

THE CHALLENGE

Vol. II.—No. 8

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YOUTH RALLIES TO FIGHT WAR

Student Fascism Salesmen Given Riotous Welcome

by Ben Fischer

The visit of 340 Fascist students from Italian Universities to some of the larger Eastern American colleges was accompanied by much inconvenience to the Fascist sponsors of the tour. The two most dramatic rebuffs the Fascist-vendors received were the incident of the visit of the students to the City College of New York; and the counter-demonstrations at the Columbus Day athletic meet.

At the City College, where President Robinson had arranged a bridge reception in honor of a delegation of 16 Fascist students, over two thousand students turned out to "welcome" them. President Robinson in his speech excoriated what he called the discourtesy of the student group to the visitors. A representative of the Student Council, explained that the City College undergraduates meant their attack, not a personal one upon the Italian boys, but as a denunciation of Fascist terrorism in Italy, for which they stood. No sooner did the student mention Fascism, then several stalwart young men dragged him away from the microphone.

Fascists Fade Out

Three days after the City College riots the Columbus Day events took place. In the morning, the Columbus Day United Anti-Fascist Committee, of which both the YPSL and the Socialist Party were a part, held a meeting in one part of Columbus Circle, while at the foot of the Columbus monument, the Knights of Columbus, pro-Fascist Italian organizations, and official government agencies were co-operating in a "Columbus Day Celebration." Gov. Lehman spoke there, but with difficulty because of the Anti-Fascist counter-meeting nearby. The Fascist students who had been scheduled to come there and lay a wreath at the monument changed their plans. They were having enough of Anti-Fascist demonstrations.

Thousands Mass in Protest

In the afternoon, the united committee rallied its forces, numbering more than 2500 to the Yankee Stadium where the students were putting on a "pageant" with plenty of pro-Mussolini speeches. The Communists, unwilling to participate in the united front demonstration, appeared from another side under the banner of the American League Against War and Fascism, with some 1500 more demonstrators.

Both groups were repulsed by mounted police as they attempted to form mass picket lines about the stadium. A further appeal by the united demonstration to the Communists met with a refusal for joint action, the reason being that the "Trotskyists" and "Lovestoneites," to whom the Communists had transferred their allegations of "enemies of the working class," formerly reserved only for Socialists, were not barred.

Winding up a hectic day, a thousand demonstrators, mostly Young Socialists, occupied an elevated station overlooking the Stadium, and proceeded to divert the attention of the audience from pro-Fascist propaganda. Police finally herded the anti-Fascists into trains, injuring several. But Young Socialists had taken a leading part in giving the Fascist students their final taste of American resentment against tyranny.

"CITY OF DEATH"



"Merchants of Death" is the unenviable title the recent disclosure of the war-mongering activities of munitions makers has won for them. They have actually subsidized war; they have bribed high government officials to promote huge armaments; and, they have fomented warfare through the devious channels of "international diplomacy."

MONKEYS REFUSE TO ACT LIKE MEN

Abolish Profit System Forever

AGITATOR TELLS CROWD FOOD IS THEIRS

Once upon a time, the story goes, there was an Island inhabited entirely by monkeys, who lived on the coconuts which grew there. Whenever a monkey was hungry he climbed a tree, picked a coconut, and ate it. This seemed a very satisfactory, though primitive, way of doing things.

But finally one of the monkeys decided that this was too old-fashioned. He proclaimed himself king of the island and announced that he owned all the coconuts.

The monkeys scratched their heads and tried to understand why he owned the coconuts any more than they did. They couldn't make any sense out of it, but he spoke with such decision that they agreed he must be right.

Beginning of Capitalism

Next morning the king called all the monkeys together and spoke to them. "I am your king and I own all the trees on this island," he said. "Every monkey who wants to work for me may do so, at high wages." "What do you pay the wages in?" piped up a small monkey on the outskirts of the crowd.

"Sea shells, of course," snapped back the king monkey. "Don't you know that this country is on the shell standard? I own all the shells and I will pay one shell for each coconut you bring me."

"Why should we bring them to you when we want them ourselves?" asked the little monkey.

"Shut up and get to work," said the king. So they did.

The First Market

All day long the monkeys brought in coconuts, and they were paid one shell for each one. When supper time came they asked the king for some coconuts to eat.

"You have to buy them now because they are mine," said the king. "Pay me two shells for each one."

There seemed to be something queer about this, but the monkeys had quite a lot of shells, so they each bought a coconut for two shells.

The work went on for weeks, and everything seemed satisfactory. Then the coconuts were all picked. So the monkeys had no more work to do and lived on their savings.

Before long, however, they discovered that they had no more shells, because they had paid them all in to the king. He also had half the total coconut crop, because he had sold them back only half of the coconuts they picked.

Enter the Depression

So they sent a delegation to the king. "We haven't anything to eat," they said. "You have a lot more coconuts than you need. Give us some."

"Tut tut," said the king. "Those coconuts are mine as the reward of my risk, management, and general intelligence. Why didn't you work harder and save your shells, so you could buy some coconuts?"

"We did work hard, and we saved up lots of shells, but they're all spent now," said the delegation. "We would be glad to work some more, if you will give us work."

"How can I give your work when

(Continued on page 3)

ARMISTICE DAY ANTI-WAR DEMONSTRATION PEAK OF YOUTH FIGHT AGAINST WAR

Unborn Scab Wants Textile Job Back

Greenville, S. C. (FP)—The world's youngest scab has been found by textile strikers of the Lonsdale Mill, Seneca, South Carolina.

At the time of the strike call, managements forwarded to Governor Blackwood petitions signed by "loyal" workers asking that militia be sent to open the mills so that they could "return" to work. The petition sent from Lonsdale Mill included the signature of an alleged bootlegger of Seneca who signed for 11 members of his family, including an unborn child.

Workers are saying this is a planned economy with a vengeance.

STUDENT YOUTH FIGHT R.O.T.C.

St. Louis—Calling upon the youth of the nation to salvage "Armistice Day" from the hands of the militarists and professional patriots, the National Executive Committee of the Young People's Socialist League, in session here Oct. 13-15, laid plans for making November 11th, a day for the rallying of the forces of youth to war on war and militarism.

In making its decision, the committee stated that "The war on war must be carried to the strongholds of the militarists. Their weapons of propaganda and parade must be turned against them and their ignoble glorification of mass slaughter."

Later last month, seven leading student and Anti-War groups jointly issued a "Student Proclamation" calling upon college youth to unite for the same purpose. The organizations included the Student League for Industrial Democracy and the National Student Councils of both the Y.W.C.A. and the Y.M.C.A. The proclamation, declared that:

Student Proclamation

"The danger of war is greater today than ever before. War is destructive of all values, life and culture. Nevertheless, economic rivalries, national hatreds, fear and chauvinism are driving us with frantic haste into another world conflict. The use of Armistice Day as an occasion for the glorification of war, of military preparedness, and of a purely nationalistic patriotism, therefore, is tragically inappropriate. The opponents of war must rally their forces and strengthen their program for a decisive stand against war at this time with even greater determination than in the past."

These Armistice Day onslaughts against war and war mongers, will climax a period of intense development of youth struggle for peace. Slightly over a year ago, a poll of student opinion on war indicated a widespread and deep-rooted sentiment against war. The furor the publicizing of these sentiments raised on the campus has borne fruit in increased activity on the Anti War front.

Students Strike Against War

On April 13 of this year, the first "Student Strike Against War" was called by the Student League for Industrial Democracy and the National Student League, leading radical student organizations. In New York City alone, where the movement originated and centered, 15,000 students walked out of their classrooms, while reactionary university administrations worked themselves into a frenzy. But in some cases faculty members participated; at Vassar 500 girls in caps and gowns were led through the town by the President of the college in an Anti War Parade! In the west the response was less complete, but a beginning had been made.

During the summer, the Congress of the International Socialist Student Federation, held at Liege, voted to make the one hour student anti-war strike, initiated here, an international demonstration in 1935! As a direct result of the student strike and its aftermath, the compulsory feature of the R.O.T.C. at the University of Minnesota was abolished on June 18th by a 6 to 5 vote of the Board of

(Continued on page 4)

League Industrial Committee Has Active Unionists

ST. LOUIS—The National Executive Committee of the YPSL, in session here, elected the following members to assist the National Industrial Secretary: Gerald Coleman of New York was the assistant organizer for the United Textile Workers in the Metropolitan area of that city during the general strike. Altha Moyer of Allentown, Pennsylvania, is an organizer for the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. Hy Fish of Cleveland, is the secretary of one of that city's locals of the United Textile Workers Union. Ethel Schachner of Chicago, was former executive secretary of the Greater New York League. Two members will be added from the New England and Pacific Coast areas.

All circles are instructed to send in the names and camp addresses of all comrades and sympathizers at present in CCC camps. These lists are vitally important for all work in these camps.

NYC Leads in Industrial Activity

Many circles in the New York city League are cooperating in the anti-injunction campaign of the Moving Picture operators union, Local 306. Every non-union theatre is subjected to at least two open-air meetings at strategic points surrounding the theatre each night. Yipsels for the most part man the speakers list. A bicycle parade around the theatres on strike is being arranged.

Vigorous strike and organization campaigns have been conducted for the striking Radio Salesmen Union of the Vim factories, the Barbers union, the Grocery Clerks, the Butchers, the Celluloid workers, and the United Umbrella Workers.

Georgia Tech Fraternities Do Cooperative Buying

Atlanta, Ga. (NSFA) — A Georgia Tech Inter-Fraternity Cooperative Buying Association has been formed to secure food commodities at wholesale. Although the savings on staple goods, standard brand canned goods and toilet articles are small, fruits, vegetables and meats are bought at a 50% saving. The Association furnishes a delivery service gratis and is non-profit making.

Growth Steady League NEC Report Shows

by Winston Dancis

Meeting in St. Louis, October 13 and 14, the National Executive Committee of the Young People's Socialist League reported continued and steady growth of membership, with 165 active circles in 21 states. Increased activity of young Socialists was reported in every field of youth endeavor—student, trade union and unemployed and cultural.

A call was issued to all circles to hold large anti-war rallies on Armistice Day, November 11. A popular pamphlet containing the Socialist analysis of the cause and cure of war is being prepared, and its form will be similar to that of "Not in Your Textbooks." The first edition of the latter has already been sold out.

Literature Sales Up

The educational committee will issue a single volume containing study outlines on Socialist Economics, A History of Socialism, A History of Labor Unions, Principles of Socialism and a Reading List, to sell for 25c. A new outline on the subject of Labor Injunctions, written by Aaron Levenstein, has just been issued, and a Socialist Analysis of the American Constitution will soon be prepared. The publications of the Educational Committee have already achieved a wide circulation.

The Industrial Committee of the League reported on the work done by young Socialists in various strike situations, particularly in the recent textile strike. Because of the increased burden of industrial work, an advisory industrial committee was selected, and includes Gerald Coleman, New York; Althea Moyer, Penn.; Hy Fish, Ohio and Ethel Schachner, Illinois.

The Challenge reported that a drive was being made to secure 1500 new subs before the end of the year. Special speakers trips to help in this drive will be arranged.

The National Executive Committee voted to continue the policy of authorizing local united fronts to active circles in areas where political conditions warrant. The National Office will handle all requests for authorization and all sub-divisions were instructed to refuse to agree to any arrangement which barred any group from the united front that is willing to cooperate in support of the joint program.

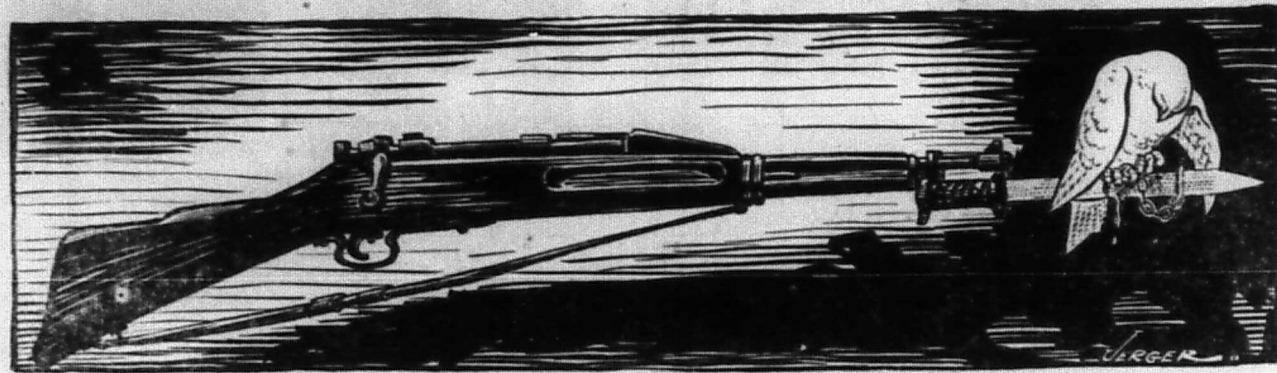
Tarno Hannula Elected to NEC

Because of the resignation of Paul Rasmussen whose work as State Organizer of the Illinois Workers Alliance made further functioning on the N.E.C., impossible, Tarno Hannula of Fitchburg, Mass. who is active in the workers' sports movement, was added to the committee. Austin Adams of Reading, Pa. also submitted his resignation.

National Secretary Winston Dancis reported that there are four full time organizers in the field: Sam Verne, Mickey Harris, Bernard Seltzer and Hoot Rasmussen. Nat Weinberg finished his work in New York state and has just settled in Philadelphia as County Organizer. The N. E. C. selected three areas for special organization work, Massachusetts-Connecticut, the mid Atlantic area, and the mid-West section including Ohio, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin. A special drive is to be inaugurated for the purpose of building a Special Organizers Fund to finance further field work, and every circle has been asked to hold a social affair before the end of the year to raise funds to be sent the National Office.

Solidarity was expressed with the Spanish Socialist and Labor movement in its present efforts to end reactionary tyranny.

Armistice Day..... 16 Years After



Socialist Youth Fight Fascism; Snub Sinclair

CALIF. YPSL RANKS SOLID IN FACE OF EPIC ILLUSION

Los Angeles — Over 6,000 people packed the Shrine Auditorium on Sunday afternoon, October 14, to hear Walter Citrine, fraternal delegate to the A. F. of L. convention, and President of the International Federation of Trade Unions, and B. C. Vladeck, prominent American Socialist, denounce Fascism as the greatest single scourge to the welfare of the masses. Wm. Green, Pres. of the A. F. of L., the third scheduled speaker, failed to appear.

The Los Angeles Young People's Socialist League was present en masse, every man in uniform, and besides assisting with the ushering and collection, sold over 300 copies each of the Challenge and Free America.

Cooperating in staging this most successful Anti-Fascist meeting were the Central Labor Council of Los Angeles, the Socialist Party, Young People's Socialist League, the Workmen's Circle, and numerous A. F. of L. unions, marking a sharp change in front in the willingness of organized labor in this city to work with Socialists. As a result, plans are under way for the formation of a permanent Anti Fascist Conference.

YPSL Spurns Sinclairism

While the eyes of millions throughout the world are turned toward California for news of Upton Sinclair's movement, the YPSL of the state has remained true to its principles, solidly refusing to follow the "Epic" will-o-the-wisp.

The promises and plans of Sinclair are discussed by young and old alike. It is amazing the faith placed in him by his followers. Some actually believe that the Lord has come to earth in the form of Sinclair to deliver them from their ills. Others say that he will divide up everything.

Still others say that he will bring us Socialism. On the whole most of his followers believe that here is something that really means a new deal, and they watch hopefully for November 6th, when Sinclair's election will almost immediately destroy all their troubles.

Leaders Have No Faith in Epic

But in actuality, some of the leaders of his movement realize he will accomplish very little. If elected, he will not have a majority in the State Assembly and very few members of the State Senate. The State Supreme Court will oppose him. Furthermore, most of his Assembly candidates who obtained the Democratic nomination in the primaries will be of little or no value because they are interested in his campaign primarily for what they can get out of it themselves. It is a foregone conclusion that Sinclair, at best, will only be able to start a few poor farms for the unemployed.

Theoretical Organ Out this Month

New York City—Appearing in the middle of this month, the "Young Socialist Review," the new official theoretical organ of the Young People's Socialist League, will take its place as an answer to the long-felt need of League members for a medium through which they can express their views on questions of great importance to the Socialist movement.

A 16-page mimeographed, neatly bound magazine, with an attractive cover, will be "Vol. I. No. 1." This issue will contain articles by Gus Tyler, former National Educational Director of the League, dealing with "Communism;" An Article by Maxwell Hurwitz on "Trade Unions and the Socialist Party;" Ben Fischer, Executive Secretary of the New York League, on the "United Front;" Phil Heller on a "Plan for Organization;" Melos Most, American League delegate to the International Socialist Youth Congress, on the European youth movement; a translation of an article by Francesco Largo Caballero, now being held by the Spanish government as the leader of the Spanish Socialist revolt, and several other articles.

The editorial board is composed of Will Chasen, former New York Federation educational director, Maxwell Hurwitz, Gus Tyler, Walter Storey, of Philadelphia, National Education Secretary, Hal Draper and Maxwell Hurwitz of New York, Hans Geiger, National Cultural Secretary, and Ernest Erber, Chicago. Contributions and communications are to be sent to Will Chasen, 7 E. 15th St., N.Y.C.

The magazine will be issued quarterly, and will sell for 10c a copy. There will be special prices on bundle orders. Send in your orders now to the National Office, 549 Randolph St. Chicago, Ill.

The California Young People's Socialist League realizes that Sinclair's movement is far from Socialism, and in essence has degenerated into another effort to bolster the capitalist system, and will have none of him. That is why they have lost not one member to his movement. They will not be satisfied with "anything less than the complete socialization of industry," and know that to try to get it in a roundabout Sinclair method is just like reaching for the stars.

Red Falcon's Activity Booms

CHICAGO—The Falcon movement of America is growing steadily and within a short time will take its place in the International of Working Class children. From the Midwest office comes the news of the organization of 4 flights of 30 children each with two more flights in process of organization in Milwaukee and West Allis.

St. Louis applies for a charter with 15 members. Cleveland reports 25 children organized in the heart of the unemployed district. Regular meetings are held weekly.

Chicago and New York Active

The Norman Thomas flight of Chicago reports a very successful social at which funds were raised to pay for the Falcon uniform and to help in the preparation of a great dramatic production.

In the east, the NYC Falcon organization reports 32 functioning and active flights with 1000 members aimed for by the end of the year.

The National Office has issued its instructions for the beginning of fall and winter activities. First among these instructions are the preparation for a national membership drive. In line with this drive Falcons are to intensify their work along social, cultural and athletic lines. Complete instructions on methods of conducting camp fires, hikes, nature study lectures, etc. have been prepared. Weenie, potato and marshmallow roasts have been arranged for. This besides games, songs and athletic contests of all sorts.

"Production for Use"

Handicrafts will be stressed during these next few months, with an eye to cooperating with the Party in making branch headquarters more attractive. Various types of posters are being made by the Falcons.

Book shelves, cases and collection boxes, to be made from orange boxes are a part of the handicraft program. Topping off this varied activity is an educational program that for November will begin with Nation-wide memorial meetings for Eugene V. Debs.

Thumbing My Nose

by Belly Acre

News Department. Four prominent members of the Y.P.S.L. stopped in at the World's Fair after the St. Louis National Executive Committee meeting, paying ten cents each, in addition to the gate entrance, to see the television exhibition. When the master of ceremonies invited members of the audience to participate in the television broadcast, there was a general reluctance to crack the ice until one of the Yipsels stepped up.

"What was I to talk about?" said the comrade when interviewed later by Belly Acre. "There are only two subjects that are worth discussing: sex and politics. Knowing more about the latter, I started to make a Socialist talk, and now have the honor of being the first person to use television for Socialist propaganda."

"Our readers," said we, "will be interested in the remarks you made." More interested than in anything we've got to say.

"Well," was the reply, "I hardly covered much ground before they threw me out. But you can tell your readers that our whole group got their money back and we are donating it to the Y.P.S.L." * * *

How to Get a Job. In the old days, job-hunting consisted of following the Help Wanted section in the paper. Nowadays, to find a vacancy, you've got to read the death notices. * * *

Upton Sinclair Up-side Down. When the novelist Sinclair decided to make a run for the Governorship of California on the Democratic ticket, his son Dave wrote to him: "For pity's sake, Dad, read your own books!"

We recently read his Epic plan in "I, Governor of California." That's the book which should have been called "The Jungle"; that's where Upton Sinclair got lost. We notice that Upton has at last put his most popular pronoun into a title.

When Sinclair visited Postmaster-General James Farley, the man who carries the Democratic Party on his watch-chain, Upton reported what a charming fellow his host was. "Call me Jim," said the great Democrat. We have certain suggestions as to what Mr. Farley should be called, but they are not printed here as the Challenge has got to go through Mr. Farley's mails. * * *

Who Wants What? Do Socialists want Socialism? asks the editor of the Christian Century. If they do, they should support Sinclair's candidacy, is his conclusion. Does the Century want Socialism? we ask. If it does, it should support the Socialist Party in California and not the Epic program of this epicene Democratic Party of William Gibbs McAdoo and George Creel—with Upton Sinclair thrown in as a deodorant. (Perhaps we ought to explain for the benefit of the Century's editor that epicene, according to Webster, means "sexless; neither one thing nor the other.") * * *

Election Debate. Said Ivan Belch, the Democratic candidate: "I was born in this district; I was raised in this district and I am running in this district. Vote for me!"

Said his Socialist opponent: "I have a dog. He was born in this district; he was raised in this district; and he's running all over this district. Vote for him!" * * *

A Study in Appreciation. "Dear Comrade Acre," writes the editor of the Challenge from a distance which renders even a seventy-five mile gun useless, "as a belly acre about all your good for is inducing dyspepsia of the liver." To which we can only reply, Dear Syd, that your critical faculties are as bad as your spelling. Toodle-oo, and remember, your thumb is made for more than hitch-hiking.

"GUNS"

A substitute for Bridge—more amusing than "500." 52 blue cards; pictures on many of them. Just the thing for your next YPSL circle social! Prices (post-paid) 18c per deck. Distributed by the War Resisters' League. Write for free literature.

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LOVER OF MANKIND

Debs was a railroad man, born in a weatherboarded shack at Terre Haute. He was one of ten children. His father had come to America in a sailing ship in '49, an Alsatian from Colmar; not much of a money-maker, fond of music and reading, he gave his children a chance to finish public school and that was about all he could do. At fifteen Gene Debs was already working as a machinist on the Indianapolis and Terre Haute Railway. He worked as a locomotive fireman, clerked in a store, joined the local of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, was elected secretary, travelled all over the country as organizer. He was a tall shamblefooted man, had a sort of gusty rhetoric that set on fire the railroad workers in their pineboarded halls. made them want the world he wanted, a world brothers might own where everybody would split even:

I am not a labor leader. I don't want you to follow me or anyone else. If you are looking for a Moses to lead you out of the capitalist wilderness you will stay right where you are. I would not lead you into this

promised land if I could, because if I could lead you in, someone else would lead you out.

That was how he talked to freighthandlers and mandywalkers to firemen and switchmen and engineers, telling them it wasn't enough to organize the railroadmen, that all workers must be organized, that all workers must be organized in the workers cooperative commonwealth.

Locomotive fireman on many a long night's run, under the smoke a fire burned him up, burned in gusty words that beat in pineboarded halls; he wanted his brothers to be free men.

That was what he saw in the crowd that met him at the Old Wells Street Depot when he came out of jail after the Pullman strike, those were the men that chalked up 900,000 votes for him in nineteen twelve and scared the frockcoats and the tophats and diamonded hostesses at Saratoga Springs, Bar Harbor, Lake Geneva with the bogy of a socialist president.

Where were Gene Debs' brothers in nineteen eighteen when Woodrow Wilson had him locked up in Atlanta for speaking against war, where were the big men fond of whiskey and fond of each other, gentle rambling tellers of stories over bars in small towns in the Middle West, quiet men who wanted a house with a porch to putter around and a fat wife to cook for them, a few drinks and cigars, a garden to dig in, cronies to chew the rag with

and wanted to work for it and others to work for it.

Where were the locomotive firemen and engineers when they hustled him off to Atlanta Penitentiary?

And they brought him back to die in Terre Haute to sit on his porch in a rocker with a cigar in his mouth, beside him American Beauty roses his wife fixed in a bowl;

and the people of Terre Haute and the people in Indiana and the people of the Middle West were fond of him and afraid of him and thought of him as an old kindly uncle who loved them, and wanted to be with him and to have him give them candy,

but they were afraid of him as if he had contracted a social disease, syphilis or leprosy, and thought it was too bad,

but on account of the flag and prosperity and making the world safe for democracy, they were afraid to be with him, or to think much about him for fear they might believe him;

for he said: While there is a lower class I am of it, while there is a criminal class I am in it, while there is a soul in prison I am not free.

—John Dos Passos in "The 42nd Parallel"

HOW WARS ARE MADE

At the bottom of modern wars, under the perfumery of patriotism used to sell them to the populace, one finds the unbeautiful finger of "business" guiding the political puppets who "declare war." The forces of social evolution that created our present industrial system were unable to burst the outmoded political boundaries inherited from a pre-machine society. Capitalism has become wedded to nationalism, and the profit-seeking owning-classes of various nations arrayed in competition against each other.

This wedding of capitalism and nationalism is at the bottom of most, if not all, modern wars. Political governments became the tools of their ruling classes for the extending of their areas of exploitation of profits. In three major ways do governments so function:

The Search for Raw Materials

The early years of capitalism were years of expansion. Those countries in which industry developed soon found these industries exhausting cheap home supplies of raw materials. To increase profits, new and cheaper supplies of raw materials were hunted in other countries. This was one of the reasons for British occupation of India and Egypt, for England's textile manufacturers are a powerful part of that nation's ruling class, and their needs became Britain's needs. Likewise, one of the reasons' back of Japan's virtual annexation of Manchuria, was the need for raw materials.

As capitalism developed, production soon outstripped the capacity of the exploited masses at home to consume. The familiar contradiction of capitalism, that the working population of a country can never consume as much as it produces, because it receives back in wages but half the value of its product, began operating in earnest. Surpluses piled up in home countries, which had to be sold abroad if profits were not to be wiped out.

The Quest for Markets

So came about the "quest for markets." Tropical countries, where domestic industry was not developed, where governments were weak, and the people submissive to foreign domination, were annexed outright, or came under the "sphere of influence" of some industrial power. This meant that only that power could sell its products (at high price) in that country.

Profitable Investments

The development of industry in home countries to the point where its product could no longer be absorbed by both domestic and foreign markets, meant that the capitalists had no longer profitable opportunities at home to invest their excess gains. Hence they turned to foreign countries for profitable investment opportunities, most of these being naturally in the backward colonial countries of the tropics, where cheap labor lent added incentive for profit-seekers.

When these countries had internal difficulties that jeopardized the safety of these investments, or caused the return on them to diminish, foreign investors would apply pressure on their governments to "intervene." Hence the use of American marines in Nicaragua and other South and Central American countries.

Imperialism

To this threefold system of encroachment upon colonial peoples for their raw materials, for the privilege of exploiting their market, and, for the power to sweat their cheap labor, is given the name of "imperialism,"—Empire Building. For it is a self-sufficient economic empire, superior competitively, to other nations, that is the expressed or unexpressed aim of the ruling class of each nation.

When the imperialist tendencies of nations come in conflict, as they inevitably must, war results. Sometimes groups of nations gang up on other nations, this method reaching its highest peak in the 1914 World War. So at the bottom of modern war we find the lust for profits as the basic cause.

Here then, is the key for ending war, for if we can eliminate the cause of war, we will eliminate war itself. The strategic point to strike at in fighting the war system is to fight the profit system—the capitalist system.

So they all lived happily forever afterwards. And when a monkey was shipwrecked there from a strange island, and suggested that the inhabitants ought to act like men, he was shut up in the monkey's insane asylum.

Books

America For All!

"The Commonwealth Plan," by Paul Porter. Published by the Socialist Party, 549 Randolph St., Chicago 10c.

"Five years have passed since the beginning of the gravest crisis in American history. The business depression has exacted a toll of suffering greater than that of any war. Its human costs are beyond calculation.

"Few people any longer believe that the depression will solve itself. Many, however, have been tempted to place faith in some patent medicine, some NRA or EPIC, put forward by those who promise a quick and painless cure. Many more are becoming convinced that the depression can be ended only by ending its causes. This is what the Commonwealth Plan is designed to do.

"The Commonwealth Plan is presented by the Socialist Party of the United States, not as a final and perfect blue-print, but as a working outline of a new economic system which will assure a good income to every person willing to do useful labor. It charts the way by which the working people of America can attain security, the comfort of life, and the leisure with which to enjoy them."

Eighteen points comprise the fundamental program of the Commonwealth Plan. They reach into every phase of our political, social and economic life, providing a comprehensive plan which will bring order out of chaos and security out of fear. It is worthwhile to reproduce these points:

Basic Laws to Provide

1. Workers' ownership and control of all industry.
2. The farmers' right to his land.
3. Peace at home and abroad.
4. Worker-farmer control of government.

Secondary Laws to Provide

5. The 30-hour week—to end unemployment.
6. A sharp increase in wages and salaries—minimum pay of \$1 an hour.
7. One month's vacation with full pay for all workers.
8. For farmers—a guaranteed market at a guaranteed price.
9. Full crop insurance for farmers.
10. A modern home for every family.
11. Electricity and running water in every home.
12. Construction of needed schools, hospitals, parks and roads.
13. Tax the rich to secure needed funds.
14. Retirement insurance of \$25 a week for persons 60 years of age.
15. Health and accident insurance of \$25 a week during disability.
16. Free medical and dental service.
17. Free education from kindergarten through college.
18. A General Planning Board to plan plenty for all.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF MARCH 3, 1933

of "THE CHALLENGE" published monthly at Chicago, Ill., for October 1, 1934. State of Illinois County of Cook.

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared S. L. Devin, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Managing Editor of The Challenge and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation) etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 411, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form to wit:

1. That the name and address of the publishers, editor, managing editor, and business manager are:

Publisher, National Executive Committee, Young People's Socialist League of America Chicago, Ill., Managing Editor, S. L. Devin Chicago, Ill.

2. That the owner is: National Executive Committee, Young People's Socialist League of America; Arthur G. McDowell, Chas. William Goldberg, Aaron Levenstein, F. Parker, John Strobel, Noah C. A. V. Milton Weisberg, Austin Adams, Paul Mussen.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of mortgages, or other securities are:

(Signed)

S. L. Devin
Man
Sworn to and subscribed before me on the day of October, 1934.
CHARLES M. D.
My Commission expires

"No Nuts to You" Monks tell King

(Continued from page 1) there aren't any more coconuts to pick?" said the king.

"There are plenty of coconuts for all of us in your storehouse," suggested the little monkey. "They are ours by right. What if we should help ourselves?"

The First Community Chest "Don't listen to that agitator," yelled the king. "I've just started an unemployment relief fund, and I will donate lots of coconuts from my own private fortune to keep you going."

So the monkeys went away satisfied. But after awhile the unemployment relief funds ran low, and anyways the monkeys found that they were getting rather tired of living on a quarter of a coconut a day when they really needed two coconuts.

The little monkey did quite a lot of talking around. "They really are our coconuts, not the kings," he kept saying. "He didn't plant the trees, did he? They just grew there, without any help from him. And who did the work? We did! And who took the risk? We did! They're ours, and we ought to take them?"

But that would be confiscation!" said one of the other monkeys. "We don't believe in confiscation!"

However, quite a lot of monkeys got in the habit of listening to the agitators, and the king sat up nights watching his pile and worrying about it.

Finally he walked down to where the monkeys were gathered, and started to make a speech.

The New Deal

I've been thinking things over, "he said, "and I've decided what we all need is a new deal. It will work like this. I'll pay some of you one-fifth of a coconut a day to work on my palace. That will be the FERA part. Then I'll pay some of you for not picking next year's crop of coconuts. That will be the AAA. And I'll loan some of you some coconuts if you'll promise to pay me back with interest when you get them. That will be the HOLC, the RFC, and so on. And that ought to fix us all up."



Eugene V. Debs

The monkeys were so completely bewildered by this plan that they didn't say anything for a long time. They were thoroughly convinced that the king must be a very brilliant man to think up such a complicated arrangement, so they gave in to it. And for a long time things were according to his plan.

But the FERA monkeys kept getting hungrier and hungrier, and the hungrier they got the harder it was to admire the king's brains. And the AAA monkeys began to wonder what they would eat if the new coconuts weren't picked when they got ripe. And the monkeys with loans soon spent them, and had nothing to buy food or pay interest with.

Monks See Red

So when the fresh little monkey agitator got up on a stump and waved a red flag in his tail, they were quite ready to listen. And they all gathered around with rapt attention.

"Look here, you workers," said the agitator. "This king of ours is trying to make men out of us. It's up to us to get busy and make a monkey out of him.

"Let's just go up to the coconut pile and divide it among us. And when the next crop is ready, we will

all own it together and all work on it together, and each take what we need, the way we used to do, when we were well fed and happy and didn't have any king to tell us what to do."

"What about the king?" asked some of the monkeys. "Shall we kill him?"

"We don't have to do that," said the agitator. "When we take his wealth away he won't have any more power than any one of us. And he will have to work, like all the rest. If he won't work he won't get anything to eat."

Came the Revolution

"Come on! Let's go!" yelled all the monkeys. And they marched up the hill to the store house, divided up the coconuts and took them home. Soon the new coconut crop was ripe, and then everyone took what he needed, and the sea shell standard, FERA, and all the other intellectual ideas were all forgotten.

As for the king, when he saw the monkeys coming he fled into the woods and stayed there until he lost a lot of weight and grew a beard. Then he came out and mingled with the rest of the monkeys and nobody recognized him, because he looked and acted just like anybody else, doing his share of the work and getting his share of the coconuts.

Spanish Uprising Only Prelude for Social Revolution

By Melos Most

To understand the October fighting in Spain, and what will happen, we must see the difference between the Spanish and Austrian situations. In Austria we had a movement making a last desperate stand to block the crushing advance of Fascism; a typical fascist class alignment of big business interests, landowners, middle-class, and, land-owning farmers, all against the workers; finally a discouraged working class on the defensive; a defeat meaning the breaking down of their defense and leaving them helpless.

In Spain the reverse holds true. There it is Socialism which is on the offensive, and blocking it does not mean crushing it anymore than Hitler was crushed by the reverses of 1932 or the Spanish Socialists themselves by the elections of 1933. The Reaction consists of an outmoded land-owning class, and a capitalist class which is not only weak, but whose expansion the depression has cut short. Attacking it is a powerful alliance of the workers and the peasantry, led by a movement in which they have the greatest confidence, in a struggle for State power.

What Has Happened

The plans were arranged in recognition of the fact that the government held the strategic position, while the workers had the reserve strength. It started with a general strike and very scattered fighting calculated to wear down the federal forces.

The real fighting started in the northwest industrial region surrounding Asturias. On October fifth the mining villages began to raise the Socialist flag. Troops had to be sent out from the cities to fight them, whereupon the workers took over the cities. They are still "recapturing" Oviedo. It may interest you to know that there are over 6,000 Young Socialist in Asturias province.

In Catalonia and the surrounding provinces, the northeast industrial section, the anarchists were relied on to follow with the same tactic. Companies, the stupid liberal president of the Catalonian generalidad, proclaimed independence but surrendered next morning. The anarchists, with the wind of the independence movement out of their sails, collapsed. The strike was broken in Barcelona, Sargossa, and Valencia, the three cities controlled by syndicalist unions.

The third link in the chain was the fertile agricultural region of the south, in and around Andalusia, with 300,000 organized peasants, 15,000 of them Yipsels. The rest of Spain, outside of Madrid, is an arid plateau. With Catalonia suppressed, the peasantry, solidly Socialist, had only its shotguns against half of the government cannon.

What Will Happen

There is no real indication that the Socialists are by now losing in Asturias. From backward Andalusia comes a silence as from a tomb, but we can be sure that, if the cities are not in Socialist hands, there is at least a formidable guerrilla war going on. Meanwhile in Madrid, where the Spanish Young Socialists held a demonstration of 80,000 in September, the Socialist "Milicia" has not even been fully used. If they were it would be the case of a second Vienna, with a city militia fighting the national forces.

Madrid is waiting to see whether the present fighting will break down the government strength. If it does not, the matter will not end there. Even the New York Sunday papers of October 14th went so far as to say so. I do not know whether the Revolution will continue in the form of persistent sabotage, repeated outbursts, or great national attacks. But it will continue. The Socialist militiamen, Yipsel led, are waiting in Madrid. Perhaps they will be called out in a sudden nation-wide concerted effort. Yet even if they do not succeed in this, the Revolution will continue. They will return to their posts and wait a little longer. And all of the working people of Europe, tramped under the heel of misery and capitalism, will also wait a little longer, until they can strike a final blow that will wipe fascism, slavery, and inequality from the face of the earth.

CRADLE TO CANNON PATH OF GERMAN, ITALIAN BOYS



German child soldiers

Soldiers of Italy!

Youngsters in Germany and Italy are taught the tactics of war before they reach the shaving age, according to programs

recently instituted by Reichsfuehrer Adolf Hitler in Germany and Premier Mussolini in Italy. Boy members of a Nazi military

organization are shown marching to a mass meeting in Berlin, and youth of Italy are pictured preparing for military careers.

Student and Church Youth Fight War

(Continued from page 1)

Regents. This is the second state university to make drill optional, the first being Wisconsin in 1923.

Church Youth Declare for Cooperative Commonwealth

Church youth, in many instances backed by their adult groups, likewise have thrown themselves into the struggle against war. Typical of the trend among church youth is the resolution adopted by the National Convention of Methodist Youth with over 1000 delegates in attendance, at Evanston, Illinois, during September.

"We believe that, before permanent peace can ever be achieved, the present economic system must be changed to a cooperative commonwealth....

"...we declare our intention neither to sanction nor participate in any war for any purpose whatsoever, and we appeal to our pastors and adult leaders to support us in this stand.

"As Christians we are unalterably opposed to all types of military training, voluntary or compulsory."

Fight R.O.T.C.

Not stopping with merely resolving against war, various church groups, are now engaged in a campaign against compulsory military training prevailing in most state universities. At Kansas, the "Student League for Peace," largely composed of church youth groups, systematically picketed military classes as school opened this fall. At Ohio State, a wave of reaction threatens to block further exemption from military training on grounds of conscientious objection. Various church groups in Ohio have combined to organize a standing committee on peace and to raise funds "to prosecute the issue before the courts or legislature."

Meanwhile the crazy antics of Hitler and the rest of Europe's new crop of dictators make more menacing, the possible outbreak of a new world war. England and the United States both squirm uneasily beneath the Japanese challenge to their naval supremacy. The assassination of King Alexander of Yugoslavia appeared for a moment to be the spark for a new world conflagration. On such trifles hang the lives of millions!

The one ray of light in a world of war madness is the continued stirring of youth to the struggle against mass slaughter. The pressure must be relentlessly increased against the war makers and the war system. For the bitter truth of the inevitability of war under the capitalist system is slowly sinking home among youth, turning the struggle against war alone, into the more significant struggle against the profit system that makes for

ORGANIZATION BY THE NATIONAL SECRETARY

IYW Rallies successful . . . The "Man Unafraid" . . . Anti War leaflet . . . Study class and hikes . . . Literature Sales

International Socialist Youth Weak Rallies

The Milwaukee organization had their largest mass meeting since the World War at their Youth Rally at Eagles Hall. Six hundred listened to Roy Burt, Dan Hoan, Paul Schmidt and Otto Hauser. Chicago had three well attended indoor meetings, in the Hyde Park, Albany Park and West Side districts, and Len Despres, Clarence Senior, Ernest Erber and Winston Dancis were included in the list of speakers. Los Angeles, New Haven and Gardner, Mass. reported very well attended meetings, while Pittsburgh attracted two hundred and fifty to a Park rally.

The New York League held a membership meeting at the Debs Auditorium at which Melos Most, League delegate to the Socialist Youth International, reported on the European youth movement. The parade which was planned was washed out by rain.

Debs Memorial Meetings

The anniversary dates of the birth and death of Eugene V. Debs, most famous and inspiring leader of the American Socialist movement during the first 25 years of the twentieth century are being widely remembered by Young People's Socialist League circles. Talks on the life of Debs, reviews of his anti-war activity, and readings of the wealth of poetry which has been written in tribute to this peerless labor agitator will feature these memorial gatherings, which are held between October 20 and November 5.

Few Debs meetings will be as inspiring as that held by the Milwaukee comrades at which Leo Krzycki, National Chairman of the Socialist Party, and Frank Metcalf, Socialist official, spoke. "Hunky Meets A Man" was recited by a derelict of our civilization.

NOW READY

"THE LABOR INJUNCTION" —five cents

"NOT IN YOUR TEXTBOOKS" (Second edition; Revised) —two cents

Lower Prices for Quantity Orders

Young People's Socialist League
459 Randolph St.
Chicago, Ill.

Anti-War Leaflet

A new and very attractive two-side leaflet has just been issued by the League. "What is Wrong with this Picure" is the title, and besides containing a brief and effective statement of our views, has a poem "It's Fun to be a Soldier Boy." Armistice Day meetings should offer an excellent period for distribution of this leaflet. Circles can order 250 for 40c, 500 for 75c, and 1,000 for \$1.40.

Bronx Literature Sales Contest

The Bronx, New York Educational Committee will award a set of books to the circle purchasing the largest amount of literature per dues paying member by December 1st. The membership is figured on the basis of the City Office reports for the first seven months of the year, and the record for the first two months of the contest shows that the eighteen circles in the County purchased \$27.40 of literature. Circle 3 Sr. Bronx is the leading contestant, with \$4.00 total purchased, 11 members, or .36 per capita. Four circles are in the basement having purchased nothing.

Study Groups

The Yellow Springs, Ohio circle has arranged to start their Socialist Study group after Fred Henderson speaks there. Members of Circle 1 Sr. Kings, New York have two discussion groups which gather at the end of the regular circle meetings. One group discusses Fundamentals of Socialism, while the other consider our Educational Approach to the American Worker.

Hikes and Teams

The distinction of being the first circle to organize a basketball team during the 34-35 season goes to Circle 1 Sr. Kings. The members of Circle 8 Sr. Manhattan, New York claim that they play football, but we wonder. This is the hiking season and Circle 11 Sr. Philadelphia, Circle 4 Sr. Chicago, and the Hillquit Juniors of Milwaukee report invigorating rambles.

Circle 6 Sr. Kings, New York recently held a very successful Cultural evening. A musical comedy, "Making of a Socialist," and a labor play attracted most of the applause.

Election Campaign Literature Distribution

The star circle of the month is 6 Sr. Philadelphia, which passed into circulation 4,500 copies of the Socialist Campaigner, an attractive four page paper. Honorable mention should go to circles in Richmond; Bellingham, Wash; Kenosha, Wis.; New Haven; West End-Boston; Gardner, Mass; Dover and Newark, N. J. Too many of the New York league circles deserve mention so we're compromising by leaving out any special credit line.

On with the Challengers

by Syd Devin

Whoa thar, you sophomores! Just because I'm commencing your column this month by mentioning "curves" is no reason for a burst of giggles. Anyway better save them for Belly Acre. He needs 'em. (We've got a feud on).

But the kind of a curve I was thinking of, at least right now, was all on the up and up—just like a curve of stock prices on a pre-1929 graph; or nowadays, a curve on a graph of unemployment. It's a curve of Challenge circulation for the last four months of this year in which, you'll remember, we aimed to get in 1500 new subs. This curve shows that 50% of these months has disappeared, but it shows only 30% of those 1500 subs as having appeared.

So get busy, Challengers—only about 60 more shopping days to play Santa Claus to some lucky subscriber. Pull on your white beards, don your red pants, and "Say it With Subs!"

And to keep up this premature Xmas cheer, here are October's stocking-fillers:

NEW YORK (93) Albany: There's a new circle on its way, whispers Henrietta Pock's first club of 4. Binghamton: And here's a new circle already celebrating its charter with 8 subs via Emerson Venable, putting his total at 12 and winning a "Rhapsody in Red." Miriam Margi-loff gets initiated with a club of 4 she picked up in Lawrence, Mass. Bronx: Sam Portnoy's 16 subs are the kind of Bronk Cheer we like to hear! Circle 10 Jrs. collectively collects 14 more subs to promote youth's collectivist press, it says.

New York City: The city office sent in (we got them on a Friday!) 13 subs for new members. White Plains: Rosalie Fixel helps the next American revolution with 4 subs from this town where some original American Yipsels licked a parcel of British Tories.

Good work, Noo Yawk! Over the hundred mark next month!

OHIO, (49) "Insignificance, here's subs in your eye," say the Buckeyes, as they leave that role for real Challenger standing.

Cleveland: Dave Rabinowitz sends in his first offering of 12 subs—and a "Rhapsody in Red" is in the mail, Dave! Pearl Wiener and Mildred Fingerhut (charming lassies as we've ever met) turn in 4 apiece.

Dayton: Meet San Verne folks. He's been hopping all over southwest Ohio, busier 'n a dog with fleas, organizing for the YPSL. And look at the 32 subs he's scratched up for us this month! And one from Fred Henderson, our lovable British comrade now touring the U. S.

NEW JERSEY (18) Dover: Jean Parker rolls in 4 more. Kearny: Edward Milloy joins the Challengers with 4. Newark: Seymour Pilitch, also a newcomer, with 4. William Kane, State Challenge Agent, gets in 6. All New Jersey circles are asked to order their bundles through him.

ILLINOIS: (15) Chicago: Leo Fortess begins with 7 subs. Hoot Rasmussen and Shirley Sarason pair off with 4 apiece. And the sucker state is back in the running!

CONNECTICUT (9) Hartford: A one man job this month, and Abe Rubin was the fellow who did it.

WISCONSIN (8) Kenosha: Four Kenosha unions were signed up by this city's circle. Milwaukee: Doris Zumach, this city's new Challenge Agent, gets on the job with 4, and says "wait till I get going."

PENNSYLVANIA (6) Pittsburgh: Tillie Smith again, and her 4 subs keeps Pennsy from being shoved off the record. But despite the poor showing this month, this state managed to maintain its lead over Illinois for second place.

CALIFORNIA (4) Los Angeles: Willie Goldberg sends in 4 and complains of the heat wave.

Indian Summer is on the wane and the football month of November here. Plow under your timidity and go out and tackle a couple of clubs! Only two months to hit that 1500 mark in!

Honest Injun!

"Radicals of the world split hairs. You have nothing to lose but your scalps."—American Guardian.