

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, Number 17

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Dec. 13, 1930

2 Cents a Copy

## MASSES ARE READY TO DEFEND SOVIET

### Jobless Demand To Congress

#### NATION DRIVE FOR SIGNERS OF OUR BILL

A campaign thruout the country to collect signatures to a demand for an Unemployment Insurance Bill is on the way under the direction of the National Campaign Committee for Unemployment Insurance of the Trade Union Unity League.

##### A Million Signers

A workers' mass delegation will go to Washington in January to demand the passage of the Unemployment Insurance Bill, carrying with them all the signatures collected in the country, which is expected to mount to over one million.

The Bill will be finally formulated by the workers' delegations themselves before presenting it to Congress. In general its demands will be along the line of immediate cash relief for the unemployed workers and their families, the funds to come from the money appropriated for war preparations by the government and by a tax on incomes over \$5,000 a year and on capital and property in excess of \$25,000. The bill will demand that instead of making the impoverished workers pay for the crisis, as is being done now, the government and the bosses pay for it out of their profits.

##### Join Campaign

In many cities the campaign is being carried on by the Unemployment Councils hand in hand with demands for immediate relief from the city and their fight against the charity relief plans which force the workers to pay for charity out of cut wages and part time.

All workers, employed, or unemployed, must participate in this campaign for signatures. Signature blanks are on hand and any worker or organization wishing to join in the mass campaign can write to the National Campaign Committee for Unemployment Insurance, 2 West 15th Street, New York City.

#### WAGE CUT IN CONCORD, N. C.

CONCORD, N. C.—The Brown Mill, employing about 300 workers, announced that a new wage cut will go into effect beginning Monday morning. At the same time, the Brandon mill, employing about 300 announced a new stretch-out amounting to about a ten percent increase in work.

Concord has 13 mills, employing about 10,000 workers. Most of these mills belong to the same company and it is expected that the wage cut and stretch-out will spread to other

Organize and Strike  
against Wage-Cuts!

#### DEMAND STATE JOBLESS FUND IN N. CAROLINA

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—The Unemployment Council of the Trade Union Unity League is making preparations for a wide campaign among the unemployed workers to demand immediate unemployment relief. A mass meeting of the unemployed is called for Friday, December 12, at 3 p.m., at 30 S. College Street.

Charlotte has about 10,000 unemployed workers and thousands of families are actually starving.

Last week Mayor Wilson appointed a fake unemployment relief committee, with Johnson, president of the Johnson and Highland Park Mills, one of its principal figures. On Monday, Dec. 1, Mr. Johnson gave his workers a 10 percent wage cut, his first act to help solve the unemployment. (Turn to Page 3)

### Loading Cotton



Wages are being cut daily for the dockworkers and seamen. The Marine Workers Industrial Union is organizing along the gulf ports.

#### USE TEAR GAS ON DANVILLE MASS PICKETS

DANVILLE, Va.—Enraged by the action of the Riverside and Dan River Mill owners in evicting strike families from their homes and disgusted with the treacherous policy of the A. F. of L. misleaders, Danville strikers again mass picketed the mills. Police, led by Judge Leigh and Commonwealth's Attorney Carter, attacked the strikers at the Riverside Cotton mills with tear gas.

At the same time national guard troops attacked a mass picketing demonstration at the Dan River mills in Schoolfield.

Forty-seven strikers and their families have already been served with eviction notices, at the same time notifying them that they are permanently blacklisted in the mills. The fruits of A. F. of L. treachery is already being felt with the prospects that the union members will be victimized either after a fake agreement or a withdrawal from the scene by the misleaders, as happened in Elizabethton, Tenn.

The union officials have accepted the mill bosses' orders, reduced the picket groups, and agreed not to light bonfires to keep the pickets warm in the freezing weather. As a result of the efforts of the officials to keep the strikers from mass picketing, scabs enter the mills daily under the protection of the militia. In the meantime William Murdoch, secretary of the National Textile Workers Union, is still serving his sentence in Danville for exposing the treacherous tactics of the A. F. of L. misleaders and advocating militant strike tactics.

##### NOTICE

Due to the renovation of the Birmingham Postoffice, our mailing address has been changed to Box 1813. Address all mail to:  
**SOUTHERN WORKER,**  
Box 1813, Birmingham, Ala.

##### GIVEN STATE JOBS

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—Sylvester and Tom Wright, two Negro boys, were sentenced to 60 days on the chain gang for stealing a piece of pork and ham from a butcher in order to keep from starving. Thieves that steal millions are honored as patriots.

#### LYNCH LAW JUSTICE

DARIAN, Ga.—As is always the case in lynch law justice, the grand jury supposed to be investigating the lynching of George Grant in the Darian jail and Willie Bryan in a woods nearby, not only could find no one to blame for the lynching, but praised the national guard and the local peace officers.

Its official finding reads: "Although it is apparent that Sheriff Poppell did not prevent the shooting of the Negro, we are satisfied that he was unable to do so because of his illness at the time. The military handled the situation with effectiveness and precision. They are to be praised for their work in maintaining peace and order."

#### REVEAL PLOT FOR FOREIGN INTERVENTION

MOSCOW, Union of Socialist Soviet Republics.—For plotting with capitalist powers a war of intervention against the Soviet Union five engineers were first sentenced to death and three others to ten years imprisonment by a proletarian court of justice here. The death sentences were later commuted to 10 years imprisonment and the other sentences to 8 years, by the Executive Committee of the Soviet Union, because the traitors had become harmless with the exposure of the most criminal plot of invasion in history.

##### Plot Invasion

They were sentenced after the engineers themselves had freely confessed that they had carried on deliberate work of sabotage in Soviet industry and were laying the ground for a war of invasion for the overthrow of the rule of the workers and peasants of the Soviet Union.

The confession of the engineers had shown that involved in this plot of counter-revolution and invasion were Briand and Poincare of France, Churchill and Deterding of England. They described in detail how they had met with representatives of the French General Staff in Paris and Moscow, received instructions and given them information. They explained how the date for the outbreak of the war had been advanced twice because of the great advances of Soviet industry and agriculture and the strength of the Red Army, until the time had finally been set for 1931 for the outbreak of the war.

##### France Leads

This war is to be started by the puppet states of France, Poland and Rumania, whose armies are financed and officered by France, and who would have the support of France and England. Poland, Rumania, Esthonia and Finland were promised slices of Soviet territory as a reward and France was to have her war debts repaid and concessions of mineral resources within the Soviet Union.

In preparation for the invasion, the eight engineers on trial who held high positions in Soviet industrial organizations, built factories where they could easily be bombarded by the invading armies, built gun foundations (Turn to Page 2)

### Keep Southern Worker Going! -- Act Quickly

The SOUTHERN WORKER is in danger! It is in danger of not being able to continue publication, unless its readers and supporters rush in every possible cent to keep it going.

The workers of the North raised the fund to get the SOUTHERN WORKER started. The SOUTHERN WORKER, only revolutionary paper of the Southern workers and farmers, kept going regularly for four months. During that time a real corps of militant fighters was built about the paper and the Communist Party.

Now we face the danger of having to stop printing. Now will be tested the mettle of the workers gathered about the paper.

The funds are gone. We now depend directly upon the Southern workers and farmers, readers and supporters of our paper.

It will be too great a defeat to see our paper go down for even one week. For the first time in the lives of the Southern workers has such a paper appeared. It has been carrying on a stiff fight for unemployment insurance, against race prejudice, and for the united organization and struggle of the entire workingclass.

Unemployment is worse. A cold bitter winter of mass misery faces the workers. There will be struggle. What Southern paper but the SOUTHERN WORKER can truly report the conditions and lead in the struggle?

The war of intervention against the Soviet Union threatens to break out any day. What paper in the South but the SOUTHERN WORKER can lead he struggle against the war?

What paper but the SOUTHERN WORKER can be the mouthpiece of the Southern workers and farmers in their struggles against lynch law, against wage-cuts, against speed-up?

This is no time to lose our paper. This is the time to keep it going full force, building it, spreading it out.

Never, can we permit the SOUTHERN WORKER to stop even for one week.

That depends upon you, fellow-workers. Times are hard, there is mass unemployment, but the pennies must be collected to keep the SOUTHERN WORKER going!

Rush in your contributions, as much as possible! Collect from your friends and shop-mates! KEEP THE SOUTHERN WORKER GOING!

RUSH ALL FUNDS IMMEDIATELY TO SOUTHERN WORKER, Box 1813, Birmingham, Ala.

— The SOUTHERN WORKER.

##### PLENTY AMIDST STARVING

COLUMBIA, S. C.—Warehouses in the state system held nearly \$9,000,000 worth of farm produce on Sept 30. Baled cotton valued at \$7,826,200 headed the list.

##### TRIED TO KEEP WARM

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.—Police arrested five unemployed Negro workers who were chopping down an unoccupied house and using the wood to heat their wooden shacks.



## JOBLESS BILL PETITIONS IN CHAT. SIGNED

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — The campaign to obtain signatures to the demand for a Workers' Unemployment Insurance Bill to be presented to Congress in January, is being carried on here by the Unemployment Council of the Trade Union Unity League and T. U. U. L. groups.

A fairly large number of signatures have already been collected and more workers are signing daily, fully disgusted with the fake charity of the city and the fake drive of the Chamber of Commerce to get jobs for the unemployed. Thousands of workers, led on by the belief that they would actually get jobs, registered with the Chamber of Commerce committee, only to find that a few hundred had been given temporary jobs, lasting a day or two, at the expense of other workers, already employed.

The Caldwell banking scandal, in which \$6,000,000 of state funds were lost by the corrupt Horton machine in an attempt to save his banker masters from ruin, has aroused much disgust among the workers who see millions of dollars in tax money stolen, while they are starving. The insult of the city government, feeding a few hundred workers at one cent a meal has burned deep, and winter is expected to see a wide movement among the workers for immediate relief.

Signature collection blanks for the Unemployment Insurance Bill can be obtained by workers or organizations from the Trade Union Unity League Hall at 16½ W. Main Street, this city.

## Plotters Against USSR Are Sentenced to Death

(Continued from Page 1)

for imperialist artillery, built lumber sheds which could be used as hangars for invading planes, constructed a large chemical plant on swamp land so that it would crumble, hampered that defense could not be organized to a point that at one time 90 percent of the locomotives were unable to move, and carried on other similar damaging activities.

### Expose Imperialists

The engineers also admitted that they had accepted graft from corporations in America in return for having the Soviet Government pay extremely high prices for its purchases.

Prosecutor Krylenko in his concluding speech in which he demanded the death penalty for the criminals showed the close connection between the engineers and the French General Staff, and exposing Deterding's denial that he had nothing to do with the plot as a straight lie by quoting from his speeches and writings in a Parisian white guard paper which openly showed the plan for armed intervention.

### To the Defense

"The proletariat of the Soviet Union protest against the accused and

## Cannot Wait 50 Years, But Must Fight Lynch Now

Breckenridge, Texas.

The Southern Worker:

Under the heading "Reply to Misled Worker" page two of November 15th issue, you invite discussion of the subject "white supremacy." The writer has lived from infancy in Texas. In 1922 he visited Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi for the Communist Party in an effort to have its candidates placed on the ballot. His contacts in labor hall, in field, in mine and smelter, about compresses, warehouses and construction jobs, other influences and careful observation convinced him the white ruling class knows the white man is not superior to the Negro or he would give the colored man an equal chance. A confident runner would not require a contestant to enter the race under a handicap.

The white supremacy illusion, fostered by harangue of lawyers, mouthings of clergy, false instructions of teachers, the lies of the press and the gossip of the thoughtless; reinforced with the fiendish terror of lynch mobs, before all this the so-called socialists stand appalled and capitulate. "Oh!" they say, "the Communists are right theoretically but it will be 50 years before you can begin to practise equality." The carpet bagger rode to office on promise, theory and phraseology and deserted the Negro in practice in his hour of need. The older Negroes have told the story to the younger generation. The Socialist Party betrays where it has the chance.

Though the writer quit the Socialist Party in 1919 and joined the Communists he shamefacedly admits the Socialist Party ideology lingered all too long with him. It's the backwardness of the cold shouldered horse to press the collar and move the load. One affected with chauvinism will give ground before an attack on the party program, its presence cannot therefore be tolerated. The time to combat discrimination is now, today,

WASHINGTON, D. C.—That the vast majority of women work more than eight hours is admitted by the U. S. Women's Bureau. A very small percentage of the working women have the eight hour day, many of them working up to 12 and 13 hours daily for starvation wages.

their imperialist masters" he declared, "We have shown that all workers and peasants, big and little, men and women, rally to defend our country with arms, and when conflict comes, the result will be such as the invaders don't expect."

Not a single worker in the Soviet Union, or revolutionary workers in other countries, think death is too good for these criminal wreckers. The workers and peasants in the Soviet Union are fully prepared to fight to the last ditch in the protection of their Socialist country, and the workers throughout the world must also fight to the last ditch to prevent the intervention scheduled for 1931, and if it comes, turning it into a civil war.

not 50 years hence. The time to defy the mob is when it forms. Its purpose is murder in its most revolting, most horrible and cowardly form. Our defense corps should resist the lynch attack as long as life and ammunition lasts or till the mob takes flight. Rue the day when the Communist Party compromises principle for momentary gain of votes. May the Communist Party ever stand irrevocably pledged to the principle of full economic, political and social equality for all the races of mankind and require each and every member of the party to live up to the slogan.

—B. H. Lauderdale.

## Another Traitor Comes To Offer Help to Bosses

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Norman Thomas, leader of the socialist party, left his New York haunts to tour the South and convince the Southern master class that he was on their side.

### A Success

He succeeded. After he had finished speaking in Birmingham to about 800 small business men and professional people, the Birmingham News declared: "There is nothing Red about Mr. Thomas. He is not a dangerous man."

So much did he win the favor of the Tennessee Coal and Iron Co. that he was escorted thru their plants to show him how "wonderful" they were. On the other hand Communist and Trade Union Unity League organizers are hounded by the company gunmen in these plants for organizing the workers.

### A Charity Bug

Rev. Thomas, who claims to be a friend of the workers just as Bill Green and Herbert Hoover do, could see no way out of the present suffering due to unemployment than thru charity. He knows of course, that this charity is paid for by the Birmingham workers out of their cut wages. He says nothing about organizing and striking against wage-cuts and fighting for unemployment insurance. That wouldn't do at all, for the Tennessee Iron and Coal Co. wouldn't like it.

But he did talk a lot about "liberalism" in his speech here. By "liberalism" he meant cooperation between the bosses and workers. The kind of cooperation that means taking a day's wages for the Community Chest, founding Communist organizers, selling out strikes and everything else practised by the A. F. of L. It is the same sort of cooperation as the socialist policy in the south in regard to the Negro workers: "Let's wait 50 years and in the meantime let the Negro be lynched." It wouldn't be cooperation with the bosses to fight lynch law.

That's a socialist for you.

## Foot Mashed in Speed-Up — Then He Is Fired

By a Worker Correspondent  
Birmingham, Ala.

In the U. S. Pipe Shop a man got hurt carrying pig iron. He was so speeded up he got his foot hurt bad. He was in the crowd that goes to work at 3:30 a.m. and go until 2:30 p.m. and get paid for only ten hours work. The pay is 30c an hour.

He missed seven weeks work on account of getting hurt, and when he came back the boss let him work one day and then fired him.

—A Worker in U. S. Pipe Shop.

## Put Our Paper To Work So—

By a Worker Correspondent  
Charlotte, N. C.

Today I went out to a mill village and gave out some Southern Workers. After I gave them out from door to door for about an hour and a half, I went back to the very first house.

I asked the fellow worker if he had looked at the paper and how he had liked it. He said he liked it fine and would like to get it often, but for the fact that he was unemployed and could not subscribe, but would I be kind enough to give him an extra copy when I had it. He could not promise anything but he said when he had a quarter or a dime he would give it for the paper.

I received warm hand shakes from all the workers and was not turned away from a single door with cold treatment. Practically all were unemployed and were not able to subscribe, but like the paper, and asked me back at any time I could come.

—A Worker.

### THANKS! BUT HOW?

RALEIGH, N. C.—All poor workers and farmers, who are at present living on the fat (back) of the land and who are stricken with the dread disease, pellagra, harken to Dr. Joiners. "A sufferer from pellagra should get plenty of eggs, milk, fresh meats, fish chicken, liver, fresh vegetables, cabbage, beans, peas, turnip greens, spinach, tomatoes, onions, beets, squash etc. He should use extreme care in selecting the winter food." We're willing enough, Dr. Joiner, but tell us how to do it on \$6 to \$8 a week for a whole family.

## REDS FISH MISSED

BY JIM HAWKINS

Atlanta, Ga.

As I was passing along on my way home, tired from hunting a job, I passed a certain spot where plumbing was being installed from the curbing into a filling station.

I was attracted by a conversation that was carried on in a ditch near the curbing.

As I stepped nearer the opening where the voices came from, down in that mud hole, were two workers, a white and colored man. They were engaged in connecting two pipes together with a unit.

"Hello, fellow-workers," I kind of surprised them. "I just stopped to hear what you were talking about."

The white worker sort of half raised his head to me and said: "What were we talking about? Nothing much." He hesitated awhile and said: "Just talking about that Fish and Shark committee that I was reading about in the paper this morning. I wish they would come down here in this mud hole and turn this long monkey wrench about an hour or so, then they wouldn't think of riding around in Pullman cars squandering the people's money and fishing for Reds."

"What do you think of those Reds, brother-worker?" I asked.

He stopped his work for a moment, his eyes wide open, directed on me and said: "Why I am a Red at heart myself, just look me over. I am forty-five years old, have worked like a mule for nearly twenty-five years and never could gain a dollar ahead." "Working pretty regular"

"Regular? Why I haven't made a full week since last March. If it wasn't for my oldest daughter who works in an overall factory, I would starve to death and I know the Reds couldn't make it any worse. The quicker

## LYNCH LAW AT WORK

WINSTON-SALEM N. C.—Sam Epps, a Negro, was shot and killed by a detective, J. R. Crutchfield, on a phony story that Epps resisted arrest. This is a favorite excuse for the police when they shoot workers down in cold blood.

\* \* \*

UNION, S. C.—The body of Rutledge Brown, Negro, who had evidently been lynched, was found clad only in underclothes about ten miles from Union. Police say that he might have been one of the chicken thieves that killed deputy sheriff Ralph Kitchens at Spartanburg, but there is absolutely no evidence to support this. This rumor is spread to prevent an investigation of the lynching.

\* \* \*

SPARTANBURG, S. C.—A 62-year-old Negro is being held here on an obviously trumped up charge of having attacked a white woman, when he came to fix the fireplace. She probably did not want to pay the bill.

\* \* \*

MERIDIAN, Miss.—In an atmosphere of hatred and lynch lust the trial of 19-year-old Cleveland Nelson, a Negro boy, is being conducted. He is charged with killing the white boss of the farm, and altho there is no conclusive evidence against him, it is certain that he will be lynched whether legally or "illegally."

\* \* \*

DARIEN, Ga.—The sheriff and other lynchers who lynched Willie Bryan in the woods, and George Grant right inside the prison walls, were completely exonerated of the killings and praised for their "work."

## FOR THE 7-HOUR DAY, 5-DAY WEEK WITHOUT WAGE REDUCTIONS

they start it the better it would be for the working man."

"That's right," the colored worker nodded his head. "Mr Bill is right. Things are pretty tough in here. I wish the white folks would start something. You know, we can't say nothing much. Don't you think so?" he asked.

"No, fellow-worker, I don't think so. I say our troubles lay right here; always waiting for someone to start. We must first all unite like one and it will be easier to start."

"We must forget our differences in looks. We must only think we are workers, and as workers we all have the same trouble."

"We can't live on those wages that we are getting. We must unite in one body because as individuals we stand no chance; they will starve us out."

"You see this unit? If it wasn't for this unit those two pipes would be apart the balance of the days, and never would be able to function for any good purpose."

"Shake brother, if you don't mind my muddy hand," the white worker said, and he grasped my hand and in that grip I felt that he had gotten ten years younger.

"I don't know you, brother," he said. "I have never seen you before, but somehow you struck me in the right spot. Write and tell Mr. Fish he sure overlooked a good Red right here in this mud hole."

A broad smile spread out on the face of the colored worker. "Here is another one, brother, if you want me," as he slowly advanced toward me with his hand outstretched feeling uncertain whether he would be welcome.

I bent over and grasped his hand and said, "Long live the solidarity of the working man of all classes and colors. I am with you."

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# FROM THE MILLS, MINES AND THE FARMS

## SAW NEW LIFE AT ST. LOUIS A.N.L.C. MEET

Charlotte, N. C.

By a Worker Correspondent

I want to write you all a few lines about the St. Louis convention and the good friends I met when I got there. I don't know myself, for I have never been changed so as that morning when I saw the place. It made me think of heaven and hell. It was so fine and I was treated so nice and kind until I was sorry when the time came for me to leave. The dark clouds of sorrow came over my heart for it seemed to me like I was coming out of freedom back to bondage. For I felt and I knew that I was in slavery again and was again jim-crowed.

My dear fellow workers, I will tell you something about the way we are treated here. We are treated as if we are not any more than a good dog. We are jim-crowed on every hand and we can't get any work to do. House rent is as high as ever. And when we can't get this rent we must get out, no matter what is said, sick or well. No money, no job, nothing to eat—that rent must come.

And here is one more thing that I would like to tell you all. No matter what is done here it is the Negro that is blamed with all of these low-down things. And when the officers come, then come with no warrant and come in knocking and beating and kicking and shooting. They beat you so as to make you tell something that you did not do and they won't stop beating you until you say that you did the crime.

I will not say any more about that now, but I will say this: I will ask you all not to think hard of my people, for we have been treated so bad until all of them are afraid.

I will not say any more this time, but I will tell it all before I stop.

—Delegate to the A. N. L. C. Convention.

## Demand Jobless Fund In North Carolina

(Continued from Page 1)

ment situation.

**Make Demands of State**

Against such "relief measures", the unemployed Council of the T. U. U. L. will lead the workers in struggle. A delegation of unemployed workers will be sent to Raleigh N. C., at the opening of the legislature in January to demand a \$10,000,000 emergency Relief Fund for the unemployed. In connection with this drive the Unemployed Council is making a drive for signatures for the Unemployment Relief Bill, proposed by the Communist Party and to be presented to Congress in January.

In the meantime the Council will lead the unemployed worker of the city in presenting immediate and pressing demands to the City Government. The demands formulated by the Council are: immediate relief of \$5 a week for each unemployed worker and \$10 for the family to be paid by the city government; no discrimination because of color; free house rent for the unemployed; no evictions for non-payment of rent; free water, lights and gas; free carfare and free

## Negro Dock Worker Dies of Starvation

By a Worker Correspondent

New Orleans, La.

On the waterfront of New Orleans, a worker fell dead of starvation last week. It was a Negro worker.

First a well-fed watchman came on the scene. "Here, here! Can't you stand up? He called a police wagon. The poor victim was loaded into the hoosgow and off to the police station. There everything is done for the hungry except sustenance.

Workers, wake up! Let us organize and put a stop to this starvation system of our common enemy, the bosses.

—A Marine Worker.

## Bringing Race Hatred on Job

By a Worker Correspondent

Birmingham, Ala.

In the Connors Steel Works here, I want to tell you how the bosses use one worker against another.

A few weeks ago there were two Negro machinists who were working on a machine for \$.28 an hour. The boss got angry with the two Negroes, so he took them off the machine and put on two white workers at \$.38 an hour.

The white workers were on the machine for a week and the boss found out they could not run the machine as good, so he put the two Negroes back on the job at the same \$.28 an hour.

This is the way the Southern bosses bring race hatred between the Negro and white workers. We workers of the Connors Steel Works are going to join the Trade Union Unity League a revolutionary union that fights for the Negro and white workers and for full political, economic and social equality for the Negro worker.

—A Negro Steel Worker.

## ONE WAITER DOES WORK OF TWO NOW

By a Worker Correspondent

Birmingham, Ala.

The boss of the dining room where I work is using real capitalist methods. He is now using two waiters to do four waiters' work and those two waiters wages are just what one waiter should be getting.

This boss is using hard times talk to get by the cutting of wages and speed up. When one of the two waiters first started this job he was getting more for serving one meal than he is getting now for serving two. The waiters have to wash the boss's automobile every day.

Altho the boss is getting just as good business as always, he has cut down the help in the kitchen besides giving them a wage cut.

—A Y. C. L. Member.

## Fight for Unemployment Insurance!

meals for the school children of the unemployed; abolition of the chain gang and all other prison labor; abolition of all vagrancy laws.

## JAIL HUSBAND AS "VAG", TRY SAME ON WIFE

By a Worker Correspondent

Birmingham, Ala.

This is the story of a Negro working woman.

She worked very hard from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and made 85c a day.

Now she is unemployed. Her husband was put in jail for vagrancy. He had no job, so he was sent to prison. She was put out of her house because she didn't have no money to pay the rent.

She had two kids and nothing to feed them on. The police tried to put her in jail for not working, but she had children and they would not take them. They told her she had better find work right away. If not they would take her down. So she went out to try and find work.

This is what is happening to thousands of white and Negro workers in the Magic City of Birmingham.

Only by organization can we beat back the attacks the bosses are making on us.

—A Negro Working Woman.

## Child Hand In Mill Supports Whole Family

By a Worker Correspondent

Charlotte, N. C.

I am only fourteen years old and have been at work in the mill for more than a year. I had to quit school at thirteen years old when I was in the sixth grade. I did not want to do it, for I knew I wouldn't have any more chance to go to school. But conditions at home were so very bad. Father was out of work and mother was sick so I was forced to go to work to support the family.

Now I am working 10 hours a day and make something like \$10.00 a week. And on the little I make four of us have to live, pay rent, buy food and clothes.

There are dozens of other girls in the same mill that work for even less than \$10.00 a week. Work is very hard and life is very unpleasant. I do not know what is to be done, but one thing I know; something must be done to make life easier for us workers.

—A Worker in a Charlotte Mill.

## WAGE CUTS AS X-MAS GIFT IN SAVONA MILL

Charlotte, N. C.

By a Worker Correspondent.

Last week the Southern Worker told about the increased stretchout in the Savona Mill. But this isn't all. It seems that the bosses are not satisfied with it and they want to cut our wages down to the limit.

This week some of us workers, working on three looms have made as little as seventy and eighty cents a day. The other day they told us that we will be docked for every piece of cloth that is slightly wrong, and not just perfect. This means that our wages will be cut more yet. Because under the present stretchout it is almost impossible to make a perfect job. It seems that the bosses are taking full advantage of the unemployment. They have been giving us one Christmas present after another.

—A Savona Mill Worker.

## Demand Food, Not "Pie In The Sky"

By a Worker Correspondent

Galveston, Texas.

The Chaplain in the Adane Seamen's Brothel has a great habit of calling the cops when any of the seamen on the beach get "boisterous." Last night the men had to listen to him spout about an hour about Jerusalem before they could go to bed. They asked for something to eat instead of a lot of bunk about "getting pie in the sky when you die." In answer to this, the minister of the gospel rushed to call the cops on the corner, to protect him from his flock of lost sheep.

This minister gets \$5000 a year to preach a lot of "pie in the sky" stuff to workers to keep them from organizing on earth for better conditions. The bosses keep up the institute in order to get a hold on unemployed workers by giving them a lousy bunk and some slop to eat. Then when a strike comes, they can get their pick of scabs.

—A Seaman.

## United Fruit Speeds Up Men With Curses

By a Worker Correspondent

Galveston, Texas.

The United Fruit Co. has the speed up system of unloading bananas, paying the men 50c an hour. All International Longshoremen Assn. Jim Crow men are on this job. The bosses rush them with such names as "Move on, you sons of b——". When the engine shifts cars the men are docked for time off, and if one of them leaves the wharf for a smoke, he is canned and can't get any more jobs on that dock.

Longshoremen of Galveston! Join a real fighting union, the Marine Workers Industrial Union at 608 24th St. Don't become more enslaved every day, but fight like men for better conditions and better wages.

—Sold-Out Dock Worker.

## Speed Workers Up As Order Beg For Jobs In Greenville

By a Worker Correspondent

Greenville, S. C.

The mills are getting up a thing called a Question Box. This box is placed at the main entrance, and all workers are asked for their opinion for the betterment of conditions. To be sure, it must be in the company's favor, or it will be ignored.

For instance, one young lady suggested that the company charge the workers for their lights, which had been on a flat rating, say 10c per light. For this grand idea she received \$25.00. So right off the reel a meter was installed in every house, and each worker is charged a minimum of \$1.00 per pay for lights whether he uses them or not.

Use Worker As Whip

Here is one a straw boss suggested and got \$10.00 for. When a worker gets caught up with his work, he is made to go and ring the time clock and wait until there is some more work and then go and ring his time in again. His pay is stopped when he rings out until he rings back.

This is simply done so that one worker will push the other one so he won't have to wait on him. I understand that this stunt is being worked around the bleacheries in this town. So you see the boss is forcing the speed-up system on the workers by using one worker to whip the other one. In doing this the plant does not have to be operated full time, and there is a double increase in production.

Begging For Work

As I am a textile worker and not a bleachery hand, we may go back to the mill. It is very amazing to go in the mill in the morning and see two and three times as many men on the spare floor as it takes to run the mill. I mean these people are begging for work. This is because two and three sets of hands were thrown out on the streets by the stretch-out and speed-up system.

Workers! We have been fooled long enough. We have been promised all kinds of things. We have been misled by the American Federation of Labor lackeys, just as has been done in Danville, Va., and what was done at Mills Mill and Brandon Mill and the

same at Ware Shoals, S. C.

Workers! We cannot do anything in these days of the machine age by one little mill going on strike at a time. Neither can we win anything by allowing some sheriff's committee tending to our business-like the stuff that was pulled off on the Mill's Mill workers.

We must mass all together. I mean now, because we are hungry and have not got anything to warm our hungry body. These relief committees appointed to act in January or February 1931, will not do us any good. Anybody I hear say anything about conditions says something is going to happen. Well, let us start it. It is better to fight than it is to starve. There is no mistake about this. If we get anything, we have got to FIGHT for it. Don't be afraid, workers. I am working in one of the mills here in Greenville, S. C.

## Ship Gets Free Labor; Will Not Hire Seamen

By a Worker Correspondent

Galveston, Texas.

The Lykes Brothers Co. ship, Margaret Lykes, won't hire but three A. B.'s, and two O. S.'s and no wipers. This company gets all the work-a-ways it wants from Porto Rico coming to the states and all the men they want going back to the islands without pay.

Seamen, how long are you going to let mates and bullies kick you from your calling. Join the Marine Workers Industrial Union and FIGHT, don't starve.

Porto Rican Wiper.

## ORGANIZE TENANTS' LEAGUES ON FARMS FOR RELIEF!

## Police Aid Unemployed — With Clubs

By a Worker Correspondent

Charlotte, N. C.

Last night an unemployed Negro worker was standing on the corner of Mint and First Street, when two cops came walking down the street. They asked the Negro worker where he was working. When the Negro said

he was not at work the cops said "Well, get the hell off the streets!" Then they jumped on this unemployed worker and began to beat him up. They beat him terribly before they let him go. This is what the unemployed workers get in the land of the free and the home of the brave.

—A Worker.

## Prisoner Made Happy by Southern Worker

Comstock Prison, N. Y.

I wish to state that I received the SOUTHERN WORKER, just after I wrote you. I know not words to express my gratitude. I am the happiest man on earth to see that the workers of your race and mine have at last awakened to the capitalist government and are uniting instead of fighting each other, especially in the

South, which is my home. We have been playing right into the capitalists hands by fighting each other. I would express more clearly, but you understand.

I left the South because of the prejudice, so you know how happy I am when I can go back home and see all workers united as human beings. My best wishes to all workers.

—An Unfortunate Prisoner.



# The Southern Worker

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## PREVENT THE WAR OF INVASION!

The greatest crime ever planned against the masses of the world has been uncovered in the trial of the eight engineers in Moscow.

To save their own necks in the world wide crisis and at the same time strike a blow at the first workers' and farmers' government in the world the capitalist powers, with France at their head, plan a war of intervention and extermination against the Soviet Union. They plan to conscript workers in their own countries into armies to fight against a country of 150,000,000 people, a country where the masses are making the greatest sacrifices to construct a socialist state, the fatherland of the world proletariat.

At the head of his group of imperialist scavengers stands French imperialism, organizing its puppet states of Poland, Rumania, Latvia and Esthonia for the invasion of the Soviet Union. Should the workers be fooled into it, it is planned to send them into another world slaughter in 1931.

The Moscow trial, on the confession of the defendants themselves, exposed the French imperialists, Poincare and Briand, as leading figures in this plot. With them was Churchill, British war monger, and Deterding, British oil king. "The chief negotiations for the organization of intervention were carried on in France with Briand and in England with Churchill," said Ramsin, the leader of the wreckers in his confession at the Moscow trial.

And where did France obtain much of its millions of dollars to equip and train its own army and those of its puppet states? Who is it that has been organizing Polish fascism the better to enter upon his attack? Who, but the American bankers! Who has been bolstering up the Nanking government in China, the better to maneuver its attempted invasion of the Soviet Union along the Manchurian border last year? The American imperialists!

The imperialists of the world plan to send its workers to fight war for its profits and its system of exploitation into far-away Asia, into the steppes of the Soviet Union, where workers are building THEIR industries, and farmers THEIR agriculture!

Here in this country the Anti-Soviet campaign has been taking on great velocity, with the ridiculous talk about Soviet dumping with the lies about convict labor, with the war cry of the 'Soviet menace.' American imperialism is also a part of this Anti-Soviet bloc.

The workers and peasants of the Soviet Union, to a man, are ready to defend their construction of socialism against the imperialist scavengers. They have no desire to see landlords and bosses back. They have gotten rid of them, with a tremendous effort, and with even greater mass energy will they prevent their return.

Workers of capitalist countries must also prevent this greatest war crime of all history. Together with the workers of the Soviet Union we must prevent intervention. Demonstrate for the defense of the Soviet Union! Protest the war plot of the imperialists! Force the war funds to be used for unemployment insurance!

And if intervention comes—it must be turned into a civil war!

## Organize the Struggle of the Unemployed!

Without the leadership of any organization, hundreds of unemployed workers in Shreveport, La., organized themselves into a mass parade thru the principal street of the city last week with the purpose of carrying their demand for "Work or Food" to the City Hall.

A number of such spontaneous demonstrations have already occurred. More, many more, will take place as hunger grows sharper, winter advances, and the fake relief schemes of the government and charity organizations become more and more evident to the mass of workers. We are fast approaching the point of sharp and mass struggles.

In the meantime, Congress is playing political football with the "relief proposals" of President Hoover, in themselves a ridiculous farce. With the brazenness of tyrannical masters, the bosses of Southern cities are making their workers, working two and three days a week and under great wage-cuts and speed-up, put their own bread into the Community Chest.

The tyranny of the hunger regime, fast making skeletons out of the workers and their families, knows no bounds. With the cruelty of a brutal oppressor, it uses its chaingangs and prisons to stifle the cry of protest. Hunger also knows no bounds, and thousands of workers will be forced into the struggles of this winter.

But these struggles must be organized, must have definite and attainable immediate demands to place before the bosses and the government. At no point in the struggle must the bosses be permitted to use their tactic of dividing the forces of the working class by working up racial prejudice and setting the workers at war between themselves. That is the greatest danger in the struggle and must be guarded against at every moment, not for a single second allowing this boss propaganda to creep in and blind us to our real enemies.

It depends upon us, the most militant workers, to organize this struggle and lead it. The Unemployed Councils of the Trade Union Unity League must place themselves at the head of the struggle, leading the workers to the city government with the demand for immediate relief. Workers in Shreveport did it without any direction from us. With our direction many more workers will enter the struggle in an organized form, and actually attain their demands.

Hand in hand with this local movement in every city and the formation of Unemployed Councils must go the mass collection of signatures for the Unemployment Insurance Bill to be presented to Congress in January. Over 1,000,000 signatures must be collected thruout the country. It must be a mass demand presented to the central body of capitalist tyranny, a mass blow at the Hoover hunger regime, and its A. F. of L. lackeys. More than that, it must be a real fighting determination to obtain Unemployment Insurance for all workers.

## Homes We Live In



The home of a Negro worker, on the outskirts of an industrial city. The low wages force him to live in this miserable shack.

## Intervention; - It's Meaning

What does intervention in the Soviet Union mean? What did it mean back in 1918 and 1919, when the allied armies invaded Russia and attempted to overthrow the Soviet government. Here is one of many brutal incidents of that intervention, when the imperialist powers attempted to enslave the workers and peasants back again to their old masters. This is what they are attempting to repeat today—if the workers in the Soviet Union and the workers thruout the world will permit them.

### The Instructions

French Marshal d'Esperet told French officers in Odessa (Russian port on the Black Sea): "The Russians are barbarians and scoundrels! Do not fuss about them, just shoot them, beginning with the peasants and ending with the highest authorities!"

These instructions the armies of intervention proceeded to carry out.

### Following Instructions

Here is but one incident: When the French army of intervention retreated from Kherson, it herded together 2,000 workmen, women and children in the port and locked them up in the warehouse. They were kept

there 24 hours without food or water. Then they opened fire from the boats and the warehouse burned down.

If anyone tried to escape when the walls and the roof began to break down, machine guns were used against them.

A Kherson newspaper described the scene after the evacuation as follows:

### Attempt It Again

"The firemen arrived when the logs that fell from the roof were all burning in heaps. For about two hours they were pulling out pieces of burning flesh and bones from under the debris. No one has ever resorted to such hellish brutalities as the foreign hangmen who have just withdrawn from Kherson."

That is the kind of thing that the capitalist powers are planning to do again. Why? To force the Russian workers and peasants back to the conditions of slavery and exploitation in existence before the Communist revolution, conditions which are very similar to those of the Southern farm tenants in this country today and of the thousands of starving American workers in the South.

## MY LIFE

By a Negro Working Woman

The Story Thus Far:

Seven years after her first husband is shot by the landowner, the Negro working woman who writes this story marries again. Her second husband runs away from the farm where he is mistreated, but the postoffice opens a registered letter to the writer telling where her husband is, and the sheriff brings him back. He is released when the new boss pays \$30 for him owing to his former employer and the entire family leave for Putnam County. Husband and wife quarrel and she leaves him to return in a month. Now continue reading:

I WAS home for only two weeks when my husband's first wife and baby and the High Sheriff came and arrested him and took him back to Jackson County, Jefferson, Ga., where he had married her. The court granted me a divorce free of charge. I felt like one who had been in prison bound, so I went back home. But I never was satisfied at home, so I left for Monroe, Ga., after Christmas. And there is where I hit hard luck.

I had never been out in the world all alone before. It was no better time to start than then, for I was yet young and could stand hard shifts. I had to pay for my learning.

I only had a little money when I went there and it was soon gone. The girl I roomed with was nice to me, but she did not like work and I did not know anyone to help me look for work. Most all the little town was

under quarantine for small-pox and altho I had already had it, I was not allowed in the homes where I might have found work.

One Sunday afternoon we had just a small lunch and on Monday we did not have anything. It was cold and we did not have any fire. This went on till Wednesday. I had not had a mouthful since Sunday. I was starving and sick.

I walked from door to door and one woman said she would let me help her with the laundry the next day. When I told her I had not eaten she gave me a hot cup of coffee and some more nice things to eat. I took three or four bites and it made me sick. I had almost starved to death. I told the woman I would go out and see what work I could find that day.

I met a colored man who owned grocery store and a cafe, and he asked me if I could cook. I said I could, but he doubted me. But he needed a cook and would try me until he could do better. I went to the cafe that night and prepared supper, and after all had been served the boss said we could go home and for me to come to work at 4:30 in the morning.

I had about a mile to walk every morning in the dark. He paid me six dollars a week, for he was sure I did not know how to work, but he was wrong for I was raised to work and I was willing. I did not ever want to be hungry again.

(To Be Continued Next Week)

## The Reds Say--

By JIM ALLEN

Many of us still remember well the days before the United States entered the World War, with all the flag waving and stories of Hun atrocities, and everything else reckoned to fool a nation into a blood bath. Don't it look similar now, tho, with all the stories about Bolshevik brutality, and how the Russian reds are taking away the American farmers' dollars (has he any to take away?) by "dumping", and the "Bolshevik menace" glaring over the newspapers like the "Hun menace" did 13 years ago. You might just as well chew your chew, fellow-workers, and think it over.

\* \* \*

Before I'd get into a fight, I'd like to know what it's all about, and then maybe I'd shoot in a different direction. This guy Matthew Woll, who ain't no friend of mine or yours, has been talking so long about convict labor in the Soviet Union that he got his friend Andy Mellon, in the treasury department to issue a ruling against importation of convict made goods, meaning goods from the Soviet. Fish fished up some willing stories about brutal treatment of convicts in Russia. That set the press howling. I've seen some Soviet prisons—and let me set you straight—I'd much rather live in one of those than work in one of Andy Mellon's steel mills as a free man. You get work in a shop under the same conditions as any good union man outside of prison, with union wages, and you can even get a two-week's vacation from prison to go and visit your family or work on the farm if you ain't one of those Ramsin guys plotting to escort whisker Briand into the country at the head of an army.

\* \* \*

And then you just get to wondering. Look at the chain gangs over here building roads, and cutting trees and breaking stones and not getting paid anything for it, and getting shot and beaten into the bargain. You don't hear Woll refusing to ride in his limousine over convict-made state highways, do you? Nor do you hear Mellon raising a row about admitting Huey Long of Louisiana to the Senate because he had his campaign posters made by prison labor? Nor does Hoover refuse to eat his rice pudding because the rice came from convict-worked plantations? And talking about forced labor, you don't catch the secretary of the navy refusing steel shipments for the new warships from the U. S. Steel Corporation because it was produced in mill towns where deputies with long guns watch over you. Not by a long shot!

\* \* \*

The long and short of it is that over here there is forced starvation under forced work and in the Soviet Union the worker is freer than anywhere else in the world. Over here there is forced idleness for 9,000,000 workers, while over in the Soviet Union the workers are setting up their industries so fast that there ain't enough workers to go around. Over here the bosses are scared skinny that the workers will get wise to themselves and do things in the Russian way, so they would like to see that Russian way wiped out with Andy Mellon's and Morgan's steel shells. That's what Woll and that A. F. of L. crew would like to see, too, and that's why there's all this lying. I've seen that Red Army, and I've seen the workers and the farmers of the Soviet and they would rather die fighting than see a single landlord on the farm or a single boss back of the factory. And they are depending upon you, too.