

White and
Colored Workers,
Unite!

SOUTHERN WORKER

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Vol. 1, No. 25

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Feb. 7, 1931

Don't Starve—
Fight for Social
Insurance!

2 Cents a Copy

DEMONSTRATE ON FEB. 10th! FIGHT AGAINST STARVATION! FOR IMMEDIATE CASH RELIEF!

A. F. OF L. SELLS OUT DANVILLE STRIKE; WORKERS BLACKLISTED

DANVILLE, Va.—The 4,000 textile strikers of the Riverside and Dan River mills, who fought for four months, were totally deserted and left to the mercies of the mill barons blacklist last week, in the most scoundrelly sell-out ever manipulated by the A. F. of L. fakers in the South and practically in the whole history of the American labor movement.

On the afternoon of January 29, Francis J. Gorman, vice-president of the United Textile Workers and sell-out general, released a statement which he had prepared beforehand officially calling the strike to an end because, he said, the textile bosses had shown that they "respected organized labor" and that therefore, there was no longer any need for a strike.

How president Fitzgerald of the mills "respected organized labor" and how dastardly this sell-out was, was fully evident to the workers when they applied for jobs at the mills on the following day and found that there were no jobs to be had. Repeating history at Elizabethton, mill officials told the workers that they would employ only those whose "records were acceptable," meaning a thorough blacklist of all those workers who had been active in the strike. Gorman's press agent had told the strikers that 800 to 1,000 of them would be employed immediately, and Gorman, in his statement calling off the strike, declared that there would be no discrimination against union members.

After four months of misleading the militant workers and forcing tactics on them which permitted 3,700 scabs to be employed in the mills without an effort being made at organized mass picketing, Gorman has deserted them flat, the hypocrite well knowing that most of them would be blacklisted and left to starve.

This treachery has left four thousand workers on the street starving, with all relief withdrawn, and 1,000 cases of influenza among the strikers. In Schoolfield whole families have the disease. A forewarning of the impending sell-out was given last week when the A. F. of L. officials were negotiating with the Red Cross in Washington to take over the relief for the strikers and A. L. Schafer has reported back to the Red Cross that the strikers "are not in acute distress" and therefore not to receive the 2 and 1/2 cent meals.

Red Cross Helps Planters Build Peonage In Ark.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—Over 500,000 or 28 per cent of the total population of Arkansas are so near death from starvation that they are being forced to accept the Red Cross starvation diet. According to Red Cross figures two thirds of the entire population of the counties of Ashley, Chicot, Cleveland, Lee and St. Francis are being given just enough to keep from starving while about half the counties in the state have 50 per cent of their population on the starvation dole.

Red Cross Peonage

Just as during the Mississippi flood, Red Cross relief has its chains to it, binding the croppers tighter to their landowners. Every cropper who comes for relief must bring with him a sworn certificate from his landlord that he is starving and cannot be supplied. The landlord, by refusing to give these certificates, force the croppers to work for them without pay and without advances. One plantation owner at Ferda, in Jefferson county, told the Red Cross not to give relief to 30 of his Negro share croppers who were coming to England to get it, and the Red Cross followed instruction. Croppers and renters are so heavily in debt to their landowners that it will take them a number of years to work it off and they are not permitted to leave the plantation until they do. This means increasing peonage throughout the drought-stricken sections of Arkansas.

Local merchants, who have done their part in sucking the farmers dry and keeping them in debt by high interest rates on fertilizer and food advances, are also taking advantage of the starvation to coin more money. Township committeemen, mostly merchants, refuse requests for food unless (Turn to Page Two)

INT'L. JOBLESS FIGHTING DAY

NEW YORK — Workers in leading European countries have been called to demonstrate against unemployment on a day set aside as International Fighting Day against Unemployment, February 25.

The call is signed by the Communist Parties of Germany, France, Great Britain, Czechoslovakia, and Poland. It is also signed by the Red Trade Union Opposition of Germany, the United General Confederation of Trade Unions of France, the British Minority Movement, and the Red Unions of Czechoslovakia. The

Communist Party of the U. S. A. and the Trade Union Unity League have already endorsed the call by calling the mass demonstrations in this country by Feb. 10.

The demands of the demonstrations on Feb. 25 will be for an immediate lump sum large enough to see the unemployed over the winter; for real unemployment insurance in all countries; for free rent, heat and light; and for the 7-hour day and no wage-cuts. On this day of struggle there will be mobilization for strikes against all wage-cuts.

Plan Mass Fight For Release of 5 B'ham Workers

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Harris Gilbert, District Organizer of the Young Communist League, and 4 other workers were arrested in a police raid on the Night Hawk Cafe here last Thursday and charged with criminal anarchy.

The raid took place on information furnished to the police by one Harry Hites, an expelled member of the Communist Party and a proven stool pigeon and police spy, that leaflets exposing the failure of the city government to provide any relief for the unemployed and calling on the 20,000 unemployed of the Birmingham section to fight for cash relief, were being printed on a mimeograph machine in the back room of the restaurant. Police have tried for months to find and confiscate the machine on which the Communist Party had printed leaflets which were being systematically distributed in more than a score of the biggest shops in the Birmingham district.

Try Whiskey Frame-Up

During the course of the raid the police found a small quantity of whiskey in the cafe and at first charged all five workers with possession of liquor as well as Criminal Anarchy. This obvious attempt at a frame-up (Turn to Page Four)

Masses Prepare For February 10

Workers under the leadership of the Unemployed Councils are preparing for demonstrations against unemployment and for unemployment insurance and cash relief in all principal industrial cities on February 10 when their delegates at Washington will present the bill for unemployment insurance to Congress.

Hunger marches, participated in by hundreds of thousands of workers from coast to coast, have raised the cry for immediate relief and roused the workers to even greater mass action on Feb. 10.

The latest hunger marches were those which occurred at Philadelphia and Newark, N. J. Before the Philadelphia City Hall 35,000 workers demonstrated for immediate relief, after a hunger march of 18,000 from Independence Square. They voted to have a still larger demonstration on Feb. 10 when the City Council refused to grant any of their demands. This demonstration had been preceded by a spontaneous hunger march of 3,000 at the Hogg Island shipyards when they found they could get no jobs as advertised.

In Newark, thousands of jobless workers met in Military Park and fought their way to the City Hall when the police tried to prevent the hunger march. There the delegation presented the demands to the City Council.

Chattanooga at Main and Market, 10 a.m.
At 4th and Caldwell in Charlotte, 2 p.m.

Hold Street Meetings To Prepare in Charlotte

Another Chatt. Worker Puts Back Furniture

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—The Charlotte Unemployed Council of the T. U. U. L. has called a demonstration of unemployed and employed workers for February 10, to back up the Unemployed Delegation to Washington, which will present the Workers Insurance Bill to Congress.

The demonstration will take place at Caldwell and Fourth Streets at 2 p.m.

The Unemployed Council will hold street meetings and neighborhood mass meetings preparing the workers for this demonstration.

The following leaflet has been issued, calling the workers' attention to the demonstration:

"The only organization that is fighting for unemployment relief for the workers is the Unemployed Council of the T. U. U. L. Wherever the workers were organized to march in thousands on the City Halls, there the capitalists were forced to come across with immediate relief.

"The only remedy the capitalists and their government are offering to relieve the unemployment is flophouses, fake charity and crumbs that are left over from the tables of the rich fat capitalist and preachers and bankers.

"All workers out on the street on Feb. 10! Demand unemployment relief! Back up the delegation to Washington!"

B'ham Jobless To Demonstrate Feb. 25

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Workers of the city are being called to prepare for a mass demonstration in front of the City Hall on February 25 to demand immediate relief for the unemployed.

The day chosen is the same day when workers in European countries will also demonstrate for relief.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn.—Workers throughout the city are preparing to take part in the unemployment demonstration here on February 10, at Main and New Market Streets, 10 a.m., as a part of the mass demonstrations to take place in all other industrial cities when the unemployed delegates present the demand for unemployment insurance to Congress.

Demands of the Unemployed Council for cash relief of \$12.50 a week for each unemployed worker, no evictions and rent reductions, free gas, light and coal will be presented at this demonstration for approval and a committee will be elected to present them to the City Council the same day.

Another Worker Puts Furniture Back

The putting back of Mamie Singletton's furniture on W. Eighth Street last week by workers in the neighborhood has shown a new method of struggle to workers faced with evictions. One unemployed white worker in East Lake who was evicted on Monday morning followed the example of the Eighth street workers and put his furniture back. The same evening, acting on a rumor of the incident, seven policemen under the command of a captain drove up to this house and broke into a meeting of 13 workers living in the neighborhood who had invited Hy Gordon, Trade Union Unity League Organizer, to come down and talk over with them the prevention of other evictions threatened in the same neighborhood.

The police attempted to bully the workers by throwing a flashlight on each one individually and questioning them. Comrade Gordon told the police captain that the workers were discussing methods of bettering their conditions and to prevent themselves being thrown out on the street. The police captain tried to pass himself off as a friend of labor, by saying that he was once a working man himself and that they had not come to break up the meeting but that they (Turn to Page Two)

N. ORLEANS MASS MEET ON FEB. 10

NEW ORLEANS, La.—After accepting unanimously a set of immediate demands for unemployment relief presented by the Unemployed Council at a meeting at the Union Hall at 308 Chartres St., last Sunday afternoon, unemployed workers decided to hold a mass demonstration at the City Hall on February 10, at which a committee will be elected to present the demands to the City Council.

A delegate is also to be elected for the National Unemployment Conference of the Unemployed Councils in Washington which will present the demand for the Unemployment Insurance Bill to Congress on Feb. 10.

A large number of new people were at the meeting and signed the unemployment insurance petition. Comrade Harvey, organizer of the Marine Workers Industrial Union, made a very forceful talk and succeeded in rousing some fighting spirit in those present. Comrade Paillet followed with a talk on local conditions and was warmly cheered at the finish. Comrade Kelley spoke for the T. U. U. L. We are growing slowly but feel confident that we will yet build up an organization here that will produce action and results.

TRY TO FRAME MILITANT IN ELIZABETHTON

ELIZABETHTON, Tenn.—An attempt was made to frame up Jason Hill, active union worker now blacklisted from Bemberg rayon mill, by W. J. Fair, Baldwin-Felts man and Bemberg's sheriff of Elizabethton, in an effort to stop the organization of the Bemberg-Glanzstoff workers into the militant National Textile Workers Union.

While Hill was playing checkers at his brother-in-law's house, Fair, together with Landon Estep, jailer, and Bradley and S. Williams, deputies, entered the house and declared Hill under arrest, without producing a warrant or any charge. While the sheriff and his men were making a search of the house, Hill, who would not allow himself to be taken in by these rats in the employ of the rayon corporation, made his get-away.

Failing to "get their man" in this way—these cowards always do their stuff at night and in an underhanded way—they tried to frame the militant worker with a robbery of a grocery store.

The following night the sheriff drove out into the country and buried some goods on what he thought to be Hill's land. The next morning he walked straight to the spot, dug it up and claimed that he had caught Hill with the goods. The Elizabethton workers, who know these sheriffs well, had followed him on his trip, saw him plant the stuff and called his bluff.

Just as in the case of Negro lynchings, so in this case, the Governor is not interested in safeguarding Negro, white or Indian workers, but only in preserving "law and order."

Lynching can be stopped only in one way. The lynchers must be met with guns. The slogan "Death Lynchers" must be widely broadcast.

—a fact which the Chattanooga boss papers do not even mention altho they ran big stories about how the "lone red" was being "deserted." Eugene Carnes, the unemployed worker who argued with the police about the eviction was found guilty of resisting an officer and fined \$50 and is now in jail.

Far from intimidating the workers, this case has only proven to them that a stronger organization must be built here, that the workers must learn to get together in masses in order to prevent further evictions.

Bass Shows True Color

The whole situation has forced Mayor Bass into an admission that he will do all in his power to support the landlords in throwing unemployed workers out on the street, despite all his talk about helping and relieving the unemployed situation, and that he would do all he could to stop evictions. After a visit from the real estate men of the city who were aroused by the putting back of the furniture, Mayor Bass issued a public statement bowing like the lackey he is to the bosses of Chattanooga.

As one worker said at the meeting of the Unemployed Council in the Union Hall, 316 W. Main St., on Monday, no amount of police intimidation will scare him away from the demonstration on Feb. 10. This also holds true for the thousands of other starving workers in the city who will come in large numbers to this meeting.

Singleton Free on Bond

The arrest of Mamie Singleton and the unemployed worker Carnes on the Wednesday following the putting back of the furniture in her house has only resulted in greater determination among the workers to carry thru a militant demonstration on Feb. 10 and present their demands to the City Council. Afraid of the resentment of the workers before election, Mayor Bass after being appealed to by the real estate men of the city to "protect private property" had the county police under Sheriff Taylor evict Mamie Singleton again and arrest her. It took the whole motorcycle unit, a number of police cars, deputies, landlords, and lawyers to evict one woman. He was arrested on a charge of re-entering the house, but is now free on \$250 bond.

Lynch White Boy In North Dakota

SCHAFFER, N. D.—Charles Bannon, 22-year-old white farm worker, was lynched here last Thursday by a masked mob who gathered about the jail at 1 a.m. and crashed their way into Bannon's cell. He was hanged from a bridge over Cherry Creek, about a quarter of a mile outside the town.

Deputy Sheriff Peter S. Hallan who was on guard when the jail was raided, made no attempt to thwart the mob's efforts. He didn't even pull his gun. Sheriff F. A. Thompson, rather than shoot, permitted himself to be tied. His only action in the whole affair was to say that it was "discouraging."

Bannon maintained his courage to the last. To save his father, who is jailed on the same charge, he confessed and took sole responsibility for a charge it is doubtful if he committed. He pleaded with the lynchers not to harm his father. According to the boss press they are said to have killed a family of six, but the elder Bannon denied any connection with the murders.

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Red Cross Helps Maintain Peonage

(Continued From Front Page)

less it is bought in the township at the prices they demand. Farmers living four miles from England and 25 miles from Little Rock, are forced to go to Little Rock to get their food out of the meagerly funds given them by the Red Cross.

Dying From Pellagra

The Red Cross pittance really means slow starvation, as evidenced by the already alarming increase in pellagra and other diseases due to undernourishment. The farmers are being slowly killed by this boss charity. A family of seven, for instance, gets \$7 worth of food for two weeks. There are no clothes given out.

NEGRO LEAGUE EXPOSES WHITE LADIES' BLUFF

ATLANTA, Ga.—The "good rich women" of this town and of other states have been holding a series of "Anti-Lynching" conferences. These conferences were held in sporty jimmie-crow hotels and were attended by rich dames who got wealthy from exploiting and Jim-Crowing the Negroes.

Cranberry Sauce

Besides discussing lynching, the order of business was packed full of roast duck, cranberry sauce and tea and cake. After stuffing their bellies full of chow these hypocrites had their pictures taken which appeared in the local newspapers under the caption, "White Women Attack Lynchings." These parasites passed a resolution that the governor of the state should do his duty against lynchings, that is, lynch them legally.

The League of Struggle for Negro Rights, a workers' organization that demands the death penalty for all lynchers declares:

"With great unemployment and misery in the towns, with the daily battles for bread of share croppers and tenants against landlords on the farms, lynchings are on the increase."

Fear Growing Unity

"The great number of lynchings last year also included 5 white workers. Fearing the growing unity of white and colored workers and farmers, the bosses have put their wives to politely condemning lynching.

"The branches of the League of Struggle for Negro Rights in Atlanta are organizing armed defense corps against lynching. The L. S. N. R. states that any attempt by these bosses wives at their conferences to win the white and Negro masses is just another scheme to blind the masses and should be sharply exposed and fought."

The L. S. N. R. is relentlessly fighting segregation, discrimination, persecution and lynching of Negroes and is organizing white and colored workers against the bosses weapon—the race line.

For further information about the L. S. N. R. write to Box 339, Atlanta, Georgia.

Red Cross workers admit that there has been nothing comparing with the desolation in Arkansas farm country since reconstruction days. Horses and mules, needed for the heavy spring plowing which is about to begin, are falling dead by the hundreds and landlords are charging this up to the croppers as an additional debt to be worked off.

No Credit For New Crop

In the Conway, Ark., section, where the country is cut up into small farms of from 40 to 60 acres, owned almost entirely by small white farmers, conditions are just as bad as in the eastern section where the share croppers and tenants suffer most. Here the main diet is turnips. It is generally accepted that the farmers will have to be fed during the spring and summer if they are to make a crop.

In some sections of the state the farmers are found living on hickory nuts.

Most of the tenant farmers and renters are so heavily in debt, with their tools and animals mortgaged, that they have no means of obtaining credit on which to start the next year's crop. Big plantation owners, who want the small farmers to cut the cotton crops so that they can sell their own at a higher price next fall, are stating openly that "they don't care so much about the small man who has only 40 acres," meaning that they and the credit agencies are manipulating to put the small farmers out.

Our Sustaining Fund

The first payment of \$25.00 was received last week from Grace Hutchins, New York City, as the first payment on a pledge of \$100. This splendid donation is enabling us to print many extra thousands of copies of the SOUTHERN WORKER to help in the fight against starvation.

Donations from our friends and fellow-workers in the South must keep pace with those we are receiving from the North. More funds will mean, not only that we are assured of continuing publication, but that we will have a bigger and better paper.

Send funds to: Southern Worker, Box 1813, Birmingham, Ala.

Donations:

Paid pledges from Party districts and Papers	\$21.00
Grace Hutchins	25.00
A Worker, Keyport, Wash	2.00

Prepare Fight In Atlanta Mill

ATLANTA, Ga.—The Atlanta Woolen mill working only 4 days a week is driving the workers like dogs.

The wages vary from \$3 to \$9 a week. In the last year the wages have been systematically cut 40 percent. Many workers find it impossible to support their families on the measly wages.

The speed-up is terrific. After laying off many hands in the mill, the boss forces each worker to do the work of three. Any mistake made by the workers means either loss of their job or else a large amount is docked from their wages.

Because of the low wages received many of the workers are being forced to go out on the streets and peddle fruit in order to keep their family alive. The workers must and are organizing.

Though there are many spies in the shop, a Communist Party unit has been organized there and is preparing the workers for struggle against the intolerable conditions. The bosses will find it hard to cut the wages of the workers again in the face of the rising militancy the workers are showing.

Support the Delegates to Washington! On the Streets Feb. 10!

LYNCH LAW AT WORK

HOPKINSVILLE, Ky.—After raiding two jails, white fiends traveling in automobiles are enroute here to lynch Sam McGee, charged with killing a white boy. McGee has proven that he is innocent of the killing. The sheriff has mounted machine guns and claims that he will protect him. That is what the sheriff said at Maryville, Mo.

COVINGTON, Ky.—Following the shooting of a white clerk in a robbery here, police raided the Negro section, arresting 32 Negro workers. Any one of these are in danger of being lynched.

MARYVILLE, Mo.—It has been established that a white pupil is the murderer of the school teacher for whose death Raymond Gunn was burned alive on the roof of the schoolhouse.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—White plantation owners are attempting to intimidate Negro farm workers in the section to force them to leave and give their jobs to whites.

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Trapped aboard a ferry boat by a hostile mob of white men, Alfred Richard, Negro, leaped into the Mississippi River and was drowned rather than suffer the tortures of a lynching. He was charged with a robbery.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.—Gus Starnes, a Negro worker from Norton, Va., was killed by Hugh Jenks, engineer at the University of Tennessee power plant. The reason given by Jenks was that Starnes tried to hold him up. Starnes was unarmed.

ANNONDALE, N. J.—The boss press report that the fight between the boys at the Annondale reformatory was a race riot, was shown up as a lie when the State Commissioner announced after his investigation that it was not so. It was called a "race riot" to excuse the Jim Crow policies now being instituted in the Reformatory.

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NAME

ADDRESS

FROM THE MILLS, MINES AND THE FARMS

CUT WAGES, SPEED-UP IN MANY DEPARTMENTS IN GLANZSTOFF

More Spools, 5c Hour Cut in Twisting Dept.

By a Worker Correspondent
Elizabeth, Tenn.

I want to tell you something about the conditions of the girls who work in the twisting department of Glanzstoff's. In January they cut our wages from 35 cents an hour to 30 cents. It used to be that we had to get out 30 spools, but now we have to get out forty.

We used to have to run only one machine, but now we have to run a machine and a half. But at the same time we are getting less pay than before.

Bosses' Pets

They start the girls in this department at \$12.32 a week. When a girl is real experienced and works hard she seldom gets over \$16 a week, and practically never more than \$17. We used to be able to make \$20.

If you get out over 32 racks, it is 5c extra for a rack. Now our section boss, Jim Moseray, has picked out two girls that he thinks are specially loyal to the company and he helps them do their work so they can get out a lot more and get more pay. But he never helps the rest of us.

Girl Faints

The air in the twisting department is very bad—there is no proper ventilation, even though air does not hurt the material when it gets to the twisting room. Some of the girls faint from the bad air. A while ago one of the girls asked permission of the section boss to go out, as she felt sick. He told her: "You are all right; just go back to the machine." A few minutes later she fainted at work and almost pitched into her machine, which might have killed her or hurt her badly.

We have only 15 minutes for lunch and in this 15 minutes we have to go from the twisting room way upstairs to get our lunches, and then way down into the dining room, and then back to the twisting department. You can imagine how much time we have to gobble our lunches after that.

Time For Action

At our work we have to stand all the time. It would not hurt the work if we had a chance to sit down once in a while, when all the work is going right but they won't let us. The floor is concrete, which is very hard on the feet. Lots of the girls get flat feet or varicose veins from standing eight hours, but what does the company care?

Another way to get more out of us is to make us have our machines cleaned on our own time. You have to stop some time during the day and strip your machine and let it be cleaned. This takes about 30 minutes when you can't make anything, but this is on your own time and not on the bosses' time.

I think it is about time we took some action about these conditions here.

—A Worker.

Many Now Ask: Who Has America's Riches?

Spivak, Colo.

I noticed a headline in the SOUTHERN WORKER "America Is Rich—But Who Has It?" I heard a similar saying from a boy who is still under the influence of the capitalist press. But the present world crisis opens up their eyes, little by little, and the effect of the crisis is too great for them. They know that the lies of the yellow press cannot fill up their stomachs, pay rent or feed a wife or children.

\$19.50 Highest Wage In Viscose Department

By a Worker Correspondent
Elizabeth, Tenn.

I am a worker in the viscose department of the Glanzstoff mills. There are only men working in this department. They start us off at \$13.44 for the first six weeks. For the next six weeks we are supposed to get \$16.36. This includes a bonus for working every shift. The next six weeks we are supposed to get \$17.80 including the bonus. After another 90 days, we get \$18 a week, plus a bonus of \$1.50 if we work every shift. So all a full grown man can make in this department is \$19.50 a week.

And that's not all, because usually when you have worked up to the "higher pay," they transfer you to some other department and start another man at the bottom rate. Or they lay you off. That's one nice thing about Glanzstoff—you never get fired, you just get laid off and somehow you never get back again.

For this pay we have to work in a room which is very hot and in which there is no ventilation and frequent chlorine gas explosions. Isn't it about time to organize for better conditions?

—A Worker.

Clean Machines on Own Time in the Spool Dept.

By a Worker Correspondent
Elizabeth, Tenn.

I am a worker in the spool cleaning department of Glanzstoff's rayon mill. We work here a 48-hour week, three shifts: 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. and 11 p.m. to 7 a.m.

On the 11 to 7 shift, the graveyard shift, which every worker in the department has to go on one-third of the time, they make us do the cleaning up on our own time, for which we get 35 cents an hour. This is lower than the regular rate. So it is really a form of wage-cut, and the bosses think we are so dumb we don't notice.

The men in this department average only \$19.90 to \$22.00 a week. Lots of them have families to support and how can they support them on that?

The company admits that it cleared \$6,000,000 last year—and of course that's besides their officers' high salaries and all—but they tell us they have to cut our wages because they are not making anything. There's a catch here somewhere.

—A Worker.

More Evictions In Chatta. — Fight Them

By a Worker Correspondent
Chattanooga, Tenn.

They keep threatening the unemployed workers around here with evictions. On 24th Street, just off Whiteside, in the first brick building, the family there has been threatened with eviction two or three times. On the 200 block on Fort Street, two families were threatened with eviction but they moved themselves last Wednesday night.

The conditions here are rotten. We have got to follow the example of the workers who put back Mamie Singleton's furniture last week and if we workers in the section put back every one who is evicted, we will make the bosses and the landlords stop this.

—A Worker.

Worked to Death On Stretch-Out In Dalton Mills

By a Worker Correspondent
Dalton, Ga.

A fellow worker passing through today gave me a copy of the SOUTHERN WORKER and as I have been a union man for several years its principles appeal to me very much. I have been working in the north and west for the last 15 years and know that any bunch of working people are much better off when they are organized.

I have relatives employed here in these mills. There are three mills here: a thread mill, cotton mill, and hosiery mill and it is almost unbelievable what they have to put up with in order to hold the job. They work from 61 to 68 hours a week, and they try to work them to death.

The Jack-leg bosses come around and tell them they will have to do something else in addition to the regular work and if they say they cannot do it they will tell them to go home.

If the working people would only wake up and see what it means to be organized and realize what better living conditions they would have they would surely start now and quit being slaves.

—A Worker.

Can You Live On Air Until Spring?

By a Worker Correspondent
Galveston, Texas.

"Floaters, Red Agitators Blamed For Local Unrest." So reads a headline in the Galveston Tribune. Mr. Nicholls blames the floaters from the North for all the unemployment in Galveston. This is a lot of bunk and rot. These people of Nicholls' type must make some excuse to blind the workers and hold up the capitalist class. Workers of Galveston, do not listen to the silver tongues of Rabe and Nicholls.

These two capitalists promise things for the Spring. Do it now, should be the word. How is the worker going to live until spring? Rabe and Nicholls, can you live on air until Spring?

You also blame the Communists for the local unrest. Yes, big boy, that's what to expect when people starve and hear the truth. We are workers out to show the workers that the capitalist class has used them as slaves all their lives.

Workers of Galveston, don't be misled by these buzzards, white and colored. Let them know you are here and you want to live.

—A Worker.

Sick Seaman Told To Eat Well — But How?

Galveston, Texas.

I was under treatment at the John Sealy free clinic and I am now left in a condition that if an animal were suffering I would kill it.

What are the destitute and sick and starving workers to do? Are we all going to die from want of medical aid or food? Hell, no! I am not! I am suffering intense pain and the doctors in the Sealy hospital tell me I must eat and have abundant rest. But the bosses are seeing to it that I get neither. Just as soon as I am able I will join the Communist Party and fight so that I can help make this country like Soviet Russia.

FAKERS STOP EX-SOLDIERS HUNGER MARCH IN ATLANTA

By a Worker Correspondent

Atlanta, Ga.

Today the ex-service men called a meeting at the City Auditorium. About 500 white and Negro were there. The meeting was called so that a hunger march was to take place to the State capitol. We waited for a long time and no one showed up. The men, especially the whites, began to go home and others formed in small groups.

They talked of how the leaders of the petition signers did not want a march at the mass meeting held a couple of nights ago. How the men from the floor demanded it and how the leaders had to finally agree.

All Wrong

As the crowd was getting smaller and smaller, a young workers began going among all the men and told them that they were being fooled by the leaders. He began to form us to march. Nearly all the Negroes and a few whites got ready to follow the young worker.

About 40 whites got off to one side. We went and asked them why they wouldn't go also. They answered that they wouldn't march with Negroes. The young worker began to speak to them. A few of them got down from the steps but the most stayed and grouped themselves around one man.

Understand Fakery

At this time one of the faker leaders came down and spoke to us from a high perch. He told us the mayor took back the permit and the leader, whom we all thought was drunk was out of town. While he was talking the workers began to go home. Many of them were disgusted and the white workers who held back, saw how they were fooled.

At our next meeting we workers are going to take full charge. If the fake bonus leaders try to pull the wool over our eyes again we will put them out of the way. While we are trying to get our bonus, we unemployed ex-service men have got to stick together with all the unemployed, regardless of color or age. We have got to demand immediate relief from the city government.

If those white workers did not hold back, we would either force the city to give us relief or know the reason why. Those white workers are

fooled by the bosses' trick of making hungry men think of something that is harmful to them. If those men thought of their starving children at home they would gladly have united with the Negroes. Let us unite and fight for what we want, rather than starve to death.

—Ex-Service Man.

Co. Steals Pay, Beats N. Orleans Dock Workers

By a Worker Correspondent

New Orleans, La.

I am a colored worker of New Orleans at work on the Press St. dock. I like the SOUTHERN WORKER and read it every week.

I want to tell you how tough it is here for the dock workers. The Victoria Transportation Co. tells us workers that they pay 25 cents an hour. But after we have worked six hours we are handed 50 cents and told that we have no more coming. If we kick we are replaced by other workers, as there are many who are unemployed.

They take us down the river 90 miles and back, which takes about 3 days. The crew is always short. They make 10 men do the work of 20. When we get back they hand us \$2.50. If we kick the captain says that is "enough for any damned nigger."

If we don't run when we are working the captain beats us across the back with a club that he always carries.

Please publish this in your paper as I want every worker to read it and see that the only way to get a decent wage is to fight for it.

—A Worker.

Atlanta Relief Jobs Cut Wages

By a Worker Correspondent

Atlanta, Ga.

After slaving all my life for the bosses, they have now thrown me out and are forcing me and many others here to starve to death. Worked nearly all my life building roads and buildings for fat capitalists and now I am liable to be picked up and made to build roads with a foot of chain between my legs and get nothing but fatback in return. The government and the bosses keep promising us they will bring back prosperity by building roads. So far all they have given us is talk.

The state is putting up a building here and some men get only 25 cents an hour. Every morning the foreman has a bunch of us hang around so he can speed up the workers who are afraid of their jobs.

The papers keep playing up the mayor who keeps repeating that the city treasury has a deficit of a million dollars. At the same time they are making plans to appropriate \$3,000,000 for sewers. While we are having our wages cut on the job and facing starvation when unemployed, they give us talk about sewers instead of relief.

We employed and unemployed have got to get together. This \$3,000,000 should not be given over for graft and sewers, but should be given to the unemployed who are starving and have no clothes.

—Unemployed Building Worker.

To City Hall With Demand For Jobless Relief!

The Southern Worker

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

Jim Allen, Managing Editor
Box 1813
Birmingham, Ala.

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On to City Hall on Feb. 10

On February 10th delegates of the unemployed councils throughout the country will present the Workers Unemployment Insurance Bill to Congress, demanding that every unemployed worker be paid a weekly wage out of a fund raised by the government by taxation of the rich and from the money appropriated for war purposes.

Together with this bill will be presented petitions signed by a million workers in all parts of the country.

At the same time there will be powerful mass demonstrations in all important cities demanding immediate relief for the unemployed workers.

These demonstrations must be big enough and powerful enough to make the might of the working class felt. Only by our united power can we keep from starvation and insure ourselves something to eat and wear, a home to live in without fear of eviction because of unemployment.

The only relief given by the bosses in this greatest period of unemployment this country has ever seen is sloppy soup kitchen relief, breeder of pellagra and slow death from starvation.

Relief jobs have meant the cutting down of wages, the lengthening of hours, the speed-up and the stretch-out. The stagger system of eat one week and starve the next is the only advice the federal government has to offer. From all sides the bosses are eating away at the very life meat of the workers.

Only mass action will save us from starvation.

Demonstrate in masses! Demand immediate, adequate cash relief from the city! On to the City Hall with the demands of the unemployed!

The Danville Sell-Out

No words are vile enough with which to condemn the dastardly sellout of the A. F. of L. scoundrels at Danville. The A. F. of L. misleaders stand revealed to those who did not know it, as the greatest enemies of the American workers.

The statement of Francis J. Gorman, announcing the cold-blooded sell-out, will go down in history as the most treacherous document yet written in the struggles of the Southern workers. After a struggle of 4,000 textile workers, lasting almost four months, during which they withstood all sorts of hardships, they are turned over to the mercies of the mill barons' blacklist, destitute, 1,000 of them stricken with influenza, all the hopes of the struggle for better conditions squashed by the money-clad paws of fakers working in cooperation with the mill bosses.

The workers of the Riverside and Dan River mills struck against a 10 percent wage-cut, against the speedup and the "industrial democracy." In came the misleaders of the U. T. W., tried their best to keep the workers from striking. According to Gorman himself—"the decision to strike was arrived at with great reluctance" on the part of the misleaders who were forced to call the strike by the mass of discontented workers. Once the strike got started there was the same old Bible-in-hand tactics made infamous by the sell-outs at Marion, N. C. and Elizabethton, Tenn. Every effort was made to discourage the workers from mass picketing, with the result that there were over 3,000 scabs in the mills at the time the strike was called off, brought in by state troopers, and troops across the Virginia borders from other Southern states. When the strike got under way Gorman and his fellow sneaks conveniently "forgot" about the causes of the strike and tried to make the workers believe that all they were striking for was recognition of the A. F. of L. union by the Fitzgerald crowd, so that they could better sell them out when the time came.

The time came and that was the line of the sell-out. Now, Gorman tells the workers to go back to the mills because, he states, Mr. Fitzgerald has shown that he now "respects" organized labor, and there is no more cause for a strike. This in the face of the persistent refusal of Fitzgerald to meet even with the Gorman gang and his persistent statements that he would recognize no union, even a fake one. It was so evidently an excuse on which to pack up, desert and get out of Danville before the workers mobbed him, that we wonder how he had the guts to make it. The following days, when the workers returned to the mills to get their jobs, as Gorman said they would, they were told that there were none to be had and that in the future only those with "acceptable" records would be hired. This is sell-out and blacklist in the Elizabethton style. Gorman told the workers to go back with the hope on their part "that the mill management will accept it as a measure of confidence." Fitzgerald's measure of confidence is spelled by the word "blacklist."

The whole conduct of the strike by the Gorman crowd led up to the final sell-out. A week before the final crime the A. F. of L. crowd negotiated with the Red Cross in Washington to take over the relief preparatory to the sell-out, and we predicted at that time what would happen. The Red Cross, slowly starving the farmers of Arkansas with 2½ cent meals has now also rendered its verdict, no relief for the Danville workers. Fitzgerald, Gorman, the Red Cross are all of the same bone and yellow blood.

Danville was supposed to be the "spearhead of the A. F. of L.'s drive to organize the South." In fact it has proved to be a boomerang, bounding back and fatally stabbing the A. F. of L. policy of treachery, at the expense of 4,000 Danville workers. To the mass of Southern workers the A. F. of L. leaders now stand clearly revealed for what they are—our worst and most deadly enemies, who are to be kicked out, treachery and baggage.

The rayon workers in Elizabethton who have been sold out by the same crowd four times are setting an example to the workers in Danville and other textile centers. They are organizing their own department committees of the National Textile Workers Union, a real fighting organization of textile workers that the bosses find impossible to buy off. Under such leadership there will be victory for the textile workers.

What the NTWU Is; How It Fights For Textile Workers

By Dewey Martin

The National Textile Workers Union was born from the strike in New Bedford, Mass., led by the Textile Mill Committees. After the strike in New Bedford a conference was called in September, 1928, where the National Textile Workers Union was founded. The fighting policy that was adopted and the whole program of the new union was based on the class struggle and not on a craft basis. The main slogan, arising from the birth of the N. T. W. U. has been "One industry, one union; one fill, one local." The whole staff of officials was and still is mill workers who know the life of the cotton and textile worker.

The entrance of the N. T. W. U. into the South was met by the most severe attacks of the bosses and their tools. Well did the bosses know the fighting ability of the Union, knowing that with a union built from textile workers and in the control of energetic young workers, they stood no chance of buying any of the leaders. This also interfered with the policy of the mill bosses that when the workers would become discontented and speak of a union, the bosses would send for their most able ally, the A. F. of L. United Textile Workers, welcoming them to betray the worker and turn them against unionism.

The coming of the N. T. W. U. marked the entering of solidarity of black and white, again interfering with the bosses best means of keeping the workers in slavery and ignorance. The N. T. W. U. has continually pointed out to the Southern workers the necessity of unity be-

tween white and black workers, militantly fighting all the attacks of the boss class in all the ways a militant union should fight.

At the 7th International Textile Workers Conference, held in Moscow, September, 1930, textile workers from every textile country in the world attended and played a leading role in further strengthening the revolutionary textile unions by stressing the necessity of making every factory a fortress in the struggle for better living conditions. At this conference great emphasis was placed by all workers on establishing mill committees in every factory. These committees are to be built on a department basis—carding, spinning, weaving, etc. The committee in each department to have a delegated representation of two members in the central body called the Mill Committee.

Fellow workers, there is no other way for freedom. We white workers will either be slaves with our black brothers or we will be free together. We must accept the program of the N. T. W. U. and fight side by side with all workers. There is no other salvation. If we be men and women, we can all be free from capitalist exploitation and capitalist justice by organizing and fighting all wage-cuts, speed-up, long hours, and worsening of conditions.

Join hands with the unemployed workers in the fight for the Workers Unemployment Insurance Bill. United we eat, divided we starve!

Join the N. T. W. U., build shop committees in your mill. Charlotte headquarters, 30 S. College St.; Chattanooga: 316 W. Main St.

MY LIFE

By a Negro Working Woman

The Story Thus Far: The working woman who writes this story has worked on the farms, in restaurants and at domestic work both in the North and South, notwithstanding all sorts of persecutions and suffering. She is now on her way with her son, to her people on the farms in North Carolina. Now continue reading:

* * *

As I travelled through South Carolina, I noticed that the working class was in very bad shape. The bosses were on horses in some sections and the workers would be pulling fodder or cutting cane or wood. The farm shacks were almost falling down. We would stop to get water at different places and the people would always say something about the bosses. It looked like they were even afraid for us to stop and get water, but I did not pay any attention to them for I had been under these kind of bosses myself.

In one place we stopped, I talked

with a colored woman and when her story was ended I could plainly see for myself that this family was in peonage, just as the Negroes were in slavery. She said that the bosses let them go to church every fourth Sunday and the boss killed a pig about every three months and they would get a nice mess of meat but otherwise they only got 5 pounds of fatback on Saturday and there were seven in the family. Finally she told me that I would have to leave for the boss would get mad if my car stood there too long. This was about 25 miles above Greenville.

I would get started on the road early in the morning and there would be women and children out in the fields before daylight pulling fodder in September. Their clothes would all be wet up to their waists and the little kids would be wet all over. The big bosses would be standing out looking at them to see that they worked steady.

(To Be Continued)

Mass Fight to Free 5 B'ham Workers

(Continued From Front Page)

was smashed when the proprietor of the cafe admitted that the whisky was his and paid a fine of \$78 for its possession.

The five, which included besides Gilbert, Seaton Worthy, Communist candidate for the U. S. Senate in the last election, were given preliminary hearing before Judge Burns in Ensley police court Saturday night. At the hearing, the police, who are not over anxious to so openly expose themselves as the enemies of any organization fighting for unemployment relief, asked that the trial be continued until Feb. 28th and the

Expose Police Spy Hites in Birmingham

All working class organizations are warned to be on the lookout for Harry Hites, a spy in the pay of the Birmingham, Ala., police department and probably also working for the Associated Industries of Alabama.

Hites is about 5 feet, seven inches in height, heavily set with broad shoulders, weight about 170 pounds, age about 35, native-born American. Has brown wavy hair, ruddy complexion, wears glasses. Is pipe fitter by trade. At present working as used car salesman for the H. J. Pennington Co., Hudson dealers, in Birmingham. Hites formerly lived in Ohio, where at one time he was a member of the Lorain, Ohio, police force. He is said to have worked also for the Pinkerton Detective Agency.

This spy joined the Communist Party in Birmingham in June of last year. He was disconnected from Party activity in August on suspicion of being a spy and was expelled from the Party in January, 1931.

Late development, prove conclusively that this rat was responsible for at least two raids on membership meetings of the Communist Party, for a county raid on a meeting of a local of the miners union at Pratt City, Ala., as a result of which 35 miners lost their jobs; for the raid last week on the Night Hawk Cafe in Ensley, Ala., in which 5 workers were arrested and charged with Criminal Anarchy.

District Bureau,
Communist Party, U. S. A.
District 17.

NOTE: A photo of Hites will appear in an early issue.

Advertise for 200 But Hire One at Connor's

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Last Monday the Birmingham Age-Herald in streamer headlines reported that 200 men would be put to work that day by the Conners Steel Company. Over 400 men assembled at the Woodlawn plant of Conners Steel just before daylight Monday in the hope of a job. Instead of 200 JUST ONE MAN WAS HIRED. Communists present in the crowd of job seekers distributed leaflets and collected scores of signatures backing up the demands of the Communist Party on the City Commission.

It is for the systematic exposure of lies of the steel trust press that five workers are today held in Birmingham on charges of criminal anarchy. At the time the raid took place last Thursday in which these workers were arrested, they had just finished printing a leaflet exposing this latest lie about the "return of prosperity." Police also confiscated the 2,000 leaflets addressed to the workers of the Conners Steel Co., calling on them to organize for the struggle against unemployment and wage-cuts.

County Court where the State was unable to keep workers off the jury and the jury failed to convict.

At the hearing the prosecution openly stated that evidence in this case would be presented to the Grand Jury which meets Feb. 8th and an attempt would be made to indict the five under the State Criminal Anarchy law with its penalty of 10 years.

The Communist Party, together with the International Labor Defense which will defend the five workers, has begun an intensive campaign to rally mass support to the struggle for their unconditional release and for the repeal of the anti-labor Criminal Anarchy Laws. At the same time the work of the Party in leading the struggle of the unemployed workers will be intensified and all forces thrown into the campaign which is to culminate in a mass Hunger March on the City Hall on Feb. 25th.