

# YOUTH MOVEMENT DEPARTMENT

**T**HE Youth Movement of America has been organized with headquarters in Chicago. Walter W. Hecht, Jr., is Chairman of the Central Council. It is spreading to other cities. We know of no more promising organization for the inculcation of the principles of liberty, and shall give a page of each issue of LAND AND FREEDOM to the news of this rapidly expanding organization.

To quote from the declaration of the president, Mr. Hecht, "The Youth of America is non-subsidized, has neither flags, buttons nor colored shirts."

The purpose is to form the American youth movement, planning a campaign first to organize on patriotic (not nationalistic) principles, then to educate its members to the Geogist principles and other items in its national platform, train them through participation in local and sectional fracas and reforms, and then—to do what youth movements set out to do. They hope to reach this last stage by the time the NRA, the greatest and logically the last of all the great props to the existing system, crumbles. They would like to be prepared to step into the breach with the one constructive plan that is drafted according to natural law.

We append the declaration of its temporary manifesto:

The Central Council of the Youth Movement of America believes that the great principles that inspired our forefathers were *Justice* and *Mercy*, and that they desired to found a government which was to secure equal rights for all and special privileges to none.

Youth, until now, has remained silent during our national distresses, feeling as did the youthful Elihu, of whom we find a narrative in the oldest book of Scriptures wherein Job was in his last extremity and had received no helpful counsel from the elders:

Elihu said: "I am young and ye are very old, wherefore I was afraid and durst not show mine opinion. I said, 'Days should speak and multitude of years should teach wisdom but there is a spirit in man and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth him understanding.' Great men are not always wise; neither do the aged understand judgment. Therefore I said, 'Harken to me; I also will show mine opinion.'"

Youth cannot help but see that the principles upon which our government was founded have been departed from—there is not a single "inalienable" right guaranteed us by the Bill of Rights of our Constitution which has not been infringed upon and violated by the very officers who are, by their sacred oaths, sworn to uphold this constitution. . . .

It sees a proud and thrifty American citizenry forced to accept charity to keep their families from starving. . . .

It sees young men and women coming out of colleges and universities, well trained and prepared to do good work in the world, but with no opportunity to do that work. . . .

It sees other people, contemplating the future with fear, not daring to marry and bring children into a world of want—an entire generation doomed to an unnatural course of life, bred to a bitter realization of the futility of their hopes and ambitions. . . .

It sees homes and farms lost, life savings swept away, through no fault of the men and women who have worked and saved all their lives that their old age might be provided for. . . .

It sees an economic system failing—great machines lying idle, and idle men trained only to operate them; vast surpluses of food, whilst children starve; immense ships rotting in their wharves and thousands of freight cars rusting and empty on their tracks while the need for distribution of the world's wares becomes a distressing necessity. . . .

It sees a growing monster in the form of communism, attracting thousands who accept it as the only alternative to the present terrorism of privilege—thousands willing to gamble the tyranny they know for a tyranny they cannot help but suspect. . . .

It sees disgusted citizens by the millions, refusing to vote. . . .

Because of These Conditions, We,

THE YOUTH OF AMERICA

demand that the following principles be put into effect at once and rigidly and continuously adhered to:

**FIRST:** That all persons of the age of eighteen years, native or naturalized, male or female, be permitted to vote and hold office.

**SECOND:** That the products of human labor be free from taxation.

**THIRD:** That the natural resources of the country be restored to the ownership of the people.

**FOURTH:** That there shall exist the utmost freedom of exchange of the products of labor between our citizens and those of every other land!

**FIFTH:** That there shall be no more wars.

**SIXTH:** That the first postulate of a true democracy being universal education, this principle must be put into practice, and that steps be taken immediately to assure a national high standard of teaching.

**SEVENTH:** That each citizen be protected in the full exercise of his constitutional rights, and that the traditional American individuality of spirit and enterprise be recognized as a fundamental of American democracy.

No greater crime can be committed than the stealing of a nation's birthright. And that has been done, and today we suffer. Still greater the forces of privilege mount. And now new terrors arise, waving flags of red that are not our own, crying the names of heroes that are foreign to us, teaching communism, fascism, anarchism—but not patriotism! They offer what we greatly suspect to be only another form of tyranny.

And so we call to all our generation to unite their efforts in defense of their individualism and their country before it is too late. And we appeal to the common sense of other generations to assist us. All creeds, all parties, all races—all may examine their beliefs and ideals and find in them the principles we uphold. Then let them unite—forget the minor issues of the day, and fight the greater fight for those fundamental truths whose establishment will right all wrongs.

We feel that we have urged only principles that are true and eternal.

Therefore we have a firm reliance on Divine Providence for the guidance of this movement in which we hope to bring the Youth of America into concerted action.

(If you wish further information or to offer your services, address the secretary to the Central Council, Youth of America—Marian Mills, 3009 Narragansett Avenue, Chicago, Ill.)

**E**VERY proprietor, therefore, of cultivated land owes to the community a ground rent (for I know of no better term to express the idea) for the land which he holds.

THOMAS PAINE, "Agrarian Justice" 1795-6.

**S**TATESMEN loud in "fearless" denunciation of unpopular racketeers are afraid to open their mouths about legalized racketeering by land speculators and tariff robbers.