

White and  
Colored Workers,  
Unite!

# SOUTHERN WORKER

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Don't Starve—  
Fight for Social  
Insurance!

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CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., March 28, 1931

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## TENN. PRISONS HELL HOLES REPORT SHOWS

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—In a report released March 18th the Tennessee Legislature's Penal Committee is forced to admit that conditions in the Brushy Mountain Prison and the main Penitentiary at Nashville are worse than in the Siberian prisons under the Czar before the revolution.

The report tells of women prisoners at the Nashville Pen being handcuffed and hung from pipes on the wall for 16 to 12 hours because they were unable to put out enough work in the hosiery mill to satisfy the slave driving warden. Both men and women prisoners are stripped to the waist and lashed into unconsciousness by the whipping boss for the slightest infraction of rules the committee found.

### Prison A Fire Trap

In the Brushy Mountain branch of the main prison the committee reports 976 men crowded into a frame building to hold less than a third this number. Over 200 of the prisoners have venereal diseases, contracted in most cases since they entered the prison at deceased prisoners are not segregated. At the present 128 are down with pneumonia and 26 without medical attention and left in their beds to die as the warden claims he has no adequate hospital to house and care for them.

The Brushy Mountain prison is a regular fire trap and a fire here would result in "a tragedy at Brushy Mountain the like of which has never been seen in an American prison. The wiring on this old structure is of the most dangerous character and is liable at any time to cause a fire." Under present conditions in case of fire hundreds of men would die like rats in a trap without a chance for their lives.

Despite these horrible conditions, which it is forced to admit because unable to conceal them, the committee does its best to whitewash the prison administration, stating that "the conditions which exist at Brushy Mountain are in no sense the fault of the commissioner of institutions nor of Capt. W. H. Nelson, warden." Southern Worker Exposed Conditions That this is a barefaced lie can be (Turn To Page Two)

## 115 Jailed in Orleans Strike; Mass Picketing Starts On Call M.W.I.U.

### BULLETIN

New Orleans, La.—Harold Hynes, National Secretary of the Marine Workers' Industrial Union, and H. Harvey, National Organizer for the Union, were sentenced to ten days in jail for violation of the Federal injunction against mass picketing Saturday. The organizers were charged with distributing leaflets signed by the union calling on the 8,000 longshoremen to mass picket on the docks and keep out the stabs as the only way to win the strike.

NEW ORLEANS, La.—35 striking longshoremen are held here charged with violation of the Federal injunction which prohibits strikers from coming near the docks where scabs are working to break the strike. Trial of the 35 strikers is set for Thursday.

The charges against the 35 strikers, most of whom are Negroes, came as a result of a mass picketing demonstration of several hundred strikers on the docks last Wednesday. At that time 115 were arrested when the police attacked the strikers with clubs and with machine guns set up along

### Help Them Win!



A STRIKER'S FAMILY IN NEW ORLEANS.

the docks ready to shoot down the strikers.

The strikers are becoming desperate and armed clashes between strikers and scabs take place daily. The longshoremen are beginning to see the self-out their misleaders of the I. L. A. and the A.F. of L. are preparing for them. They are beginning to realize that the present policy of the leadership which forbids mass picketing and any fighting attempt to keep scabs off the docks, is being their strike and must be changed to the militant policy of mass picketing despite the injunction proposed to the strikers by the Marine Workers Industrial Union.

The Trade Union Unity League and the Marine Workers Industrial Union have sent additional organizers to the New Orleans area in order to intensify work in connection with the strike. The correct policy of the M.W.I.U. is winning more and more strikers to its program and they are putting the strike policies of the M.W.I.U. into effect in spite of the opposition of the misleaders.

## "NO NIGGERS" SAYS A.F.L.

NEW YORK CITY—Declaring that "We don't take niggers into our union," a business agent for the Sheet Metal Workers Union of the American Federation of Labor, fired Maurice Barocov, a colored metal worker, off the new Waldorf-Astoria building job.

Barocov was approached on the job by the A. F. of L. union business agent who asked to see his union card. He showed him a card in the Metal Workers Industrial League, one of the revolutionary unions affiliated to the Trade Union Unity League, which fights against all forms of discrimination against Negroes. When Barocov was told by the business agent that this card was no good on the job he offered to join the A. F. of L. union in order to hold his job. He was contemptuously told that the A. F. of L. Union takes no "niggers" as members.

## Fight Lynch Law on 28th

On March 28th tens of thousands of workers throughout America will gather in great demonstrations against lynching, deportation of foreign-born workers and against all forms of discrimination against Negroes.

The demonstrations are called by the League for Struggle for Negro Rights as a protest against the new wave of bosses' terror and lynchings which is sweeping the country. Other fighting organizations of the workers are co-operating.

On this Day of Protest Negro and white workers at hundreds of great mass meetings will demonstrate the unbreakable solidarity of the working class and the determination of the Negro and white workers to fight shoulder to shoulder against all attacks of the bosses and for full equality for the Negroes.

ALL OUT ON MARCH 28th!  
LONG LIVE THE FIGHTING SOLIDARITY OF THE WHITE AND NEGRO WORKERS!

## CROPPERS FIGHT BACK IN ARK

### One Killed By Overseer

MARDON, Ark.—Mose Miller, Negro cropper died in the County Jail here March 21st as a result of wounds received in a gun battle with L. H. Glover, manager of a large plantation near here on which he worked.

Glover attacked the cropper with a gun because he protested against attempts to shoot him at the plantation store. Miller defended himself from the brutal attack and killed Glover, only to die later from wounds he received in the fight.

Jodie and Jack Miller, sons of the cropper, are held in jail at Wynnes, Ark. They had nothing to do with the fight they will probably be charged with murder and sent to their deaths as a warning to other croppers not to resist the brutal rule of the white master class.

## WORKERS VOTE RED DESPITE BOSSES TRICKS

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — Mark Coats, Communist candidate for Judge in the city elections, received 128 votes according to figures given out by the Board of Elections. Ledford, candidate for Mayor is credited with 99 votes and Cassidy, running for City Commissioner, with 118.

### Vote Shelling Probable

Unquestionably many votes were stolen from the Communist candidates. The whole course of the campaign which saw the arrests of three leading organizers and the placing of prohibitive bills on them to insure that they remained in jail until after elections; the failure of either the Chattanooga Times or the News to print the names of the Communist candidates on the sample ballots appearing in these papers (this is most important as no party designation appears on the ballot and the workers must remember the names of the candidates they wish to vote for); the refusal to allow the Communist candidates to speak at many mass meetings where all other candidates were invited to speak; the raid on a Communist rally on the eve of the elections and the arrest of one of the candidates, Comrade Coats, who was held in jail with ball beaten him until after (Turn To Page Two)

### STATEMENT OF MARK COATS

"In answer to the statements in the Chattanooga Times of March 17th, 1931, supposed to be made by me to a Times reporter, I wish to state that those so-called 'statements' are lies from beginning to end. At no time did I tell a Times reporter or anyone else that I would forsake the Communist Party if Judge Fleming did not sentence me to the workhouse. This lie is nothing but a part of the whole campaign against the organization of the workers carried on by the bosses' press at Chattanooga. I will always remain a loyal member of the Communist Party, fighting in the front ranks of the working class against unemployment and oppression and for the final victory of my class."

## NTWU Nat. Council To Meet

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—The National Council of the National Textile Workers Union will convene here at Union Hall for a two day session starting April 4th.

The call for the meeting of the Council, signed by Pat Devine, Secretary of the union, calls on all districts to elect delegates and to turn the Council meeting into a "small national convention."

The call points out that the recent great strikes led to victory by the N. T. W. in Lawrence and Maynard have again fired the textile workers of the whole industry with the will to struggle against the present unbearable conditions. Over 2,000 workers have joined the union in the last few weeks as a result of these struggles, the call states, and the union now has a firm mass base which will enable it to develop the work of organization of the remaining textile workers rapidly than before.

Three delegates are to be elected from the Southern District of the N. T. W. to attend the National Council meeting. These delegates will be elected during the next week from all committees of the union and from general membership meetings in the various Southern mill centers where the N. T. W. has locals.

### Cropper Murdered

INDIANOLA, Miss.—George Span Negro cropper, was shot down by police in cold blood here today. The police gave the usual excuse for such murders, charging that Span "resisted arrest."

Span, had Wednesday shot and wounded Charles O'Neil, his white landlord when O'Neil attacked him following the Negro cropper's protest against the landlord's attempt to cheat him out of his crop.

## Mob Lynchess Miss. Negro

INVERNESS, Miss.—Steve Wiley, Negro farm worker, was lynched by a mob of white business men here early Sunday. The usual lying charge against Wiley was that he "attempted to attack a white woman."

Police officials are clearly implicated in the affair as they covered up all reports of the lynching until Tuesday, evidently to give time to the lynchers to prepare an alibi. No arrests have been made and probably none will be.

## Protest Terror On March 28th!

## Chattanooga Trial Set March 31

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — The trial of Mary Dalton, Harry Gordon and Elizabeth Lawson, originally set for March 19th, has been postponed until March 31st. The postponement was obtained due to the absence from town on the 19th of the defense attorney, G. W. Chamblee, Sr., employed by the International Labor Defense to defend the three leaders of the Chattanooga workers.

The three were arrested when police broke up a demonstration of 3,000 unemployed workers on Feb. 19th. The workers had gathered at Main and Market streets to elect a committee to visit Mayor Bass to press the demands the jobless for immediate cash relief before the city government. Tens of police and special deputies charged the demonstration with drawn guns, arresting 12. All except Dalton, Gordon and Lawson were later released.

In addition to the usual frame up charges of vagrancy and inciting to

riot placed against the three organizers—Dalton and Gordon are also charged with living together while unmarried. That this charge is a plain and simple attempt of the police to prejudice the jury against the workers on trial, and to make retarding them to long terms in prison easier, is proven by the fact that these comrades were married in 1929 in New York City. The labor-baiting police of Chattanooga are ready to stoop to any means to frame up the militant leaders of the working class.

The International Labor Defense, which is conducting the defense of the organizers, calls on the workers of Chattanooga, white and colored, to jam the court room of Judge Lusk in the County Courthouse when the case comes up for trial, to show the boss-controlled city government that arrests and persecutions can never smash the struggle of the hungry masses for work or Unemployment Insurance.

## WHITE RULERS DENY NEGROES SCHOOLING IN BLACK BELT

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Only one Negro out of every 21 enrolling in the first grades of Alabama public schools reaches the eighth grade, according to figures given out by the United States office of education.

23,192 Negro children were enrolled in the first grades of Alabama schools in the school year of 1927-28. The same year 3,744 Negro children were enrolled in the eighth grade. While there were over 82 thousand first grade pupils the report shows only 29,492 in the second grade. In other words out of those Negro children who are fortunate enough to get any schooling, close to two-thirds of those who start school are freed to quit before they reach the second grade. The number in the higher grades grows progressively smaller until the eighth grade with only 3,744 pupils in reached.

The ratio for the rest of the South is about the same as in Alabama. For the South as a whole out of 1,212,000 Negro children of school age the average attendance at school is only 1,636,144 or much less than 50 per cent. In other words less than half of the Southern Negroes get any school training at all.

### Ruling Class Keeps Semi-Slaves in Ignorance

That depriving Negro children of any education is a conscious policy of the white ruling class is graphically shown by conditions in the Alabama Black Belt. In Gastonburg there is a school for white children with two well trained instructors in charge of 13 pupils. The Negro school in the same town houses about 70 pupils all of whom are taught by one Negro girl. The school term for the white children is 9 months while for the Negro children it is 3 months.

The big plantation owners of the Black Belt are determined that their semi-slaves, the Negro croppers on the plantations, shall have no education which might equip them to conduct a better fight against the existing class conditions.

The usual talk about the "mental inferiority of the Negroes" which is fed to the white workers in the South to divide them from the Negro workers, has its only basis of fact in conditions such as those whereby the Negroes are deprived of any opportunity to learn, even in food and write.

## Workers Vote Red, Despite Bosses' Tricks

(Continued From Front Page)

ter elections, shows clearly the fear of the boss-controlled city machine of a large Communist vote and their determination to prevent this at all costs. Under these conditions there can be little doubt but what scores, if not hundreds of votes for the Communist candidates were thrown out by the corrupt election officials in charge of the polls.

### Lying Statements in Chattanooga Times

The lengths to which the bosses candidate with the cooperation of the local capitalist press and radio station, went to prevent the workers of Chattanooga from voting Communist can be seen by a few facts. Following this whole campaign of terror a reporter from the Chattanooga Times approached Comrade Coats to be interviewed in the City Jail on election night and asked him for a statement on the campaign. Comrade Coats issued a statement declaring that the smashing of the election rally at which he was arrested and the jailing of a total of five Communist leaders just before the election, indicated that the bosses were on the run and afraid of the large Communist vote which would result from the elections the next day. Comrade Coats also stated that despite arrests and persecutions aimed at outlawing the organizations of the workers the Communist Party would intensify its activity following the elections and would win new thousands of Chattanooga workers to its support. After promising to print this statement the Times reporter himself wrote an entirely new statement which was printed as coming from Comrade Coats in which Coats is quoted as stating that if Judge Fleming did not send him to the chair he would renounce the "doc-

## Murder Five As Prisoners Demand Food

JOILET, Ill.—Five garroted prisoners murdered, shot down by brutal guards in cold blood. This is the record of the State Pen here in the last few weeks.

The first murders came when prisoners guards ambushed and deliberately killed with machine guns two men who were trying to escape. Of course the guards knew of the escape plans and could have stopped it without bloodshed before it started, but they preferred to lie in wait and murder 2 prisoners.

The third death came when a prisoner died from the effects of torture after having been left for hours suspended by handcuffs from a peg on the wall in the punishment cell.

The prisoners revolted against this inhuman regime of murder and cruelty and in the resulting "riot" two more prisoners were mowed down by machine guns.

As this is written the prisoners in the two state prisons here are locked in their cells on a diet of bread and water. Crops of the men demanding food riot throughout the prison and further revolts may break out at any time.

## Soviet Exports Up 14% Last Year When All Others Fail

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Figures released by the commerce department last week show that exports from the Soviet Union jumped up 14 per cent to a total of \$301,000,000 last year. This tremendous gain in exports in a period when, due to the economic crisis, the exports of all capitalist countries without exception fell off badly shows clearly the great advantages of socialist planned production over the hit or miss methods of capitalism. The Soviet Union is the one country in the world which has escaped the effects of the world crisis and where there is literally no unemployment.

Wheat exports in particular showed a sensational rise last year. 24,149,594 bushels were exported in 1930. In 1929 exactly thirty-seven bushels were exported. The great increase in the wheat crop which made these figures possible came largely as a result of the reorganization of Russian agriculture on a socialist basis thru the development of large collective farms. The position of the Russian farmer on one of the great collectives is in striking contrast to that of the American farmer, millions of whom face starvation this year, because under capitalism the workers are paid such low wages they cannot buy the cotton and wheat the farmers produced.

ers of their clothes and beating them into insensibility with a strap which rubbed ingravel to make it cut, for failure to turn out enough coal in the Brushy Mountain mines.

### Convict Labor Here

At a time when hundreds of thousands of Tennessee workers are faced with starvation because they cannot find jobs the committee reports that the main prison turned in a profit of \$100,000 to the state last year from the sale of hosiery and other products of prison labor. At the same time the Brushy Mountain mines, manned by prisoners under the lash of brutal guards, is producing coal widely sold throughout the state which results in hundreds more Tennessee miners being thrown out of their jobs. In the mines and prison shops the convicts are driven at top speed for 12 and 14 hours a day and if unable to carry out the big tasks assigned them they are tortured and whipped. And in the face of this the government has the nerve to talk of "convict labor" in the Soviet Union!

It is to these hell-holes that the state is making every effort to send Harry Gordon, Mary Dalton and Elizabeth Lawson for long terms.

## Seek To Bar S. U. Products

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn.—A movement to bar importation into this country of all goods made in the Soviet Union will be started at once by the Southern States Protective League, officials of this organization announced at a conference here March 18th. This move is in support of the general campaign against the Soviet Union, which is led in this country by Senator Hiram Fish.

In the statement of the League officials the old campaign is about "convict labor" in workers Russia is reported. This lie has been exposed

time and again by the Russian workers themselves and by American and other workers who have spent months and years in the Soviet Union.

The attack on the Soviet Union by this organization of open shoppers is backed up by a tirade against the workers' Fatherland appearing in the mimeographed Birmingham Labor Advocate, last week. In every campaign of lies against the Soviet Union the A. F. of L. traitors run at the head of the pack, exhorting the most reactionary open-shoppers in their lies about the First Workers State.

## German CP Gains New Members

BERLIN, Germany.—Latest figures show that the German Communist Party has recruited 84,664 new members in the past four months. Following the tremendous success of the Party in the Reichstag (roughly corresponding to the United States Congress) elections, the Central Committee of the Party gave the districts the task of doubling their membership in six months. It now seems certain that the quota will be reached. In the last national elections over four and a half million German workers voted for Communist candidates.

## CODER, HURST BACK IN DALLAS

DALLAS, Texas.—Coder and Hurst, leaders of the Dallas unemployed who were beaten and tortured by a gang of Klansmen with the cooperation of the local police, are returning to testify before the grand jury supposed to be investigating the cowardly attack.

The kind of "investigation" this will be shown by the attitude of the Mayor who has declared that "any Communist demonstration held on the return of Coder and Hurst will be broken up by the police. There will be no more demonstrations in Dallas." Police are being mobilized and equipped with tear gas bombs and machine guns to smash any attempt of the workers to protest the present terror regime. Despite the police terror the workers of Dallas will continue the struggle for work or bread.

## Textile Worker Docked For Fake Jobless Relief

GREENVILLE, S. C.—The Woodside Mill here, which boasts of being the "largest cotton mill under one roof in the world," just pulled a stunt hard to beat.

For 7 weeks they took 25 and 50 cents from each workers pay envelope and with this money claimed they would buy groceries for the unemployed. No workers are on the committee handling the money or buying the groceries and distributing them. No one knows how much of the money "collected" (it amounts to stealing it) from the workers was granted by the committee of the mill management.

The workers who are forced to contribute 25 to 50 cents are paid \$4 to \$10 a week. Their own families are without enough to eat but out of their starvation wages they give to the unemployed while the bosses who have the money and should be giving, refuse to put with a red cent. It's time to get a step to this and thru an organized fight force the bosses to come across with Unemployment Insurance for every worker out of job with honor and not the workers footing the bill. Join the Greenville Unemployed Council at 11A O'Neal St., Greenville, S. C.

## 7th Worker Dies In Chattna. Flop House

Jordan Douglas, unemployed Negro worker, died Wednesday night in the City flophouse of Chattanooga. Coughing and groaning for two nights on the concrete floor which serves as a bed for three hundred white and Negro workers, no one paid any attention to him. The "charitable guardians" probably saying that this job saved one "nigger" less.

Douglas is the seventh unemployed worker to die in this flop house provided by the "sweet, considerate bosses," and City Council of Chattanooga. The other six were two white and four Negro. The local yellow sheet, the Chattanooga Times, was even forced to admit that Douglas died of lack of clothes, wearing only a pair of old shoes, trousers, coat and a hat.

## Protest Terror On March 28th!

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## GERMAN RED LEADER KILLED

HAMBURG, Germany.—Ernst Henning, Communist member of the Hamburg City Legislature, was murdered by three fascists, March 18th, while returning home from a political meeting in an auto bus.

The murderers, members of the reactionary National Socialist Party (Fascists), fired six shots into comrade Henning's body before he fell and then as he lay dead fired five more shots into his body. Three of the last shots went wild and wounded two women and a child, also passengers on the bus.

This latest outrage follows a whole series of murders of leading Communist fighters by the Fascist murder gangs which are supported and maintained by some of the biggest German capitalists. Hundreds of memorial meetings in honor of Comrade Henning have been held throughout the whole country at which scores of thousands of German workers have pledged themselves to intensify the fight against the boss class terror, under the leadership of the German Communist Party.

The Communist members of the German Reichstag have demanded that the government defend organizations, the Red Front Fighters League, which the government has declared illegal, be allowed to function openly to protect the workers and their meetings from the Fascist gunmen.

The government on the contrary is doing all possible to protect the murderers and has banned all Communist papers in Hamburg and has prohibited all Communist meetings and demonstrations in an attempt to prevent the mobilization of the revolutionary workers for the defense of their Party.

### Tricks of Loids and Trotsky.

Not satisfied with this deliberate lie the local radio station continued this campaign by having someone imitate the voice of Comrade Coats and speak over the radio the night before elections repudiating the Communist Party. AT THE VERY MOMENT WHEN COATS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE SPEAKING OVER THE RADIO HE WAS IN A CELL AT THE CITY HALL JAIL.

It is by such methods, plus probably large scale vote rigging—that the bosses candidates attempted to crush the protest of the Chattanooga working class against hunger and police terror on election day. A statement by Comrade Coats, exposing the lies of the Chattanooga Times appears elsewhere in this issue.

## Convict Labor In Tenn. Prisons

(Continued From Front Page)

seen from an article in the Southern Worker of Feb. 28th in which a former prisoner who was at both the Nashville Pen and at Brushy Mountain describes conditions in those hell-holes. In this exposure of the inhuman conditions in Tennessee prisons, carried weeks ago by the Southern Worker, the writer tells how Nelson, the warden praised by the committee, delights in stripping prison-

# FROM THE MILLS, MINES AND THE FARMS

## MILL COM. MEN SERVE BOSSES FAITHFULLY

**(By A Worker Correspondent)**  
 Elizabethton, Tenn.

Just a few words for the blacklisted workers of Elizabethton. I don't know any of them for I came here after the last strike.

I do know that every time a blacklisted worker puts in his or her application for a job, they take it up with the committee who always says they are no good.

This committee is not worth a cent for us workers. There is a committee in every department and the other day the wash room men on two shifts wanted a raise in wages and two of the committee was for it and one was against it, and the one man was over the two men. I don't work in the wash room, but if I had I would have been hell out of that committee man.

I work in the spinning room and we run from 2-4 to 3-14 machines and if a spinner is off the boss divides his machine with 6 of us and sometimes gives us an hour extra. That means getting an eight hour job done for six hours. Why not have some extra spinners for this. There are plenty in town that can spin.

I have noticed plenty of boys and girls of 12 and 14 years old that come in here to work.

The company thinks I don't know anything about striking, but I do. I was in the Gastonia N. C. strike and we had a real one too. I bet when we get our plans laid we will show the company that they can't buy out the National Textile Workers Union, for it stands for the workers 100 per cent ITS A FIGHTING UNION.

—A Glasnost Worker

**Boss Takes All B'ham. Workers Pay For**

**(By A Worker Correspondent)**  
 Birmingham Ala.

Our jobs are very poor. We have to take all sorts of cursing from our bosses. In our shop we are rushed all the time to do our work and yet they want us to work safely. If we get hurt more than three times, we have no job.

We are working only 2 and 3 days a week and living in the company houses. They take the pay for house rent and leave the workers to starve.

Join together and demand unemployment insurance, fellow workers. That's the only way.

—A Worker.

## Boss Takes All B'ham. Workers Pay For

**STRIKERS FIGHT BATTLE**

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—Striking iron workers on the Phillips Pipe line job here fought a pitched battle with a car load of deputy sheriffs who are protecting the strabs on the job. Over 400 shots were fired in the battle and three of the sheriffs were wounded.

## Deport Mexican Who Worked Too Hard

**(By A Worker Correspondent)**  
 Galveston, Texas

The railroads are importing Mexican laborers into Texas. They make \$2 a day or 25¢ an hour working 3 hours a day. When it rains there is no work. They have to pay a dollar a month for hospitalization.

A young Mexican here had his Head Tax paid and was working on the Santa Fe Railroad. He had taken sick from the rotten, putrid food that was served in the section foreman's house and for which he had to pay \$1 a day.

He was sent to the railroad hospital where he was starved instead of being cared. He was not relieved after

## Danville Strikers To Join A Fighting Union

**(By A Worker Correspondent)**  
 Danville, Va.

I want to let you know how we have been treated by the United Textile Workers Union. We are strikers of Danville. They double crossed us and then threw us down.

They never feed us. Some of the old people and children died of the cold. They made believe we got a settlement so they told us to vote the strike off and go back.

But we have no jobs and nothing to eat. That's the way the U. T. W. does. We are sending our application to join the National Textile Workers Union, A FIGHTING UNION. There are thousands here wanting to join.

A Striker.

## Guard Beats Prisoners On Chatt. Chain Gang

**(By A Worker Correspondent)**  
 Chattanooga, Tenn.

At about 9:00 A. M. I was walking along F Street near 21st St. where a squad of chain gang prisoners were at work.

The guard was very cruel to the men. He crossed and abused them. He beat one of the Negro workers over the head with a Hickory stick. This Negro was working very hard but it seems the guard had to pick on him.

At about 2 P. M. I saw a white worker talking with the prisoner who had been beaten. The same guard came up and abused the white worker and struck him over the head with the same stick and drove him away.

This happened in a Negro section. It looked as if the guard was trying to incite a riot. But in this case the guard goes free to whip more workers but when our unemployed leaders demand bread for the jobless they are arrested for inciting to riot and given long terms in jail. Workers we must fight against this.

—A Worker.

## Houston Editor Steals \$5 From Young Worker

**(By A Worker Correspondent)**  
 Galveston, Texas

A young colored child that was raised in one of the smaller towns between Galveston and Houston, known as Hitchcock was hired in Galveston by a newspaper man that prints a daily business paper in Houston.

This girl was hired to work for 10¢ a day. She worked ten days for this promise and now he is refusing to pay her the perty sum of \$5 for her hard earned labor.

There seems to be quite a lot of this stuff going on here in "Treasure Island."

—A Marine Worker

## WANTS FIGHTING INFORMATION

**(By A Worker Correspondent)**  
 Holland, Mo.

I have just read one of your pamphlets.

Please send me further information and advise on how to organize and start the fight.

If you will send me some more pamphlets I will know just to whom safely distribute them.

I got a wife and five children and nothing to do.

—A Worker.

## HAVE LENIN CORNER IN PINOCA MILL

### CHAD-HOS MILL WORKERS GET 15% WAGE CUT

**(By A Worker Correspondent)**  
 Charlotte, N. C.

I am a slave of the Chadwick-Hoskins Co.

We are working 55 hours 20 minutes per week for the great sum of \$11 to \$16 per week, yet they want us to work still another half hour each day. Starting time is 6:30 and we are supposed to get an hour for dinner and stop off at 5:30 P. M., but they start the work about ten minutes to six in the morning, 12:35 at noon and part of the mills run until six in the evening. The worst part of it is we have to do all this work for not even a decent living wage.

They cut wages here a few weeks ago. They said they were going to cut down from 18 per cent to 15 per cent but they cut nearer 15-per-cent than 10 per cent.

And on top of this the bosses come around and raise hell about production and seconds. If you can get 95% production and less than 2% seconds they take your bonus from you.

There is only one remedy for this oppression. Organize and fight as one.

—A Textile Worker.

### Organization Only Way To Get Good Conditions

**(By A Worker Correspondent)**  
 Charlotte, N. C.

Here is the way they are treating the workers in my territory.

The boss has cut off the water and yet is collecting rent for the houses.

Don't you think we should fight against such rotten conditions? I do. Join the Unemployed Council and help fight against such bad conditions.

Fight for your rights in every respect. We are oppressed on every side and we have got to do something for ourselves. The government is not going to give us anything unless we fight for it so let's get together.

—A Worker.

### FINE COMMUNIST \$10

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn.—Dave Dixon, Communist Party organizer, was fined \$10 and costs in Judge Fleming's court March 19th. Mack Coats and J. Carter, arrested with Dixon when police raided a Communist election rally the night before elections were released.

While the comrades were in jail they report that prisoners were questioned by the police and if they promised to vote for Mayor Bass they were taken from their cells and herded to the polls in police cars to vote. This is just another evidence of the corruption of the Bass machine which unleashed a campaign of terror against the workers prior to elections in a desperate attempt to prevent a large Communist vote.

### Mill Boss Fools, Cheats, Evicts, Pregnant Mother

**(By A Worker Correspondent)**  
 Charlotte, N. C.

I want to tell you something about how the mill bosses treat us poor workers here in Charlotte. For more than a year now I have been working in the Calvine Mill when they would let me work.

Last fall we were cut down to three days each week. That is all the work we women could get. Our husbands couldn't get any thing to do. And we women only made three and four dollars for the three days. This we had to pay house rent and live on.

A week before Christmas the overseer came to me and said he was going to do me a favor. He noticed that I was soon to have a baby, so he said he would let me work a whole week instead of three days as I used to work. I was glad to do this for I knew I would soon be confined. But when I went to get the pay, what do you think, they wouldn't pay me a cent. They said they would hold this for future house rent to take care of the time I was confined. I had money enough coming to me to pay the rent until the second week in May. But now I have been served with an eviction notice and told to get out today.

My baby will be here in a few days and here I am being cut out on the street by the Calvine mill bosses, one of the chiefs of the Hoskin-Chadwick mills. My rent is paid up till the second week in May but the sheriff has already been here with a notice to vacate at once.

Now what are we workers to do under such circumstances. I don't see anything for us to do but to organize. We workers must not move just because the boss tells us to. We can't live out doors, and the boss sure will put us there rent or no rent when ever he wants to unless we fight back. Workers get together and fight back. The National Textile Workers Union sure puts up a fight for its members. All workers in the mills should join and support it.

—A Mill Worker.

### U. S. Farm Expert Lies About Farm Wages

Joseph C. Pelton, member of the Board of Agricultural Economics in his report on farm wages issued last week, announces that "farm wages are good, and equal or exceed the average full time and actual earnings of laborers in some industries."

This crack is about as humorous as Hoover's famous statement of a year ago that the "depression will be over in 60 days."

We invite Mr. Pelton to take a trip to Silver Creek, Georgia, and to ask the starving croppers on the big Redshaw plantation what wages Redshaw pays. If he does he will find lousy men working twelve hours a day for 50 cents a day with no board or room furnished. Yes, these are "good wages"—for Mr. Redshaw.

**250 Electricians Strike**

ATLANTA, Ga.—Over 250 electrical workers and linemen of the Georgia Power Co., struck their jobs March 19th in protest against the companies policy of firing union men.

The men are organized in the Electrical Workers Union, a part of the A. F. of L. If the strikers are to win they will have to fight both the company and the corrupt leadership of their own organization.

### T. U. U. L. L. RED CLASSES HELD

**(By A Worker Correspondent)**  
 Charlotte, N. C.

The Pinoca Mill here, one of the Darlington Fabric Corporation, with other mills at Newton N. J., has just about shut down operation. They are now laying off hands due to the fact that there are no orders coming in.

Some weavers have to stay in the mill all day long with only one loom, which means about \$1.25 a day.

There is only one dipper and one water stand in the whole weave room. This is some system of sanitation. We workers wonder where the Charlotte Health officers are that are supposed to look after such things.

We also have a Lenin Corner in the Pinoca mill where we keep clipping papers and pictures from the workers papers pasted, such as articles from the Daily Worker, Southern Worker, Labor Unity, etc. The boss doesn't dare to say anything about this. We also hold classes in Trade Union work and Communism right in the mill during lunch hour.

Anyway we workers have learned not to expect anything from the capitalists and their government. We are now joining the NTWU and have had a good local of the NTWU here for some time. We want other workers in the other mills to join in with us so we all can tell the bosses where to get off.

—A Mill Worker.

### Charlotte Mill Workers Get \$4 For 40 Hour Wk.

**(By A Worker Correspondent)**  
 Charlotte, N. C.

We workers, here in Charlotte, who have been stretched out and speeded up so much until we can hardly go, have been handed another wage cut this week. The Hoskin-Chadwick mills employing about 600 workers have worked out a nice scheme to cut the wages of us workers. This time they are getting us on a 12 hour day with 6 1/2 hours for each shift—six days per week. This means that we will work about 48 hours a week for \$4.

The more we workers stand for this stuff the more the bosses will pile it up on us. They don't give a damn about us and it is time we should know this and get busy and put a stop to it. We must all get together and organize and let the boss know that we won't stand this slavery any longer. We must not be afraid of our jobs. We don't have any jobs to lose. If we don't work we starve and if we work we starve. And I think we can live longer by not working.

Workers lets get busy and organize. The National Textile Workers Union is the fighting Union that has just won victories for the workers in Lawrence, Mass. And what they did there we can do here if only we get busy. Every worker in the Textile mills must join the NTWU and fight like hell against the speed up and the wage cuts.

—A Charlotte Mill Worker.

**Cropper Kills Landlord**

JOCASSEL, S. C.—James Dodgins, white share cropper, was arrested here today for the slaying of Fred Brown, local plaster for whom Dodgins had worked. The argument which led to the shooting was reported to be over Brown's attempt to cheat the cropper out of his entire last year's crop.

# The Southern Worker

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## Is This Convict Labor Mr. Fish?

The Southern Protective Tariff League, as reported elsewhere in this issue, has recently added its voice to the pack who are howling for a ban on the importation into the United States of all products manufactured in the Soviet Union on the grounds that "convict labor" is used there.

The current issue of the Birmingham Labor Advocate carried a front page editorial denouncing the "rule of Tyrant Stalin" in the Soviet Union and demanding that all products produced there be barred from the United States. The Labor Advocate seems all excited about the terrible situation in Russia where, as it says, "Men work to eat, and no work means no eat." What a horrible thought for these traitors who dare to call themselves "labor leaders" who edit the Labor Advocate! Under such conditions their good friends and masters, the capitalists, would actually have to go to work if they cared to eat! The Labor Advocate of course follows the lead of the boss class, which owns this sheet body and soul, and fairly froths at the mouth on the subject of "convict labor" in the Soviet Union.

How these gentlemen like to repeat this lie which has been exposed again and again! How the whole pack, led by that hypocritical liar and fool, U. S. Senator, Sam Fish, delight in shedding tears over the non-existent "convict labor" in the Soviet Union! But these lying whelps had it quite convenient to ignore the convict labor in the United States, which sticks to high heaven with the torture and murder of the men and women who slave in American Prison shops, in Prison mines and on the brutal chain gang.

Let Fish and the whole tribe who repeat with him the lie of convict labor in the Soviet Union, take a look in their own back yard. How about the Nashville pen, where women are being

from pigs in the wall by their hands until unconscious because they can't stand the pork in the hosiery mill—the same mill that turned in a profit of \$100,000 to the state last year by selling prison made goods to private contractors. How about the Brushy Mountain prison mines in Tennessee where half starved convicts under the lash of prison guards mine the coal which throws more Tennessee miners out of their jobs! How about the new road thru Huntsville, Ala., where convict gangs work at the doornails of the farmers who paid the taxes to build the road, and are now literally starving because they can't get work?

Is this convict labor or is it not Mr. Fish? It is, and you, together with your friends on the Labor Advocate know it is. But you keep silent and the workers will understand your silence quite well. You keep silent because this convict labor is in capitalist America; because it is carried on by the same boss government which owns you. And you lie about convict labor in the Soviet Union because there the workers rule. There the big and little fishes who oppressed the Russian workers have been kicked out, or else "sent work to eat." This is what worries you Mr. Fish, and worries the gentlemen in the Southern Protective Tariff League, and worries those scoundrels who edit the Labor Advocate. Because of this you shed your lying tears over "Russian convict labor," in order to prepare the masses for war against the Soviet Union which you hate.

Has the workers will not be deceived. They will answer your lying attacks on the Fatherland of all workers by rallying to the defense of the Soviet Union in increasing numbers, and by preparing for the struggle which will smash your rotten system which makes convict labor a reality in the United States!

## WORKER-FARMER UNITE!

(EDITORS NOTE.—We give this letter special prominence because the writer, an Alabama farmer, exposes so well and so clearly the efforts of the boss class to divide the workers and poor farmers and because he explains so well the revolutionary path which must be taken by the workers and poor farmers of America if they are to cast off their oppressors.

(By A Farmer Correspondent)  
LaFayette, Ala.

I have just read a few lines in a small pamphlet of yours on the question of oppression and starvation of the laboring class of people, both farmers and wage earners.

It has been the millinaire plan to keep the farmers and wage laborers from organizing together, and keep them antagonistic towards each other.

They have tried to make the workers believe that the cheaper farm products are, the better wages they can pay. They tried to make the farmers believe that the lower your wage scale was the more we would get for our products. This is as false and misleading as anything in the world could be.

The millinaire hasn't as much feel, ing for our women and children as he would have for his bird dog.

I do think it is time that we would wake up to the fact and join hands and fight for our rights together. If

we will come together and combine our strength in one single unit, we can beat this bondage that we are living under. We can save our wives and children from starvation and so block one of the bloodiest wars that has ever been known to man, which is bound to come if there is not something done to prevent it at once.

Please send us any literature that you may have on how to free ourselves from the clutches of the millinaires.

—A Farmer.

### FARMER DRIVEN TO DEATH

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—Raymond Hill Sparks, a 42 year old farmer, hung himself in his barn, driven almost insane by the helpless condition he found himself in. Like thousands of other farmers, he could see nothing ahead but more starvation.

### FARM SUICIDE FATHER OF 9

THOMASVILLE, Ga.—Wm. J. Faircloth, a father of nine children, drowned himself in the river because his farm could no longer support him and his family. The desperate struggle for mere existence is causing numerous suicides throughout the South. This is not the way out. Organize and demand relief from the Government!

## Movie Whips Up Lynch Spirit

By HARRIS GILBERT

Having heard so much about the "Birth of a Nation" the motion picture and knowing it would be of interest to other workers to know what it meant, we went to see it. Its lesson comrades is indeed a serious one and one which every class conscious worker should understand and expose. The picture itself was first shown in 1914 and is acclaimed by the boss press as the greatest film of all time.

This picture deals with the South during and after the Civil War. It is calculated to rouse the most intense Negro hating prejudices among those who see it—by picturing the poor Negro slaves who had been "freed" by the Northern capitalists, during the Civil War, as brutal savages, whose greatest desire was to rape or marry a white woman. The picture shows how the Northern capitalists sent their agents, the carpetbaggers down to the South to capture the Negro voters—to fool and deceive them. To use them as tools against any resistance on the part of the Southern landlords to the policies of the Northern bosses. The murderous KKK K is pictured as the "Savior" of the South under the banner of the "Holy Cross" and such lies.

The significance of the widely heralded revival of this picture is of extreme importance at this time. Throughout the South this picture is playing—in Dallas Texas, where our comrades were nearly lynched for fighting for the rights of both Negro and White workers against starvation. Its purpose is very plain. The Communist Party is rallying the masses of White and Negro toilers, workers and farmers, together for a joint fight against the starvation and misery of this rotten capitalist system and bosses are

are using this picture to stir up and arouse within the white workers of the South especially—and of the North as well—the poison of race prejudice, to stir up a lynch mob spirit, to glorify and prepare the ground for the fascist KKK bands as present day "saviors," and thus smash the growing unity of white and Negro toilers against starvation, discrimination, and worsening conditions. The bosses will well realize that the lessons of unemployment, starvation, wage cuts, speed-up and bosses terror is forcing white and negro workers together.

Further this picture shows that the capitalist, will and is, using all means press, radio, church, films and so forth in order to spread their propaganda and their racial poison. The crowd, mostly made up of bosses and small business men (as most workers were couldn't afford the price) cheered and clapped at the various vicious scenes.

Every class conscious worker—white and negro—must expose this latest most vicious attack on the Negro toilers and on the working class as a whole. Our answer must be increased organization into the ranks of all working class organizations—above all the Communist Party, and the wiping out of any trace of white chauvinism. Workers—rally your friends and shopmates to March 26 Protest Demonstrations on March 26 against Lynchings, Deportations, and bosses terror! Show the bosses the force of our organized protest against the near lynching of comrades Harris and Coder in Dallas, Texas, and the bosses attempt to deport the militant worker Yokobson.

## DePRIEST SHOWS HIS TRUE COLORS

(By An Unemployed Ex-Churchman)  
NEW ORLEANS, La.—Congressman Oscar DePriest made a speech here in the First African Baptist Church on March 18th and what a speech this traitor made.

I am always interested in anything that really represents the Negro as I went to the church. Two blocks away the Preachers, Deacons, and Elders were out in the streets yelling "Tickets, Tickets!" like a bunch of ticket salesmen at a circus show. They charged \$1.00 to hear DePriest talk. I didn't have the least idea of paying to go to church but as I had a buck I bought a ticket and went in. Advice: Negroes To Walk 100 Years

### For Liberty

DePriest said the Negro has always been loyal to the American Government by shedding his blood in its defense and always will be. He advised the Negroes to continue the struggle by voting the straight Republican ticket. (This is New Orleans where no Negro votes in vote.) He also said some countries took 100 years to get their liberty and that the American Negro was just beginning to wake up and fight for his. I agreed with him that the Negroes are just beginning to wake up but in a quite different sense than what he thinks. We are beginning to get wise to the traitors in our ranks like Mr. DePriest.

### DePriest Admits Communist Practice Equality

Then he raised his voice as if angry and warned the Negroes against Communism. He advised not to mix with these "damnable Reds" because they are attempting to overthrow "our" government.—(Just how is the government which oppressed us and denies us every right, "our" Government Mr. DePriest?). He said the Communists are just fooling the Negroes by writing them on their side by preaching social equality and by practicing it at dances of Negroes and Whites in New York City.—(You don't believe in practicing what you preach

like the Communists do, do you Mr. DePriest?) He said the Communists did not mean the Negro any good and that he hopes the Southern Negroes will continue to remain intelligent law abiding citizens. Then he had the audacity to say that the Communists are bringing about discontent among the Negroes of America.—(Do you really believe that the Negro needs any help to become discontented Mr. DePriest, in a country where the murder, torture and lynching of our people is a weekly occurrence?)

### Attacks Soviet Union

Then this arch-betrayer of the Negro people finished his speech with an attack on the Soviet Union. "Don't listen to the dope you hear about Russia," he said. "The Russian people are suffering and good old America is the best country in the world." He neglected to tell us if the Russian workers lynch members of other nations living in their country and if they Jim Crow and treat like dogs all who have a black skin, as is done in this "best country in the world."

This is the kind of rotten stuff they peddle in the churches now fellow workers. They tell us that Jesus lashed the traffickers once and drove them out of a church. Well Jesus is gone and it is up to us to do the lashing now. Let's get on the job and organize to start on Oscar DePriest first as he is one of the worst of the whole rotten outfit!

## Communist Killed By German Policemen

HAMBURG, Germany.—One Communist was killed and a policeman wounded when police attacked the thousands of revolutionary workers gathered at the funeral of Ernst Henning, Communist leader who was assassinated by fascists here March 21st. The workers fought back heroically and the police were unable to break by the meeting.

## Garment Workers Sold Out by AF of L

ATLANTA, Ga.—200 striking workers of the Marcus Loeb Overall Co., went back to work Monday.

The workers were sent back to the job after an agreement to "arbitrate" the wage cut proposed by the company had been reached by the company and the officials of the United Garment Workers Union. Such agreements to "arbitrate" are almost always followed by a decision by the arbitration committee in favor of the bosses.

It is to be expected that due to the treacherous act of the union officials in ordering the strikers back to work and in submitting the dispute to arbitration, that a wage cut will be forced on the workers. The Trade Union Unity League, in a leaflet distributed to the strikers, had warned them against such a sell-out and had called on the workers to take control of the strike themselves and to carry it thru to victory.

## Mexican Jobless Forced To Eat Grass Many Die

HELENORILLO, Mexico.—Twelve jobless workers entered a restaurant here last week and ordered a large meal. After their hunger was satisfied they told the restaurant owner to "charge it to the government," as they had no money.

A number of starving workers have died in this town recently from the effects of eating grass in a futile effort to stave off starvation. These workers are principally Mexicans who have been deported from the United States. An American College professor recently recommended that the unemployed of this country eat alfalfa to avoid starving to death. But the workers of Mexico and the United States will not follow this cynical "advice." They will continue to organize the struggle for Unemployment Insurance at the expense of the government and the employers.

## M.W.I.L. Calls For Struggle

Crane Knannel Works of Chattanooga are beginning a campaign of laying off workers in every department. Sixty were laid off last week and now the mill threatens to close down within a month. This will add 750 workers to the already large number of unemployed in Chattanooga. The Metal Workers Industrial League has issued a leaflet calling on the workers to organize Shop Committees and Unemployed Councils.

## Wage Cut In Exposition

The Exposition Mill will put a wage cut of fifteen per cent on the workers this week. This mill ordinarily hires 2500 workers and now has only 600 on the job. The terrible degree of poverty in which the workers of the Exposition Mill have been thrust can be judged by the fact that every single retail store within five blocks of the mill have either moved or gone bankrupt. The workers of the mill must peddle fruit in the streets in order to keep alive.

## STARVING FARMER KILLS SELF

RUTHERFORDTON, N. C.—Facing starvation with a family of six to feed, R. Coy Prior, 73 year old white farmer, killed himself with a shotgun. A few days ago he told his wife it was as much as he could do to keep from killing himself, so worried was he where the next days food would come from.

## Protest Terror On March 28th!