

WITH THE YOUNG WORKERS

CONDUCTED - BY THE YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE



Problems of the Pittsburgh League

By GEORGE PAPCUN.

THE Pittsburgh district has a very hard task before it, especially in the headquarters city. At the time of the reorganization the league in this city consisted of one Jewish and one English branch. Because of inexperience, the reorganization was put thru more or less mechanically and since the reorganization of the city into nuclei and concentration groups there has been a condition of chaos. Even now the comrades do not fully understand the reorganization problem and the work under the new system of organization. The best way to liquidate it is for each and every comrade to attend the meetings of his unit.

The excuse that some of the comrades have is that they have to attend to party activity and have to devote their time to party work. That they are at some sub-committee meetings each time their unit of the league meets. This is an unhealthy condition for the league, for if the units do not meet regularly we do not have the machinery to bring in new members, nor do we have the machinery thru which to do work among the working-class youth. The problem of coming to the meetings is a real serious one and the slogan must be, "Meetings and Work of the Y. W. L. First." This must not be taken as a joke. The party has shown in this district that it is willing to co-operate and go to the limit in helping to build up the Young Workers' League, but the efforts of the party to help will bring no fruit if the league members do not try to help also.

The question comes up that in some units in Pittsburgh there are 3 or 4 members of the district executive committee who are responsible comrades of the league and yet the units which they belong to do not function. For this there is no excuse. We have found since the last district convention that the league in Pittsburgh, where it is supposed to be the backbone of the district, which is usually the case in other districts, is the weakest in the district. We find that on the outside new units are being built up, new members are coming into the league. This is hardly the case in Pittsburgh. The leading comrades in Pittsburgh can remedy this without very much hard work. They must drop some of the activities of the party if it in any way interferes with

the work of the league. This is necessary if the league is to be a real functioning organization. All the comrades realize the fact that if our own units are not functioning we cannot bring in new members, nor can we carry out the decisions of the higher committees.

The next problem which faces the district committee is that its sub-committees must function. In the past we have elected sub-committees for different departments. These committees did not function in spite of the fact that we have tried to limit the comrades to one or two sub-committees. The sub-committees must meet regularly at least twice a month. They must send plans and a letter of suggestions and bulletins for them at least once a month. Another problem which faces the district is how each unit will have plenty of work and discussion during its meetings and how the members will have work to do between the meetings of the unit. This the district committee and the units will have to solve together. The best way is to get busy on factory campaigns. The units must discuss and find a factory on which they can concentrate. Connections must be gathered and real efforts must be made to carry on an effective campaign in this particular factory.

Each and every member must read The Young Worker and must push the circulation of The Young Worker among the working-class youth, especially in the factories. The district committee must make plans for activity in the district as a whole, that is district campaigns, which will co-ordinate the work and which will unify the membership in general over the district. There must be at least one district campaign going on all the time. (Watch tomorrow's column for article two on Pittsburgh's problems.)

Northwest Barnett Branch of the I. L. D. Meets Tuesday Night

The Northwest Barnett branch of the International Labor Defense will meet at the Workers' Lyceum, 2733 Hirsch boulevard, Tuesday evening, April 6, at 8 o'clock. There will be a speaker and each member is expected to come and bring a sympathizer.