

# To the Proletarian Youth

By G. Zinoviev

Chairman, Executive Committee of the Communist International

(Translated by Nathan Charbrow).

Comrades:—

**D**URING the imperialist war it was the industrial and agricultural workers who bore the heaviest losses. Millions and millions of factory and rural workers fell,—in the flower of their youth a sacrifice to the interests of the small cliques of capitalists. The bourgeois governments sent the conscious youth of the working class into battle for a twofold purpose: 1) to conquer their fellow-bourgeois competitors, and thus increase their profits; and 2) to annihilate the most restless, the most aggressive and the most revolutionary among their workers.

The proletarian youth it was that suffered most during the war of 1914-1919. But the proletarian youth it was also that first raised the voice of protest against that destructive war. When the official Socialist and Social-Democratic parties went over to the bourgeoisie and began to praise the bandit-war as a war of "right" and "freedom", the organizations of the youth rose up against this treachery. The Scheidemanns and Eberts in Germany, the Renaudels and Thomases in France, the Hyndmans and Hendersons in England, the Renners and Austelitzes in Austria, the Brantings in Sweden, the Gomperses in America, and the impostors and traitors in all other lands met with opposition on the part of the proletarian youth.

The time has now come to strengthen the YOUTH'S INTERNATIONAL. The working youth of all the world must determinedly make their own history.

The Communist International, founded in Moscow in the month of March 1919, invites all the organizations of the youth to align and unite themselves with the Communist International. The Commun-

## Young Peoples Communist Leagues

**T**HE convention of the Communist Party of America decided that Young People's Communist Leagues shall be organized under the jurisdiction of the party and in affiliation with the party.

To carry out the decision of the convention the Executive Council of the party has issued a call for a National Conference of Young People's Communist Leagues to bring into existence a national organization. The Executive Council has also authorized the publication of a monthly magazine to be the official organ of the Young People's Communist Leagues.

All young people's organizations which endorse the principles of the Communist party and wish to join in the formation of a national organization are urged to communicate with C. E. Ruthenberg, Executive Secretary, 1219 Blue Island Ave., Chicago, Ill., or with Comrade Carlson, former secretary of the Young People's Socialist Leagues.

ists consider the activity in the working youth's ranks as of the highest obligation, a work which must suffer no delay. Karl Liebknecht, the International's great warrior, murdered by the treacherous

Scheidemann-Socialists, was one of the most energetic organizers of the movement of the youth. The Soviet Republic seeks to help the industrial and rural working youth with all the strength and apparatus at its command.

In Berne a Yellow "International" has been founded. The murderers of Karl Liebknecht have united themselves with the betrayers of the French workmen. This Yellow "International" is a fighting weapon in the hands of the Entente Imperialists. Kautsky, who stands for "unity", is, together with Scheidemann, in reality a bourgeois servant.

We are convinced that the working youth can have nothing in common with this fraudulent, lying, treacherous "International". The working youth of all the world are uniting themselves as one man with the living INTERNATIONAL, with the Communist International. The long-awaited battle for workers' power, for proletarian dictatorship, for Communism, is coming. The working class will have revenge for the insults cast upon the workers' banner during the five years' war. All over the world the workers are forming their councils as the means to the realization of Socialism. Against the bourgeois black army we are organizing our own red army, and the working youth shall fight on the foremost barricade for the victory of the Soviet system.

Long live the Proletarian Youth!

Long live the Youth's Communist International!

## The Socialist Party Apostle Speaks

By Nicholas I. Hourwich.

**A**FTER a long period of silence the "apostle" of the American Socialist Party, Morris Hillquit, has again spoken. His declaration appeared in the *New York Call* (September 22nd), under the somewhat solemn and hollow title: "We are all Socialists." This declaration was reprinted in the *Chicago Socialist* and no doubt in other of the Socialist Party papers.

Like all apostles, Morris Hillquit appears on the stage and pronounces judgments only under the most extraordinary circumstances. His preceding public statement in the press appeared a few months ago just before the national organization of the Left Wing, preceding any formal break with the Right Wing. This statement was freely credited at that time with being the effective appeal "to clear the party decks" of non-conformist and insurgent elements. It was the text read and discussed by the old National Executive Committee at the meeting when they began the expulsion of more than half the party membership. Now the reason for breaking his vow of silence (since his illness can hardly be considered as the only reason for a silence like that of the grave which Hillquit has maintained lately, especially after the fact of convalescence for the purpose of the former press statement)—the reason is undoubtedly the consummation of the split of the Socialist Party

into three separate parties, and especially the formation of the Communist Party.

So ruthless were his followers in carrying out his order to "clear the decks" that Hillquit now takes an unexpectedly conciliatory attitude, quite different from that in his previous declaration, even finding it necessary to reprimand his zealous followers in fatherly fashion for their "infraction of Socialist ethics and decency" in making vicious attacks against the Left Wing in the capitalist press.

Hillquit misses the point that these attacks by the leaders of the Socialist Party in the bourgeois press upon the Left Wing were not an accidental mistake, but an inevitable outcome of the whole social-reformist position of the parties of the Second International, the American Socialist Party included. Parliamentary first, and above all, one of the many small screws in the bourgeois parliamentary machine, striving to acquire a position of larger importance, the American Socialist Party, like its European sisters, values its reputation for ability and "respectability" in the eyes of bourgeois political public opinion above everything else. It needs this reputation for the support by one or another of the competing capitalist political parties of the reforms which it introduces. In its ambition to secure for itself this reputa-

tion, the American Socialist Party would not have mercy on its own "father", and, of course, would not be ceremonious with some "mad" Left Wing....

It should be remembered that, in its substance, just this ambition to prove to bourgeois public opinion its "ability" and "respectability"—its lack of sympathy for all sorts of "wild" ideas and "crazy dreams"—was to a great extent responsible for the governmental activity of Ebert, Scheidemann and Noske (ambition to make a good showing before the Allies and in that way to "save" Germany). This motive explains the zealous work of the Milwaukee "Socialist" district attorney, and many others of the same noble company. Even the late Plekhanov, who was a giant in comparison with the Socialist nonentities who are now barking at the Left-Wingers in the American press, could not refrain from appearances in the bourgeois press with accusations against the "Blanquists". This has been done, is being done, and, we do not doubt for one moment, will yet be done in spite of all admonitions, by the social-opportunists and the social-reformists of all lands.

The rest of the Hillquit document harmonizes with the part already analyzed. There is much sentimental lamenting which does not conform with the role of a political leader on the theme

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