

INTO THE SCHOOL STRUCTURE

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Young Comrade

FIGHT AGAINST CHILD LABOR

PAPER FOR WORKERS' AND FARMERS' CHILDREN

second class matter December 12, 1923, at the Post Office at Chicago, Illinois, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Vol. III, No. 1

MARCH, 1927

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PRICE 5 CENTS

RUTHENBERG DEAD!

RUTHENBERG—OUR LEADER!

C. E. Ruthenberg was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on July 9, 1882. His parents were of the working class—his father was a longshoreman. He himself grew up as a workers' child; he began earning his living at a very early age. He was a factory worker, a clerk, a newspaper correspondent, and then gave up his entire time and energies to the working class movement.

He joined the Socialist Party in 1909 in Cleveland and soon became the leader not only of the Cleveland Socialist workers, but of the whole Ohio movement.

In the Socialist Party of that time there were beginning to develop two wings—the Right Wing, that did not really believe (whatever they said) in the workers' struggle for freedom and in practice helped the bosses against the workers; and the Left Wing, made up of the real revolutionary working class elements. From the very beginning Comrade Ruthenberg became one of the best known leaders of the Left Wing.

One of the greatest fights carried on in such a splendid way by Comrade Ruthenberg was the fight against the war. He called upon the workers to fight the bosses' war; he told the workers that the war was in the interest of the bosses; that their real enemies were not the workers of other countries, but their own bosses; he organized tremendous demonstrations and meetings in protest against the war.

For his fight against the war the capitalist courts sent Comrade Ruthenberg to prison. At his trial he showed the American workers how a real revolutionist behaves before capitalist judges.

When the Russian revolution broke out and the Russian workers and farmers organized their own Workers' Soviet Government, Comrade Ruthenberg came out strongly and enthusiastically in support of our Russian comrades. This time, too, the Right Wing Socialists showed that they were traitors—they were against the Russian workers, at first hidden and then openly.

In 1919 it became clear to all real revolutionists that the Socialist Party could no longer hold the revolutionary and working class Left Wing together with the Right Wing. The membership was overwhelmingly Left Wing but the officials were Right Wingers and the officials used their power to expell and break up every Party organization that was honestly revolutionary. It became clear that the real revolutionists must organize their own Party, a real Communist Party. Comrade Ruthenberg was the leader in this work and, in 1919, when the Communist Party was organized he was made its first secretary. This leadership he kept until the moment of his death.

For his work in forming the Communist Party Comrade Ruthenberg was again arrested and sent to prison. Again he showed the courage and heroism that are an example for every revolutionist.

The next few years Comrade Ruthenberg spent in

(Continued in last column.)



On Wednesday, March 2, 1927, the American revolutionary movement and the entire American working class, including the workingclass children, lost its best leader. Comrade C. E. Ruthenberg, general secretary of the Workers (Communist) Party, died of appendicitis at the American Hospital.

Comrade Ruthenberg was, until his last illness, strong and healthy and hardly ever sick. But his hard work in the Party broke down his health. For several weeks before he died he felt that he was sick but he was so busy in his work that he paid no attention to his condition of health. Finally Saturday he grew so bad that he had to admit to himself that he was sick; yet he came down to the office and attended to his work. He grew rapidly worse and was taken to the hospital for an operation on Sunday. For a time it seemed he was improving. Early Wednesday morning, however, the tragic news came—Comrade Ruthenberg was dead!

Comrade Ruthenberg gave his entire life to the cause of the working class. He, better than anybody else, carried out to the letter our Pioneer Pledge: **ONE AIM THRUOUT OUR LIVES—FREEDOM FOR THE WORKING CLASS!**

hard work in making the Communist Party the real leader and fighter for the workers. In 1922 he was again arrested because he attended a convention of the Communist Party. Again he stirred up the entire working class with his revolutionary behavior in court.

Comrade Ruthenberg gave up his entire life, every ounce of his energy to the workingclass, to the revolutionary movement. He carried out better than any one of us, our glorious Pioneer Pledge: **ONE AIM THRUOUT OUR LIVES—FREEDOM FOR THE WORKING CLASS!**

When he was about to die and knew that he would soon be no more, Comrade Ruthenberg gave his Last Message for us: **CLOSE YOUR RANKS! WE WILL WIN! FIGHT ON!**



PIONEERS SALUTE THEIR GREAT LEADER FOR THE LAST TIME!

Pioneers! Workers' Children! Remember Ruthenberg's Words to You!

Thousands of workers' and farmers' children of this country have heard and seen Comrade Ruthenberg. All Pioneers and all wide-awake workers' children know of this great leader of the American revolutionary movement.

He is dead. What does Comrade Ruthenberg's life and death mean to us, Pioneers and workers' children? What lessons can we learn from his life and struggle?

Comrade C. E. Ruthenberg was the greatest leader of the American revolutionary working class movement for many years.

Be sure to read the story of his life and work in another column in this issue.

He always fought with all his might for the workers' cause. In the old Socialist Party he was a leader of that party which was fighting for the workers—the Left Wing. To you, Pioneers and workers' children, Comrade Ruthenberg says: **Keep up the fight in the cause of the working class.**

When war broke out and American workers were being sent to kill German workers for the benefit of the bosses, Comrade Ruthenberg became the leader in the fight against the war. He told the workers the truth and called upon them to fight the war and for this the bosses sent him to prison. To you, Pioneers and workers' children, Comrade Ruthenberg

(Continued on page 2)

YOUNG PIONEERS OF AMERICA CENTRAL BUREAU.

Stand Ready!

Always Ready!

Pioneers:

This letter is about the YOUNG COMRADE SUBSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN that is going to start soon.

Every Pioneer knows that one of our main jobs is to spread our propaganda and ideas among the masses of non-Pioneer children so that we can get them to fight with us in the interests of the workers' and farmers' children.

The most important way we have of spreading our ideas and propaganda is the Young Comrade. If a child becomes a subscriber

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BOSSSES' GOVERNMENTS ATTACK THE PEOPLES OF CHINA AND NICARAGUA

U. S. Robs Central America for Wall St.

From the latest actions of the American government—the tool of the Wall Street bankers—anybody can see the real meaning of what the American marines are doing in Nicaragua.

The American marines first went to Nicaragua to support the fake gov-

(Continued on page 2)

U. S. Helps British Murder Chinese

A ten-year-old boy was one of those murdered in the streets of Shanghai (China) by the soldiers of the imperialist general Sun Chuan Fang in his attempt to put down the big strike of Shanghai workers in protest against the attacks of the British bankers on the Chinese people.

(Continued on page 2)

COMRADE RUTHENBERG'S LAST MESSAGE!

For sometime before his death Comrade Ruthenberg knew he was dying. He was fully conscious until a very short time before he died. As he realized that the end was drawing near he gave this message to the comrades who were with him for all the members of the Workers (Communist) Party, the Young Workers (Communist) League, and the Young Pioneers of America, as well as for all workers and workers' children of this country:

TELL THE COMRADES TO CLOSE THEIR RANKS. TO BUILD THE PARTY. THE AMERICAN WORKERS, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF OUR PARTY AND THE COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL, WILL WIN. LET'S FIGHT ON.

Let's fight on! This was the spirit of Comrade Ruthenberg. This must be the spirit of all honest and wide-awake workers' and farmers' children in this country. Remember Comrade Ruthenberg's last message to YOU!

CLOSE YOUR RANKS!

FIGHT ON!

Remember Comrade Ruthenberg

(Continued from page 1.)

says: There is only one war for the American workers to fight—the war against the American bosses and the American government. Your enemy is at home.

When the Socialist Party betrayed the workers of this country and came out as an enemy of the workers, Comrade Ruthenberg was the leader in the movement to form a Communist Party, a real party of the workers. From the time the Communist Party of America was formed until the day he died (except for the time he was in prison) Comrade Ruthenberg was secretary of the Communist Party. To you, Pioneers and workers' children, Comrade Ruthenberg says: Build up and support the Party of the workers, the leader of the workers in fighting against the bosses, the Workers (Communist) Party of America.

Comrade Ruthenberg always paid a lot of attention and helped the Communist movement among the young workers and the children. Thousands of young workers and workers' children of this country know of how

he helped them. To you Pioneers and workers' children, Comrade Ruthenberg says: Support and build up the Young Workers (Communist) League. Strengthen and build up the Young Pioneers of America; the organization and leader of the workers' and farmers' children of America.

Comrade Ruthenberg stood for all that was best in the American labor movement. In his death the workers of this country suffered a loss second only to the death of Comrade Lenin. By strengthening our own ranks, by doing our Pioneer duty in the struggle, that is the only way we can meet this terrible blow!

Pioneers, workers' children! Our great leader has fallen. Forward to fill the breach.

Workers' children! Comrade Ruthenberg says to you: Join the Young Pioneers of America. This is the way you can carry on the battle in which have fallen.

Pioneers, Comrade Ruthenberg says to you: Remember your Pioneer Pledge: One aim throughout our lives—Freedom For The Workingclass!

China.

(Continued from page 1.)

The Success of the People's Government.

The Chinese People's government (the Canton government) is advancing from one triumph to another over the reactionary generals who are the tools of the bankers of England, Japan, and the United States. As soon as these murderous war lords are beaten then China will be freed and the Chinese people will be able to decide their own questions and their own problems.

The Murder of Workers.

The armies of the Chinese people are advancing on Shanghai, a Chinese city in the hands of the British who have put their tool, Sun Chuan Fang, in control of it. The workers of Shanghai are in sympathy with the People's government and went on strike against Sun Chuan Fang and the British. Sun Chuan Fang then ordered his soldiers to grab and murder every striker they could get hold of. Whenever the brutal soldiers got hold of a picket they chopped off his head right on the spot. Over seventy workers have been killed in this way. And this is what the "civilized" British are supporting.

The American Government.

The American government makes out it only wants peace with China but at the same time it is sending more and more battleships, more and more marines to China.

Support the Chinese People.

The American workers and workers' children must support the heroic Chinese workers and farmers in their struggle for freedom and independence. The enemies of the Chinese workers are the bankers and bosses of America who are our enemies also. In helping the Chinese workers and farmers we are fighting our own battles also.

Nicaragua.

(Continued from page 1.)

ernment of Diaz which is hated very much by the Nicaraguan people. Why did the U. S. government do this? Because Diaz was a good and willing servant of Wall Street bankers who would make the Nicaraguan workers and farmers slave away for the American bankers. On the other hand the American government is doing and has done its best to destroy the real government of Dr. Sacasa which is supported by the majority of the Nicaraguan people.

Diaz Sells Nicaragua to U. S. Bankers

Now it appears that Diaz, the servant of Wall Street, the "government" recognized by the United States, is appealing to the United States to take over the country to make it into a colony. Now we can see the whole game; the U. S. government supported Diaz because it knew Diaz would hand over the country to the American bankers to be made into a slave colony.

That's Not All.

But that isn't all. It appears that the American government has in mind to seize all of Central America as a colony of the United States. And the United States said it was fighting for the "rights of small nations" in the world war.

Our Task.

What should the American workers and workers' children do? Should we be on the side of the Nicaraguan and Central American people or on the side of the U. S. bankers?

With the workers and farmers of Nicaragua, of course. If we believe in the lessons of the American revolution then we must support their fight for freedom and independence. Their fight is our fight and we must support them.

A LETTER TO PIONEERS

(Continued from page 1.)

to the Young Comrade, he receives every month for a year a big paper that tells him the truth about the workers and the workers' children and their problems and struggles, that fights against the capitalist dope in the schools, that gives him right ideas of what's happening in the world, that tells him who the Young Pioneers are and why he should support and join them. Don't you think that it's very important that every working class child whom we can reach should be made a subscriber to the Young Comrade? Don't you think it's very important Pioneer work to make as many children as possible subscribers to the Young Comrade?

With March 15, there will begin a Young Comrade Subscription Campaign that will last until May 30th. During this time the Sub Campaign must be the most important campaign to the Pioneers. Every ounce of energy must be thrown into it. Remember! Every subscriber you make means that you are on the road of making a new member and a fighter for the interests of the working class children.

What must the Pioneers do?

1. Every Pioneer must become a subscriber to the Young Comrade. How can you expect other children to subscribe when you are not a subscriber yourself?

2. Talk to your school mates about the Young Comrade. Show them a copy. Tell them why they should subscribe. If necessary, go to their houses and talk to their parents so that they will give them money to subscribe. School groups must get on the job in this work.

3. If you belong to some outside children's club, to some sports club, dramatic society, singing society, foreign language school or any other organization where there are working class children, then you must try with all your might to get these children to subscribe. Talk to them personally just as you do to your school mates. Try to get permission to address your organization about the Young Comrade. Try to get the club or the school to subscribe for a bundle of Young Comrades for all the children together. The Pioneer fractions in these organizations must get busy.

4. In workers' children's organizations where we have no comrades we should send a committee with credentials to speak to the children to get them to subscribe. If you get some subscribers you are well on the way to getting members.

5. Specially elected committees should make house-to-house trips in your neighborhood, speaking to parents and children, telling them about the Young Comrade and getting them to subscribe.

6. Committees of Pioneers, accompanied by Y. W. C. L. members or party members should go to all working class organizations in your neighborhood, to trade unions, co-operatives, fraternal societies, workers' clubs, women's and mothers' and parents' clubs, and so on—and talk to them about the Young Comrade and get them to subscribe for their children. If we have any party members in these organizations you should talk to them ahead of time and arrange so that they co-operate with you.

7. Cover all meetings of the party, all demonstrations, all affairs and so on with comrades to get subscriptions for the Young Comrade.

8. Get your parents to ask their shop mates and trade union fellow members to subscribe to the Young Comrade for their children. Go to party unit meetings and ask the comrades to talk to their fellow workers in the same way.

These are some of the ways in which you can work. More complete instructions will be sent in a few days.

There will be prizes in this campaign—prizes such as have never been given before.

1. Every child—Pioneer or non-Pioneer—who gets a sub will receive a special Merit prize—probably a button.

2. Every group or section that gets 200 subscriptions will have the right to choose one of its members for a week's free stay in the nearest Pioneer camp.

3. Every child—Pioneer or non-Pioneer—who gets 50 subs will get a week's stay in the nearest Pioneer camp.

4. The District and City that makes the highest proportion of its quota will get a—surprise! Something sent to us by the Pioneers of Russia, Germany, France and Mexico.

You will receive all supplies (subscription blanks) from your Pioneer Leader. If non-Pioneer children want supplies they should write to the Young Comrade and we will send it to them.

Remember! This is going to be the MOST IMPORTANT work in the next few weeks. Get into it with all your might.

Take this communication up for discussion in your group. Discuss the question from every angle and outline your plan of work.

Every school unit or group should immediately elect a Campaign Director and should send his name in to us. This is very important.

Every section (in the cities where there are section organizations) should elect a Campaign Director and send his name in to us also.

Every City and District Committee should elect a Campaign Subcommittee and a Campaign Director and send their names to us.

This will give us a machinery with which we can start working. You must not delay in sending us the names as this is very important.

All ready now for the BIG YOUNG COMRADE CAMPAIGN!

Are You Ready?

Always Ready!

With Pioneer Greetings,

YOUNG PIONEERS OF AMERICA

Central Bureau.

Pioneers! Prepare for Ruthenberg Memorial!

The death of Comrade C. E. Ruthenberg, general secretary of the Workers (Communist) Party, has robbed the American workingclass, and also the American working class children, of its greatest leader. Never since the death of Lenin have the American workers suffered such a loss. The Pioneers know that this blow that the American workers and farmers have suffered can only be made good by renewed determination of all wide-awake and militant workers to carry on the fight against capitalism.

For us Pioneers this means that we must ourselves learn and teach to all workers' and farmers' children the ideas for which Comrade Ruthenberg fought and died. It means that we must push forward our struggle in school and out and win ever new masses of workers' children for our cause.

1. Every group or other unit must immediately arrange discussion meetings on the basis of the material in this issue of the Young Comrade.

2. The distribution of this issue of the Young Comrade must be made a RECORD DISTRIBUTION. We must tell thousands of children what Comrade Ruthenberg fought and died for and the lessons of his career.

3. Every city organization of the Pioneers must immediately make preparations for special children's memorial meetings under the auspices of the Young Pioneers. These meetings may be either on a section or a city scale.

Complete instructions have been

OUR PLEDGE

BY TILLIE LURYE, Chicago Pioneer.

Comrade C. E. Ruthenberg, our great leader, died Wednesday, March 2, 1927. Comrade Ruthenberg was a fighter for the working class, a leader like Lenin. Comrade Ruthenberg gave his whole life and strength to the struggle of the working class.

At our District Pioneer convention held a few months ago Comrade Ruthenberg spoke and greeted us. He said that the Pioneers are the future forces of the revolutionary army... He said that we Pioneers would take the place of the comrades of today who fall in the struggle.

Now that Comrade Ruthenberg has died, we have lost a great and loved leader. Not only is it a loss of the older workers but it is a loss of every Pioneer, every working class child. All of us have lost a great leader and a fellow-fighter.

Together, shoulder to shoulder, we Pioneers must make up the best we can for the loss of Comrade Ruthenberg. Let us pledge ourselves to carry on the work Comrade Ruthenberg wanted us to do. We, Pioneers, must stand ALWAYS READY IN THE CAUSE OF THE WORKING CLASS!

sent to all Pioneer Committees. Get to work immediately.

Pioneers! In the cause of the working class, stand ready.

Central Buro, Young Pioneers of America.

WHO IS THIS?

He was born more than a hundred years ago in Germany.

At an early age he became a revolutionist and had to leave Germany. He was driven from one country to another until he settled in England.

He took part in the working class revolutionary movement and soon took a leading part in it.

He became a leader in the League of the Communists which issued the "Communist Manifesto" in 1847.

He worked out the principles of the struggle of the workers for freedom and showed the workers what they were fighting for and how they must fight.

He organized the International Workingmen's Association to unite the struggles of the workers of all countries against the capitalists.

He wrote a great book on economics—"Capital."

He became the great leader of the working class struggle. He was one of the founders of Communism.

Who is it? Do you know? Send in your answers to Young Comrade, 1113 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, Ill.



Ruthenberg Story Contest!

What do YOU know of the life and work of Comrade Ruthenberg? In his whole career of unending struggle, Comrade Ruthenberg was the example and symbol of the spirit of undying revolutionary courage and activity. His last words were: "Let's fight on!"

The Young Comrade is starting a Ruthenberg Story Contest. Every Pioneer, every reader of the Young Comrade, can enter. Write a short story, (no more than 300 words) or article, or poem, or else make a picture about the life and work of Comrade Ruthenberg. Send it in to the Young Comrade. You have up to April 15 to do it in. April 15 is the last day of the contest.

The three best stories will be printed in the Young Comrade. The writer of the best story will receive a splendid picture of Comrade Ruthenberg as a prize.

On the job!

American workers, and of the American working class children, Your leader, too! You too start a Ruthenberg Red Corner in your club rooms.

All Pioneer organizations will get special instructions on Ruthenberg Red Corners in a few days.

Any workers' children's organization can get the same instructions free of charge, by writing in to the Young Pioneers of America, 1113 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, Illinois.

Get on the job.

All answers to puzzles as well as most special features of the Young Comrade have been omitted because of the fact that this is the Special Ruthenberg Memorial Issue. In the April issue of the Young Comrade everything will be back as before.

THE QUESTION BOX

J. M., of Philadelphia, Pa., asks: "If the unions are workers' organizations so why do the Communists in the unions fight against the leaders of the union, like in the miners' union?"

Can You Answer This Question?

Helen Luoma of Squilax, B. C., Canada, writes: "I would like to know the reason why the people get the idea of God?"

CAN YOU ANSWER THIS ONE?

Start Ruthenberg Corners!

Start Ruthenberg Red Corners in your headquarters.

All Pioneer sections, groups, school units and other Pioneer organizations: Get to work immediately on this.

Children who belong to any workers' organization, workers' Sunday schools, singing societies, and so on: This is your job too... Comrade Ruthenberg was the leader of the

The Paris Commune--The First Workers Government

HAVE you ever heard of the Paris Commune? Surely you must have! Do you know why we celebrate it? It was the first time in the history of the world that the workers took over the government and established a Workers' Republic.

The National Guard.

In 1870 a war took place between Germany and France. France was defeated by the Germans in that war and the French emperor, Napoleon III, was captured. As a result Napoleon was overthrown and the people wanted to found a republic. With the help of the German army another government was set up which stood for the rich and oppressed the poor people. Paris, the capital of France, determined to protect itself against the Germans and so they organized the national guard. This consisted mostly of factory workers and people from the small work shops.

Thiers Tries to Disarm the Paris Workers.

The Germans dared not attack Paris because the city was well protected by these Parisian workers. But the Germans were not the only ones to whom the national guard was a menace. The capitalist government which had been set up upon the fall of Napoleon was also very much afraid of the armed workers. So Thiers, who was the head of the capitalist government decided to send some soldiers to Paris to steal the cannons and guns from the national guard and so disarm the Paris workers. But the workers were on the

watch and Thiers' object was defeated. Many of the soldiers went over to the side of the people. The Paris workers now decided that they must have their own government in order to protect themselves from the capitalists. For the time being the central committee of the national guard held power.

On the 18th of March, the central committee issued a manifesto laying down the rules for the new government of the workers which was called the "Commune."

The Commune--A Workers' Government.

It was the first real workers' government in history. Every law was made in the interest of the workers. This was natural since the government was elected by the workers, was made up of workers, and could always be recalled by the workers. Thiers and his government were at Versailles. They made arrangements with the Germans to give them back the captured French soldiers so that they could be used against the Paris Commune. Then these soldiers and as many thieves and murderers as could be gathered were sent against Paris.

The Struggle of the Commune.

The struggle of the Communards was a bitter one. Their sacrifices were endless. It would be impossible to tell of the heroism of the fighters for the Commune. Among the most heroic of these were the working class women and children.

The Commune Falls.

But the power of the capitalist was overwhelming and the Commune fell. Never did anyone fight against odds

so heroically. The Commune lasted only two months, but it defended itself to its last breath. The Commune was not defeated; it was drowned in the blood of its heroic defenders.

The Revenge of the Bloodthirsty Bosses.

Ferocious was the revenge of the blood thirsty victors. After their "victory" the Versailles (the capitalists) slaughtered over 40,000 people with their cannon and machine guns. The captured workers were taken to the barrack yards, were lined up against the wall in front of cannon and were blown to pieces. Everywhere in Paris there were piles of bodies, of brave men and women, some still alive and groaning.

Nor were children spared. Here is what one report says: "I saw (it was Sunday, May 28, about 2 p. m.) six children removed by four policemen from the house where the court martial was sitting. The oldest child was about twelve and the youngest was about six. Away with them. Away with them! shouted the mob. 'They will grow up into revolutionaries.'"

They were "done away with." "Elegant ladies poked out the eyes of the wounded Communards with their silk parasols."

"Fire!" The machine guns rang out. And in this way thousands were "done away with."

The cowardly rich were taking their revenge on the defenseless people now that they were no longer afraid of them. For days and days the river Seine ran red with blood streaming from the dozens of barracks and other places of butchery.

Twenty-five thousand workers men, women, and children, were mercilessly slaughtered. The fine ladies and gentlemen who had crept away in a corner when the Commune was in power, now came out "bravely" on the streets and kicked the bodies of the dying proletarians or spit into their faces.

Soviet Russia--the Commune

The Commune was not drowned for all time in the blood prepared by the French bosses. Because the spirit of the Commune is the spirit of the workers' struggle. The fall of the Commune was only a temporary defeat for the working class. The workers went forward fighting until in October, 1917, our Russian comrades again set up a Commune that was not of one city nor of a few months, but that takes in millions of workers and peasants and that is now marching triumphantly into the ninth year. Soviet Russia--the Great Commune of today--has carried forward to triumph the fight for which the Communards of 1871 died so gloriously!

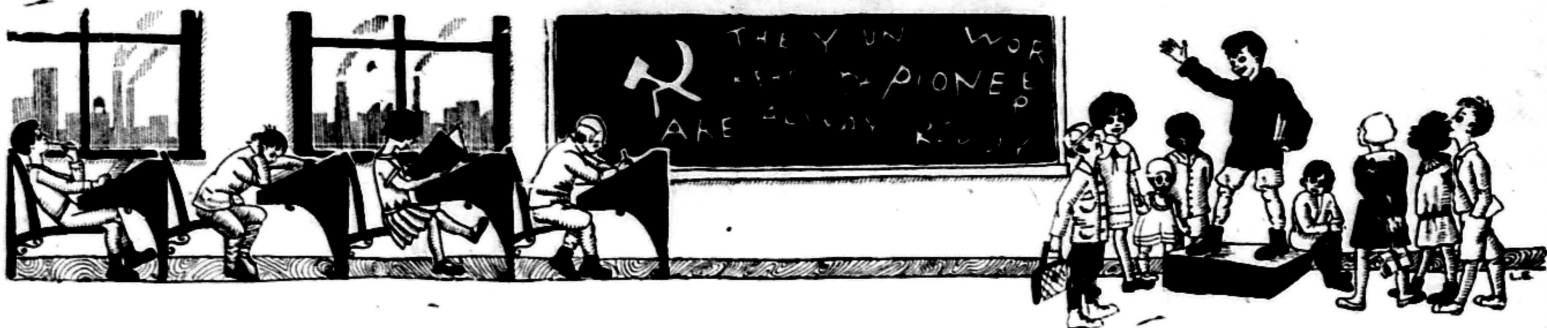
The Paris Commune is one of the most glorious and splendid pages in the history of the working class struggle for freedom. The story of its rise, glorious struggle, and terrible fall is a heroic inspiration for us proletarian children.

EVERLASTING HONOR TO THE GLORIOUS PARIS COMMUNE!

LONG LIVE THE SOVIET UNION --THE COMMUNE OF MILLIONS OF TOILERS!

Get to Work on the Children's Ruthenberg Memorial Meetings!

Into the School Struggle



WHY THE SCHOOL STRUGGLE

EVERY Pioneer knows about the class struggle of the workers against the bosses. The enemy of the working class is the boss class and all those who stand with them. It is against the capitalists that the workers fight whenever they want higher wages, shorter hours, better conditions, as in strikes, or when they want to get free of the bosses altogether, as in revolutions. And because the government (except in Russia) is the bosses' tool and fights against the workers, therefore the workers have to fight against the government with the aim of setting up a workers' government. There is a big battle going on between the working class and the capitalist class.

Our Struggle.

What about us, the working class children who go to school? Have we any part in this big battle or are we outside of it all? First of all, of course, being children of workers we naturally stand with the workers and help and support the workers in their fight against the bosses. But besides this, we have our own fight against the bosses and that fight is right in the schools.

Against the Capitalist Poison in the Schools.

The schools are owned and run by the government, that is, by the bosses. What for? To win away the working class children from the working class, to make the workers' children favor the bosses! They want to make us believe that the American government (a government of the bosses) is the best government of the world, that the workers should go out and fight in war (when the war is really to make more profits for the bosses), that real fighting labor unions are un-American, that only bad workers strike, that it is wicked for the workers to fight for their rights, that the Bolsheviks are murderers and thieves, and all kinds of things like that. They

want to make us into enemies of the workers and friends of the bosses.

If we want to stick by the working class we've got to fight against these lies in the school. We know they are lies and we know why these lies are said. But most of the working class children don't know this and they believe all this anti-labor poison. It's our business to fight against the capitalist lies and show the children the truth and also show them why all these lies are spread. **Fight against the anti-labor capitalist poison in the school.** This is the first part of the school struggle.

Better School Conditions for Workers' Children.

Another question is school conditions. All of us know that the poorer the section of the city the worse the schools are. We know that the rich children go to fine private schools and even if they go to public schools these public schools are nothing like the public schools to which we have to go. Our schools are overcrowded. There are all kinds of crazy shifts. There is often poor heating and lighting and ventilation. The toilets are dirty and unhealthy and things like

that. And all the time the rich people who don't work at all have the best conditions for their children while the poor workers, who produce everything, have to send their children to school under the worst conditions. We want: **Better school conditions for workers' children.** That's the second part of the school struggle.

Bring the School Children into the Struggle.

Then, a third thing. Every Pioneer knows that our chief purpose is to mobilize and organize the working class children in our struggles. But where can we reach the workers' children better than in the schools? Suppose we are at work on a campaign in support of the Passaic strikers (like our Meal Ticket Campaign last year). We want to draw the working class children into this campaign. Therefore, we bring this campaign into our school work: we talk to our school mates, we distribute leaflets and the Young Comrade, we make and distribute school papers with articles on the campaign in it, we paste up stickers, we chalk slogans, we ask questions in class, and so on. This is the third part of the school struggle: **Draw the school children into struggle in the interests of the workers and the workers' children!**

These are the main points about the "why" of the school struggle. Every Pioneer should study these points carefully and discuss them in the nuclei and groups.

Next month we are going to take up the question of the teacher. "The Teacher and the School Struggle"—that's our next subject.

Demand Better Conditions in N. Y. Schools

By a Young Comrade Correspondent.

The conditions in the New York high schools are rapidly growing from bad to worse. An outstanding example of this fact are the conditions in the Thomas Jefferson high school and especially the conditions in Public School 63. They are supposed to be schools, but in reality they are nothing but two-family frame houses. There is no hallway through which to go from one class to another. At change of classes the students have to go through every room on the floor in getting to the room they want. The cellar where the children are forced to take physical training where the health is supposed to be improved, is really serving in the opposite way—it is a detriment to our health. The pipes are hanging so low over our heads that we have to bend down when walking across the floor. There are only four windows in the entire cellar.

The school is generally overcrowded; in most of the classes three students sit on two seats. There are only three exits for 1,000 pupils and in case of a fire there is a very slim chance for anybody to get out.

One day in February, towards the last of the month, leaflets were distributed in the school and the students were determined to go out on strike because they realized their conditions. The slogans under which the students will rally:

**A seat for every pupil in the school.
Proper ventilation.
Sanitary conditions.
More schools and less firetraps.**

Our Teacher.

BY ANTTI HANNULA, Pearson, Wash.

I guess our teacher is just as big a hunk of cheese as any of them. One morning while we were having civics he asked who was the head of the American Federation of Labor in 1914 and we told him it was Gompers. Then some one asked him who was the head of the A. F. of L. now and he said Gompers was. But I told him it was Green and he then tried to excuse himself because he was ignorant on labor matters.

Our teacher appoints monitors whom we call sissies. These monitors are like spies and if they report you, if they put your name on a piece of paper, then you have to stay in late. One lady came to school and said that if he couldn't run the school to get some one else to run it for him. We also protested. He hasn't had them for quite a while now.

He only picks on the small boys because he is afraid of the big ones. He tried to give me a shaking once but he didn't quite succeed. He always takes the bosses' side when we talk about Nicaragua or foreign country matters.

CHILDREN FIGHT TYRANT TEACHER

(By Our Special Correspondent.)

Because the discipline of their teacher, Miss Marks, was entirely too strict for children who didn't want to be treated like slaves, the pupils of a district school at Davis, Pa., revolted violently and nearly wrecked the building. The chimney was torn down, the desks were smashed, and the windows broken.

Some of the boys were arrested but the parents stood solidly behind them and so the charges were dropped.

The protest was so strong that Miss Marks resigned and left the school.

TEACHER ATTACKS WORKERS SCHOOLS

BY MAYME FORSTY, Frederick, S. D.

I am going to Workers' Sunday School and I like it just fine. I was appointed to write to the Young Comrade once a month. I go to the public school too. I spoke to my public school teacher about the Workers' Sunday School and she said that she thinks it is no use going to the workers' school. I think I learn lots of things there that I never learn in public school.

In our Workers' Sunday School we studied about the Ishpeming coal mine strike and also about Lenin.

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Teacher Tries to Ban the Young Comrade

BY SIRKKA LENSON, Wentworth, Wisconsin.

Last year as I was in the seventh grade and we had a very religious teacher named Miss Walker and she used to read the bible to us for about a month. One morning I went to the store and I got the Young Comrade and I took it to school and started to read it after I got thru with my work. Teacher came around and says: "Sirkka, what have you got there in your arithmetic book." I showed her the paper. Then she said: "What paper is that?" Then she took it away from me. After school she said: "You may have it back again but never, never bring another copy of this paper into school." I said I would. So she said very mad at me: "You runt." That didn't put her in good with me or with the other children.

Mussolini.

BY IRVING GARBATI, New York City.

My teacher thinks Mussolini is a great man. She says: "Mussolini doesn't let the workers strike and waste a lot of time. He makes the people eat potatoes." So I got up and said: "But Mussolini and the rich men don't eat potatoes. They eat better things. Only the workers eat potatoes and if they try to strike to get better things they are shot down." That made her quiet.

Conditions in Our School.

BY R. G., New York.

The conditions in our school are so bad that when a play or something is given in school, the children who do not go to it have to go to the gymnasium. The teacher in charge treats the children very badly.

The last time instead of a play we had a chalk artist making pictures. About 75 children did not go to the fourth period. The teacher thought she is the boss and hit a boy. The boy was still smarter, so he made her cry by hitting her in the nose. When she was crying another teacher came in, but the boy did not make that teacher cry.

Near the end of the period the principal came in. The teacher whom the boy made cry told the principal everything. He called the boy over and slapped him in the face and said: "Why don't you hit me now?"

He took the boy to the office and the boy had to stay there; he missed all his work and many tests.

RELIGION IN OUR SCHOOL.

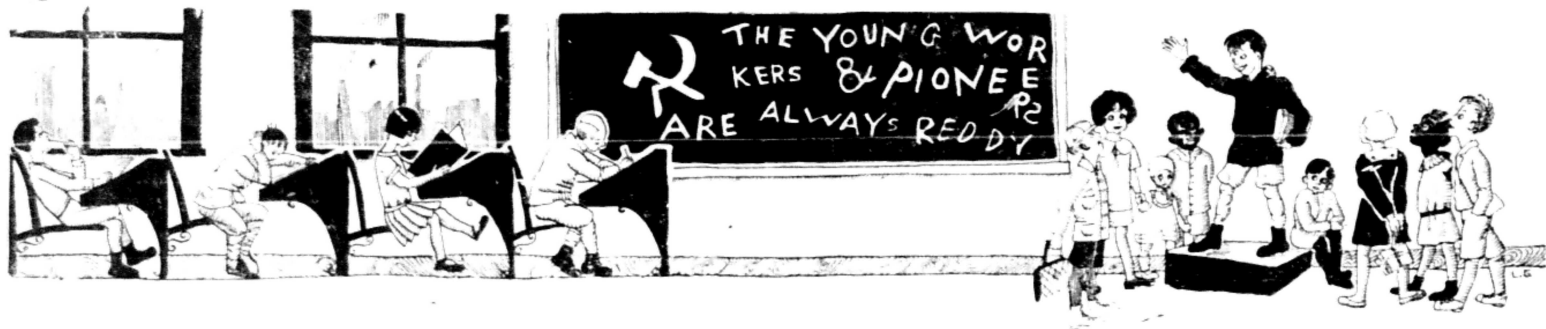
BY LENA ROKOLA, Hurley, Wis.

One day in our school we were reading about God. Some of us girls who know it's all bunk, laughed. The teacher stopped and said it was not nice to laugh about God or we sin. She said we should be serious about God. Our teacher is very religious but the girls are on our side.

BY SADIE VIIKINEN, Angora, Minn.

We have a very religious teacher. Every day she talks about God. One day she asked us about who was baptized. I stood up and said I wasn't. The teacher looked very angry and said that those who aren't baptized have a mortal sin left in their souls and they are animals. We all think she's crazy and most children don't agree with her at all.

Into the School Struggle



WHY THE SCHOOL STRUGGLE

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VERY Pioneer knows about the class struggle of the workers against [part] And all the time that [part] people By a Young Comrade Correspondent.