

# CHALLENGE

Vol. 1—No. 3

Chicago, Ill., June, 1933

Official Organ of the Young People's Socialist League

Price 5 Cents

## YOUTH SPREADS STRIKES

### Hired Thugs Murder Mine Union Leader

#### Tennessee Labor Chief Shot in Back While on Mercy Errand.

Editorial Explanation by Walker Martin, Highlander Folk School, Monteagle, Tenn.

In the surpassing scenic beauty of north middle Tennessee, working class blood is being spilled by the hired guards of the Fentress Coal and Coke Co. On April 30, Barney Graham, president of the local Miners' Union, was riddled with bullets as he returned from an errand to get medicine for his wife, who is in bed with pellegra, a disease caused by slow starvation. A series of wage cuts totaling over 50 per cent was climaxed on July 8, 1932, by a walkout.

After nearly a year of strike, the peaceful resistance of the workers is being strained to the breaking point by the ruthless tactics of the company, whose weapons have varied from evictions and starvation to this brutal murder of the strikers' leader.

**Company's Strike-Breakers Fail.**  
The company failed to break the strike after the state spent \$22,000 to keep troops in the area. When they were removed, imported gunmen filled the vacancy.

There was no food in the Graham home when the murdered body of the father was brought there. There were no lights, and window panes were missing. There were not even sheets or pillow cases for the beds. One cannot look at the frail, warped, stunted bodies of Barney's starving children without being haunted many nights by the picture of their living death.

Twelve-year-old Della Mai can't go to school because she has "to stay home with mama," who is chronically ill.

**Daughter Fills Vacancy.**  
Barney Graham was scheduled to be a delegate to the Continental Congress for Economic Reconstruction held at Washington May 6 and 7, but instead of attending he lay buried on Wilder mountain. His young daughter, Della Mai, filled the vacancy. Here is her own account of the murder of her father.

"Big chief come and give mama a house n'ice. Daddy was not at home. Mama was sick and he was gone to get her some medicine. Mama told big chief to leave.

**Company Threatens Killing.**  
"The next time he come he took out our lights and said he was aimin' to take out the doors and windows. Daddy was president of the union, and a man said the company was aimin' to have him killed.

"I told daddy he better get him a gun so he could carry it with him when he went to get mama medicine and went to meetings. He just laughed and told me not to worry, that nobody would hurt him. But I told daddy I saw some men with big guns at the store, and they looked mean.

"Last Sunday evening daddy started to get mama some more medicine. Nearly everybody went to church. I had to stay with mama. I heard a whole lot of guns shoot, and just in a few minutes a man come and told me that daddy was killed.

**Victim Shot in Back.**  
"Uncle Arthur is a scab, and he told me daddy's ribs stuck in front when he was shot the first time. Nobody weren't there but the men that killed him, when he was first shot. When Uncle Arthur heard the shot he run to see. When daddy

### DRESS STRIKE PICKET SCENES



Unceasing vigil was maintained in front of more than 300 dress manufacturing shops in

Philadelphia by 5,000 workers who walked out in a successful fight on sweatshop conditions of wages and hours.

### Yipsels! Back Workers, Farmers, Congresses

CHICAGO—The most important task confronting the Young People's Socialist League of America in the months of June and July is the effective organization of the youth sections of the various state Congresses that are to be convened in each state in support of the Continental Congress.

The active participation of the YPSL made possible the Youth Section at Washington, and the Young People's Socialist League is represented thru the youth section on the National Committee of Action and Correspondence. Arthur McDowell, Industrial Director of the YPSL, and Monroe Sweetland of the Intercollegiate Student Council, are the two representatives of the youth section on this national committee of twenty-six.

By the rules of the Congress, the state meetings must be held within ninety days of the adjournment at Washington, which sets the limit at August 7th. The National Committee of Action has urged that

where possible, the state congress be held on or before July 4th, which is the critical date set for the first of the nation-wide demonstrations for the program of the Congress.

One of the instructions to the state and local committees of action is to "Form a youth section within itself and stimulate its constituent bodies to organize and educate their own youth."

#### NEWSPAPERS COME CHEAP.

It cost only \$300,000 for the railroads to buy a quarter-page in every daily newspaper in the United States and to buy large space in every weekly—15,000 papers altogether—when they were fighting the railroad brotherhoods' wage drive some years ago. This is confessed by Frank H. Fayant who did the buying for these railroads. "I used every daily and then decided to use every w..."

### Mike Shulman Reports Success

READING, Pa. (May, 1933—Mike Shulman reporting.)—The drive of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America on sweatshops in eastern Pennsylvania can be described as a success, although the nature of the agreements made with the sweatshop owners in their content might seem as nothing to the outsider. Conditions in the Allentown-Northampton section were of the lowest level of any of the sweatshops attacked (these were described in the May Challenge) and were broadcast all over the country, Mrs. Pinchot, the governor's wife, appearing on the picket line in the course of the strike.

The agreement reached by the A. C. W. A. and the industrial "Schwitters" called for a \$5 minimum wage—a maximum 50-hour week and a general 10 per cent increase in all wages over the \$5 mark. For the vast majority of the workers the minimum wage meant anywhere from a 20 per cent to a 200 per cent increase and a reduction of the hours from the 54-hour week (legal for child labor in Pennsylvania.) A most important concession was wrung from the manufacturers insofar as no discrimination has been practiced and the young shirt workers who are enrolled in the union are free to talk unionism in the shop.

### Y P S L Sets Miners' Day

CHICAGO—The Industrial department of the Young Peoples' Socialist League has set Saturday, June 24, as Miners' Memorial Day to be observed by all Circles of the YPSL in the United States and Canada.

The day is to be marked by meetings to raise funds and supplies for relief of striking miners in Illinois and Tennessee, tag days in those cities where it is legally possible.

Particular note will be taken of the murder of the Wilder Tennessee UMWA local and the long list of members of the Progressive Miners of America who have fallen in Illinois, beginning with the assassination of young Joe Colbert in August, 1932.

The following program is laid down by the Industrial department:

1. A tag day or at least one public meeting, June 24, sponsored by each Circle for the purpose of raising relief funds which will be equally divided between striking miners in Illinois and Tennessee.

2. During the week of June 17 to 25, each Circle to devote its meeting to discussion of some phase of American Mine Workers History, such as: the Molly Maguires, Mother Jones, the Western Federation of Miners, John Mitchell, Bloody Harlan County, Kentucky or the Rise of the Progressive Miners of America.

3. Many Circles are planning appropriate celebration of the International Labor Youth Sports Day of June 25, in co-operation with various co-operatives, fraternal and working class sports groups. Part of the exercises on this day should be set aside for a brief memorial to martyrs of the American and International labor movements.

This program is a responsibility which is laid upon every functioning Circle and not merely a suggestion. A report will be expected in every case.

JULIUS BERTMAN,  
JAMES WHITE,  
SAM BAKELY,  
LARRY HEIMBACH,  
National Industrial Committee,  
YPSL.

EVANSTON, ILL. (F.P.)—Girl students of Northwestern university, working at Cooley's restaurant, are paid 15 cents an hour. Tips must be divided with the manager, the girls report.

### Yipsels Help Unions Fight Sweatshops

#### CONDITIONS FOR LABOR IMPROVE

#### Young Socialists Lead the Parades to Homes of Employers.

#### BULLETIN.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—Employees of 12 factories have just gone on strike here on order of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers as a protest against sweatshop conditions.

Girls under 16 in these shops have been working illegal hours without rest periods and rest rooms. The average wage for operators runs from \$2 a week to \$6 a week and their week has been 60 hours length (54 legal limit for women). One girl of tender years was found to be earning 30 cents a day for a 60-hour week.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—Some of the most amazingly successful strikes in Pennsylvania labor history have been written into the records during the month of May, resulting in the removal of the most atrocious system of sweatshops ever known in Philadelphia. Almost every demand of the workers was met.

A dressmakers' revolt with 5,000 showing such faithful co-operation and discipline that more than 90 per cent of the industry and its allies were completely paralyzed, led to the ending of the strike within a week. Officials of the International Ladies' Garment Workers termed the success and results of the strike as "unbelievable."

From the days preceding the strike until its termination, the Socialist party and the Philadelphia Yipsels were practically the leaders in the real work. It was up to a handful of Yipsels, with the aid of national industrial organizer and committeeman Sam Blakeley to distribute the literature calling for the strike, to line up the pickets, to lead their demonstration through the wide sweatshop district, to open the shop meetings, explain the purpose of the strike and the benefits of being organized, call out the scabs from the few remaining shops, to register the 5,000 with the union, in short, to do almost all of the "Jimmy Higgins" work.

It fell to the Yipsels to do the strong arm job in downing the Communist disruptive forces which with their "longshoremen's union," youth section of the Unemployed Councils, and dual needle workers' union, would have made events very miserable for the inexperienced strikers at the mass meetings.

With the vast main body of the strikers back in unionized shops with the beginning of union conditions, the Philly Yipsels turned like a pack of hounds to the scent of the remaining child-sweaters who still defied the workers. Street meetings were organized on the streets where the sweat shop owners lived and their neighbors informed of the social leper in their midst. It worked in more cases than one, the first manufacturer thus pilloried signing up the morning after the meeting.

#### Busy on Many Fronts.

In a cap makers' strike in South Philadelphia, the Yipsels co-operated with the union and helped to lead the revolt to success in a week's time. Three Yipsels were arrested on different days for dis-



# Y P S L ACTS IN ANTI-MILITARY FIGHT

## Picket World War Picture In Bridgeport

### GROUP PROTESTS MARTIAL MOVIE

#### Action Irks Legion Boys Giving Tone to Picture

On Wednesday night, May 17, a group of senior and junior Yipsels formed a picket line in front of the largest theater in Bridgeport, which was showing pictures of the late World War to huge crowds.

Waving aloft appropriately-worded banners, the group heroically paraded back and forth before the hostile glares of several American Legionnaires, who had been hired to lend proper militaristic atmosphere to the picture. A strong limb (or lamb) of the law watched in bewilderment.

Suddenly the irate manager of the theater dashed out to the officer and gestured frantically towards the parading Yipsels. Summoning the leaders, Alex Ribak and Seymour Landau, the cop pulled them into a telephone booth, called up the desk, and soon several sergeants and lieutenants appeared at the scene of action.

Whereupon the red-nosed blue-coats held a conference, and after solemnly rubbing chins and noses, they informed the insurgents that a permit was necessary. Since it was too late to obtain one, the brave policemen told the offenders in no uncertain terms that the picket line had reached its period.

So the young rebels dispersed—for that night. Evidently the coppers were not aware that the late war had been fought "to make the world safe for democracy"! Y.P.S.L. No. 1, Bridgeport, Conn.

## Pickets Hurt As Militarists Mob Yipsels

(From New York Times, May 31, 1933.) Ten youthful Socialists, including two women, were mobbed and beaten yesterday morning by National Guardsmen and Veterans of Foreign Wars. More than 2,000 persons witnessed the fight, which took place in Mitchell Square, Broadway and 168th st., just before the annual Memorial Day observance at the war monument there.

The picketers, all member of the Young Socialist League branch at 4046 Broadway, were parading about the circular base of the monument bearing placards with such legends as "Refuse to Fight," "No More Wars" and "Capitalism Brings War," when the trouble started. Just what precipitated it was not clearly established.

According to the veterans, one of the Socialists tried to pull an American flag from the hands of the color-bearer of Inwood Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars. According to the guardsmen, a Socialist dragged a wreath from the monument. The demonstrators denied both charges, saying they had merely stood there with their placards.

When the fighting started the two young women escaped, but their companions were not so fortunate. They were kicked, cuffed and beaten. Some of the guardsmen and the veterans clubbed their adversaries with the butts of their rifles. The Socialists sought to flee, but were closely pursued by the mob.

Several policemen assigned to the meeting were interested but inactive witnesses as the fighting spread through the small triangular park and in front of Medical Center. A police emergency squad arrived after the disorder was over and found an ambulance surgeon from Columbus hospital treating several of the demonstrators and one man who said he had been an innocent bystander for cuts and bruises. No arrests were made.

Could there be any relation, we wonder, between the increase in the price of steel scrap and the shipping of tons of it to Japan?

## MILITIA ON JOB IN NEW HAMPSHIRE STRIKE



New Hampshire National Guardsmen are shown dispersing a demonstration at the main gate of the Amoskeag Textile Mills at Manchester, N. H. Troops have been used against workers this year in Illinois, Wisconsin, Ohio, Iowa, North Dakota and New Hampshire.

## Delegate Remembers Barbara Fritchie On Way to Washington for Congress

(A Yipsel's story of the Continental Congress.) "Round about them orchards sweep Apple and peach tree fruited deep." "Fair as the Garden of the Lord To the eyes of the famished rebel horde."

Snatches of the old school-learned lines of Barbara Fritchie rose to my mind as our car drifted down the incline into old Fredericktown, nearly 900 miles of weary but beautiful road behind us. I, too, was part of a rebel horde, I thought, this May day of 1933, although a vastly different one than that other of the fall of the early sixties, so many years ago.

For behind us and before us along that mountain road were scores of scattered vehicles of every imaginable kind, bearing the delegates of hundreds of thousands of working people bound for the Continental Congress for Economic Reconstruction at Washington, D. C. On the highest ridge of the Alleghenes we had hailed an immense lumbering truck which bore the delegates from New Mexico, thousands of miles of desert prairie and mountain behind them.

Delegates from Minnesota, Michigan, Iowa, Ohio had been passed and repassed on the road. A thrill, a sense of power and movement which I shall never quite forget, rose in me as we neared that fair snobbish city of Washington, capital of my country that was yet not my own.

Many Delegates Registered. Along wet, foliage-draped streets,

skirting the White House, we drove to the huge Washington auditorium to unsuccessfully scout for familiar faces amid the milling groups around the registration desk.

When I rather proudly pinned the tri-colored ribbon of a delegate to my coat Saturday morning, more than 3,000 delegates had been registered before me. Up above in the auditorium there was din and confusion indescribable, yet nearly 4,000 delegates came to order in much better style than many a YPSL meeting back home in the mid-west, barely 30 minutes behind the announced schedule. One booming cheer broke that order when my old road friends from New Mexico came down the aisle with their banner bearing the cryptic device, "No Compromise With Capitalism."

"To the Workers and Farmers of the United States: A critical hour in the history of our nation has arrived," rang out the words of the secretary as the call of the Congress was read. From there on, the story of the Continental Congress belongs to the history of the American working class. There at Washington in two short days, over 4,000 workers and farmers from 41 states perfected a scheme of union capable of embracing all organizations of the American working people.

Congress to Be Permanent. In clear, unforgettable words, they forged their new Declaration of Independence, laid down a dar-

ing and uncompromising program, and dispersed the delegates to their states and cities to build the 48 state congresses and the numberless local work peoples' councils.

For the Continental Congress of Farmers and Workers, as it shall now be known, is not a thing of yesterday and today but of tomorrow. By decision of the delegates another Congress is to assemble within 12 months, this time in some mid-western city no farther east than Chicago. Within 90 days of the Washington gathering, state Congresses are to be held and state committees elected.

Demonstrations for the program of the Congress are to be held on July 4th and on Labor day in September. Many of the older delegates, after the first flush of the immediate success of the Congress, have begun to take an attitude that the Congress is something that is over and gone. This is a contemptible treason to the working masses of America. The Congress will only live as it continues and grows in the future.

Youth Section of Congress. Last on the list of types of organizations recognized by the congress came "student and youth organizations," but the more than 400 delegates from youth organizations were far from the smallest section of the Congress when they went into caucus to elect their representatives to the seven Congress committees.

### PRIZES

Leaflet Contest  
First Prize—\$10.00 worth of books.  
Second Prize—\$5.00 worth of books.  
Third Prize—\$2.50 worth of books.  
Next Ten Prizes—A copy of "Rhapsodies in Red" by Sam De Witt.

Book List Contest  
First Prize—\$5.00 worth of books.  
Second Prize—\$2.50 worth of books.  
Next Ten Prizes—A copy of "Rhapsodies in Red" by Sam De Witt.  
(Prize winners may choose their own books or pamphlets.)

### RULES OF THE CONTEST

1. All readers of The Challenge are eligible. There are no age or membership requirements.
2. Manuscripts or lists must be typed or written in ink on one side of the page only.
3. All contributions must be accompanied by coupons numbers one and two clipped from The Challenge.
4. Participants can submit as many manuscripts as they like.
5. No manuscript in the leaflet contest should exceed 2,000 words.
6. Book lists may include fiction and non-fiction.
7. In case of a tie, duplicate prizes will be awarded.
8. The decision of the judges will be considered final.
9. All contributions must be in by July 28.
10. The YPSL reserves exclusive right to use contributions.

### PARTICIPANTS COUPON.

Name .....  
Address .....  
City ..... State .....

Watch for Coupon No. 2 in the next issue.

### Brief Notes

Since its last Congress in November 1931, the Socialist Youth Federation of Sweden has increased its membership by some 1,000 members per month. The Federation now includes some 80,000 members in 1,408 branches.

May Day in Vienna came with the Ring where the usual Socialist demonstration is held, barred to them by barbed wire, machine guns, cavalry, armored cars and police reserves and troops. Therefore eight main streets saw demonstrations in place of the one of previous years. On the eve of May Day 15,000 young Socialists celebrated their festival in the woods near Vienna and were addressed by Otto Bauer and other Socialist leaders.

The Swiss Socialist Youth Federation is engaged in a fight against workers camps for the young unemployed similar to the Roosevelt conservation camps. The camps were proposed to the government by the Young Liberals, a bourgeois youth organization.

The Versailles treaty didn't do everything wrong. It might have given Germany a mandate over Palestine.

Reporter—I've got the perfect story.

Editor—Why, did a man bite a dog?

Reporter—No. A bull threw a congressman.

## They Know It's GOOD!

One hundred and thirteen newspaper editorials have quoted from just one of our regular weekly columns by John T. Flynn. How many more editorials it inspired—how many gave credit but were not found—cannot be guessed at. And every column has been quoted many times.

He writes of who did what and why—of banking practices and how markets are rigged—of gold and bonds and holding companies—of your R. F. C. money and who has it now. He knows the men, the laws and the history—and he knows how to dig out and write the things you want to know.

The consequences of neglect are not always immediate. These dismal days came years after The New Republic's first warnings. Then, trouble was soothingly distant. Now, neglect means hunger and losses next week!

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## Big Contest

Comrades and fellow workers, step this way. Crowd around the soap box so that it will not be necessary to yell. We have an announcement extraordinary. Give us your closest attention.

Haven't you often wanted to buy certain books and did not have the ready cash? Haven't you ached for a chance to add to your library? Well, here is your chance!

The Challenge announces a contest in which everybody can enter and everybody has an equal chance to win one of the valuable prizes.

The requirements are simple. The valuable prizes listed below will be given to the persons sending in the best manuscripts for a leaflet to be issued by the Young People's Socialist League and for the best lists of 10 books to be suggested to young people to interest them in the Socialist movement.

At the right you will find a coupon marked number 1. Cut it out and keep it. In the July issue you will find a coupon marked number 2. Each manuscript or list of books must be accompanied by these two coupons.

The judges—composed of prominent Socialists—will be announced in the next issue. Watch for them. The rules are simple and everybody is eligible to enter.

The purpose of the contest is two-fold: 1, to get new leaflets and, 2, to help boost the circulation of The Challenge. Enter the contest yourself, and get others to enter. You may be one of the winners.

The winners will be announced in the convention number of The Challenge and the prizes will be awarded at a mass meeting at the convention in Reading Aug. 26 and 27.

Now get out your pens and with all Inc. going!



# The Challenge

Official Monthly Organ of the Young People's Socialist League of America  
549 Randolph St., Chicago, Ill.  
Member Federated Press

\$3.50 per year—Special Bundle Rates

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## Editorials

### THE STRIKER OUR HOPE AGAINST FASCISM.

In a recent Federated Press article, Scott Nearing shows that the militancy of labor as evidenced by strikes and lockouts has been falling steadily since 1920. The last month for which there are figures, December 1932, shows the lowest for that year and 1932 shows labor disputes occurring at barely one-tenth the rate of 1920, and 21, the period of outstanding militancy on the part of American labor. Meantime, the middle classes have been giving vent to revolutionary expression of dissatisfaction which they as a group have expressed in Italy and Germany in Fascism.

It is, therefore, with genuine enthusiasm that The Challenge, as the organ of American young Socialists, hails such developments as the drive on sweatshops which is drawing thousands of young workers into the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and other of the textile workers' unions.

The growth of labor militancy in 1919, '20 and '21 was largely due to the influx of new elements into the American Federation of Labor during the war period of semi-legal recognition of organized labor. A similar large addition to the ranks of organized labor may be seen either under the influence of inflation or under some such formal recognition as is proposed in the present Industrial Control bill now before congress.

That the Roosevelt administration will turn toward extreme reaction in its latter days just as did the liberalism of Woodrow Wilson is, of course, the expectation of Socialists. Roosevelt is and can be only true to his class, and when the working class begins to gather strength and really menace the possessing classes in their essential political and industrial power, Roosevelt must drop all pretence and temporizing and strike at labor for the defense of his own class. Much water may flow under the bridge before that, and the task of the Socialist must certainly be to anticipate this development without neglecting to

play a manful part in the present main chance, the strengthening of the workers organized mass power.

### THE UNITED FRONT.

On February 19, 1933, the Labor and Socialist International extended its hand to the Communist International for negotiations that might lead to a "frank and honest agreement on joint defensive action against Fascism." On March 5th, aiser Hitler was in power the Comintern sent a letter, not to the Socialist International, but to its own national sections, to call for a "united front."

Why did the International center of the Communist parties who have been so persistent in their efforts of their peculiar type of "united front" pointedly avoid directly answering this united front appeal from the other side? Why was it necessary to wait until the tragedy was accomplished in Germany before making any move to indicate they favored large scale united front action by working class bodies? Has the Communist line of using united front offers and activities to disrupt and attack other working class organizations from within been changed? How can the Communist organizations ask for a united front with the Young Peoples Socialist League when the official Young Communist League Builder in the March-April issue asserts that the "Young Peoples Socialist League remains the most dangerous enemy in the ranks of working class youth?"

These questions must be asked over and over again until satisfactory answer is given, for since Marx founded the First International the Socialist has been committed to the view that the interests of the working class are international in scope. There must be a world-wide agreement on united action between the two great divisions of the international working class movement. Within the United States there is a much greater need for a united front between the radical parties and the organizations to the right of them than between the two radical wings.

### SAVE OUR SCHOOLS FROM CAPITALISM.

When a fusion of all capitalist political factions in the city of Reading, Pa., was campaigning against the Socialist party during an election of 1931, one of the chief slogans was "Save Our Schools from Socialism."

The American Federation of Teachers has published a list of 20 suggestions sent out by the United States Chamber of Commerce to its local chambers, for the reduction of school costs. These include the postponement of new buildings and replacements, shortening school day one hour, increasing size of classes, increase teaching hours, save in repairs and maintenance of physical plant, suspending of automatic increases in salaries, a 10 per cent cut in teachers' salaries, shorten school year 12 per cent, discontinue evening classes, discontinue kindergartens, reduce elementary school curriculums from 8 to 7 years, reduce high school curriculums from four to three years, impose fee on high school students and transfer one-third of all cost of instruction above high school level to the student.

The labor movement will have to raise the slogan "Save Our Schools from Capitalism and its Minions," and youth itself will have to get right down in the front line trenches to fight to keep the schools open and functioning.

## HAPGOOD, HARVARD GRADUATE, FORSAKES ELIOT'S ADVICE

(This is the second of a series of articles on Yipsel and party leaders in the Socialist movement. Send in suggestions, we will do the work.—Editors.)

When the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party this year took up the selection of a labor secretary to relate the Socialist movement directly to the swelling number of the desperate day-to-day struggles of the American working class, they turned by common consent to one of their own number.

Powers Hapgood, the youngest member of the Socialist executive, is a graduate of staid and conservative Harvard University, yet beloved as perhaps no other living person by that hard fighting and militant section of the American working class, the hundreds of thousands of mine workers. There is a reason.

President Eliot of Harvard, mentor of middle class America for so many years, is responsible for the statement that the real American hero is the strikebreaker. It is on record that gay young Harvard bucks went so far as to go crusading forth in that spirit to break a coal strike. Powers Hapgood graduated from Harvard in '21, member of an old and distinguished American family, but in open revolt against Eliot's version of heroism. Not as an engineer with a white collar chain about his neck but as a worker among workers he entered the mines first of Montana and then Colorado.

Hapgood became a member of the United Mine Workers and in 1922 an organizer for that still powerful organization. A year and a half in that capacity, he had the satisfaction of knowing his job in organizing the non-union miners of Somerset and Fayette counties, Pennsylvania, had made union history. Tragically, he also learned that the blackest enemy of the miners was not doddering old Eliot but the beetle-browed bully who had come to the presidency of the United Mine Workers and to this day by fraud and force maintains himself at that post. The Fayette and Somerset miners to whom Hapgood had pledged the faith of the UMWA were deliberately betrayed, left to face starvation on their shattered picket lines while Lewis sent miners in other sections back to work for the brutal bosses who continued to war without mercy on the newly organized southwest Penna men who had come out in sympathy with their brethren in many cases without even being appealed to.

His heart choked with bitterness, Hapgood left America to work in succeeding years as a miner in South Wales, in France, in Germany and finally in Soviet Russia, earning his living beside the fellow worker of each country, learning and thinking. He finally returned to Pennsylvania and went quietly to work in the mines, again becoming active in the union. At the 1927 convention of the United Mine Workers at Indianapolis, Powers appeared quietly on the scene as delegate from the Cresson, Penna Local.

His appearance was the signal for a flurry in official quarters. This quiet and athletic young miner had been tagged, and rightly, as an implacable foe of Dictator John L. Lewis and his whole ruinous policy. A faked telephone message, a hotel room, three plug uglies with an ultimatum to leave town. Hapgood,



POWERS HAPGOOD.

it seemed, believed in asserting his rights and using his right and his left, for that matter, to maintain them. The fight was still in progress when the hotel manager and the police came.

That scrap was a draw, but with the proper ballot manipulation, Lewis maintained his throne in the convention. The UMWA was on the eve of dissolution. Within two years it was to shrink to a mere fraction of its former strength and sink deeper into the mire of betrayal from within.

"Powers Hapgood has come." The news ran like a ripple of energy through all those groups of men and women assembled in Boston in that tragic August of 1927. He had left the mines of Pennsylvania to come back to the country of his school days, toiling as a longshoreman on the wharves at night to support himself while he gave without stint of sleep and energy to the cause of justice for Sacco and Vanzetti. Speaking, organizing, fighting and tyranny which imposed constant arrest, illegal kidnaping by state police—and all in vain. Eliot's decaying middle class must see their class hatred on a good shoemaker and a poor fish peddler.

On December, 29th, Mary Donovan, for all those seven agonizing years a member of the Sacco-Vanzetti Defense Committee, married Powers Hapgood and went not on a honeymoon but back to the strike area of the Penna coal fields. The first thing public or friends knew, Powers and Mary were being held incommunicado in Pittston, Pa. jail. They had "mourned" free speech on the streets of that coal city, and a "crowd" of 25 police had assembled. Held by the mayor under \$1,000 bail, whisked off to jail and bail raised to \$5,000, all meant to disprove the accusation that free speech and civil liberty were dead.

A campaign for Mary Donovan for governor of Massachusetts, back to the mines of Colorado, aiding in the short lived revolt within the UMWA in 1930, a member of the West Virginia Miners' Union. In 1932 an awaking and growing Socialist movement in national convention assembled chose this unassuming young man as one of its leaders and today noting his firm and deep hold on the affections of workers, calls him to further service.

### Solidarity

When Wisconsin farmers called a milk strike against the great creameries and milk companies, Milwaukee and West Allis Yipsels with little more than a Minute Man's notice, answered the call to the picket line sent out by farmers from the milk pool. Bill Ommen and Joe Grady lead a group from West Allis. Paul Schmidt, national organizer, went to Dodge county in the very thick of the milk strike and took part in the historic battle of Durham Hill.

Bill Quick, NEC member, was active in the defense of the pickets arrested near Milwaukee. More than 200 unemployed from the Workers' Committee on Unemployment in whose organization Milwaukee Yipsels were active, marched out to swell the farmers' picket lines. Solidarity to make your heart swell. The fight is only begun in spite of the temporary truce and Organizer Schmidt stays in the field.

**New Industrial Organizers.**  
Two new National Industrial Organizers have been commissioned. Althea Moyer of Allentown, Pa., takes over the work which Lester Mike Shulman so effectively began there while Mike is to hike back to New England hot-foot unless he is very badly needed in New York. Edith Savnow has been commissioned in St. Louis with special instructions to co-operate with the Amalgamated Clothing Workers in their drive in that section.

**Pennsylvania on Job.**  
The Philadelphia YPSL after a most creditable piece of work in connection with a whole series of strikes, have elected Alex Wolod as local Industrial Director and Camden across the Delaware river in New Jersey, has chosen an Industrial Committee with Woodrow Faire at its chairman.

## A Woman's Execution

BY EDWARD KING.

(After the Paris Commune of 1871, the leaders of the people were led out and slaughtered by thousands.)

Sweet-breathed and young,  
The people's daughter,  
No nerves unstrung,  
Going to slaughter!

"Good morning, friends,  
You'll love us better—  
Maks us amends:  
We've burst your fetters!

"How the sun gleams!  
(Women are snarling):  
Give me your beams,  
Liberty's darling!

"Marie's my name;  
Christ's mother bore it,  
The badge? No shame:  
Glad that I wore it!"

(Hair to the waist,  
Limbs like a Venus):  
Robes are displaced:  
"Soldiers, please screen us!

"He at the front?  
That is my lover:  
Stood all the brunt—  
Now—the fight's over.

"Powder and bread  
Gave out together:  
Droll to be dead  
In this bright weather!

"Jean, boy, we might  
Have been married in June!  
This is the wall? Right!  
Vive la Commune!"

"The 1933 production of the Cadillac V-16 is limited to 400 cars, custom built on order," says the swank Cadillac ad.

### Organization

BY NATIONAL SECRETARY.  
Strengthen Organization Campaign.

Arrangements are being made to have a National Organizer visit every chartered circle of the Young People's Socialist League between now and the National Convention this August 26-27. A complete survey will be made by these hitchhiking organizers, and suggestions will be made to local groups on ways and means of increasing the membership, advancing knowledge of Socialism and expanding the activities for Socialism in Our Time.

Special state and district organizers will be located in definite territories for six-week periods and will carry on intensive work in their areas. Circles and contacts will be visited and revisited, and no opportunity will be given for initial enthusiasm to vanish leaving no trace.

#### Duffy Tours Michigan.

National Executive Member Jim Duffy, Jr., will do organization work in his home state during June. Taking short trips from Detroit, Duffy will visit YPSL groups in Dearborn, Greenville, Charlevoix, Owasso, Lansing, Lincoln Park and Battle Creek. Organization contacts in the following towns will be followed up: Jackson, Grayling, Kalamazoo, Muskegon, Saginaw, Edmore and Grand Rapids.

#### Berk County Convention.

A county convention was held on Sunday, May 28, at the Reading, Pa., Socialist picnic grounds. Lester (Mike) Shulman, representative of the National Office, who has been doing industrial and organization work in that section, addressed the delegates.

Become a CHALLENGER!

## Pick Reading for Site of Seventh Annual Convention

Preparations are proceeding rapidly for the seventh national convention of the Young People's Socialist League of America. Delegates from all over the country, and from Canada, will gather and deliberate on Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 26-27, at Reading, Pa. More than 200 delegates are expected, and 300 alternates and visitors in addition. The attendance will be double that of the Cleveland convention of 1932.

A complete report will be presented to the convention of the membership and activities of the league. The experiences of our national organizers will be summarized and plans will be carefully drawn to eliminate the vicious curve of circle organization, breaking up, and reorganization.

All circles must arrange that their delegates reach Reading. Special social affairs, and membership donations, will aid in providing the ways and means. Though hitchhiking expenses are low, food and must be obtained. Most of

the city organizations will obtain busses or trucks and load them to the springs' limit with eager delegates and active members.

The National Executive Committee has elected a Resolutions Committee to collect material for the Convention Committee. The main job of this committee, composed of Aaron Levenstein, Hy Fish and Arthur G. McDowell, is to obtain resolutions adopted by League circles and sections. All circles are instructed to send copies of all resolutions to the National Office and to Aaron Levenstein, 7 E. 15th St., New York City.

The National Executive Committee will hold its last meeting prior to the convention on June 28 and 29 at Milwaukee, Wis. A mass meeting is being arranged in order to make use of the talents of the National Executive members. Reports will be presented of final arrangements for the August 26-27 convention, and summer organization plans, which will wind up at Reading, will be reviewed.



# NEW YORK YIPSELS AID BAKERY STRIKE

## COPS BEAT UP SOL ROSENBERG

### Release Victims When \$500 Bail Is Set for Each Accused.

NEW YORK, N. Y.—On Monday, May 15, three young Socialists, Sam Rubin, Julius Bertman and Sol Rosenberg, together with two bakers' wives, were arrested and held in jail for \$500 each, charged with disorderly conduct and the use of boisterous language. Comrade Rosenberg was lacerated by wild blows inflicted by a policeman. He was later treated by an ambulance surgeon and a union doctor.

The Yipsels have been engaged in aiding Bakers' Union Local 507, which has been out on a general strike since May 1, against a 30 per cent wage cut, for the "division of labor system" (the employment of all unemployed members) and for the enforcement of the eight-hour day.

Shortly after noon they drew up in a Chevrolet, to the corner of 160th st. and Union ave., in the Bronx, the neighborhood in which the union had been forbidden to hold an open air meeting opposite the picketed bakery. On each of the four corners were stationed two policemen; there were also a sprinkling of plainclothes men and a captain in charge.

#### Bertman Gets Permit.

Comrade Bertman approached the police captain and requested the precinct phone number. After receiving this information, he stepped into a candy store phone booth and called the desk sergeant (with a union nickel). The "desk nurse" when informed the Socialist party was going to hold a meeting (the only "permit" necessary in New York) yelled across the wire, "Don't be a wise guy, you can't do that, etc." He was informed that the Socialists have a right to the streets and that a meeting would be held.

Without wasting any more time, the platform was set up and decorated with an American flag and a party banner. Little Sammy Rubin, hardly 4 feet high, jumped up and began, "Comrades and fellow workers: we are holding this meeting under the auspices of the Socialist party."

When the first words came from his mouth, the police, clubs handy, flanked in on the meeting ready for action. The houses emptied their proletarian population into the streets. Comrade Rubin was yanked from the platform by the seat of his pants. Bertman followed on immediately. This time after merely, "Friends and fellow workers, we have a right to talk," the fun started.

#### Cop K. O.'s Rosenberg.

It took two blue coats and a gold badge to yank this Yipsel, by no means a flyweight, from the stand. As he was being led away, Comrade Rosenberg put his foot upon the first step of the ladder, and received a club across his nose and face for this trouble. The captain then stood over him, billy poised. Mrs. Deutchman, a baker's wife rushed over to the unconscious Yipsel, and leaning over him prevented the police from doing him further injury.

The angry crowd was dispersed by a radio car that had been summoned by a riot call, and by a protector of law and order, who jumped from the running board, wildly flourishing a revolver.

The picket who had her sign ripped from her, Mrs. Deutchman, and the three young Socialists were kept in the scab joint guarded by several bluecoats. The scab baker slunk into a corner. It was only the boss' wife who was brazen enough to open her mouth. But she was made very sorry by Mrs. Deutchman who fears nothing, and who in one verbal barrage stopped her. After waiting five minutes a patrol wagon drew up. The five marched out singing the International, and were cheered by the assembled workers.

#### Bail Set at \$500.

After being detailed four hours, they were arraigned and bailed out by the bakers, to the tune of \$500 each.

The Yipsels are in the thick of this most important general strike. The police brutality to Sol Rosenberg has resulted in winning public sentiment for the strikers. Workers now bring out hot coffee for the pickets, lend them umbrellas and raincoats in bad weather, and join in the march themselves. That particular stop is licked, as a result



### Yipsels Aid Unions In Labor Struggle (Continued from Page One.)

orderly conduct when they refused to move out of the way for a mounted police cossack who tried to scare them from the factory pavements. They were released on a promise to "stay away," which was immediately broken. Meyer Krivitzkin, Yipsel treasurer, was arrested and held in connection with the cap makers' strike, and Sam Blakely in the dress makers' movement.

The Phila Worsted and Woolen Workers have organized a union to smash the sweatshop conditions existing in 30 mills employing about 8,000 weavers and operators and the Yipsels are offering their services here again, although many of them are occupied with a bakers' strike.

#### Prepare for Amalgamated Drive.

National Industrial Organizer Bakely is co-operating with Philadelphia's industrial director in organizing a special squad of Yipsels to work with the Amalgamated Clothing Workers in the Quaker City sector of the national anti-sweatshop drive, which in five weeks has brought 6,000 new members into the union in Pennsylvania (Allentown sector), New Jersey and Connecticut.

NEW YORK CITY — Thousands of leaflets printed by the YPSL were distributed in the Bronx general strike of the Bakers and numerous speakers have been supplied on request. A crew of Yipsel girls have been sent to New Jersey to canvass in the Shirt Makers' strike. Hal Levinson has been assigned by national industrial organizer Bertman to work in co-operation with the Brooklyn Edison Union.

of the Yipsel meeting. Police, association thugs and courts will not stop the struggle of the workers or dampen the militancy of these young workers.

### N. E. C. Elects "Win" Dancis As Secretary

CHICAGO—Winston Dancis of New York has assumed the duties of national secretary of the Young Peoples Socialist League at the party's national headquarters here. Dancis has for more than a year been city secretary of the fast growing YPSL of New York city.

George Smerkin, formerly national secretary, was removed by unanimous vote at a special meeting of the YPSL national executive committee, held in Washington, D. C., at the time of the Continental Congress. Dancis was then elected to the vacancy. The action has been ratified by the national executive committee of the Socialist party, which employs the Yipsel secretary.

#### Smerkin Admits Charges.

Four breaches of Socialist discipline were charged against Smerkin, according to Julius Umansky, national chairman of the YPSL. All charges were admitted by Smerkin. The charges were deliberate refusal to abide by the decision of the Cook County Socialist party, as to participation in a non-Socialist May Day demonstration, attendance at the Mooney Congress under fraudulent credentials, making a public address at the Mooney Congress as national secretary without authorization or knowledge of the Yipsel national executive committee and in direct violation of its ruling, and the dispatching of an unauthorized letter to YPSL circles on the Mooney Congress after he had been suspended as national secretary.

#### Warning Against Disruption Campaign.

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—Sol Larks, expelled from the Socialist party and YPSL sometime ago and George Smerkin, recently removed as national secretary of the YPSL for betrayal of his trust and under charges now pending against him before the Cook County Socialist party, have made their appearance

### Thugs Kill Miner Chief in Tennessee (Continued from Page One.)

fell in the road he raised up on his elbow and they shot him again a whole lot more times in the back. Then he fell again and they shot him while he was lying down in the road. They hit him on the head with their guns and broke the handles off of them. They wouldn't let anybody get daddy—guarded him with machine guns. They was afraid he would come back alive.

"They said there was a few more they wanted to get; Arkley Bilibrey and Jim Crownover is two of them.

#### Large Funeral Crowd.

"The crowd was so big they nearly smothered me at daddy's funeral; and everything was so quiet! They marched around where daddy was killed, and blood was still in the road. When we went back home Buddy (Byron, Jr.) said daddy weren't killed; that he had just gone to get mamma some medicine and hadn't come back.

"The union men said they sure would fix daddy's grave up if they ever got a contract. Daddy wanted me to go to a labor school.

"They buried daddy 'way up on the mountain at Wilder. I feel just like supen else is gonna happen." (Signed) DELLA MAE GRAHAM, Wilder, Tenn.

in St. Louis. Taking advantage of the newness and relative weakness of the St. Louis YPSL organization, they summoned all active YPSL members in this city to a meeting in Communist party headquarters, and urged them to become active in various and sundry "United Fronts."

A group of these expelled or resigned members of the Chicago organization are now trying to maintain organizations in Chicago which they term YPSL, although without charters of that organization. This is a cleverly devised disruptive device whose ludicrous appearance is seen only in its solemn repetition of the phrases of working class unity, while engaged in the task of destruction.

## Challenge Column

The Challenge is gaining in popularity—and consequently in subscriptions and readers. Lives there a man (or a woman) who can see a copy of the paper and not plunk down 50 cents for a year's subscription? I ask you.

A quarter page advertisement in the May 3rd issue of The New Republic and an ad in The New Leader, April 22, brought forth scores of letters—some asking for sample copies and some subs. A follow-up letter to people who have asked for sample copies has resulted in more names added to our sub list.

But we are not satisfied. Not enough subs are coming in. In order for the paper to continue, 250 subs should come in each month. We did not get that many in May. The reason is that not enough Challenge readers and Yipsels are on the job button-holing their friends and visiting Socialist party branches soliciting new subs.

#### Challenge Aids Youth.

The way to sell a sub is to talk to people personally. Show them the latest issue. Explain to them how important it is for the Young People's Socialist League to issue a paper for the young workers and students of this country. Tell them of the good work The Challenge has done.

In the milk strike in Wisconsin where the Yipsels were active, The Challenge was evident everywhere. Five hundred copies were rushed into Allentown to be distributed to the striking child laborers. Over a thousand were given to the young coal miners in southern Illinois. The paper was distributed among the student strikers in the schools of Chicago. This work must be continued. The next few months will see more struggles of the young workers. There will be strikes for higher wages in order to keep up with Roosevelt's inflation.

And besides, a new field is open for us: the reforestation camps. Thousands of young workers have already been forced by necessity into these camps. A paper fighting for the young workers and unemployed youth will meet with their approval. We must make it possible to send thousands of copies of The Challenger into these camps.

Each sub will mean more copies available for this purpose. The more subs, the more papers. You can help us get more influence among the young people in this country. Do Your Share.

#### Circles Should Increase Bundle Orders.

Not all circles have ordered a bundle of Challenges each month. No circle can call itself an active branch of the YPSL which does not order a bundle. Every circle—no matter how small—can handle 25 copies. If only 11 copies are sold, you will be able to pay for them and still have 14 left for free distribution. Larger circles and city organizations should order bundles equal to five copies per member. Selling the official organ is an important job of every circle. Not supporting The Challenge is like not buying dues stamps.

#### Challenge Is Indispensable.

The Challenge offers you the only medium through which you can find out what the young Socialists are doing throughout the country. In the paper you will find out our stand on important problems facing the working class today. You will get suggestions for activity and for educational programs. It is YOUR paper. Get behind it!

Many letters have come into the office congratulating us on our paper. We welcome them, but they would be much more welcome if each one contained a few subs. Your editor likes "fan" mail and your business manager likes subs.

#### All Those in Favor. . .

Between now and the national convention, Aug. 26 and 27, in Reading, we are going to take a vote of confidence in The Challenge. We are not going to ask you to raise your hands or say "aye." The method of voting is this: each Yipsel who wants to see the paper continue should send in five subs by that time; each circle will vote by sending in a large bundle order.

Are you ready to vote? All right, let's go, Challengers!

HY FISH, Business Manager.