

THE PACE SETTER

Official Organ of State Election Campaign Committee of Young Communist League

Vol. I



September, 1936

No. 4

Section Organizers Spur Membership Drive with Personal Pledges

Herb Parker, section organizer of Schenectady, has sent in a challenge to every section organizer in New York City to recruit eight young people to our League before November 3. The statement speaks for itself:

"Well, I see that all you city slickers (section organizers to you) are asking for competition in the recruiting drive. You know I don't like the idea of embarrassing any of you, but I can't see any other way out. So here goes; I challenge all section organizers to personal competition in the membership drive and pledge to recruit a minimum of eight new members myself before November 3rd.

Browder Youth

Broadcast Oct. 9; Aids Recruiting

That force which can be of great aid in making our drive for 5,000 new members by the end of the elections is coming! It's the Browder broadcast. Earl Browder, General Secretary of the Communist Party, and candidate for President on the Party ticket, will speak on "What Young Americans Can Do to Make a Free, Happy and Prosperous America," on the N.B.C. Blue Network, October 9. The District has arranged personal post cards to be sent to all of our friends, contacts and neighbors. Not only will many young people be ready to VOTE COMMUNIST after hearing Browder state the problems facing the young people today and the Communist solution for them, but we can influence an even greater number to join the Y.C.L. Let's Go! Prepare for the increase in membership which we can get as a result of good work in connection with the Browder broadcast. Cards are already off press.

Calendar of Events

- Oct. 9—Earl Browder speaks on "Youth in the Elections" over Blue Network of N.B.C. Station WJZ in N.Y.C., 10:15-10:30.
- Oct. 19—John Little, State Executive Sec'y of our League, will speak on our program in the elections. Time—11.00 to 11:15 P.M. Station WEAJ in N.Y.C. Also leading stations upstate.
- Oct. 25—Prepare yourself for a shock—the next issue of the "Pace Setter" will knock you off your feet.
- Oct. 31—Election Hallowe'en Dance at the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Delano.

"You remember that not so long ago, during the Party Steuben recruiting drive, we spoke of initiating such a drive among ourselves. Well, we never got started at that time, so how about doing something now. I think that all of us can do much more recruiting than we have until now, and surely now, when the question of leadership by example is such a key matter, we should grasp this opportunity and get down to some real conscious work to recruit non-League youth, especially the key people in the shop, trade unions, neighborhood, mass organizations, etc.

"And just as we saw in the Steuben drive, successful recruiting by the section organizers will undoubtedly arouse a strong wave of enthusiasm and recruiting consciousness among other Y.C.L. functionaries and the entire membership such as we have never seen before. This will be our best test as leaders in the youth movement. This will be our best guarantee that the whole state organization will fulfill and overfulfill its quota in the drive. This will be the best method of developing a permanent, all-year round, powerful recruiting campaign that will not so long from now make our League a decisive factor in the life of the youth in New York State.

"We can do it, section organizers. Let's get to work."

Only C.P. Has Youth Program Analysis Shows!

On November 3rd, the people of the United States will proceed to the polls to cast their votes for the respective candidates for public office.

We can have a great deal to say about who will be elected to the Presidency, to Congress, to the State Legislature and to the Municipal offices. Already a strong bid is being made by all parties for the 9,000,000 young people throughout our land who will vote for the first time next November.

The Republican Party holds out to the young men and women the hope of peaceful waiting until the old people die. Cutting wages, raising prices, eliminating all unemployment relief; this is the program of the old deal. Its standard bearers—Landon and Knox—were built up and are most heartily supported by Hearst, enemy of the American people.

In New York State the Republican controlled State Legislature killed the child labor amendment, and thousands of youngsters who should be romping in the sun, continue to sweat and slave for the "poor little billionaires."

(Continued on page 3, column 1)

THEY'RE OFF—COUNTY ORGANIZERS INITIATE SOCIALIST COMPETITION

The New York County and the Kings County have opened up a socialist competition to successfully complete the election campaign drive. Good, healthy, Communist enthusiasm and action are being expressed by Comrade Barker, Manhattan County organizer and Comrade Saunders, Kings County organizer, and is already encircling the hundreds of comrades already aware of this competition. And here 'tis:

Whereas, the organizational situation in our League necessitates consolidation

(poor dues payments, fluctuation, poor recruiting), and, Whereas, we are carrying through an intense election campaign drive; Be It Resolved, that we launch a tremendous competition initiated by the Manhattan and Kings Counties, open to Harlem, Buffalo and the Bronx County.

Rules

1. \$25 to be submitted by all entrants to John Little.
2. Entry blank to consist of the mem- (Continued on page 2, column 3)

THE PACE SETTER

Published twice a month by the State Election Campaign Committee of the Young Communist League

50 East 13th Street New York City Telephone ALgonquin 4-9182

Given free to every dues paying member

Vol. I Number 4

Campaign Committee

RUDY HABER - Campaign Manager FRANK ALEXANDER - Editor-in-Chief BERTHAMEDINZ, State Membership Director JACK RESNICK - Treasurer

The Pace Setter is the official organ of the New York State Election Campaign Committee of the Young Communist League

Recruit 5000 New Members

Our drive to recruit 5000 new members into our organization by November 15th is the most ambitious project the N. Y. Young Communist League has undertaken since its inception.

It is because of this urgency that we must raise the danger signal to our membership in this editorial.

Our recruiting activity does not measure up to the needs of the day.

We must organize all of our election campaign activity so that the logical outcome of this activity will be a larger and more influential Young Communist League.

The huge Youth Election Rally, planned for October 25th must become a Recruiting Rally. This meeting should be the culmination of all of our efforts to bring new members into the Y.C.L.

Every speech, every leaflet, every meeting must be a clarion call for membership.

For a Y.C.L. of 11,000 members by November 15th!

It CAN be done— It must be done! Let us know what YOU are doing about it.

SYMPOSIUMS, STRAW VOTES "BROWDER - FOR - PRESIDENT" CLUBS URGED IN SCHOOLS

To the comrades in the schools the election campaign represents a definite challenge. Too long have we been prone to dodge all the political hot-air entirely or to consider it merely something to be treated as a theoretical problem in small, sectarian discussion groups.

In order to do these things our student comrades must at the very beginning of the term organize Browder-for President clubs where at regular and frequent meetings the entire Communist platform will be presented and explained.

Send Experiences To Pace Setter

This is the first issue of the Pace Setter in printed form which will reach the entire membership, giving the latest news on the Election Campaign drive.

Don't Forget Your

"Tuning In Parties

on October 9, at 10:45 P.M.

Browder Youth Broadcast

questionnaire and see to it that its implications are understood. Our plans for school straw votes and questionnaires must not remain plans. We must carry through our idea to have the A.S.U. chapters hold at least one symposium each on the election and make sure that it is well advertised before and after.

Above all comrades, let us not be guilty of the same old mistakes. Let's make these meetings, leaflets, and speeches educating as well as agitating.

County Organizers Start Competition

(Continued from page 1, column 3)

bership on August 17, dues payments on August 17 and the recruiting and financial quotas.

- 3. Winner to be selected by a committee consisting of Charles Krumbain, I. Amter, Rose Wortis, Gil Green, Henry Winston, John Little, Mike Martini, Jessie Taft.
4. Winner to be determined on the following basis: 40% for 100% dues payments at end of drive; 30% for 100% membership drive; 30% for 100% financial drive.
5. Contestant receiving highest number of points will be adjudged the winner.
6. Official organ—"Pace Setter."

On Thanksgiving Eve the New York County is running an affair to launch its county organization. At this affair the committee of judges will present the prize (consisting of the \$25 entry fee from each county) to the winning contestant.

The county organizers initiated the drive. The section organizers are backing it up. Are you willing to win the grand prize—\$125 for your county? Are you ready? (Always ready!)

Section 22 Leads Membership Drive; Section 2, Finance

Table with 4 columns: Section, No., Recruited, Quota, Per Cent. Rows include Bronx and Brooklyn sections.

Table with 4 columns: Section, No., Financial Drive, Per Cent. Rows include Bronx and Brooklyn sections.

ONLY C.P. HAS YOUTH PROGRAM

(Continued from page 1, column 3)

Whatever young people received under the present Democratic administration came only through the hardest struggle in order to force the barest concessions. The National Youth Administration, though better than no relief at all, certainly is inadequate, applying as it does to only less than five per cent of the needy youth of our country.

The Union Party, with its candidate, Lemke and its backer Coughlin, is but a stooge for Landon and the Republicans. They know they cannot be elected. Yet they concentrate their attack on Roosevelt. This proves that in all respects their real program is identical with that

JAMES ASHFORD

The Young Communist League has lost from its ranks one of its most devoted Negro Youth Leaders, James Ashford. Comrade Ashford was always in the forefront in the fight for Negro liberation in the unity between Negro and White. He helped organize the Henry Ford hunger march, in 1933 he led the Briggs Auto strike.

As a most fitting tribute to the life and work of Jimmy Ashford, the New York State Committee of the Young Communist League has decided to call our present campaign for new members The James Ashford Membership Drive. It has decided to fill the gap left by Comrade Ashford with hundreds of Negro youth and to work untiringly against every form of discrimination against the Negro people.

Colorful Election Manual Ready—5c Has Skits and Songs

Here it is, the campaign material the Young Communist League has been waiting for.

A 16-page manual called "Step Up Closer, Folks" that contains original songs, 3 peppy skits, cartoons by Redfield, pictures and short biographies of 4 leading Communist candidates for office.

In "Willie and Alf," (Hearst & Landon) Willie is a famous ventriloquist, Alf his dummy. Some of Alf's line in this are going to make Gracie Allen choke with envy.

In the Landon-Hearst Duet — Willie and Alf discuss current problems and suggest Liberty League solutions to the tune of Gallagher and Sheen.

In Schutzelbauk, we present a whole rogue's Gallery ably illustrated by Redfield. Redfield's portrait of that all American hotsy-totsy, Marion Davies, is a pip.

The songs are tuneful and catchy and the Lyrics will be popular with everyone. Send in your order immediately. 5 cent a copy—special discounts for Y.C.L. branches and organizations.

Campaign Literature

The N. Y. State Committee of the Y.C.L. wants to distribute a quota of 15,000 election pamphlets. Of this number 50,000 of the N. Y. State Youth platforms will receive special emphasis with regards to circulation. The entire state membership will be mobilized to reach thousands of young people with our campaign literature.

young people as embodied in the American Youth Act, the Benson-Amlie Bill, must be enacted into law.

"The National Youth Administration budget must be maintained and enlarged. "Military training in the C.C.C. and schools must be abolished.

"Free education and financial assistance to the youth and children must be guaranteed by both state and federal appropriations.

"Child labor must be abolished once and for all and made unconstitutional." No other party can hold a candle to this party with its all-inclusive youth program. No other party has put up such men of the people as its standard bearers, Browder and Ford.

We call upon all young people to follow our example.

Special "Champion" N. Y. Election Issue; Our Quota 50,000

In the second issue of the "Pace Setter" the announcement was made that during the month of October a special New York Election "Champion" was to be printed. We are now able to give more definite information.

The Election Issue of the "Champion" will be off the press on October 9th. This will be the same day that Comrade Browder will speak over the radio to the young people of America on their problems. The week of October 9th to the 16th has been set aside as **Champion Youth Week**. In this week let us have real organized sales of the "Champion." Every branch and unit should have at least one squad of at least five to seven members who will make it their major assignment to sell the "Champion" so that every "Champion" printed will get into the hands of the young people in the neighborhoods, shops, trade unions and mass organizations.

One of the features of this issue will be a letter signed by such prominent men as Oswald Garrison Villard of the "Nation," Harry Elmer Barnes and others, sent to all the presidential candidates, asking them their views on such specific questions as the American Youth Act, the R.O.T.C., armaments program and civil liberties. The answers of these candidates will make interesting reading and we can put our bet on Browder's answer. There will also be two pages devoted to the New York political situation and articles on some of the youth candidates in New York. Short stories and the regular features will be included.

We have a quota of 50,000 for this issue. With all the power generated during the Election Campaign, we should reach and go above this quota. The price of the "Champion" will be the same as the regular issues. Begin to raise money now. Every copy must be paid for in advance.

The "Champion" should not be considered separate and apart from the Election Campaign in general. The October "Champion" will be a valuable instrument to make clear in the minds of the young people the issues involved in the battle for the Presidency.

Watch for the "Champion" on October 9th.

And Why Not?

Section 11 wires—"John Speaks stop. Two hundred dollars by Thursday."

Section 11—West End Council

And with that spirit, who can dare stop us—Watch us smoke. \$3,000 in one week.

DRIVING IT HOME

This department apologizes to Section 17 for failing to mention its splendid work in raising \$180 in less than two weeks. Out on the golden sands of old Coney Island, the lads and lassies of the area collected that amount in pennies, nickles, dimes and quarters (not to forget, an oh so phoney half dollar that a Hearst stooge dropped into the collection can).

To top the apology off nicely the Brighton Beach Branch of that Section is the proud possessor of a 22 volume Library, having won it by turning in \$39.

And to Jean Farber, the Section Organizer—to Bea the Administrative Secretary and the Julie, the astute treasurer out where the sea begins, we salute you with a Red Front and say "You're the Tops!"

Section 2, wake up! You've got a rival!

Just to remind you. Each week we give away free, to the branch that raises the most money in the given week, a 22 volume Little Lenin Library. And you were contemplating a branch library. My, My!

FROM MANHATTAN COUNTY

Mike Saunders seen hanging around steamship companies. Looks like he's thinking of taking a trip to Europe around November.

TO SECTION FOUR

Knock! Knock!
And not even a "who's there?"

C'mon you fellers up there! Esther Wells of Section 2 (your traditional rival) says that is a shame to *even* (get the *even*) challenge you to Socialist Competition in the drive. She's afraid her section will show you up so bad that you lads might become discouraged.

Show her that Harlem is made of sterner stuff.

Two of our County Chairmen started sump'in, which if it doesn't end up in a good old fashioned grudge fight, I'll let you call me a liar next leap year.

It seems that the boys are going in for Socialist competition on a county scale, and have enough confidence in their county to back it up with a \$25 guarantee.

Don't say I didn't tell you, but "State of Affairs" is a honey if you really want to know what's what in politics—5 cents a month. This is not an ad. It's a good hint.

In the Wake of the Recruiting Challenge From Herb Parker

E. DENISCH, S. O., Section 3:

The challenge of Herb Parker to Section Organizers to take lead in the Election membership drive is just the thing. We Section Organizers must not look upon this challenge as a relation among ourselves, but as a means pointing the way to the whole League for a mass membership drive. The challenge must be accepted in this spirit. The quota must be fulfilled. I'll go two better on Herb, and recruit ten.

BARNEY HARRIS, S. O., Section 10:

I accept the challenge. As a native of Queens, I am sure that there are 8 old friends of mine whom I have not yet recruited. Quality will play a big role in this drive.

BOB. SCHRANCK, S. O., Section 25:

Congratulations to Comrade Parker! For a very much needed kick in the pants to the Section Organizers. Let's remember one thing, and that is the question of Negro recruiting. Our recruiting amongst the Negro youth is certainly not what it ought to be.

Well, Herbie, you put your foot in it. Here's one guy who's out to beat you. You say 8. I say 8 too and 4 will be Negroes. A glass of beer for each one you recruit.

HAL STORM, Section Org. 20:

The Yorkville Section accepts the challenge made by Herb Parker, former S. O. of this section with pleasure. When he left the Section, he stated that Yorkville will always rate second to Schenectady.

We are out to prove to him in this membership drive that Yorkville is still the tops.

MORRIS STILLMAN, Section Org. 5:

Herby Parker's challenge to the S.O.'s, I feel, is a healthy and further expression of the "leadership by example" idea so splendidly expressed and carried out by Comrade Steuben. As the organizer of Section 5 I enthusiastically accept this challenge. I pledge to recruit at least five people into the Y.C.L. before the end of the drive.

Forward to larger and livelier Young Communist League.

HAROLD KLEIN, Section Org. 8:

I think that the possibilities for recruiting are so great that even Herb Parker has underestimated our capabilities. I pledge that during the course of the membership drive I will bring no less than 12 members into the rapidly growing ranks of the Y.C.L.

DAVE ENGELS, Section 22:

Do we start a "Parker Drive"? The answer to this question must be given by asking myself another question: Do I want to build the Young Communist League? I accept Herbie's challenge and pledge to recruit 15 members by Election day.