

YOUTH CALLS FOR ACTION

Join the EUREKA YOUTH LEAGUE

A Youth Organisation which fights for the needs of young people on and off the job.

Already three of the League's points in the campaign for a NEW DEAL FOR YOUTH have become law—DAYTIME TECHNICAL TRAINING, HIGHER WAGES (for building apprentices), WORKERS' COMPENSATION (to cover apprentices at school). The League has clubs in Footscray and Williamstown, as well as many other suburbs.

For Sixpence a week membership fee you can enjoy club life in a healthy youth club—socials, camps, hikes, week-ends away, table-tennis, volleyball, club nights.

Members are entitled to use the facilities of the State Headquarters at 104 Queensberry Street, North Melbourne, which includes Boys' and Girls' Gymnasium, Jazz, Cabaret. Write to the Club Secretaries—

FOOTSCRAY—Mr. Stan Copland, 14 Hotham St., Seddon, W.11
WILLIAMSTOWN—Miss Betty Dean, 30 Osborne St., Williamstown and enclose this form.

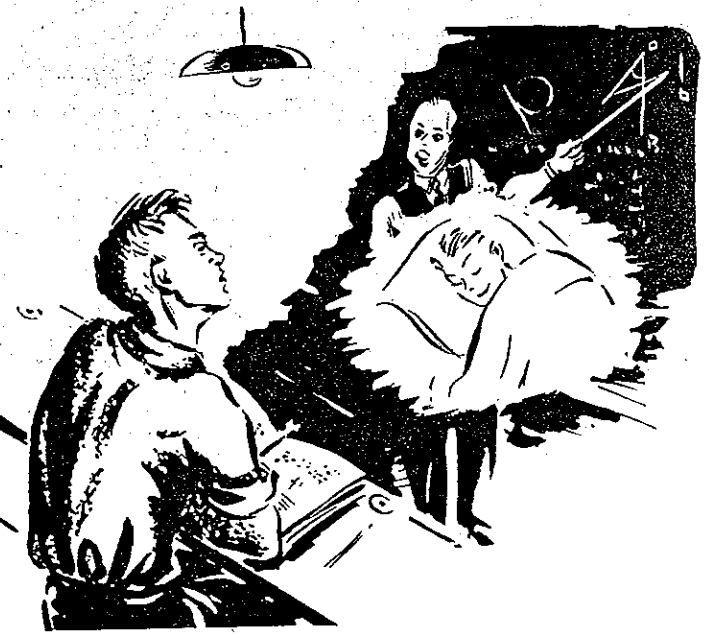
NAME.....
ADDRESS.....
INTERESTS.....

This leaflet has been produced by a donation from the Footscray Hours and Wages Committee.

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The report of a Eureka Youth League enquiry into the conditions of youth in and around the Footscray district.



These facts concerning the wages, hours, training and conditions of young workers in the Footscray district were presented at a recent youth enquiry before a panel of six commissioners in the Footscray Town Hall—

Mr J. STANISTREET—Industrial Officer, Australian Railways Union
Mr. GEORGE CRAWFORD—Melbourne Apprentices Committee Member.
Mr. HARRY STEIN—Organizer, Eureka Youth League.
Miss R. STEVENS, Industrial Welfare Officer.
Dr. A. H. DOBBIN—Secretary, Preventive Medicine Section, B.M.A.
Miss D. McRAE—Head Teacher, Flemington Girls' High School.

The EUREKA YOUTH LEAGUE, in presenting these facts, calls on all local Citizens, Trade Unions, Shop Committees, Organisations and the local Council to act in support of the programme put forward on the opposite page.

- **HOURS**—A young worker in a Yarraville factory is "on the go" from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.—a total of 17 hours on school nights. Average working day of building apprentices is 10 hours 50 minutes. An apprentice boilermaker in Footscray, including night school, averages 50 hours a week.
A young worker in a textile mill gave evidence—"most boys work seven days a week because they need the extra money. Juniors work overtime, and if junior girls don't work on Sunday they are told they need not come in on Monday."
A representative of the 40-hour week committee replied to the opponents of shorter hours, who claim that industry cannot afford to grant this reform or to give higher wages, and that workers will have to produce more before they can get the 40-hour week.
"In 1920 the worker added £319 new value to raw materials against £486 today."
"Footscray industries show recent profits of £106,482 for Bradford cotton mills; £17,662, H. V. Dickey; £181,136, Colonial Sugar."
- **WAGES**—A first-year electrical apprentice earns £1/1/6 a week and pays 3/2 a week in fares.
A boilermaker apprentice in his third year claims to do 80% of an adult's work for £2/4/6 a week.
- **BOARD**—A waitress at the Railways canteen receives £1/16/- wages, pays £1 per week board and shares her room with another girl.
A Railways apprentice says average board costs 30/- to 32/6, which may or may not include lunches and laundry, and Railway apprentices only receive £2/2/- per week for the first few years.

- **CONDITIONS**—A girl textile worker gave evidence that she had to leave her job because she had contracted catarrh in the dust-laden air.
A Railways canteen waitress carries trays about 20 yards to tables. The trays are heavy and she has to walk through water all the time. Uniforms are laundered by the girls.
At a textile mill there is a small canteen which serves soft drinks, milk, pies and pasties. There is no rest room. Half an hour is allowed for lunch. One can learn a machine in a day, then work is all repetition.

THESE DEMANDS ARE URGENT—

- **SHORTER HOURS**—40-hour week for all workers. A 40-hour week means more time for sport and recreation.
- **DAYTIME TECHNICAL TRAINING**—Immediate plans by the State Government for school buildings, teaching staff, etc., to put daytime training into effect. In the meantime, apprentices to be allowed time off during the day to make up for hours spent at night school.
- **INCREASED WAGES**—30/- minimum wage for juveniles.
£1 increase in the basic wage with corresponding increase for all young people to catch up with the tremendous cost of living increases.
Metal Trades Apprentices' wages to be raised to: 1st year, £1/13/6; 2nd year, £2/7/-; 3rd year, £3/7/3; 4th year, £5/1/-; 5th year, £6/7/6.
- **NON-PROFIT HOSTELS**, sponsored by the Government for lads living away from home, with ample room to study. The Unions and the apprentices to participate in the government of the hostels.
(From the enquiry a sub-committee consisting of Australian Railways Union, Newport Rail Youth Committee and Footscray and Williamstown branches of the Eureka Youth League has been set up to campaign for a hostel in the Footscray-Williamstown district. Young workers living away from home are urged to fill in the questionnaire on wages and board, which is now available from this committee.)
- **REGULAR FREE MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS** for young workers, particularly those working under unhygienic conditions, with special emphasis on a council sponsored free voluntary T.B. X-ray service.
- **CANTEENS TO SERVE HOT MEALS** for all factory workers, and at technical schools.
- **OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL TO LEARN**—Repetition workers to receive time off and facilities to learn a trade, to become skilled workers.
- **RAISING OF SCHOOL LEAVING AGE TO 16**, with subsidies for parents for the extra two years expenses of students, so that there can be real equality of education.