

LET US BE UNITED

By ANGELO HERNDON

I HAVE travelled thousands of miles and spoken to tens of thousands of people these last months. I've spoken in trade unions, churches, YWCAs, young peoples clubs and mass meetings. Not only have I spoken from platforms and rostrums, but I have held personal discussions with hundreds of people, Negro and white.

In all this travelling and talking, what impressed me most was the spirit and outlook of the young men and women with whom I came in contact. They were serious, every one of them. They were perturbed and worried about the future and what it held in store for them. They knew there was something basically wrong with present day society and were anxious to find out what they could do to change things.

Questions

Hardly a meeting passed without a number of young people gathering around me, popping questions at me faster than I could answer. They wanted to know what organization to join up with. They wanted to know what was going on in other parts of the country. They wanted to know how to get jobs, whether the danger of war could be averted, whether America could be saved from fascism. Most of them were interested and wanted to know what to read in order to get a more fundamental grasp of the principles of Marxism.

This was especially true of my own people. They, in many cases even more than the white youth were interested in learning about the Soviet Union. Had I been there? Could I tell them how the problem of national minorities was solved under Socialism? Did I believe we in America could establish a Socialist society? Was it possible to end race hatred and discrimination in this country also? And after answering these and other questions, I would always get some variation of the following question: What organization is there that can educate, train and lead us to the establishment of a new social order, a Socialist society.

A New Society

It was just such questions and animated interest in the why and wherefor of achieving a society where production will be for use and not for profit, that led me to the conviction that the time is ripe in this country for the creation of a powerful youth organization which will educate and train the young men and women of this nation in the direction of a new and better world. Such an organization could unite all those young people who stand for working class principles, who wish to oppose the rule of the wealthy autocrats, who stand firmly for peace and against fascism, who are ready to act in behalf of Negro rights, and who want to unite behind labor in the fight for a society where those who produce will control the fruits of their toil.

Such an organization would go a long way in organizing the most militant, intelligent and freedom loving American young men and women for a future of peace and security.

What America needs is a militant, united youth organization of the above character.



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