

THE YOUTH MOVEMENT

The IV. World Congress of the Communist Youth International.

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What are the results of our IV. World Congress? The answer to this question can be stated in one sentence: The IV. World Congress of the CYI. has given the CYI. the definite task of bolshevising the organisation.

In the first place we must remember that the V. Congress of the C. I. put forward the task of bolshevising all sections of the Communist International. Numerous tendencies showed themselves in the Comintern in recent times which tended to dilute and revise the bolshevist principles, in short to "debolshevise" the parties. These were the fatal opportunist tendencies which appeared between the IV. and V. World Congresses in the Russian, German, French, Swedish, Polish, Czechish, American, English and Bulgarian Parties. Against this the V. World Congress carried out a purging of the tactics of the opportunist deviations, and showed that the failures and defeats which we had to record hitherto could, for the greater

part, be traced to the fact that we have not yet real bolshevist parties and activities.

The CYI. like every other section, was faced with the task of bolshevising itself. Expressed in concrete terms this means for the CYI. the following:

1. The whole communist youth must be systematically educated in the spirit and teaching of Lenin and bolshevism, in order that there shall grow up a generation of real bolshevist-Leninists. A constant struggle must be conducted against the opportunist and ultra-left deviations, and the correct bolshevist line must be followed. The CYI. and all communist youth organisations must actively and definitely co-operate in the bolshevising of the parties.

2. The chief conclusion for the CYI., as well as for the Comintern, is the necessity of developing the Communist youth organisations into Communist mass organisations of the whole working youth.

Further, our IV. Congress has adopted unanimously the decisions of the V. World Congress of the CI. At our Congress there was no discussion with a right wing as was the case at the V. Congress. This was not because of any political indifference — at this Congress the political interest was keener than at all previous congresses — but for the simple reason, because the right wing had gained no footing in the CYI. The only real discussion was that with the majority of the Italian youth delegation, which, although agreeing in all questions of activity of the CYI., unfortunately revealed the incorrect outlook of Bordiga in the C. P. of Italy. From the whole discussion the CYI. emerged united, politically firm and definitely on the line of the decisions of the V. World Congress and of Leninism.

The IV. Congress has closely examined the development of the CYI. since the III. Congress and its present condition and arrived at the following conclusions: The CYI. has, since the III. Congress, undoubtedly increased in power and is still increasing in strength. The cause of this increase is due to the correct political activity and the carrying out of the decisions of the III. Congress for the development of the Communist Youth organisations into mass organisations. The activity of the Communist youth organisations has developed more in the nature of mass activity, their influence upon the masses has become greater and more enduring, their membership has increased. Thus to-day the CYI. numbers for the first time a million members; that means that since the first congress it has increased fivefold and since the III. Congress by about 40%. Nevertheless, the Congress stated that with the exception of the Russian Communist Youth, the CYI. had no mass organisation of the working youth.

According to our IV. World Congress there are three chief indications to be observed in judging whether a Communist Youth organisation is to be regarded as a mass organisation in the actual sense of the word:

1. Its numerical strength, that is in relation to the strength of the Party and of the total number of the working youth. A Communist youth organisation must endeavour to have as many members as the Party, even more. 2. The Communist Youth organisation must, not only in isolated cases and occasions, but continually, lead the masses of the working youth and represent their interests: 3. Their organisation (factory nuclei) and activity must have a mass character.

The Congress defined by means of what activity we must in the present period proceed along the road to becoming a mass organisation and leader of the working youth. In this respect it took into consideration the present democratic-pacifist wave, which only serves to hide the increased war preparations. Accordingly it gave five chief tasks to the Communist youth organisations:

1. Regular political activity, in the sense of the decisions of the V. Congress, and political training of the members in the spirit of Leninism.

2. Complete and speedy reorganisation of the Leagues on the basis of the factory nuclei.

3. Fight against imperialist war danger, and intensive bolshevist anti-militarist work.

4. Increased activity in the trade unions.

5. Propaganda in the country.

The IV. Congress dealt with these tasks in a very thorough manner and worked out theses regarding them. If these decisions are carried out with energy, the Communist Youth International will make incalculable further progress.