

YOUNG CITIZENS LEAGUE

EMMA MEISTRIK, Executive Sec'y, Pierre

Many inquiries have been received regarding the organization of a Young Citizen League, more particularly from teachers, who are new to the work. To these the following information will be of interest.

How to Organize a League

Read stories and poems from the Young Citizen. Talk to the children about the league, interesting them in its work. Then plan for a practice meeting, using only the simplest rules of parliamentary procedure at first. Study the flag salute, motto, the pledge and the Code of Ethics.

In the Constitution and By-Laws teachers will find the order of business on page 797 of the Course of Study and the duties and membership of committees on pages 801-804. When children have done a little preliminary practice, they may plan their first real meeting.

Sample of a Regular Meeting

President:

(1) "The meeting will please come to order."
(2) "Will all members stand and join in giving the salute and pledge to the flag." (Standing with right hand over the heart, facing the flag, all repeat together the following pledge: "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation indivisible with liberty and justice for all.") (At the words "to the flag" the right hand is extended, palm upward toward the flag and this position is held until the end, when the hand drops to the side after the words, "justice for all.")

(3) "Let us repeat our Young Citizens League Pledge: 'I hereby pledge my active devotion to my country by a study of its ideals and by a constant interest in the general welfare of my state and nation. I shall strive to do something each day to improve the standards of my school and community, and thereby endeavor to promote better citizenship.'"

(4) "The secretary will please call the roll." (The secretary may rise and say: "Mr. President, all members are present," or "three members are absent," as the case may be.)

(5) "The secretary will please read the minutes of the last meeting." (Secretary rises and reads minutes of the last regular or special meeting, or the minutes of both.)

(6) "Are there any corrections of the minutes?"

(7) (Pause) "If there are no corrections, the minutes stand approved as read." (Pause) "They are approved."

(8) "The reports of committees are in order."

Anne: "Mr. President."

President: "Anne."

Anne: "I wish to report that the regular library committee has completed the work of recording the books in the new library record."

President: "Members of the league, I feel that this committee has done a very fine piece of work and that they should be commended. Let us give them a rising

vote of thanks." (All except the committee, rise to the floor.)

(9) "Is there any old business?" (none.)

(10) "Is there any new business?"

George: "Mr. President."

President: "George."

George: "I think we should select a name for our organization and I move that it be called the 'Be Square' League. (Other names are suggested and voted on. A name should not be used by more than one YCL in a county. Consult the County Superintendent.)

Mary: "Mr. President."

President: "Mary."

Mary: "I second that motion."

President: "It has been moved and seconded that the name of our organization shall be the 'Be Square' League. All those in favor of this motion say 'Aye'; those opposed say 'No'. The 'Ayes' have it. The name of this chapter shall be the 'Be Square League'."

Jane: "Mr. President."

President: "Jane."

Jane: "I move that the secretary be instructed to write to our county chairman, Miss Brown, the County Superintendent, that we organized and elected our officers for the work of the Young Citizens League on September 10 and that we have selected the name 'Be Square' League. Further, that the various committees have been appointed by the president and that they are carrying out their duties as young citizens."

Charles: "Mr. President."

President: "Charles."

Charles: "I second that motion."

John: "Mr. President."

President: "John."

John: "Will the secretary please read the motion. I do not think that I understood it."

President: "Miss Secretary, you will please read the motion." (Secretary stands and reads motion, if it has been written out and if not, repeats the motion distinctly so that all may understand.)

President: "You have heard the motion. All those in favor of this motion say 'Aye'; opposed say 'No'. The 'Ayes' have it. The motion is carried. The secretary will write our county chairman as instructed."

(11) "New members will be voted in."

(12) President: "A motion to adjourn is in order."

Helen: "Mr. President."

President: "Helen."

Helen: "I move that we adjourn."

Nadine: "Mr. President."

President: "Nadine."

Nadine: "I second that motion."

President: "It has been moved and seconded that we adjourn. All those in favor of this motion, say 'Aye'; opposed 'No'. The 'Ayes' have it and the meeting is adjourned." (A program may follow or may be inserted before the close of the meeting.)

Simple Rules of Order to be Observed

Every member previous to speaking, shall rise from his seat, address the chair and remain standing until he is recognized by the President. In YCL work "Miss President" may be used instead of "Madam President" when a girl is presiding.

(Continued on page across)