

CHALLENGE

Vol. 1—No. 2

Chicago, Ill., May, 1933

Official Organ of the Young People's Socialist League

Price 5 Cents

YOUTH MEET AT CONGRESS

Child Labor Wages Strike On Peonage

Sweat Shop Conditions Reach New Depths in Pennsylvania.

ALLENTOWN, Pa. — "Baby strikers" the daily press calls them, girls and boys of 14, 15 and 16 on the picket line of the Penn Allen Shirt Co. here and at the D and D Shirt Co. in nearby Northampton.

They are on strike nearly 400 strong against "sweat shop" conditions and wages that fairly make the brain reel in horror to contemplate. Under the leadership of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, the child workers have gone on strike at these two plants to demand prompt payment of their meager wages which some have had to go to court to collect, and restoration of a sweeping reduction in wages that before the cut averaged less than 5 cents an hour.

They insist on the recognition of a union to protect them against unscrupulous employers whose count on piece work never tallies with the workers' tally to the "sweat coiners" invariable profit.

Invited by Chambers of Commerce.

In the area around Allentown, Penn., in the towns of Bangor, Emus, Catasqua, Northampton and smaller communities better than 3,200 boys and girls less than 20 years of age, one-fourth of them between 14 and 16 years of age are employed in the "sweat shops" that have sprung up in recent depression years. These were invited by the Chambers of Commerce and tradesmen's associations on the principle that "a sweated industry is better than no industry at all" — for the profiteer, large or small.

The Pennsylvania Power and Light Co., whose immense dividends are a marvel to investors, was responsible for securing favors such as free rent, tax exemption, etc., for the sweating concerns so that they could come to this area when other states like New York passed restrictive legislation.

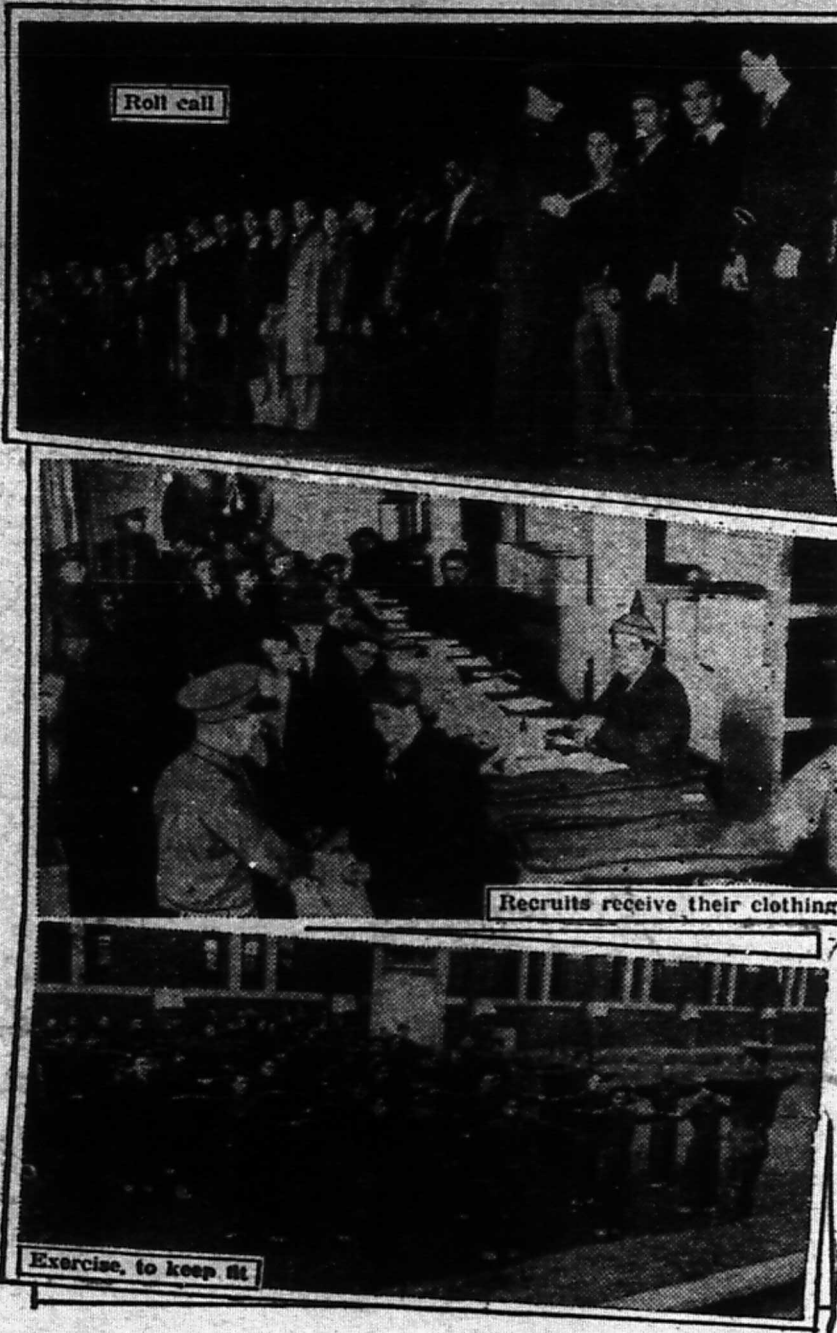
Police and Education Board Hostile.

The first week of the strike brought differing results in the two main plants affected. At the Allentown plant, picket lines of the youthful strikers were strong and well organized from the first and few of them deserted to enter the shop. At Northampton where Burgess Fox has asserted that the sweat shops were better than no industry at all, the strikers turned out at 6:30 in the morning to find that the Burgess had called out the borough's entire police force to "defend" the D and D plant of the Dashefsky brothers.

The untrained youngsters shuddered at the sight of the 10 uniformed police officers headed by the 286-pound Chief Hiestand and at the prominently plastered "No Trespassing" signs. Instead of forming the parading picket lines as planned they gathered in little knots and watched the weaker ones go back to work.

Proprietor Dashefsky stood in the door of the factory waving checks, already overdue to some of the strikers, and inviting them to come in. Some were persuaded to remain with their comrades, but after two or three days various tactics of the most unscrupulous sort enabled the D and D factory to go back to about 60 per cent of its usual operation. Burgess Fox permitted rumors to be circulated that relief would be cut off from families which had a stubborn striker in its midst, thus revealing

Turn to Page Four, Column Four.



—Courtesy Milwaukee Leader

Pres. Roosevelt's Fascist Army of 250,000 Mobilizes

FT. SHERIDAN, Ill. (F.P.)—Brought in at the rate of 400 a day, Chicago's quota for the Roosevelt army of 250,000 young, able-bodied unemployed are learning what it is to live under a drill sergeant with every waking hour regulated by bugle call and guards.

They get up when the bugler blows reveille at 6 and they put lights out and roll in at 9. The intervening 15 hours are punctuated by other bugle calls and other orders barked at them by hard-boiled drill masters who have spent their lives whipping rookies into military docility.

Speculation on the ultimate use to be made by Roosevelt of the 250,000 young potential fighters who will have had six months of discipline and training in elementary military co-operation takes two

main lines. One school regards it as a scheme for increasing the United States army strength from 100,000 to 350,000 for use in the expected war with Japan. The other school believes that the Roosevelt policies of helping the owning and ruling class without any real aid to the forgotten man will require larger military force to suppress discontent at home than the regular army can furnish.

The legionnaires are getting old and many of them are rebellious under his slashing of veterans' benefits. The new "army" will be of good fighting age, 18 to 25, unmarried and childless, easy bait for fascist government propaganda, it is argued. If Roosevelt wants to be undisputed dictator he is providing the makings of his own brown shirts, these theorists believe.

U. S. United Front Off, Says Senior

CHICAGO (FP)—A united front, that is, a joint policy on agreed issues between the Communist and Socialist parties in the United States will not be undertaken by the Socialist party until the Labor and Socialist (Second) International has completed an understanding with the Communist (Third) International, says Clarence Senior, secretary of the Socialist party. He announced a referendum decision of the national executive committee.

Signs of the Times.

1931: Check books of a certain New York bank contained 297 blanks.

1933: Check books of the same bank contained 96 blanks.

1934: No checks?

1935: No banks?

93 Students Vote Anti-War at N. U.

EVANSTON, Ill. (FP)—Ninety-three out of 116 Northwestern university students voted for a resolution not to fight for their country under any circumstances, after a debate in which the commander of the Evanston branch of the American legion led the militarist side. The Rev. Theodore Hume of the New England Congregational church, Chicago, led the pacifist side.

Become a CHALLENGER!

NEW YORK (F.P.)—To give point to discussion of how to treat America's homeless youth, Pioneer Youth of America will give revival performances of *The Road to Life*, soviet film showing how the U.S.S.R. solved a similar problem.

Young Workers, Students To Have Special Section At Washington Assembly

N. E. C. Resolution

A new Continental Congress for Economic Reconstruction has been called in Washington, D. C., on May 6 and 7 by several hundred working class organizations including the Socialist party, trade unions, unemployed, co-operative, veteran, farmer and youth groups.

The national and local governments have proven themselves either incapable or unwilling to cope with the major and vital problems of unemployment, poverty and inequality.

Young people are especially affected by the reluctance of the responsible people to act and to act fast.

Young people graduating from school are suddenly thrown into a world where they cannot be used.

Students are forced to leave school before graduation with the vain hopes of finding jobs to support themselves and their parents.

Young workers who are fortunate to have a job are paid starvation wages.

Unemployed youth are discriminated against in relief distribution. This calls for ACTION!

The Young People's Socialist League of America heartily indorses the Continental Congress and sends out a call to all its branches, to all youth organizations, and to the unorganized young workers and students of this country, to participate in this move of the workers and farmers to call their own congress.

We hail the Continental Congress!

On to Washington, May 6 and 7. National Executive Committee, Young People's Socialist League.

GEORGE A. SMERKIN, National Secretary.

April 15, 1933, Reading, Pa.

Yipsels Elect 4 Officials in Illinois Town

There's no party branch in Taylor Springs, Ill., but the Yipsel circle saw to it that the Socialist ticket was not omitted in the last city election. Three trustees and the city treasurer were elected, the remaining office falling into the hands of the reactionaries.

The secretary of the circle, Bruno Ferrari, reports that the circle is now busy building a Socialist local as they realize that officials, not backed by a powerful Socialist organization, are helpless.

The Taylor Springs circle was organized entirely on the initiative of the local comrades who felt the need of a genuine working class alternative to the Young Democratic club which was drawing many workers into its ranks. They wrote to *The American Guardian* for help and were promptly put in touch with the national office of the Young People's Socialist League by Siegfried Ameringer.

Proceeding on instruction they formed their circle without help from outside and when the first political contest came in the April elections, this year, they carried out their campaign in the same workman-like fashion, gaining majority vote for the larger part of their ticket in straight Socialist votes on the basis of the necessity for independent working class political action through their own party.

Yipsels Represented by Large Delegations at Historic Gathering

CHICAGO, Ill.—Just 47 years after the first planned nation wide battle of the working class in America, the eight-hour day movement and general strike of 1886 which made May Day an international workingman's holiday, the American working class, laborer and farmer alike this time, are on the march to Washington to a congress of their class.

Many of the delegates, trade unionists, organized unemployed, militant farmers, rank and file working class veterans, Socialists and Farmer-Laborites will be already on the road to Washington when historic May Day 1933 dawns.

Even before the Washington congress gathers, Pennsylvania workers have set up a constituent assembly of working class groups at Reading, Pennsylvania. On March 6, of this year, the industrial director of the Young People's Socialist League of America at the time engaged in legislative reporting and unemployed organization work at the Pennsylvania state capital, submitted to the United Workers' council of Berks county, a memorandum calling for an All Pennsylvania Labor Congress on Organization and Unemployment.

Members of the Y. P. S. L. from Reading, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia were among the delegates and two young Socialists, Robert Cullum of the Unemployed Union of Pottsville and John Coveleski of the Unemployed Workers League of Mt. Carmel were elected to the executive committee of the federation.

Youth Section of Washington Congress.

At the Continental Congress on Economic Reconstruction at Washington, May 6 and 7, the youth delegates from the Young Peoples Socialist League, Co-operative Youth, the Red Falcons, Pioneer Youth, the Young Circle League, the Intercollegiate Student Council and other labor youth organizations will hold a special section meeting during the congress at the same time as the agricultural, unemployed, social and economic reconstruction and similar sections will be held; their specialized gatherings.

George A. Smerkin 549 Randolph st., Chicago, Ill., is provisional secretary of the youth committee composed of representatives of the named youth organizations. Young Peoples Socialist League circles have taken the lead among labor youth organization in preparing to send delegates, but a special youth conference on the Continental Congress has been organized in New York with heavy representation from all groups.

From St. Louis, Chicago, New York, California, southern Illinois, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts come reports of strong Yipsel delegations, and many Yipsels from Illinois are beating their way across the country armed with the credentials of full fledged delegates of unemployed organizations and trade unions of which they are active members.

At the Reading meeting of the national executive of the Y. P. S. L. in April, Julius Umansky, national chairman and Arthur G. McDowell, industrial director, were chosen to represent the national organization at the congress.

RED BRIEFS FOR REDS, SAYS SOCIALIST LAWYER

(This is the first of a series of articles on Yipsel and party leaders in the Socialist movement. Send in suggestions, we will do the work.—Editors.)

HARRISBURG, Pa. — In the heavy air of an afternoon court room scene in the wealthy county of Montgomery, Pennsylvania, during the stale days of post-war reaction, an aged member of the bench broke the monotony of proceedings by suddenly lashing out at a young lawyer who was presenting briefs.

"Why do you use this red backing on all your briefs?" the jurist demanded. "Well, I like the color for one thing" replied the youthful pleader with a flashing grin. "Is it because you are a Socialist?" the judge continued peevishly. "Partly," replied the jolly radical. "Well when you finish your present supply don't get anymore," instructed the august figure on the bench.

Representative Darlington Hoopes, Socialist member of the Pennsylvania legislature and probably the best liked and most feared man in the house of representatives, today still backs his briefs in red. "You see that judge died before I exhausted my supply," he explains with a twinkle in his eye.

Member of a Quaker farming family which came to Pennsylvania in the early 18th century and in spite of Quaker convictions, managed to play a quite active part in the American Revolution of 1776, Darlington Hoopes has been an active member of the Socialist party since he was 21. State secretary of Pennsylvania, member of the state executive committee of the Socialist party, he is increasingly looked upon as an absolutely uncompromising working class spokesman both on the public platform and in the Penna legislature.

Like most active Socialists, Hoopes was a candidate for his party in every year's recurring political struggle from the time he was 21, each year until on the thirtieth occasion the workers of Reading, Pennsylvania, sent him to the house of representatives of the Pennsylvania legislature, in the election of 1930. Together with his Socialist colleague, Representative Lilt Wilson, also of Reading, he entered the house just one of two Socialist votes in 184 Republicans and 22 Democrats.

From being viewed with tolerant suspicion, he came by the end of the first session to be looked upon with both respect and fear as an absolutely uncompromising spokesman for his class, the workers, and as an extremely dangerous antagonist on the floor. From the time when



DARLINGTON HOOPES.

his sharp speeches were deliberately drowned amid the rattling of papers, the banging of desks and loud conversation, it came to be by the end of the session, that the words of recognition from the speaker, "the Gentleman from Berks, Mr. Hoopes," were the signal for a swinging around of chairs to face the back benches and a tense silence.

That respect was not diminished by two special unemployment relief sessions to which the legislature was summoned back just as the Socialist spokesman had warned them would be the case each time.

In 1932, in spite of the hysterical Democratic party wave, the workers of Reading returned Hoopes and Mrs. Wilson to the legislature with a greatly increased vote. Throughout the critical months of 1933 "the gentleman from Berks, Mr. Hoopes," has continued to fight without compromise the battle of the working class, in the face of cries of economy, throwing his bills for capital levy and sweeping income taxes, to the cry of the squeezed producers; answering with sweeping anti-eviction bills and relief appropriations that made them stand aghast in spite of the tiny support the Socialists could muster in the reactionary house.

To the pleas of exhausted treasuries, Hoopes has set the workers demand to hand over industry to them to produce their necessities if the owners will not or cannot, and with Socialist forethought for a day when the workers will have power, has formulated the proposals in legislation form. But above all, this still youthful spokesman has established himself as mouthpiece of the workers, of their class.

Yipsels Stage Labor Drama

The Milwaukee county YPSL will present, Can You Hear Their Voices, written by Hallie Flanagan and Margaret Ellen Clifford, on May 28, 1933, at Jefferson hall, Twenty-seventh and Fond du Lac ave., at 8 p. m. The play is based on a story by Whittaker Chambers in The New Masses. The play deals with the conditions of the farmers of Arkansas, where the drought of 1930 put the finishing touches to the miserable conditions which these farmers had to contend with in the past 10 years. This demanded immediate relief and the play portrays these farmers trying to get relief and the capitalist class controlling the relief stations, refusing it.

Among the Yipsels taking part in the production are Pearl Zimmerman, county secretary; John Strobel, county treasurer; Fred Barth, Wilfred Willette, Jerry Rubin and Paul Schmidt.

READING, Pa. — The hospitality of the Reading comrades so impressed the national executive committee of the YPSL in April that it has tentatively set the scene of the national convention of the Young People's Socialist League at Reading, Aug. 26 and 27.

Every chartered circle as of record of May, 1933, will be entitled to one delegate, every circle averaging 20 stamps per month in the nine months preceding July to two delegates, and an average of 40 stamps

Young Comrades, the Best Place for Your Tonsorial Work Is
EMIL ESTRIN'S
BARBER SHOP
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Organization

BY NATIONAL SECRETARY.

How's This for Three Months?

Forty-one circles of the Young People's Socialist League were chartered by the national office during the last three months. These 41 circles had a total charter membership of 564, or an average of 13 for each circle. A minimum of seven charter members is required to organize a circle. These circles were in 12 states and 29 cities.

Significant in the records are the 10 circles organized in the heart of the Illinois coal area, where even now miners are being shot down in cold blood for daring to organize.

The states which added to their organizations were: California, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Washington, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

Weisberg Heads State Office.

The Pennsylvania state office has been moved to Pittsburgh, with Milt Weisberg, NEC member, acting as state secretary. The co-operation of the party in contributing part of the budget will make it possible for Weisberg to co-ordinate the activities of the 30 or so circles in the state and organize others. The YPSL state office is at 122 Ninth st., Pittsburgh.

Try Your Hand at Mimeographing!

The mimeographed leaflets issued by Yipel circles over the country have been surprisingly excellent. The art work, in particular, has been noteworthy. It proves that we can develop the creative talent needed in propaganda work within our ranks. Write to the national office (549 Randolph st., Chicago), or the eastern office (7 East Fifteenth st., New York), for sample copies of mimeographed leaflets.

"Pay Your Dues!" Campaign in Full Force.

Circle secretaries are advised that members who fail to get either regular or exempt stamps are NOT members of the YPSL. The national executive committee has ruled that delegates to the national convention will be apportioned according to dues stamps purchases for the nine months preceding July 1, 1933. Get your membership paid up to date or lose representation at the convention!

Will Your Delegates Be at the Congress?

Yipsel circles are writing that delegates are preparing to take the road to Washington. Most of them, of course, will bum their way across the country. A few affluent ones will find place in automobiles, and those who take the train will be expelled from the YPSL. May 6 and 7 are the big days! New York reports over 100 Yipsel delegates to the Continental Congress, and other places will be as well represented in proportion. Val Cotton, secretary of the New Orleans, La., circle, promises to be in Washington to represent the New Orleans Yipsels. Philadelphia is sending 40 Yipsels to the Congress. Will your delegates be there?

Get Ready for the Convention.

The national executive committee has set the date for the convention on Aug. 26 and 27. Reading (where so many successful league jamborees have been held), is the tentative convention city.

Now is the time for YPSL circles to prepare for the convention. Here are a few items to be taken care of as soon as possible:

- a. Discuss resolutions and league organization. Adequate discussion before hand will mean better informed delegates at the convention.
- b. Begin planning ways and means of sending delegates to Reading. No circle must fail to be represented.
- c. After resolutions have been discussed and adopted send copies to Aaron Levenstein, chairman, resolutions committee, 7 East Fifteenth st., New York city.

Carlville Yipsels Active in District.

The Yipsels at Carlville, Ill., besides building up their own organization, are spreading their influence into adjoining towns. Work done by Joe Heldt and Jim Shipley resulted in a circle at Auburn. Iola Fiorentini and Theresa Baldoni are two other active comrades. (See article elsewhere in the paper for further information on southern Illinois Yipsel activity.)

First Texas Circle Organized!

William Plampin (404 Labor st., San Antonio, Tex.), secretary of the newly organized circle, writes: "If this is the first YPSL circle in Texas we have something to be proud of and I hope that we can keep up the good work. We are also working on good prospects in the San Antonio Junior college." The other officers are: Henry Vogel, organizer; Melva Kaplan, treasurer, and Esther Pape, educational director. Watch the growth of Socialism in the Lone Star state!

Takes Action On Chicago Situation

Statement on Disciplining of Chicago City Y. P. S. L.

All Circle and the City charters of the Chicago Young Peoples Socialist League were suspended by unanimous vote of the National Executive committee of the Y. P. S. L. on April 15. The action came following the revelation by letter from former Chicago City Secretary Ed Weiner, that expelled members of the Socialist party, who were therefore no longer members of the Y. P. S. L. had been seated and permitted to vote at a City Central Committee of the Chicago Y. P. S. L.

A special subcommittee of the national executive was placed in charge of Chicago affairs, consisting of Arthur G. McDowell, George A. Smerkin, Jack Jaffe and Hy Fish.

Three members of the Socialist party, Ed Weiner, Sol Larks and Sylvia Arnstein were expelled from the party early in April by action of the Cook county executive committee on charges of breach of party discipline and solidarity at a May Day conference where they represented Chicago circles of the Young Peoples Socialist League under the jurisdiction of the Cook county executive.

Instead of pushing an appeal through the constituted Socialist channels there individuals sought to utilize their official position in the Young Peoples Socialist League as a means to defy the power of the Socialist party to discipline its members. They secured the right to sit at a city central committee meeting of the Y. P. S. L. by the most dubious of methods and voted on a resolution protesting their own expulsion among other things.

While asserting that their first interest was working class unity those concerned have failed to show any willingness to accept the first principles of working class discipline necessary within the Socialist party and between the Socialist party and the Young Peoples Socialist League, and having defied their party have now defied the authority of the entire national executive committee of the Young Peoples Socialist League by continuing to assert their right to function as Yipsel officers and withholding records in the hands of the former city secretary.

Circle No. 2, Jackson park and Circle No. 10, Roseland, have after brief examination by the subcommittee of the national executive, had their characters restored, and are functioning circles. Other sections will have their charters restored as fast as the special subcommittee can work. The Young Peoples Socialist League is a disciplined working class organization and the Yipsel national executive committee through its subcommittee will render a strict accounting to the membership and to the Socialist party on that basis.

ARTHUR G. McDOWELL,
HY FISH,
GEORGE SMERKIN,
JACK JAFFE,

Special Committee on Chicago Yipsel Affairs.

May Day Greeting
To Challenge
CLEVELAND YPSL.
Bob Parker, City Organizer;
Esther Levine, City Secretary.

Solidarity

BY INDUSTRIAL DIRECTOR.

A Call to Immediate Action.

On the basis of what were at the time confidential reports from Industrial Organizer Paul A. Rasmusen of Illinois, the national executive of the Yipsel at Reading meeting April 16 authorized the industrial director to as soon as possible issue in their name a call for an emergency relief drive under the leadership of the YPSL with the special purpose of relieving the state of siege of terror-ruled Franklin county, Illinois.

The industrial department, therefore, in view of the black wave of Fascist violence which it finds beating up from southern Illinois against the forces of the new rank and file unionists of the Progressive Miners, appeals to the circles of the YPSL especially in St. Louis, Milwaukee, Chicago, Indiana, Ohio and western Pennsylvania to step into the breach. Milwaukee is already hard at work preparing another caravan of relief trucks. Let us hear from your circle.

Recognize Springfield Relief Fund.

The Midwest Striking Miners' Relief fund, established by the Socialist party branch of Springfield, Ill., on the initiative of Joe Zameres, first industrial organizer of the YPSL, recognized by the Yipsel national executive as the agency for miners' relief and whose administrative committee numbers among its members the Yipsel industrial director, has been recognized by the convention of the Socialist party of Illinois as the official party agency and will be reorganized for more effective action. All contributions should be sent to the Midwest Fund, 1031 South Eleventh st., Springfield, Ill.

Mike Shufman Goes to Allentown.

The important strike of young clothing workers at Allentown is described elsewhere. Sam Colton of Philadelphia was on the job to put the industrial department in touch with the situation and to supply information through clippings, etc. Mike Shufman has been sent in as a national industrial organizer in view of the complete occupation of Comrade Heimbaeh's time by his duties as organizer of the Amalgamated and the difficulty in getting into action that the Allentown Yipsel circle seems to be experiencing. This points to the importance of local circle industrial committees.

Appeal From Shoe Workers.

The gallant and promising struggle of the new National Shoe and Leather Workers' Assn. in Massachusetts and Maine warrants every aid possible, but the appeal of Comrade Joseph Massida, their assistant general organizer, came to the Yipsel national office at a time when it was practically helpless under the pressure of work and lack of funds. We have yet to hear what the east coast Yipsel did locally on its own initiative.

Industrial Committee to Hold First Meeting at Washington Congress.

The national industrial committee of the Young People's Socialist League has never managed to meet since its appointment, but hopes to get together at the Washington congress for the first time. The members of the committee are: Louise Gugino of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, Buffalo; James White, a miner of Crooksville, Ohio; Larry Heimbaeh, silk worker of Allentown; Julius Certram of New York; Sam Bakely, pocketbook maker of Philadelphia, Seymour Stein, president of the Button and Novelty Workers' union of New York, a former member of the committee, will sit with the group at its first meeting if his union duties permits him to attend the Washington meeting.

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for the period will entitle to three delegates.

After lengthy discussion, the United Front conference offer of the Young Communist League was disposed of by appointment of a subcommittee of the national executive to draft a complete statement of conditions governing genuine United Front action, to be exchanged with a similar statement by the national committee of the Young Communists.

These statements will then be made the basis of discussion as to further steps with the national executive of the Socialist party. All YPSL circles are instructed to refrain from participation in local United Front activities with Communist organizations pending the outcome of the national executive negotiations.

Japan is doing "some special police work" in China, according to Yosuke Matsunaka.

The Challenge

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Editorials

Young Socialists everywhere hail with delight the returning observance of May Day as an international working class holiday by the American labor movement. May 1 as International Labor Day had its birth in America it should be remembered although the very American Federation of Labor which called it into existence in its youth has for many years more honored it in the breach than in the observance.

In 1884, the American Federation of Labor set as the date for a general strike for the eight-hour day.

The hateful reaction of the employing class sanctified in the blood of the Chicago Anarchists the May Days of 1886 but did not crush the eight-hour movement.

Samuel Gompers of the American Federation of Labor appealed successfully to the International Socialist Congress in Paris in 1889 to make the first of May a world wide Labor day in behalf of the eight-hour day, and it was so celebrated on an international scale in 1890.

It was the American trade union movement under the leadership of the American Federation of Labor which turned its back on the international labor movement which under Socialist leadership had given such a fine exhibition of solidarity.

Very logically, it is the Socialist movement which is taking a leading part in restoring May Day to its rightful place of honor among organized workers in America, and re-establishing our link of the international unity of the working class.

Editorial Note: Because of their importance at this time, the Challenge is reproducing the resolutions of the national executive committee adopted at the Reading meeting April 15 and 16.

Forest Camps.

The national executive committee of the Young People's Socialist League of America bitterly condemns the militaristic and subsistence wage features of the Roosevelt reforestation corps plan for aid of unemployed youth. Placing the military in charge looks clearly like an attempt to secretly extend the military establishment as the Roosevelt administration, in the case of the navy, is openly advocating.

The subsistence wage feature is a menace to organized labor and an indication of bad faith of the new deal in its relations to the organized workers which the close alliance of the new deal with the shufflers of the old deal, the banking clique would lead us to expect. We call for continued agitation by workers and particularly youthful workers, the most concerned, against the Hitlerite character of this Roosevelt unemployed relief plan.

Fascism.

The black plague of Fascist reaction has recently spread over Germany. The organized labor movement is being forcibly throttled by the Nazi brown shirts.

Fascism proposes no solution to the economic problems of today. Persecution of the Jews will not provide jobs for Germany's 5,000,000 unemployed. The jingoistic nationalism of the Hitler movement is an added menace to world peace.

The Socialist and labor movement must meet this opposition to its right to organize, to civil liberties and to its growing power by more aggressive and united efforts. We, the national executive committee of the Young People's Socialist League, representing thousands of American young workers, pledge our support to the German workers in their struggle for Socialism, democracy and justice.

Scottsboro Case.

The conviction of Heywood Patterson, young Negro worker, in spite of the evidence which indicated his innocence, is shocking to workers of all creeds, colors and races in the United States and throughout the world. The testimony of the complaining witness was proved by undisputed testimony to be streaked with falsehood.

The appearance of Ruby Bates on the witness stand, her repudiation of the story originally told by her and her frank confession that the nine Scottsboro boys were the victims of a frame-up—all this clearly demonstrates that the Negro workers are considered in the south not only as working class but also the

lowest stratum of society, consequently undeserving of simple elemental justice.

Against this view the national executive committee of the Young People's Socialist League issues its protest and calls on all members of the organization to arouse the mass support of all workers in behalf of the Scottsboro boys. The liberation of the working class can never be achieved without the solidarity of all who labor, regardless of any enforced divisions that may exist. Justice for the working class requires justice for the Negro! Workers of every race and color must rally to the aid of the Scottsboro defendants, victims of Alabama injustice!

SPECIAL EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

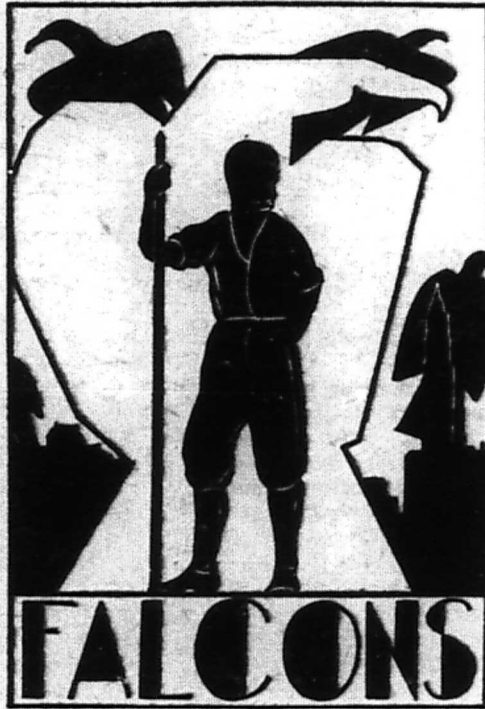
DU QUOIN, ILL.—In harmony with the recent terrorization of miners' homes and meetings places here, Yipsels were "arraigned" and grilled as to their "connections" and as to the whereabouts of certain radical youth organizations and their traveling representatives. Yipsels as well as scores of Progressive Miners and their wives were forced to hide or destroy much literature and even books of a radical or liberal nature.

The young comrades in Du Quoin had been instrumental in the holding of a Scottsboro protest meeting earlier this year and they were also quizzed as to their connections with certain people, among whom was Norman Thomas. Comrade Thomas spoke at a very successful mass meeting here in January.

The townspeople in this section were very sympathetic to the cause of the Progressives until some unknown person fired a shot into the home of a UMW man, fatally wounding his little daughter. This tragedy was immediately charged to the Progressives, resulting in a public hysteria under cover of which authorities launched a brutal campaign of terror against the Italian section of the workers, who have been most resolute in the fight for a rank and file union.

It is yet to be seen whether the "reached" Perry county officials will pay any attention to a strong injunction granted the Progressive Miners' union, legally guaranteeing civil rights to the striking miners.

This is the town in which two militant young strike leaders, Arnold and Attes, were murdered in cold blood in their own homes by deputies and drunken state police. There were of course on arrests in that double murder after the usual style of coal operator justice. All this oppression, Rasmussen believes, "only further serves to arouse the workers of this section to push more determinedly the class struggle."



RED FALCONS.

BY THIS SIGN YOU WILL KNOW THEM.

At its Reading meeting in April the national executive of the Young People's Socialist League endorsed the Red Falcons of America as an organization that develops its members physically and mentally in the spirit of Socialist principles and traditions. The Falcon movement organizes boys and girls between the ages of eight and fifteen and trains them for service in the class struggle and membership in the Young People's Socialist League.

All Y. P. S. L. circles are called upon to make Falcon work a part of their regular activity and qualified comrades are urged to volunteer their services as leaders and advisers in this effort to build the working class children's movement.

The Yipsel national executive will take up with the national office of the Socialist party and sympathetic labor organizations the matter of aid to the movement. Those wanting information direct should write to Phil Heller, 7 East Fifteenth st., New York City, who is in charge of the very successful Falcon movement there.

RHAPSODY IN BOX CAR MINOR.

Once spring meant violets
Murmuring brooks and soft moonlight.
Then my spirit ached.
And now, my soul, though young,
Is buried deep in
Ashes of violets.

My stomach aches with hunger now.
And my restless bones,
Bruised and battered in freight cars.
Dirt and grime and greed
Have defiled the wonder of the moon.
Only one thought beats and echoes through my
numbed brain.

"Good God! I hope I find
A decent place to flop
In the next town."

Oh, murderers of beauty,
You shall pay for your dread sins,
Oh, cannibals, your
Idol of Mammon has
Eet of clay.
And your thrones shall be as dust.

Then, I shall have my violets,
And spring eternal,
Soul of mine
You shall be free again.
—Dora S. Pearlman, Rochester, N. Y., Circle No. 1,
Yipsel.

CONGRATULATIONS, KINCAID.

It is with enthusiasm that we call the attention of readers of The Challenge to the fact that the trial of our two Kincaid fellow workers, Albert Mazzo and Emil Dupire, which at the time of publication of the April Challenge we were watching with grave concern, has resulted as we hoped and believed it would in the complete acquittal of both from the ridiculous murder frame-up charges.

Mail and Blackmail

Letters to the Editor.

Editor's Note to Challenge Readers: Letters and still more, contributions, are always welcome at The Challenge office at 549 Randolph st., Chicago. Get all contributions for the forthcoming issue in before the 20th of the month. The present issue was delayed until too late for mailing for May day to most places in the United States because of the slowness of contributions and the dearth of Circle news. Let us hear your voices at The Challenge office, you Yipsels have got to make it your paper for in a month or so we will have to be right down in the front line trenches fighting for its existence. Start off with getting a Challenge correspondent in every circle.

William Plampin of San Antonio, Tex., writes:

"Accept my congratulations on The Challenge. It is plenty good and ought to grow fast. Socialism needs all the newspapers it can get."

Herbert Elstein of Los Angeles is plenty peeved. The end of a long letter is "all my criticism is just to tell you that The Challenge is not a youth paper yet and it is not a class conscious fighting youth organ."

J. L. Afros, national director of the Young Circle League of America, says in part: "The Challenge gives the impression of a lively paper. Its first page is good. It is, however, decidedly deficient in the inside pages. . . . That is my criticism of your paper. I shall watch it with great interest and I shall also criticize the contents but I do not think it is fair for me to criticize your contents in the first issue."

"You have proven to the world 'It can be done.' I know The Challenge is going to be a very significant factor in voicing the opinion of radical youth in America. We need The Challenge."

Thus Dora S. Pearlman, secretary of Rochester YPSL.

"The first issue went over BIG in New Castle and we will increase our order soon."

William W. Leishman, organizer, YPSL, New Castle, Pa.

"Greetings to The Challenge from

Los Angeles Circles Busy

The Young People's Socialist League of Los Angeles county has decided upon a consistent and planned program of agitation for the unconditional release of Tom Mooney from San Quentin. To inaugurate this program, a Mooney protest mass meeting was held at the Walker Auditorium, 735 S. Grand ave., Los Angeles, on Saturday, April 29.

A fine program was presented, among the speakers being Rev. E. P. Ryland, who has fought for the release of Mooney since his conviction, William Goldberg, Herbert Elstein and Hyman Sheanin, prominent Yipsels. The program was concluded by radical songs presented by the Rebel Arts chorus of the Young People's Socialist League; after which the last act of the play "Precedent" was given by the Rebel Arts Drama department of the Young People's Socialist League.

The Young People's Socialist League is carrying on agitation for the benefit of Tom Mooney by continually keeping Mooney's case in the mind of the public. Special emphasis will be placed upon the position of youth in regard to this world-known class injustice.

Presenting a new departure in entertainment, the Young People's Socialist League of Los Angeles county will give, for the benefit of the public, the Frolic of May on Friday, May 19 at 8 p. m., at the Newman hall, 4665 Willowbrook ave., across from the Los Angeles Junior college.

Never before, in one evening, has such a complete program been prepared for general entertainment. The program will carry the Revolutionary Symbol of Red May throughout, and will show competition in art at its best. Every circle of the Young People's Socialist League in Los Angeles county will present a short one-act play. Each play will bring out to the audience a phase of the class struggle, and every play will be replete with social significance. A grand prize will be given to the circle presenting the best play, and the competitive feeling among the members of the various circles is running very high.

Thus reports—

HYMAN SHEANIN,
YPSL,
County Chairman,
Los Angeles County.

a bunch of rebel Yipsels in Kincaid, Peabody's city of black diamonds and thugs. We think it is a real knockout. It is an outstanding accomplishment of the coming Socialist party. . . . Wine doesn't exist in this strike area, neither can we afford Roosevelt prosperity beer so we will take brimming glasses of water and say "Long live The Challenge."—Mabel Bartolini, Circle No. 1, YPSL, Kincaid, Ill.

YOUTH PLATFORM OF YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIALIST LEAGUE OF AMERICA PROCLAIMED ON MAY DAY OF 1933

As directed by the national convention of the Young People's Socialist League the industrial department has proclaimed the following platform for immediate action by American working and student youth:

1. Abolition of all child labor under 18 by national law, immediately possible if states ratify the Federal Child Labor Amendment.
2. The five-day week and the five-hour day for all young workers under 21 with minimum wage laws and guarantee of equal pay for equal work.
3. Provision through state and national governments of additional educational funds to pay maintenance grants to children and families of children taken out of industry by prohibition of child labor.
4. Not a single cut in present rates of expenditure for public education; laying of drastic inheritance taxes in addition to present ones to support education in the interests of basic equality of youth in preparation for life.
5. Increased public expenditure for free public colleges and technical schools, admission to be passed on merit.
6. Institution of special vocational schools and camps under direction of public education authorities to care for homeless unemployed youth instead of military camps under military control.
7. Unemployment grants to unemployed youth to permit vocational retraining, grant to be of a minimum of \$75 per month equal to amount proposed to be spent per man on Roosevelt's forest camps.
8. Abolition of all military training of youth, compulsory or voluntary.
9. Admission of youth to trade unions and unemployed organizations and special youth work by these organizations.
10. Complete, social, political and economic equality of youth of all races, colors and nationalities, with no compromise.

FREEDOM, JUSTICE, HUMANITY FOR THE YOUTH OF MANKIND
Young People's Socialist League of America.

YIPSELS ACT IN CHICAGO SCHOOL STRIKERS

OUR INFLUENCE "MALELOVENT," SAYS TRIBUNE

20,000 Students From Chicago Schools Go on Strike.

As the 10:30 bell rang 20,000 students from six Chicago high schools closed their books and marched toward the school exits determined to stay away until their teachers had been paid their long overdue wages. Unorganized and inexperienced as they were, and despite the opposition of the principals, the newspapers and many of the student presidents and teachers, the students stayed out for three days until a meeting of the representatives of all Chicago's schools decided to call off the strikes for the present.

As a result of the strike, \$1,700,000 was obtained to pay the teachers their wages for the last week in June, 1932, thus leaving them just 10 months behind. The unpaid teachers, who have been docile for more than a year, have also roused themselves within the last few weeks and are conducting marches on official institutions at frequent intervals. On Saturday, April 15, 25,000 teachers, students and parents marched through the loop in an impressive demonstration rivaling the October unemployed demonstration in proportions and similar demonstrations continue.

The students have had their educational facilities curtailed. Only three of the 11 night schools are still open and the shadow of the guillotine falls on Crane Junior college and Chicago Normal college, the only free public colleges in Chicago. Even more serious is the ever-present threat that all the schools will be closed at any time.

Bankers at Root of Trouble.

The teachers and the students recognize that their fight is not as much against a city administration that is inefficient and corrupt, as against a group of bankers and financiers who would avoid paying those taxes that the Democratic-Republican city administration has assigned to them and the teachers have properly directed their demonstrations against these financiers.

These business leaders who are the main individuals holding out against the tax collector have formed themselves into a "citizens" committee known as the Sargent committee, that is urging the budget economies in education and then forcing their adoption by refusing to lend money to the city if it does not concur. The teachers and students are directing their main attack against these bankers and forcing them to make public statements on the issues involved.

On Monday, April 24, 6,000 teachers marched on the five leading banks in Chicago: The Continental Illinois, the First National, the City National, the Harris Trust and Savings and the Northern National, to demand that money be given to the city with which to pay them. The banks closed their doors to all but depositors, but those teachers with accounts in the banks went in and forced the bank presidents to appear and listen to their demands. Among these presidents was Melvin A. Traylor.

YPSL Supports Strikers.

The YPSL has been taking an active part in all these activities and is co-operating 100 per cent with those student and teacher groups that are carrying out these actions in behalf of public education. The YPSL supports the demands for immediate full payment of the teachers and the restoration of those educational facilities that have been curtailed. Our groups in the schools are educating and organizing the students to work for these demands. We will use every weapon in our reach including the demonstration and the strike to see to it that the city government and the city's financiers are forced to give way to these demands.

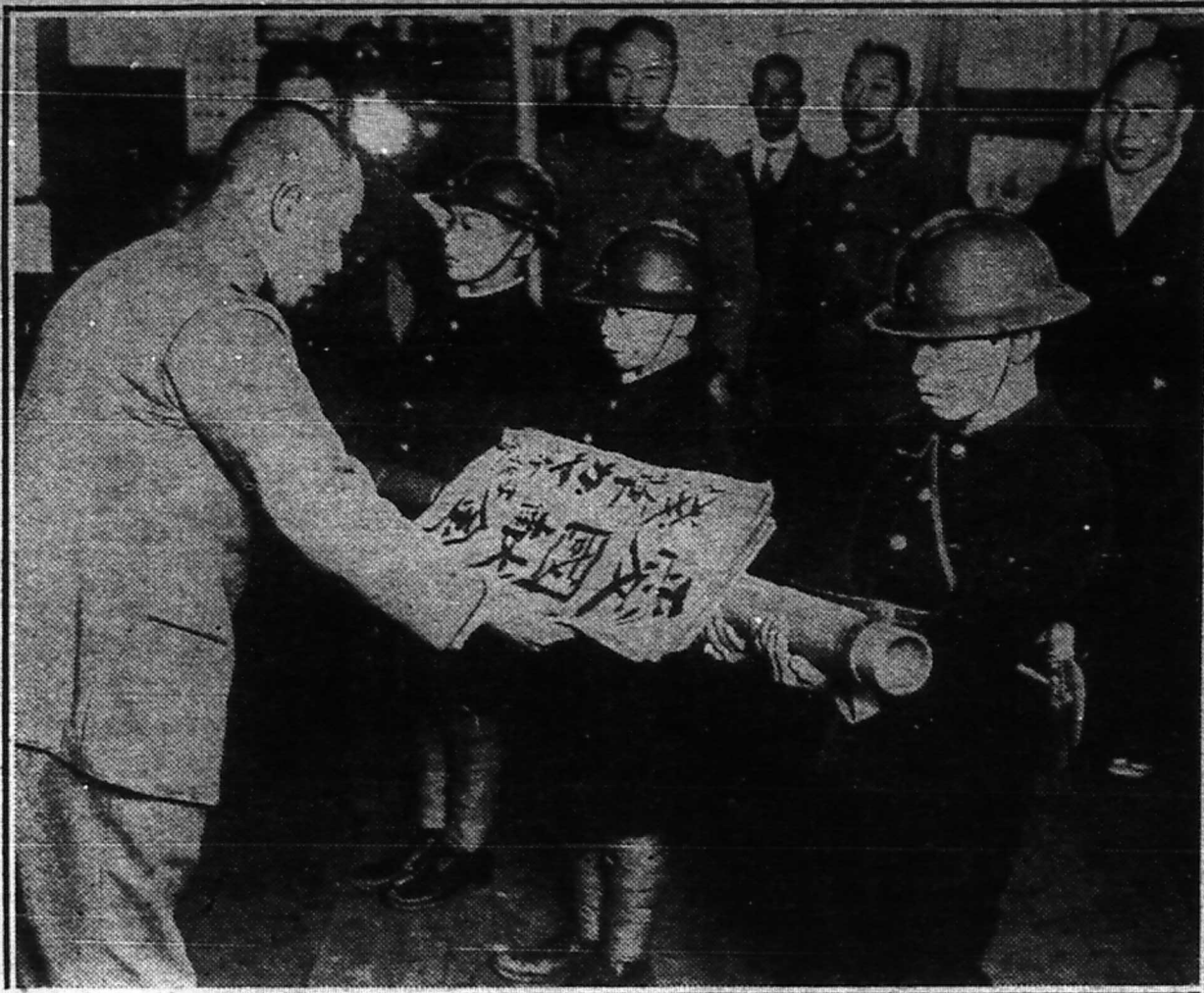
We acknowledge with gratitude the honorable mention in that organ of arch-reaction, The Chicago Tribune, which has feelingly referred to the "malevolent" influence of the YPSL in the situation.

The German government has forbidden performances by dancing bears at fairs because "the tortures to which these animals are subjected offend German susceptibilities."

"Oh, to be a dancing bear," was heard from one old Jewish patriarch.

We think it's rank discrimination.

MILITARIST BED TIME STORIES



American and Japanese—the gray-beard Japanese army officer is reading to the young student soldiers the story of the Japanese soldiers who broke a Chinese barricade at Shanghai by carrying a bomb in their arms to its

foot and being blown to bits along with the barricade.

In the presence of solemn-faced government officials he is telling the youngsters how glorious it is to die for the emperor and the cause of imperialism in China.

The soldiers cannot ask him why he reached such an advanced age with all the opportunities for dying gloriously going to waste. Similar ruling class logic will be taught the working class youth in the Roosevelt forest camps under military rule.

Young Socialist Groups Participate in Athletics

One of the signs of the growth of the Wisconsin YPSL in the past year was the formation of the Young Socialist Basketball league. The North Side circle after playing a few outside teams called a meeting of all circle athletic directors of Milwaukee county on Jan. 26 and plans were laid for the league to start Saturday, Feb. 4. All games were played on Saturday nights at the North Avenue Auditorium.

The circles represented were Aurora, Berger, Debs, North Side and West Allis. After losing the first two games in the league to Debs and West Allis, the North Side aggregation surprised everyone including themselves, by winning the next six contests and tying the Debs five for the title.

In the playoff, staging a thrilling rally after trailing all through the contest, the North Side team eked out a two-point victory for the title, this being the third time they squeezed out of almost certain defeat. In the West Allis and the second Debs games, a one-point margin was the difference between the victor and the vanquished.

Almost every game had a capacity crowd in attendance, the circles playing before more than 500 people during the season and the revenue received was used in furthering the growth of the Young People's Socialist league. It also served to bring a closer co-operation among the members of the different circles, giving us the added impetus to go out and make the Wisconsin organization the best and biggest Yipsel organization in the country. Watch Wisconsin grow.

The standings of the teams are as follows:

	W.	L.
North Side	7	2
E. V. Debs	6	3
West Allis	5	3
Aurora	2	6
V. L. Berger	1	7

An all-county team was chosen by the athletic directors at the end of the playing season.
N. Specht, West Allis, forward.
T. Baird, Aurora, center.
A. Schwal, Debs, forward.
J. Bottoni, North Side, guard.
J. Strobel, North Side, guard, captain.

Chicago Workers Association Asks Co-operation.

Workers Gymnastic Association "La Salle" of Cicero, Ill., writes in: "Comrades of the YPSL: We wish to get in touch with all

Socialist gymnastic or sport organizations, any nationality, active at the present time, those that we could request for co-operation on a gymnastic exhibition next August.

"Our organization is a newly organized (November, 1932), gymnastic association with people of Czecho-Slovak nationality and our quarters and gymnasium are in the Karel Jonas building, on 5512 West Twenty-fifth st., in Cicero, Ill.

"The exhibition we expect to put on should be a means to get the Czecho-Slovak public, particularly youth, interested in our Socialistic labor organization. In order for this venture to be a success we must make an attractive program, and that is where we need co-operation of existing similar organizations (Socialistic).

"Give us the names and addresses of such organizations, or give us an idea of who would be able to do so we'd be obliged to you.

"Yours for comradeship,
FRANK WILLIAMS, Sec'y.,
4213 West Cermak Road,
Chicago, Ill.

St. Louis YPSL Plans Sport Activity.

The University City circle of the Young People's Socialist league of St. Louis has united with the Workers' Gymnastic and Sports Alliance for cultural activity in the county area of St. Louis. The W. G. S. A. will probably take up its county headquarters in that of the University City Socialist party.

Bob Stone reports that the St. Louis district Yipsels three months ago decided to set up its own athletic program rather than to affiliate with the Workers' Gymnastic, but due to the failure of the Yipsel program to get going the district will probably follow the example of the University City circle.

The St. Louis chapter of the Workers' Gymnastic and Sports Alliance has two excellent soccer teams which play every Sunday morning. The soccer season being just about over they have assembled three strong baseball teams to prevent these proletarian lads from becoming stale during the summer. The organization has abandoned all gym work at night in favor of disrupting Hitler meetings, which like an infection of smallpox has broken out, swastika and all in this old German traditioned community.

Among the listed bankruptcies in The New York Law Journal for April 18 was Buy American Assn., Inc.

Pa. Battles Child Labor Sweatshops

(Continued from Page 1)

that relief funds are actually subsidizing these sweat shops.

The board of education added to the threat by circulating word that working children under 16, who were on strike, would be forced back into school and out of the picket line. The bewildered youngsters driven on one hand by their parents, mostly foreign born, and easily terrorized due to lack of knowledge of their rights, and on the other hand by Burgess and the board of education, in many cases went back to their machines.

Yipsel on Job.

Larry Heimbach, a member of the National Industrial committee of the Y. P. S. L. has been drafted as an organizer in the situation by the Amalgamated Clothing Workers. Lester (Mike) Shulman, fresh from the uprising of the shoe and leathers workers in Massachusetts, has been dispatched to Allentown where he worked to good effect in the great silk strike of 1931.

Comrade Shulman, who has been commissioned as a national industrial organizer of Y. P. S. L., did not reach the strike scene until the second week of the struggle but the battle is still on as the Amalgamated Clothing Workers plan to organize strikes in other shops as the movement to uproot the sweat shop conditions grow. The Pennsylvania Federation of Labor and the Child Labor committee (Liberals) are co-operating in the drive with the Amalgamated.

Organized Unemployed Show Solidarity.

The unemployed, through the Unemployed Citizens league, have from the first taken the lead among labor organizations in showing its solidarity with the strikers, offering to join in the picket lines and throwing the weight of their mass strength behind the anti-sweat shop campaign. They picketed the home of the hard-boiled Burgess Fox of Northampton when told they lacked the right to picket the mills.

This strike of the children, persisting in spite of the same police terrorization in the interest of the employer that their elders are subjected to will make working class history in America. If the working class will not arouse in its own behalf to resist wage cuts and slaughtering of decent working conditions, surely when its children take up the fight, it must for very shame and outrage also take the field to aggressively fight the coolie wage offensive of the employing class. If youth must first take the field then so be it, and let the Socialist youth lead the van through the Y. P. S. L.

Challenge Column

GREETINGS, CHALLENGERS! Have you gotten another sub today?

The leading Challengers so far are still Norman Specht and Bill Ommen of West Allis, Wisconsin, and Ben Parker of New York. Dorb S. Pearlman of Rochester, N. Y., is doing some excellent work. Other Challengers who deserve mention are Milo Novich, Chicago; Maurice Zucker, Bridgeport, Conn.; Elsie Huoppi, Port Chester, N. Y.; Frances Longerholc, Johnstown, Pa.; Gerry Rubin, Milwaukee, and Judith Levin, Hartford, Conn. Watch for more names in the next issue. See that your name is amongst them.

Milwaukee has done a creditable job in collecting subs. They have almost reached their quota. How close is your circle to the quota given you before the first issue?

Pittsburgh ordered 500 of the April issue, sold 150 at 5 cents each, making them a profit of \$1 and they had 350 copies left to distribute free. Maybe your circle can do the same. (P. S. Pittsburgh expects to double its order for the next issue.)

By the way, the Challenge is the only national official Socialist paper in this country.

There is a big surprise in store for Challenge readers in the next issue. You will have a chance to edge in on some valuable prizes. Watch for it.

Our paper now is circulated in 29 states—an increase of nine since the last issue.

The cry still is for more yearly subs. We must have a steady circulation in order to assure permanence. Not all cities have done right by our Challenge. The subs that have come in seem to be concentrated in just a few points. The paper—in order to be useful—should be spread over a large area.

Every reader should make it his duty to get at least five new subscribers each month. Let's see if we can't have a circulation of 30,000 or more by the national convention in August.

The Challenge can become a force among the young people in this country. Help it along by pestering all your friends for subs and helping sell the bundle that comes to your city.

Challenge Stirs Southern Illinois.

A great deal of commotion was started in the strike area of southern Illinois by the appearance of the Challenge. It was possible to send 600 copies down for free distribution among the miners. If enough subscriptions come in we hope to be able to send down several thousand of this issue as requested by National Organizer Paul Rasmussen in his letter to the editor.

Several thousand copies of this issue will be taken down to the Continental Congress to be sold to the delegates. Every Yipsel who will be there should get in touch with me as soon as they arrive in Washington. You can help pay your expenses by selling the Challenge; 5,000 class-consciousness delegates should be good customers. Help yourself and help the Challenge at the same time.

Just a reminder: This is the way to become a Challenger: Get five yearly subs. Send them in with the \$2.50. Your name will be put on the Challenge Honor Roll which will be printed in each issue of the paper and you will get your sub free. If you get ten, then in addition to your sub you will receive a bronze bust of Gene Debs.

Don't keep good things to yourself. Pass this copy on to an unemployed friend and tell him to do the same.

Yipsels can make a bit of coin (much needed?) by selling copies at the Continental Congress. Hy Fish, business manager, will be stationed at the office of Marx Lewis, 907 Fifteenth st., Washington, D. C.

Become a CHALLENGER!

"The only business in the south is conducted by collectors, lawyers, sheriffs."—Ralph W. Page, North Carolina banker.

It's a great system!