

STOP COUGHLIN GANGS!

THE CHALLENGE OF YOUTH

Published Twice Monthly by the Young People's Socialist League (Fourth Internationalists) Price 2c July 1, 1939

FASCIST SLAVERY AND INSECURITY IS COUGHLIN YOUTH PROGRAM

By IRVING HOWE

His voice is smooth and slick. "The youth of America have been penalized and hampered through the evils of an unjust economic system, denied opportunity, education, work, marriage, social security. They must be given a chance."

Father Coughlin is speaking. This latest and most dangerous of aspirants to the leadership of America's Fascist movement realizes the crucial role that American youth will play in the days ahead. And he's out to get them—if Father Coughlin will have his way, American youth will hitch their stars to his fascist wagon.

But American youth cannot and will not be attracted by any movement that would openly state as its aims the actual conditions of fascism: destruction of trade unions, curtailment of educational opportunities for youth, forced labor in military camps, destruction of freedom of speech, etc.

And Father Coughlin knows that an open fascist appeal will not win them.

That is why Coughlin speaks so realistically about the condition of youth. That is why he describes truthfully how bad the conditions of youth are under capitalism. Coughlin knows that the youth of America are sick and tired of the stuffed shirt phonies who tell them to be satisfied with things as they are, who tell them that things will be better by and by.

Exploits Plight of Youth

So Coughlin cleverly utilizes the discontent of youth with the status quo in order to get them into his Fascist movement, which is dedicated, as all Fascist movements are, to the preservation of precisely that rotten economic system of capitalism against which Coughlin talks so much!

And that's why Coughlin is so dangerous—because he uses a little bit of truth, his description of the rotten conditions, in order to put across a vicious program, his championship of Fascism.

Let's see how this actually works out.

In the March 13, 1936 issue of Coughlin's sheet, "Social Justice," there was an article on the youth problem, presumably written by some young Coughlinite. They write:

"We have something of his (Coughlin's — I.H.) consuming passion for social justice . . . there should be enough of the goods of this world, food, clothes, and reasonable comforts for all of us to lead a satisfied existence. . . . We advocate social

justice. We demand that all the classes and groups within our social and economic structure be given their rightful share of wealth and opportunity . . . but we reject class hatred and class war. . . . We have been called the 'Lost Generation.' We have been well compared to the youth of Germany ten years after the war. . . . We are in the bondage of debt. We are in the foils of the money changers. Opportuni-

ty. . . . We are in the foils of the money changers. Opportuni-

ty. . . . We are in the foils of the money changers. Opportuni-

PLAN MORE YOUTH MILITARIZATION

New plans to recruit American youth for the war which the American government is preparing were submitted to President Roosevelt by a special committee. The plans include continued militarization of NYA, CCC and vocational schools.

The committee recommended more than doubling the mechanical employees in the American Aircraft industry and outlined plans for the cooperation of the industry, vocational schools and government agencies to make about 500,000 aviation mechanics quickly available for war purposes.

The CCC is to be further militarized. Veterans, enrollees and juniors who have had mechanical training are to be carefully listed and made available for war-time duty in the ruling class army.

HERE'S HOW



Youth Committee Leads Job Fight; New Endorsements for Program

MINNEAPOLIS — The three-point program of the Jobs for Youth campaign was indorsed by a meeting of the head workers of the Twin City Federation of Settlement Houses and by a meeting of the club leaders of the Federation. The proposal to indorse the program was introduced by representatives of the Youth Section of the Federal Workers Section, Local 544, General Drivers Union.

Plans are being laid by the Youth Section for the immediate formation of a united front Jobs for Youth Committee in the Twin Cities, consisting of delegates from the Youth Section, settlement houses and clubs, trade unions and all other organizations interested in the youth problem and willing to indorse and fight for the three-point program for jobs.

NO JOB, YOUTH THREATENS SUICIDE

MINNEAPOLIS — Robert Evans, 19 year old unemployed youth, caused a one-day sensation in this city by climbing to the roof of the twenty story Medical Arts building, situated in the heart of the business district, and threatening to jump

3-POINT PROGRAM FOR JOBS

1. Youth WPA Projects instead of NYA handouts; a 20 billion dollar housing program.
2. \$40 per month to needy college students; \$20 per month to needy high school students WITHOUT RELIEF BUREAU CERTIFICATION.
3. Transfer the two-billion dollar war budget to provide youth with jobs and a chance to live, instead of guns and death.

off unless he was promised a job immediately and complete immunity from arrest.

After remaining on the roof for half an hour, in spite of the pleas, protests and threats from the police, Evans finally came down when a prominent business man of the city promised him a job immediately. After coming down, Evans stated that now that he had a job, everything looked different to him and that he no longer felt an impulse to commit suicide.

The event attracted a huge crowd and sharply focused attention on the terrible plight of the 30,000 unemployed youth in Minneapolis.

NYA Funds Used For War Purposes

According to an announcement by National Youth Administration officials, government youth projects will soon begin the manufacture of standardized airport equipment in line with the preparations of the Roosevelt administration for the next war. Among the equipment to be manufactured will be landing floats, wind cones, range cones, dollies, corner markers, wind socks and moorings. More than 100 seaplane floats will be established along the Atlantic seacoast and the Gulf of Mexico. In New York City projects are already being built at 23rd Street and the East River, and Lloyd Bennett field.

The obvious intent of the projects is to train youth for similar work in case of war. As much is admitted in an NYA press release: "Aside from its importance to the development of aviation and providing of employment for out of school youth, the program is regarded as a major contribution to national defense."

A man is stabbed on a public square for objecting to filthy anti-semitic slogans shouted by the hawkers of a fascist newspaper.

A labor school is broken into and all the furniture and office equipment destroyed.

A labor member of the city council is threatened by a hooting, howling crowd of fascists.

A meeting of a women's peace league is broken up by an invasion of fascist hoodlums.

A Jewish high school student is kidnapped and branded on the neck with the letter "H" to denote Hebrew.

* * *

Where did the above take place? In Berlin during Hitler's fight for power? No, not these specific incidents. Thousands of similar incidents did take place in Berlin at that time.

But the above incidents took place in the United States!

Each incident is culled from the daily press for the month of June. Involved in each of them, as shown by the detailed stories elsewhere in this issue, are the agents of Father Coughlin—Number One Contender for the post of "Fuehrer" of the American fascist movement.

Unheralded by the daily press, another event took place on the anti-fascist front during the month of June. Determined to put an end to the beating and stabbing of anti-fascists by the hoodlums of the Coughlinite, Nazi Bund, and Silver Shirt organizations, several score of young workers in New York organized the ANTI-FASCIST LABOR DEFENSE GUARD.

Here is the living answer to our slogan—

"Smash the Fascist Gangs! Build Workers Defense Guards!"

Over 50,000 anti-fascists answered our call last February to picket the Nazi Bund meeting in Madison Square Garden. Now they can give organized expression to their desire to wipe out the fascist gangs by joining the ANTI-FASCIST LABOR DEFENSE GUARD.

Organized and trained for defense, the American working class will prove the vast fighting superiority of the wage worker, fighting to defend the labor movement, over the misled, pimply-faced, middle class students and the paid sluggers who make up the fascist combat squads.

Build the ANTI-FASCIST LABOR DEFENSE GUARD!

Defend the trade unions and political organizations of labor!

Defend the workers' right to the streets!

SMASH THE FASCIST GANGS!

Labor Swings Into Anti-Fascist Action

Workers Answer Fascist Hooligans

NEW YORK—The last weeks witnessed increasingly insolent attacks upon working class organizations here by the Coughlin fascist movement. In two, of the three major encounters, however, the fascists were checked by the readiness of the Socialist Workers Party to lead anti-fascist workers in giving them battle.

Among the latest developments were:

1) The attempt of the Bronx branch of the SWP to hold an open-air meeting in the vicinity of Fordham University, Coughlin stronghold, developed into a test of strength between the fascist and anti-fascist forces. Though the hundred or more hooting and yelling Coughlinites made it extremely difficult to conduct an orderly meeting, the presence of some seventy-five SWP members and supporters and an uncertainty as to how the audience of 500 or more would side in a physical clash, caused the fascists to refrain from an attack upon the platform.

Stage Anti-Fascist Parade

The anti-fascists followed their meeting with a parade through the predominantly middle class Fordham Road neighborhood. Their shouts of "Down with Father Coughlin" and "Up with Workers Defense Guards" brought divided reactions—some passers-by applauding and others booing. Two workers who

(Continued on Page 3)

Philly Workers Deal Blow to Coughlinism

PHILA., Pa.—The fascist movement of this city, still smarting from the defeat it received from the Socialist Workers Party and Young Peoples Socialist League when the threat of a picket line by the latter forced them to call off their mass meeting, is again attempting to unify its forces and deliver attacks on the Jews and on the labor movement.

An example of this attempt to revive their anti-Semitic and anti-labor movement was the fact that a few weeks ago a meeting scheduled by the International Women's League for Peace and Freedom was called off because of a threat delivered through constant phone calls that their hall would be bombed! It is significant that the Fascists got tough on a puny, pink tea ladies' group, instead of threatening a workers' organization. They still remember all too vividly that the labor movement of Philadelphia is determined to meet blow for blow—with several additional ones thrown in for good measure.

The spearhead of the fascist movement is the Coughlinites, who until recently paraded under the phoney name of "Philadelphia Committee for the Defense of Constitutional Rights." In addition to this gang, there is the "Anti-Communist League" (also anti-Semitic), with sub-groups such as the "League to Protect Schools from Communism."

(Continued on Page 5)

Budget Cuts Threaten N. Y. School System

NEW YORK, N. Y.—The educational system of this city has just been slashed and virtually destroyed. The full import of the budget slashes effected by the city and state governments was first revealed by a startling announcement by the Board of Education on June 12. Here is what the \$8,300,000 cut by the city and state means:

- 1) All evening high schools closed.
- 2) All vocational high schools shut down.
- 3) All kindergartens abolished.
- 4) Two hundred supervisory teachers and 984 regular teachers dismissed.
- 5) Six hundred teaching vacancies left vacant.
- 6) All adult educational facilities are to be abandoned.
- 7) Community, recreational and afternoon athletic centers shut down.

These are not mere incidentals which have been closed but vital services!

With community, recreational and athletic centers closed, with a shamefully inadequate park system, New York youth have no place to turn but to the dangerous and crowded streets or to the pool rooms. Watch the accident and crime rate shoot up!

The two capitalist political parties, the Democrats and Republicans, are trying to shift the blame for the cuts on to each other. And as usual, they are both right—in what they say about each other.

La Guardia for Cut

The original cut was made by the city administration under the leadership of the "liberal" LaGuardia to the tune of \$3,600,000. According to LaGuardia's mouthpiece in the City Council, Robert K. Straus, "La Guardia is just as much interested in cutting the budget as anyone else."

The next cut came from the anti-New Dealers—the Republican majority of the State legislature which slashed education appropriations \$5,000,000.

According to the President of the New York Board of Education, James Marshall, these cuts "would wreck the school system." When this statement was

NEW YORK—An example of the effects of the education budget cut was seen here by a letter which Gertrude Fried, a youthful refugee from Germany, sent to the "Daily News," declaring that the budget cuts resulting in the closing of evening high schools would deprive her of her last chance to get an education.

made, a sudden hullabaloo went up from the assorted variety of liberals who began to squeal against the cuts. But none of them—from the Stalinists to the Parents Association—pointed out the fact that both the liberal and conservative politicians cooperated to bring about the cut.

The Y.P.S.L. beginning to launch a city-wide campaign for educational opportunities, proposes the following program:

- 1) No reliance on the boss politicians like LaGuardia and Lehman.
- 2) An immediate Emergency Session of the State Legislature, regardless of the court session, to return the \$5,000,000 to the project.
- 3) Immediate restoration of the city cut of \$3,000,000.
- 4) Mass action of students, and teachers at the legislature and city council.

AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH EDSSEL FORD

By J. DARNELL
DETROIT, Mich. — "Yes, it's true that Henry Ford has stated that workers could join a union of their own choosing, but he always added afterwards that he didn't want them to join!"

This statement was made by Edsel Ford, president of Ford Motor Co., during a conversation he had with me. This was probably the first time that a Ford has ever granted an interview with a representative of a revolutionary paper!

Not that Edsel knew who I was. It was a case of mutual mistaken identity. I was bumming a hitch on a Michigan highway on June 3 when I was picked up by a new Lincoln Zephyr the owner of which revealed himself, at the end of our conversation, to be Edsel Ford, president of the biggest open shop factory in America.

He was obviously trying to sound me out on what an "ordinary" young fellow thought of the Ford Co. But I asked most of the questions.

Strike Hunt

Edsel Ford said sorrowfully, that his company had been losing money at his Lincoln plant because of the militant strike being conducted at the Briggs Body plant. The note of anxiety left his voice however, when he mentioned the loss of profits suffered by his competitor, Chrysler.

When I asked him about the policy of decentralization which the Ford Co. is carrying out, he admitted that the real reason was to prevent unionization. "When you get forty or fifty small town boys who are dependent on the one plant in their town to make a living, you don't find much chance for labor trouble."

Edsel's face clouded when I mentioned the unionization drive being conducted by the C.I.O. He denied that Ford had serious intentions of playing around with the phoney Homer Martin crew; but he obviously thought the C.I.O. a more serious proposition. When he dropped me off, and told me who he was, he still seemed a bit disturbed about that. And come to think of it, when the Ford workers start moving with their union drive, both Edsel and Henry will have plenty to worry about!

RADIO YOUTH WORKERS HIT BY JOB SLASHES AND SPEED-UPS

By CHARLES STEWART
It is September—500 workers in the Fada radio factory in Long Island City. The height of the busy season and the testers are making an awful racket with the sets that are coming off the line. "Calling all men to Bahney's", "Home diathermy for your nerves, rheumatism—blah, blah" A new man almost goes nuts—but you get used to it after a while. Eight hours a day—five days a week—45 cents an hour for men—37 cents an hour for women—pretty good for the industry. Fada is union, you see. Yep, A.F. of L., Local B-1010 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. The workers are glad to get that, because in th non-union shops, like Emerson, they make 25 cents an hour, work on Saturdays — and get straight time for overtime.

But things aren't so rosy at Fada, even though it's a union shop. The supervisors who get a few dollars more a week are posted all over in the various departments speeding up the workers—sometimes they even use stop watches. Production must go up—"faster, c'mon speed 'er up". When the fellows go to the toilet for a rest and a smoke, the supervisors often go there to chase them back to the work bench. And the strangest thing of all—all these supervisors who do the dirty speed-up work for the boss are members of the union!

Season Over
By Christmas the season is over. Wholesale slashes in employment in the factory. You see the boss speeds you up until he gets radios stocked up for a few months and then — out on the street. It doesn't make much difference if you have seniority rights, the guy who doesn't beef to the shop chairman, who toadies to the supervisor, will remain working, while the guy who sticks up for his rights is laid off. When it's slow, the company

Greetings to the Youth in Their Bold Revolutionary Step!
Socialist Workers Party
Boston Local

Three Cheers for the
Two a Month!
SACCO & VANZETTI
UNIT, Y.P.S.L.

Greetings and Success
from V. S.

GREETINGS FROM
A FRIEND
DENIS and V. LAURENCE

All success!
ANTOINETTE KONIKOW

Onward to a daily!
Greetings from a sympathizer
J. L. S.

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY
BRANCH
ANTOINETTE KONIKOW UNIT
Y.P.S.L.
LYNN, Mass.

AMBASSADOR FOOD SHOPPE
Boston, Mass.

tries all sorts of "experiments"—like making the girls work on the "line" — doing the heavy work for the same 37 cents an hour, replacing the men at lower wages. The girls protest, so do the fellows—the union leadership follows it's eye, what the hell—it's an experiment.

The A. F. of L. union has most of the radio shops in New York, the C.I.O. is very weak, having some membership in parts factories. The rank and file of the union both in the shop and at union meetings have indicated their desire for unity between the A. F. of L. and the C.I.O. The union leadership of "deport the reds" Beedie is of course opposed to unity. Membership meetings are held once a month and are conducted in a very boring manner so that the members don't show up—until the quarterly meeting when they are forced to.

There is a noticeable lack of discussion at union meetings—the membership is talked down at by the leadership. The union bureaucrats make no attempt to educate the members through classes in trade unionism. They feel that the rank and file might know too much and clean out Beedie and his reactionary fakery crew. The shops hold shop meetings once a year, except when the situation stinks so much that the members demand a meeting. These shop meetings are held to discuss the contract. They take place in the slack season when most of the workers aren't in the shop. Woe to the man that suggests a strike for better conditions in a union shop, like Fada—one answer to him—"Sit down, you are out of order."

Union Issues
The workers in Local B-1010 need a program and a determined fighting militant leadership that doesn't back down before the bosses. The 30 hour week, and a minimum of \$30 a week will go a long way toward relieving the unemployment problem in the industry. Abolition of the supervisor-speed-up system and union fixation of the assembly and pre-assembly rate of output will throw out the bosses' agents from the union and stop the speed-up. "Equal pay for equal work"—no special wage scale for women—this will end the bosses' "experiments" in using the lower paid women workers. This is a real union program for the radio industry.

To get this program working, union members must fight the Beedie leadership within the union by demanding trade union democracy — shop meetings at least once a month, no barring from membership any member holding radical political beliefs; education for the membership—classes in unionism, an inner-union life through sport groups, cultural groups, etc.; unity with the C.I.O. on an industrial basis; militancy — no deals with the bosses, strict maintenance of working conditions. This is a program which should unite all members of the union in all the shops—Ansley, Pilot, Air-King, Fada, etc.—who want to fight for a better life for radio workers.

Avukah-Zionist Youth Faces Policy Crisis at Convention

By ISAAC HILLMAN
The national convention of Avukah, student Zionist organization, which will be held this July 4 weekend in Liberty, New York, will bring to a head many of the problems that have been agitating the Zionist youth in America.

American Zionist youth have attempted to lead a dual existence: their bodies in this country (for a time at least) and their hearts and minds in Palestine. But life has been so cruel as not to allow them to do so. First, the crisis of American capitalism has hit them, as well as everyone else, economically; and the war crisis has forced them to pay more and more attention to the problems of the day in America. Secondly, the recent British White Paper has made them begin to realize that even the hopes of the Jews in Palestine will be smashed unless the Jewish working class youth participates in the struggle to defeat British imperialism, which today can mean only the fight against world imperialism and for the world Socialist revolution.

War Question
Secondly, Avukah will find it necessary, if it is to honestly face the problems of youth today, to take a complete, unequivocal stand on the war danger. Yes, it has spoken against collective security. Fine! But not enough! It must understand and state the integral connection between capitalism and war, and that it is impossible to fight against war without fighting for the Socialist Revolution. Avukah must not be afraid to name names. It must condemn the Second and Third Internationals for their war-mongering policies. It must take note that the Parliamentary representatives of the so-called London Bureau's English section, the Independent Labor Party, have supported the Munich policy of Chamberlain.

Left-Wing Problems
Of all Zionist youth groups, Avukah has been, on paper at least, the most left-wing. Composed of youth, many of whom find themselves in close sympathy with the revolutionary program, it has at least oriented to a slight degree to the problems facing American youth. But the contradiction in its attitude of abstractly preaching Zionism while being forced by the pressure of life itself to pay increasing attention to American youth and working class problems is today at its sharpest point. What it will do at its convention will in large measure decide where it will go: toward the youth fighting for a Socialist world or back into the withered arms of the Jewish bourgeois Zionists.

Avukah, for example, faces the task of defining its attitude toward British imperialism in unequivocal terms. It is not enough merely to oppose "British policy" as the first Avukah state on the White Paper did. Avukah must point out the consistent policy of British imperialism in Palestine of playing the Arabs and Jews against each other for its own purpose. It must choose between the two alternatives: will it urge the policy of unity of the Jewish-Arab masses for the sake of the overthrow of their mutual oppressor, British imperialism, and for a working class solution to the

CHALLENGE OF YOUTH

Published by the National Council
Young People's Socialist League of America
(Fourth International)

Vol. III, No. 7 (Whole No. 16) July 1, 1939

Editor: **ERNEST ERBER**
Assistant Editor: **IRVING HOWE**
Business Manager: **IRVING BERN**

116 UNIVERSITY PLACE NEW YORK, N. Y.

Published twice each month
Subscription: 45c a year; 25c for 6 months
Application for second class entry pending

California Is With You!

Forward to a Weekly! A welcome follow up to the twice-a-week APPEAL!

LENIN UNIT BOYLE HEIGHTS BR. S.W.P.

DEBS UNIT DOWNTOWN BRANCH S.W.P.

SOUTHSIDE BRANCH, S.W.P.
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Greetings to the Twice-a-Month CHALLENGE,
Another Weapon in the Fight for the Socialist Revolution!

NEW YORK DIVISION
YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIALIST LEAGUE

JIM CONNELLY V. I. LENIN UNIT
E. V. DEBS UNIT FRANZ MEHRING UNIT
BILL HAYWOOD UNIT SACCO-VANZETTI UNIT
JOE HILL UNIT ROSA LUXEMBURG UNIT
KARL LIEBKNECHT UNIT LEON SEDOV UNIT

British Youth Fight Against Government Goose-Step Plan

By MAE SHERMAN
Gay lads of "Merrie" England are doing the goosetep now. On April 24 the British cabinet approved compulsory service. The law, however, was still to be drawn up in final form and passed. The question of when such a law should be made effective required much care and cautious thinking. And it was labor's attitude which decided the point. In the words of Big Business' "New York Times," "If labor's attitude is not too hostile, there may be an announcement quickly; if union leaders threaten strikes or other forms of non-cooperation, there may be further delay."

spite the betraying labor leaders who know only how to serve their masters, the rank and file, the worker, the man in the street, is not yet willing to die for someone else's profit. Immediately after the announcement of the Conscription Act, the proletarian section of London saw hundreds of militant young men marching and shouting, "No Conscription." Marching four and five abreast, these hundreds of workers went boldly through the streets carrying banners protesting the draft in bold red letters.

But conscription has already come to England, and if we are to keep it from happening here, the time for action is now and not after the act. We must let the President and his congress know that the youth at home is determined not to die in a war which is not their war. To those who cry "Coward!" we answer, "We are not afraid to fight, but we want to know what we're fighting for. Only a fool sticks his neck out in another man's battle. For the profits of Morgan and Standard Oil we will give nothing, for the freedom of the working class we will give all."

But Chamberlain knew with what and whom he had to deal. He is a man with a good memory. He well remembered the ease with which the Labor Party had succumbed to his demands. He well remembered the lack of official opposition by these contemptible swine who dare to call themselves Labor's representatives to his own M-Day plan. And it was because of these memories that Chamberlain dared to go ahead and execute the needs of a decaying capitalism.

YOUTH PROTEST

So, confident of organized labor's lack of opposition, a tradition of centuries was broken and conscription imposed in "Merrie" England. All young men between 17 and 21 shall be privileged to leave their homes and learn how to die gracefully for the Bank of England's investments.

But all did not go so smoothly as Chamberlain anticipated. De-

ROMANI'S GRILL

171 N. Wells Street
CHICAGO, ILL.

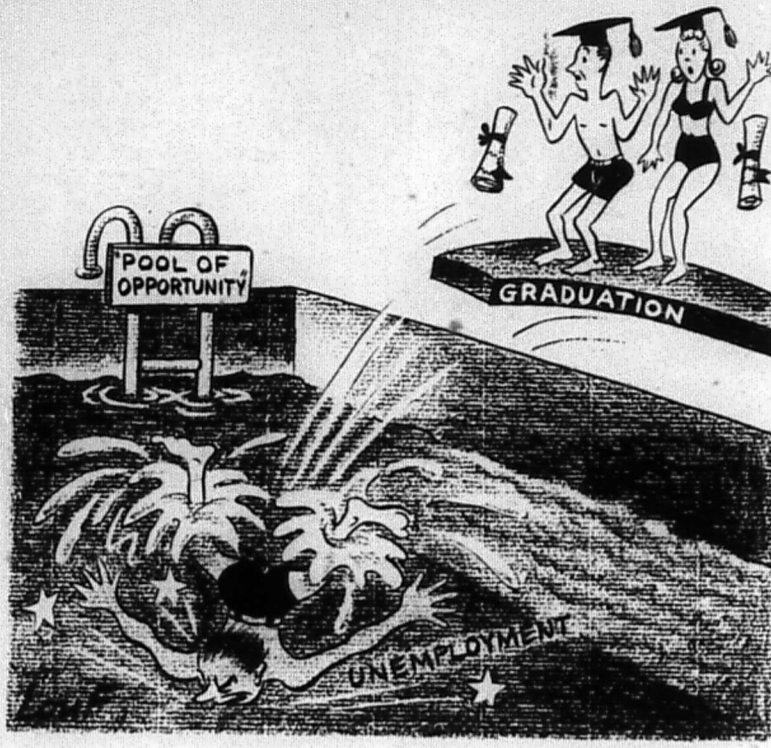
"A good place to eat and drink"

THEATRE OF YOUTH

The New York division of the League came through on the "cultural front" with a well received production of "Bury the Dead." The Drama Corps followed up its first venture, an original presentation at the 3-L Memorial Meeting, with a full length production of Irwin Shaw's anti-war play.

The cast of seventeen performed against the background of a fairly elaborate stage—flats, drops, lighting and all. Several offers for further production of the play have already been received. When the group has completed these engagements, it will proceed with the formation of a stable theatre-study group and a mobile production unit.

A BRIGHT FUTURE



Speakers Throw Bull To Jobless Graduates

Graduation time is here—and with it the inevitable speeches of "our great American educators" spouting ballyhoo at the students unfortunate enough to have to hear them. This year, however, the commencement speakers sounded a new note—a note of warning.

"The social, economic and political difficulties which confront the world today are appalling," announced Winthrop W. Aldrich, big banker, with a throb in his voice, at the graduation exercises at Washington and Jefferson College. Aldrich urged students to "work out ultimate values" and to "maintain balance and perspective" but not a word was forthcoming as to how to cope with the economic difficulties he had previously mentioned.

"The world today is such that war is not only a possibility but must be considered a probability," said Rear Admiral Stark at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He said we must hustle and improve our technical equipment. Make the next slaughter as efficient as possible.

And that was the main tone of the graduation speeches—prepare for the war. The speech which President Roosevelt made at West Point, calling for "strong national defense," was the symbol of the entire drive conducted by stuffed shirt orators. Instead of telling graduates how they might earn a living, they tried their best to whip them up for the next war. Whether the youth of America will allow itself to be dragged into the slaughter—that is another story.

Summer Slavery Is Lot of Garment Shipping Clerks

Sick Industry Hits Unorganized Clerks

Beginning in late June and continuing through July, thousands of youth will begin their eager hunt for jobs in New York City's garment center. Up to 20% are college students or graduates while 60% are high school graduates. They are ready to work for any price, for any hours, so long as it is a job. And if they get the job—then begins the long arduous grind for \$10 to \$15 a week.

To understand the miserable conditions under which these young workers slave, it is necessary to explain something about the industry. The garment industry is one of the last strongholds of the small business man, comparatively little capital being needed to start off in the industry.

The competition is so strong that during the season trade war breaks out between the various companies. In order to keep in the running, the small boss is compelled to use all the dirty tricks he can. The small manufacturer or contractor must be quick in delivering his orders as a delay of one day may mean cancellation. Therefore the demand for speed, speed, and more speed.

Exploit Shipping Clerks

And the easiest scapegoat is the shipping clerk. He is the only unorganized worker in an otherwise completely unionized industry. It is through the terrific speedup that the boss gets "his money's worth" from the shipping clerk. In order to get his orders out on time, the boss forces the shipping clerk to "donate" overtime. The usual working day, therefore, is about 12 hours.

Not only are the shipping clerks being exploited with regards to wages and hours, but they are made to do all sorts of jobs that don't fall in the province of a shipping clerk. Errand boy, porter, bookkeeper, salesman, push boy, truck driver's helper—are among the jobs the shipping clerk must be.

If the shipping clerk objects to his bad conditions, he will quickly find himself without a job. The competition is so keen that there are always scores of young fellows waiting to take his place.

The miserable conditions of the shipping clerks can be changed only if they are organized in a militant trade union, ready to fight for a decent life. And it is one of prime responsibilities of the various garment workers unions to help build such a union.

WORKERS ANSWER FASCIST THUGS

(Continued from Page 1)

followed the parade to party headquarters joined the S.W.P.

2) On the day following the Fordham Road action, the Coughlinites hoodlums invaded Union Square, traditional radical center. They hawked their rag "Social Justice" by shouting filthy anti-semitic slogans. A Jewish passer-by was provoked into a fight and stabbed. All members at the nearby SWP and YPSL headquarters were immediately mobilized and went into action. A counter-demonstration was organized that drove the fascists off the square.

3) On the day following the Union Square action, a Sunday, fascist hoodlums broke into the Debs Labor School, operated by the Norman Thomas Socialists, and thoroughly wrecked the place. This is the first time a labor hall has been invaded by fascists in this country.

All three occurrences, plus the many minor encounters between workers and fascists, again emphasize the crying need of the day: Build the Anti-fascist Labor Defense Guard!

Youth 'Donate' Time To 'Friendly' Boss

By SAM GOLD

Funny, how different a job seems when you haven't got it any more. Up until two months ago, I was working in a children's dress house in the New York garment center. I'd been there for a year when I was laid off. A lot of the things I kidded myself about while I was on the job have become a lot clearer and sharper in my mind.

Let me show you what I mean. You see, I had sort of a bird's-eye view of the place. I was a shipping and stock clerk. That is, when there was packing and hauling and shipping to do, I did it. And in the slow seasons I ran my head off, stacking up piece goods and stock that the boss hadn't been able to palm off.

Well, that kind of a job means you have your ear to the factory, in the front office, to the outside spots, in short, the whole works. The place hired about seventy people during the season. About fifty operators, cutters, and pressers, and about eighteen salesmen and office workers. Me and another horse made up the 70.

Got Around the Place

Like I was saying, I had a swell chance to really know what was going on. The pressers and the cutters had to stay in one spot all day long. And the office help sit at their desks all day long. And the salesmen, well they just don't know how people feel and think. But I floated around. The girls felt that I was on their side. They treated us shipping horses like part of the herd. And the same time, I knew what it was like in the showroom and with the boss.

We were supposed to work from 8:30 to 6 sharp. Well, we never got out before 6:30 or 7 regularly. And in the morning, the guy who comes in 8:30 on the nose is told to be in so he can be ready for work at 8:30. And the way the boss looked at it, you had to be in about twenty minutes early to take off your coat and hat and get to work. It wasn't a case of chiselling once in a while. You can't call a steady routine plain chiselling.

Long Stretches

Overtime came twice a week during season. That meant working from the morning until 10 at night for one dollar extra. Fourteen or fifteen hours straight through with only a half hour off for supper. One summer night, we were boiling in the shop, when the boss comes up and passes around nickel chocolate bars. He gave each of us one, and sorta smiled and said, "Lot's of goods to get out tonight." We almost passed out. It was so sweet of him.

I could get myself all steamed up in this story. About how the place crawled with bugs and stank to the high heavens in the summer. How the girls passed out every once in a while working over gas irons. They worked even when sick. I could rave about how we averaged \$14 a week pay for 55 hours a week. Or I could get bitter about how, when the wages and hours bill was passed, the boss snickered, "That bill's good — for places like the South!"

2c Soap for Workers

But there isn't much use in getting hot under the collar. I can size the whole place up in one incident. An errand boy, a kid hired for the season, was given a five buck bill and told to go to Macy's and buy some soap they had on sale there. He brought back the package. When the boss found out he paid six cents a cake instead of buying the two cents special, he called the kid all kinds of a dumb bunny and threatened to fire him if it happened again.

Let that be the moral of this story. When you're buying soap for the help, two cents is good enough.

COUGHLIN - YOUTH

(Continued from Page 1)

ty, decency, security, hope are denied us as long as the debt structure towers menacingly over our heads. . . . Patiently, ploddingly, laboriously we must work our way out. . . ."

Sounds Good to Youth

When Johnny Jones, who's been out of high school for 2½ years and who hasn't been able to find a job and who's wondering how he's going to make a living, reads the above it sounds pretty good to him. "These guys don't throw the bull about things being OK if you just have the initiative. They tell what our life is really like," he says to himself.

But it isn't enough to merely describe conditions. You've got to have an answer, a program with which to solve these problems."

And what is Father Coughlin's answer to the problems of youth? It is the answer of Fascism, the answer of poverty and boss dictatorship!

"I am beginning to understand why I have been dubbed Nazi or fascist by the Jewish publications; for practically all the 16 principles of social justice are being put into practice in Italy and Germany."—"Social Justice editorial, February 20, 1938.

And again: "A corporate state (the form of Italian Fascism—I. H.) in which parties would be abolished . . . was proposed Sunday by Father Coughlin." (U. P. dispatch in New York "World Telegram" March 14, 1938.)

There are more quotations of the same kind. But I've given enough to show that Coughlin's answer is fascism.

And in line with that, Coughlin would lead American youth on the path to the slavery which the youth of Germany and Italy suffer.

At this point one begins examining Coughlin's specific program for the economic plight of youth. You look and look and search and search.

Only vague, pompous language . . . promises . . . talk . . . but nothing concrete!

We would like to ask Father Coughlin what he has to say about our program, our 3 point program for jobs? We doubt if Father Coughlin would dare to indorse a REAL program for youth. But we'd like to hear what he has to say.

Incites Youth Against Unions Coughlin tries to pit the youth of America against the trade unions. Look, he tells them, you want jobs. The trade unions keep you out of the industry. Therefore, he says, you must fight the trade unions.

What demagoguery this is! Trade unions are not the cause of unemployment among youth. Our economic system—which Coughlin supports—is so damned sick that it can't provide jobs for youth. The way to get jobs is to fight, not the trade unions, but against capitalism, against the system of private ownership of the banks and industries.

To sum up: Coughlin's program for youth is the program of demagoguery. In reality, he is merely using demagogic and radical sounding phrases to hide his reactionary program. He has nothing to offer youth.

Nobody who supports capitalism can offer the youth anything real. And that is why the Young Peoples Socialist League, which fights for a new world of peace and plenty, a world of socialism, is the only organization with the program, the courage and the desire to lead American youth out of the capitalist wilderness and into a new world of freedom

The Only Revolutionary Marxist Newspaper Published in the United States

The Socialist Appeal

Brings to you international national and local news of the revolutionary movement; trade unions; unemployment; Russia; China. A labor interpretation of everything that's fit to print with special articles by Marxian writers of renown.

Published twice-a-week by the Socialist Workers Party

Rates—\$2.00 per year; \$1.00 for six months; (Add 50c and 1.00 for Bronx and Manhattan)

Send subscriptions to

SOCIALIST APPEAL

116 University Place, New York City

FASCISM ON THE MARCH!

CAN IT HAPPEN HERE?

Read—

FATHER COUGHLIN, FASCIST DEMAGOGUE

—by Joe Hansen

Single copies 5c
Bundles of 5 or more 3c

FASCISM AND THE AMERICAN SCENE

—by Dwight Macdonald

Single copies 10c
Bundles of 5 or more 7c
Bundles of 100 5c

Y.P.S.L. Units: Order your pamphlets through the National Office of the Y.P.S.L.

Pioneer Publishers

116 University Place

New York City

A Rousing Welcome to the Twice-a-Month,

The Champion of Youth's Demands!

TWICE-MONTHLY SHOWS PROGRESS OF LEAGUE

By **NATHAN GOULD**
National Sec'y., Y.P.S.L.

The transformation of the monthly CHALLENGE into a semi-monthly paper is in the first instance a victory for the most exploited section of the American population, the youth. No other youth paper in the country has championed the cause of the underpaid and exploited young worker, of the disinherited unemployed youth, of the frustrated student. No other youth paper in the country has had the courage to speak out boldly against the oppressive and barbaric treatment of the young negro, against the hounding of the Jewish youth. The CHALLENGE alone has organized the fight against war and the war mongers and against the boss-financed Fascist gangs. THE CHALLENGE OF YOUTH is the paper of the "locked out generation".

The twice-a-month CHALLENGE provides the youth with a double-barreled weapon against the bosses and their phoney politicians. That is why the two-a-month CHALLENGE is a signal victory for the youth of the United States.

VICTORY FOR Y.P.S.L.

The establishment of the two-a-month CHALLENGE is also a victory for the Young Peoples Socialist League (4th International) whose valiant efforts made this feat possible. For the Y.P.S.L., the two-a-month CHALLENGE opens a new stage in its development as the fighting organization of Youth. The Y.P.S.L., which has experienced an uninterrupted advance for six months will now advance in double quick time.

The transformation of the monthly into a semi-monthly was not an accident or the product of some whim. It symbolizes the progress made by the Y.P.S.L. It was dictated by the immediate necessity of organizing quickly against the threat of war which promises to destroy

the present generation of youth, the menacing fascist gangs, the growing unemployment, the cuts in relief and NYA, the retrenchment in education. The Youth needed an effective weapon to organize the struggle against the bosses. A monthly paper proved inadequate. A monthly paper could not keep pace with the strides which the organization had already made. A semi-monthly was required, and now it is here.

6 MONTHS OF ACTIVITY

Those who are familiar with the pages of the CHALLENGE and the Socialist Appeal are also familiar with the progress of the Y.P.S.L. for the past 6 months. There were 6 months of intensive activities which found the Y.P.S.L. in the forefront of every important struggle in behalf of the Youth. Scores of our young militants have been jailed and beaten in the course of these struggles. The Y.P.S.L. led free speech fights in Akron, Columbus and Kent; aided in the recent agricultural strike in California; conducted fights for jobs for youth in Minneapolis, Chicago, Rockford, Lynn, Boston, New York City, San Francisco, etc.; is fighting the educational retrenchment bill in New York; has aided in numerous strikes of workers throughout the country.

On April 22, the Y.P.S.L. led over 7,000 students in the U.S. in a strike against the war plans of the government. In January of 1939 it conducted mass meetings and demonstrations against war. For six consecutive months every unit of the Y.P.S.L. has worked tirelessly to organize the youth in opposition to war. Under the slogans "Transfer the \$2,000,000,000 war appropriations to the unemployed", "For a popular referendum on war", and "The right to vote at 18" (If youth are old enough to fight at 18, they are old enough to vote) the Y.P.S.L. has led thousands against war and the war plans.

ANTI-FASCIST STRUGGLE

For 6 months the Y.P.S.L. has led young workers in the struggle against fascism. Every issue of the CHALLENGE contains reports of our militant struggles against those who aim to deny us our democratic rights and who would subject the American Youth to the same loathsome fate to which the German and Italian youth have been subjected by fascism. In 21 different cities throughout the country, the Y.P.S.L. has staged successful demonstrations against fascism.

At the present time the Y.P.S.L. is also engaged in the fight for "Jobs for Youth." The 3-point program (see front page) of the "Jobs for Youth Campaign" has rallied the support of thousands of Youth behind us. In every city "Jobs for Youth Committees" have been established to direct the fight for the 3-point program. Over 40 large organizations have endorsed this campaign which will be terminated in November with a delegation to Washington presenting from 20 to 30,000 signed petitions demanding aid to Youth. This magnificent fight already boasts many successful demonstrations before relief bureaus, NYA committees, City councils, etc.

These are but brief remarks on a few of the battles which the Y.P.S.L. has waged.

RECORD OF PROGRESS

The twice-a-month CHALLENGE is our latest step forward. It will make possible new great advances for the Y.P.S.L. Every Young worker, employed and unemployed, every Young Student, will rally behind the two-a-month CHALLENGE. The paper must be strengthened and must reach many more thousands of Youth. Now that we are a semi-monthly we must strive to increase the size of the paper to 6 or 8 pages. Forward to an 8-pager. Forward with the Young People's Socialist League.

SWP Leaders Greet Challenge

By **MAX SHACHTMAN**
Editor, Socialist Appeal

If the working class and student youth, the "locked-out generation," is not rallied under the banner of international socialism for the decisive struggles ahead, the victory of fascist reaction and the enslavement of this very generation are certain. This fact alone warrants the generous, serious and systematic aid of the Socialist Workers Party and, indeed, of every militant worker to the splendid job being done by the young revolutionists who have already made possible the doubling of the size of their arsenal by converting the CHALLENGE OF YOUTH into a fighting twice-monthly paper. Our aid is required not only in general but especially in this transition-

al period — for what can the twice-monthly be but a transitional step towards a weekly CHALLENGE?

By **MARTIN ABERN**,
Business Manager,
The New International

The establishment of the semi-monthly CHALLENGE OF YOUTH is the biggest forward step of the Youth Organization since the National convention of the Young Peoples Socialist League — Fourth Internationalists, at Chicago, November, 1938. In a little more than six months the Youth have doubled the frequency of issue of their press, but moreover thereby increased manifold the opportunities to reach the mass of young workers and students with the mes-

sage of revolutionary socialism. The semi-monthly CHALLENGE is a direct reflection of the enthusiasm, will and understand of the membership of the organization on the burning issues and needs of the immediate period and the epoch itself. In the most literal and physical sense, the youth of America today "have nothing to lose but their chains" in entering and participating in a movement which aims for the reorganization of society on a socialist basis.

The forward stride of a major organizer for the revolutionary youth — the CHALLENGE OF YOUTH — will surely serve to stimulate the ranks of the League toward greater efforts for a real, revolutionary mass Youth Organization.

GREETINGS FROM CHICAGO

LEON SEDOV UNIT
ROSA LUXEMBURG UNIT
E. V. DEBS UNIT

MADISON (Wisconsin) UNIT
KARL MARX UNIT
EAST CHICAGO, Ind. (Indiana Harbor)

COMRADELY GREETINGS

Marge Graham
Dan Leeds
Ed. and Ethel Ward
I. Pool and J. G.
Anonymous

Leon Dickman
Sam Richter
P. Axelrod
Paul Picquet
Nathan Beyer

H. Paine
M. J. Michaels
Ruth Graham
Fred Fortess
M. Landau and Karl Shier

A Summer In The Mountains

By **WILL PORTER**

It took me just two days of working at Martin's Manor in the Heart of the Garden State to catch on that the slogan of the establishment "Relax! Enjoy Yourself!" was never under any circumstances supposed to apply to the help. Only the fact that we were human and just had to get some sleep kept the Martins from working us 24 hours a day. And at that they worked us damn close to it. There was one unflinching answer to any one of us who made any complaint. We were just taken aside and shown a list of names of the fellows who had applied to the Martins for jobs and who would be only too happy to take our places. Naturally I also learned that a little brain power would have to be spent in figuring ways of outsmarting my bosses if I was to get the amount of sleep which doctors insist is necessary to the well being of the human body.

One of the major troubles at Martin's Manor was the number of bosses we suffered under. Nominally the place was run by Pa and Ma Martin as they were unaffectionately called. But there were six or eight sons, daughters, and assorted relatives who stayed at the hotel all summer without paying a dime and each of whom promptly set himself or herself up as the sole and final judge of how the place was to be run.

The natural result was that the behind-the-scenes atmosphere was enough to make Coney Island on a hot Sunday look like a backwoods cemetery by comparison. It wasn't unusual for me to receive half a dozen conflicting orders from as many people within the space of a half hour. At first I was naive enough to try to obey everyone but since that got me into trouble I soon learned to ignore all orders completely, do whatever I thought was best, and that everything would thus go off very smoothly.

Greetings to your new venture!

Berkeley Branch
S.W.P.
Oakland Branch
S.W.P.
BART ABBOTT

GREETINGS FROM
Archie Robart
Sam Alberts
A Friend
Robert Rae
R. Juland

GREETINGS FROM
V. Pettinato, Reading, Pa.
George Whiteside, Kansas
W. E. G., St. Louis
E. D. H., New Hampshire
Good luck to the

CHALLENGE!
Youth Committee
S.W.P. Branch
ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Hurrah!
E. V. DEBS UNIT
St. Paul, Minn.

Greetings to the Twice-a-month CHALLENGE OF YOUTH

from
Gropher's Coney Island
87 West Seventh St.
ST. PAUL, Minn.

Greetings from the Triple "L" Unit. Onward to a Weekly CHALLENGE OF YOUTH!
PHILADELPHIA, PA.
Philadelphia Local S.W.P. greets the twice-a-month CHALLENGE. Forward to a weekly!

Ward's Tydol-Veedol Service
2228 Hunting Park Ave.
PHILADELPHIA, Pa.

I remember one occasion when I was cleaning the refreshment stand preparatory to the day's business (I divided my time between bell hopping and tending the stand) when Bob Martin, one of the sons, came along and told me to hose off the ceiling of the stand. I refused, pointing out that the ceiling was made of rough boards and that if I turned the hose on it the fibres and the cracks between the boards would catch the water and drip over me all day.

While we were arguing Pa and Ma Martin came up and they were soon joined by a couple of the others. They all immediately took sides and the argument raged hot and heavy. In the meanwhile I withdrew from the argument and went on working. In a few minutes the contestants had left the comparative merits of hosing off the ceiling far behind and were fighting about everything connected with the hotel.

Recriminations flew thick and fast until Pa Martin reminded Bob of the time that he had taken \$300 with which he was supposed to pay some bills and had spent the money on a two week spree in New York and called him a dirty crook. Bob then walked off crying that he didn't have to stay where he was going to be insulted and the old man kept yelling after him, "Good riddance to bad rubbish! Good riddance!" Of course, Bob got over being insulted and stayed to complete his free summer vacation.

No Stagger

For some idiotic reason the Martins refused to allow us bell boys to stagger the time that we came on duty in the morning but insisted that we all report for work at 7:00 o'clock though there was no reason why all four of us had to be there that early. We were supposed to have some free time off in the afternoon but that was more or less a joke. As soon as we'd get set in our free time to Relax! Enjoy Yourself! one of the Martins would come running up with something terribly important that had to be done right away and there was no one else and

it would take only a few minutes, etc., etc.

We did stagger the time that we quit at night but even so we all got through pretty late. Our remedy for this situation was to decide that each morning one man would sleep until about 10 o'clock. In order to cover him a dirty tray would be left in one of the outlying cottages and if one of the Martins asked, "Where's Will?" or "Where's Jack?" one of us would casually reply, "He's out hustling breakfast trays." And about 10:00 o'clock the late sleeper would rush in with the dirty tray puffing away as if he'd been running around all morning.

Since the presence of one Martin was enough to turn the kitchen into a madhouse and there were usually two of them on hand, our little scheme was never noticed and we got away with it all summer. It doesn't sound like so much when you just talk about it but those little illegal three hour rest periods every fourth day were wonderful oases in the midst of a very grim desert and I'm not sure now that they weren't the happiest hours I ever spent.

Want Union Paper

CHICAGO, Ill.—Over 400 students of Herzl Jr. College recently signed petitions to make their school paper, the Herzlight, a union paper. The petitions were printed by the Typographical Union, Local 16, and distributed by the YPSL (4th Int.)

The school administration tried to give the students the run-around. They went to see the faculty advisor of the paper, who told them to go to the Dean. But as every one knows, before one can see a Dean one must first see the assistant Dean.

According to The Soapbox, organ of the Herzl YPSL, the assistant dean gave them "what, in classic Latin, is known as the run-around." As a result, they couldn't get to see the Dean.

But, said The Soapbox, "We would certainly be pretty poor specimens of humanity if we were to stop our fight for a union paper, just because we were not allowed to see the Dean."

Forward With Our Fighting Paper!

NEWARK, DIVISION No. 3
NEW BRUNSWICK UNIT

SPARTACUS UNIT
JOHN REED UNIT

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY
NEWARK LOCAL

The comrades express their sincere hope for a successful Twice-a-Month CHALLENGE OF YOUTH!

Karl Liebknecht Unit, San Francisco
Rosa Luxemburg Unit, Berkeley
Fresno Unit

OHIO DIVISION

Into the Street with Our Paper!

SACCO AND VANZETTI UNIT
Columbus

JOHN REED UNIT
Akron

A FRIEND, Youngstown

Greetings to Our Young Comrades

HAIL TO ANOTHER WEAPON IN THE FIGHT AGAINST FASCISM!

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY
Local New York

DOWNTOWN BRANCH
BORO PARK BRANCH
TEACHERS BRANCH

NEEDLE TRADES BRANCH
WEST SIDE BRANCH
LOWER EAST SIDE BR.

BRONX BRANCH

Action--Camera

By MARTIN EDEN

This column comes as a distinct pleasure to me. I am finally writing up a picture I like. As a matter of fact, two of them. Not that these pictures indicate a break in the present jingo wave or from the perennial Grade B productions—Grade A junk, but they are a welcome relief in themselves.

"Invitation to Happiness" is a really entertaining film. The situations are fairly routine but the handling is excellent. The story concerns the rough-but-honest prizefighter and the society lady who fall in love and marry. The plot follows his years of campaigning towards a championship bout and the "now-you-see-him-now-you-don't" marriage that his profession entails. The marriage cracks up. Although the picture concludes with boy getting girl, it's not because he wins the big fight. He wins his lady because he shows real gameness as a loser.

You've seen this stuff before but not the way the Wesley Ruggles-Claude Binyon combination turn it out. Handled in a neat script, lots of gags and punch lines and some not too maudlin sob angles. The cast is a good one. Irene Dunne turns in one of her crisp performances and Fred Macmurray surprises with a nicely restrained job. Good support comes from old-timers Charlie Ruggles and William Collier Sr. But Billy Cook as the son is just as gooey as you might expect.

HAS FAST PACE AND BALANCE

But the real credit for the film should go to director Wesley Ruggles. He maintains a fast pace throughout the picture. The balance between the fight scenes and the romance is nicely kept and integrated. And that's something. Because even a neat dish like Irene Dunne could get in the way of red-blooded men who want to see a fight film.

What I enjoyed most was the fact that I was able to take a day off from the barricades. I usually can't stand that "poor-little-society-girl-in-a-gilded-cage" stuff. But this picture, on the whole, was too entertaining for me to crab. Besides, I consider Irene Dunne potentially Big League material.

"Juarez," however, demands really serious consideration. Much lauded in the general press, this film reflects the effort put into it. It is an important historical period handled by a fine cast and given an elaborate production.

While the Civil War occupied the United States, Napoleon III, phoney imperialist Emperor of France, sent thousands of troops to Mexico to exploit the rich resources of that country. He planned to set up Maximilian, a Hapsburg Duke, as a puppet to milk the country for Napoleon. He was confronted with the heroic resistance of the Mexican people. Benito Juarez was President of the Mexican Republic when the invasion began. His regular troops defeated by the well armed and trained invaders, Juarez was forced to turn to the only method that would save Mexico—the revolutionary resistance of a people. To win the peons, Juarez promised them land, land that for years they had tilled only to see all profits reaped by monopoly land owners. He now asked their aid in a real fight, the fight against exploitation, French and native.

That the peons of Mexico answered his call is well portrayed in the film through scenes showing the secret distribution of arms, the sudden guerrilla attacks that wiped out French garrisons, and peons dying before firing squads with the cry "Freedom!" on their lips. These exciting scenes make it seem picayune to harp on some of the phoney aspects of the film. I mean the sticky, sweet characterization of Maximilian given by Brian Ahearne. He walked through the film as if he were playing someone named Quiet Dignity. And those heavy references to Lincoln.

But the general honesty of the film (Hollywood can occasionally afford to be honest when the topic is buried in the dead past) is surprising. Despite the slow and ponderous direction, Paul Muni and Bette Davis come through with grand performances.

LOU COOPER SAYS:

Courage, Young America! If you haven't made a success of life yet, remember the King only started out as a mere prince.

SPAIN

Red seas of blood in raging torrents run,
And billowing waves break 'neath the gory sun.
And from my heart I add my drop of blood.
Fathomless, endless, this lake was Spain.
Can lies destroy the vital truth,
And pious tears dilute the stream, Incarnadine,
To thin and salty whiteness?
Then, were it so, go hang the moon
And put the sun to rest.
To crawl in darkness, then, were best.
Fathomless, endless, this lake was Spain.

PHIL CABOT

Party Secretary Hails Twice Monthly As 4th Intra' Gain

By JAMES P. CANNON
National Secretary, Socialist Workers Party

By launching the twice-a-month CHALLENGE, the Young People's Socialist League is taking a bold step forward. This is entirely in keeping with the dauntless spirit of the vanguard of the young proletarian generation which has to carry the American revolution on its shoulders.

By courageously tackling a task of the day, by doubling at one stroke the volume of its literary agitation, the YPSL demonstrates that it does not shrink from tasks but goes forward to meet them. That daring spirit is and must always be the outstanding characteristic of those who aim in dead earnest to organize the struggle for the transformation of society.

Capitalism as a social and economic system is old, ready for the scrap heap. For their tardiness in making a revolutionary change in society capitalism inflicts a terrible punishment upon the great majority of the human mass. The decaying and outmoded social system strikes most cruelly of all at the youth. It shuts the door of hope and opportunity in their faces. This is the most monstrous maladjustment known to history. No wonder the "locked-out generation" seethes with discontent and begins to become receptive to the message of hope and salvation by means of revolutionary struggle.

In its day capitalism represented a great progressive historical agency. It lifted mankind out of feudal darkness, unfettered industry, provided a field for the development of science and, by the union of science and industry, developed the productive capacities of mankind to heights not even imagined in all previous epochs of mankind. By the development of productive technique, capitalism has created all the material conditions for a human society, once it is

safely organized and administered, in which all inhabitants of our planet can be secure in peace and abundance and enjoy the priceless boon of universal culture.

But from its beginning capitalism, which played such an enormous progressive role in one respect, was shattered by internal contradictions. The unheard of advances in the fields of industry and science really benefitted only a few. The great masses lived in misery and poverty even in the days of capitalist prosperity. Now these evils are multiplied in scope and intensity. The fatal contradictions of capitalism are reaching the point of explosion on a world-wide scale.

We see now the operation of a law of capitalism, elucidated by Marx nearly a century ago: The accumulation of riches at one pole of capitalist society is matched by the accumulation of misery and poverty at the other. The new generation that is just now coming to maturity feels most harshly the operation of this immutable law. Capitalism in its death agony exacts such a fearful toll of the youth that they cannot pay it. They must and will rebel.

The twice-a-month CHALLENGE deserves and will undoubtedly receive an ever-widening acclaim as the herald of this coming rebellion. The outlived system of capitalism will not fall of its own weight. But it has provided the agency for its overthrow. Marx called the workers the "grave diggers" of capitalism. By impoverishing the great mass of the workers capitalism has deprived them of a stake in its existence. It has confronted them with the necessity to make a social transformation. By concentrating them in great numbers in all the strategic positions of social life, it has assured to the workers the necessary power to accomplish this historic mission. Once they recognize its

unpostponable necessity and proceed resolutely to the struggle, they can and will do away with capitalism and replace it by a better and higher form of social organization which we call socialism.

Here is the place for the youth. Here in this revolutionary fight for their own future the young generation can find its place. Capitalism by denying the young millions their rightful opportunities, propels them toward the proletarian army of emancipation which by its victory will assure these opportunities for all. Nothing else in the world is really important but the struggle to attain this victory. This is the message that we carry to the youth. We summon them to take their places as soldiers in the ranks.

The Young Peoples Socialist League has already shown itself to be the only articulate spokesman of the new generation of warrior youth. It alone strives in deeds as well as in words to give their struggle organization and direction. The Challenge of Youth has already made its mark as the inspiring organ of this revolutionary youth movement. Increasing its frequency of publication from once to twice a month, it shows the will to speed up the tempo of the struggle and to pour out more energy and sacrifice in the endeavor.

The emergence of the Young Peoples Socialist League as the leading organization of the proletarian youth, and now this new advance of The Challenge of Youth, are matters of great satisfaction, not only to our party but to the Fourth International as a whole. The visible sign that the best elements of the young vanguard are rallying to our banner is the greatest assurance for the future. It gives us confidence that the mass of proletarian youth will take the same path. That is all we need for victory. The laboring masses, hand in hand with the youth, will make a new world.

ON THE YOUTH FRONT

By NATHAN GOULD

"Chiseeling" is the national art of the boss politicians. They have mastered this art to perfection.

For eight years now the politicians have attributed the severe unemployment among youth to "the fact that there aren't enough students." "If only 4,000,000 of the present 7,000,000 unemployed youth in the United States would return to school," they say, "then we wouldn't have such a serious unemployment problem among the youth." (Of course they don't say who will support these youth while they're going to school. If they did they wouldn't be good capitalist politicians.) So, like the phonies that they are, they put on a big campaign to get the unemployed youth to go to school. So—as a result of the high pressure campaign, an additional one million youth beg, borrow, steal, mooch, and sponge, and they go to school.

Comes commencement day. 1,000,000 more high school students means at least 125,000 more graduates each semester. 125,000 more graduates means 125,000 more disillusioned youth. Comes commencement day. The politicians who shouted for more students begin to beef again: "Too many graduates — not enough jobs for graduates."

No Jobs for Youth
Every year over 2,000,000 students are graduated from the high schools and colleges (not to speak of the thousands of under graduates who never return to school) and are thrown on the labor market. BUT LESS THAN ONE-QUARTER OF THESE EVER GET JOBS.

So—in the same breath the phoney politicians who are fat and over-fed, wail: "TO FEW STUDENTS" and "TOO MANY GRADUATES." But everyone

knows that this is a big fake. Everyone, especially the graduates, know that the student has no future under capitalism.

Does anyone think for a minute that these politicians are demanding longer education periods for students in order to prepare the youth for a "better station in life"—for a better job? They know as well as we that there are no jobs; that three out of every four students is graduated not into a job, but INTO UNEMPLOYMENT. The same politicians who have cut the WPA rolls from 4,000,000 to less than 2,000,000—who have cut home relief at a time when thousands of workers are being laid off their jobs; they're not interested in higher education; they're interested in juggling the unemployment figures. That's why they want the unemployed youth to go back to school.

Politician's Faces
If they were really interested in a better training for youth, would they cut the educational budget in New York alone by \$8,300,000? This means less facilities for education, fewer classes, fewer school buildings, fewer teachers, crowded classrooms, more students per teacher per class. All this makes not for superior training but for the training of incompetents. This cut in New York which is also being effected on a lesser scale in most communities of the country, means the closing of night schools where the employed young worker who is seriously interested in furthering his education, is cut short. It's always been a mystery to me how these politicians keep straight faces when they make their speeches. I know that they didn't learn this in the public schools. Which reminds me. The big

safety campaign which is now on, does not prevent these politicians from closing hundreds of playgrounds and thus exposing the children, who must now play on the streets, to death and mutilation by automobile accidents. Watch the death rate among children as a result of auto accidents rise in New York City, while the politicians keep straight faces and vote for the closing of play-grounds in order to provide more money for battle-ships.

More Jobs Needed
The solution to the problem of unemployment among youth is NOT to create more students but to **CREATE MORE JOBS, WHILE PROVIDING FOR STUDENTS WHO WANT TO CONTINUE THEIR EDUCATION.** This can be accomplished by carrying out the three point program of the "Jobs For Youth Campaign."

POST SCRIPT: I forgot to add. Only two graduating classes in the country will be provided 100% employment. I refer to the graduating classes of West Point and Annapolis. All these graduates will now be employed as army and naval officers to direct us to our death for the bosses and their politicians in the coming war. It is not unimportant to note that in both schools the graduating classes were the largest in history. The politicians didn't complain about that.

One of the most significant endorsements yet received by the Jobs for Youth campaign came from the Lavanburg Corner House for Boys of New York. This Boys House is composed mainly of former orphan asylum inmates who live in a semi-cooperative manner.

BOOKS... and their authors

By IRVING HOWE

The ordinary people who walk America's streets and plow its farms—these are the characters out of which Carl Sandburg has molded his latest book of poems, "The People, Yes."

It is an immensely refreshing book—like walking into a cold gust of Autumn wind after you've been cooped up in a sticky office all day. It is refreshing because it is genuine and simple and true—because it hasn't an iota of the cynical and sneering posing which has been typical of so much of contemporary American literature. Sandburg writes of the people, without condescension or hero-worshipping. He is one of us. He knows you and me. And he tells our stories—our hopes and tragedies and jokes—with sympathetic humor and objectivity. As he says:

"There are heroes then—among the plain people—Heroes, did you say? And why not? They give all they've got and ask no questions and take what comes and what more do you want? On the streets you can see them any time, some with jobs, some doing nothing, here is a down-and-out, there a game fighter who will die fighting."

HAS "FIGHT-IT-OUT" SPIRIT

He has somehow succeeded in infusing his splendid faith in the ability of the ordinary person "to fight it out" into his poetry. His writing isn't mere radical rhetoric. He has written of our lives and in our ordinary words, and yet it is beautiful and moving. Listen:

"The people, yes—
Born with bone and heart fused in deep and violent secrets
Mixed from a bowl of sky blue dreams and sea slime facts—
A seething of saints and sinners, toilers, loafers, oxen, apes
In a womb of superstition, faith, genius, crime, sacrifice—
The one and only source of armies, navies, work-gangs,
The living flowing breath of the history of nations,
Of the little family of man hugging the ball of earth,
And a long hall of mirrors, straight, convex and concave,
Moving and endless with scrolls of the living
Shimmering with phantoms flung from the past,
Shot over with lights of babies to come, not yet here."

But Sandburg has caught still another phase of American life. The wisecrack, the slang, the tall story—Sandburg's collection of Americana is tremendous. It's somewhat unfair to quote these from his book. They gain their value by their total effect, rather than by individual quoting. But here's one I like. You would probably find a lot of others that you'd think better—"Whiskey," taunted the Irish orator, "Whiskey it is that makes you shoot at the landlords —and miss them."

THE LANGUAGE OF AMERICA

And listen to Sandburg use slang: aw nuts go peedle yer papers—where did ja cop dat monkeyface—jeez ja see dat skirt—did ja gloom da moll—who was tellin you we wuz brudders—how come ya get on did side deh street—go home and tell yer mudder she wants yuh—chase yer shadder aroun deh corner—yuh come to me wid a lot of mularky—go home and get yer umbrella washed. . . .

At first, you may think that Sandburg's poems are just a vast inchoate mass. But they're not. He is recording, as faithfully as possible, the life and music and language of the American people. Not the stuffed shirts; not the phonies. But the men who work in the factories, who roam the roads, who plow the fields, who dig in the mines.

It is true, of course, that he lacks an explicit understanding of the immensity of the problems he poses. He does not really see what it all means. But we should be tremendously grateful to him for recording what he has heard.

Even so, he has caught some of the glimpses of revolt the people, the workers, beginning to move. For example:

The little girl saw her first troop parade and asked, What are those? Soldiers. What are soldiers. They are for war. They fight and each tries to kill as many of the other side as he can. Do you know . . . I know something? Yes, what is it you know? Sometime they'll give a war and nobody will come.

I Am Interested—

Please send me more information on the aims and activities of the

Y.P.S.L.

116 University Place
New York City

Name

Address

City