

# BUILD THE LEAGUE

## A Task For Every Member

By H. ZAM

**T**HE Young Workers (Communist) League is participating in the struggles of the young workers to a greater extent than at any time in its history. The mining strike, the New Bedford Textile strike, the struggles in the needle trades—even small local strikes such as the Bayonne oil strike, the New York fruit clerks strike and the Buffalo silk strike find the League taking an active part in fighting for the interests of the young workers involved. The League is becoming recognized as the only organization that fights for the interests of the toiling youth.

### Need Organization Strength

The outstanding failure in all these struggles is the inability of the League to draw the young workers from these struggles into its ranks. Members have been gained. The membership of the League is steadily increasing. But this increase is in no way proportionate to the energy and mass scale with which the League engages in these struggles. For the membership of the League, the drawing of the most militant and the best elements among the young workers in the important fields of struggle becomes a burning task in the immediate future.

The National Executive Committee has recognized the above weakness and took measures to correct it. At the Enlarged Bureau Meeting, held Feb. 7-9, 1928, the resolution on the work of the League declared:

"There are several causes for this failure to recruit new members. Briefly they can be enumerated as follows:

### Overcoming Our Errors

1. Lack of knowledge of the League as to how to recruit new members, and inability to hold them after they are recruited. This is a general shortcoming that can be overcome only thru conscious efforts and persistent work to recruit new members and develop the internal life of the League.

2. A tendency to hide the face of the League in the struggles and to have the League participate not as an organization, but only thru its members as left wing fighters. The National Executive Committee categorically repudiated such a policy. The Enlarged Bureau Meeting in its resolution adopted Feb. 9, 1928, declared: "The participation of the League in the coming struggles must be done primarily by the League as the vanguard of the young workers and as a youth organization championing the interests of the young workers in these struggles." The resolution further pointed out that it is necessary "to crystallize the mosters around the League on the basis of struggles around the League on the basis of these struggles." The outstanding example of this tendency was manifested in the Pittsburgh District where the District Committee decided not to include the League as one of the organizations initiating the Youth Conference, altho conditions made it imperative that the League come to the front. This error was immediately criticized by the National Executive Committee, and the Pittsburgh comrades recognized their error and corrected it in further work.

3. A theory that during the struggles, the League only leads the struggles, and when the struggles are over, it gets new members. This theory is fundamentally wrong, and in practice means that the League acts only as a left wing organization. The NEC declared, as soon as this matter came to its attention, "All conceptions which declare that now is the time for struggle, later will be the time to build the League, must be pushed aside. It is during periods of struggle that the League can be built into a mass organization."

4. An idea that the young workers must be good Communists before we can allow them to join the League. This was manifested in Eastern Ohio, where the League organizer that it is inadvisable to admit into the League all young miners who wanted to join because there was no guarantee of how good they were and also in New Bedford, where there was some hesitation about making the League a broad organization accessible

to all the young textile workers. These errors have also been corrected, and both in Eastern Ohio and New Bedford, the League is being built up.

### Broad Mass Organization

The last three errors are a result of a wrong outlook as to the role of the League and its relation to the young workers. The League is a Communist organization, but at the same time it is a broad mass organization taking in every young worker who is willing to carry on a militant battle against the bosses, and who is willing to allow the League to train him for more effective participation in the struggles of the workers. Once in the League, it is our duty to make a good Communist out of every young worker, and make him a leader among the masses of the young workers.

The League must be made a broad, fighting organization that holds the door open to every fighting young worker, even if that young worker has not yet mastered the "polittimum" or the "A. B. C." The League membership and the young workers with whom the League comes in contact must be made to understand that, and thus enable the League actually to develop in a mass organization.

## LEAGUE NOTES

### SHOAN TOUR ON ELECTION

Comrade Rudolph Shohan, District Organizer of the mid-west district of the Young Workers (Communist) League of America will make a tour on his return to Kansas City from the National Nominating Convention of the Workers Communist Party of America during which he will cover the following places on the following dates: Pittsburgh, June 4 to 11; Columbus, June 12 and 13; Dayton, June 14; Cincinnati, June 15 and 16; Indianapolis, June 17; Springfield, June 18 and 19; St. Louis, June 20, 21 and 22.

Comrade Shohan will speak on "Youth and the Elections".

**PHILADELPHIA, Pa.** A series of meetings in connection with the election campaign and the building of the League has been arranged for C. Miller, District Organizer, of the Young Workers (Communist) League. The dates are as follows: Wilmington, Del., June 5; Chester, Pa., 6; Vineland, N. J., June 7; Bethlehem, Pa., June 11; Allentown, Pa., June 12; Reading, June 13; Minersville, Pa., June 14; Shenandoah, Pa., June 15; Dates for other points in the district will be set.

## PLAN SERIES OF CONFERENCES ON SHOP NUCLEI

All districts of the League have received instructions to arrange conferences within the next two months for the discussion of shop nucleus work. The proposed agenda for these conferences is: (1) Report of District Organizer on district campaigns in connection with shop activity. (2) Reports by Nuclei and factory delegates on their work in the factory. (3) Organizational tasks of district and in each individual factory.

These conferences will be attended by: Representatives of factory nuclei, members who work in factory where no nucleus yet exists, representatives of Party factory nuclei, unit organizer and industrial organizer, representatives of District Committee, a representative of National Committee, non factory members who are doing some factory work. Factory delegates are urged to start preparing their reports now.

### Slaves Of Handkerchiefs

**NEW YORK CITY.** In the International Handkerchief Company over 500 girls are working forty nine and a half hours per week. The most they can earn is 20 to 22 dollars per week. The girls work under a terrific speed up system.