

Youth Delegates at Pittsburg

By GEO. PAPCUN

For Young Worker

At the historic Save the Union Conference, which took place on April 1st at Pittsburgh, the young miners were right on the job and in the midst of the surge which is taking place at this time to clean out the whole Lewis machine. In all leading discussions on important issues and in all leading committees, you could see the fact that the young miners were the active spirits of the big Save the Union Conference, which met to kick out Lewis to win the soft coal strike and to organize the unorganized.

Not satisfied with the work that they had been doing in the Conference and before the Conference, the young miners decided that also a special young miners Conference must be held after the National Conference adjourned. So at 10 P. M. when the National Conference adjourned on April 2nd, the young miners got together and went into a special session to consider the special youth problems that confront them.

Reports on Conditions

The young miners meeting was opened by Geo. Papcun, a young miner from the Anthracite region, a member of the National Save the Union Committee, who made a report on the conditions of the young miners in the industry and the situation they faced in the miners union, pointing out the discrimination that is used by the bosses against them and the discrimination of the union officials. He also presented a resolution on how to develop the youth phase of activity in the miners struggle, with an order of business for the Conference.

Charles Licata of the Anthracite local union N. 1703, one of the leaders in the local union of which Alex Campbell was the leader, was elected secretary. Then Brother Tony Minerich of District N. 5, a member of the National Save the Union Committee and organizer in the non-union fields for the Save the Union Committee, delivered a very spirited, fiery talk on the strike situation and the role of the youth in the present strike and the present struggle in the Mine Workers Union against Lewis. Then a discussion from the floor took place.

Describes Ohio Conditions

Brother Plachety of Ohio was the first one to speak, and he told of the conditions of the youth in Ohio and

the situation that faces the youth in that territory, and called upon all young miners to vote for the resolution and to energetically carry it out. Brother Rosenbush spoke on the conditions of the young miners of Illinois, and the tremendous tasks which confront them. Brother Licata of local union N. 1703 spoke on how they worked with Alex Campbell to capture the local union, how they fight the Cappellini and Lewis gang in the Anthracite, and how they lead the local union despite the majority of their leaders being shot. He also told how Peter Reilly, a young miner was murdered with Alex Campbell for fighting the contractors, coal operators and the Lewis-Cappellini gang.

Brother Sabatini of the Allegheny Valley spoke on what the youth is doing in the strike in his part of the country. Brother Novak of the Anthracite of District No. 1 spoke on the speed-up and the discrimination against the youth in the Anthracite, and also of the low wages of the breaker boys and trappers. He pointed out that the wages are as low as \$2.50 to \$3.14 a day. Brother Ed Brodsky from the unorganized fields of W. Virginia, 18 years of age, spoke on the conditions of the unorganized workers and the youth, and urged that steps be taken to organize the youth for the struggle and to get them into the union. Brother Dixon of Illinois also spoke.

Decisions Made

After the discussion, the following decisions were made: (1) That Brothers Papcun's and Minerich's reports be accepted, and the resolution presented by Brother Papcun be endorsed and carried out. (2) That a committee of seven be elected to go over the resolution and edit it and send it out to all delegates who were

Youth Dance, to be held Saturday evening, April 21, at the New Harlem Casino, 116 Street and Lenox Avenue.

at the Save the Union Conference and to make plans for extensive work among the young miners and to bring the young miners 100% back of the movement. Brother Dixon of Illinois, Brother Skochen of District N. 1, Brother Licata, Brother Novak, Brother Smith of the unorganized fields and Brother Papcun were elected to carry the above decisions out. It was also decided that the "Coal Digger" shall be requested to carry a youth column in every issue. That a special appeal be made to young miners for the "Coal Digger."

The meeting also decided where there are Save the Union Conferences held in Districts, Sub-Districts and Sections, Youth Conferences shall also be held. It was decided to organize special young miners conferences in all districts, sub-districts and sections of the Mine Workers Union. The Conference adjourned at 12 o'clock with great enthusiasm and great determination on the part of the young miners present there to go back to work and to Save the Union and to help solve the problems confronting the young miners in their respective territories. Over 50 delegates attended the Youth Conference, aside from the fact that about 50 adult miners also attended.

Significance of Meet

This Conference is of great importance to the Save the Union movement as this is the first time in the history of the Save the Union movement where the young miners voluntarily came together to discuss the special youth phase of the activity, and it is the duty of the Save the Union Committee and the Left Wing to support and spread the movement among the miners. It is important that the young miners, the future

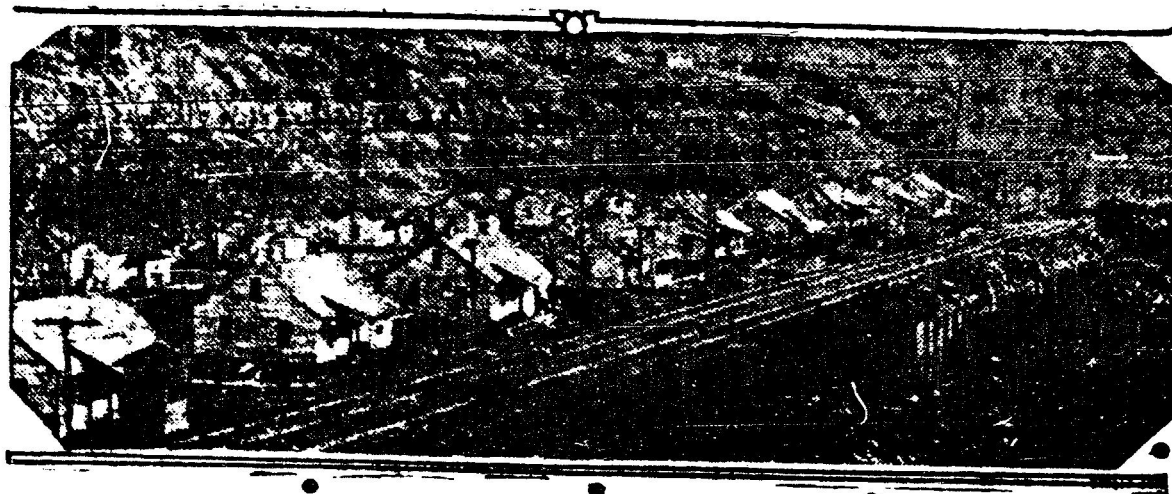
BELLAIRE, Ohio—Altho retaining Guardsmen in the Eastern Ohio mining district for strikebreaking purposes, the Ohio National Guard will discontinue relief to the miners children on April 25, according to a statement issued by General Frank D. Henderson. This action followed the warning of progressive miners in the section who predicted that the relief offer from the National Guards was only a trick move in their efforts to break the strike.

Even before discontinuing the relief, they were using the offer of bread as a club over the head of the striking miners, trying to force them to stop mass picketing, etc., under threat of withdrawing the relief. It was the militant spirit of the miners, their wives and children, who have continued mass picketing and strengthened their struggle to win the strike and to oust the corrupt officials who are standing in their way—which made the Ohio National Guard change its mind and decide on more open methods against the strike.

900 STRIKE IN ANTHRACITE

WILKES-BARRE, Pa.—900 miners are on strike at the No. 2 and 3 mines of the Kingston Coal Company following the refusal of the company to reinstate a miner who had been discharged. The strike was voted by local 1159 immediately following the action of the company.

leaders of the miners union, be given a 100% backing by the Save the Union movement, and the Save the Union movement in return will have the backing of the young miners 100 per cent. The miners must take up the problems of the youth in the industry more seriously than ever, and support the movement of the youth, as they are the steel rods of the miners struggle.



Typical mining town in the unorganized fields of Northern West Virginia.