

Party Life

Party Must Aid Y.C.L. in Building Factory Nuclei

THE Y. C. L. has only seventy-five shop nuclei and many of these are not in basic industries. This shows immediately that the connection of the Y.C.L. with the youth in the industry is very weak. Even in New York where we register such good results in building the Y.C.L., only three nuclei have been built alongside the Party. The fact that in more than eight months the whole Party helped the Y.C.L. in building only three shop nuclei, shows that the most important decisions on youth work have not been carried out.

What are the tasks confronting the Party in overcoming this weakness? First: the League at present has a membership of 8,000. It has set before itself the task of reaching a membership of 12,000 by July 1st, in connection with the Seventh World Congress of the Y.C.L. Can this figure be reached? It Can.

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IT will be reached if the Party will give full assistance in the concentration districts, and in all those districts where the gaps in size between the Party and the Y.C.L. is large. This means that in some districts we must be determined to put over the task of building the League into a real mass organization.

Second: In the period from today until July the Party must undertake to build at least fifty shop nuclei of the Y.C.L. Every district must select factories to concentrate upon. This means the assignment of forces, continuous follow-up, etc.

Third: In connection with the DAILY WORKER circulation drive, the Party units must spread the Young Worker among the youth in the shops, unions, mass organizations. The YOUNG WORKER will become the best means of reaching young workers, the best means of recruiting for the Y.C.L.

Fourth: The leading cadres must be strengthened in all districts. This means assigning of young Party members for youth work. The New York District in this respect has already decided to assign 100 young Party members for League work. This example should be followed by all other districts. We should not be stingy with the youth.

Fifth: In the next period there must be more attention and guidance to the Y.C.L. The Y.C.L. is making the first beginnings of breaking away from its sectarianism, in connection with the broad movement around the American Youth Congress. The Y.C.L. is learning to connect itself with broad masses of youth, and as one of the comrades stated, we must help on a District scale to penetrate into the C.C.C. camps.

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LEADERSHIP and guidance to the Y.C.L. must take the form of assistance in developing youth activities in connection with all the mass campaigns of the Party (unemployed insurance, work in the A.F. of L., etc.). No Party plan can be considered complete unless it indicates how the youth are to be mobilized for the specific campaigns, and how the Party will aid the work among the youth in the campaigns. To the youth belongs the future. But the future, where the younger generation of the American toiling masses will accomplish miracles is not far away, and our task is to speed up the tempo in winning over this part of the working class.

Why did we neglect the Y.C.L.? Why did we not fulfil the Eighth Party Convention decisions with regard to the youth? What do the districts intend to do in carrying out these proposals?

Here comes the example of the New York District, of the Harlem Section. They have something that no one other section of the Party has: The HARLEM ORGANIZER. What is the main headline in its last issue? "The Party must intensify youth work." The examples, the experiences of Harlem, of the New York District must be followed by the Party in all districts.