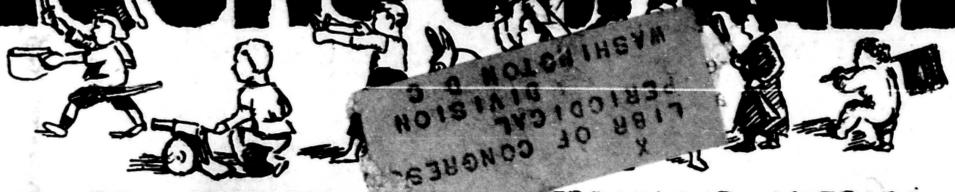




THE YOUNG COMRADE



OFFICIAL ORGAN * JUNIOR SECTION * YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE OF AMERICA

340

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290

December, 1924

PRICE 5 CENTS

We Change The Young Comrade

BEGINNING with the next issue of The Young Comrade, our paper will be printed in a different way. Instead of this fine shiny paper, which makes it look something like a rich capitalist journal, we are going to print it on a plainer paper. Instead of having to print it thru expensive machines, we shall be able to print The Young Comrade at a cheaper price.

We have made this change because we could no longer afford to print such a "high-class" paper for five cents a copy. We were faced with the problem of having to raise the price to ten cents. We did not want to do this and so we are keeping the old price: five cents a copy and fifty cents for a year's subscription.

Have you ever seen a copy of Current Events? It is the capitalist paper that is spread among the school children. It makes believe that it is impartial, but it is for the capitalist system. Well, The Young Comrade, in its new form, is going to look something like Current Events. Of course, it will be a strictly revolutionary working class paper. It is going to be printed in larger type to make it easier to read. It is going to contain stories, news of the junior movement, articles on the struggle, written by the children themselves—and more pictures!

And there is going to be a question box in it, too! A real question box, you can bet! Write in your questions now and we'll print them in the very first issue of The Young Comrade—new form.

And just think! Johnny Red is going to be back with us again and the readers of our paper will be able to read once more about his activities and the activities of Rosie Red. And those Little Stories of American History—they're coming back as well. Comrade Marsh, who used to write them, has promised to do some more of them—and real good ones.

And we want contributions from our readers on the struggle: in the school, in the factories and everywhere else.

A bigger Young Comrade! A better Young Comrade!

The price remains the same and we want every one of our readers to get another reader. Everyone must make it his or her business to get a subscription from a friend. It's only fifty cents a year, and if your little friend hasn't the money, get it from father or mother.

Make The Young Comrade YOUR paper by getting subscriptions for it! Be a Booster for your paper! Make it the paper of all the working class children in America!

Be a Young Comrade Booster!

THE Young Comrade is your paper! You must support it by getting subscriptions to the paper! Beginning with the next issue of The Young Comrade we are going to print the names of the comrades who get subscriptions to our paper, together with the amount of subs they get!

Still on Strike in Paterson

By JOSEPH ALUKONIS, Age 10.

The Paterson silk workers are on strike yet. Police Chief Tracey had closed Turn Hall, where the strikers used to have their mass meetings, for about three weeks Chief Tracey closed Turn Hall because of the outside agitators, especially Comrade H. M. Wicks. Even then Wicks made speeches just the same, but in smaller halls.

Turn Hall is now open. The strikers have their mass meetings every day. The American Civil Liberties Union did a great deal for the right of free speech and assemblage. At one time this union was to have a speech at Turn Hall but the police didn't allow them. So the crowd demonstrated at the city hall. Two ladies carried a United States flag and the speakers were at their sides. And the huge crowd followed.

Mr. Butterworth was the first speaker. He just started to read the constitution of the United States when suddenly the police came and arrested him. The cops pulled the flag out of the hands of the ladies and put them inside the city hall. A few people were treated with so much kindness by the police that they had to go to the hospital. The cops pushed people as if they were dogs, not

human beings. A little later another mass meeting was held. This was at Turn Hall, to discuss the right to free speech and assemblage guaranteed by the United States constitution.

There were many speakers and Mr. Crane Gartz was chairman. Bishop Paul Jones, of New York, and Miss Grace Hutchins were speaking. Mr. Butterworth finished his speech at this meeting. There were a few others whom I have forgotten. The hall was full of people and no more could fit in. Not one foot, not even one inch could be filled. Hundreds of people stayed around Turn Hall trying to get in. But there was no more room so they went home. Many cops tried to get in, too. But there was no room for them, either. They, too, had to go back. About six cops were there. They came early.

All the speakers spoke well. But they liked Wicks better. Wicks was in the back of the platform. When the people always shouted out for Wicks, the Communist, he was brought in. All the people stood up, and hats were flying in the air. The whole hall shook.

The Movies

By EDWARD SHATZ, Age 10.

THERE is a great American institution called the movies. The movies is an institution used by the American capitalists to spread propaganda and patriotism and wild ideas in general. The movies is just a "full gun," "shoot quick," "hang," "kiss" and "jail."

There is the news reel. The news reel always shows pictures of the soldiers in bright uniforms marching and it spreads the idea that war is just parades and bright uniforms, but it is not so. War is to be found in the muddy trenches, where they stay for days without sleep and bullets and shells explode right over your head, killing thousands and wounding millions. The horrors of war are indescribable.

And then it always shows one of the Wall Street fat bellies, a president, and Old Glory

waving triumphantly over his head. And then hundreds of darn fools applaud and shout. Why do they shout? Because they have been taught to respect almost anybody who misleads the workers. And now comrades we have an idea of what the movies are under capitalism.

Seven Years of Red Russia

By MARTHA EITINGTON, Age 12

NOVEMBER was the month of the Russian workers' revolution. On November 7th, 1917, the workers in Russia threw off the rule of the czar, landlords, capitalists and established a workers' government. The workers all over the world celebrated the seventh birthday of the Russia Soviet Republic. We juniors joined in with this celebration. And we hope some day to celebrate the world revolution.

Voting Communist

By PETER CIBULA,
West New York, New Jersey.

IN our high school we were having a straw vote on the presidential candidates. I had with me The Young Comrade of October, 1924.

When I received my ballot I noticed that on it were only the following candidates: Coolidge and Dawes, Davis and Bryan, and LaFollette and Wheeler. But I could not find Foster and Gitlow; so I wrote in large, bold letters, above the other candidates: "My, and all the workers' choice—William Z. Foster for president and Benjamin Gitlow for vice-president." Then I folded my ballot and put it in the box.

When the count was taken the following appeared on the blackboard and school bulletin:

Coolidge and Dawes.....	434
Davis and Bryan.....	142
LaFollette and Wheeler.....	222
Foster and Gitlow.....	1

When the pupils came into the class they saw the returns and one of them exclaimed, "Who's Foster and Gitlow?"

I quickly spoke up and said, "They are the candidate on the Workers Party ticket."

He looked at me and then asked, "What made you vote for them?"

I, in return, quickly took out of my book the copy of The Young Comrade of October, 1924, and told him to read it thru and then tell me what he thought.

The next time I saw him he said to me, "You are a Bolshevik!"

"I am proud to be called a Bolshevik!" I answered.

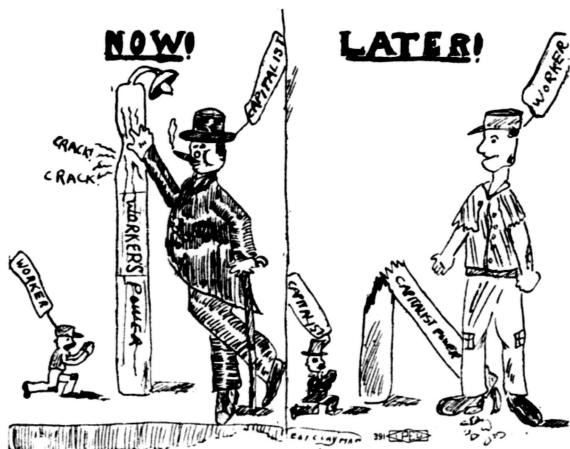
That is all I have to say.

The Children and the Bolsheviks

By LILLIAN HALPERN, Age 8

A LOT of people say that the Bolsheviks are cruel, but that is not true because the Bolsheviks want everybody to be happy. The Bolsheviks want everybody to work for their living but the capitalists don't like that idea because they want everything for themselves and everybody to work for them. The capitalists say a lot of lies about the Bolsheviks and the newspapers help them in it, so that the people don't know the truth about the Bolsheviks and that is why they are afraid of them.

We children must be like the Bolsheviks and work with them because they lead us to a happy life.



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The Black Capitalists and the Red Workers

By ELI CLAYMAN

YOU all probably have heard of the great writer, Henry David Thoreau. Well, once I read a little story that was written by him, and this is the way it goes:

"One day as I came up to my woodpile, I noticed two ants fiercely contending with each other. One was a large black ant, and one was a small red ant. I soon saw ants all around me, red and black, some fighting, some dying, and lots already dead. So I found out that it was not a duel, but a war, between two races of ants, the red republicans on one side and the black imperialists on the other. I looked upon a large chip of wood, and I saw a huge black ant fighting with a small red ant. The smaller red champion had fastened himself to his adversary's front, and clung onto it as if it was glued together. The big fat black one was knock-

ing the small one to and fro, and had divested him of several parts of his body."

There is a little more to the story but it isn't very important. But I decided to make up a story of my own, but something like this.

Let us say that the red ones are the red workers, and the black ones, the black capitalists. There is something in this story that I didn't mention, and that was that the black ones were winning. Well, do you know why? Well, they are bigger and fatter and so they have more strength. This same thing is going along over here. The black capitalists are fighting with the red workers and are killing many of them. But there will come a time when all this will change, and the black capitalists will be kneeling before us, begging for mercy for mercy from the red workers!

Why Workers Should Unite

By GLADYS SHWARTZ, Age 13

AS I often stand near my house, I see a man passing by, sometimes with his children or by himself. That man has a very pale and thin face. Anybody could tell he is a worker. He has two sons and one little girl. Every time I see them the more pale they look. You can tell they are starving, if you saw them.

When I see the man a thought comes into my head. And this is the thought I think of: Why is he poor and the capitalist rich?

The capitalist is rich because he does not work but instead there is somebody working for him. Those who work for him are called the workers. He makes profit from the workers by exploiting them. The capitalist has a rich home, his children are brought up very carefully, his wife is very richly dressed, his sons or daughters go to college and don't work at all but have good times while the workers' children are dressed all in rags and have to work for a living.

Now do you see why the workers is poor and the capitalist is rich?

The only way the workers can free themselves and make life worth while, is to unite and fight against their exploiters and overthrow the present rotten capitalist system and have a government of the workers as there exists today in Russia.

The School Child

By SEBASTIAN STOIAN, Age 12.

ONE day, while I was watching a little boy playing, I heard some noise. What was it? I saw a teacher pulling a boy by the ears. The boy came to me and said, "I wish I could get rid of being punished."

I said, "Join our junior group and we will fight to get rid of being punished."

Have you sent in your pledge for the Keep It Up Fund?

Johnny Red Moves Away

By BILLY SAYLES

JOHNNY," his pa called to him as Johnny came into the house like a cyclone, threw his books on a chair and rushed into his room to get his ball and bat.

"Yes, pop," Johnny answered as he hunted up and down and everywhere for the bat that he had forgotten to put away.

"How would you like to move, Johnny?" Comrade Red came to the door of the room and forgot all about looking for the bat—he was so surprised.

"MOVE!"

"Yes, don't you like the idea? How would you like to move to another state?"

"And leave the gang? You don't mean it, pop!" Johnny was very sad at the thought and his father felt sorry for him.

"Yes, Johnny, I have to go to West Allis, Wisconsin, to work and we are all going to move out there."

"Holy Cats, pop, just as we were getting everything going jack in the junior groups out here." Johnny sat down on the bed and looked at his father as though the end of the world had come.

"Well, Johnny, when a Communist finishes a job in one place and has helped to get a junior group started there and there are other places that haven't any groups or that need help, what does he do if he is a true Communist?"

"Goes to organize in the other place." Johnny admitted slowly. "But gee, it's hard to leave the gang. I won't know anybody in Wisconsin."

"Come, come, Johnny. Is that all the good my lessons in international comradeship has done? Don't you know that where there are workers and workers, children, a Communist can find friends and comrades. Your group here is not all there is to the Communist children's movement of the world. There are other groups in other cities of the country and in all countries all over the world. Wherever you go you will find comrades all over the world. After you have been there a while you will have a gang of comrades as dear to you as the gang out here. And you can always write to the comrades here and keep in touch with them."

"And is there a junior group out there?" Johnny brightened up at the thought.

"Yes, there is a group out there but it is still very young and needs help of young comrades like you and Rose who have had some experience to help them make a group as strong and active as your group here."

"And we can have a baseball team, and agitate in the schools and have street meetings, same as here?"

"Yes."

Johnny was silent for a long time trying to make up his mind whether he was sorry or not. At last his father spoke to him.

"Well, Johnny—are we ready!"

Johnny looked up and smiled a queer little smile at the junior slogan. Then he made up his mind—stood up and giving his dad the Russian pioneer salute, answered, "All-ways Ready."

Get your friends to subscribe to the Young Comrade.

Join the junior group in your town. We'll send you the address.

Have you a junior group in your town? If not, why not organize one?

Collect money for The Young Comrade.



The Capitalist Schools

By FRANK T. VALENTINE, Age 15.

In any school in the United States, when someone asks the question: "Who owns the schools?" the answer will be: "The People." But do they really own the schools? If not, who does? I will answer it and it is answered in the title above: the capitalists own the schools.

The schools and churches are the best weapons for the capitalists to poison the minds of the workers.

The children of the workers are taught the "wise" sayings of Benjamin Franklin. Some teachers say that we should remember them. I have in front of me a school reader, "The Elson Reader, Book Four." On page 227 you can find the proverbs from Poor Richard's Almanac by Franklin, which contains one like this:

**"Early to bed and early to rise
Makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise."**

I imagine that he meant by this, "Get up early," work all day, and go to bed early so that you can go to work the next day and do more work." He will get good health by working and wealthy by working and wise by forming the habit of getting up early as it says above. But there are always two sides to a question, and we will look at the other side.

Do you think a working man that goes to bed early, gets up early, about five o'clock in the morning, and goes to work in a steel mill about ten hours a day for about 35 cents an hour, will come home healthy, wealthy, and wise? No, he will be worn out—but he might get wise enough to organize. When a child is taught that phrase, he will think of money more than anything else. What will he be when he grows up? Nothing but a scab and a strikebreaker.

That saying would not be in the schools today if it would not be any good to the capitalists.

Here is another one about what a farmer should do after he gets up in the morning:

**"He who plows deep while the sluggards sleep
Will have plenty of corn to sell and to keep."**

The farmer that plows hard and sells the crop never gets the price that he should. Why? Because the parasites that live on the profits of what the farmer produces is getting part of what the farmer should.

Let us look at the arithmetic part of the school teaching life.

In any arithmetic book, nearly more than three-fourths of the problems are of buying and selling. That is one of the parts of the book that poisons the mind of the worker's child. When he grows up he will think of business more than work. But first he needs money to start with. The first chance to get money he tries to get it. In the meantime a strike breaks out and there he is. He will be called a scab and a strikebreaker. But he cares just for money and doesn't think of his fellow worker. Now he has enough money and he starts in with business. He remembers his arithmetic very well because the teachers usually pound it into his head so that he remembers. If he doesn't do his arithmetic well she says that he will make a bad business man. In arithmetic he is given problems like this: If John sells to his customer a rug for \$5.00 and he paid only \$4.00, what is his profit? That is the way he will go through life. But some of the grownups don't get a chance to become business men and are forced to work all the time. He is always looking for money and will always be a scab.

The history textbook is another one that puts lies in the worker's child's head. Away back in the seventeenth century when the English started to come into the wilderness of the United States, two kinds of people came. They were the poor and the rich. The king of England helped settle some of these matters. When they came here, the two classes built big store houses so that all was produced was brought in from the same storehouse. It was the same way since John Smith said: "Whoever does not work neither shall he eat."

Is that the way this country is ruled today? No.

In the history of George Washington it is written that he never told a lie. It tells in some books only that he was a big slave holder. When he was with his soldiers in

Valley Forge, the soldiers were very cold but he wasn't, because he got enough of clothes from home to keep him warm.

When the teachers are telling you about the foreign countries he or she compares them with the United States. They say that most of the people came here to get freedom. You know how free we are today. If a republican, democrat, or LaFollette speaker makes a street corner speech, the police go past him without saying a word. But when a Communist speaker gets up, he is thrown into jail. They then say that this

is a free country. It is free—but only for the capitalists.

In the music classes the first song that you are taught the capitalist and patriotic ones, such as: "America," "The Star Spangled Banner," or "America, the Beautiful." Don't sing these songs. We shall sing the "International," and the "Red Flag."

If a young comrade gets up and says something about how rotten this country is, he will get beaten by the teacher.

We want the truth told in the schools and YOU are the one who should get up and tell the teacher and the pupils about it.

Honesty

By B. SOTSKY.

HONEST sounds nice. Doesn't it? Well, it is nice in a way, but in its political way it is very bad because it is controlled by money, not by character. A traitor, a thief, a swindler and other such persons are, by the laws in the constitution and out of it, pardoned with an apology in such a clever and lawful way that the majority of the people do not detect any wrongs. Even if some do oppose the political dealings, who is courageous enough to contradict the big politicians in an upright way?

Why are sinful millionaires pardoned for great crimes at the same time that poor workers are arrested for trying to get higher wages from their bosses by going out on strikes?

Who makes the laws? Capitalists. For whose benefits are the laws made? For the capitalists. For whose destruction are the laws intended? For the workers.

But the fault for the making of this sort of law lies with the workers. The workers are still true to the higher class, they deceive themselves by letting their superiors—as they think—the capitalists, grab the opportunity to enslave the workers more than before.

It is, therefore, my opinion that it is good to be honest towards those whom you know to be honest; consequently, being true to yourself and your class. But to be honest to those who will take advantage of your honesty to rob and abuse you, means that you are being dishonest with yourself, which is just as bad as being dishonest to others.

The Russian Death Train and the Convict Ship

By SYLVIA SELENDICH, Age 13.

COMRADES, during the Russian revolution there was a train going through Russia. This train was called the Train of Death; and on this train there were about one thousand three hundred and twenty-five men, women and children. There were from thirty-five to forty people in a box car measuring twenty-five by eleven feet and all of these people died from starvation, filth and diseases, and some were frozen to death. The doors of these cars have seldom been opened to drag out the bodies of the dead. The people haven't changed their clothing for weeks and sometimes for days at a time there was no one to give these people even drink. There was one big kettle of soup for all of them and it was passed in little tin cups through a little window measuring a foot by a foot and a half. But, comrades, the anti-Bolshevik governments that made the blockade around Russia during the famine caused these trains of death.

Have you heard of the convict ship in Milwaukee? This ship shows what they did with the prisoners years ago. They took the prisoners from England to Australia and during that voyage they put red hot branding irons on the prisoners hands and made them stand in certain forms for twenty-four hours. Who did this all. Of course, the capitalist class! They wouldn't do that to their king—they only did it to the workers.

So, comrades, down with the boss! Up with the Workers and Farmers Government.

Working for Happiness

By ANNIE RINAUDO, Age 11.

TODAY I asked one of my friends to help me form a junior group, but she didn't even know what it meant. The mothers of the children here do not show their children that they should be against the rich and stick with the workers. We are supposed to be in this world in order to work and to be happy, but the rich people do not permit that. The rich people steal the money from the poor people who do not know it.

I saw in the paper that China and Russia were getting to be real friends, and the rich people in their hotels were all falling from their chairs. I wish that all people would always be happy and wouldn't have to have enemies to make life bad. But if there are rich and poor people like there are now I don't think my wish shall ever come true. When the workers run the country my wish will be true.

CHICAGO'S ACTIVITIES

CHICAGO juniors lead the country with twenty functioning junior groups, each with its own name and its own representative in the government of the city organization. The Chicago comrades are putting all their attention to "school nuclei" because they know that junior groups formed by children that all go to the same school make bigger, better and more active-in-the-struggle groups. They are working hard for THE YOUNG COMRADE and the KEEP IT UP FUND, too, for like all juniors they are very loyal to the juniors' own paper and know that by selling it to children who are not members, the juniors can get their message of freedom for the working class across to others. They are selling subs, too. (To date they have sold sixty-five subs.)

And they always appear in a great big bunch at the meeting of the Workers Party. They have two pages published in the Chicago league paper edited by themselves, but a real part of the league's sheet because they know that juniors are a part of the organization of the Young Workers League.

The Chicago juniors are going to keep on working hard for an even better organization that will reach out and take into its membership many hundreds of the working class children in this big city.

The Rich and the Poor

By LILLIAN GITTELMAN.

ONE cold winter's day while I was going to school I saw two girls. Both of them were of about the same age and height. But at the first glance I knew that they did not belong to the same class of people.

The first girl had a very happy face and rosy cheeks. She was dressed in a warm dress and fur coat. While the second girl looked very pale. She was dressed in a thin dress and a very shabby looking coat. She was shivering of the coldness. Of course, the first girl was the daughter of a rich man, while the second was the daughter of a poor working man.

We, the children of the workers, are fighting for the Communist ideal which stands for equality to all humanity.

Comrades, let's all join in this fight!

Brownsville! Brownsville!

THESE were the shouts heard when we came out of the Arcadia Hall from the Foster campaign meeting. After walking a short distance, a Foster junior popped up and shouted: "Carfare goes to The Young Comrade!" And so everybody agreed, of course. At the end of the collection we found we had collected \$2.10. Great! was the shout of the Foster junior group.

Well, we have decided that we shall not let our official paper fall. In January we are to have our first year's anniversary, when Foster promised to be present, and we have decided to give a large per cent of our profit to The Young Comrade, also.

Yes, our slogan is: "We are always ready!" And we are, you can depend upon the Foster juniors to do their bit.

With revolutionary greetings,

FOSTER JUNIOR GROUP.

P. S.—We are going to keep our money order clerk busy.

A NEW GROUP

ANOTHER group has been organized by our Massachusetts comrades in Chelsea, Mass. A city central committee of the Boston juniors has been organized and all activities will be directed very efficiently. As a sign of what they can do, the Boston juniors ordered forty extra copies of The Young Comrade of the last edition.