

THE YOUNG VANGUARD

The League's New «Plan of Action»

During the first weeks of the execution of the so-called Plan of Action adopted by the National Executive Committee of the Young Communist League, we predicted that it could not be successfully accomplished with the present false policies and opportunist regime. No doubt there were many members of the Y.C.L. who really believed that our prophecies were based on nothing but a malicious desire to see the Plan fail. But the facts of reality are daily demonstrating that the criticism of the Left Opposition is based on a thorough Marxian evaluation of the situation. The unvarnished fact of the matter is that June 30, the last day of the Plan, revealed an enormous disproportion between the figures on paper and the negligible gains actually made. Did the N.E.C. attempt to make an objective political analysis of the situation and initiate a discussion in the ranks on the basis of the experience of the last few months? To be sure not! For to do so would expose the complete bankruptcy of its false ultra-Left line. Instead there is much yelling that the membership of the Y.C.L. is not doing enough work, that they are substituting phrases for deeds, and that, forsooth, is a very crass expression for the "Left" danger itself.

The New «Shock Plan»

In order to evade drawing the balance of the so-called Plan of Action, it has been renovated, refurbished with a new name—Shock Plan—and extended for three months, to September 30. This however, will not prevent every sincere member of the Y.C.L. from putting the question squarely to himself (and honestly trying to discover the underlying cause of the whole unsavory situation.

Paper plans cannot be substituted for a correct line grounded on the actual situation among the young workers. Administrative decisions and bureaucratic commands and noise. The Shock Plan is a combination of all these negative qualities. It is a screen for all the recent failures, and an artificial attempt to make good all these reverses. An examination of its measures condemn it as an adventurist enterprise.

First, the Plan calls for a whole series of industrial youth conferences. These conferences are to be held in eight different industries—all by September 30. The industries are: textile, needle trades, mining, steel auto, metal mining, lumber and agriculture. The N.E.C. in all its recent resolutions and theses has recognized an unsatisfactory situation in the Y.C.L. But the Y.C.L. has acquired such immense strength and vitality, such resources, so many forces and organizers, that it can simultaneously in the period of a few months enter eight different industries of the United States, and can successfully carry on campaigns which will culminate in mass—mind you, the Plan says "mass"—youth conferences. Do the Steubens, Harveys, Greens, and the other marionettes, who place all these directives so easily on paper, understand the significance of these grandiose schemes? Is this not stupid and criminal adventurism? Can't these light-minded people realize that it would be far better to concentrate on some one or two industries—yes, we are modest and sensible enough to ask for only one or two—where the objective conditions are most favorable and really hold a successful mass youth conference? Whom are these bureaucrats trying to befuddle with their loud prattle?

Second, the Plan, as part of its recruitment quota, calls for the gaining of 500 young Negro workers for the Y.C.L. Here the inventors of the Shock Plan really become realistic. In order to win 500 young Negro workers it is necessary to do mass Negro work, you understand. This is actually stated in the Plan. So in addition to carrying on mass campaigns in eight industries, we are going to hold mass—nothing but mass, mind you—Negro youth conferences against lynching in seven League districts by August 15, and by September 30 we are going to have a mass (note well!—mass) Negro youth organization affiliated to the American Negro Labor Congress (another mass organization whose existence is grossly exaggerated). Presto! It is done.

And thirdly, in addition to waging mass

campaigns in eight industries and holding Negro youth conferences in seven districts by August 15 which must culminate in a mass youth organization affiliated to the A.N.L.C. by September 30, we are going to have, unquestionably, mass unemployment youth conferences and a National Youth Unemployment Day Demonstration on August 20. And of course it goes without saying that by September 30, we will

Scranton Police Seize Communist Workers

Five workers arrested last week in Scranton and charged with sedition are facing 20 years in prison. They were jailed when the anthracite mine owners and their flunkies in political office feared that a strike of 1,200 members of the United Mine Workers Union for equalization of work would develop into a militant struggle led by the National Miners Union. The strike however, was short-lived as the Lewis-Boylan machine ordered the men to return to work.

Those arrested, and held in jail for the Fall Grand Jury are: Dan Slinger, district organizer, National Miners Union; John Little, youth organizer, Trade Union Unity League; Sylvan A. Pollack, district organizer, International Labor Defense; Joe Tash, National Executive Board member, N.M.U.; and Phil Frankfeld, Communist Party organizer. Joe Tash was arrested when speaking at a mass meeting at Dunmore where he was exposing the Lewis machine. The others were taken into custody the following day when state troopers and deputy sheriffs raided the headquarters of the I.L.D. and N.M.U. in Scranton. Without a warrant they placed the workers

Eastman's Correspondence with Gold

(Continued from Page 4)

nounce thinking through a passion for "literature", do not necessarily renounce honorable and decent editorial conduct.

What is your real reason?

Either you backed down because you are too cowardly to print Trotsky's classification of you, or else you consulted your masters, the bureaucrats of the Workers Party, and they forbade you to print the letter.

Either position marks off your paper completely from The Masses, from which it borrowed its name. And yet I notice you have chosen just this moment to get out a new line of publicity giving what you call "the autobiography of the New Masses", in which you falsely pretend that it is a mere continuation of the Masses and The

also transform the Labor Sports Union into a mass organization and win a mass circulation for the Young Worker, as well as double the League membership, create 48 shop nuclei, 85 shop bulletins, and recruit 10,000 young workers into the T.U.U.L. "That is what we, Bolsheviks, call a genuine attack." (Stalin). This last quotation confirms the correct line of the Shock Plan.

On September 30, let every member of the Y.C.L. demand an accounting. Let him demand the truth and not be satisfied with specious figures. Then let him draw his own conclusions. —GEORGE RAY

under arrest, confiscated all books, records and letters and took the organizers to the state police barracks where they were photographed and finger-printed. Only after being held 10 hours were they charged with sedition. Since the arrests several more raids have been made on the headquarters, a move to smash the militant labor movement being the apparent objective.

The International Labor Defense which is conducting the defense of the five workers must develop a broad united front movement for their liberation. Not only the N.M.U. locals which are very weak, but the rank and file of the U.M.W. must be appealed to and asked to participate in the campaign. This is an issue that can be used to strengthen the Left wing movement in the anthracite if properly handled. If a sectarian defense campaign is allowed to be conducted, conviction of the five workers is certain and the many class war prisoners in the United States will have new recruits. On the other hand, a real united front movement will not only be a step for the freedom of the arrested workers but a reservoir of strength for the Left wing movement in general and the N.M.U. in particular.

Liberator. Have you forgotten that your publicity when you started the magazine was to the opposite effect? What is the reason for this change? Is this one more trick suggested by your bureaucratic masters for grabbing prestige at the expense both of sincere ideals and real facts? Did it not once occur to you while you were composing that sweet history, and using my name in advertising your magazine, that it might be honest to mention among those other charming incidents the fact that I resigned from the Executive Board of New Masses stating that I despised its sly pussy-footing policies and total lack of intellectual and moral courage?

Yours sincerely,

MAX EASTMAN.

P. S. I offer this letter also for publication.

Camp Nitgedaiget in Boston

BOSTON—

Another Left wing organization is being "organized" under the leadership of a few Party members: the cooperative camp Nitgedaiget of Boston. When the camp was founded in 1927, individuals as well as organizations were approached to buy shares. One of its shareholders is John Reed Branch 718 of the Workmen's Circle, and like most shareholders participated in camp affairs and contributed toward its establishment.

To the opening of the camp this season, Branch 718 was formally invited as usual to the banquet and responded by sending a delegate with instructions to buy another share. The branch in turn felt that Camp Nitgedaiget is its home and applied for the camp grounds for its annual outing which was to take place on June 29.

The board of directors of the camp extended their welcome to Branch 718 and all was fine and dandy, until a few days before the outing was to take place a letter was received by the secretary of 718 stating the withdrawal of the invitation to the branch for its outing, due to the fact that the board of directors suddenly realized that the John Reed Branch is a Right wing organization.

But this realization came a bit late

in view of the fact that 718 was invited to the camp banquet not so long ago?

And now a question to the ex-manager of Camp Nitgedaiget who is now chairman of Branch 718: How does your own medicine taste, Mr. Robinson? We still remember last summer when the shoe workers of Boston were on strike and a committee came to camp with an effort to raise funds for the strikers. Mr. Robinson bitterly attacked the shoe workers' committee for coming on his ground to exploit his workers and was greatly in favor of putting the committee out of the camp.

It is interesting also to hear some of the members of 718 crying for a free platform for discussion when we recall an incident of about a year and a half ago when comrade Cannon was in Boston and our branch of the Communist League (Opposition) appealed for the platform and was rejected by these very members. It seems that it makes a difference into whose window the stone falls.

We hope that the camp board of directors will realize before it is too late the detrimental policy they are adopting in barring workers from the camp grounds while the members of 718 should, in the future, think for themselves and not be ruled by the iron hand of a clique. —C.D.

LENIN AND THE YOUTH

The Young Vanguard, beginning with this present issue will publish a number of important documents and statements by Lenin concerning the youth.

The importance of such publication is manifest although it were to judge by the neglect of this elementary educational work by the official Y.C.L. which wastes tons of paper on harmful drivel, one would not at all think so. All young workers should read these fundamental documents.

In this first installment we publish the Resolution proposed by Lenin at the Second Congress of the Russian Social Democrats in 1903 on the attitude towards the student youth.

Previous to 1905, the various political parties of Russia obtained their propagandists and agitators from the students. This to a large extent included the working class party. With the clearing of the atmosphere that resulted from the storm of the 1905 revolution, and subsequent sharpening of the class war the situation changed and the intelligentsia of which the student youth is a section, gravitated toward their own petty bourgeois and bourgeois parties.—Eds.)

CONCERNING THE STUDENTS

Resolution moved by comrade Lenin on the attitude towards Students

(Passed at the Second Congress of the Russian Social Democratic Labor Party held in 1903, with the exception of that portion in parentheses.)

This Second Congress of the Russian Social Democratic Labor Party welcomes the revival of independent revolutionary activity among the student youth, calls upon all branches of the Party to render every possible aid to the youth in its strivings to organize and recommends to all groups and student circles: first, to make it their first duty to imbue their members with a complete philosophy and to get them to study Marxism seriously on the one hand, and Russian Narodnik-ism and West European opportunism on the other as the principle opposing groups within the modern fighting progressive tendencies. Secondly, to beware of the false friends of the youth who are distracting it from serious revolutionary education by vapid, revolutionary, idealistic phraseology and philistine chatter about the harm and superfluity of sharp controversy tendencies, for these false friends, as a matter of fact cultivate merely lack of principle and a frivolous attitude towards revolutionary work, and thirdly) in taking up practical activity to strive to establish connection with social democratic organizations beforehand in order to be able to be guided by their instructions and to avoid as far as possible important errors in the very beginning of the work.

just out!

BULLETIN OF RUSSIAN OPPOSITION
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Containing:

Towards the 16th Congress of the C. P. S. U.—The Revolution in India, by Trotsky—The Period between the 15th and 16th Congresses of the C. P. S. U., by Dingelstaedt—Notes of a Journalist, by Alfa—Numerous letters from the metropolises and centers of exile in the Soviet Union.—Two Conceptions, by Trotsky—Stalin and the Red Army by Markin—Letter to the Spanish Opposition, by Trotsky—What is Centriem? by Trotsky—The German Situation, by Roman Weil—The Jewish Movement in France, by Senine—The Opposition in South America, by Dvorin—Letter from Prague—Etc., etc. 25c a copy \$2.00 a year

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