

the struggling colonial peoples and China, since only in this manner does the slogan of fraternisation get a real basis. In this sense the work of the Executive of the Y. C. I. itself must be directed primarily towards the struggle against the imperialist war.

Resolution on the British Young Communist League.

1. The decline of British capitalism continues. There are no prospects of a permanent revival. The British bourgeoisie continue their endeavours to stabilise their system by means of the offensive against the working class, the war on China and preparations for war on Soviet Russia.

In Great Britain the attack proceeds, not only against hours and wages and conditions, but also against the democratic rights won after many years of struggle and sacrifice. The Trade Union Bill, which is intended to cripple the unions and render strike action illegal, is the highest point of the capitalist offensive yet reached. The Baldwin Government has other measures for the curtailment of the powers of the local authorities and for the strengthening of the central government apparatus, particularly the House of Lords. This shows a development towards Fascism.

2. This situation presses with great severity on the shoulders of the young workers. They can see no prospects of betterment in the future, but only of new capitalist attacks. It is the young workers who are being specially singled out for attack in industry. The benefits of the Young Unemployed are to be drastically reduced according to the provisions of the **Blanesburgh Report**. It is the young workers who will be mercilessly sacrificed in the wars of the imperialists.

The awakening of masses of young workers to class consciousness continues as is also shown by their activity in the Trade Unions. The attempts of the reformist leaders to control this growing consciousness and to divert it into reformist organisation have so far failed, as is shown by the chronic weakness of the Labour Party youth sections, the decline of the Guild of Youth, the development of a strong Left wing and the acceptance of the Y. C. L. policy, on very important issues at the last Guild Conference. This situation, which basically arises from the continued decline of British capitalism, clearly shows that reformism has little attraction for the young workers in Great Britain. Whether reformism will continue to be unable to extend its influence on the masses of young workers and to form a mass reformist youth movement depends to a considerable extent on the activity and struggle of the Y. C. L.

The influence of the Y. C. L. continues to increase and its activity shows that it is the real leader of the young workers.

3. Since the last Plenum of the Y. C. L., the **British League** has pursued a correct political line and in particular was correct in advocating the General Strike as a means of smashing the Trade Union Bill and overthrowing the Baldwin government. In the struggle against the war on China the League has carried on real Bolshevik anti-militarist work.

The League has not succeeded in consolidating all of the gains it made during the General Strike and mining lockout. It is to be noted, however, that the League has recovered from the wave of depression which followed the defeat of the miners and that the membership is now on the upgrade. More attention must be given to the strengthening of the local and district organisation and the formation of pit and factory groups, particularly the early reorganisation of mining districts on a pit group basis.

The growth of the League has presented many new and difficult problems and increasing work which by reason of the absence of the traditions of a youth movement, are very difficult to solve. Consequently there are many weaknesses which must be overcome. The foremost is the big difference between the influence of the League and its actual organisational strength. Then there is the small cadre of leading members and the theoretical weakness of the membership as a whole. An extremely important task is the development of a strong cadre of leading members in the districts as well as at the centre.

Consequently the educational work must now be put in the foreground and vigorously intensified. This means training groups in every branch, district schools, a national school, and the brightening of League life.

The solution to the problem of the weakness of the organisational apparatus largely depends on the successful carrying through of the above task.

4. The British League has the task of finding revolutionary expression in various forms for the masses of the young workers who are being aroused from the indifference to politics and class struggle. This means the enrolment of the youth in the trade unions and an active participation in the work of the unions. Entrance into the **Labour Party** in order to strengthen the struggle for the interests of the working youth and to intensify the fight against the bureaucracy and for the Left wing. The building of a **mass workers sports movement**, and a mass Y. C. L. which will be developed by these means.

5. The central task of the Y. C. L. is to fulfil its role as the leader of the youth in the struggle against imperialist war, a struggle which must be linked up with the fight against the capitalist offensive, based on concrete and practical leads, care being taken to guard against the use of mere general phrases.

a) The breach with Soviet Russia demands the carrying on of an energetic and widespread campaign and in intensification of the **anti-militarist work** which must be extended to the ports, munition factories and transport centres. Every effort must be made to expound the Leninist policy on the question of war and overcome the pacifist illusions of the masses. The dangerous pacifist policy of the I. L. P. and the Guild of Youth must be vigorously combatted. The open treachery of the leaders of the Labour Party and General Council, particularly the sabotage of the Anglo-Russian Committee by the latter must be persistently exposed.

b) The policy of the **united front** in relation to the reformist youth movement has been successfully pursued and great success has been achieved in the I. L. P. Guild of Youth. Arising out of the decisions of the last Guild conference the Y. C. L. must strengthen its united front work and support the building up of the Left wing, endeavouring to bring it always more closer to the Y. C. L. The local and district united front committees must carry on their activities on the basis of specified concrete issues.

c) The Y. C. L. of Great Britain has carried on very good economic trade union work and has succeeded in building up a firm foothold in the trade unions. The continued capitalist decline and threatening capitalist attacks in the engineering, mining and textile industries makes the development of this work of great importance. The programmes drawn up for the various industries must be popularised and their official endorsement by the unions concerned aimed at. The campaign for the 100% trade union organisation of young workers must continue together with the campaign for full rights and youth representation on all trade union committees. Some successes have already been achieved in this direction particularly in the **miners' organisation**. A significant development during recent months has been the **internal youth conferences** within different trade unions and the setting up of special youth committees. This form of youth conferences and youth committees must be extended and developed. Conferences on a factory basis must also be aimed at. The formation of a **youth department** in the **Minority Movement** will greatly assist the League, providing it really functions and actually leads the work in the M. M. The League must secure the support of the M. M. for all of its industrial campaigns and activities and do its utmost to strengthen the organisation and consolidate the influence of the M. M.

This co-operation with the M. M. has a special importance in connection with the differentiation going on within the trade unions and the campaign which the bureaucracy is leading against the Communists and the Minority Movement. It is the task of the League to rally the young trade unionists against the now consolidated bureaucracy and for a new leadership in the trade unions and Labour Party.

d) It is imperative to develop the **colonial work**. Co-operation with the Y. C. L. in the colonies and dominions is essential, and practical steps must be worked out in order to secure this so that the British League may be able to give concrete assistance in the struggle of the colonial workers and peasants against British imperialism, particularly in India and Egypt.

e) The "**Young Worker**" must be improved and strenuous efforts made to increase the circulation. Especially is it necessary to avoid the use of stereotyped articles and dullness.

f) The campaign for the **workers' sports movement** is now finding a good response and it is important to push ahead with the campaign for organisational preparations. The inter-change of football teams between Britain and Russia must be arranged, as it will give a big impetus to this campaign.

g) The special need for the Young Comrades League is the training of the section leaders, whose theoretical backwardness is one of the outstanding features of the **Childrens' Movement**.

All of the activities outlined above must be combined with a **vigorous recruiting activity**. The growth of the influence of the League and the extension of its work into many organisations make a big increase in the membership essential. Especially is it necessary to recruit in the engineering, railway and textile industries. A much larger membership is essential for the shouldering of the heavy tasks which are facing the **British League**.

5. The activity of the Y. C. L. of Great Britain, as the **League operating in the centre of imperialism**, plays a very important role and imposes very big tasks on the League and makes necessary the active help of the Y. C. I. The Y. C. I. will also assist in achieving the co-operation of the Y. C. L. of Great Britain with the Y. C. L. of the Soviet Union, the Chinese League and other Leagues in the fight against militarism and the war danger. Heavy struggles lie ahead which require a resolute Bolshevik determination and fearlessness. The past work of the League is the guarantee of its future success. In the coming struggles a mass League will be forged.