

FOR A REVOLUTIONARY YOUTH INTERNATIONAL

# CALL TO ACTION

Vol. 1

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**REVIEWS**

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WHY THE YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE?

The six years of unprecedented crisis that the U.S. has gone through has not left the youth untouched! Thousands of young people have been thrown out of work by the shutdown in industry. Other thousands have been forced to leave school because of poverty at home, and replace adults in industry at starvation wages. Working class youth roam the highways stealing rides on freights. The educational system of the country has broken down, schools closed, young workers denied an elementary education! No matter where one turns in these United States there is no escape from this plight that has overtaken the youth.

Today American capitalism realizes what this means. It is afraid that the boys and girls riding the freights, the college graduates sitting on park benches, the girls walking the streets, the students without schools, the young workers whose pay has been further cut - that all these uncounted thousands representing the future will turn upon those who are the source of this miserable existence, and wipe them off the face of the earth.

Capitalism realizes all this. It realizes that these youth will be the vanguard of those it will need tomorrow as cannon fodder, and it is frightened. Consequently it attempts one measure after another to counteract what it is itself creating. But capitalism is as incapable of doing anything for the youth as for the rest of the working class. No CCC, which pays the young workers less than starvation wages, and militarizes them besides, and no National Youth Administration, which by its own admission has accomplished almost nothing, nor any other quack remedy which the capitalist class may think up in its desperation, can stop the young workers from learning the truth.

It is a sad commentary on the existing "radical" organizations that to date they have been unable to take advantage of this situation. The Young Communist League has tried for years to organize the young workers and failed. If it does manage to attract young workers by the fact that it is cloaked with the prestige of Communism and the Soviet Union, it loses them almost immediately.

The YCL is a hotel, where members come and go. The tremendous turnover in membership which it itself admits, can easily attest to this fact. The Young Peoples Socialist League has fared no better. Having been tied for a long time to the apron strings of the S.P. Old Guard, having played the role of errand boys for the A.F. of L. officialdom, and now following the centrist policies of the "Militants" it also has failed to organize the young workers. But the bankruptcy of these two organizations does not mean that the young workers cannot be organized. Quite the contrary - it means that to organize the young workers we need a new organization which, standing on the firm basis of revolutionary principles, can be broad enough and effective enough to translate these principles into the language of the American youth and lead them in their struggles.

The creation of this organization has been our aim for a long time. The Spartacus Youth League has been thrown off the track and become an obstacle to our goal as a result of its endorsement of the S.P. orientation of the Workers Party. That is why we are building the Young Workers League.

Our numbers are small today. But the task is great and we are certain of success! We call upon young workers to join with us, and to support and build the new revolutionary youth league of the United States, the YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE.

FOR THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL!

FOR A NEW REVOLUTIONARY YOUTH INTERNATIONAL

BUILD THE YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE!

READ  
The  
Call To Action

## THE NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION.

The 50 million dollar National Youth Administration, Roosevelt's move to "help the unemployed youth", is more and more being exposed as a fake. From the first the scheme had two aims. One, to "satisfy" the needs of the unemployed youth with a few bones. Two, to very cleverly deliver a body blow at the wage-standards and living conditions of the adult workers.

Fifty million dollars are supposed to be enough for the unemployed youth. But even the Department of Labor admits that there are two and a half million unemployed youth in the country. That would mean \$25 each for a year! This was too obvious, so they decided to aid only one-half million of the "neediest" youth. The rest would have to shift for themselves.

Of the "fortunate half-million, some would get apprentice jobs in private industry, where they would be taught a trade and get a "minimum allowance". This apprentice training period is from about one to four years!

What a gift to the boss! And what a wallop to the adult workers! The boss gets a young worker and teaches him the job inside of a few weeks (almost any job today can be learned in a couple of weeks). Then, for the rest of the year or more the boss has an experienced worker who works for a "minimum allowance". Naturally, why keep the older worker at higher wages? Either he takes a cut or... Like the C.C.C. and its dollar a day standard the National Youth Administration is another step in the campaign of the bosses to cut down the standards of the adult workers through the needs of the unemployed and young workers.

The plan also provides for relief jobs at fifteen dollars a month; and for six dollar a month relief for high school students and fifteen dollars a month for college students. But the fifty million dollars that were appropriated for this fund and the machinery set up are so inadequate that even this miserable pittance was not paid. In N.Y.C. not even the jobs are available! In the University of Penn. the students have carried thru the first revolt and succeeded in securing the administration of the funds by their own people.

The National Youth Administration is the "solution" of the bourgeoisie. It is a means of shifting the burden of the crisis to the backs of the unemployed and employed workers and poor farmers. The unemployed workers, both young and adult, must fight side by side with the rest of the working class in a common struggle for the new social order. Only by overthrowing the parasites and their agency the government with all of its phony schemes will the curse of unemployment be ended.

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### THE CALL TO ACTION

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## FIRST NATIONAL TOUR

Right on the heels of the successful tour of comrade Oehler, the Provisional National Committee of the Young Workers League is organizing one for the youth. The tour will be made by comrade Streeter. Its aim is to consolidate a firm national base for the new revolutionary youth league.

The tour will begin on Dec. 2, and extend over a number of weeks. Comrade Streeter will be in:

Scranton - Dec. 3, 4  
Rochester - Dec. 6, 7  
Buffalo - Dec. 9, 10  
Detroit - Dec. 11, 12, 13  
Ft Wayne - Dec. 14  
Chicago - Dec. 15

From Chicago, where comrade Streeter will remain four or five weeks, he will go to St. Louis, Springfield, Gillispie, Youngstown, Indianapolis, Pittsburgh, State College, Philadelphia, Washington, etc.

We have declared as our task the winning of the broad masses of American youth. The tour is our first major test. It will give us personal contact with our sympathizers and members on a national scale. It will help to consolidate and build the whole organization nationally. An energetic drive will launch the tour with a flying start. Put across the tour and make even stronger the foundation of the new revolutionary youth league!

Provisional National Committee, Young Workers League (formerly Left Wing of Spartacus Youth League).

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(Cont from bottom of next column)  
These are the highlights for the coming month - and better promises for the future. Mass meetings, open forums, literature and leaflet distribution - all will follow.

## New York Gets To Work

On your toes! Get ready! Go!! We're off, comrades, and there's no stopping us! What's it all about? Why, it's the launching of our plan of action in N.Y.C. And what with Marx and Lenin as our backers - say, we can't help but come out the winner! Here's how we're going to do it:

On the very first day of next week, a class has been arranged to meet regularly on the "Fundamentals of Marxism" and later to include a few lectures on our program. Six weeks later, a class for more advanced comrades (i.e., advanced in the study of economics) will begin on "Marxian Economics". For both these classes we assure you that only the most capable instructors will be gotten.

Our open-air meetings will be wholly dependent on the forces of nature -- weather permitting, they will be held Friday nights thruout the city.

Our wall-board is all set to be hung and will be changed bi-weekly.

Branch meetings (every Thursday) will be devoted to three educational and one business meetings per month. The Educational meetings will cover research topics, current events and cultural subjects to be combined with socials. Leaflets for branch meetings are being gotten off regularly. The library is being formed.

And here's a few words on some plans for the immediate future in the cultural field:  
Nov 28 - We all arise early and spend the day in a brisk hike and improving our knowledge of raw nature. And the 30th of November is the big affair of the season. It's to be our first affair, all our own and it's to be the most extravagant, elaborate, and talked-about affair of the whole season. The proceeds go for the first National Tour.

(Cont. at bottom of previous column)

## WAR - THE REVOLUTIONARY WAY OUT.

Recent events in all parts of the world, especially in Africa, have definitely shown that those who have predicted a new world war were not insane alarmists. The necessity to struggle against war now becomes obvious to all those upon whose shoulders the burden of fighting the war will fall. But the mere desire for peace, mere pacifist idealism, can no more prevent war than the mere desire for a bridge will by itself construct it. We must learn how to carry on an effective struggle against war.

War cannot be eliminated from society unless the root-cause of war is first destroyed. Modern wars are the outcome of a struggle for markets, investment opportunities, and sources of raw materials. War is the inevitable extension of this struggle with military weapons instead of purely economic instruments. The effective struggle against war, therefore, is the struggle against this competitive system - namely, capitalism. The day-to-day class struggle, the preparation for the overthrow of the capitalist class and state, the strengthening of working class organizations, is at the same time the struggle against war and war makers.

It is essential to understand, however, that this class war cannot be postponed for an instant, but must be continued until workers rule is established on a world scale. Only the dictatorship of the working class can make possible the final abolition of all war. For this reason, the policy of "national defense" must be decisively rejected, and in its place the slogan of revolutionary defeatism substituted. This means that the enemy of the workers in all countries are their own exploiters and murderers. It follows, therefore, that the workers of all imperialist nations must work not for the victory, but for the defeat and overthrow of their own bourgeois state. International working class solidarity must take the place of unity between the workers and exploiters of one country.

In order to assure victory, the soldiers must be won over. The soldiers are workers in uniform, class brothers. Agitation must be carried on among them. Leaflets must be distributed to these doubly exploited uniformed workers. For this, and for all the above-mentioned tasks, the guidance of a revolutionary party is vital. More, an international struggle is absolutely necessary. Hence this party must be an international, a world party, with sections in every country. This is what gives such life and death meaning to our call for the Fourth International.

Young Workers and Students:

JOIN THE YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE!

BUILD THE NEW YOUTH INTERNATIONAL!

FOR THE NEW, FOURTH INTERNATIONAL!

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JOIN WITH US!

LEARN WITH US!

FIGHT WITH US!

CONQUER WITH US!!!!

## A Letter From the CCC

(Note: A sympathizer of the Young Workers League has recently entered the CCC. He sends in the letter published below as the first of a series describing the life in the forest camps of American imperialism..Editor).

Nov. 10, 1935.

Dear Sol:

I arrived here yesterday afternoon. Last night in one of the old army barracks. Each bed holds two - an upper and a lower cot - like bunks in a ship. On the floor that I'm on there are sixty two beds, accomodating 124 fellows. The room is an immense bare left, except for the beds. It's half a city block in length and there are three stories to the building.

Most of us didn't know each other, but when we went to bed, we all got acquainted. First we kidded around about the outfits and the clothes we got (I'll tell you about it later; if I have time), then we cracked jokes, talked about all the girls we knew, and found out all about each other. When you get 124 fellows together, you can hear some pretty tall stuff. We spent half the night talking. This was our first night so the lieutenant in charge wasn't very strict.

One of the boys has a flair for telling stories and he pretty near gave us his whole life story. He told us how he was in the "numbers" racket and then he did some betting on the track where he lost everything he had. Next he got a job in Detroit in a tool plant that made parts for autos. One of the machine belts bust one day and broke his arm. The company paid the doctor bill but chiseled him out of any compensation, so that by the time his arm was OK he was practically on the bum. He drifted around

not knowing what to do, until the CCC came along. He joined to see what it was like. That was in 1933. Now he simply stays on and enlists again each time his term is up. His whole life is centered in the camps. He's lost contact with the outside world - all he does is eat, sleep take care of the supplies (that's his job here) and run after a girl whenever he can. I asked him what he was going to do in the future. He shrugged his shoulders and replied "Nuttin"; join the army, I guess"

There are all kinds of guys here. Lots of Italian and Irish. Not so many Jews. Most of the fellows here are from NYC, probably because this camp is just out of the city. The general attitude is a sort of concealed watchfulness of what will happen next. Most of the fellows are homesick and a little scared. I haven't had a chance yet to see how they feel on political questions. I'll write again as soon as I get a chance. Drop me a line.

Yours

-----  
Fort Slocum

Read, Subscribe,  
SPREAD  
the  
CALL TO  
ACTION

## INTERNATIONAL NOTES

### French Bandits strip for Action

With the deepening economic crisis and the approach of a new World War, the imperialist robbers rushing the colonial masses to new depths of wretchedness, and suppressing any sign of discontent in the colonies. The latest news from the French colonies tells of the most severe repression of the labor movement there.

In Indochina, the imperialists, in their search for profits, have gone to new lengths. The typographers have not been paid for a month and a half. The already virtually enslaved coolies were brutally mistreated by the police on the slightest show of resistance. In these circumstances, the labor group around the paper, "La Lutte", published in Saigon, rallied support and gained four seats on the Municipal council of Saigon.

Not only were the four councillors removed from their posts by administrative order of the Governor, but one of them, Ta Tau Thau, was arrested and on Sept. 10, condemned to two years in prison. The sole evidence against him was a "manuscript" which has been definitely proven a forgery.

In Tunis, the brutal oppressor of the native workers and peasants, Peyrouton, has taken recourse to more and more severe measures against the growing discontent. Recently dozens of workers have been deported to almost certain death in the Sahara desert of South Tunis.

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### Belgian Socialists Join With Bosses to Strangle Unemployed Youth.

Belgium, hit like the rest of the world by the economic crisis, has resorted to a "New Deal" of its own, with the same results

that are so familiar to us in this country. As part of its program the "Plan" provided for labor camps for the young unemployed on the order of the CCC. The main features were the seclusion from the rest of the working class of the jobless youth and their militarization in preparation for the coming war.

The novel angle was given by the Socialist Party and Labor Federation of Belgium, setting up an experimental camp exactly like the government's except for the addition of a large flag saying "Plan". They then appealed to the Belgian government for funds to help them keep up the good work. The following is a section from their touching appeal:

"The trade union organization ... is in direct contact with the young unemployed. Their leaders know better than anyone else the psychology of the workers. They are in the best position to inspire confidence in the young people whom we want to attract to the Labor Camps." (Le Peuple, official S.P. organ, Brussels, Sept. 10). No comment.

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#### YOUNG WORKERS AND STUDENTS!

The CALL TO ACTION is YOUR paper. It is the paper of every young worker and student. Read it. When you finish reading it, give it to your shipmate or your fellow student. Spread it.

The CALL TO ACTION is YOUR paper. Subscribe to it. Get your friends to subscribe. Spread it.

The CALL TO ACTION is YOUR paper. Write for it. Conditions in your shop. Incidents in your daily life.  
**BUILD THE CALL TO ACTION!**

EGYPT-THE NATIONALISTS AND  
THE REVOLUTION

While Great Britain is busy defending Ethiopia from imperialist invasion, she is also occupied with "defending" the nationalities of her own empire from independence. The first important outbreak of anti-imperialist feeling has occurred in Egypt where the nationalists are utilizing the preoccupation of British imperialism elsewhere, to press their demands for an increase in independence. The Egyptian students have conducted militant struggles against the British controlled police. The workers have already gone on general strike. The hypocrisy of Britain's "defense" of Ethiopia becomes glaringly obvious as the accumulated garbage in Britain's own back yard stinks more than ever. The British support of dictatorial government in Egypt, her opposition even to the constitutionalization of the Egyptian's monarchy, the bloody "protection of Egypt" from potential Italian assault, all show the reactionary and anti-democratic nature of British imperialism and the despicable betrayal of the Second and Third Internationals in supporting Britain thru the League of Nations. It is, incidentally, remarkable how the League has skipped over the Egyptian crisis.

It is the task of the world proletariat to conduct a fight against all imperialisms, equally and continuously. The nationalist movement in Egypt is an ally of the world and Egyptian proletariat in the broader struggle for the Socialist Revolution. This does not mean that the Wafd party of Egypt can carry out to the end, the struggle for national liberty and for democracy. Thus far, this party, for all its militant demonstrations, has been proven to be a party of reactionary conciliation. Its democratic de-

mands have been limited to constitutional monarchy; its anti-imperialist struggle to compromise with British imperialism for a few minor concessions. The interlocking of Egyptian industry with British capital make it impossible for the democratic and nationalist revolution to succeed unless the dictatorship of the proletariat is established. Left to itself, the Wafd movement, working within the limits of capitalism, can only see its sister movement in China, that of the Kuomintang, and betray the national revolution to imperialism. If the proletariat, led by a revolutionary party, intervenes as an independent force, the Wafd can be valuable, if temporary ally.

**FLASH! FLASH!**

CONVENTION CALL!!

The YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE will hold its first national convention on Mar. 5 - 8, 1935. Chicago has been tentatively set as the convention city.

The next issue of the CALL TO ACTION will contain the resolutions and theses submitted by the Provisional National Committee to the organization.

FORWARD - - - to the  
FIRST NATIONAL CONVENTION.....

BUILD

The YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE



STATEMENT OF CHICAGO LEFT WING, SPARTACUS  
YOUTH LEAGUE.....NOVEMBER 3rd, 1935.

Resolution regarding the situation in the Party.

- 1... For the last few months the Workers Party of the United States, the political parent organization of the Spartacus Youth League of America, has been torn internally by a series of factional struggles revolving around three political issues - the international "turn" to the Socialist parties, the Socialist Party orientation in America, and the internal regime in the WP. Each of these questions is predicated on the other; all three are bound and intertwined by strong ties of political logic.
- 2... The Socialist Party orientation, i.e.: the concentration of the party activity upon the SP, rather than the stress on the independent activity of the Workers Party, is the adaptation of the international "turn" to American soil. From this flows the bureaucratic, tail-endist Party regime which is aimed at eradicating the major internal obstacle to such an orientation, the LEFT WING.
- 3... None of these questions involved are what is known as "split" questions. Life and history, as long as a democratic centralist regime exists in the Party, can overcome these differences just as life and history have overcome factional differences in the past. But the majority group in the WP refuses to allow the normal life process to take its course. Instead, comrades Garber, Giganti, Samuels and Gold, are being expelled for what the majority terms a "violation of discipline", but which in reality is merely the taking of minority rights.
- 4... Under normal conditions in the Workers Party the Spartacus Youth League would not even be informed of controversies in its parent organization. But when the question involved is the actual life or death of the Fourth International section in America, the SYL must not only be aware of the political differences but also the SYL can play a role in influencing the course of the Party.
- 5... Just as the Left Wing of the OLA played a progressive role in exerting a left pressure upon the fusion negotiations with the AWP and secured, as a result, a more correct Declaration of Principles, so its historical mission within the last ten months of the existence of the WP was to push the Party from the left - placing the vital questions of the day on the agenda of the Party (war, negro question, etc.), and preventing, to some measure, the precipitous turn of the Party to the right. The exclusion or expulsion of such a left force from the ranks of the Party dooms the WP to a complete departure from the Declaration of Principles, to the acceptance of an opportunist course to the Socialist Party, and to its complete disintegration as a Marxist revolutionary force in America.

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ETHIOPIA

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usually takes the initiative in an embargo on oil, coal and the other vital materials of war. The notion that the U.S. government is working in the interests of peace, or is neutral, is false. Not German, Japanese, or Italian, but American imperialism is the main instigator of war. Ethiopia is not the least important sphere of American intrigue. The oil and rubber of Ethiopia, and the concessions (J.C. White) that country may grant, are very valuable to U.S. imperialism. The young workers must begin now the struggle against American capitalism.

(CONT.) CHICAGO LEFT WING STATEMENT

- 6... Because of these considerations the Chicago Spartacus Youth League proposes to the WP the reinstatement of these Left Wingers - but not the reinstatement on the basis of a "yellow dog contract" under which the Left Wing has been placed. To pose the question of the acceptance of discipline versus a membership book in the Party is to pose the question bureaucratically and is without the Leninist concept of democratic-centralism. Rather, the question must be put of acceptance of discipline on the basis of securing certain minority rights as Party members, such as the allowance of a national tour of the Left Wing on the editorial staffs of the Party publications, and the complete dissemination of all the material bottled up in the political committee during the pre-convention days.
- 7... The acceptance of these proposals by the Workers Party can restore unity in the ranks of the Party; the rejection of these proposals indicates in the eyes of the Spartacus that the majority group has a split perspective. Moreover, the refusal to accept these minimum proposals indicates to the Chicago SWL that the Party is no longer interested in developing an independent revolutionary force in the United States, but is destroying that small force which already exists.

FORWARD TO THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL IN AMERICA.  
FOR A DEMOCRATIC CENTRALIST REGIME IN THE PARTY.

Join the Young Workers League

ETHIOPIA - - STORM CENTER OF W.R.

The conflict over Ethiopia has reached the stage of the ominous question mark! The young workers of America and the world, who will be the recipients of the blows dealt by rival imperialist factions, will be vitally affected by the outcome of the conflict. Will it lead to war, or to equally disastrous economic conflict (sanctions and counter-sanctions)?

Already the sanctions of the League have been enforced for one week. The result has not been beneficial to Italy. On the battlefield the swift and easy victories are no more. The road thru Ethiopia is slow and tortuous. More and more defeats are being recorded. Internally, Italy, never a self-sufficient nation, is experiencing immense difficulties. The living standard of the population is drastically undermined by government decree and necessity. According to Cortesi, in the "New York Times", the stomachs are only half-full and the workers return home ill from under-nourishment. The application of sanctions and the fear of further sanctions has all but disrupted the economy of Italy, and caused a desperate drive toward conservation of reserves of raw materials. Not in strength, but in desperation, Italy has threatened to make a war if an embargo on oil is declared.

It is significant, however, that Italy does not suffer alone. The loss of Italian markets has already caused disruption, notably in Belgium and in France. Italy is attempting to neutralize these nations, especially France, which is handicapped by an approaching civil war. The Italian government, according to press reports, is seriously considering sinking British warships and forcing sanctions. A purely economic blockade cannot last for long. Neither the blockader nor the blockaded can continue without resort to arms.

It is for this reason that the press reports hesitation on the part of even Great Britain before applying sanctions on such vital products as oil, coal, iron and steel. Even the imperialists must hesitate before taking a step toward war. Does this mean that Britain, as the dominant League power, will make a move toward peace with Italy? This is to believe that British imperialism was born yesterday. To save Mussolini from internal trouble and herself from colonial uprisings, and to postpone war, Britain gives Italy a chance to back down. Trouble in Egypt, of course, weakens and exposes the imperialist maneuvers of Britain in the entire affair.

The most decisive development, recently, was the move of the U.S. State Department in "cooperating" under the slogan of "neutrality" with League sanctions. The U.S. interest in Ethiopia pook-pooked by the Stalinists, Socialists and the WP, is exposed by the fact that the U.S. ac-

(cont. on page 9).

## ORGANIC UNITY

The latest proposal for organic unity has now come from the Young Communist International, and particularly, from the American YCL. It is therefore important that we fully understand the meaning and significance of this proposal. But any attempt to understand why the YCL now comes out for organic unity, must be based upon a consideration of the policy of the Communist International (of which the YCL is merely a vassal) and even beyond that, the situation in the entire labor movement.

The whole concept of organic unity on the part of the Stalinists is the climax of their right swing which has been in uninterrupted progress since the German defeat. The victory of Hitler over the best organized section of the European proletariat, and the smashing of the biggest section of the CI outside the Soviet Union, put a definite seal on the entire ultra-leftist policy which the Stalinists had been pursuing.

Having aided Hitler into the saddle by the crazy policies they pursued for five years, they now became panic-stricken at the monster they had brought to life. Having destroyed the one power which could really defend the Soviet Union, they now began to search for some guarantee against Hitler. Being "practical" politicians, they found it. Had not Lenin said that the Soviet Union should take advantage of the contradictions between the imperialist powers? The next step was to put the defense of the Soviet Union into the hands of French imperialism.

But after that, one thing bothered them a bit. Franco was still a capitalist country. Were not the communists of throughout the world dedicated to the task of fighting capitalism? But, once again being practical politicians the STALINS and the LITVINOFFS merely looked back at history and found out what to do. Had not the Socialist International in 1914 discovered that there were ~~two~~ two kinds of capitalist country - good and bad, democratic countries and those countries which were trying to wipe out democratic rights? So why should this "Marxist" principle not be utilized now? Of course Lenin and even Stalin had condemned this as a betrayal. But Lenin is dead, and people forgot. The next "bull" that emanated from the Stalinist Vatican was, therefore, that henceforth the world shall be divided into two camps. The camp of the "good" democratic capitalist countries, and the camp of the "bad" fascist capitalist countries. The former must be defended by the workers because they form a defense for the Soviet Union, the latter must be fought mercilessly because they are a danger to the Soviet Union.

Now, having accepted the social-democratic position on the crucial question of the struggle against war, organic unity with the Socialists became the next obvious step. There were, of course, other considerations. The danger of fascism was great. The Stalinists themselves had failed to rally the workers. Maybe together with the S.P. they would be more successful.

So far the Socialists have accepted the idea of organic unity most openly in France. Naturally, in those countries where the SP was powerful and the CP insignificant, the SP's cared little for organic unity. But in France that was not the case. Having seen its sister party in Germany completely annihilated, and aware of the increasing danger of Fascism in France, the SP bureaucrats, bearing in mind the traditional consideration of self-preservation, accepted the idea of organic unity as a way out. They had no fear of having to give up their social-democratic program. The Stalinists had already accepted it.

The acceptance by the Stalinists and Socialists of organic unity is an admission of bankruptcy by both bureaucracies. Organic unity can only betray the workers. The marriage of the two corrupt and bankrupt bureaucracies cannot create a revolutionary party. But, comrades will say, how about the tremendous desire for unity on the part of the masses of workers? These workers must be made to understand that unity without revolutionary content means no-

(cont. on next page).

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thing. We already have one bloody example of this. The complete unity of the proletariat in Austria did not prevent a defeat. No amount of unity could wipe that fact out.

What was missing was the revolutionary party standing upon the firm ground of Marxism. And that is precisely what will be missing whether organic unity is consummated or not. To fail to teach that to the workers today means to fail in one's revolutionary duty.

The entire concept of organic unity must be exposed as a gigantic hoax of the two old Internationals. The crying need of the hour is the creation of the new party and the new International - the Fourth International - and its American section. With these will come the new revolutionary youth League in the U.S., and the new youth international. To this task the Young Workers League is dedicated.

## REVIEW

Mullato, by Langston Hughes - Langston Hughes now claims to being a Communist. As a matter of fact, he is active in some of the periphery organizations of the Stalinist movement. Being a Negro writer with an ability of fighting hard for the things he stands for, one expected that his first play appearing on Broadway entitled Mullatto would be a powerful indictment of the white ruling class. Instead it turns out to be a weak ineffective story of the lives of the half-whites in the south.

The story revolves around the life of a southern family consisting of a rich white landlord, his Negro servant, with whom he has had four children, two boys and two girls. The white man is just as bigoted, just as Negro-hating, just as cruel and oppressive to the Negroes on his plantation as any other white landlord. But having lost his wife at an early age and being lonely, he did what so many of the righteous southern gentlemen do: he used his Negro servant. The story goes to show the struggle going on in the mind and the heart of the white man. He has been brought up to treat Negroes in a certain way, but somehow he has some fatherly instincts toward his children. He gives them an education, but prefers to have them live away from his house.

(continued on next page.)

"Crime & Punishment" - (Cinema) - A French film, Crime & Punishment, by Dostoyevsky, is now being shown at the Fifth Avenue Theatre, in New York City. Unlike many of the Hollywood productions based on some of the best classics in literature, this film manages to retain much of the spirit of that famous work on the morbid degeneration of the human mind.

The main roles are taken by Pierre Blanchard as Raskolnikov and Harry Baur as Porphyre. Pierre Blanchard gives to the role all that Dostoyevsky conceived of, a distorted mind, strength of character, and the constant questioning as to the justice of murder in certain cases. Harry Baur, as the Magistrate, also excels in giving to the role all that it demands: persistence, shrewdness, the mailed fist behind the veneer of politeness.

With the acting based upon a complete understanding by the artists of the roles which they are portraying, the film already possesses an edge over the Hollywood pictures. But to the excellent acting must be added the very good settings. The poverty in which the students lived, the houses and streets of that old St. Petersburg, are shown in their full horrible realism. The drabness and misery of the lives of the poor are also portrayed without any of the over-eggageration that makes so many other pictures on the subject so ineffective.

The story of the film is quite well known. It is based on the murder of an  
(cont. on next page.)

## ARE WE "TURNING THE CORNER?"

"American business is now enjoying the best period of recovery seen since 1929". So writes Charles Merz in the editorial section of the New York Times, Sunday, Nov. 3, 1935. The present rise in production and business activity in America has awakened the latent hope of the bourgeoisie. The Marxists are again called upon to admit their "error" in judging the capitalist system to be ready for the scrap-heap of history and being incapable of raising or maintaining the productive capacity of mankind. The lessons of the 1929 boom and crash are lost to these "optimistic" bourgeois economists.

Moreover the present recovery is in no way comparable to the prosperity of 1929, or any past prosperity, not only in degree but also in quality. If the relatively normal prosperity of 1924-1929 met with such disaster what can we expect from a rise that is dependent upon inflation, destruction of machinery and crops, artificial governmental stimulation, and a drastic attack upon the real wages of labor? Where is the hope in a recovery which unlike all other industrial upswings, is accompanied by a lag in durable goods production, in rebuilding of plants, in employment, and of the world market? To illustrate these phenomena, the capitalist sources are a thousand times more revealing than Marxian publicists. Below, the bourgeoisie condemn themselves from their own mouths and to prove Marxian conclusions which they fear to take.

Concerning the destruction of plants as an economic necessity for the capitalists we are enlightened by the "Economist" of May 13th, 1933: "while there was an overexpansion of productive capacity before 1929, investment in capital equipment has been severely curtailed since then, and a substantial proportion of existing plant and machinery has become obsolete or has been scrapped."

To illustrate the void on the world market let us quote the "Times" of Nov. 3: "First, recovery is almost wholly national. Foreign trade has improved somewhat by comparison with the extremely low level reached in 1933, but our exports of goods thus far in 1935 are barely more than a third of those in the last year before the depression."

Before the depression we sold in foreign markets from one third to more than one half of our entire domestic production of such goods as these, cotton, tobacco, copper, etc. We are plainly living in a world gone nationalist, with ourselves included in the process. But the problem of accommodating our domestic economy to this new nationalism is not yet solved. Nor can it be!

The lagging of durable goods production worries Mr Merz: "One graphic illustration of the wide gulf between the two groups of industries (durable goods and consumption goods) is the Federal Reserve Board's estimate that the production of gasoline now stands at 219 percent of the 1923-1925 'normal', while production of locomotives stands at 3 percent."

Merz also has something to say about the shaky economy caused by artificial government stimulation, without which, by the way, recovery would have been impossible: "The primary factor in recreating bank deposits has been government borrowing. The banks have at least lent heavily to the government and whenever it borrows, it is credited with a deposit to the amount involved. Much of the new deposit money remains sterile because of lack of confidence in the process by which it was created. Moreover, this process involves a gigantic increase of the national debt and the grave risk that if government borrowing continues too long the public will lose confidence in national credit."

To cap the climax, the report of the National City Bank of Oct, 1935, reveals the threat of a further attack upon the workers standard of living. In discussing the textile industry the report makes the following analysis: "Undoubtedly the problem involves the relative remuneration of the textile workers, and their hours of labor as compared with the income and hours of labor as compared with the income and hours of labor on the farms and among the millions of unorganized workers who constitute the greatest body of textile consumers. The rise in the cost of textile operation, due to the processing tax, the cotton program and the 70% increase in the average hourly wage (accompanied by a horrible speed-

## ARE WE "TURNING THE CORNER?"

(continued from last page)

up process - J.W.) clearly has been more than the industry can bear. The evidence to that fact is to be found in the low employment it is giving, and its backwardness in the general progress that has been made this year."

Translated into brutal language, this means that the low incomes of the textile workers must be adjusted to the even lower incomes of unorganized workers. It also implies, and correctly, that this recovery can only be made at the expense of the workers; that low wages and low taxes, i.e. sales taxes, are essential in the process.

All prosperities of capitalism, by their very nature, must lead to a breakdown. This present "prosperity", moreover, is a product of capitalism already rotten, overdue for destruction and the Socialist Revolution.

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## A LETTER FROM A CANNONITE

(cont. from opp. page)

Harry Montag has told me he'll be present and will try to bring whom he can. Manny Garrett will be present at this meeting in order to help us get started.

(Signed) Ben Zabludowsky

P.S. If you don't wish to send out any cards, I wish you would send them at least to Lustig and Land whose addresses I haven't got.

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## REVIEWS

### Mulatto (continued)

But one of his sons, who had been living and studying in Washington and "passing", returns to the father's house without the humble, cringing attitude of his brother, but with the feeling that he is "the son of a white man". Consequently he refuses to work on the plantation, walks in and out of the front door, rides in his father's automobile, and does other such unheard-of things. The white population is outraged at this behavior of a Negro. The father decides to put this "upstart" in his place, quarrels with the son, and is shot by him. Then follow the scenes dealing with the flight of the boy, the raping of his sister by the overseer of the plantation, and his final capture and lynching. In the last scene both brother and sister are convinced that they are really Negroes and there is no running away from the fact.

Although some of the scenes are powerful in their portrayal of the Negro-hating and bigotry of the southern ruling class, the entire play leaves one with the impression that a lot has been said about nothing and the very important aspects of the question left untouched. One is lifted to the highest emotional peaks and is left hanging there with a disappointed feeling. The acting of the principles is very good. But it could have been something more powerful had the play itself approached the Negro question from its core instead of from the outskirts.

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### Crime and Punishment (continued)

Money-lender and her sister by a student who maintains that murder may be justified under certain circumstances and proceeds to prove it. Following the murder you see the tortures in his mind as he becomes more and more insane. The magistrate, Porphyre considers, suspects, and at last knows. But without factual proof. Then follows a thrilling battle of two brilliant minds. But it is Sonia, his beloved and the only one who knows his secret, who finally makes him confess. The film ends with the scene of Roskalnikov being dragged with many others over the snowy wastes of Siberia.

For those who liked the book and would care to see the closest portrayal of it, this picture will be very satisfying. It is just another proof of the fact that the screen, minus the constant entering to the box-office, can be of tremendous artistic value as well as a weapon in the hands of the workers.

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Spread the CALL TO ACTION!!