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# Report to the 2nd World Congress of the Young Communist International by the Young Communist League of America and the United Communist Party of America, April 1921. †

From the FBI Investigative Files, NARA collection M-1085, reel 939, doc. 122.

Dear Comrade:

The Left Wing development within the Socialist Party of America during 1918-1919 also affected the Young People's Socialist League.‡ With the formation of the Communist Party and the Communist Labor Party many of the younger comrades left the League and the remaining part of the League as a whole decided to remain independent of any party while the controversy between the two Communist parties was going on. But this did not make things any better, for the yellow Socialist elements of that organization did their best to control it, while the membership as a whole did not fully comprehend the aims and objects of a revolutionary young people's movement in this country. Due to this condition, as well as lack of funds, the national organization of the YPSL broke down. Only a few of the local or sectional organizations of it managed to remain more or less intact.

Both the CP and the CLP passed resolutions to the effect that they would assist in forming Young Communist Leagues, but in reality nothing was ever done about it. The UCP, realizing the necessity of organizing the Communist youth of America under the banner of the Young Communist International, laid

down at its second convention [Kingston, NY, Jan. 1921] a definite plan of action from bringing the Young Communist League in this country into being (see Exhibit 1).§

The fraternal delegate of the YCL at the convention was immediately placed in charge of this work. After three months, the results are already in evidence. The YCL is an actuality. Provisional organizational rules were drawn up, leaflets issued, and a pamphlet on the YCL prepared (see Exhibits 2 and 3) besides which organization work was done in all the important cities.§ About 20 groups are now definitely in existence, which are working in closest cooperation with the UCP. Every issue of the official Party organ [*The Communist*] carries one or more articles on the Young Communist movement, and every party official and member has been urged to do his utmost in organizing and developing the YCL. At the earliest possible moment a national convention of the YCL will be called, at which time the members will outline the ways, means, and policies of the organization and elect their own officials.

An international delegate to the Second World Congress of the YCL was elected by the central committees of the YCL and the UCP. The national con-

†- There were two "2nd World Congress" of the Young Communist International — one held in Jena and Berlin, Germany from April 6-11, 1921, a gathering which was abruptly terminated when it was learned that the Executive Committee of the Communist International had called for the 2nd World Congress of the YCI to be held in Moscow in conjunction with the 3rd World Congress of the Comintern. This 2nd World Congress redux was held from June 9-23, 1921. We know with certainty that this report was written for the April gathering, however, since the document is signed by "Paul Holt" [Alfred Wagenknecht] on behalf of the United Communist Party — an organization which ceased to exist after a May 15-28, 1921 unity convention held at Woodstock, New York.

‡- Youth section of the Socialist Party of America.

§- The attachment is not included as part of the archival document.

vention of the YCL will be held immediately upon his return to America.

All indications point to the fact that a strong YCL will be developed in this country within a short time. We hope that the YCL will do all it can to assist us in this work of making the YCL of America an important part in the worldwide revolutionary movement.

On behalf of the YCL of A and the UCP of A we extend our heartiest greetings to the Second World Congress of the Young Communist International.

LONG LIVE THE YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE OF AMERICA.

LONG LIVE THE YOUNG COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL.

ALL HAIL TO THE WORLDWIDE PROLETARIAN REVOLUTION.

Fraternally,

National Committee of the  
Young Communist League of America,  
H. Edwards, National Organizer.

Central Executive Committee of the  
United Communist Party of America,  
Paul Holt [Alfred Wagenknecht],  
Executive Secretary.

*Edited with footnotes by Tim Davenport.*

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