

# A FEW QUESTIONS, COMRADE KAPLAN!

By MAX SHACHTMAN

FIRST, you maintain, and to a large extent we agree, that the N. E. C. (majority) went thru its stage of hesitation and discussion on mass work for almost a year after the second national convention; and you cite in particular the conference with Gompers in which we failed to carry out our program. Why do you conveniently forget to state that you, as a member of that N. E. C., voted consistently together with the rest of the majority on every single point, from May, 1923, to April, 1924, that you led the opposition to mass work at the second national convention; that you did not suggest a different course than the one we pursued, mistakenly, it is admitted, in our conference and post-conference activities with Gompers, but instead concurred in it heartily until almost a year later?

Second, you say that New York (where your minority is, and has been for the past couple of years, in power) "is now definitely entering the third stage in economic trade union work." Will you please inform us of a single nucleus organized in New York, a single factory campaign begun, a single instance of trade union youth activity carried on by your New York leadership? Will you please inform us, incidentally, how the New York leadership pulled a boner in its attempt to discredit the N. E. C. in the matter of the Paterson silk strike, and how the executive committee of the Y. C. I. had to reply to the New York D. E. C.'s letter in a manner that completely sustained the N. E. C. and pointed out that the minority leadership of New York had not entered the third stage of economic trade union activity?

Third, when you speak of the removal of the national junior director by the N. E. C. on the "illegitimate excuse of lack of finances," do you not mean that you have merely been removed from a paid job, an action in which you, as a member of the finance committee of the N. E. C., immediately upon your return from Moscow, were in unquestioning agreement, and changed your mind about it only about a week after you yourself had voted for it—knowing our financial condition which has not improved—in the N. E. C.? And is it not true that you are still a national junior director, without a paid job? And did you ever raise a kick about the fact that we did not have a national industrial organizer on the pay roll for more than a year because of the "illegitimate excuse of lack of finances," knowing that our industrial work is at least as important as children's work?

Fourth, when you speak of Comrade Pepper and the Teapot Dome leaflet, why do you so innocently forget that it was Comrade Gannes that made the motion to print the leaflet?

Fifth, why do you say that we sent comrades into the C. M. T. C. merely "for the sake of securing information" when you know that our intention was to organize actions, as our instructions plainly state, and that the only reason why we were unable to do so was because your minority comrades who were selected absolutely refused to obey discipline and make application for the camps, leaving only one isolated comrade there? And do you forget that you voted with us to expel one of the comrades who refused to go into the camps, and that the only reason you did not concur in the cases of the others was that it would rightly discredit the phrase-mongering comrades who held your position and who talk a good revolution?

Sixth, why do you make a face of hypocritical piousness about unity of both groups when you and your group have been the most active in continuing the fractional struggle, when your group has, with the finances of the Y. W. L., maintained a minority comrade in the field for the purpose of carrying on factionalism, a comrade who is at this very moment being held under charges?

And finally, what is the real basis of your minority fraction which is organically united thruout the country, under your leadership, in view of the fact that your statement, despite

its misrepresentations in places, is forced to come to the very same conclusion on "The Immediate Tasks of the Y. W. L. and the Program of Action" as is reached by the N. E. C. statement, being copied almost word for word—certainly, idea for idea. If you have no other proposals for the league that are one whit different than those which have been proposed and are being carried out now by the N. E. C., why do you and you minority comrades persist in maintaining your organized machine thruout the country, a machine which wherever it can, as in New York, actively sabotages every effort of the N. E. C. to draw the comrades into the mass activity about which you know so well how to talk about?

## N. E. C. MAJORITY THESIS IS UNANIMOUSLY ENDORSED BY SPRINGFIELD LEAGUERS

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—At a special membership meeting of the members of the Young Workers League of Springfield, a thorough discussion of the problems and tasks before the league was taken up. A resolution supporting the position of the national executive committee of the league was passed without a dissenting voice or vote.

The resolution state that the Springfield leaguers

"Are in complete agreement with the position and policies as set forth by the national committee; and

"Furthermore, we endorse the standpoint taken by our national committee on the situation with the Workers Party and we declare ourselves in agreement and endorse the majority thesis of the central executive committee as the correct Communist principle.

"Young Workers League of  
Springfield, Ill.

"John Tumulty, Secretary."

## LOS ANGELES FOR MAJORITY

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—At a general membership meeting of the Young Workers League here, to discuss the policies of the league and the Workers Party, the membership went on record overwhelmingly for the position of the majority of the C. E. E. of the party and the C. E. C. of the league. Out of an attendance of 75, there were only two or three comrades who voted for the position of the minority. At a party membership meeting which followed, the thesis of the majority was endorsed by a vote of 94 to 14.

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