

WHO ARE THE

YOUNG DEFENDERS

I.W.O. JUNIORS

NATURE FRIENDS SCOUTS

L.D.S. PIONEERS

FINNISH FEDERATION PIONEERS

RELIEF SCOUTS

UNEMPLOYMENT COUNCIL PIONEERS

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WHO ARE THE YOUNG PIONEERS?

Written by MARTHA CAMPION

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Illustrated by MARY MORROW

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TO THE READER:

The stories in this booklet are all true, except the one called "A Strike in School" which is a combination of several incidents and strikes that have taken place in American schools.

From these stories you will get some idea of what Pioneers are and what they do.

Many people say "Oh, kids! What can kids do?" Well, these stories show that "kids" can do a lot.

Others say "Oh, children shouldn't bother about serious things! Children should just play and be happy."

We think you should play and be happy, too; but we think most of you want to do and can do something more than that.

We think most of you have brains and want to use them. We think you know how to think for yourselves, too, in spite of the fact that in the schools and newspapers and movies they try to make you think the way they want you to.

We think you should know about serious things and talk about them. And we know you have enough sense to understand them and enough spunk to do something about them.

In the latter part of the book you will find questions and answers which will explain some of the things which are not explained in the stories. If there are any questions you have which are not answered here, write to me in care of the NEW PIONEER, Box 28, Station D, New York City, and I'll be glad to answer you personally.

MARTHA CAMPION.

Published by NEW PIONEER Publishing Co.

Box 28, Sta. D, New York City

October, 1934

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742-346806

Who Are the Young Pioneers?

STORY ABOUT PIONEERS

Tony lives near Pittsburgh. His father is a coal miner. Not long ago there was a big strike in Tony's town. The miners went on strike because their wages were so low they couldn't give their children enough to eat, let alone clothes to wear. Besides, the company had a weighman who weighed each car of coal as it came up, and this weighman cheated the miners. The miners wanted their own weighman to check up, but the bosses refused to give them this. Tony and his sister Myrtle had joined the Pioneers the year before, and their troop was helping the strikers by picketing with them and collecting money for food.

Now of the six mines around there, only one was not out on strike. That was Number 4.

Why didn't these men strike? Well, they were afraid. They were afraid because if they went on strike they wouldn't even have the few dollars a week they had now. They did not understand that the only way they could get enough to live on was by fighting for it. They did not understand that by working they were helping the bosses break the strike and keep all wages low. They did not understand that by not striking they were helping make their own conditions worse.

But the Pioneers knew this. They had read about it in the NEW PIONEER, and their leader had told them how workers must fight not only to raise their wages but even to keep the miserable wages they are getting. So the Pioneers at their meeting decided to take up this question of Number 4 mine.

"What shall we do?" asked Mary, the leader, at their meeting.

"I have an idea," said Tony.

"Let's hear it," chorused the Pioneers.

"Well, listen," said Tony, and the Pioneers listened.

The next day the Pioneers went visiting. In twos, they went to the houses of the miners who worked at Number 4, and asked to see the children of the miners.

"See you at the meeting tonight!" were the parting words of the visitors as they left each shack.

The next morning the workers at Number 4, about to enter the mine, stopped short. There, in an orderly picket line, with signs they had made themselves, were their own children, boys and girls of strikers, and, of course, the Pioneers.

"Look at those signs!" exclaimed the miners.

"WE DON'T WANT OUR FATHERS TO BE SCABS!" read one.

"IF YOU WANT TO DO RIGHT BY US, STRIKE!" said another.

"WE'LL FIGHT WITH YOU. DON'T SCAB!" said a third.

And, "Don't scab, fight!" chorused the young picketers.

"Don't scab, fight!"

"Don't scab, fight!"

"Whatever got into them?" asked an old miner.

"The kids are right," declared another.

"Don't let them tell us our fathers are scabs!" shouted the Pioneers.

The second miner who had spoken slammed his lunch box with its hunk of dry bread to the ground.

"All right, Jimmy," he said, "they won't be able to say your dad was a scab."

"Nor my kids, either," said some other miners.

Several miners were afraid. They still hesitated.

"Come on!" yelled the miner's children. "We'll fight with you!"

"You might just as well die fighting as die slaving!"

The father of Johnny spoke, in a troubled tone. "I wanted to get you a pair of shoes this week, John, so's you could go to school for a while."

"Come on, Dad, we'll demand free shoes from the School Board. Come on! We'll help you fight for decent wages and you'll help us fight for free shoes and lunches!"

"It's a bargain!" said John's father.

After that no worker went to Mine Number 4, except to picket. And on the picket line with them every day were the Pioneers and the other miners' children. They are all Pioneers now.

And that's how the Pioneers pulled Number 4 out on strike.



Another Story About Pioneers

In Dayboro, children had to travel a long way to school, and up until recently they had been allowed to ride free on the street cars. But suddenly the Superintendent of Schools and the President of the Street Car Company got together and decided to save each other some money. So they announced that after the next two weeks, the school children would have to pay their own carfares.

When Mrs. Jackson, the mother of Jane and Pete, heard this, she didn't know what to do. She sat down and put her head in her hands and thought and thought. Suddenly the doorbell rang.

It was Herb Marlin, who was in Pete's class at school.

"What do you think of us having to pay our own carfare?" he asked.

"I'm sure I don't know how I'm going to do it!" exclaimed Mrs. Jackson, looking about ready to cry. "And the children can't walk three miles to school in winter. Why, they don't even have rubbers!"

"Neither do I," said Herb. "But we won't have to walk—not if we do something."

"What can we do?" wondered Jane.

"We could rollerskate," said Pete hopefully—and then added dismally, "if we had rollerskates."

"Not in winter," said Herb. "But let me tell you what. The Unemployed Council and the Pioneers are calling a meeting tonight to talk about it."

"The Unemployed Council? Is that the reds?" asked Mrs. Jackson dubiously.

"I guess they don't care what color you call 'em, as long as it's not yellow," laughed Herb. "But the Council and we Pioneers think that something has to be done about this carfare business. Why don't you come to the meet-

ing, and talk it over, and if you don't agree with our plans, why nobody's gonna make you do anything you won't approve of."

"I guess it won't do any harm to try," agreed Mrs. Jackson, after a few minutes.

"And don't forget to bring Jane and Pete," added Herb.

"Children, too?" asked Jane's mother.

"Sure. Us kids have to fight for our rights, too. We don't want to walk to school three miles. And we don't want to go without lunches so we'll have the money to ride, either. They ought to give free lunches to the children of the unemployed, anyway!"

On the day the children were to start paying their fares, Jane and Pete started off to school as usual. And they met their friends, as usual, and all boarded the street car, as usual.

A close observer might have noticed that several children carried under their arms long white rolls of paper. But that might have been paper for drawing.

It all started when the conductor came around to collect fares. Herb, who was sitting in the front, was the first boy to be approached. But the conductor never even got so far as asking for his fare. A shout filled the car.

"We can't pay!

"We won't walk!

"If you put us off the car,

"We'll raise an awful squawk!"

Out came the rolls of cardboard. They were signs demanding free carfare and free lunch. The conductor was flabbergasted, but he didn't put the children off the car. The noise kept up until the car reached the school. Then

they all got off, and joined a big crowd of children with similar signs.

"What happened in your car?" The question flew from one mouth to another. There were bursts of laughter and cheering when it was found that the same thing had happened in every car.

Then the nine o'clock bell rang. The children became quiet. But they did not go in the school. Finally the principal came out.

Before she had time to speak a committee of adults and children had stepped forward.

"Mrs. Pendlebury," said Herb, who was on the committee, "we're here like this with our parents and neighbors, because we can't afford to pay carfare to come to school and it's too far to walk. We want you to call up the Superintendent and tell him so. We want you to tell him we demand free carfare."

"But—but," gasped Mrs. Pendlebury, and then turned abruptly and walked back into the school. Several minutes passed. What would happen?

They were still speculating when she came out again, smiling in a relieved manner.

"It's all right," she said. "The Superintendent is going to look into the matter, and he'll see that you don't have to pay carfare until it's all looked into."

"Hurray!"

"Let's not go in school," whispered Pete. "Let's have a holiday."

"No, we'll go in now," answered Herb. "We'll have a holiday if they try to make us pay that fare again, though. We'll have a—a strike!"

"Kids can't have strikes, can they?" asked Pete.

"You'll find out at the Pioneer meeting tonight. Don't forget, I'm stopping for you."

"I wouldn't miss it!" said Pete.

A Strike in School

All the fellows and girls in Public School 68 were excited about the strike. No wonder! Some of their fathers were striking, and many more were expected to come out any day.

In gym class, as they marched and drilled, Miss Elliot, the teacher, heard them mark time under their breaths, not by "One, two, three, four!" but by "Strike, strike, strike!" and at the faculty meeting Miss Elliot happened to mention this to another teacher, who in turn mentioned it to the principal. The principal was a friend of some of the men whose mills were on strike. In fact, one of these men had helped him get his job. Besides, the principal was a good Democrat and knew his duty.

So the next morning he addressed them in assembly. First he told them how President Roosevelt was trying to help them all, especially the working people, and how recovery was coming about gradually, and how some people were never satisfied, and always trying to stir up trouble, and that if they realized what they were doing they would go back to work right away. He said there were a few "reds" and trouble makers who had got the men all excited, just so they could overthrow the government. He told the boys and girls they all had a chance now to prove they were good Americans. They could warn their parents not to listen to the Reds, and encourage them to go back to work. And they could tell those workers not yet on strike that it would be better for them not to strike

at this time. Mickey couldn't wait to get out of the Auditorium to begin talking about this.

"He's just a strike breaker, trying to stop the workers from getting decent wages," he said.

"But maybe he's right," said Patchy Dooling, dubiously. "Maybe there are some Reds in the strike who want to overthrow the government."

"Aw, that's just the old 'red scare' he's throwing around," said Mickey. "Everytime the workers organize to strike the bosses spread this red scare around, to make the workers go back. He knows very well the reds in this strike are not working to overthrow the government. They're fighting with the rest of the workers for decent wages."

"But reds do want to overthrow the government," persisted Patchy.

"And yeah, but when? When the majority of the workers want the government overthrown. A few reds can't start a revolution by themselves here in Brooklyn. Anybody knows that."

"Well, I guess it'll be all right to have a revolution when most of the workers want it," admitted Patchy.

"But we ought to do something about Mr. Pritchard. He's just a strike-breaker!"

"Not so loud, Mickey," murmured Miss Thompson, his history teacher, passing.

Mickey smiled at her. Of all his teachers, she was the only one who, as Mickey put it, "knew what it was all about." She was always warning him, though, to be careful what he said and to whom he said it. And to Mickey, this was hard advice to follow. For with Mickey, to know meant to speak and tell others. He couldn't let anyone tell lies about the workers and the reds while he was there. In the auditorium, he would have gotten right up and answered Mr. Pritchard,

if he had not caught Miss Thompson's eye at that moment and seen her shake her head. So when in English class his teacher repeated what the principal had said, Mickey found himself on his feet, repeating what he had said to Patchy in the morning. He was sent at once to the principal, and at 3:30 that afternoon the whole school knew that Mickey Carson was expelled.

Little rings of Mickey's class mates and others who had just heard about it stood around on the pavements after school. They all thought it was a shame.

"Just for telling the truth about the strike, he gets expelled!"

"After Mr. Pritchard got up there and told us our fathers shouldn't strike!"

"I think it's lousy!"

"I think we ought to do something!"

Just then Mr. Pritchard came out.

"What are you standing around here for?" he asked.

"Go home. Don't stand around here!"

"It's not his street," said Patchy.

"Come on over to our headquarters," said Dave, a Pioneer. "It's right around the corner. We can talk there."

Almost a hundred indignant boys and girls followed Dave to the Pioneer headquarters. Later some more came. Dave ran around to get Lillian, their leader.

When she came, she knew all about the case. And there was Mickey, too.

"What did he say?"

"What did you say?"

After the story was told, they all felt that they had to do something about this.

And from the boys and girls came one answer as to what

they should do. A strike, of course! Were not the knit-goods workers striking for recognition of their union and decent working conditions?—"And the rest of them are going out tomorrow," put in Lillian—Well, the students would do the same thing!

A strike means a lot of work. You must visit as many students as possible, and talk to them. You must all be up early in the morning, and on the picket line, to try to get those who are going to school not to go. You have to make signs telling why you are on strike. You have to draw up a list of demands telling what you want.

The demands in this strike were:

(1) That no teacher or principal should speak against the knit goods strikers.

(2) That Mickey should be reinstated immediately.

(3) That none of the school strikers should be punished in any way.

So the next morning found a picket line in front of P. S. 68, almost as big as the one in front of the mill.

And they won the strike, too. Of course, the officials didn't say they were giving in to the demands of the striking students. They don't do things like that. Mr. Pritchard issued a statement saying that the workers had a right to strike and the school had no right to say anything either in favor of or against it, and that some of the students just seemed to have misunderstood him on purpose. He even said Mickey had been expelled for "bad conduct generally" and not because he had spoken in favor of the strikers.

But the boys and girls of P. S. 68 know why he had to say that, and why all the students were taken back without being punished, even Mickey.

Every afternoon after that the boys and girls went down and helped their parents picket the mill, and nobody in the

school said a word. Only Miss Thompson, whenever she saw Mickey and the other strikers, smiled at them more brightly than ever.

A Pioneer of the South

Leslie is a Pioneer who lives in the black belt of the South, where Negro farmers and their wives and children (even little ones four years old) work from sunrise till sunset on pieces of land rented from the landlord, and still don't have enough to eat or wear. In fact, they are always in debt to the landlord, who demands higher rents than these farmers or sharecroppers can afford to pay. So the cropper must stay on the land because he owes money to the landlord. He can't even leave the land and go somewhere else where he might be able to earn a living. He is just a slave.

The share croppers decided to form a union a few years ago. Of course the white Southern "gentlemen" did not like that. In fact, they were furious.

Why, to think that those "niggers" would have the nerve, of all things, to form a union! So the landlords organized the Ku Klux Klan and other bands of gangsters to raid the meetings of the Share Croppers Union and to kill the leaders. Ralph Grey, one of the leaders of the Union, was shot and killed not long ago by one of these lynch mobs. But others take the place of those who are killed. Ralph Grey's niece, Eula Grey, was one who became a leader shortly after her uncle's death. The capitalists may think they are killing a movement by killing its leaders, but that's where they're mistaken. Kill the leaders, and you will have more leaders.

What made the bosses even more furious was the fact that the white sharecroppers were waking up, too, and were

beginning to join the Share Croppers Union, and work with the Negro workers, standing up for their rights, defending them from arrest, and making friends with them.

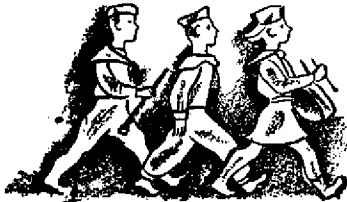
The white share croppers are just as badly off as the Negroes, but the bosses have been telling them for years that they are superior to the Negroes and shouldn't have anything to do with them. You see, the bosses find it easier to rule the workers if they divide them into groups. If all the workers, Negro and white, Catholic and Protestant and Jew, were united, the bosses know it would be very tough for them.

And when the bosses see groups of these workers getting together, do they boil! They became even more determined to break the Share Croppers Union.

You can see that the sharecroppers have to be very careful and work so that they will not get caught. Meetings must be held secretly and leaflets announcing the meetings or telling news distributed in the dead of night, and in all sorts of ways.

Leslie and his fellow Pioneers help a great deal in this work. Sometimes at two or three o'clock in the morning you can see small dark figures slipping quietly from hollow tree to back shed and from there to some other place, leaving a bundle of leaflets in each place. The croppers will find them there the next morning.

When the croppers have a union meeting it is Leslie and



his fellow Pioneers who are the guards and watch the roads and paths and warn the croppers if they hear horses' hoofs or the motor of a car or any other such sign that the sheriff or the Ku Klux have found out about the meeting and are on their way to break it up or shoot it up.

Pioneers in New Mexico

In New Mexico there was a big strike of miners recently. During that strike all the children in the town had a school strike in protest against the brutality of the National Guards and the imprisonment of the strike leaders. The children were on the picket line, too, everyday. They were a big help in the winning of that strike and the release of the leaders.

Children Who Are Workers

JIMMY

Although he is only nine, Jimmy is already a worker. His father doesn't want him to be, and when he first started, his mother used to cry every night when he came home and handed her his forty or fifty cents, or sometimes as much as a dollar. Jimmy didn't know why she cried. He was a man, wasn't he, and she was a woman, and he had to help take care of her and his baby sisters. Everybody knows that "kids" must have milk and all kinds of things, and Jimmy himself has to have shoes to go to school in, doesn't he?

Of course his dad feels bad because he can't make enough money to keep the whole family, but, gee, it's not his fault he can't get a job. Nobody can these days.

Jimmy is a Pioneer now. He knows that some day soon

this will be a country run by the workers, and then his dad will be able to work and Jimmy will be able to go through school and learn to be an aviator.

HARRY and SLIM

Harry tried boot blacking for a while, but now he finds he can make more money selling papers. So Harry can be found on one of the windiest corners of the Windy City, Chicago, as late as three o'clock in the morning selling his papers.

The government took away his grandmother's pension, and if it wasn't for Harry, they would not know what to do. At first it was a lot of fun being out till so late and seeing all the swells in their jewels and fine clothes come out of the theatres and restaurants and get in their long shiny cars. But now it isn't so much fun for Harry, for as he watches the restaurants he gets hungry himself, and in the winter it is very cold.

Harry stamps his feet to keep warm. He swings his arms. But still it is cold. Sometimes when he is not too sleepy, he meets his friend Slim and they go into a little lunch room for a cup of coffee before they walk home together.

On the way they talk about the PIONEERS and what they are going to do during the next few days—demonstrate with the Unemployed Council for relief, sell NEW PIONEERS to the fellows and girls in school, start an Anti-War Club, and have a swell party. Then after the talk and the coffee they go home feeling all warm and happy, even though they are so tired. They know that when the workers rule, they won't have to work this way.

HELEN

Helen always thought that city kids had it swell until her

cousin Harry came out to the farm for a few weeks last summer.

Helen has to get up at six o'clock in the morning to help her mother cook breakfast and pack the school lunches. Then after school she has to take care of the baby and see that he doesn't fall into the well or anything. Then she carries wood for the fire and sometimes has to go out and help shuck corn in the evenings. Often she is too sleepy to do her lessons.

When Harry came out, though, Helen began to wonder if it was so much better in the city. Harry had thin cheeks and seemed never to have tasted milk in his life before. Then he had to sell papers, and work just as hard as she did.

"I guess when you're poor it doesn't matter much whether you live in the city or the country," said Helen.

But she learned from Harry about the Pioneers, and how they are trying to make a better world for all workers. Harry showed her the NEW PIONEER and Helen wrote a letter, to it, and it was printed the very next month!

Helen told her friends at school about it, and now there is a Pioneer troop of eight boys and girls. They meet in the school after school hours, and they're helping the farmers fight against sheriff sales and for a decent price for the things they produce.

A Pioneer in Germany

Hans lives in Germany. He was one of the leaders of his Pioneer troop before Hitler came to power, and he is still a Pioneer even though the troop was broken up for a while and now meets illegally and not very often. However, his training in the Pioneers taught Hans what he could do even after Hitler came to power, and Hans, like thousands of other Pioneers, is still faithful to the working class and car-



ries on underground work, just like his father and other workers. It happened that Hans' father, a Communist, was arrested and taken to jail one day by Hitler's Brown Shirts. The next day his mother also was taken.

Hans looked among his father's things and found some messages to the other comrades in the block that should be delivered. The messages were written very small on very thin cigarette paper, so they could be easily hidden and destroyed. So Hans took upon himself the task of delivering the messages. There was only one left to deliver when the Brown Shirts caught Hans. "It's the son of that Communist," they said. "Maybe he will tell what his father and mother won't."

Quickly Hans slipped the paper into his mouth and chewed it stealthily while his captors were not looking. Soon

he had swallowed it all. At the police station the Nazis tried to make Hans tell the names of the others in his father's group. To all the questions Hans answered "Ich werde nicht sagen," "I will not say." The Nazis beat him, and hit his head against the wall. Still Hans would only mutter "Ich werde nicht sagen." They burned his feet with hot irons and tortured him till he fainted. But still Hans answered "Ich werde nicht sagen." In the morning they let him go, for they could get nothing from him. After a while his mother and father were released, also, for they, too, would say nothing. For a while Hans was sick from the tortures of the Nazis. He would wake up in the night crying, "Ich werde nicht sagen." Finally he was sent to the country to stay with some comrades, where he recovered. The last we heard of Hans he was back in Berlin, distribut-

ing leaflets in the middle of the night with his comrades.

That is what we mean when we say that a Pioneer is always faithful to the working class.

Pioneers in the Soviet Union

The Soviet Union is a country run by the workers. In 1917 they had a workers' revolution and threw out their bosses and their Tsar, and set up their own government. They provided schools so that all people could learn to read and write (under the Tsar only a few nobles were literate); they built new factories to make tractors to cultivate the land; they turned Russia from a dark, backward country to a country where more progress is being made than in any other country.

The Pioneers are helping to build up this mighty new country. They visit the factories and fields and see how things are done. They are interested in everything, because it is all theirs! It is the Pioneers along with the other workers' children who run the schools in the Soviet Union. If they don't like a teacher, they tell the workers of the town about it. They must give their reasons for wanting another teacher. The workers in their Soviet (village meeting) take it up and if they agree with the children a new teacher is appointed. The children also give the teachers suggestions



about the running of the school, and the methods of teaching. For example, if a teacher tries to teach the children about electricity by having them just read books about it, the children tell their teacher they would like to make their own batteries or go to a place where they are made, in order to see for themselves just what makes it work. Then they understand better when they read about it in books.

In the agricultural parts of the Soviet Union there are still a few rich farmers who do not want to work with the other farmers but who want to make profits for themselves. They smuggle grain and sell it on the sly, and sometimes they steal from the collective farms. The Pioneers keep a look out for these rich farmers and report them. They also take turns guarding the grain at nights so that the rich farmers can't come and steal it when the workers are not there.

There are many Children's Theatres all over the Soviet Union, and the Pioneers are very active in writing plays, acting in them, and giving suggestions and criticism.

Then there is the Children's Publishing House, which publishes books for the children only. The Pioneers advise the Publishing House about the kind of books the children want. The boys and girls even write books. Recently several boy and girl authors attended the big Soviet Writers' Congress.

But a Soviet Pioneer's life is not all work. There are plenty of sports meets and camps and orchestras, and other things for boys and girls to do. Recently there was held in Moscow an International Model Airplane Meet, in which Pioneers from clubs in every section of the Soviet Union took part.

Then there are clubs for young mechanics and engineers and craftsmen of various kinds.

Recently Volodya Suslov, a Pioneer of Kharkov, in the

Soviet Union, designed an electric driven automobile. He needed an electric motor to experiment with, so he wrote to the Commissar of Heavy Industry, and the Commissar had a motor sent to him from the Kharkov Tractor Plant. Volodya has a special room at the school, where he and his fellow students are now finishing the invention.

Pioneers of the Soviet Union have every chance to be what they want to be, and to do the sort of work they like.

How different from a country where the bosses own the factories, the land, the schools, and even the workers!

Do you want to know more about the PIONEERS? Here are some questions you may be asking, together with their answers.

Who Are the Pioneers?

The Pioneers are workers' and farmers' children who work and play and fight together for the rights of workers and farmers and their children. There are 12,000 Pioneers in the United States.

What Does "Pioneer" Mean?

You have all read in your history books about the early Pioneers of this country. You know how they traveled into new and unexplored lands and settled new places. You remember Daniel Boone, the greatest of the American Pioneers. You remember the brave people who went west in their covered wagons, and settled new land—only to have it taken from them.

A Pioneer is one who does something new, who goes where others are afraid to go, who explores fearlessly, who fights bravely against hardships that make more timid

people shrink. A Pioneer is courageous and ambitious and energetic and enthusiastic. He is strong because he knows he is right.

That is what Pioneer meant long ago, and that is what Pioneer means now. Only the YOUNG PIONEERS OF AMERICA are not exploring forests and wilderness. They have all been discovered, and along with the other parts of the country, they are all owned now by the bosses and used for their benefit.

The YOUNG PIONEERS explore the system of society and government under which we live. They see how people live, and understand more and more how the people who own the country cheat the people who do all the work. Then they spread this truth to other people. The Pioneers today fight on the side of the workers in the great struggle that is always going on between the workers and the bosses.

The Pioneers fight to establish a new system, a new kind of government, in which America will really belong to the workers who have made it. The Pioneers are going to help take the land that the old Pioneers found and give it back to its rightful owners, the workers.

The Pioneers are making history, just as the old Pioneers did. The old Pioneers found new land, but the Pioneers of today are going to make a new world. The names and deeds of the Pioneers will go down in the history of the world in flaming letters. For they will help carry through the greatest historical act the world has ever known—the Revolution of the workers of the world against the bosses of the world.

What Do the Pioneers Fight For?

They fight for free lunches, clothing, books, and carfare



in the schools. They fight with their parents in strikes for living wages, decent working conditions, and the right to belong to unions. They fight with the unemployed workers for decent relief. They fight for unemployment insurance for all workers. They fight for a government of, by and for the workers.

What Do They Fight Against?

They fight against all things which are no good for the workers. They fight against war and fascism, because these bring only death and starvation to the workers. They fight against the lynching and persecution of Negroes, because they know that the bosses try to make the whites and Negroes hate each other so the bosses can rob both. They fight against the persecution of Jews and other nationalities which are oppressed. They fight against child labor. They fight against the capitalist system of government.

What Is the Capitalist System?

Every period in history has had some kind of economic system. When we speak of economic system, we mean the relations of men to each other in so far as wealth is concerned. In the Middle Ages, we had the feudal system, in which the King and his lords owned all the wealth and the serfs did the work.

Now we are living under the capitalist system. Capital means wealth—not only money, but land, and factories, and banks, and other property. The people who own wealth are the capitalists. Morgan and Rockefeller and Ford and Mellon are the chief capitalists in this country. Another name for the capitalists is the bourgeoisie.

The other main class in this country is the working class. The working class has no wealth. A worker can only get enough to eat and wear and a house to live in by working for a capitalist. The capitalist can give him as much wages as he wants, and the worker has to accept this, because there are so many workers that the capitalist can always get some to work for low wages rather than starve.

When a worker wants to raise his wages or make his working conditions better, he has to get together with his fellow workers and strike. If the strike is solid and determined, the workers can win. Strikes—not one, but many of them—won the eight-hour-day for the workers. Strikes also won free education for workers' children.

Between the capitalist class and the working class there is another class—called the petty or small bourgeoisie. This class includes people who own a farm or a small store or a house. These things are indeed wealth. But as the crisis of capitalism gets worse, these people have less and less chance. How can a small grocery store compete with a large chain store? How can a small dairy farmer compete with a large dairy farmer? And so as things get worse, the petty bourgeoisie finds itself almost as badly off as the workers.

What can the workers do to keep from starving when the capitalists won't give them jobs, or jobs that pay enough to keep them? The workers must fight against these conditions. They must strike for higher wages, and fight for unemployment insurance to keep them alive when they can't get work. The PIONEERS, and the IWO JUNIORS, and the YOUNG DEFENDERS, AND ALL THE OTHER ORGANIZATIONS OF WORKING CLASS BOYS AND GIRLS, help the workers in their fight for the right to live and for better conditions.

Why Do Pioneers Fight Against War?

The big bosses make wars. They make wars in order to capture more land so they will have more place to sell their goods, and so make more profits. Bosses are interested only in how much profit they can make. Instead of looking for

new markets, they could raise the wages and cut the hours of the workers so the workers could buy the goods. But bosses don't do that. They keep the workers working as long as ever (unless the workers strike and force the bosses to reduce the hours) and make extra goods and try to sell it in foreign markets. The bosses of all countries fight about which shall have certain markets. This is war.

Workers get killed in wars. They have their legs and arms and faces blown off. They are poisoned by gas. Children lose their fathers and big brothers. The soldiers who come back from war cannot get jobs. Only the bosses benefit by the wars.

What Are the Present Organizations?

The International Labor Defense (I.L.D.) whose children's groups are called YOUNG DEFENDERS.

The International Workers' Order (I.W.O.) whose children's groups are called I.W.O. JUNIORS.

The Finnish Workers' Federation (F.W.F.), whose children's groups are called F.W.F. PIONEERS.

The Nature Friends, whose junior groups are called NATURE FRIENDS SCOUTS.

There are also the Ukranian Toilers, the Russian National Mutual Aid Society, the United Farmers' League, the United Farmers' Protective League, the Unemployment Councils, and some Trade Unions.

There are other workers' organizations also who have children's groups—the Ukranian Toilers, the Russian National Mutual Aid Society, the American League Against War and Fascism, the United Farmers League, the United Farmers Protective Association, some Trade Unions, the Unemployed Councils, and so on.

All these groups are not called Pioneers, but they are all composed of working class children who fight for the same things.

Should Workers' Children Join the Boy Scouts?

There is no question that workers' children can gain very much from the BOY SCOUTS. You can take hikes, and learn swimming and games, and have lots of fun at the same time that you're learning interesting things.

Then why do we say that workers' children should join the PIONEERS or the NATURE FRIEND SCOUTS or the I.W.O. JUNIORS instead of the BOY SCOUTS? For this reason: you can use all knowledge either for the working class and against the boss class, or for the boss class and against the working class. And the Boy Scouts teach you to use your knowledge for the boss class. They teach you to be "patriotic."

And what does the "patriotism" of the Boy Scouts and the bosses mean? It means that when the bosses of this country want markets for their goods and decide to go to war to get the markets from other countries, YOU should put on a uniform and go to war for these bosses and their profits. It means that YOU might get killed, or have an arm or leg or a piece of your face shot off, that YOU will kill and injure workers of other countries who have been tricked into going to war for THEIR bosses. The rich people train the Boy Scouts so they can always count on them in time of war. Do you know that the Boy Scouts helped the last war a great deal? They sold Liberty Bonds and War Savings Stamps amounting to \$200,000,000. That's a lot of money. Think how many families it would keep for a year! And it is very sad to think that each Liberty bond sold meant that the war went on that much

longer, and that more people were killed and injured.

The "patriotism" of the Boy Scouts and the bosses means defending the government and the property of rich and corrupt millionaires and their politicians, and preventing the workers from getting a living from their labor by fighting against strikers and the unemployed who demonstrate for relief. The Boy Scouts and the bosses call being willing to give your life or health or killing workers of other countries or fighting workers of your own country "Love of Country."

Don't the Pioneers love their country? Yes, they do. They love their country and the working people of their country and they want their country to be shared by all workers. They want all the good things of their country to be shared by all the workers who make this country rich and beautiful. They don't want all this good and beautiful country to be owned by a few rich parasites like Morgan and Rockefeller.

Which do you think really loves his country, the one who wishes to save it for the rich bosses or the one who wants it to be shared by all the people?

We think that the workers who have built up the country, who plow its lands and run its factories, love it more than the bosses, who only want it for what they can get out of it.

We think that you must either take the side of the workers or take the side of the bosses. The BOY SCOUTS are taught to take the side of the Bosses, while the PIONEERS take the side of the workers. That's why we say that workers' children should join the Pioneers.

Who Plans the Activity of the Pioneer Groups?

In New York there is the National Pioneer Council. In

this Council there is one representative from every parent organization. Together all these people discuss what the Pioneers and their parent organizations can do. Then they recommend these actions to the Pioneer Districts, and the Districts pass them on to the troops. The Troops carry out as many things as they feel they are able to.

What Is the Pioneer Password

"Always ready!"

What Is the Pioneer Pledge?

"I stand ready for the cause of the working class in its struggle for freedom and pledge to observe the Pioneer (or the I.W.O., or the I.L.D.) rules at all times."

Are There Pioneers Only in America?

No, there are PIONEERS in almost every country in the world. The PIONEERS form the largest children's movement in the world. There is a week in October celebrated as INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S WEEK in every country where there are PIONEERS.

It is called "International" Children's Week, because the Pioneer organization is what we call an international organization. That is, there are Pioneers in most of the countries in the world, and the Pioneers have an international spirit.

During this week especially we remember that we are the friends of the workers' children of all other countries, and that we stand up for them. We also renew our pledge never to support any war of the bosses that would try to make us the enemies of children of other countries. During this week many Pioneers begin to correspond with children in other countries—in the Soviet Union, Cuba, France, Spain, South Africa, Norway, Sweden, England, and other countries.

What Else Do Pioneers Do Besides Fight for the Rights of the Workers and Their Children? Don't They Ever Have Any Fun?

They certainly do. Pioneers want to be strong and healthy and have good times, just like all other children.

From reading all these accounts of how Pioneers "fight" and "work" you might get the idea that they never do the things that we think are very necessary for anyone's life.

But they have hikes, and baseball teams, and football teams, and basketball teams, and summer camps, and dramatics, and dancing, and arts and crafts, and all the other things that all boys and girls like to do.

We think a boy or girl who doesn't like to do any of these things is not normal. And we think all workers' children should have a chance to play games and go to camp, and all those things. That's why we try to get free playgrounds, and closed streets in the big cities. Besides ordinary playing with their friends and school mates, the Pioneer troops try to have teams of their own, and hiking clubs, and woodwork clubs; and they try to get instructors from other organizations to act as coaches and guides for these activities. For instance, a troop could ask the Labor Sports Union to assign an instructor to act as a basketball coach, or someone from the Workers' Dance League to teach dancing, or someone from the John Reed Club to teach art or sculpture to those who like it.

Soon we will have more of these special comrades to help us in our sports and recreation, but until then, Pioneer troops can form teams and clubs of their own.

Plenty of troops have teams of one sort or another. There are summer camps with capable leaders near most of the large cities.

And after seeing some of the things our Pioneer troops have made without instructors, you could almost say they don't need teachers! No, true Pioneers are not boys and girls who read and listen to speeches all the time, and then try to impress others with their big words and ability to make speeches.

The real Pioneer is a real boy or girl, who likes fun and is a real comrade to other boys and girls. Of course he works, too. But you know, we have a funny idea of work. We think of work as something you have to do but don't like to do. But anyone can tell you that if you work at something you like and believe in, it isn't like work at all. Johnny works all day taking apart his bicycle and putting it together again. It isn't work for him because he likes it. Well, that's how it is with Pioneers. They are helping to change the whole world. That's a bigger job than putting a bicycle together. But when you know you'll be successful, and you realize that you are right—then it isn't this work that we have to do but hate to do at all. It's work, but it's also making history.

Do the Pioneers Have A Magazine?

Yes. The official organ of the Pioneer groups is the NEW PIONEER. This is the only magazine written especially for the children of the workers and farmers in the United States. It doesn't have stories about rich children with maids, or children who go to Europe for a vacation.

It tells stories about children like you, whose fathers work for a living. It tells how they live and how they fight to make conditions better for themselves and their parents.

In the NEW PIONEER you will find plenty of pictures, letters from readers, Science and Nature, Sports, Stamps,

Puzzles, Jokes, and other things of interest. It has twenty-four pages and costs five cents. It comes out every month, and all its readers agree that it is a perfectly swell magazine!

It is really the magazine of the Pioneers, and other workers' children. They don't just buy it and read it every month. They write for it, draw for it, send in puzzles, poems, stories, jokes, letters, and news. They also criticize it and give suggestions for its improvement. Every day the NEW PIONEER gets lots of letters telling how the readers liked this story, or didn't like that one, or want a Chemistry Column, or want a 32-page magazine, or something like that. All these letters are answered personally, and all the suggestions that can be used are used.

The NEW PIONEER has Readers' Advisory Boards in several of the large cities. These are groups of Pioneer readers elected from troops to meet and discuss the NEW PIONEER, and send in criticism and suggestions for the next issue. We would like more of these Advisory Boards. Because, you see, if you read the NEW PIONEER, it is YOUR magazine, and you should have something to say about how it is run.

Of course, when you own something you have a responsibility towards it, too. That is, it's nice to have a dog, but you have to feed it. The NEW PIONEER is not supported by any rich men. It is supported by those who own it. That means all Pioneer readers should try to get other readers, so that the NEW PIONEER can grow and get better. You should spread it for another reason, too. The NEW PIONEER is not just a magazine. It is an organizer and an educator, too. It tells you lots of things you'll never learn in school. One of the best ways to get other boys and girls to join the Pioneers is to show them the NEW PIONEER.

Explain to them what kind of a magazine it is and why they should read it.

Remember, it is your magazine, and if you do not support it, J. P. Morgan won't!

Who Should Join the Pioneers?

Every worker's and poor farmer's child should join the Pioneers and help in the fight for a decent life and for all the good things in life for all workers. Workers' children want to play and to have enough to eat and wear, and a decent place to live. They demand the right to have all the good things of life. They know that their fathers and mothers have grown the food and built the houses and made the clothes. Yet the children of the workers do not have even enough to eat or wear or a decent place to sleep. All the things made by the workers are sold by the bosses for their own profit. The young Pioneers of America demand that the workers have a fair share of the things their fathers and mothers have made. And when we are strong enough we will help our parents and other brothers and sisters kick out the bosses, and then all the workers will share all the good things in America.



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