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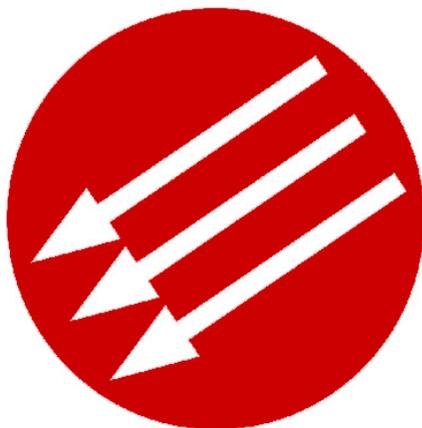
# **New York Yipsels Organize Vanguard; Acts as Colorful Unit in Mass Action: Blue Shirts and Red Emblems Worn by Young Socialists**

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New York City.— The royal blue shirts and red emblems worn by hundreds of young Socialists in New York City will lend great color to future activities on every field here. A Socialist Vanguard has been organized, under the plans of the organization and propaganda committee of the New York Socialist Party.

Young men and women, as well as boys and girls, are creating a disciplined, uniformed band that is expected to add color and strength to demonstrations, mass meetings, Socialist industrial work, and even the smaller political activities of the movement in local regions.

The Vanguard at this date has about 40 squads of 8 each, with a captain at the head of each squad. Jack Altman, for many years an active Yipsel and now a party worker, is the leader of the entire body, while the boro leaders are Eddie Dawley in Manhattan, Eddie Smith in Brooklyn, and Ben Fischer in Queens.



## **Vanguard Has Emblem.**

Three Arrows enclosed in a circle is the emblem of the Vanguard, borrowed from the now-destroyed Iron Front in Germany. The ar-

rows stand for the slogan of the Young People's Socialist League: "Organization, education, and solidarity."<sup>1</sup>

Though not yet uniformed in their blue shirts, the Vanguard members made their debut at the Town Hall ratification meeting, September 24 [1933], when nearly 2,000 comrades gathered to hear Norman Thomas, Charles Solomon, mayoralty candidate, and other Socialist leaders.

The Vanguard, wearing white shirts, red ties, and Young Socialist arm bands, opened the meeting with a parade through the hall, finally lining the aisles while comrades bore some fifteen flaming red flags onto the stage to make a vivid background for the opening of the important New York election campaign.

### **On the Picket Line.**

On the industrial field the Vanguard has functioned as a group for two months, along with the YPSL. Within the past two months about 200,000 workers have been on strike in New York City. In addition great organization drives have been made in industries in which there have been no strikes as yet. In almost every case young Socialists, working through either the Vanguard or the YPSL, have been on the front lines of the workers' struggles.

The Vanguard and YPSL both helped in the difficult and important job of first organizing the transit employees of the city. At this time a strike is already in the air which will completely smash the hold of the company unions which have kept the transit workers bound for many years.

Socialists in New York played a heroic part in the great struggle of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' general strike last month, when 60,000 workers put up a remarkable show of strength in the city. Vanguard members and other Yipsels were active on every front, picketing, pulling down shops, doing office work, or whatever was needed to be done.

### **Aid Bakers' Strike.**

Under the industrial committee of the New York YPSL hundreds of young Socialists aided the efforts of the Bakers' union to regain

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<sup>1</sup> Note that the three arrows of the German Iron Front organization stood for opposition to Monarchism, Nazism, and Communism.

decent conditions in strikes throughout the city. Here young comrades picketed, distributed leaflets, demonstrated, and spoke at street meetings against the anti-picketing injunction issued by Justice Strong of Brooklyn, aimed to break the strike.

In the course of the struggle, Julius Bertman, industrial director of the city YPSL, Sol Rosenberg, and Sam Rubin were arrested and in at least one case beaten.

Work has been done and is going on in countless other union struggles. Some of the important ones with which the young Socialists are engaged are those of the National Shoe and Leather Workers, the Cloakmakers' stoppage, the doll and Toy Workers' union, the Edison workers education drives, and also in the Patterson and other New Jersey silk strikes.

### **Indoor Rallies Planned.**

Though as many as 200 Yipsels are sometimes active at the same time in this widespread industrial strife, the organization has its numerous other tasks. About a hundred indoor campaign rallies are already scheduled for the city, and in all of them Yipsels take a leading part distributing leaflets and manning the meetings, as well as speaking at many of them.

Also Yipsels are active in street meeting work, preparing for a great Oct. 7 demonstration at Madison Square Garden in celebration of International Socialist Youth Day, extensive student work, and educational work.

The Vanguard has taken a leading part in the national drive of the League Against Fascism for funds. Tag day parades have helped swell the funds greatly.

*Edited with a footnote by Tim Davenport*

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