

CHALLENGE

Vol 1—No. 8

Chicago, Ill., December, 1933

Official Organ of the Young People's Socialist League

Price 3 Cents

TODAY'S FIGHT

American Schools Retreat
Soviet Push Forward.
Rolphism and Hitlerism.
Fortifying Planet Mars.
BY SPARTACUS

To Fight to Save the Public Schools as an institution of Democracy is still to be won. The privileged classes in American society are finding increased support for their "back to the three R's" campaign. The theory is being advanced that America has bit off a larger enthusiasm for public education than any society can chew, that is, that the principle of the state taking the responsibility for producing an educated citizenry is economically impossible. There is little doubt that this is true under capitalism and the wrecking of American schools goes merrily on, 2,000 rural schools failed to open this year, 2,280,000 children are being kept out of schools by the industrial crisis, 200,000 teachers are unemployed.

Recognition of the Soviet Russian Ideal of an economic order without private profit is called for as the next step for America by Leo Krzycki, chairman of the Socialist Party of America. While America is talking in terms of going back to the three "R's" of an educational system adequate only for a pre-industrial era and is permitting its educational standards to fall behind those of the comparatively poverty-stricken nations of northern Europe, Soviet Russia is pushing ahead with ambitious plans which have already placed her in the front rank of all the world in pre-school education, i. e., nursery schools and kindergartens with 7,000,000 in these institutions. What was "darkest Russia" 16 years ago before the revolution now has 4,000,000 more in public schools than the United States, 34,778,000 as compared with 30,818,000, according to the United States bureau of education.

The Public Support of Lynch Law by Gov. Rolph of California in the case of the San Jose kidnapers is an indication of the breakdown of capitalist administered society. Capitalism cannot continue if the march of the mass of mankind toward a higher plane of life is to continue so its political exponents like Rolph in California and Hitler advocate going back to a lower plane of human society. This takes the form of advocating lynch law in California and organizing a movement based on race hatred and medieval superstitions and practices to smash the human forces of progress in Germany. It is no accident that Rolph is the jailor (one might even say kidnaper) of Tom Mooney, labor leader guilty only of fighting the progressive battle of the working class.

Lynching is an American institution used chiefly in the South for the same purpose that Hitler uses the medieval head chopping block, assassination, torture and kidnaping; namely, to keep a large mass of oppressed people quiet. It has been practiced systematically in the southern states to keep the Negro as a large section of the working class, the strategic section, from exercising their political rights and demanding economic ones. Although made possible by its previous tacit toleration by press, pulpit and official blinking, such a public espousal of mob violence as Gov. Rolph's (applauded by clergymen, police heads and judges) is an open invitation to start settling class conflicts in the same manner, in short the organization of Fascist bands to crush labor is the next step. California is already renowned for the scale on which extra legal violence, including kidnaping and murder is practiced on labor.

"Baby-Killer" Gen. MacArthur Bemoans Weakness of United States Army, brought on partly by having to handle the civilian (sic) conservation corps, and demands a bigger army and bigger and bigger appropriations. Well, President Green of

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NAZI PROPAGANDA POISONS U. S.

POLITICAL DEMOCRACY



Pacifist Youth Declare Against Profit System

"The International Conference of Pacifist Youth Organizations at Paris, this year, arranged by the Youth secretariat of the War Resisters' International, reaffirms the strongest opposition to all forms of military training of youth and compulsory military service. It declares its determination to resist war and militarism by every possible non-violent method.

"The conference proclaims its respect of human life, which must not be destroyed, and its faith in brotherhood.

"It expresses its opposition to the present capitalist system of production based on profit and exploitation, recognizing this as the chief cause of war in our times.

"It declares that a revolutionary change of the present economic system is necessary for the establishment of a just social order. This change should be brought about not by violent methods, but by non-violent means of fight: such as war resistance and non-co-operation.

"It emphasizes the necessity of closer co-operation of all youth organizations sharing the above standpoint in order to help bring about effective individual and mass resistance to every kind of war."

AUSTIN, Tex. (F.P.)—More than half of transients in Texas are high school and college graduates and 60% of the transients have been in the state for less than 60 days, federal officials announce. A transient camp has been established in Austin with federal funds.

Los Angeles Holds Banquet

As a climax to another year of intense activity, the Young People's Socialist League of Los Angeles county will hold its fourth annual banquet on Sunday, Dec. 10, at 7 p. m. at the Socialist Verband, 126 North St. Louis st.

The banquet will be in commemoration of our recently fallen comrade, Morris Hillquit and will be handled entirely by members of the YPSL. The program will include the YPSL chorus, a play and several featured musical numbers.

Proctors Curtail Oxford Students' Academic Liberty

Since the beginning of the Oxford movement a century ago the undergraduates of the university have believed that the right of criticism was one of their prerogatives. The proctors have just apprised them of their mistake.

Undergraduates either individually or collectively may not criticize university institutions or the way they are run. So says a statute dating from the time of Sir John Balliol in the 13th century and never abrogated.

So long as undergraduate pacifist bodies confined their attacks to the ministries of war and the navy the proctors held their peace, but when certain courses in the art of war maintained by some of the colleges

Elect Yipsel To Canadian Legislature

VANCOUVER, B. C.—Harold Winch, organizer of the Canada Young Socialist League was elected as a member of the provincial legislative assembly in the recent election in which the Canadian Co-operative Commonwealth Federation an alliance of the Labor and Socialist parties, became overnight the second party in the province. Winch is the youngest member ever to sit in the provincial assembly.

Harold Winch in addition to being organizer for the Young Socialist League, is editor of The British Columbia Clarion, official organ of the Socialist party of Canada. During the campaign he made a 1,000-mile speaking tour through Vancouver island and a 2,500-mile tour of the British Columbia main land.

Last summer the Young Socialist League used the Colonial theater in Vancouver for the largest meetings held by a political group in the city. They debated the Young Liberals and defeated them 2 to 1, although the Liberals had two of the judges.

The Young Socialist League has increased from three small circles a year ago to 11 branches throughout the province. The Socialist Youth Movement in Canada has got a head start in the west at least.

were attacked, the proctors revived the old statute. So much for academic liberty in the oldest of English speaking academic institutions.

Using Union Headquarters For Purpose

SPREAD VENOM BY MAIL ORDER

Model Silver Shirts Organization on Hitler Plan.

NEW YORK CITY—There are clearly on record in America at the present moment, undened proofs that a powerful and surprisingly successful propaganda is being carried on in the United States on behalf of the madly reactionary regime of the Nazi Hitler's German fascism.

According to the recently published article in the "Nation" of November 29, by Ludwig Lore, this well financed propaganda has and is being carried on through the German general consulate in New York with the knowledge if not the active participation of the German embassy in Washington.

Hostile to American Traditions. While nothing could be more hostile to traditional American ideals of democracy, civil rights, equality before the law regardless of race or creed, civilian rule, freedom of association and to the considerable portion of American institutions supposedly reared on this foundation, than the German Fascist movement there is little concern in official quarters, now rejoicing over the victory of American diplomacy in securing anti-propaganda pledges from the union of Socialist Soviet Republics.

This lack of concern cannot but convey to the mind of Hitler, confirmation of the idea that America with its mob lynchings now officially blessed by Gov. Rolph of California and judges and clergymen from New York to Sacramento, is not far behind Germany with its unbelievable tyranny driven by the engine of a cynical brutal lied race hatred.

According to an article in November "Harper's Magazine" on "Hitlerism Comes to America." Hitler recently declared in an interview with newspaper correspondent that "America has no right to criticize us. She is just like Germany. In her immigration laws, in her social restrictions and economic discrimination she too persecutes the Jews. What we are doing to the Jews is just what you would like to do in the United States. You ought to be grateful to us for showing you the way."

Stirring Up Race Hatred. The principle program of the various organizations operating directly in German-American communities under such names as the Friends of New Germany, Swastika League, German-American Commercial League and Friends of Germany is the "(1) Spreading anti-Semitism in the United States to counteract Jewish influence on American politics; and (2) create a solid phalanx of Germans and German-Americans to present a group power which will be able to swing things its way when the time comes."

One tactic of the Nazi agitators sent to America by the Hitlerites, has been a mail order campaign addressed anonymously to American labor unions. This propaganda has apparently found successful lodgement in the minds of sections of the Progressive Miners union in Illinois and certainly in the minds of the editors of the "Progressive Miner," largely due to the accident that the tool of the Peabody Coal company who sits in the governor's chair in Illinois is Gov. Henry Horner. The Nazi in Germany accord-

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EXPOSE C. C. C. AS MILITARY UNIT

Train Youth For Future Mass Killing

Conservation Workers Taste Army Service Under U. S. Officers

(P. S.—Dear Editor of The Challenge: I am not even signing an assumed name, as I want to save the war department the trouble of looking all through the records to find a name which probably isn't there, and if it is, is hung on the wrong fellow, so I am just yours truly, A. C. C. Dub.) One good story I might mention in closing is that one delegation whose members placed highest on the average in the intelligence tests is on record as the group which broke up and deserted the C. C. C. or were thrown out in the shortest time on record. You see why I sign myself Dub.)

One hundred prospective members of the Civilian Conservation corps shivered in the "processing line" of the Fort Sheridan camp dispensary, naked as the day they were born, while one doctor after another boredly "sized them up" physically.

A delicate looking boy was trembling visibly from the cold of the poorly heated room. One of the doctors smiled cynically and remarked, "Well lad, you may be cold now, but wait until we get a gun over your shoulder and you really have to be tough."

Suspicion of Militarism Well Founded.

This remark caught my attention and made me alert to note various traces of military purpose behind the C. C. C. and I found not a few. Despite the fervid and frequent protestations of our smartly uniformed officers that "they are not trying to make soldiers of you" my conviction has grown that the Conservation corps is, to the army at least, a potential and easily converted military force.

Gen. George Mosely, corps area commander writing from Fort Hayes at Columbus, Ohio, to the adjutant at Fort Knox, Ky., anxiously pointed out that "All records (CCC) of the men are of vital importance to the United States army." Accidentally or not, non-military officers picked from the recruits to the C. C. C. are chosen on the basis of previous military experience in C. M. T. C., R. O. T. C. or national guard.

Outside of certain state groups, military drill was strictly avoided, but officers were equipped with drill instructions for their work, I know. The green members of the camp were escorted to and from their tasks by members of the regular army, much to their disgust. A disgust, I might say, that was heartily shared by the regulars who in most cases seemed to regard their proteges with ill-concealed contempt, not to say hostility.

On Parade.

Early in the course of our stay we were outfitted in army equipment of at least 1917 vintage still reeking intoxicatingly of at least 16 years in the moth balls. A queer dead touch of war days was given to the company streets as the "newly" outfitted boys strutted about often falling into step and saluting one another with mock pomp.

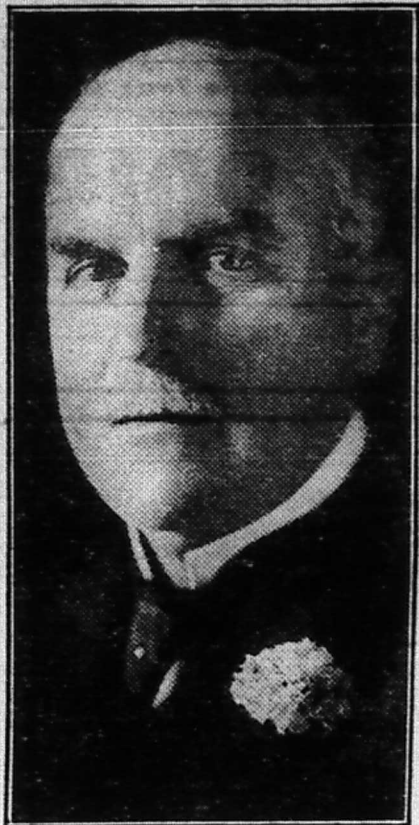
Frankly, it seemed to me that boys so easily flattered by such uniforms would be easily garnered by the militarists when the next batch of cannon fodder is needed to burn in the hell furnace of war for the greater glory of capitalism and the military caste. I cannot help thinking that the militarists are smiling as they have the same thought.

Why Are Your Teeth So Long, Granmother?

The progressed kindliness of the war department in fathering the CCC must be taken with appropriate portions of salt. It is by most members of the corps who in many cases are openly resentful of the strict discipline which they must undergo. This discipline, though sugar-coated, is still obviously military and many of the members would enthusiastically welcome the transfer of the administration of the CCC to a department of the government which will conduct it as a really civilian undertaking.

However, there seems every anxiety to get the strategic military age into camp. I understand that single unattached men who apply to the civil works administration will be referred to the CCC. There are, of course, many minor criticisms to be made of the conduct of the CCC. Sometimes the food is unsatisfactory, often the only light that the camps have is

Lynch Governor



Gov. Jim Rolph of California, who has twice refused to release Tom Mooney from San Quentin prison where he is serving a life sentence for a crime of which he is admitted to be innocent. This same Gov. Rolph recently encouraged, and after it was committed, praised the lynching of two men accused of kidnapping and taking the life of a young San Francisco man. This is a sign of the breakdown of capitalist society and the brutalization of large masses of people which is also seen in the legal lynch verdict of the Alabama court which for the third time has condemned the Scottsboro Negro boys to death on flimsy perjured evidence.

that of kerosene lamps and candles in districts where electricity is easily accessible.

The chief element of unrest among the more intelligent and alert of these youth who are disillusioned of war, is the dread that only too soon the "friendly" grandmother, the war department, will be giving us guns in place of the axes we now wield, will teach us to drive tanks in place of tractors and command that we go forth to make the world safe for capitalism and imperialism and the whole dirty game.

Open Tent School For Miners' Kids

A nursery school for small children of 30-odd evicted families living in a tent colony not far from the mining town of Ward, W. Va., has been started by Pioneer Youth (69 Bank st., New York city). The teacher is a young graduate of Mount Holyoke. Tuition is "in terms of work since no money is available."

Today's Fight By Spartacus

Continued From Page One.

Parsons college declares that the federal government should organize a "Mental Conservation Corps" and provide higher education for 100,000 young men, which he claims could be done at about half the cost of maintaining each man in the forestry camps. The Challenge, speaking for the Young People's Socialist league, last June suggested maintenance grants of \$75 a month and supervision of unemployed youth by educational authorities who are slightly better equipped to be "fathers to the young" than men whose trade or profession is bloodshed and destruction.

A Bigger Navy Shouts Secretary Swanson in Chorus with Gen. MacArthur. The weight of our arms is the only security of America is the belief treasured by the ossified minds of these militarists. Swanson is just now spending \$328,000 from the public works funds, MacArthur recouped the economies in his department through taking charge of the C. C. C. camps and the national guard now under his direct command is at its peak for all history. Yet faster and still faster the mad race goes. Japan and Great Britain raise the same cry, and build faster to match us. And where is security? Lord Salisbury once pointed out that the logic of the military mind would lead him to fortify Mars "to protect his lines of communication."

The Civil Works Administration is looked upon as Santa Claus by many unemployed but already we hear of young unattached men being referred to the C. C. C. camps for a \$1 a day they don't get. About a third of the unemployed can be absorbed a most optimistic estimate, the wage for unskilled labor will not equal the relief budget allowed for a family of four in a place like Chicago, the CWA does not recognize the unions, political machines must approve the jobs and

Trace History of Labor And Socialism in the U.S.

During the first half of the 19th century, practically all the important experiments of the Utopian Socialists took place in the United States. The followers of Owen, Cabet, Weitling and Fourier established famous Communist settlements here, such as Brook farm. Between 1840 and 1850 Fourierism developed great strength in America. "Among its adherents were many persons of national reputation, such as Horace Greeley, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Charles A. Dana, Albert Brisbane." (Hullquit—Socialism in Theory and Practice.)

"The real beginnings of Socialism in the United States are to be found in two quarters far removed from the philosophic ease of the Fourierist intellectuals." (Hughan—American Socialism of the Present Day.) First, many German radicals fled to the United States after the revolution of 1848. Wilhelm Weitling, the proletarian Utopian, was the chief of these exiles here. He edited a German newspaper in New York city, he made propaganda tours all over the country, and our first national labor convention was held under Weitling's influence.

All labor movements were halted by the Civil war. But since that struggle between the feudal south and the capitalist north resulted in the victory of the latter, the triumph of large-scale capitalism and the development of a numerous working class followed.

American Socialists After the Civil War.

After the Civil war, German radicals formed American sections of the International Workingmen's Assn. (the First International). By 1872 it had 30 sections and 5,000 members in this country. The international headquarters was moved to New York in that year, but the First International was formally dissolved at a convention in Philadelphia in 1876.

In 1868 German radicals organized the first Socialist party in the United States, the Social Party of New York and vicinity, which existed through but one campaign.

Socialism here had a second beginning in the native labor movement. The National Labor Union was formed in 1866, and "drifted toward Socialism in the wake of its magnetic leader, Sylvias." A few

the whole project ends in three months. Some one is trying to kid us again.

years later the union formed the National Labor Reform party, which lasted until 1872.

The Socialist Labor Party.

The depression of 1873 caused the Social-Democratic Workingman's party to be formed a year later. In 1876 the party united with other groups into the Workingman's Party of the United States, afterwards known as the Socialist Labor party. The S. L. P. in its early years had to battle with the anarchists for existence, with the result that the S. L. P. had to confine itself at first to educational rather than political activity.

A number of local labor parties were formed in the 1880's, and the Socialist Labor party supported their candidates. In 1886 Henry George, the great Single Taxer, who was backed by the S. L. P., the trade unions and his own followers, received more votes for mayor of New York than Theodore Roosevelt, the Republican candidate. However, the Democratic nominee won the election.

In 1892 a presidential ticket was nominated by the S. L. P. for the first time. Its vote grew from over 21,000 in 1892 to over 82,000 in 1898, the zenith of the Socialist Labor party.

"Its main efforts were directed toward converting the trade and labor unions," to Socialism and revolutionary unionism, "and that endeavor failing, toward fighting and denouncing the existing union organizations and attempting to create a union movement subsidiary to the party." In the S. L. P. "dissensions were never ending, intolerance more than ecclesiastical and dogmatic purism increased; critics of the men in control of the highly centralized organization were branded as fakirs and traitors." (Skelton—Socialism, A Critical Analysis.)

Factors Converting People to Socialism.

During the last decade of the 19th century, the growth of American capitalism intensified the class struggle, especially during the depression of 1893. Many great and bitter strikes broke out, such as the Homestead, Coeur d'Alene, Great Northern and Pullman strikes. Eugene V. Debs, who led the last two strikes, served a term in prison as a result of the Pullman strike.

Then too, many public-spirited persons were becoming aware of the evils and dangers of modern capitalism. The writings of Edward Bellamy and Henry George caused many persons to become Socialistically inclined.

The Formation of the Present Socialist Party.

In 1897 Eugene V. Debs and his followers, most of whom were railroad workers, united with the Brotherhood of the Commonwealth, led by J. A. Wayland, publisher of The Appeal to Reason. At a convention in Chicago that year, they formed the Social Democracy of America. Abraham Cahan, Meyer London and others associated with The Jewish Daily Forward of New York, soon allied themselves with the Social Democracy.

Since one faction of the party inclined toward political action and the other toward Utopian experiments in western colonization, a split soon took place. In 1898 the political faction, led by Debs and Victor Berger, withdrew and formed the Social Democratic Party of America.

Meanwhile two wings had developed within the Socialist Labor party. One wing agreed with Daniel de Leon's policies regarding the trade unions and accepted his leadership. The other, led by Morris Hillquit and others, did not. In 1899 the anti-De Leon group left the S. L. P. and joined the Social Democratic party.

The Break With the Socialist Labor Party.

The Social Democratic party and the S. L. P. nominated a joint ticket for the election of 1900, consisting of Debs of the S. D. P. for president and Harriman of the S. L. P. for vice president. Part of the Socialist Labor party, led by De Leon, nominated its own standard-bearers. The Debs-Harriman ticket received almost 90,000 votes while the S. L. P. vote in 1900 shrank to less than 40,000.

With the exception of the S. L. P., all factions united to form the Socialist Party of America in 1901. The former grew even weaker and more dogmatic. The latter grew steadily during the next dozen years and gained most of its recruits from native-born Americans.

Railroad Dick's Gun Reduces Number of Wandering Youth; Just 249,999 Left

Conservative Estimates Place Million and Half on Road.

The road between Wilmington and Baltimore runs for quite a way alongside the railroad tracks. A freight was pulling out from one of the yards when, from behind a shed two boys suddenly appeared and ran toward one of the moving gondolas. Immediately, out of nowhere, appeared a burly railroad dick, his heavy holster flapping at his side. His call to halt was unheeded. One of the boys was already scrambling into the car. With no more ado, the revolver was whipped out of its holder. A shot. The second lad stumbled. His head hit the swiftly moving car and he was hurled into a pile of cinders, a sprawling, lifeless mass. The number of wandering youth in the richest country in the world had been decreased by one.

It has always been a question as to exactly how many young people are spending what should be the most fertile years of their lives hitch-hiking and hopping freights in order to go anywhere from nowhere.

A Quarter Million Youth on Road. A conservative estimate after a census taken by the Committee on the Care of the Homeless indicates at least 1,500,000 transients aimlessly wandering over the country. Of these at least 250,000 range in age from 15 to 25. Wherever the facts concerning this army of wandering youth have been revealed, they have shown a surprisingly large number with high school training and considerable with a college education.

Nor are only young men numbered among these youthful transients. After a recent survey made simultaneously in 800 cities, it was shown, that over 12,000 homeless girls applied at charity organizations for the night's lodging. Of these 1,480 were minors.

On the same night 3,155 families applied for lodging. This number included over 17,000 individuals of which 2,967 were women under 20 and 5,544 children. Also on the same evening almost 2,000 women were found sleeping in hobo jungles along railroad tracks.

Unemployed and Hopeless.

The reasons for this situation are self-evident. There are today millions of young men and women in America who have never worked. A survey by the National Student Federation shows that less than 20 per cent of the 1932 high school and college students have received self-supporting jobs. More than 50 per cent of the graduates of the last three years are totally unemployed. Those who are working have had to take positions in no way connected with the work for which they had trained themselves in school.

The rest, the unemployed, are tired of sponging on their parents, while they are looking for work which is non-existent. Each one of them feels that there is no place in society for him. However, there may be something out of town. And besides he would decrease the drain on the already sadly depleted family treasury. The strain is too much. He packs up and becomes one of America's Wandering Youth.

A Down-Hill Road. There is no way of computing the amount of danger and hardship suffered by this migratory horde. They endure untold suffering hopping

Wanderers Feed Ranks of Unemployed and Criminal Classes.

freights and walking endless miles in all sorts of weather. The story told at the beginning of this article—I witnessed the incident myself—is not uncommon. Sleeping anywhere, flophouses, park benches, hobo jungles, leads to a terrific impairment of the health of these young people.

So does the scarcity and poor quality of the food. The moral hazards are equally devastating. Roaming across the country like packs of wild animals, finding shelter and food where they may, harrowed by the railroad dicks and local authorities, they are easy prey for thieves, degenerates and hoboes. Being disillusioned as to the prospects of finding legitimate employment, they quite readily join the ranks of the unemployable, criminals and degenerates.

End This D—n System.

Hope, ambitions, ideals, all gone, these young people are going to grow up to be a definite responsibility to our society. More than that, they offer an imposing threat to the organized labor movement.

It was from exactly such young people that Hangman Hitler got his first support. Blame for this shameful, race-rotting, suicidal condition should be placed directly at the door of a system which places private profit above human needs. A system which every young man and woman with a warm heart and a clear head should declare war upon and set out to end and replace by Socialism.

The Challenge

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

Office of Publication, 536 W. Juneau Ave.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Application for entry as second class matter at the postoffice at Milwaukee, Wis., is pending.

Issued monthly, 3 cents per copy. One year by mail, 35 cents. In clubs of four or more, 25 cents a year. Special bundle rates. Advertising rates upon request.

Arthur G. McDowell, Editor.

Associate Editors:

James Quick, Bob Parker, Ben Fischer, Aaron Levenstein.

Contributing Editors:

Andrew J. Biemiller, Powers Hapgood, Norman Thomas, Raymond Hofses, Oscar Ameringer, John W. Edelman.

Charles Hryniewiecki—Staff Artist.
Syd Devin—Business Manager.



THE CHALLENGERS BY SYD DEVIN

The new rates did it! November, the first full month at new rates of 25 cents per year (if four or more subs are sent in together; 35 cents for subs sent in singly), sets a new high record of 163 subs. However, receipts barely held their own because of the sharp reduction in rates. For financial stability we must attain a steady stream of 500 new subs and renewals monthly. We are only one-third of the way there as yet.

And to show how easy it is to reach that goal, Illinois, with only 10 per cent of the YPSL membership, gets in 58 per cent of November's total increase! Were other states doing as well in proportion to the strength of their organization we would be receiving almost 1,000 new subs monthly! Enough to make us twice self-supporting! Good work, Illinois! After her, sluggish states!

November's "Challengers" are hereby listed by states—the states in order of their total circulation:

Illinois: Paul Rasmussen, NEC member now organizing for the Illinois S. P., gets in clubs totaling 25 subs originating at Bradley, Streator, Chicago, Galva, Kewanee, Galesburg, Fidelity, Jerseyville, Jacksonville, Canton and Carrolton. Some traveling! Eleven towns, most of them new to the Challenge map. Paul also leads the sub-getting contest being waged by the NEC.

"Hoot" Rasmussen, organizing in Illinois' coal fields gets in four subs from Taylorville. Quentin Ogren, young member of Rockford's newly organized party local, gets in a club of four.

Chicago Yipsels started off with a bang when they gathered 39 subs at a Debs-Hillquit Memorial banquet. Besides Chi, subs were gathered there for Gillespie, Elmhurst, Wilmette, Lombard, Elmwood Park and Hinsdale. **Ethel Schevitz** of Circle 1 Sr., gets in a club of four. **Allene Foss**, hard working secretary of Circle 10 Sr., gets in a fine club of 9. **Mary O'Brien** sends in 4 subs taken at her party branch, two of them for Indiana addresses. It's too bad Indiana's sole subs this month came through Illinois effort.

Wisconsin: Jerry (Of Faithful) Rubin again gets in 11 subs. Otherwise the Badgers seem to have been exhausted by their milk strike activities.

New York: Bob Parker gets in four subs taking fourth place in the NEC contest. Circle 5 Sr. Kings, in New York City, and Circle 5 Sr. Brooklyn, coincide again with 4 subs each. New York, strongest YPSL state, is a poor third in circulation standing.

Connecticut: Gilbert Davis of New Haven is responsible for Connecticut's total gain this month with

a dandy club of 8 subs. How about celebrating your election victories, Bridgeport?

Missouri: Gloria Waldron saves Missouri from disgrace by getting in 4 subs. By the way Gloria, Chicago YPSL'ers want the Challenge readers to know that you had a big hand in the round-up of subs at the Debs-Hillquit banquet. Thanks, they say.

West Virginia: Milt Weisberg takes second in the NEC contest with 12 subs picked up on organization tour through Philippi, Morgantown and Meriden here.

Pennsylvania: Two individual subs stray in, and Penn, one of the three states boasting a state-wide organization!

Michigan: To save Michigan from ignominy, we'll record Art McDowell's 11 subs here, although 4 of the 11 were picked up in Milwaukee. Art is third in the NEC contest, 1 behind Weisberg.

Single subs steamed in steadily, Alaska and British Columbia getting into our list. Let's end the year with a big jump during December. Here's a goal for every active Yipsel to aim for:

1. Every member a subscriber.
2. Every subscriber a Challenger.
3. Every Challenger get in at least 1 club during December.

Make the Challenge's first New Year a Happy one. Circle Secretaries:

Get in your bundle orders; wipe your 1933 debts clean!

IRON PROTESTS!

Said the great machine of iron and wood,
'Lo, I'm a creature meant for good.
But the criminal clutch of stupid greed
Has made me a monster that scatters need
And want and hunger wherever I go.

I could lift men's burdens and lighten their woe
I could give them leisure to laugh in the sun,
If owned by the many instead of the one.

If owned by the people, the whole wide earth
Should learn my purpose and know my worth.
I would close the chasm that yawns in our soil
Twixt unearned riches and ill-paid toil.

No man should hunger, and no man labor
To fill the purse of an idle neighbor;
And each man would know when his work was done,
Were I shared by the many—not owned by one.

I am forced by the few with their greed for gain,
To forge for the many new fetters of pain.
Yet this is my purpose, and ever will be
To set slaves of the workshops really free.

And brave men hasten that day, when overjoyed
The desperate host of the unemployed
Shall learn my purpose and understand
And hail me friend in a gracious land.

—Claire.

Yipsels! Help Build the Young Falcon Movement

There is a definite need for a children's movement, that will bring the children nearer to the Socialist movement.

The work of building and carrying on this movement cannot be done without leaders—and these leaders must be Yipsels.

It is up to each circle to elect a comrade, or a few comrades, for this work—at once. All comrades wishing to do this work will get further information by writing to 7 East Fifteenth st., New York City.

The Falcon movement has begun a systematic nation-wide drive for the organization of groups. Those cities that at present have active, functioning Falcon groups, and keep in touch with the Falcon national office, are Los Angeles, Hartford, Chicago, Milwaukee, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Reading, North Philadelphia, Trenton, Baltimore and New York city, that heads the list with 25 functioning groups.

Wake up—don't let your circle lag behind. If you have no Falcon Flights meeting at your headquarters—organize them. Elect a committee to get groups started. Find out why, and how. If you have a Flight meeting at your headquarters—how about sending in a report—at once—and letting us know about their problems and progress. We really can accomplish more by co-operating.

PHIL HELLER, National Chairman,
Red Falcons of America.

Solidarity --

By the National
Industrial Sec'y.

Aid Laundry Workers.

CHICAGO, ILL.—The Cook County YPSL is taking an active part in the organization drive for the inside laundry workers of Chicago who number around 35,000 and are one of the worst exploited groups among this great city's working masses. Aid was also rendered the Shoe Rebuilders' union in their drive to recruit the workers in the great department store repair shops. Circle 7 Jack London Juniors were the big noise on that job.

crease in membership after this year's general strike, are sending many of their active members to the college and the YPSL is in a strategic position through the college to make contacts and gain members. A tag day will be held soon to raise funds for a strike relief fund.

Class lines are sharply drawn in Reading these days, the board of trustees denying the use of the YWCA hall for an antiwar rally when they found it was sponsored by the YPSL. The rally was successfully held however in the Labor Lyceum and similar youth rallies will be held monthly.

Picketing the Movies.

MILWAUKEE, Wis.—Milwaukee YPSL members have been demonstrating their solidarity with organized labor by turning out on the picket line thrown around scab theaters by the Motion Picture Operators' Union Local 164. The union is in a drive to unionize the complete theater field in the city and invited the co-operation of the young Socialists. Nick and Alex Wambach, who have been active in the organizations of the unemployed, were active in getting out the Workers' Committee on Unemploy-

ment before the YPSL turned out in a group. The Barbers' union is the latest to solicit the co-operation of the YPSL in picketing.

Strike Peace Made.

The silk strike centering in Paterson, N. J., and the strike of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers in St. Louis were two hard-fought battles fairly successfully concluded recently with gains to the workers. Members of the YPSL had been active in both of these struggles from the very start and we hail the victory won with special interest. Paterson is reorganizing their circle with the hope to do effective work in the future.

Memoranda.

The first of a series of industrial department memoranda was sent out to circle, city and district industrial directors and secretaries recently. Others on specific programs will be sent out soon. Circles should see that they elect circle industrial directors and notify the national office, so that mail may be sent the proper officer for action. Are you on your toes, alert to what is going on organizationally speaking in your community? Are you in the front lines when a labor struggle is being carried forward?

Challenge Current Publication Review

Testament of Youth. By Vera Brittain, 661 pages, \$2.50.

A beautiful and touching document of a young English woman of the war generation. The story of a generation which was not only crushed, but in England, France and Germany was practically exterminated as far as the men were concerned and the women left with the army's leavings.

Of all those who were the victims of the malice greed and stupidity of the captains and the kings in 1914-18, and who have made themselves heard since, Vera Brittain has more than any other written the verdict of youth on the war, and on all wars as far as that is concerned.

Her response to a post-war world was that of a youth whose vitality is triumphant. As Europe settled down to get along without the poets, philosophers, scientists and statesmen who if they had lived might have carried out the ideals so profanely mouthed by the corrupt generation of rulers who sent them out to slaughter, she settled down to a world empty of the strong, the brave and the gay ones who had been her loved companions, finally throwing in her lot with the Labor Party.

Individualism and Socialism. By Kirby Page, \$2.00 from Socialist party.

Page has written a valuable handbook of current affairs from a So-

cialist angle. An extremely impressive portrayal of how far material forces are pushing men and measures in the direction of collectivism in spite of the philosophy of individualism that most of them profess or at least express when stating their theory of society. The method used is that of direct quotation and then comparison with practice. The dogmatic pacifism of the author does insist on sticking out oddly, although the subtitle of the book does declare it to be "an Ethical Survey of Economic and Political Forces."

Menace of Fascism. By John Strachey, \$2.50, Covici-Friede.

The brilliant young Communist author of the Coming Struggle for Power has written a book on Fascism, apparently rather in a hurry and under emotional tension. He renews his indictment of Social Democracy but in his treatment of Hitlerism is so careless as to practically ignore such a factor as the Versailles treaty.

One contribution of genuine usefulness is his formulation of a definition of the much-abused term of social fascism. He uses it to describe a progressive government (as distinguished from the Fascist movement which denies progress, which in office or in power is either unwilling or unable to attack the bases of capitalism and is therefore driven on a reactionary course, eventually paving the way for Fascism.

House of the Silver Screen

Challenge Photoplay Reviews

Thunder Over Mexico. Directed by Sergei Eisenstein. Photography by Fisse. Musical Score by Hugo Riesenfeld. Produced by Upton Sinclair.

Neither beautiful photography nor "Production by Upton Sinclair," alone or together, will make a proletarian movie. In Thunder Over Mexico, Sinclair might have done a worse job than he did, but the artistic wizardry of Fisse at the camera is unable to lift the film one iota above being a stupid film in the first place and a crime in the name of the working class in the second.

The plot is an unimportant one. A Mexican peon, resenting the rape of his fiancée by a friend of the owner of the hacienda where he lives and works, strikes him. Through subsequent incidents the peon and his friends are finally caught and put to death by being trampled under the hoofs of horses ridden by men of the hacienda. The girl, praying at his corpse for deliverance, is heard by the other workers of the ranch, and there is an immediate revolution and the birth of a new Mexico, where, supposedly, hacienda owners don't rape defenseless young women.

At this stage, perhaps, when the film has been discussed pro and con by practically everyone in or near the working class movement, there is no new angle to give to the production. One remembers, however, that issue of "Experimental Cinema" in which Einstein wrote his diagnosis, so to speak, of Thunder Over Mexico and its basis of plot and content. And certainly the present film is a sad, far cry from his explanation of conflicts—conflicts of man and mood and scene and time—class conflict, in short.

Revolutions aren't made because a raped woman prays for deliverance from tyranny, nor is a new order built out of an old and tyrannical one, merely because workers set fire to buildings that, as the person familiar with Mexican architecture knows, are practically fireproof.

The film is a sad shock to those who expected to see a semiproletarian movie anyway. The best thing that can be said for it is that it does tell us how tremendously powerful an instrument for Socialist propaganda the films can be if properly directed. Perhaps some day we workers in America shall be able to produce our own films of the class struggle and exhibit them to the men and women who are part of the struggle.

—JACK KAHN.

I Loved a Woman — With Kay Francis and Edward G. Robinson.

Read reviews and beware of titles! The name of this picture would be enough to frighten almost any Yipsel, and yet it deals with subject matter of interest to us all.

The story is taken from one written by David Karsner, author of Debs: His Authorized Life and Letters.

The plot is a combination of several themes. John Hayden, third of a family of meat packers in Chicago, a dreamer type, is reconciled to business by the girl he marries, and turned from philanthropy and the honest conduct of his affairs upon the urgings and goading of a young singer. The story carries swiftly and conclusively through the Spanish-American war, in which Hayden led all the rest in selling poisoned meat to the government, to his trial and acquittal. The "trust-busting" attempts of Roosevelt the First had the combines worried, but their cunning brains soon showed them the way to dodge the laws.

By the time of the war the Hayden concern had its fingers in dozens of enterprises, and caught after the Armistice with surplus goods and canceled orders, the structure collapsed. The parallel to the Insull case is too plain to be missed, for Hayden fled and spent his last days in Greece.

The acting and characterizations are excellent, interest is well sustained, and a love theme adds zest to the whole. On the whole a satisfactory dramatization of certain ruling class phases of American economic life.

—J. A.

Co-operative Youth League Convenes In Superior, Wis.

The Co-operative Youth League of the North Central States recently held its annual convention in Superior, Wis. Sixteen youth league units were represented by 25 delegates, and the total membership claimed is 800.

A definite program of activity, including minimums in educational work, cultural work, etc., by each unit was adopted. The convention also went on record in favor of holding the co-operative youth courses in 1934.

Socialist Cuts Grass Short for Vienna Fascist

The Austrian Socialist party has voted to declare a general strike if the Fascist premier tries to dissolve their party. This brought a blast of rage from tiny Premier Dolfuss, who had to climb a chair to bang his fist on the table. Socialist Mayor Seitz of Vienna responded to the outburst by ordering that the grass in the Volksgarten surrounding the premier's headquarters, be cut very short to keep Dolfuss from getting lost.

Child Labor Now Totals Over 250,000

National Committee Sets Jan. 27-29, 1934, as Children's Day.

Following its custom of nearly 30 years, the National Child Labor Committee has designated the weekend of Jan. 27 to 29 as the period for the observance of Child Labor day. This year the occasion for rejoicing for the child labor victories gained through the industrial codes is tempered by the knowledge that hundreds of thousands of children engaged in industrialized agriculture, domestic service and certain forms of industrial home work and street trades are not protected by any code.

It is estimated that the industrial codes have released 100,000 children under 16 years from industry. Another 30,000 boys and girls 16 to 18 years have been removed from especially hazardous work. On the other hand there are still approximately 240,000 children under 16 years working in occupations not covered by codes. These children are employed largely in industrialized agriculture, such as the production of sugar beets, cotton, tobacco, and truck farm products, in street trades, especially newspaper selling, and in domestic service.

Those interested in child labor should pledge themselves to the protection of these forgotten children, as well as to renewing efforts to make permanent through state and federal legislation the advances which the recovery program have brought.

There must be no return to child labor when the codes expire in 1935. This means that the federal child labor amendment must be ratified by the rest of the states. Fifteen have already done so.

When the United States supreme court declared the federal child labor act of 1919 unconstitutional there was an immediate rapid rise in the amount of cheap child labor. Employers at once reached out to cheat the lives of working-class youth of even the fleeting freedom of poverty's childhood.

HARRISBURG, Pa.—Representative Lillith Wilson, one of the two Socialist members of the Pennsylvania house of representatives, has for the fourth time introduced her resolution for Pennsylvania ratification of the federal child labor amendment. Introduced each session since the two Socialists took their seats, the resolution has been brought to a vote on several occasions, in each case to be defeated by the combination of reactionary Republican and Democratic votes.

Nazi Propaganda Spread in the U. S.

Continued From Page One.

ing to President Plett of the German and International Clothing Workers' unions, have turned over the headquarters of the German Typographical union which they seized along with all other union property, for the exclusive purpose of turning out English printed propaganda, with which they are flooding America.

The Silver Shirts.

In addition to the propaganda and organization among German-Americans and sympathizers which is carried on along lines laid down by Mussolini in his similar campaign among Italian-Americans some years ago, the German Fascists are subsidizing a native American movement along their own twisted lines.

This organization is the Silver Shirts, a revival of the old discredited KuKlux Klan functioning along the same racketeering lines but putting its chief emphasis on anti-semitism according to the hint of their ally.

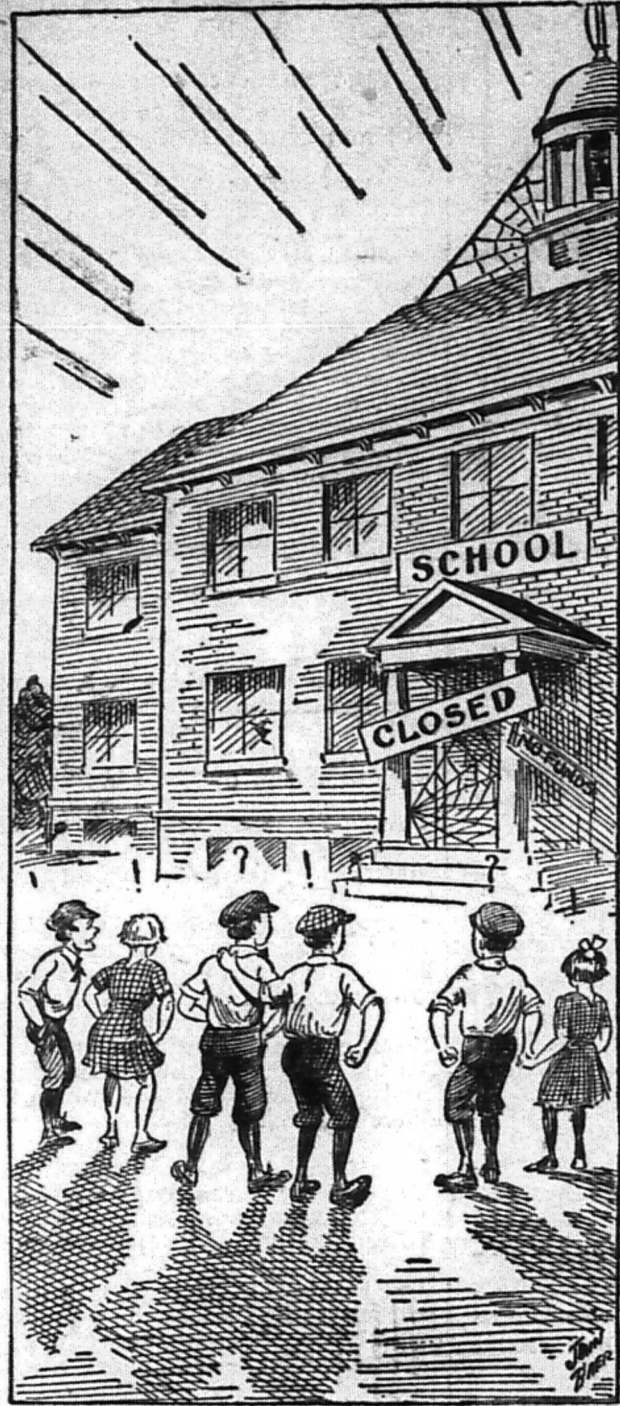
Unite and Crush.

The labor movement may divide by many things but the vicious propaganda for turning the clock back in America to a Hitler tune should surely unite them to crush out the ugly rotten growth.

Signal Fire on the Pacific.

Circle No. 2 Seattle is a new signal fire for rallying youth to Socialism in this Pacific coast town. A Sumner Thompson of the Seattle Labor college and leader in the Continental Congress of Workers and Farmers in this section was chiefly responsible for the organization of this new YPSL circle.

MILLIONS FOR BATTLESHIPS, NOTHING FOR SCHOOLS



Federated Press Correspondent Bids Farewell in U. S. Labor History Article

(Editor's note: We take pleasure in here submitting the final article to be written from Washington by Laurence Todd of the Federated Press, premier of American labor correspondents.)

WASHINGTON (F.P.)—Since I am leaving The Federated Press after 14 years of service as its Washington correspondent, in order to report to the press of the Soviet Union some part of the meaning of passing events in the United States, it is natural that I should wish to say farewell.

What to say, what to omit, in this precious final space? The suggestion comes that I merely do a day's work by explaining the class conflict involved in any change of monetary standards. A vast majority of American farmers and wage and salary workers, having debts to pay, would temporarily gain by inflation; yet workers are so poorly organized, and so little safeguarded by NRA machinery, that they are unable to force their wage rates upward as fast as living costs rise during inflation.

This latest struggle over monetary inflation is only a symbol of the confusion which marks the breakdown of the capitalist economic order. No degree of inflation is going to give security of employment at a comfort wage to the millions of workers who still are unemployed and destitute.

Ownership of their fair share in the national income is the only actual security in modern economic life. Getting that ownership, which implies social ownership, is the actual problem before readers of The Federated Press. It seems to me the only serious business before this generation of Americans.

Leaving an organization in which one has become the veteran, brings back memories of struggles that seemed in their day to be supremely important, that brought out in the men and women of the producing class a higher courage and devotion to the lifting of their class to economic emancipation.

I think of the splendid defense of class-prisoners after the war, the resistance to Mitchell Palmer's fascism, Glenn Plumb's heroic effort to enlist the workers in the movement for social ownership and democratic management of railroads and mines; Eugene V. Debs' flaming defiance of the reaction which capitalist courts brought in those years against all who challenged the old order.

When my service to Federated Press began, the leadership by W.

Z. Foster of 350,000 steel workers in the greatest strike ever known in that industry was front-page news. Victor Berger was still being excluded from the House because Judge Landis had sentenced him to prison for pointing out that the workers could only lose by an imperialist war.

Membership in the American Federation of Labor had risen from 2,000,000 in 1914 to over 4,000,000 in 1919-20. Organized employers, alarmed at the growth of labor demands—stimulated both by the boom years of the European war munitions trade and the regime of the National War Labor Board, and by the revolutionary success of the Russian workers—had begun to mobilize for their general attack.

There followed years of merciless warfare by American capitalism against American labor. This conflict found the workers hesitant as to how far they dared resist. They gave way first on public ownership demands. Then union membership began to crumble. Triumphantly the capitalist press announced gain after gain for "industrial leadership," while many of the higher union officials lined up with Harding, Coolidge and Hoover as conspicuous opponents of a class attitude on either the industrial or the political field.

And the fact that in 1924 La Follette, endorsed by the A. F. of L., the rail brotherhood chiefs and the Socialist party, polled less than 5,000,000 votes when he ran for president on a platform of moderate reforms, proved that the American wage earners and farmers were no more advanced than their spokesmen. They still believed in capitalist rule, unrestrained by reform.

Federation membership was only 2,933,000 when the 1929 convention was held. An attempt was made to organize textile workers in the south. There was talk of organizing the automobile workers in Detroit. Senator Norris was trying to induce congress to pass an anti-injunction law.

Then came the stock market crash and the depression. Labor leaders agreed not to ask for higher wages, in return for the employers' pledge that wages would not be cut. Million after million of workers were dismissed. And presently wages collapsed.

In the last four years Washing-

ton has been in continual confusion, because an outworn economic order was dead. There flash across one's memory the hunger marches, the Bonus Expeditionary Force and the ghastly night when Hoover ordered the burning of the veterans' city. LaGuardia fought against sales taxes. Costigan and La Follette fought for billions in federal relief for the unemployed. Labor demanded the Black 30-hour bill.

The NRA was born. The 40-hour week was made standard for basic industries. But throughout all this confusion the capitalist rule of the lives of American farmers and wage workers has not been shaken. Security of livelihood has not been won by the producing class. Partnership in the economic unit which is the United States is still unrealized. It remains the essential goal.

INTERNATIONAL LABOR OFFICE CONSIDERS UNEMPLOMENT

The governing body of the International Labor office has voted to put the question of unemployment among young persons on the agenda of the International Labor conference to be held in 1935.

In Great Britain there are at least 144,000 unemployed workers under 18. In Sweden, 59,000 out of a total of 179,000 unemployed, were between 18 and 25 years. In Germany in 1932 there were 1,360,000 unemployed men ranging from 15 and 25.

There are 500,000 men, women and children "riding the rods" on the railroads of the U. S. Whole families have turned hobos as a result of the depression. Many hundred of the drifters are killed and injured every year.

Organization BY THE NATIONAL SECRETARY.

Youth's hand against war . . . Socialism in the high school Allentown and New York lead off winter educational program. . . A singing movement. . . Illinois. . . light on the Pacific.

Anti-War Meetings.

Detroit, Mich., and Reading, Pa., reported the most successful Armistice day antiwar meetings of youth (though Reading's was postponed a week). Northampton, Mass., and Montreal, Quebec, were effectively active on this occasion also. Philadelphia comrades distributed 7,000 leaflets at an American legion rally and in the public square.

Socialism in Every Library.

The Detroit comrades have recently donated a copy of Fred Henderson's Case for Socialism (\$2.25 a dozen), to every junior and senior high school library in town, and there are 36 in all. Party members were tackled for donations to pay the educational cost.

Allentown Labor College.

The local comrades opened a labor college on Nov. 26. The members of the Silk Workers' union are supporting the project enthusiastically. A debating team has recently been organized by the circle, and they expect to debate local high school teams, and thus get our name and ideas before the public.

New York Educational Forums.

Biweekly forums on Wednesdays at 8:30 p. m. will soon be started. Arrangements have been completed for symposiums on the following subjects: Program for American Socialists, Democracy and Socialism, and the Socialist Attitude on Trade Unions. Yipsels will pay 5 cents admission, and party members 10 cents.

The City league dance held on Nov. 18 was very successful. A journal was published in connection with the affair and report has it that about \$800 was cleared in all. Half of their deficit will be paid off. Song Book With Words and Music.

The long promised and awaited Rebel Song Book will be published by the YPSL, Socialist party, and Rand Book store about Dec. 15. Seventy-two pages of labor, radical and Socialist songs will be included in paper covers and sold to league members and circles at the special price of 60 cents apiece, and \$6 a dozen. Comrades are urged to send in orders at once and cash in advance will be a great help. The book will make an ideal Christmas present and we're expecting that the harmony in our movement will increase after the New Year's.

Milwaukee Reorganization.

The Wisconsin State YPSL board has started to reorganize the Milwaukee county leagues. Circles are being merged, juniors separated from seniors and organized into separate circles, and an increase in league spirit and activities is expected as a result of the "operation."

Illinois Marches Forward.

With the help of the able, volunteer, full-time organization efforts of Comrade Hoot Rasmussen, the Illinois league is starting to take rapid strides forward. Excellent results have been reported from Kincaid, Stonington, Taylorville and Carlinville. Gillespie, Staunton and Bond county will be covered during December and a side organization excursion to St. Louis will also be made. Cook County Secretary Ernest Erber will follow up on Kewanee organization on Dec. 18 and 19 and will also work in Burlington, Ia., for several days.

Pottstown (Pa.) Progresses.

Circle membership has increased from 10, when the group was organized in March, to 60 at present. Activity has kept pace and the members have led parades during strikes, carried banners and distributed literature and taken an active part in the municipal campaign. Petitions urging the passage of senate joint resolution 24, which would take the power to declare war out of the constitution, have been widely circulated.

Order From National Office

- ARM BANDS 8c apiece (Red felt with words "Young Socialists" in white)
- YPSL PINS (screw backs) to circles at 20c each (League emblem in gold on red background)
- 7th National Convention Proceedings 10c per copy (Minutes, resolutions and committee reports)

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIALIST LEAGUE OF AMERICA
549 Randolph St. — Chicago, Ill.