



VIEWS *and* REVIEWS

by

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IN our day we've been cailed many things by many people. But for brass and gall the editors of the "Challenge of Youth" take the cake. In the April issue of this Young Peoples Socialist League publication they accuse the Young Communist League of working to destroy the American Youth Congress—no less!

Imagine! We who for the past two years have worked to build and broaden the American Youth Congress are accused of wishing to wreck it. Well, well, we must admit we're flabbergasted, for no one knows better than the editors of the Challenge that this charge smells to high heaven.

"Follow Our Example"

EVERYONE knows that the YCL has worked and is working to build the youth congress. In fact it would be very good if the YPSL followed our example and unhesitatingly did the same. During the past two years the YPSL has floundered from side to side unable to make up its mind whether to support or ditch the youth congress. In fact so ambiguous has been its position that some sections of the YPSL to this very day do not know what the official policy of their national committee is towards the youth congress.

What is behind the stupid accusation of the YPSL? The YPSL leadership is opposed to supporting the congress as a united front of youth organizations around a common minimum progressive program. They stand opposed to the present program of the Youth Congress, the Declaration of Rights of American Youth. Altho this program was adopted unanimously at the 2nd Congress, the YPSL now wishes to discard it—not alter it, mind you, but completely discard it. They want the youth congress to have as its program solely one issue—the American Youth Act. In this manner they wish to destroy the entire concept and program of the youth congress.

"Oppose Other Things"

BECAUSE the YPSL is opposed to building the youth congress on the basis of its present program, it is also opposed to the proposal of many groups including the YCL for the publication of a powerful monthly magazine in the name of the youth congress. Such a magazine would help tie up and strengthen the youth congress movement nationally and would help bring the message of the youth congress to the young people of the country.

Flowing from the above attitude, the YPSL also hesitates to support the unanimous decision of the 2nd Congress for nationwide peace actions on May 30th, Youth Day. The YPSL is opposed to the youth congress doing anything whatsoever in the struggle for peace and against fascism.

This is the issue! The YCL supports the American Youth Congress and every one of the decisions made at the 2nd American Youth Congress last July 4th by the 1200 assembled delegates.

"Where Do They Stand"

The YPSL stands opposed to these decisions and is not prepared to carry them into life. It wishes to cajole every other organization in the youth congress to do likewise.

The YCL cannot be frightened by the cry, "Stop thief"! Everyone can judge for himself who is ready to live up to the program of the youth congress and who wishes to destroy that program. Will the YPSL live up to the decisions it voted for in Detroit on July 4th? Will it support the Declaration of Rights adopted at that Congress? Will it support the decision for peace actions and parades on May 30th? Will it join hands with the YCL and help build the youth congress, or will it continue its wavering, inconsistent and harmful policies?