

# THE MAGAZINE YOUNG SOCIALISTS'

Official Organ of the National Young People's Socialist League and of the Socialist Sunday School  
Published by the Socialist Co-operative Publishing Association, 15 Spruce St., New York City

VOL. XI

JUNE, 1917

No. 6



"The Masses"

IN EUROPE—AND AMERICA?

"NOW will you enlist?"

"NO! It's against my God and my conscience."

"To hell with your God and Conscience. This is a War for civilization."

# MARTYRDOM

William Francis Barnard

To look for the truth with an open mind,	Or to lock your lips, all worth resigned,	To the idols of force your head bowed low;
Bravely leaving the lies behind;	While you make a grave of the fruitful mind;	Your payment a server's existence;—come;
Suffering doubt, and, even worse, The pangs of superstition's curse,	And fawn on the knee with the fawning crowd	Which is the greater martyrdom?
Or to hide the truth 'neath falsehood's crust,	The shallow-souled and the narrow-browed;	To live for the right though the whole world blame;
And let your mind corrode in rust,	The price of your silence a slave's ease;—come;	Taking no thought of fame or shame;
Fearing to know, and clinging still	Which is the greater martyrdom?	Fighting; and falling if you must;
To the dream which work your nature ill;	To act as you think; untrammelled and bold;	Your face to the wrong as you sink in the dust—
Reason and wisdom rejected;—come;	To do and to give, or refuse and withhold;	Or to sell your heart and your soul for peace,
Which is the greater martyrdom?	Enduring scorn, or things more fell;	And get for your gain a longer lease
To utter your thoughts before all met;	The mob, perhaps, or a prison cell—	Of a life that at most can be but a lie;
Speaking full freely with voice and pen;	Or to chain your hands to your chained lips,	Bound in shame till it rot and die;
True to the truth, while it brings to you	And crouch, your manhood in eclipse;	All of its potencies palsied;—come;
But cold contempt or a harsh taboo—	For the whip of a custom to come or go;	Which is the greater martyrdom?

## IN BERLIN

By Mary Boyle O'Reilly

The train crawling out of Berlin was filled with women and children, hardly an able-bodied man. In one compartment a gray-haired Landsturm soldier sat beside an elderly woman who seemed weak and ill. Above the click clack of the car wheels passengers could hear her counting, "One, two, three," evidently absorbed in her own thoughts. Sometimes she repeated the words at short intervals. Two girls tittered, thoughtlessly exchanging vapid remarks about such extraordinary behavior. An

elderly man scowled reproval. Silence fell.

"One, two, three," repeated the obviously unconscious woman. Again the girls giggled stupidly. The gray Landsturm leaned forward.

"Fräulein," he said gravely, "you will perhaps cease laughing when I tell you that this poor lady is my wife. We have lost our three sons in battle. Before leaving for the front myself I must take their mother to an insane asylum."

It became terribly quiet in the carriage.

I can quite understand a man accepting laws that protect private property, and admit of its accumulation, as long as he himself is able under those conditions to realize some form of beautiful and intellectual life. But it is almost incredible to me how a man whose life is marred and made hideous by such laws can possibly acquiesce in their continuance.—Oscar Wilde.

## WHY I AM A SOCIALIST

By Karl Dannenberg

### II.

In my last month's article I pointed out that although enjoying the political institutions of a democratically governed country in the same category with a Morgan, Carnegie, Vanderbilt, etc., i. e., although the political equal of the richest men in the land, the worker is nevertheless industrially (in the sense of earning or providing a living for himself and his family) a slave. We are here face to face with the inexorable truism: that politically the worker is seemingly the molder or master of his destiny, but economically this same worker is a commodity bought and sold like cheese, potatoes and flour.

Against just this commodity status of the worker the Socialist Party raises the proletarian banner of revolt and demands:

**That the workers, who, with the assistance of nature, produce all wealth, shall also own all the wealth; by giving to every producer, everyone engaged in the industries of the land, the full product of his toil. . . . .**

How can such a state of society be established? Only by supplementing the political liberty of the workers with industrial freedom: **Only by liberating the workers in the mines, mills, factories, etc.—only by making the workers also economically master over themselves.**

Remember: Private ownership in the things necessary to the life and happiness of a people spells industrial slavery for the propertyless working-class, elevates the capitalist class to the position

of industrial despots and makes a farce out of political liberty.

The man or class who owns the things which you, I and the rest of society need to live, owns you, me and the rest of the disinherited working-class.

The only thing the worker possesses, besides the liberty to vote, starve and consume ozone free of charge, is his faculty to work. In order to keep this in a working condition, he needs food, shelter and clothing. Between food, shelter and clothing and the working-class the capitalist class stands: the class which holds a title of private ownership to the means necessary to produce food, clothing and shelter.

In order to live, the worker must apply his energy to the soil and the machines. And in order to do this, he must sell himself to the owners of the machines and the soil: the capitalists.

When the capitalist class buys the labor-power from the worker, it does this with a view of making a profit out of this bargain. Everything that the workers produce over and above a naked living, i. e., everything the workers produce over and above the value of their wage is appropriated by the capitalist employers and pocketed as profit. Consequently, the workers receive about one-quarter of what they produce, seventy-five per cent. goes to the idle class of parasites. And here we have the reason why the vast riches, which symbolize the co-operative productive efforts of millions of human bees are owned by a class of idlers; also the cause

for the sordid and dire poverty existing amongst the producers of all wealth—the workers.

The reason, therefore, why the workers are poor is not because they don't work or save, but because they are compelled to sell themselves like a commodity to the highest bidder in the labor market. And the reason why the workers must sell themselves is because they do not own the means necessary to produce the life necessities: because they are industrial serfs.

These means of production, transportation and the improvements on the soil—these machines, railroads, mills, mines, plantations, etc.—have all been some time or other produced by Labor, are all the achievements of conscious production, and, therefore, rightfully belong to the workers.

Labor applied to the mother earth produces all wealth, and to Labor the full product of its toil.

How can these principles be realized? How can this gigantic robbery be stopped? And how can Labor come into its own?

The recognition of the causes—private property in the means of production and the land—also show the way to the remedy: the removal of this social cancer.

In order to live a free life, society must have free access to the land and the machines, etc., i. e., society must own and control the land and the various industries necessary to its very existence. Private or capitalist ownership must be abolished and substituted by social ownership. Social ownership implies ownership of the land and the industries by everyone and no one.

This change from private to social ownership, through the elimi-

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## CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS IN ENGLAND

Twenty thousand Englishmen have made their protest against compulsory military service in the past half year, by claiming exemption based on conscientious objections. The majority of them accepted "alternative service," many were finally exempted for some other reason, and about five thousand thrown into jail.

The majority of the conscientious objectors are workers and a great number of them are Socialists. The anti-conscription propaganda has been carried on with such vigor and conviction, that the general temper gradually has improved. The brutal outrages against the objectors has caused so much protest, as to stop some of the most ferocious manifestations.

In the earlier period fifty objectors were forcibly transported to the war zone in France and after again refusing military orders were court martialed and condemned to death. Strong protests in England, however, changed these sentences into ten years' penal servitude. Others were beaten and tortured by military authorities in so-called "special rooms," and denied trial. Gradually, however, there developed a more systematic treatment combined of course with special offenses and ill-treatment, differing according to local authorities and local conditions. The system works out as follows:

The C. O. (conscientious objector) is turned over to the military authorities and with few exceptions is court martialed and sentenced to imprisonment, generally for 112 days in a civil prison. During this period the Central Tribunal decides whether

the objector is "genuine," and if found so, he is offered "alternative service" of "national importance" under the so-called "Home Office" scheme. If he refuses to accept this, he is sentenced to a longer term in prison, and so on.

Gilbert Canaan, who claimed to have been for many years a conscientious objector to the whole state of modern society and therefore was a conscientious objector against war, was ruled out of order as being a political and not a conscientious objector. Francis Johnson, General Secretary of the I. L. P., was accepted on a statement that he objected as a Socialist to whom Socialism is a religion, based upon a belief in International Brotherhood. One of the judges called this "political," but the majority agreed that: "Though the objections are rather based upon moral than upon religious grounds, they are acceptable as conscientious objections," which, however, did not keep our comrade out of jail, because he refused to do "alternative service."

Lately the proceedings have been systematized by decisions of the "Central Tribunal," as follows:

1. Absolute exemption is ruled out entirely, although this is clearly against the spirit of the law.
2. It is denied that men who are opposed to this particular war or who are prepared to take human life under certain circumstances, are C. O.'s at all.
3. It is declared that to young people exemption should be refused, because their views cannot

be regarded as "deliberate and settled." Membership in a Socialist organization is in itself considered no evidence of a conscientious objection to military service.

Against these rulings, although not binding for the local judges, the No-Conscription Fellowship carries an intensive propaganda. It certainly requires audacity to demand that young people shall kill and be killed, and at the same time deny them judgment because of being too young!

The chief argument presented by the Socialists is their International conception of a general brotherhood. Clifford Allen argued: "I am a Socialist and so hold in all sincerity that the life and personality of every man is sacred, and that there is something of divinity in every human being, irrespective of the nation to which he belongs. I cannot betray my belief in the brotherhood of all men. To me war is murder."

Particularly striking and interesting, for this country, is the following argument:

"I am a Negro, born in Jamaica. My parents were sent in bondage to Jamaica. They were torn from their home. My country is divided up among the European powers, who in turn have oppressed and tyrannized over my fellowmen. The Allies of Great Britain, i. e., Portugal and Belgium, have been among the worst oppressors, and now that Belgium is invaded I am about to be compelled to defend her. . . . Even Germans or any aliens who are white men are preferred to us. I have been buffeted from one labor



exchange to another. . . . In view of these circumstances, and also the fact that I have a moral objection to all wars, I would sacrifice my rights rather than fight."

There is no doubt that extensive arguing before the different courts and the courage of conviction shown by a great number of Socialists will bear results, if not at once, then in the near future.

#### WHY I AM A SOCIALIST

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nation of the parasitic spongers of profit, is the fundamental demand of the Socialist Party. Social ownership in the means of wealth production spells the industrial liberation of the workers from the fetters of wage slavery, and is the crying demand of the hour—is Socialism. This form of ownership will once and for all shatter the commodity status of labor-power, take the workers out of the category of merchandise like flour, cheese, pig-iron and mules and make also in industrial life free men out of them.

Industrial equality through the inauguration of the Industrial Republic is the demand and burning question of the hour. If you are with us, then join the Socialist organization in your vicinity and assist in bringing this damnable system to a speedy termination.

Down with the commodity status of labor-power, and up with a system of production that will guarantee equal opportunities to all and to every producer the full product of his toil.

There are more souls in Hell because of politicians' broken promises than for any other reason.—Keir Hardie.

## THE AMERICAN INQUISITION

By Clara G. Stillman

To "punch a man in the eye" because he does not stand when you think he ought to stand, for instance when the Star Spangled Banner is played (a prevalent form of patriotic expression), is different in degree but not in kind from burning him at the stake because he does not kneel when you think he ought to kneel. The same assumption underlies both acts, the assumption that you have the right to impose your beliefs, your standards of morality and behavior on another human being by force, and to punish him because he acts according to his own conscience instead of according to yours.

Persecution of religious non-conformers would be looked upon with horror in America today. But persecution of social non-conformers is not only sanctioned by the press, the courts, and public officials, but acclaimed as an evidence of high public virtue. An officer commends a soldier who knocks down a man for "disrespect to the flag" and a patriotic society presents him with a medal. A company of restaurant diners attack a man who did not rise for the anthem. The magistrate before whom their victim is brought declares such conduct "imprudent and discourteous." Whose conduct? The victim's, of course. The attackers were acting with perfect prudence as events show, and their courtesy was of the latest American model. In other similar cases there have been fines and prison sentences. For whom? Need we ask?

Patriotism is thus fast becoming the splendid justification for violence, lynch law, intolerance and brutality of every sort. Not that America is worse in this respect than any other country where militarism is in the ascendant. Like causes, like effects. But it comes with a more violent shock to a people like ours who have for years sentimentally lulled themselves to sleep with the belief that they were free by some divine right and could never be anything else. It will be a still greater shock if we face the present meaning and probable future development of the new inquisition. It is religious persecution, the old enemy, in a new form. Internationalism is to-day a religion for millions of people, a religion of humanity, of social justice, of reverence for the sacred diversity of the human spirit. To cripple, to enslave that spirit, as Militarism always must do, is in that religion the one unforgivable desecration. Liberty of conscience will yet need its saints and martyrs if it is to prevail in the end.

War is the concentration of all human crimes. Under its standard gather violence, malignity, rage, fraud, rapacity, and lust. If it only slew men, it would do little. But it turns man into a beast of prey. Here is the evil of war, that man, made to be the brother, becomes the deadly foe of his kind; that man, whose duty is to mitigate suffering, makes the infliction of suffering his study and end.

William Ellery Channing.

## A Socialist Juvenile Conference in Switzerland

In the Swiss city Solothurn, in the Easter holidays, a convention of the Socialist Young People's Organization of German and French-Italian Switzerland was held. Saturday and Monday were devoted to sessions of the German Federation. On Easter Sunday a joint conference of the newly organized Swiss Young People's Socialist Organization was held. 133 German and 28 French-Italian delegates were in attendance.

The Sunday session was opened with the singing of the International. The first order of business, a report on the fusion of the two Federations was well received. The proposed organization plans found general approval. Both Federations are to retain their autonomy, but shall elect a joint National Committee of 3 German and 3 French members: an annual conference and a young people's day were likewise decided upon.

The second order of business was a report on "Our common aims and duties." In this connection an extra monthly assessment of 5 Cts., for the purpose of raising a fund for the support and defense of the victims of the anti-armed for anti-militarist agitation or for refusing military service.

So far the conference had been quite harmonious. When, however, in a discussion of the military question, a general-strike discussion cropped out, the opinions of the German and the French-Italian groups showed a wide divergence. The latter moved that a general strike be called on May 1st, as a protest against the high cost of the necessities of life. To

their great astonishment this proposal aroused the liveliest opposition. The final ballot showed 111 votes for a motion presented from the German group, calling for a general holiday on the 1st of May, as a demonstration for Revolution, and for the martyrs Liebknecht, Adler, Högländ etc.; and against the high cost of living. Only 36 votes were cast in favor of the French motion.

There was not a single vote in favor of fatherland-defense, but there were differences of opinion as to the most effective methods of agitation. The Germans favored revolutionary propaganda in the army, the French-Italian group insisted that every Socialist must refuse to serve. Against this proposal the German Central Committee moved indorsement of the left Zimmerwald resolution which calls for intensified propaganda against militarism, demobilization, revolutionary demonstrations in war time, general strikes gradually increasing in severity, until they take on the character of an armed uprising.

This motion was carried with 78 votes against 33 cast for the French resolution. This closed the joint session.

The German conference was held without any noticeable occurrences. The financial report showed a surplus of 1100 Francs. The Swiss juvenile organ, the "Freie Jugend," published bi-monthly, has a circulation of 7000, and is published with a surplus of 3500 Francs. Membership has increased from 3,500 to 5,000. This increase is recruited from the small sections. The larger

have, in the main, remained stable.

There were a number of motions and recommendations from the individual branches, the most important of which we will briefly mention. Chur demanded a special leaflet against military preparatory drill. The Executive Committee expressed its determination to publish a leaflet of this sort for distribution on August 1st in meetings to be held wherever possible, in conjunction with the party in which shall be explained the significance and meaning of patriotism.

Furthermore the conference decided to actively support the "Abstinentenbund."

Probably the most important action taken is the organization of children's groups. There are about 10 such organizations in the country.

These are to be conducted by local commissions composed of party representatives and of representatives from the working Women's Societies, the Young People's Societies and the Abstinentenbund.

Let our flag run out straight to the wind!

The old red shall be floated again

When the ranks that are thin shall be thinn'd,

When the names that were twenty are ten.

—Swinburne.

All creeds have their beginning in character.—G. C. Morgan, D.D.

## Die Mutter

(A True Story)

By Madeleine Z. Doty

The sky was shining blue. The air was still. The warmth of summer brooded over the land. But no bird's song broke the stillness. No bees fluttered over flowers. The earth lay torn and bare. In deep brown furrows of the earth, hundreds of restless men lay or knelt or stood.

The land was vibrant with living silence. But now and then a gigantic smashing roar broke the tense stillness. Then in some spots the ground spit forth masses of dirt, a soldier's helmet, a tattered rag of uniform, and bits of a human body.

It was after such a blast that a great winged object came speeding from the north. It skimmed low over the trenches and dipped, and circled and paused above the English line. Like a great eagle it seemed about to rush to earth, snatch its prey, and then be off. But as it hung suspended, another whirring monster flew from the south. It winged its way above its rival, then turning, plunged downward. The great cannons grew silent. The eyes of the pigmies in the trenches gazed skyward. A breathless tenseness gripped the earth. Only sun and sky shone on with no whisper of the mad fight of these two winged things.

For a few wild moments they rushed at one another. Then the bird with wings of white rose high, turned back, and plunged again upon the creature marked with huge, black crosses.

It missed its prey, but there came a cracking sound. A puff of smoke, like a hot breath, burst from the bird of the iron crosses. It shuddered, dropped, turned, and

fell head down. With sweeping curves the pursuer also came to earth. A lean, young Englishman sprang from the whirring engine. His body quivered with excitement. He sped with running feet to the broken object lying on the ground. He knelt by the twisted mass. Beneath the splintered wood and iron he saw a boyish figure. It was still and motionless. He gently pulled the body out. A fair young German lay before him. A deep gash in the head showed where a blow had brought instant death. The body was straight and supple, the features clear cut and clean. A boy's face with frank and fearless brow looked up at the young Englishman. The eyes held no malice. They were full of shocked surprise. The brown-haired lad felt the lifeless heart. A piece of cardboard met his fingers. He pulled it from the coat pocket. It was a picture—a picture of a woman—a woman with gray hair and kindly eyes,—a mother whose face was lined with patient suffering. Scrawled beneath the portrait in boyish hand were the words, "Meine Mutter.

A sob choked the young Englishman. Tenderly he gathered the lifeless form in his strong arms. Then he rose and walked unheeding across the open field of battle. But no angry bullets pelted after him. The men in the trenches saw and understood. Behind the lines the boy laid his burden down. Taking paper and pencil from his pocket and placing the little picture before him, he began to write.

When he had finished he placed the letter and portrait in a care-

fully directed envelope. Then walking hurriedly to his machine he prepared for flight. Soon he was skimming low over the enemy trenches. Leaning out, he dropped his missile. The cannons roared, but no rifle was turned on that bright figure. Instinctively, men knew his deed was one of mercy. As the little paper fluttered downward it was picked up by eager soldier hands. A little cheer broke from a hundred throats. Willing messengers passed it to the rear. Speedily it went on its way.

Twenty-four hours later a mother with pale face and trembling hands fingered the white scrap of paper. Her unseeing eyes gazed out on a smiling landscape. Between green meadows in the warm summer sunshine lay the glittering Rhine. But she saw nothing. Her baby boy was dead. Memories of him flooded her. She felt again the warmth of the baby body as it clung to her's and the pull of the tiny hands at her breast. She saw him as a boy, his eager restlessness. She heard his running steps at the door and his cry of "mother." It was over. That bright spirit was still. The third and last son had been exacted. Her fingers touched the letter in her lap. Her eyes fell on the penciled words. Slowly they took meaning. This boy who wrote: He'd seen the beauty of her son. He'd held the dear body in his arms. His heart was torn by anguish. What was it he said:

"It's your son. I know you can't forgive me for I killed him. But I want you to know he didn't suffer. The end came quickly. He was very brave. He must also have been

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## THE LAW AND THE PROFITS

By Ellis O. Jones

"Did I understand you to say that it was a good thing for the children to be thus employed at hard day labor?" inquired the Man from Mars, as he was being shown through the mill by the Pompous Proprietor.

"Why, yes," replied the Pompous Proprietor. "You don't suppose a man of my standing in the community would be a party to anything that was not unquestionably beneficial to the younger generation, do you?"

"I beg your pardon," said the Man from Mars sincerely. "There was no implication in my question. You must remember that I am merely a humble seeker after information. Of course, I must assume that you are practical. Otherwise, this mammoth business organization would be impossible."

"There you've hit it!" exclaimed the other with great enthusiasm. "Practical! The very word. Those who are not practical, the theorists and maudlin sentimentalists, claim that child labor is injurious, but we practical men know better."

The Man from Mars stopped and scrutinized a number of the little workers at close range. "In what way would you say briefly that this sort of thing benefited them the most?" he asked at length.

"Every way," declared the Pompous Proprietor. "It keeps them out of mischief. It increases the economic value of young manhood and young womanhood. It develops initiative. It keeps them from being mollycoddles and inefficient. It makes for morality, industry, self-restraint."

"Very interesting and enlightening, I'm sure," observed the Man

from Mars thoughtfully. "It never would have occurred to me to look upon an institution such as this as being so ideally philanthropic. How very happy it must make you to be able to do such a work!"

"It would make me happy, very happy indeed, if the reformers and the legislators would only let me alone," replied the Pompous Proprietor a little sadly. "They are always wanting to regulate the labor of the children, claiming that my chief incentive is the profit I make out of it. That, of course, is absurd."

"It must be," rejoined the Man from Mars. "But what do the reformers want to do with the children?"

"They want to put them into school. Bah! What good could that do them?"

"Please don't ask me!" protested the Man from Mars. "Now as to your own children. You said you had several, did you not?"

"Oh, yes, indeed," replied the Pompous Proprietor.

"In what department of your factory do they work, may I ask?"

"Why—ah—as to that—of course, you understand that my—ah—my own children do not work here. That would be—ah—well, to tell the truth, it would be very selfish of me to put my own children in here, for, don't you see, that would simply mean taking the jobs away from poor children who needed the work. I am really sorry, however, that you can't meet my children. My girls are away at finishing school and my boys are at college. Of course, you understand it is very self-sacrificing for me to treat them in this way, but I must

say that, considering the disadvantages I have given them, they compare very favorably, very favorably."

**Establish Militarism Here to Put an End to Militarism Abroad.**

To crush Prussian Militarism, which consists of:

Conscription.  
Censorship of Free Press.  
Restriction of Free Speech.  
Restriction of Free Assemblage.  
Industrial Compulsion.  
Supremacy of Martial Law over Civil Government.

The Republic of the United States is adopting:

Conscription.  
Censorship of Free Press.  
Restriction of Free Speech.  
Restriction of Free Assemblage.  
Industrial Compulsion.  
Supremacy of Martial Law over Civil Government.

### Bound to be True

I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true. I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live up to what light I have. I must stand with anybody that stands right; stand with him while he is right, and part with him when he goes wrong.—*Abraham Lincoln.*

"The workman who does not belong to a trade union gets his condition bettered without deserving it. He is like the chap who went to a funeral, stole a wreath, and won a flowershow prize with it!"

"A study of Socialism is a sure cure for mental blindness."

The capitalist flag has but three stars—rent, interest and profit."

## The Young Socialists' Magazine

Organ of the American Socialist Sunday Schools and Young People's Federation

Entered as Second-Class Mail Matter June 2, 1911, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Published Monthly at  
15 Spruce Street, New York.

by the  
Socialistic Co-operative Publ. Ass'n.  
John Nagel, Pres. O. Knoll, Sec'y.  
E. Ramm, Treas.



### THE TIME IS NOW

By Joseph Tuvim

The "Grand Dance" has been ordered. The leaders of American thought have called for the music and it will be heard the world over. It is the signal for the workers of America to join. To join what? To join the great dance that has laid the eastern hemisphere in ruins, that has killed millions, that has wounded, maimed and crippled tens of millions of workers.

The capitalist press yells the biddings of its masters. The workers must organize against this disease. It is the disease that means the death of the rights of the American workers. We cannot give to the masters what we have taken from them, for it has not been given to us because of our respect to them. Every right we have, has been granted because of our determination to get it.

Shall we now give them up? Shall we now allow the masters who have been robbing us day and year to put the clamp upon our mouths, upon our minds?

Fight and work for peace, for brotherhood, for a better ideal. Internationalism. Strive for Socialism, the only cure for Capitalism. Long live the International!

## WAR IS UPON US

With their eyes upon Europe and their confidence upon their leaders the toilers of the United States have blindly stumbled into the slough of militarism which threatens to engulf them. They stand knee deep in war debts under the black clouds of taxation, every means of escape barred by the barbed wire of conscription. Bewildered they turn to those leaders, who still seeking their confidence, flounder about for a way out, but find only those paths which lead back to the darkness of servitude over which they have so laboriously come. Here they seek to let down the bars which lead again to child labor and unlimited exploitation of women. There the gates of schools are opened that children may with immunity be deprived of their right to education by those who desire it. We see the workman's only day of rest jeopardized. His hours of labor have been lengthened and his right to compensation for sustained injuries is again denied him.

Yet we once walked upon the heights. More than a century ago our forefathers boldly asserted: That all men are created free and equal and are endowed with the unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. They wrote into our constitution in the first amendment: The right of free speech and of the press, the right of the people to peacefully assemble and petition the government and the free exercise of religion is not to be abridged. Article 13 of the same document definitely states: Neither slavery or involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime where-

of the party shall have been duly convicted shall exist within the United States or any place subject to their jurisdiction. Free from the oppressive yoke of militarism this country developed industrially and socially and was a haven of rest to those for whom the tyrannies of the old world had become intolerable. It has been able to maintain thousands of miles of frontier without a single fort or defence of any kind. When we gazed upon Europe in the last two years of agony and suffering we could not help but feel that the enormous military and naval equipment of those countries were in a large measure the direct cause of the ruthless devastation of life there. The workers of the country were so horrified that they took every opportunity to register their disapproval of this madness. They elected their leader under the slogan, "He kept us out of war," and then forgot that he, who has the mighty power to lead us out, also has the power to lead us in. So they are now ensnared in the nets of war and all that it implies. They are called upon to sever the ties of love and friendship to one another, to suppress the instincts of kindness, sympathy and humanity, and train themselves to kill, not wild beasts or savage hordes, but men like themselves, with their own standards, brothers of the one great human family, of the world.

"But why?"

We are told that we must make these sacrifices that we may bring democracy to the people of Europe. We must

bring them democracy with deadly hand-grenades and glittering bayonets. We must bring them peace with machine guns.

Can fire extinguish fire? Can brutality beget love? Can another cup of gall added to the sum of race-hatred bring forth the brotherhood of man and lasting peace? Surely we have lost our way. It is indeed time that we avail ourselves of our right to peaceful assemblage and the right to petition our government and ask it to reconsider some of its measures, especially those concerning our conditions of labor and the conscription laws. It is time that we stop blaming the government for all the evil that exists and do our share to make things better. The government can not be wiser or better than the people who create it. Moreover, in a democratic country such as we claim to have, the government is elected to serve the people and be guided in all its acts by the will of the majority. provided the latter makes its position perfectly clear in a sane and legitimate way. If we feel that the conscription laws compel a man to involuntary servitude and impose upon him a state of slavery which is degrading to him as it causes him to violate his moral and ethical standards and work contrary to his conscience, we should give him every support he needs, to insist upon his rights guaranteed him under the 13th Amendment of our Constitution. We should then also use all our influence to have such laws repealed.

"Who's Who" is nothing more than a record of the people who Do—You!

## DIE MUTTER

(Continued from Page 6)

very good. He had your picture in his pocket. I am sending it back, though I should like to keep it. I suppose I am his enemy, yet, I don't feel so at all. I'd give my life to have him back. I didn't think of him or you when I shot at his machine. He was an enemy spying out our men. I couldn't let him get back to tell his news. It meant death to our men. It was a plucky deed. We were covered up with brush. He had to come quite low to see us and he came bravely. He nearly escaped me. He handled his machine magnificently. I thought how I should like to fly with him. But he was the enemy and had to be destroyed. I fired. It was over in a second. Just a blow on the head as the machine crashed to earth. His face shows no suffering, only excitement. His eyes are bright and fearless. I know you must have loved him. My mother died when I was quite a little boy. But I know what she would have felt if I had been killed. War isn't fair to women. God! how I wish it were over. It is a nightmare. I feel if I just touched your boy, he'd wake and we'd be friends. I know his body must be dear to you. I will take care of it and mark his grave with a little cross. After the war you may want to take him home.

"For the first time, I'm almost glad my mother isn't living. She could not have borne what I have done. My own heart is heavy. I felt it was my duty. Yet now when I see your son lifeless before me and hold your picture in my hand, it all seems wrong. The world is dark. O Mother, be my mother just a little, too, and tell me what to do.—Hugh."

Slowly great tears rolled down the woman's cheeks. What was this monster that was smashing men? Her boy and this other, they were the same. No hate was in their hearts. They suffered—the whole world suffered. Her country went in hunger. The babies in the near-by cottages grew weak for want of milk. She mustn't tell that to the English lad. His heart would break. Why must such suffering be? Was she to blame? There was the English lad without a mother. She had not thought of him and others like him. Her home, her sons, her Fatherland, these had been sufficient. But each life hangs on every other. Motherhood is universal.

Suddenly she knew what to write. What she must say to that grief-stricken English boy. Quickly her hand penned the words:

"Dear Lad: There is nothing to forgive. I see you as you are—your troubled goodness. I feel you coming to me like a little boy astounded at having done ill when you meant well. You seem my son. I am glad your hands cared for my other boy. I had rather you than any other touched his earthly body. He was my youngest. I think you saw his fineness. I know the torture of your heart since you have slain him. To women brotherhood is a reality. For all men are our sons. That makes war a monster that brother must slay brother. Yet perhaps women more than men have been to blame for this world war. We did not think of the world's children, our children. The baby hands that clutched our breasts were so sweet, we forgot the hundred other baby hands stretched out to us. But the Earth does not forget, she mothers all. And now my heart aches with repentance. I long to take you in my



arms and lay your head upon my breast to make you feel through me your kinship with all the earth. Help me, son, I need you. Spread the dream of oneness and love throughout the world. When the war is over come to me. I am waiting for you.—Deine Mutter."

### THE SONG

Among the exchange prisoners who returned to France because of permanent disability was also my friend. I went to meet him and now I beheld him again—the wreck of a man. He, the big strong man, leader in every exploit—he was sitting in a go-cart drawn by a comrade—he had lost both his legs. He sat bent over, pale, his hair dishevelled. My heart cried out when I saw him. But not a sound came from my lips. I held out my hand to him. He pressed it heartily and looked up at me—the same old look of the friend, the comrade.

Did my look unconsciously hold a question? A faint smile crossed his lips; his mouth twitched with bitterness and sarcasm: "You think the rest of me is useless now?"

"John"—was all I could say. Let me tell it calmly: Tears were flowing from my eyes—they fell on our clasped hands. And then he said, speaking with his very soul: "My heart is still whole. Sepp; so the fellow is still of some use."

In the evening I sat by him. He told me the story.

"I sacrificed them for the 'International.' We had to reconnoiter at night. We had advanced far to the front, crawling silently in the black night. The enemy trenches must have been very near. A mild breeze was blowing from the West. Suddenly we

caught sounds. We sensed a melody. I listened. It is the International! The singer is not near. But his voice is powerful. The distance softens the hardness, and a warm, interflowing melody comes to me.

Now . . . the place where the German words run: "International Humanity will be!"

"I tremble all over. My heart beats fast: International Humanity will be! And I? I am lying here on my belly, armed to the teeth, crawling stealthily forward, my hands full of bombs which I am to throw into a trench filled with men like myself, inspired with the same ideals. And if I hit them, I scatter death among them . . . Out of the distance comes again the refrain: 'International Humanity will be!'

"Sepp, it was foolish of me, aye, wrong to my comrades. But I couldn't help myself. I felt as if I could stop the horror, could end the war, by calling to the singer there a greeting from the same song. I jump up and shout across: 'International Humanity will be!'

"The Captain of the Guard called to me hoarsely: 'Shut up, man. Back, quick!' But I was still standing while the shots rained all about me. I was still standing as a sudden flash cut my body in relief on the black night, and before I could throw myself on the ground, a fierce blast tore the sod under me, and I lost consciousness.

"Here and there I saw, as in a mist, men busying themselves about me. In my delirium in the French hospital I must have frayed a good deal about love. When I fully regained consciousness again, I realized that both

of my . . . were gone. The assistant surgeon asked me one day, in German: 'Are you a Socialist?' I told him yes. He looked at me a long time, as one eyes a brother, and then he said, very low: 'Now I understand.' He was about to leave; then he suddenly seemed to think of something else. He turned again to me, held out his hand and said: 'Comrade . . . ah, it is terrible. Who would have thought of it? But you are right: International Humanity will be—our Humanity will never be.'

John was silent. Very low, as if in a dream, he murmured: "International Humanity will be . . ."

### "Somewhere in France"

A soldier has related the following incidents which occurred "somewhere in France":—

"When the battery moved into a fresh trench the Germans opposite hoisted a placard bearing the words: 'You were at the Somme; if you don't fire we won't fire.' The English disregarded this.

"Another day a German private came across 'No Man's Land' to give himself up, calling 'Kameraden,' but before he reached the English trenches the Germans turned on a machine gun and shot him down."

The fear of Socialism is the beginning of Social Reform.—Keir Hardie.

So long as the workers vote industrial despots into the saddle they will be ridden to death.

Under Capitalism a pig is considered an asset, and a baby a liability, or a burden.

Discontent and necessity are the two great propelling forces back of all human progress.

## New Jersey Young People's Socialist Convention

By Joseph Tuvim  
(Official Report.)

Oh, my country, Oh, my country,  
How I love its bloomin' spot.  
Ain't it funny, how for money  
One can be a "patriot."

The New Jersey State Young People's Socialists League held its fourth annual convention at the Newark Labor Institute, Barclay and Montgomery Streets, Newark, N. J., on Sunday, May 13, 1917.

The opening address by Benj. C. Green, the state secretary, was accepted with great enthusiasm. He said: "If I understand sentiments, we will proclaim to the world to-day that we will refuse to fight the battles of the capitalist class, that we refuse to kill people we have never seen before. If this be treason let them make the most of it. To-day we must dedicate our lives for the cause for which so many men and women have gladly given their lives."

He then introduced Abe Lundy, the state organizer, who called the meeting to order and called for the election of a temporary chairman, secretary and a credential committee. Louis Cohan of Paterson was elected temporary chairman and Bertha N. Bader temporary secretary. The credential committee was then elected. Thirty-four delegates were then seated by the report from the credential committee. Leon Josephson of Paterson was elected permanent chairman of the convention, Walter Leiblein of Elizabeth vice-chairman and Bertha N. Bader secretary. The election of the War and Resolutions Committee followed. Those elected were: Abe Waks of Paterson, A. Heutl of Elizabeth, Louis Josephson of Trenton, Sam Siedman of Newark, I. Freiman of Newark, Milton D. Newman of Jersey City and A. Gowey of Trenton.

The Ways and Means Committee consisted of Louis Cohan of Paterson, Arthur Ellinger of Elizabeth, Simon Moser, Samuel Regovern, Paul Shogren of Newark and Morris Pakula of Paterson.

Telegrams of greetings were received from Massachusetts and Pennsylvania. The Chicago Convention of the Young Socialists sent the following telegram of greeting:

"Chicago Yipsels in convention assembled to-day greet Jersey comrades. Let 'War Lords' take notice, no soldiers from our ranks.

Mrs. H. W. Kruse,  
City Secretary."

Milton D. Newman, New Jersey's National Committeeman, reported that the National Committee sent a telegram of sympathy to the comrades of Sweden. That the committee appointed Comrade Kruse as a fraternal delegate to the Socialist Party convention. That he asked Kruse for good standing membership but Kruse answered that if he wanted it he could find it in the American Socialist. He reported that there is not enough unity between the New Jersey State and the National Office.

George R. Kirkpatrick then addressed the convention. He said: "The Young Socialist movement cannot afford to lose their rights to do effective work for Socialist propaganda. The Young Socialists' League should co-operate with other organizations to preserve the rights of discussion, the freedom of press and assemblage. Without these we cannot go on further in progress. These rights are hated by industrial and political pirates. The wrong have everything to lose, the right have nothing to lose." He also asked that the Young Socialists read various books from the capitalistic point of view.

The session then adjourned for a luncheon. Photographs were taken after luncheon.

The afternoon session began at 2.05 P. M.

Joseph Tuvim and Alexander Jaunwils spoke for the "Young Socialists' Magazine." Isidor Fisher of Rochester reported as a fraternal delegate. He said that the New York State Y. P. S. L. will co-operate with the New Jersey League to resist conscription and military training.

Congratulations were received from the Brooklyn League through Max Lieberman from the Bronx League through Joseph Edelston. Maud Thompson appealed to the convention for internationalism. "We must have tolerance and spirit of patience," said she. "We are going to keep the fight for free speech and discussion before the American people. We will not pull down our flag, the Young Socialists will not do the other thing. We are not going to lose our heads, we are going to hold up internationalism, love and hope. You don't care for other flags, but you will follow the Red Flag of Internationalism," was the keynote

of her speech. Other speakers were Gus. Theimer of Elizabeth, Geo. Goebel and Harry D. Smith of New York.

The Ways and Means Committee reported and the following suggestions were favorably passed upon:

That an educational committee be elected with a director at the head. Solomon Efrein was elected director.

That fifty dollars be appropriated, twenty dollars for the organizer, ten dollars for the financial secretary and twenty dollars for the secretary for their expenses. Same to be paid at the end of their term of office.

That state dues be increased from 4 to 5 cents, Jewish Circles to be exempted, because of their affiliation. That the National Committee may be instructed to ask the National Y. P. S. L. to investigate the advisability of publishing the Y. S. M. and to have the Magazine distributed by the circles.

That circles push the Magazine to their members.

Fred Kraft's Sunday School children suddenly appeared and sang revolutionary songs.

That (5) five Dollars be appropriated for the Yipsel column in the N. Y. Call.

That State Office keep a correct record with an index system of members, Circle Secretaries to send in the correct report.

That the educational director be a member of the state committee.

That prizes be given to circles that are most prompt in submitting monthly reports and such other information.

That on (throwaway) cards instead of printing ragtime or popular songs, Socialist sayings or advertising the Socialist movement be printed.

The resolution and war committee gave the following report which was acted upon favorably.

That the State Y. P. S. L. support the labor press, especially the New York Call.

That the members of occupational trades join labor or industrial unions.

That the members and circles donate funds for the Tom Mooney defense.

The following resolution on war was acted favorably upon after a heated discussion.

## RESOLUTION ON WAR

The Young People's Socialist League of New Jersey, in this grave crisis, solemnly reaffirms its allegiance to the principles of internationalism and working-class solidarity, and proclaims its unalterable opposition to the war entered into by the United States government or by any government controlled by capitalist interests.

The Y. P. S. L. does not believe that the interests of the great mass of young working men and women can possibly be served by the present war. It does not believe that the mad orgy of death and devastation which is now convulsing unfortunate Europe was entered into for the advancement of democracy. In the name of democracy, the flower of American youth will be sent to the shambles of Europe, there to be slaughtered, fighting in a war they had no voice in declaring. In the name of patriotism, they will be forced to kill or maim other young men, brothers of their class, with whom they have no quarrel.

The American people did not want this war. When Belgium was invaded, they remained neutral, both in deed and thought. But when the enormous war profits of our capitalist class were seriously threatened, our government calls upon us to rally to the "defense of democracy and civilization."

Professedly entered into to abolish Prussianism and to force democracy upon a foreign people, this war is in truth establishing slavery at home. It is less than six weeks since the United States government has entered into the World War. In this short space of time, the iron grip of militarism has fastened itself upon our country. Conscription has been placed upon our statute books. The "gag" bill is being forced through Congress. Standards to safeguard labor, built up by years of effort, are being swept aside. The right of free speech has been assailed, halls have been closed against public discussion and peaceful meetings have been broken up. Thus does militarism blatantly herald its arrival in our midst.

The slogan "Stand by the President, right or wrong" is the false doctrine of narrow nationalism. Against this the Y. P. S. L. holds forth to the American working class youth the noble ideal of international working class solidarity.

The Y. P. S. L. of New Jersey therefore calls upon the youth of the

working class not to suspend their struggle with the reactionary capitalist interests of this country. It favors a more vigorous prosecution of the class struggle.

It calls upon its members and upon the members of the working-class youth of this country to pledge themselves to the following course of action:

1. That they take part as individuals and organizations—to aid in repealing the present conscription measure; to oppose all future conscriptive acts; to aid all those who conscientiously oppose military or industrial service; to work for the maintenance of civil rights and liberties; to do their utmost to maintain and improve the standard of living of their class; to oppose in every possible way the industrial conscription of women and children.

2. That they offset the influence of the military hysteria by opposition to the Boy Scout movement, by opposition to military training in schools, organizations or work place.

And it further calls upon all its members, and upon all other members of the working class who have conscientious scruples against murdering others of their own class, to refuse to submit to any military service which will involve their active participation in the murder of their fellow-men.

## Circle 1, of Elizabeth

introduced a resolution asking Meyer London to introduce in Congress for the repeal of the selective draft and that mass-meetings be held by young Socialists, who should combine with the S. P. That the Young Socialist distribute literature. That Y. P. S. L. and Socialist name a day to be known as Anti-Conscription Day. Ballots on conscription to be distributed at meetings held on that day and collected, to be used by Meyer London as evidence of discontent.

The new officers of the league will be Rudolf Koller, organizer; Benj. Herschcow, of Trenton, assistant organizer; Louis Cohan, of Paterson, Jeanette Heller, of Newark, Financial Secretary; Milton D. Newman, of Jersey City, was re-elected National Committee man.

They say it was a shocking sight

After the field was won;

For many thousand bodies there

Lay rotting in the sun.

But things like that, you know, must be

After a famous victory.

—Southey, "Battle of Blenheim."

## DAYLIGHT FOR WHAT?

By Rheta Childre Dorr

Outside of a small group of theorists there will be found comparatively few enthusiasts for the saving daylight idea. Who really wants to get up an hour earlier, go to work an hour earlier, eat dinner an hour earlier, go to bed with the chickens. But a new business day, with the clock turned forward an hour, would please a few, and would profoundly bore a great majority.

The arguments for the saving daylight are that gas and electric light bills would be saved; that working men would have more time to spend with their families; that business men would have a chance to see the baby awake, instead of asleep in the crib. But when it comes right down to facts the extra daylight hour would simply mean to the majority of Americans, an extra hour in which to hustle. Manufacturers would put on extra shifts; department stores would keep open longer; business men would shorten their lives by working another hour; idle women would spend a little more time at shopping and bridge.

What we Americans need is more time to think, not more time to work. We need more restful sleep, more long evenings in which to read and to use our reasoning powers. We need the sweet twilights of spring and the long, lovely scented summer evenings. Instead of the eternal rush and push and competition of business and pleasure we need time for contemplation. More idleness would do us good. Not a vacuous idleness of mental inaction, but the kind suggested by Emerson when he sang:

"Chide me not, laborous band,

With the labors you have wrought.

Every aster in my hand

Comes home laden with thought."

The average American has so much daylight now that he doesn't know an aster from a tulip. He thinks that the natural habitat of flowers, winter and summer, is a flower shop. He knows so little of the beauty of night that he has never thrilled to the winter constellations. And yet there is a movement on to increase his opportunity of indulging in a blind, insensate, soul killing habit of work.

## NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP,

May 1, 1917

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP,		Per Capita Increase	
1. Omaha, Nebraska ..	78 points	First Prize, 10 points, Reading, Pa.	81 per cent. increase.
2. Trenton, N. J. ....	70 "	Second Prize, 7 points, Water-	town, N. Y., 79 per cent. increase.
3. Buffalo, N. Y. ....	66 "	Third Prize, 4 points, Syracuse, N.	Y., 48 per cent. increase.
4. Toledo, Ohio ....	59 1/2 "		
5. Hartford, Conn. ....	59 1/2 "		
6. Rochester, N. Y. ....	59 "		
7. Watowon, N. Y. ....	57 1/2 "		
8. Syracuse, N. Y. ....	56 1/2 "		
9. St. Louis, Mo. ....	55 "		
10. Northwest Chicago 54 1/2 "			
11. New Britain, Conn. 50 1/2 "			
12. Newark, N. J. ....	49 1/2 "		
13. Reading, Pa. ....	49 1/2 "		
14. Paterson, N. J. ....	49 "		
15. Jamestown, N. Y. ....	48 "		
16. Centralwest Chicago 47 1/2 "			
17. Terre Haute, Ind. ...	46 1/2 "		
18. New Haven, Conn. 45 "			
19. Brooklyn, N. Y. ....	45 "		
Queens Co. No. 2 40 "			
20. Lawrence, Mass. ...	39 1/2 "		
21. Cleveland, O. ....	38 1/2 "		
22. Washington, D. C. ...	35 3/4 "		
23. Providence, R. I. ...	35 1/4 "		
24. Bronx, N. Y. ....	32 1/4 "		
25. Denver, Colo. ....	27 1/4 "		
26. Ansonia, Conn. ....	25 1/4 "		
27. Troy, N. Y. ....	25 1/4 "		
28. Milwaukee, Wis. ...	24 "		
29. St. Paul, Minn. ....	23 1/2 "		
30. Decatur, Ill. ....	23 1/4 "		
31. Washington, D. C. ..	23 "		
Jewish ....	23 "		
32. Lafayette, Ind. ....	23 "		
33. Cleveland, O. Jewish 22 1/2 "			
34. Fellowship, Chicago ..	22 "		
35. Dayton, O. ....	21 1/2 "		
36. San Francisco, Cal. 20 "			
37. Wilkes-Barre, Pa. ...	13 1/2 "		
38. McKeesport, Pa. ...	13 1/4 "		
39. Greenville, Pa. ....	11 1/4 "		
40. St. Louis, Mo. (J) ...	11 "		
41. Bridgeport, Conn. ...	10 "		
42. Richmond, Ind. ....	9 1/4 "		
43. Lynn, Mass. ....	5 "		
44. Kokomo, Ind. ....	4 1/2 "		
45. Friendship, Chicago 3 1/4 "			
46. Boston, Mass. ....	2 1/2 "		
47. Brockton, Mass. ...	2 "		
48. Philadelphia, S. S. ...	1 "		

## QUARTERLY MEMBERSHIP INCREASE COMEST

Numerical Increase

First Prize, 10 points, New Britain, Conn., 22 new members.
Second Prize, 7 points, Trenton, N. J., 19 new members.
Third Prize, 4 points, Reading, Pa., 17 new members.
Third Prize, 4 points, Syracuse, N. Y., 17 new members.

## OUR OWN AFFAIRS

(Official Reports from the Secretaries.)

## CONVENTION OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOC. LEAGUE OF GREATER NEW YORK

The convention of the Young People's Socialist League of Greater New York, held at 167 Tompkins Avenue, Brooklyn, on Sunday, May 20th, 1917, was called to order by Organizer J. Lapidus of Brooklyn at 3 P. M. Comrades I. Okin of the Bronx and S. Stark of Brooklyn were elected chairman and secretary, respectively. The purposes of the convention were outlined as follows:

1. Helping the Bronx league in providing for the coming state convention to be held in that county.
2. Reorganization of the District Committee of Greater New York.
3. Election of a Deputy Organizer in accordance with the regulation of the last state convention.
4. Discussion of the Young Socialists' Magazine.
5. Resolutions.
6. Adjournment.

## REFERENDUM CARRIES

The following referendum to amend the National Constitution of the Y. P. S. L. has carried. Comrades are invited to cut it out and paste same in their "Organization Manual" in the space provided.

To Change Art. VI, Sec. 1, to read:—

Sec. 1: "A National Secretary of the Young People's Socialist League who shall also serve as Director of the Young People's Department of the Socialist Party, shall be nominated by the leagues. Each league shall be entitled to submit its nominations together with a statement and evidence of the qualifications of their nominee, as well as a statement of his acceptance. The National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party shall select two or more nominees who in their judgment are qualified for the position. These names shall be submitted to a referendum vote of the league membership."

Carried, 885 in favor, 64 opposed.

To Insert:—

Sec. 2: "The term of office of the National Secretary shall be two years. Nominations are to be offered in time for election in January of odd-numbered years, and the secretary-elect is to take office on the first of July following."

Carried, 846 in favor, 107 opposed. So that there may be no misunderstanding of the import of this referendum, since under its terms elections would not regularly be held until January, 1919, nominating blanks have been sent to all leagues. Each league is entitled to nominate one candidate for the position of National Secretary of the Y. P. S. L. All nominations must be in this office not later than June 22nd, forty days after its first publication and about two months after it was first mailed out. All blank lines on the nominating blank should be fully filled out.

PROPOSED REFERENDUM

By Circle St. Paul, Minn., 16 Members.

That is shall be a part of the duty of the National Secretary to furnish each league with a report of the business transacted in the National Office each month."

Submitted for seconds May 13th. Expires August 13th.

The representatives of the Bronx were then called upon to explain the situation confronting them with reference to the coming state convention. They explained their need for money and called upon the other leagues to aid them. A motion was accordingly made, seconded and carried, that each county elect a committee of two to co-operate with a similar committee of the Bronx in arranging for this convention.

Under the consideration of the reorganization of the District Committee of Greater New York, a heated discussion took place on the practicability and desirability of bringing this body into existence again. Motion made, seconded and carried that the District Committee be reorganized. Each county hereby instructed to elect three delegates to this committee. Motion made, seconded and carried that a secretary be elected to call the District Committee to order. Comrade Weil of Brooklyn elected.

On the question of the Deputy Organizer, a motion was made and seconded, that the executive secretary of the District Committee act as Deputy Organizer. Amendment made and seconded that the District Committee call for nomination and election of an executive secretary who shall also be the Deputy Organizer. The amendment was carried.

During the limited discussion on the Young Socialists' Magazine, the



following recommendations made by Comrade J. Tuvin representing the Magazine, were unanimously accepted:

1. That every Circle in Greater New York donate \$2 to the Y. S. M. to pay for the deficit incurred.

2. That every Circle in Greater New York elect a permanent magazine agent to look after the interests of the magazine in his or her Circle.

3. That every Circle in Greater New York give a yearly advertisement in the magazine's directory.

4. That every Circle in Greater New York deposit \$2 with the magazine to pay for bills the Circle may incur.

A resolution committee was then elected to draw up resolutions for the convention. The following resolutions were submitted and carried:

Whereas, the Congress of the United States has declared that a state of war exists between this country and the Government of Germany, and

Whereas, in furtherance of the war, the United States Congress has decided to conscript all young men between the ages of 21 and 30 into the regular army, and

Whereas, this war, as all wars, is one for profit and of no concern to the workers, and

Whereas, we, as Young Socialists, are opposed to all wars, therefore be it

Resolved, that we denounce the war as a crime against humanity and that we refuse to support it. Be it further

Resolved that we oppose and resist conscription of ourselves and fellow-members. Be it further

Resolved, that we endorse the majority report of the Socialist Party's Emergency Convention at St. Louis as the true Socialist position on war and militarism. Be it further

Resolved, that we consider participation in the Red Cross movement as supporting the government in its prosecution of the war, and that any member voluntarily joining such a society be expelled from the Y. P. S. L., and, that volunteering for farm work in aid of the government is also traitorous to our ideals and principles, and any member so volunteering be expelled.

The following is the second resolution submitted and carried:

Whereas, certain self-styled Socialists in disagreement with the Socialist Party on its position against this war have been attacking the party and its members by communi-

cations to the Capitalist press and capitalist legislative tools, encouraging action by the government against our comrades, therefore be it

Resolved, that we repudiate and denounce all who so act; and we brand them as traitors to the working class and refuse to recognize them as fellow-Socialists.

The convention adjourned at 7 P. M. Samuel Stark, Secretary.

#### Circle 1, Manhattan

Circle 1 is not only the first Manhattan circle in name, but also in every other respect. A selection of one hundred of talented young people constitutes its membership.

Such a membership presages an active organization. And so it is. With its large number of entertainers, the circle is never made to suffer a top-heavy program. Interesting and instructive lectures on various topics have recently been held. The organization of a circle orchestra and the revival of the club journal "The Comrade" are under way. A large part of the membership, under the guidance of one of its group, has just gotten through with a class-study of Engels' "Socialism, Utopian and Scientific."

On June 2nd Circle 1 will hold a dance at the Manhattan League Headquarters, and on July 10, the organization will celebrate its tenth anniversary with an entertainment and banquet.

Circle 1 also takes a most active interest in athletic games, having won the senior and junior champs in the C. A. U. basket ball tournament, and having captured first and fourth place in the recent C. A. U. road run. This season Circle 1's invincible baseball team is a foremost contender for the Call Base Ball League trophy.

In brief, Circle 1 is A 1.

#### Circle 2, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Our circle worked untiringly to earn the reputation of being the best circle in the league. Suddenly a clash came. Some mysterious spirit conflicted with its progress. All officers and even members tried to explain why a low state of enthusiasm existed. Some comrades claimed that the program committee was not providing suitable programs. Others claimed that a comradely spirit, which had always been prevalent, was lacking, while the newer members claimed that sufficient at-

tention was not paid to them to make them interested in the Circle's work. Fortunately, the evening for election of officers came at this crisis. Keeping in view the necessity of strong people at the helm the following officers were elected: Organizer, Evelyn Breslau; Recording Secretary, George Brodsky; Corresponding Secretary, Anna Lapidus; Financial Secretary, David Lieberman. Together with committees consisting of real "live wires," these officers will aid in raising the standard of Circle 2.

The program committee, acting upon a suggestion, is going to spring upon the membership a set of novelties, which will both increase the enthusiasm of all and aid in determining the talents of our comrades.

The Circle is to be divided into two groups, one consisting of long standing members and the other of members who joined during the past half year. Each camp is to select from its midst six speakers. The first evening during which the strange plan is to be worked, the older camp is to fill with their recitations and orations. The following meeting the younger members will show their abilities. From the dozen contestants, two of the best representatives of each camp are to be chosen and will compete on the third evening.

The arrangements committee is trying to obtain speakers, to address the Circle on any educational subject. It will greatly appreciate the offer of any comrade who desires to lecture upon any phase of Socialism. In order to carry out the plans for studying Socialism, the committee decided that it was necessary to form a class. Accordingly a committee was selected to investigate as to where an instructor can be found.

The members are all busily engaged in outside activities, such as Anti-Conscription Leagues, campaigning for the re-election of Comrade Shlipoff to the State Legislature, and in aiding the Socialist Party Branches to distribute leaflets, sell literature and to advertise them. Under the leadership of Jacob Afros, the comrades who attend Boys' High School, Brooklyn, have organized its students to stand against compulsory military training. An attempt is being made by Rosa Margolies and Kate Noskin to organize an Anti-Militaristic League Branch in Girls' High School, Brooklyn. They expect to succeed because they are working wisely and vigorously.

In general, everything appears to add to the success of the Circle, un-

der the present administration. It is regaining the reputation which it has lost, and looks into the future for greater attainments of its ambitions. To add to its future membership, it has organized a Junior Circle, where children from 12 to 15 years of age have the opportunity of becoming future Yipsels and consequently, when of age, valuable members of the Socialist Party. K. N.

#### Circle 1, Queens

The constitution of the United States grants the people of the United States the freedom of speech, free press and the right of people to peaceably assemble, but not so in the Borough of Queens on the evening of April 7th. That evening the residents of Queens County had their first taste of American Prussianism, in the form of their denied constitutional right of "free speech" and peaceful assemblage, although no martial law was declared in the City of New York at that particular time.

On this particular evening an anti-war meeting was arranged to take place in the Queens Labor Lyceum under the auspices of Circle 1, Young People's Socialist League. No meeting was held, due to the fact that it was suppressed by the police of the locality, who in turn informed the people that "no meeting will take place" and ordering them to "move on," or else take the consequences of riding in the patrol wagon that was standing nearby ready for business. The league members and Socialist Party members became indignant at this form of autocracy, deciding to take matters in their own hands. A committee from the Queens Socialist Party was elected to appear in person before the police lieutenant for redress. The police lieutenant assured the committee that no meetings hereafter will be stopped, with the understanding that the topic of discussion is debatable. After having received the assurance of having no future meetings suppressed, the league members then decided to hold a "Citizen's rights during war-time" meeting in the Queens Co. Labor Lyceum on the evening of May 4th. Comrade S. E. Beardsley, instructor from the Rand School of Social Science, and Dr. Henry Neuman, leader of the Ethical Culture Society, Brooklyn, addressed the audience. Both speakers delivered a convincing and impressive speech. Despite the rainy weather a great number of people were present, the majority being strangers. The league members

were on the job handing a copy of the May Day edition of the New York Call and the New Yorker Volkszeitung to the strangers who were present, also selling Kirkpatrick's "War—What For" and "The Young Socialists' Magazine," and taking up a collection which practically covered the expenses of arranging the meeting. Last of all, a number of people signed application blanks, signifying their intention of becoming Socialist Party members.

Now I will introduce you to the league members in regard to their educational and social side of life.

First:—The Circle, at the present time, has a library composed of an assortment of educational and interesting books that are loaned to the league members, who in turn derive a better comprehension of Socialism, evolution, economics, drama, etc.

Second:—The league members are taking up Algernon Lee's course in "Social History and Economics," composed of twenty-two lessons, in the Queens Co. Labor Lyceum every Tuesday evening. The study class is well attended.

Third:—The Educational and Entertainment Committees have combined in making the socials educational, as well as entertaining. The Yipsel Tango Band, composed of members from the league furnishes the music at the well-attended socials and other entertaining affairs. The money collected at the affairs is used for educational and political purposes.

Fourth:—The monthly business meetings are well attended and showing an increase in the admittance of new members every month. The financial standing is good also, as only a small number of members are in arrears.

Fifth:—The league members held a supper party in the Queens Labor Lyceum on April 26th in behalf of our successful Rand School Study Class and our class instructor, who has won the admiration and respect of the league members. The toastmaster started the fireworks, being followed by the league members and their friends, who in turn toasted, roasted, made speeches, told funny stories and rendered musical selections. After the supper party all danced to the music of the Yipsel Tango Band, in the main hall upstairs.

I will now conclude and allow you to read something else in the magazine by stating that the league members are striving hard to make the

league live up to the "Doings of a good Y. P. S. L.," described in the Organization Manual.

Greetings from Circle 1, Queens.  
Peter Knopf, Press Agent.

#### Kearney, N. J.

With the hearty cooperation of Hudson Co. Y. P. S. L., Kearney Circle is indebted to the Comrade Club Dramatic Class for their masterly presentation of "The Rector of St. Judes." The play was appreciated by the audience, many commenting on its profound truth. It served its purpose well for propaganda.

Comrade Neuman (the veteran "force" in Hudson Co.) gave the audience the assurance that we were Socialists, not plotters, or destroyers of Society. Comrade Neuman is always effective, so results were again in our favor.

By the strenuous efforts of Comrades Olga Jauczus and Anthony Novak the chances were "few" for anyone to get away before "taking a chance" on the lovely hand-painted silk sofa pillow made and contributed gratis by Comrade Martha Hughes.

The pillow was a fine masterpiece of the real art in femininity. The fair sex may well be proud to boast such finesse in skill and taste, and we are proud it is "our comrade" also.

Comrade William Russell has shown that the Scotch are there and a "wee" bit over. Without his willing hands and brain we might look to the new moon for help.

Comrades E. Ferguson, A. Ferguson, Mary and Eunice Westlake, Ferd and Max Eschenbeck, Adam Yaeger and "Joe" were instrumental in maintaining the "order" so characteristic of Socialists. Mary McMaster and Agnes Campbell were nigh forgotten, inasmuch as they seem to be woven into the circle so deeply. Theirs is the quiet but worthy way. Comrade Westlake was there (?), but no one saw him take off his hat. He must have expected a phone message?

#### NEWS FROM TRENTON, N. J.

After conducting a successful course in elementary Socialism and public speaking, the Trenton Yipsels are going into new activities.

Comrade August Claessens, our instructor, gave us some fine points in regard to making a successful Yipsel League, and a word to the wise is sufficient.

When Trenton Circle started out to capture Trenton youth for Socialism, there were nine of us, things looked pretty dark and we knew we

had a hard fight ahead of us, but our enthusiasm and "pep" and an ideal to strive for pulled us through, and despite all drawbacks and opposition we prospered and steadily grew week by week and month by month.

We held debates and discussions among ourselves, recitations, contests and all sorts of educational work. By these activities we attracted young boys and girls who were not of our belief, but were in sympathy with our efforts, and after reading and studying Socialism they become valuable members.

Later, when we became stronger, we began to challenge different educational societies to debate us, they all ignored us. This gave us courage, for we believed they were afraid of us. We kept up our work among ourselves until the time came when they could ignore us no longer. We challenged the night high school debating society, and they accepted. We debated the question of government ownership of railroads, and won the decision from non-Socialist judges.

And this was not all, we won one of the debaters, who was against us, and he is now one of our most valuable members.

After this victory we had the spunk to challenge all comers to debate us on Socialism through the local press and up to date no one has accepted. But the time is coming when they will all discuss Socialism, whether they want to or not; they can't get away from it, the Yipsels haunt them day and night, everywhere.

When Trenton Circle started we had nine members; we have now 125, with 106 in good standing.

Of course, we cannot say all our members are Socialists, but after they are in a Socialist environment, and have read Socialistic literature, they will become sturdy fighters for the cause that means so much to us all.

My next article will be how we grew from nine members to over 125.

A. Lespiy, Press Agent.

#### YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIALIST LEAGUE, DETROIT, MICH.

This will introduce you to the East Side Circle, Y. P. S. L., Detroit, Mich. We have been organized for two years. At one time our league had a fine membership. Then things took a slump so that now we have a small membership. The majority of our members are active, while others just attend the meetings. We have various programs during the month. One meeting being devoted

to an entertainment and dance for members and friends. Once or twice a month we have lectures by comrades of the local Socialist Party. Occasionally we have debates and discussions. We turn out in large numbers to all the large party meetings and we always aid in selling literature and handling the crowd. A large number of Yipsels showed up for the May Day parade. We had our Yipsel pennants with us but the cowardly police took them away. But we bravely displayed our revolutionary spirit by wearing red ribbons contra to the wishes of the police. During the summer we hold outings to nearby islands and lakes. There we bring our lunch and then we enjoy ourselves in games, swimming, and rowing. We are unalterably opposed to militarism in any form and we have taken the stand adopted at the Socialist Convention at St. Louis.

I hope that this will be satisfactory to you as this is my first attempt at this kind of work. Hoping to hear from you soon, I remain,

Yours for Comradeship

Herbert Spencer Eiges.

#### SOCIALISM AND THE COST OF LIVING

The great problem of to-day is the problem as to how the high cost of living may be reduced. There have been many ways mentioned and tried by the people to lessen the cost of foods, but most all of them have been proved unsatisfactory. Socialism has been mentioned, but few people cared to adopt this method because they did not know what Socialism really means.

Socialism stands for equal rights above all other things. After that, it stands for three great things, first: To have the public ownership of all industries now controlled by trusts and combines. Second: The abolition of war and the introduction of arbitration. Third: The public ownership of all railroads, telegraphs, and telephones, all means of transportation, and of all water, gas, and electric works.

Therefore, since Socialism stands for these things, the high cost of living would be forever abolished if Socialism were universally used. The cost of food would be reduced because if the government owned all industries, the products might be more easily and cheaply raised and manufactured under such hands. Since Socialism would abolish war all nations would be free and unhindered in cultivating their lands, and thus

have a large crop. Then, since there is an abundant supply of food in all countries, prices would remain low. And as Socialism would have the portation and shipping, the rates would be lower and thus not add to the price of goods that must be shipped.

Edward E. Euler.

#### REMEMBRANCE

By Murdock Pemberton

When I leave the bank at the end of the day,

I always pause for a moment To say a few words to Maggie

Who scrubs the marble in front of the cage

Where I keep daily accounts; Not that Maggie has much to say, But I love the odor of lye and soap in hot water.

There is something haunting in the steam that rises from suds, Something that takes me back

To a sunny, pine-floored kitchen Where scrub-day was bake-day as well,

And as the loaves rose and browned in the oven

I would sit on a stool, my feet off the floor,

Watching a woman scrubbing,

Knowing that when she got up from her knees

And had dried her hands, She would take the bread from the oven,

Dump the loaves from the pans, And after some endless minutes Would cut me the end of a loaf, Buttered with freshest of butter, And sometimes added to that grape jam

Or honey from bees fed on clover.

Yesterday Maggie was fired, Going the way of many Maggies before her,

For she broke a sacred tradition: She started in on her scrubbing Before the President had left his office.

Everyone, except old Maggie, Knew the President couldn't stand the sight of a woman scrubbing Just as everyone knew he was a self-made man

And had risen from humble beginnings.

#### The Quickest Way

"I've got another call to make over here in Brooklyn," remarked the New Yorker who was visiting a friend in Flatbush. "What is the best way to get from here to Kosciuszko Street?"

"If I were you," replied his host, "I'd take a trolley car to New York and then ask a policeman."