

The Work of the Communist Youth Movement.

Editorial Note:—This is the fourth installment of the report delivered at the Sixth Congress of the Communist Party on the activities of the Young Workers (Communist) League by its executive secretary, Herbert Zam. Additional installments will be published until the report is completed.

By HERBERT ZAM.

(Continued)

Can we say, comrades, that we have completely succeeded in mobilizing the League to work according to this analysis, according to this orientation? We cannot say that. It is much more difficult to organize the League in this relation than even the Party because our League has less experience in the class struggle than the Party. But we have had certain successes in this orientation.

We have orientated ourselves to the basic industries in the country. We have endeavored to mobilize the entire League to participate in our struggles. We have endeavored to mobilize the League in the struggle against the war danger on a real Communist basis and to break with many of the traditions of the past which have hampered us.

Right Tendencies Overcome.

I might say that in general in connection with our change in orientation, we have overcome what today would be and should be recognized as Right tendencies in our League and partially a Right wing orientation which existed prior to our last convention.

I refer for example to our orientation to light industry—biscuit, mail order—as against heavy industry; to our not only pacifist errors, but pacifist line in the struggle against the war danger; to mistakes which we made in the election campaign; to a wrong attitude towards the Young People's Socialist League, a wrong line which objectively meant the building up of the Young People's Socialist League.

This, comrades, we have decisively broken with. This line we have abandoned and because we have endeavored to work on the new line, we have achieved successes which we could not show in the period when we worked on the basis of the old line.

Achievements of League.

The League has participated as an organization in mass struggles in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois and Colorado, in the textile strike in New York. Not with sufficient

energy, not with sufficient emphasis on our own demands and our own independence, but the important thing to notice is the new step which we have taken and the new results which we are achieving.

In the struggle against the war danger, comrades, the League has done something which I believe is an historic achievement, because it was a break from all the traditions of the socialist movement and of the labor movement in this country; namely, the League has adopted a different attitude towards the armed forces, as against the traditional pacifist attitude with which the whole labor movement was imbued in the United States. In view of the absence of any revolutionary traditions in this field, such as existed in Germany, in France, in Italy, in all the important European countries, this step, this break with the past becomes a very important phase in the change in our orientation.

Comrades, I have already indicated to you some results in the concrete work, some achievements, actually achievements which we have been able to show. We have made efforts to involve not only those young workers who were actually in the various struggles for participation in those struggles, but also those young workers who were outside these struggles in the form of youth relief conferences, which we organized thruout the country—I believe for the first time—on the issue of relief for the miners.

I don't want to go into any great detail in dealing with the achievements of the League, except to indicate the increase in membership in the League, the increase in the number of young workers, and particularly in the number of young workers in large factories and in the basic industries.

The development of the Young Pioneers as a genuine working class organization, not a Sunday school, but an organization of struggle, is a great accomplishment. Comrades, we can be very proud of the recognition that our Pioneers have received on an international scale, as being Pioneers not only in name but pioneers in actual activity, in setting an example to the Pioneers in other countries, in their participation in the mass struggles of the workers, in drawing the workers' children into these mass struggles. And, comrades, this also is an historic achievement of which we are justly proud.

(To Be Continued)