 8-pages.... and after that, try and make us come down! The secret of how to make this a reality is "Challenge Consistency." Challenge Consistency means sending in 4 subs each and every month on the part of each and every Challenger. Ok, that's our future forecast, and now for a wee bit of cooperation to sustain our reputation as a prophet. Last month's harvest.... mighty poor in subs we must say.

PENNSYLVANIA (25) Altoona: Through no fault of its own, Pennsylvania takes first place this month. 17 subs were picked up in this city by west bound NEC members returning from a New York meeting. State Secretary Milt Weisberg did the talking which explains the fine job.

Pittsburgh: Tillie Smith maintains her pace with a quartet from the National Convention town.

NEW YORK (18) Brooklyn: We've been holding back our big surprise till June writes Ruth Oxman, Greater N.Y.C. secretary. We're waiting Ruth. But meanwhile Bob Parker, who is now on a National Organization tour across the Eastern half of the U. S. sends in two quintuplets—of subs. Kermit Haber comes through with another half dozen. Very good duet; how about the rest of the choir coming in?

ILLINOIS (17) Decatur: What with operating public address systems, stereopticons, movies and a prehistoric Ford at the Illinois Socialist Convention, it's a miracle that brothers Devin and Olsen got even 7 subs. Chicago: Max Weinrib did as well single-handed with 7 more.

WISCONSIN (13) Milwaukee: Only Helen Lehr sent in enough subs, 8, worth-while mentioning. And she vows to repeat.

INDIANA (7) Roy Lancaster again comes through with 7 more, which he accumulated with the help of Hoot Rasmussen. Both boys are still going great guns organizing Indiana's all-too-many jobless.

MASSACHUSETTS (6) Everett: Morris Berzon, a newcomer to our Challenger Army, comes through with this state's total May gains.

CALIFORNIA (5) San Francisco: Skipping to the other side of the U.S.A. here's Harry Becker with 4 more sunkist subs.

CONNECTICUT (5) Bridgeport: We had to jump back to the east coast pretty quick, but here's Ray Bowman after almost a year's vacation with 5 again! Keep it up this time, Ray!

NEW JERSEY (5) State Organizer Melvin Willbach gets in 4 from a state that's becoming vigorously active.

That rounds off our all too slim May sub gains. We've got to make June count. Don't forget: 500 subs; 5,000 dime greetings, 6,000 bundle sales, 10,000 total circulation for that July National Convention 8-pager!

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