

Mighty Step Toward Unity of All Youth

By GIL GREEN

(National Secy., Young Communist League, U.S.A.)

The results of the first American Youth Congress give new courage and confidence to thousands of young workers and students who honestly strive for a better life for themselves and their class and who especially feel deeply concerned over the growing menace of war and fascism. Their hearts swell with joy at the decisive blow dealt the government sponsored fascist clique, which had as its aim the creation of a powerful youth movement behind a fascist program. They welcome the creation of the united front of seventy-nine organizations behind a militant program as a mighty step in the direction of unity of all oppressed against the common foe.

With these feelings the Young Communist League is at one. We, who for years have advocated and in practice fought for a united working class front against the offensive of capitalism, see in the results of the American Youth Congress the beginnings of the realization of this immediate and most necessary step. From the very beginning of this movement the Young Communist League played an active and leading role in hammering out a united militant program and in welding more firmly the growing united front of youth.

Of greatest significance is the unity established between the Socialist and Communist youth. In the heat of the struggle against the reactionary clique, the Socialist and Communist delegates found that they could work together, that they could agree on a minimum program of action and further, that their united forces could deal a powerful blow against the enemy. Without the collaboration of the Socialist and Communist delegates, it would have been far more difficult if not nigh impossible to achieve victory.

We welcome the action of the delegates of the Young Peoples Socialist League and Student League for Industrial Democracy. We further welcome the actions of these organizations in becoming part of the continuations committee of the youth congress and in their agreement to work to build and broaden the united front in all localities.

The American Youth Congress can and must be built into a powerful united front movement of youth. The defeat of the Ilma fascist clique is not yet the defeat of American fascism. The ruling class has not given up its fight for the young generation. It will develop new forms and methods, new demagogic phrases and new organizations in the attempt to turn the discontent of the young generation into reactionary fascist channels. The organizations of working and student youth cannot afford to minimize this danger. We must meet and defeat it by building the united front of action.

The Young Communist League will just as loyally work to carry out the decisions of the congress as it worked to make the results of the congress possible. The question of the moment is to bring the decisions of the congress to the widest masses of youth, to draw them into the struggle for the carrying out of the program of action. In this work we shall prove that to us the united front is not as some people think, a "maneuver" or "trick." We are ready to match our words with our deeds and expect the same from all other organizations.

The decisions of the continuations committee for widening and deepening the united front must now be carried into life. These decisions are: (1) The organization of regional congresses of youth as the instruments through which to draw the masses of youth into action behind our program; (2) The printing and widest circulation of the program adopted at the congress; (3) The organization of a broad national youth congress in Washington, D. C. in January, 1935, to present the militant demands of the youth, especially the one for unemployment insurance, to President Roosevelt and the U. S. Congress.

Long live the unity of the young workers and students in their struggle for the immediate demands of the youth and against the growing menace of war and fascism!