

Colored And
White Workers—
Unite!

SOUTHERN WORKER

Issued Weekly by Communist Party of U. S. A.

Don't Starve—
Fight for Social
Insurance!

Vol. 1, No. 14

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Nov. 22, 1930

2 Cents a Copy

WINTER HERE AS UNEMPLOYED INCREASE

FISH FILES FAKE "RED" TESTIMONY

URGE T. C. I. TERROR FOR COMMUNISTS

All the fascist elements were called or volunteered to testify for the Fish committee during its sittings in Chattanooga, Birmingham and Atlanta.

Fixed Testimony

In Atlanta, where six labor organizers are shortly to go on trial for "inciting to insurrection," the underhand methods of Solicitor Boykin's office was revealed in all its nakedness. R. C. Miller, a Negro, brought in under the protection of a city detective, recited a memorized speech in which he claims that he was made "state delegate" of the Communist Party at a state meeting of the Party in Rome, Ga. and later "District Delegate" at a meeting in Charlotte, N. C., but his memory failed him entirely when asked question about his instructions. Besides the fact that a Negro by that name was never in the Communist Party in Atlanta and there are no such offices as "state or district delegate" (he evidently meant organizer) his fixed testimony was entirely exposed in his reply to questions. Claiming that he left his "secrets" at home, and that the "secrets" of the Party are "borne in the bosoms of the Negroes," he could give no specific information on the (Turn to Page 2)

3-Cent Tobacco In N. Carolina

Tobacco is now selling at from two to four cents a pound in the North Carolina markets, according to Upton G. Wilson, writing in the Winston-Salem Journal.

At one warehouse, he reports, where the floors were covered with tobacco, the entire sale did not average more than three and a half cents a pound. "Farmers says" he writes, "that tobacco which two or three weeks ago brought 12 cents a pound now brings three or four cents. They declare moreover, that tobacco which brought 18 cents a pound last year and was classed as cigarette tobacco now sells at from two to four cents and is alleged to be unfit for cigarettes."

Tobacco was selling far below the price of production when it sold at 10 and 12 cents a pound average in the Carolinas and Georgia at the opening of the markets this fall. Such a shout of protest was raised by the states and the Federal Farm Board farmers, that the Governors of the called conferences and held investigations. Of course, no result for the farmers was obtained except that prices continue to decline. The cooperatives urged by the farm board are meant only for the big planters as an aid in marketing. At the same time the Reynolds Tobacco Company, employing Negro labor at \$6 a week, cleared its record profit for the first six months of this year.

SOVIET UNION UNCOVERS PLOT TO INVADE HER

MOSCOW, U. S. S. R.—With the arrest of saboteurs in some of the main industrial centers of the Soviet Union, a whole plot has been uncovered by which the French and British imperialists, with the help of their Polish lackeys, hoped to ruin Soviet industry and invade the Soviet Union.

The war on the Soviet Union was supposed to start this year, for which the French general staff, cooperating with the Polish had drawn up full details. In back of this plan were leading British exploiters of labor, Poincare, prime minister of France, and Briand, French minister of foreign affairs. Because of the "economic situation" the war plan has been postponed, according to the evidence made public by the Soviet Union.

Prosperity Balloon



Bill Hernandez, Southern Worker Cartoonist, lines them up the way they are.

8 Children To Feed--Wife of Tenant Farmer Desperate

By a Farmer Correspondent

RIESEL, Texas.

Dear Comrade:—Just received your letter and sample copy today and read it through and want to tell you that we like it just fine.

My husband and I are the only Communists in this entire county. We were first members of the socialist party, but we are socialists no longer, but Communists. We have a large family and can hardly make a living for them. My husband is 51 years old and I am 44. We have 11 children, all at home but three.

No Farm Relief

You asked me to tell you the conditions of the farmers in this section. Well, the only way I can do that is to tell you our own conditions and you will know how the very poorest of us will get thru the winter.

We have had one of the worst droughts this year that this country ever had. Crops were very, very short. Our present Governor, Moody, pretended to try and get help for us drought-stricken people from the national government, but the help never came and never will.

Nothing Left

And then what little cotton we did have they just took it away from us only giving us 8 and 10 cents a pound for it, and we poor people renting land could not pay our debts. The landlord wanted what we owed him and the banker wanted what we owed him, so they took everything we made. Now we are thru picking the little cotton and the landlord and our banker has it all, and we have nothing to go on and nothing for the winter.

I am the mother of 11 children, 8 of them at home. You don't know how it breaks a mother's heart to see her children without enough to eat or wear. They wouldn't let us keep enough to get the children clothes for the winter and our landlord won't let us have any money to go on thru the winter.

After 2 Weeks—What?

They say I must send my children to school or I break the law. I have five that ought to go, but I am only (Turn to Page 2)

Revolt Growing In So. America

The series of revolts in the Latin-American countries, subjects of Yankee imperialism, are taking more of a proletarian character as the masses realize that the so-called "revolutions" of the military cliques make their conditions only worse.

Native Peruvian miners clashed with their American bosses at the large American-owned copper mine in the Andes, when attempts were made to prevent them from going to a demonstration to protest the arrest of 33 labor organizers at the mines. Fifteen miners were killed and 22 others wounded when the police fired into the crowd. In the clash, three American mine bosses were killed. A 24-hour general strike was called in Lima, capital of Peru, and the workers are aroused throughout the country.

Martial law has been declared in Havana by "Butcher" Machado, American puppet dictator of Cuba, when he saw his regime threatened by mass demonstrations of students and workers. Thruout Latin America the masses, hard hit by the crisis and fooled by the series of fake revolutions maneuvered either by British or American imperialists to obtain the control of the country, are fastly moving towards revolutions which will wipe out the exploiters, both native and foreign.

For the 7-Hour Day and
5-Day Week!

TENN. BOSSES READY TO WAR ON JOBLESS

How the bosses are doing everything in their power to shift the whole burden of the crisis onto the backs of the workers is further revealed in a letter sent to all its members by the Tennessee Manufacturers' Association, signed by C. C. Gilbert, its secretary.

Against Any Concessions

The letter shows that the bosses will not give even the string from their purses to help the unemployed and will fight to the last ditch to prevent the passage of a social insurance bill. The letter, in part, follows:

"When the legislature convenes all our resources and energies must be devoted to watching legislation and defeating those legislative proposals intended to place additional burdens on the manufacturers—such as new tax laws, discriminatory tax laws, amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Law, proposed by labor unions, designed to increase your insurance rate, proposals by labor unions to shorten work hours at the same rate of pay. These are only a few of the many attempts that will be made at the next legislature to further burden and restrict the manufacturers, which means a curtailment of their operations, something that we will not tolerate.

Biggest Bosses Involved

The Tennessee Manufacturers' Association, whose board of governors consists of representatives of the biggest exploiters of labor in the state, such as the Aluminum Co. of America, Tennessee Electric Power Co., Standard-Coosa-Thatcher Co. DuPont (Turn to Page 2)

Negroes Suffer Most In Crisis

That unemployment works its greatest ravages among the Negro workers is shown in the recent report of the National Urban League, an upper class Negro organization.

In 1930 the number of jobs available for Negro workers decreased 34.5 percent compared with 1929, while the number of workers applying for jobs increased 39.9 percent, according to this report. That Negro labor is receiving 25 cents an hour, when working is considered news by the Urban League, while thousands of workers have been getting that wage and even less thruout the country for some time.

The chief concern of the Urban League, however, is not to combat unemployment, but to prevent any effective militant struggle on the part of the Negro workers together with the white for social insurance. It expresses great concern for capitalism and the white masters and draws the following lesson: "The whole situation has produced a fertile atmosphere for Communist propagandists," and infers that the "unparalleled spread of its doctrines in parts of the South and mid-west" must be stemmed in the manner proposed by the Fish committee.

INSURANCE FOR JOBLESS IS ONLY WAY OF RELIEF

More and more workers and their families face starvation as unemployment increases and winter knocks at the door.

Figures from many sources show an increase in unemployment in practically all industries, while the Hoover hunger regime and state and city governments continue dressing the skull and bones of starvation with the clothes of their clownish relief talk.

More Steel Workers Idle

In Birmingham the steel mills are practically idle with only 8 blast furnaces working and no sign that production will increase before the winter is over. According to the A. F. of L., 22 percent of its union members in this city are unemployed, while 59 percent of the organized building trades workers are without jobs. The percentage of unemployment among the unorganized workers is very much higher. There are more unemployed metal workers this month than last month, and the mines are employing just enough men to keep going. Even in the plants working, more men are being placed on part time daily.

Nationally, production in the steel industry continues to decline, a significant measure of the increase in unemployment since this industry supplies many trades with material. Steel production decreased 8.6 percent from September to October, while it decreased 7.3 percent from August to September. The steel industry is now working 45 percent of capacity, and all the bosses economists agree that it will decrease still further and faster during the winter.

1,000,000 Jobless in Two Trades

In New York, a key industrial state, there has been a drop in factory employment of 1.7 percent from September to October, even according to state officials who predict even sharper decreases. Federal unemployment wizard Woods admits that there are 1,000,000 unemployed workers in the auto and construction industries alone and in the same breath states that an "emergency situation does not exist." Official A. F. of L. figures for the country show 21 percent unemployed in the Federation membership.

The copper magnates in a public statement declared that they will still further curtail production, laying many more thousands of workers off, the course to be followed even more actively in other industries.

In the face of this increasing unemployment and a winter of misery for 9,000,000 unemployed workers and their families, in the face of increased part time work and wage-slashing, absolutely nothing is being done by the government and the bosses to relieve the unemployed. The Communist Party and the Trade Union Unity League are intensifying their campaign for the Workers Social Insurance Bill which demands a minimum of \$25 a week for every unemployed worker, to be paid for by the federal funds appropriated for war purposes and by a tax on the employers.

Fight For Social
Insurance!

STEEL BARONS REOPEN CASE AGAINST REDS

St. Clairsville, Ohio.—The case of Charles Guynn, Tom Johnson and Lil Andrews, three Communists who were convicted by a steel and coal jury of "Criminal syndicalism" and then freed by the Court of Appeals, will be tried again according to Yeta Land, attorney for the International Labor Defense who has been notified to that effect by the prosecution.

Chas. Guynn, one of the leaders in the Mine, Oil and Smelter Workers' Industrial Union, Tom Johnson, organizer for the Communist Party in the Birmingham District, and Lil Andrews of the Young Communist League were arrested while speaking at an anti-war meeting on August 1, 1929 in Martins Ferry, Ohio, when the police attacked a demonstration of 1,000 workers and dispersed the meeting.

The three workers were defended by the International Labor Defense and vigorous mass protests were organized throughout the steel and coal sections of that country. The state hired a special prosecuting attorney, and backed by the steel interests, hand-picked a jury consisting of storekeepers and farmers. The middle class jury convicted Guynn, Johnson and Andrews within eleven minutes and they were sentenced to 5 to 10 years with fines of \$5,000 by Judge Cowen.

Guynn and Johnson served six weeks in the Ohio State penitentiary and Lil Andrews in the women's prison in St. Marysville, Ohio, when they were bailed out by the I. L. D. who had meanwhile appealed the case.

Heidelberg, Miss.

Dear Editor:

I am rushing you my subscription today and I would appreciate your kindness toward rushing my paper to me. I have been visiting relatives in New Orleans, La., and by chance came in contact with a copy of your paper and I take it as one of the best papers that was ever edited south of the Mason & Dixon line.

—A Worker.

Farm Tenant's Wife Tells of Starvation

(Continued from Page 1)

trying to send the three youngest ones. It is an awful thing to drive your little children away every morning when you know that they haven't enough to eat and when cold weather comes they won't have clothes to keep them warm. But still I must send them or be a law-breaker.

There are people here, poor renters, who are on starvation. We have enough to last us two more weeks, and then I don't know how I will feed my little children, I don't know whether I can stand to see them cry for bread. I understand why our landlord and the bankers and all the bosses large families, but looks like they want us poor working people to have would allow us enough to keep them from going hungry and cold.

The churches that our landlords and the bankers belong to are giving out a few handouts to some of the poor renters, but of course, we don't even get any of these handouts as we don't belong to their churches after reading Bishop Brown's "Communism and Christianity" and other writings of his. We can't hold to the church no longer. May such men as he live long and do their best for the poor working people, they don't know how much we love them.

—Wife of a White Tenant Farmer

AWAY WITH LYNCH LAW
SYSTEM!

Family Starving, Steals Bread Then Hangs Self

PITTSBURG, Ga.—Out of a job for many months, walking the streets looking for work, unable to bear the continuous cry of his eight children for food, Joseph Drusin stole a loaf of bread from the kitchen of a neighbor.

He was arrested for this great crime and was to have answered to the "law" today.

His wife and children starving, no prospect for another job for months, or years, perhaps, with the prospect of six months or a year on the chain gang, Drusin went to the cellar of his home and hung himself.

This is not the way out. The only way is to get together and fight for UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE!

Jail Seamen In Houston Daily

By a Worker Correspondent
HOUSTON, Texas.—Seamen in Houston are being arrested every day and, as usual, charged with vagrancy. On Sunday, November 9, J. Edgar and J. P. Ward, active members of the Houston local of the Marine Workers Industrial Union, and two other seamen were arrested in the city and held as "suspicious characters" and were later charged with vagrancy and released on \$250 bond apiece, supplied by the Houston and Galveston locals of the I. L. D.

V. McRae, one of the sailors arrested was still employed aboard a ship and had to quit his job so that he could stand trial for vagrancy. The other sailor, F. Baker, had been discharged two days previously so that he could receive medical attention. Two other sailors who had just come out of their homes to go to a restaurant were told to get home and stay home, that they didn't need any coffee.

Very soon sailors will not even be allowed to come to Houston. Then, what will Houston do for the honor she is so proud of as being the fifth largest port in America?

Tennessee Bosses War On Jobless Insurance

(Continued from Page 1)

Rayon and others, is now engaged in fixing the next state legislature in such a way that not even the slightest concession is made to the demands of the unemployed. These companies are continuing to lay off thousands of workers, putting other thousands on part time, and slashing wages right and left. Governor Horton of Tennessee, the Tennessee Electric Power Co.'s man, and the other legislators put into office by these outfits and their A. F. of L. backers, will see to it that the demands of the manufacturers are carried out.

In the meantime Governor Horton parades under a mask of charity and attempts to fool the workers by calling unemployment conferences. That he will do nothing in the way of relief is clear. The workers of Tennessee must join the nation-wide struggle for the Workers Social Insurance bill, copies of which signed by millions of workers throughout the country will be presented at the December session of Congress.

COPS TAKE SEAMAN'S PAPERS

HOUSTON, Texas.—A seaman, who had been charged with vagrancy, and served seven days on the City Pea Farm, was told to get out of the police station or he would be sent back to the prison farm when he asked the desk sergeant for the little money, papers and passport that were taken from him.

"Don't Rob, Beg," Says Cop Chief

ATLANTA, Ga.—Speaking at a meeting of the Atlanta Food Dealers Assn. Chief of Police Beavers declared that his men had orders to arrest any "suspicious looking character" on sight.

The meeting was called to grapple with the problem of increasing food robberies from the city grocery stores, of which there have been 31 in the last 5 days. While the chief of police admitted that these robberies are due to the unemployment situation, he wanted to know "why a man out of work had to go and rob someone, why can't he beg?"

"My advice to you, gentlemen," said the chief, "is if at any time you see a man around your store or house, you don't like, or who in any way looks suspicious to you, ring us up and we will get him."

That is the method the city of Atlanta is adopting to fight unemployment, by making it unlawful for an unemployed worker to be seen on the streets. It was for exposing the fake promises of the authorities and for organizing the workers into the Trade Union Unity League to fight for "work or wages" that 6 union organizers are now facing the electric chair in Atlanta.

Postal Workers Laid Off by Hoover Regime

WASHINGTON, D. C.—While Herbert Hoover pompously calls conferences to combat unemployment the Post Office Department, which is under federal supervision, has been discharging thousands of employees and abolishing hundreds of rural routes. In many of the large cities one or two deliveries and collections have been eliminated.

LAY OFF 150 MEN

GALVESTON, Tex.—The Galveston Bag Company laid the crew off two months ahead of time this year, throwing 150 men out of work. At present it has a skeleton crew working seven hour days and 5 days a week at 25 and 35 cents an hour.

Severe Speed-Up On S. P. Steamships

Houston, Texas.

The Seamship El Isleo is a fire-trap owned by the Southern Pacific R. R. I went aboard this ship to beg a meal and I am sorry to say that the food that was set before me was so uneatable that as soon as I got it in my stomach, I had to leave the table and run to the rail and vomit the meal out again.

The chief mate gave me an A. B.'s job on this ship and as I have not had a job for three months and starving most of the time I was in a weakened condition. I turned to and went to the bos'n and asked what work he wanted done. I was surprised when the bos'n told me to go to the second mate and help him. This is the first time in my sea experience that I found four acting bos'ns on a ship. When this company's ships are moored alongside of the dock, the mates each take two men and drive the workers to the most of their ability. The toilets and bathing facilities of this ship are worse than any cess pool that has no outlet. Another thing on this ship is that the U. S. Government Inspectors of Hulls and Boilers lets this company's ships go to sea without any disaster signals in the crews quarters.

—Starving American Seaman.

GALVESTON, Texas.—At the Moody Cotton Compress here the men are only working six and seven hours a day and five days a week, at 40 cents an hour.

WONDER—THEN ACT

If a comrade in Manitoba Province, Canada—almost at the northern tip of the northern continent—can obtain 5 subs for the SOUTHERN WORKER, which is published at Birmingham, Ala., almost at the southern tip of the continent—why can't each comrade in Birmingham itself obtain at least one sub?

Big Strikes On Way In England

LONDON, England.—About 1,170,000 railroad and mine workers in Great Britain, may shortly go on strike against wage-cuts, despite the efforts of their union officials and the "labor government" to make them accept the wage-cut.

The mine owners are demanding wage cuts of up to \$3.00 a week on December 1 and the miners numbering about 650,000, already affected by lay-offs and wage-cuts are determined to fight. A wage-cut of 2 1-2 percent had already been forced on the railroad workers. The companies are again demanding drastic wage-cuts, against the 520,000 railroad workers.

The "socialist" and "labor" government of England is trying to save the British Empire for the bosses by making the workers take cuts and lay-offs, and keeping the colonies, notably India, under the iron heel of British imperialism.

Fixed Testimony, Spies At Fish "Investigation"

(Continued from Page 1)

Party, and its activities. Instead, much to the embarrassment of Fish, the real sympathy of the Negro masses to the Communists was revealed in this man's testimony, who was quick to declare that the Negro workers wanted better wages and working conditions, and that there were 100,000 Negro Communists in the South. Fish, who wishes to show that the Negro is too "patriotic" to be a Communist, hastened to dismiss this witness.

Assistant Solicitor General Hudson, in charge of the state prosecution against the six Atlanta comrades, brought as evidence various posters, placards and pamphlets, which any worker can see for himself in Party and union headquarters. Captain of Police Fain and other members of the force told of the American Negro Labor Congress meeting in Atlanta last March, at which the organizers were arrested.

McDuff Has a Plan

Suggesting that Congress adopt the same tactics he has been using against labor organizers, chief of police McDuff of Birmingham urged that the Federal Department of Justice use its agents to spy upon the Communist Party and the Revolutionary unions, and give the information to the police so that it would be easier for them to raid and break up meetings and put organizers on the chain gang. McDuff turned over all the letters and books his force had stolen from organizers when raiding their rooms, and estimated that there were from 2,000 to 3,000 Communists and their sympathizers in Birmingham alone.

L. N. Shannon, vice-president of the Stockham Pipe Co., very much upset about the organization of the workers in his plant against part time and wage-cuts, told of his system of spying employed in his factory, which however, did not seem to have any success. Of special interest, was the revelation by one witness—his name is withheld—that he was employed by Governor Graves of Alabama, as

LYNCH LAW AT WORK

AUGUSTA, Ga.—B. H. Baker, a wealthy 81-year-old plantation owner was acquitted of the murder of a 19-year-old colored girl, Jessie Lee, after pleading self-defense. This vicious exploiter murdered the girl in her tenant hut when there was some argument over the condition of the place.

DECATUR, Ala.—Three white men rode by the taxi stand of Isaac Love, a Negro cab driver and fired at him, killing him instantly. O. D. Logan, another Negro who was in the stand, was shot in the shoulder.

GULFPORT, Miss.—Willie Brown, Negro, was shot to death by E. Ladimer, rich white man on very phony testimony from his wife that Brown had tried to hold her up.

BATON ROUGE, Ala.—When C. Blackwell, Negro convict was killed while working on a private rice farm his wife brought suit against the governor for \$25,000 and also endeavored to test the legality of renting out convicts to private enterprises. Naturally the case was thrown out of court and the judge wedged his way out of acting upon the legality of convict contracts.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—The ruling class, in its endeavor to segregate Negro and white workers, goes even to the extent of separating them in the prisons and on the chain gang. Mecklenburg county officials announced a policy of "segregating prisoners on the chain gang according to races."

JOBLESS, DIES IN JAIL

NEW ORLEANS, La.—A 59-year-old worker, after having been denied permission to remain in a hospital, because he was a "non-resident" died in the jail house.

a spy on the reds, and he said that there were 8,000 sympathizers and members of the Communist Party in Alabama.

The close unity of the Birmingham police department, the A. F. of L. officials and the K. K. K. was further revealed by the testimony of J. G. Murphy, an officer of several A. F. of L. organizations, who said he represented the Ku Klux Klan. He admitted the spying and provocative activities of this group against labor and submitted a list of 50 names which he claimed were connected with the reds.

A "Liberal"

Outstanding in the Chattanooga hearings was the testimony of Randolph Neal, former attorney for the seven Gastonia strike leaders, and Paul Aymon, president of the Tennessee A. F. of L. Neal offered his testimony voluntarily and proved a fine example of "liberalism." He slandered the International Labor Defense for the militant way it carried on the defense of the Gastonia boys, and when asked by Representative Nelson of Maine whether he thought it lawful right to deport militant foreign-born workers, not permit Russians into the country, and bar the revolutionary papers from the mails, his reply was an unconditional "yes," although he appeared somewhat worried about "civil liberties." When pressed on the question of suppressing the Communist Party he said he thought it could be done if they carried on "overt" actions against the government, and said he speeches and writings could be interpreted as such. Aymon disclosed his close cooperation with the police in the fight on militant workers by testifying that the chief of police had told him that they could arrest the whole "central committee" at any moment.

A part of the Fish Committee goes on to New Orleans, and Memphis and then to Washington.

FROM THE MILLS, MINES AND THE FARMS

BOSSES TREAT NEGRO MINERS LIKE SLAVES

By a Worker Correspondent
Birmingham, Ala.

Two of my friends and I work in a coal mine in this city and the boss told us to get some coal in a sack to carry home with us in the afternoon. So we did five or six times and when settlement time came we found that he was charging us 5 cents a sack for the coal.

A friend of mine was at work in another mine and he was told to work from 5 o'clock Sunday to 7 o'clock Monday and he would not do it. When he went back to work Monday night the boss told him to get the hell off the job.

In a mine nearby a white man is getting \$1 a car for lump coal and 75 cents for mine run, the Negro is given 75 cents for lump and 60 cents for mine run and one man's work is worth as much as the others. Organization is the only way I can see for relief.

While I was at the payroll window on the 8th of this month, the boss would not pay one man what he promised and the Negro told him that he was not treating him right by not giving him wages. The boss said: "You damn fool, don't you talk back to me. Take what I give you and get the hell up the road." The Negro said: "You pay me what you owe me and I will go up the road." And he did.

—A Miner.

Cops Persecute Negro Workers

ATLANTA, Ga.—Here are two incidents that occurred the other day. A young boy of about 22, out of work, stood at a corner, looking at an automobile. The man from the store noticed this boy looking at the car, came out and began abusing. "I have seen you look at this car for a long time, do you want to steal it?" In a few minutes the "law" rushed in and the boy, after being searched was taken in to the police station, and is no doubt on the chain gang now.

A few days later. The law was looking for someone. They knocked on the door of a colored family. The woman opened the door and told the officers that the person they were looking for was not living in that house. The cops did not like the reply of this woman, so they opened the door, beat the woman into insensibility, split her upper lip, and left the house, satisfied that they had "made a nice job on that nigger."

Such atrocities occur every day in this part of the country. Altho this has continued for a long time, it's not going to last much longer, for the Negro workers are beginning to rebel. The A. N. L. C. is on the job organizing branches and will fight against this terror system.

—Jim Gibson.

ILLITERACY

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—The 1930 school census showed 34,764 illiterate white children of school age as compared with 31,543 in the 1928 census. Altho many more thousands of Negro children are illiterate, no census of them was taken.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—Julia Sellers, brought suit against two policemen, charging them with assault, beating her down the steps of a house and other injuries. We could sue Julia before that the officers be freed without question.

A. F. of L. Raises Dues Then Lifts Charter

By a Worker Correspondent

Houston, Tex.

The A. F. of L. collected the charter of the Pile-Drivers' and Bridge Builders' union here in Houston. The patrolman of this organization has been getting \$50 a week, while the workers' families have been starving. There has been no bridge work or repairing done here this summer.

The monthly dues of this craft union affiliated to the A. F. of L., were raised from \$1.50 a month to \$5 a month, just another rotten deal for the workers. The Trade Union Unity League is the only fighting union body. You don't have to have a fortune to join or a fortune in dues.

—Watson.

Buy! Buy! Buy!



"Bring back prosperity by buying," says the boss.

Get's \$7 For Full Week's Work, Urges Militant Fight

By a Worker Correspondent

Atlanta, Ga.

I have lived six years in Atlanta. It has been very hard for me to find jobs in Atlanta so I took the only thing I could get, running an elevator in a laundry. I worked very hard from 7:30 in the morning to 5 o'clock at night for \$7 a week. It was very hard for me to support my aged mother and little sister in this way, so my mother took in washing.

I rarely had very much to eat during my 30 minute lunch period, so I found time one day to tell some of the girls who work for \$6 a week to join the Young Communist League, and to better their conditions. The boss slipped up on us but did not know what I was saying. The whistle blew and we went back to work. That afternoon the steam was hot and my back ached from lifting boxes from the elevator. I felt bad and walked home that night and went to sleep so I could feel like working. But when I got up I felt just as tired.

I went to the laundry and started the elevator running. I worked about an hour and the foreman slipped up on me and commenced to fuss about the elevator gate, which slipped. I felt bad that day and I was so angry about him fussing at me that I came out openly to defend the working-class.

Free Yelping Boss Coyote, Not Worker

By a Worker Correspondent

Houston, Texas.

Tom Mann, ex-commissioner of Harris county, was arrested the same evening as Kelley and Edgar. He was charged with being drunk and disorderly. Kelley and Edgar, being two unemployed seamen, were in this station charged with the bosses' standby, VAGRANCY.

This ex-commissioner, being a good mason and a tool for the imperialist class, was keeping the workers awake by howling like a coyote, saying it was the help call of the Masonic Lodge.

When the police were locking Kelley and Edgar in they told Kelley to beat up this parasite if he wanted to get any sleep. These workers being wise to the cops' dirty tricks did not beat up this ex-county commissioner, but let him howl. Mann kept his yelping up till he got tired and went to sleep. The cops let him sleep for two or three hours, then woke him up and turned him loose with a lot of apologies.

Strike Against Wage-Cuts!

I told the girls not to be cowards, an starve at \$6 a week, to organize and join the Trade Union Unity League. That night I was fired.

—Matthew.

Sea Institute Is A Black Hole

By a Worker Correspondent

Houston, Texas.

A few words in regard to the infernal conditions here in the Seamen's Church Institute. In this infernal pest hole the conditions are not fit for a self-respecting hog. They are, I am sure, worse than the Black Hole of Calcutta. The cots are filthy, the thin blanket for bed covering is about as thick and warm as a mosquito netting. Some of the beds are lousy, all of them are cold, and the place in general is about as comfortable as a graveyard. There is no urinal and the men use the showerbath. There is one bowl for the use of fifty men, which is separated from the kitchen or eating hall by a thin wooden partition. They have an A. F. of L. union card hung up to attract the notice of the simple fish who are foolish enough to patronize the human vultures who operate the place.

They have a system of shipping here that is rotten to the core, preference being usually given to the one who has spent the most gill in this stink hole. On entering one registers and is supposed to ship out according to seniority, but this is not the case. It is a mockery to any intelligent man. Some men wait for months, while other men—favorites of course—come one day and out the next. This town of Houston is rotten to the core. Most of the restaurants are operated by whores who operate quite openly under the very eyes of the police. What law and justice! In this same town a hard working seaman cannot walk the streets.

—A Seaman, Serving on the City Pea Farm for Vagrancy.

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Seventeen dealers were convicted and fined on charges of "selling or handling watered or otherwise deficient milk." After endangering the lives of hundreds of thousands of men, women and children, these grafters are let off with a small fine, but when a worker steals a loaf of bread to feed his starving family he is put on a chain gang for a number of years.

Galveston is known as "Treasure Island." There are over a 100 people looking for treasures in the city dumps.

Begs For Job In Chattanooga

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn.—The following notice, left by a Negro unemployed worker, is to be found under the glass top of one of the tables in the post-office:

"Notice, Want a Job!

"I entreat to anyone who needs a boy of this type porter, janitor, chauffeur, houseman, all around boys, and sincere. Colored."

The unemployment situation here is terrible, with most of the big metal and textile plants either closed down or working part time.

Cut Wages of All Building Workers

By a Worker Correspondent
Birmingham, Ala.

Some months ago a bricklayer sent you an article about conditions in the building trades in Birmingham, the home of the organizing committee of the A. F. of L. which is roaming all over the South selling the workers out. They make a pretense of organizing the Negro where he works in skilled trades, but they will take his money for a union card, only to keep him in control and send the white workers to all the jobs.

This gives the bosses a chance to get white workers and Negro workers to bid against one another as the wages now show. For laying common brick the price per thousand has now dropped from \$10 the average price six months ago to \$8 per thousand. Hod carriers who formerly got 50 cents an hour only get 35 cents and on some jobs as low as 15 cents.

Plasterers who before got \$1 per hour, are only getting 50 cents. Just recently a Birmingham contractor sent a Negro plasterer to Atlanta, and this man at his own expense stood in Atlanta and finally had to beat his way back by freight for the contractor had found a white plasterer who he convinced that he ought to take the job cheaper in order to "keep the nigger off the job."

Lathers who before got \$1 an hour are bidding against one another with the following prices in effect: from 6 to 4 cents per square yard wood lath, 5 to 6 cents metal lath, 4 cents for laying gypsum lath.

Organize into unions of the Trade Union Unity League, all workers, and don't let yourselves be played one against the other.

—A Building Worker.

Disease Is Pay Check For Labor

By a Worker Correspondent

Spivak, Colo.

Why do workers get tuberculosis? I am describing the reasons because I am one of the thousands of exploited slaves of the present speed-up system. That is the check the capitalist system pays us for the wealth we created for them. And it's no wonder. I have been working for many years in shops organized by the famous labor fakers of the A. F. of L., who are tools of the bosses to exploit the American workers.

In the shop I worked long hours and as fast as an airplane. Whenever we worked 10 hours a day we called it a miracle. The shop was dirty, no ventilation, and we had no time to eat. While according to the union contract we had no right to work more than 8 hours a day. But the lousy grafters of the union never attempted to enter the shop.

Here, workers, white and colored, can take an example. Don't believe those yellow labor fakers. But follow the Communist Party and organ-

JOBLESS GETS 50 CENTS TO EVICT HIMSELF

By a Worker Correspondent
Chattanooga, Tenn.

I am married and have a wife and four children. I was laid off my job at Walsh and Weidner Boiler plant about a year ago. This boiler company is one of the largest in Chattanooga and is owned by a big boss of Wall Street. At the same time there were hundreds of others laid off at this plant.

After desperately walking the streets here for six months, my wife and children starving, I went to Mayor Bass of Chattanooga and asked him for a job. He gave me one of its kind. This job lasted four weeks and then I was laid off again and now I am back on the streets looking for another job.

I lived in a house owned by a real estate company, the Finley Trust Co. and a court order was served on me to move. A deputy sheriff was sent down to put my things on the street. Since I was unemployed, the sheriff offered my 50 cents to put my own things on the street. So, workers, you see that we must fight for social insurance.

—Unemployed Worker.

Crew on German Ship All Reds

Galveston, Texas.

I was distributing and looking for sales of the Southern Worker aboard the ships that were loading cotton for the European markets in Galveston. I was passing Dock 12 and saw a German ship. I went aboard and gave one of the firemen a German Communist paper called The Storm. I was rushed to the crews quarters. I was made to feel at home, I was asked for more papers in the English language as two members could speak and read the English papers. I left a copy of the Daily Worker and a few Southern Workers. The first question these comrades wanted to know was where the International Seamen's Club was at in Galveston. They were very much surprised to hear that I was from the Houston Club and that I had to go out on the highway to bum rides from city to city. The rank and file of this ship was 100 percent in the Party. The M. W. I. U. in Houston are to be on the dock to meet these comrades when they come to this port and we are to give them a welcome providing the police don't have us in the city jail.

—Alfred W. McBride.

DROUTH IN SO. AFRICA

JOHANNESBURG, S. Africa.—After 216 days of dry weather, the farmers here face complete ruin unless it rains within a week or two.

BOSS HELP

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn.—Walking the entire distance from Cedar Grove, a mother came to the city hall, with a 14 months old baby in her arms and three small children dragging along at her skirts. Not one of them had any shoes or stockings. All of them had bad colds. She was given a few rags, and then sent around to some "ladies" to beg for more.

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—Ned Johnson, a Negro worker, was burned to death in a shack where he was sleeping. He had been burning charcoal in a bucket to keep warm.

ize yourselves, otherwise you cannot change this parasitic system.

—A Sick Worker.

The Southern Worker

ISSUED WEEKLY BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY, U. S. A.

Jim Allen, Managing Editor
Box 85
Birmingham, Ala.

Subscription Rates: \$1.00 A Year; 50 cents a Half Year

The Fish Committee

Hamilton Fish, Jr., and his four fellow congressional red baiters, completing their tour of open forums for fascism with their hearings in the Southern cities, will appear at the next session of congress waving aloft bills for federal spying and suppression of the revolutionary unions and the Communist Party, suppression of militant working class papers and new attacks against the foreign born workers.

The principal theme of Fish on his Southern tour was "inciting the Negroes to insurrection by Moscow agitators," the theme being inspired by the state of Georgia in its prosecution of the six labor organizers in Atlanta, who, much to Fish's delight, face a death penalty. In view of his talk about "patriotism and loyalty of the colored people" he and his four associates were probably shocked to learn of the wide support given the Communist Party by the Negro workers and farmers in the South.

Following much the same policy as he did in the Northern cities, Fish called those to testify whom he could count on to support his attack on the only leaders of the workers in the fight against unemployment, wage-cuts, lynching and persecutions. Heads of the chambers of commerce, police chiefs, company stoops, leading exploiters—a regular rogues gallery of the capitalist system, talked for Fish and the newspapers. Every possible encouragement was given to the tactics of persecution and lynch law used by the Birmingham police department, the K. K. K. and the A. F. of L. working under the direction of the T. C. I. This is but a hint of what Fish and his committee hope to make official national practice, backed by a federal bill.

The activities of the Fish committee in the North in accepting without question the forged documents of enemies of the Soviet Union, their campaign against Soviet imports, and the using of the hearings as a tribunal for an attack against the Soviet Union are but an introduction to more active warfare against the only workers and farmers government in the world.

The Fish committee represents a concentrated effort on the part of the bosses to wipe out the Communist Party which points the way to struggle for the millions of unemployed and wage-slashed workers. It believes that by deporting militant foreign-born workers it will do away with the revolutionary movement in this country and will propose laws to make deportations to fascist countries easier and introduce a whole system of fingerprinting and tabulation of the foreign born. According to hints thrown out by the carnationed Nelson of Maine an effort will be made to bar our papers from the mails.

This effort to stifle the struggle of the working class must be answered with more intensified struggles for social insurance and the rights of the workers to organize and strike against wage-cuts, by a tremendous fight against lynching and persecution and rallying to defend the Soviet Union.

Build The Southern Worker!

Our special drive to build the SOUTHERN WORKER is over and it reveals a great weakness on the part of our Party as a whole in the South. Our Party members have failed to realize the importance of firmly grounding the SOUTHERN WORKER among the workers and poor farmers of the South as rapidly as possible, and have therefore not put the necessary energy into the drive to make it a success.

In very few cases has work been carried on energetically and successfully. The Atlanta unit was the only one which not only attained the subscription quota set for it but overstepped it three times by obtaining 72 subscriptions during the drive. Good work was carried on by the seamen in Houston, Tex., in spreading the SOUTHERN WORKER to other ports and popularizing it in Houston itself. Birmingham and Chattanooga, where good results were to be expected because of the strength of our organizations in those cities, fell far below even the worst expectations. While the paper was sold by the hundreds in these two cities, almost no subscriptions were obtained and there was no improvement in the sales during the drive. The reason is not far to find—no drive to build the SOUTHERN WORKER was carried on in these cities, showing a great underestimation of the importance of building the paper, or drawing under our direct influence thousands of more workers and farmers by obtaining them as regular readers of the SOUTHERN WORKER.

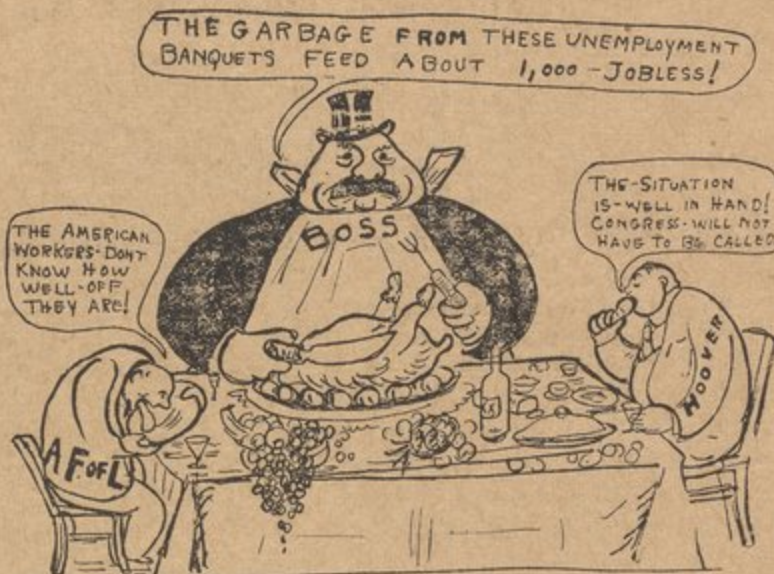
The almost total failure of the comrades in the Charlotte district to build the paper there leaves a tremendous and very serious gap in the circle of our influence. This center of the most important industry in the South—textiles—remains practically out of our list of subscribers, and almost entirely untouched by the paper except for the copies that go to Charlotte itself.

We will repeat again what we said in the first issue of the SOUTHERN WORKER—the life of the paper, whether or not it will reach out into every part of the South and rally the workers and farmers to struggle, depends directly upon what the comrades themselves will do. It will not grow by any miracles, just of itself. We must bring it to the workers and farmers.

The Atlanta comrades have shown what can be done with just a little planned work. If it can be done in Atlanta, center of the chief lynch state in the South, it can certainly be done ten times over in Birmingham, Chattanooga, Charlotte, New Orleans and thruout the South. We must understand that the paper is not just for its present readers to read—but for as many workers and farmers to read as possible. To fail to understand how the SOUTHERN WORKER can win thousands of workers and farmers to our banner, make them ready for organization and struggle, is to fail to understand the simplest Communist tactic.

These errors must be wiped out, comrades. Building the SOUTHERN WORKER must become the daily responsibility and duty of every single Party member and revolutionary worker. It is a part of every phase of our work and a tremendous task in itself. We must start to drive away at full speed from day to day, worker to worker, house to house, farm to farm, building the SOUTHERN WORKER as firmly and rapidly as possible.

Hoover Solves Unemployment



By Bill Hernandez.

Item: Four wild turkeys which were killed today were taken to Washington to be given to President Hoover for the White House Thanksgiving Day table

MY LIFE

By a Negro Working Woman

The Story Thus Far:

The Negro working woman who writes this story worked as a child with her family on the farm as sharecroppers. To avoid another winter of starvation, she gets married when she is 13 years old. Her father becomes a peon to his landlord when he killed his son-in-law in a brawl and the landlord paid the \$700 fine for him. Shortly after, her husband is killed by a landlord and she is left with two small children. At the age of 19 she again leaves her father's house. Now continue reading:

I TOOK my little kids and went about four miles away in the country to cook for a man who had about seven hired hands and I got about \$8.75 a week. Poor mother hated to see me go for the farmers were not thickly settled over there. But I went and lived in a house with three small rooms. The men all lived in a shack not far from me. My house sat on the edge of a slip of woods about four miles wide one way and about two and one-half another. It was lonesome at times when the kids were asleep and there was no one to talk to.

I would have breakfast ready every morning for the men at 4:30, wash my dishes, leave the kids something to eat on a little box, and when the other women got on the field, I was there, too. At 11 o'clock I would leave the field, go to the house and cook for those seven men. By twelve o'clock they would come in from the field, and when they got to my house I would have dinner ready and by the time they went back to work I would

have fed my little ones and get ready to go to work also. I worked all summer on that farm. At the end of the year the boss paid me, and I had more cash money than I had ever seen. It was \$85.

The baby was a few months old then and the boy over three years old. The boss did not need me that fall for any more than picking cotton. He would go to Jefferson, Ga., and bring in all the cotton pickers from town every morning. I decided it was just too lonesome out there. There were no colored people and I was young. Big snakes would come to my house in the summer and would call for some of the farmhands to come and kill them. I often thought while I was living there all alone, suppose one of us fell sick, what would I do. I was so far from any doctor, so I moved ten miles further away from poor mother, but I had to. I never missed seeing my mother over three or four weeks thru her whole life.

I was 22 years old when she died. At that time I was between Jefferson, Ga., and Winder, where the colored people were very thickly settled. I went down there in September, 1911. I was there a few weeks when my baby caught diphtheria, was sick for a week and died. I was left alone, just me and the boy. He was only five years old then and I had decided to never marry again, because I never wanted a step father over my little girl. I always felt that I would wait until she was grown up. But as she died so young I began to look out and try to get married.

(To be Continued Next Week)

VAG CASE POSTPONED

HOUSTON, Texas.—The case of Al W. McBride, Comrades Edgar and Kelley, militant seamen charged with vagrancy, was postponed to Nov. 25, because the police witness against them did not appear. The policeman in question made the department very uncomfortable when it was discovered that he had taken lengthy evidence from a blind man riding on a street car where a stabbing had taken place.

WE GUESS SO!

Well, I guess the I. W. W.'s are dead. They are bootlicking to the Seamen's Institute and have degenerated to sweeping the floor of the U. S. Shipping Board's fink hall. Every morning when the U. S. fink hall opens its doors, the I. W. W. members fight with one another for the broom or mop to clean up the spits and flem left on the floor by real he-men.
—A. W. M.

POLICE HELP UNEMPLOYED

GALVESTON, Texas.—The Galveston police department employs one worker in its garage taking care of the cars and motorcycles. They keep this job filled by arresting seamen for vagrancy and sentencing them to five days, keeping their ships papers in the police station. The prisoner is forced to rustle his bed and meals while serving his sentence.

A "VAGRANT"

HOUSTON, Texas.—A ship's fireman, on leave for seven days, went up to a store and bought groceries for his home. The police picked him up in front of his house and charged him with vagrancy. Five days on the City Pea Farm—no groceries when turned loose.

NOTICE!

Full details of St. Louis Convention of American Negro Labor Congress in next issue of Southern Worker.

The Reds Say--

By JIM ALLEN

"Not Charity, but Social Insurance," was the head over a large front page editorial in the Birmingham Labor Advocate, official A. F. of L. organ. Our heart stopped beating for a moment—was it possible that this prostitute sheet, in the teeth of Bill Green's ultimatum against social insurance, contrary to the whole nature of the A. F. of L. betrayal was actually . . . but wait! "The bedrock of stable government and permanent civilization is justice," we read in the first line. Our heart began its regular heart beats again. Any editorial that started that way had something up its sleeve. The sleeve rolled itself up fast enough and uncovered the gnarled arm and hook of treachery.

For the most part it quoted as vicious a set of lies ever heard from the lips of a labor faker—a statement by one, Joseph Toole, British Socialist and member of Parliament, supposing to show what slaves the Russian workers were, how they were starving and suffering. "If I heard anyone recommending the Soviet system for England I should recommend him for a mad-house," says this tool of the British bosses, and the A. F. of L. lackeys of the T. C. I. at Birmingham quote him in evident approval. Far worse than a mad-house is the Birmingham City Jail to which the A. F. of L. fakers not only recommended Communist organizers in Birmingham, but helped place them there.

The gem is reserved for the last lines, however, and we had the patience to read that far. "our contribution to the Community Chest is an indication that you are in accord with the finer ideals of humanity which float upon the banner of our freedom. Your contribution is SOCIAL INSURANCE AGAINST CONFLAGRATION OF REVOLUTION AND DESTRUCTION WHICH HAS BROUGHT RUSSIA TO ITS LOW STATE OF BARBARISM AND CRUELTY."

Those boys certainly understand how charity serves to prevent militant organization and helps the bosses live thru a crisis. Not only do they understand it but they are actively campaigning to throttle labor with crumbs of charity and prevent anything like social insurance against hunger. Eighty-five percent of the workers in the steel industry in and around Birmingham were affected by unemployment and part time, the mines of Walker county employ just enough workers to keep going. And who pays for this charity of the Community Chest, if it is not the workers themselves? On part time with wages cut a whole day's pay is being taken from many workers to fill the Community Chest quota. At a stove and range foundry in Birmingham the three-day schedule was increased to five days for one week—the extra two days went to the Community Chest. The City Council was kind enough to slash a day's wages out of all the city employees for the Community Chest. These are the "finer ideals of humanity which float on the banner of our freedom."

Social insurance against revolution is the platform of the A. F. of L. reaucracy in a nutshell. Its convention signed its name to a policy with a flourish. It is nothing as prize insurance salesmen the Danville mill barons. Social insurance against the starvation of the masses? They don't starve, so why they worry?

Down With Lynching!