

at
White and
Colored Workers,
Unite!

SOUTHERN WORKER

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

Don't Starve—
Fight for Social
Insurance!

Volume 1, No. 41.

Chattanooga, Tenn., May 30, 1931

2 Cents a Copy

150 Delegates On Way to Chattanooga

CHARLOTTE MEET ELECTS 5; 258 DELEGATES IN CHICAGO

75% Industries Have Cut Wages In Nation Drive

While Hoover and even William Green, president of the A. F. of L., unite with the big employers in stating that there is no wide wage-cutting campaign, those who know best continue to give these statements the lie.

Wages have been cut in 75 percent of the country's plants, and there is at present a heavy wage-cut campaign going on in the startling statement made by the financial editor of the New York American. "A powerful banker is authority for the statement that possibly 75 percent of the country's plants already have lowered wages in one form or another," he says.

James A. Farrell, president of the United States Steel Corporation at a meeting of the American Iron and Steel Institute in New York was forced to admit that wide wage-slashing was going on in the steel industry. "The so-called big standard companies, the companies in the headlines, are not maintaining the standard of wages," he said. At the same time he tries to give the impression that his particular corporation has not cut wages, by adding: "It's a shame that when some of the large companies are trying to maintain wages others are cutting them even when they are affording only three-days-a-week employment."

While Hoover tries to suppress the news of these wage-cuts and is starting a campaign for re-election on the basis of a fake drive to "prevent wage-slashes" with the cooperation of the A. F. of L. misleaders, drastic wage-cuts are taking place in every industry and thruout the country.

The Trade Union Unity League, with its slogan of "Organize and Strike Against Wage-Cuts," has already shown how such strikes can be won by the proper militant tactics. The unions of the T.U.U.L. are the only ones putting up a stiff fight against wage-cuts.

Youth Protests Boss War Plans

The Young Communist League will lead mass demonstrations against imperialist war on May 30, National Youth Day.

The demonstrations will be directed against the giant war preparations being carried on by the United States government, which are principally directed against the Soviet Union. Never before has this country seen such wide preparations for war in progress, with billions of dollars being spent on war armaments by a government which refuses to grant relief to 10,000,000 unemployed workers and their families, while the air squadrons of the U. S. army participated in the largest war maneuvers ever seen.

Legally Lynch Negro Worker In Elberton, Ga

ELBERTON, Ga.—John Downer, Negro, was convicted of "attacking a white woman" and sentenced to die on the electric chair on June 15, in the same sort of a legal lynching handed down to the nine Negro boys in Scottsboro, Ala.

Two hundred national guardsmen surrounded the courthouse while the trial was in progress and the jury deliberated less than 15 minutes. It was another compact between the state and the lynch-incited mob: "Don't you lynch him, and we will give him the electric chair. It was the same mob which tried to lynch Downer when he was first arrested here last week.

(Turn to Page 2)

White, Negro Pledge Unity in Charlotte

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—Thirty Negro and white delegates, representing 19 different organizations, 3 churches, 3 local mills, 3 Unemployed Councils, the Communist Party and other organizations, met May 24, at the Scottsboro Conference, and pledged to continue the fight for the release of the nine Scottsboro boys.

The chief speaker and honorary Chairman was Mrs. Williams mother of Eugene, one of the framed-up Negro boys. She said: "I want to praise the International Labor Defense and want to say I am with them until I am dead and gone. Our boys were being whipped and beaten until the I. L. D. came in. I never heard of them before, but they came and looked up

(Turn to Page 4)

Operators Indict 28 Harlan Miners in Murder Frame-up

PINEVILLE, Ky.—Officials of the United Mine Workers were forced to back water here before the militancy of 800 miners at the convention of miners from Harlan and Bell counties.

Resolutions were introduced and passed condemning the action of Gov. Sampson in sending troops and then breaking his promise to disarm the mine guards and prevent strike-breakers from entering the area and District President Turnblazer was forced to speak of the "betrayal of the people by Flem Sampson." The union officials took good care, however to keep out of the resolutions any reference to their own betrayal of the miners by petitioning the governor for the troops.

Charge 28 With Murder

Instead of urging the spreading of the strike thruout the coal fields in Kentucky, Tennessee and West Virginia—where a strike involving 5,000 miners is already in progress—the officials called upon the miners to "create public opinion" favoring the organization of the miners. The miners themselves are strongly in favor of spreading the strike and fighting militantly against the drastic wage-cuts and peonage conditions in the coal camps.

While the officials of the U. M. W.

(Turn to Page 2)

Form NTWU Board

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—A section of the National Textile Workers' Union, was elected at a Section Conference held here attended by delegates representing six local mills. Similar Section Conferences will be held shortly in Greenville, S. C., and Danville, Va., to be followed by a N.T.W. U. District Conference in July, where a functioning District Board, to meet every two months, will be set up.

The Section Boards, which will meet every two weeks will assume leadership of the union work in the three different sections. Concrete plans, based on local demands, to resist wage cuts, stretch-out and other grievances, will be made. Many mill strikes are expected in the near future, as the workers are stretched out almost beyond the endurance point and wage-cuts, which continue.

Boy's Parents To Be At Scottsboro Conference

Expect 200 At All-Southern Defense At Masonic Hall Sunday, May 31

On the eve of the All-Southern Scottsboro Defense Conference as the mass movement to save the boys gathers strength throughout the country, word comes to the Provisional Committee for the Southern Conference that more than 150 delegates from nine cities and the Alabama Black Belt have already been elected to come to Chattanooga.

118 CHURCHES REPRESENTED IN CHICAGO

Two hundred and eighty-five delegates representing 182 Negro and white organizations attended the United Front Scottsboro Defense Conference in Chicago held last Sunday. There were 118 Negro churches, 16 Negro clubs and lodges and 17 unions among those represented.

The Conference, the biggest in Chicago for years, received with enthusiasm a telegram from Claude Patterson, father of one of the framed-up boys, greeting the conference and praising the I.L.D. in its work for the boys. Mr. Tilford, a Negro newspaper man, sharply attacked the N. A.A.C.P. for its treachery to the boys and said:

"The Negro race owes thanks to Communists. Rally behind them despite all."

At the Scottsboro Defense Conference held in Buffalo on Saturday night, there were 107 delegates, representing 36 organizations. Thirty-eight defense conference in that many cities have already been called the I.L.D. and the L.S.N.R. to take place within the next two weeks.

Mrs. Ada Wright, mother of Andy and Roy, two of the boys framed up at Scottsboro, is speaking before jammed meetings in many Northern cities. In Pittsburgh, 800 Negro and white workers crowded the Pythian Temple to hear her and pledge their support in the fight for the freedom of the boys. Richard Moore, national Negro work director of the Interna-

(Turn to Page 2)

Counting those to be elected during the remainder of the week, when the Conference opens in the Masonic Hall on May 31, close to 200 delegates, representing white and Negro labor bodies, fraternal organizations, churches, and groups may participate in one of the most historic conferences ever held in the South.

Delegates from Black Belt

From the heart of the lynch law domain, answering the call of the International Labor Defense and the League of Struggle for Negro Rights, these delegates representing thousands of workers, will plan further steps in the fight to obtain the release of the nine Negro boys railroaded to a legal lynching at Scottsboro.

Forty delegates each have already been elected in Birmingham, Atlanta and Chattanooga. Five delegates are coming from groups of the Croppers Union in the Alabama black belt. From distant New Orleans there will come seven delegates. The Charlotte district Scottsboro Defense Conference has elected five delegates. There will be six delegates from Elizabethton, Tenn., four from Memphis, five from Monroe, Ga., the home of Olen Montgomery, one of the Scottsboro boys. In addition there will be delegates from a number of small towns.

All Parents To Be Present

All the parents and some of the relatives of all of the boys will be present at the Conference in a solid expression of solidarity with the mass movement for the release of the boys led by the I.L.D. and the L.S.N.R.

There will also be present at the conference representatives of the national offices of the organizations leading the mass movement and delegates from a number of the Northern conferences.

The Conference will take place one week before the hearing for a new trial for all of the boys comes before the Scottsboro court on June 5, motions and new evidence presented by the International Labor Defense attorneys.

In the face of this mass campaign for the release of the boys, the Interdenominational Ministers' Alliance of Chattanooga and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, continue their treacherous acts of stabbing the defense in the back. The Ministers' Alliance, in its latest statement, denounces the I.L.D., which, it says, "will tear the South asunder and destroy the peace and harmony existing for many years."

The Conference will take place at Masonic Hall, starting at 11 a.m.

GORMAN SAYS WILL BREAK NEXT DANVILLE STRIKE

DANVILLE, Va.—Francis J. Gorman, vice-president of the United Textile Workers, the outfit that sold out the strike of 4,000 workers of the Dan and Riverside mills, brazenly admitted his treacherous actions before a meeting of the union local here and called upon the workers to have confidence in his sell-out agreement.

Gorman declared that he still had faith in this agreement, which had never been approved by the strikers, despite the fact that from the very first day the strike was supposed to be settled, hardly any union members were taken back into the mills and hundreds were permanently black listed as in Elizabethton, Tenn. "We

still have complete confidence that there will be no discrimination against Union workers in the mills," he said.

The facts about the so-called agreement had leaked out at the Virginia Federation of Labor meeting last Tuesday, when H. W. Morgan, coal operator, had revealed that he and Dr. Carroll Flipper, brother-in-law of the president of the mills, had drawn up the agreement which Gorman signed and passed on over the head of the strikers.

When members of the Danville local called for another strike against wage-cuts and blacklisting, Gorman said: "I have no vote in your local

and that is your business. But a strike would have to be approved by the United Textile Workers and I would vote against it."

This gives advance notice to the workers sold out at Danville that these fakers would fight against any strike called by the workers, in much the same way as they tried to prevent the last strike and sold it out after it had been called over their heads.

The workers in Danville will have to drop these bosses' agents off their backs, form their own committees in the mills and organize and strike against the wage-cuts and discrimination.

LED BY NTWU, WIN VICTORY IN WOOL MILL

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—Under the leadership of the National Textile Workers' Union and the N. T. W. mill committee at the Weybossett mill of the American Woolen Co., the workers there have won a real victory.

The company yesterday granted four of the five demands for which the Weybossett workers stood ready to strike. The workers win an increase of two cents per yard. They win pay day for the sample weaving, which means in many cases an increase of \$10 per week. The speed-up is stopped for the loom fixers. Better conditions for the four-loom weavers have been won.

The Weybossett workers' committee also demanded the stopping of fines in the National-Providence mill of the American Woolen Co., and this demand was also won. The committee demanded the return of the 12½ per cent wage-cut, and that demand was not granted.

Fight Soon Over Cut.

At a great meeting yesterday of all Weybossett workers they decided to go back and intensify organization work in all American Woolen Co. mills for a strike to rescind the 12½ per cent cut.

The Maynard delegation was present and pledged solidarity and joint action.

There is much enthusiasm for the National Textile Workers among all workers in Olneyville, the mill center of Providence. Many workers of other mills are joining. An independent spinners' local has voted to affiliate with the N. T. W. The General Families mill strike is still going strong.

Indict 28 Miners in Harlan Murder Frame-Up

(Continued from Front Page)

are holding back the tide of militancy Sheriff Blair and the troopers are busy arresting the most militant miners in the Harlan area and charging them with murder and "banding and conspiracy." Eighteen more indictments were obtained by the coal mine owners charging murder making a total of 28 miners indicted on the same charge, of whom 18 are already in jail. Sheriff Blair, the mine operators' man, is singling out the most militant miners in various parts of the county to frame up. Rev. Frank Blair, of the Baptist church at Ages, has also been arrested on charges of criminal syndicalism for speaking before a mass meeting of 2,500 miners from the courthouse steps on the day preceding the arrival of troops.

Jail Union Secretary

Jack Griffin, temporary secretary of the local union at Evarts, was charged with "banding and confederating" and arrested. W. B. Jones, secretary of the local is in jail charged with murder.

Troops under the direction of Sheriff Blair cut down a bridge over the Cumberland River connecting the properties of the Harlan Gas Corporation, whose men are on strike, and the union headquarters, in order to keep the men from attending strike meetings. The commissary of the Harlan-Wallins Coal Corporation, at Mox, which has been stocked with food while thousands of miners starved, has burned down, and Sheriff Blair is trying to frame more miners on this charge.

Must Spread Strike

The evidence on which the indictments were returned against the miners recently charged with murder, based on the "evidence" of Patrick J. Moran, a notorious Black Mountain Coal Co. thug, at Evarts, who claims that he gathered this information

Miners' Mass Meeting In Evarts, Ky.



Workers Delegates to Soviet Union Witness Successes

MOSCOW.—The workers' delegation from Germany, France, Great Britain, the United States, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Norway, Sweden, Belgium and Bulgaria, who arrived in the Soviet Union to take part in the May Day celebrations, have since studied wages and working conditions in a number of factories in Moscow and the neighborhood. They were present at factory meetings and have visited workers' houses, schools, day nurseries, the night sanatoria, recreation homes and so on. The delegates showed particular interest in the shock group movement and the socialist competition, and, of course, in the work for the carrying out of the Five-Year Plan.

Almost in all the factories the delegates met workmen from their own country and were able to talk about the situation in their own language.

The May Day demonstration in Moscow, the parade of the Red Army and the march of the million masses made a tremendous impression on the delegates. On May 2 they were the guests of the Red Army men in the various barracks of the Moscow garrison. The conditions in the Red Army, the relations between officers and men, and the cultural work performed in the army, astounded the delegates, most of whom had had experience in the capitalist armies. The delegates also visited the Moscow prisons and reformatories (very different institutions from those of the same name in the capitalist countries.)

They also visited the Palace of Labor, where the General Secretary of the Central Council of Soviet Labor Unions, Comrade Shvernik, explained to them the work of the unions, labor laws, the abolition of unemployment, the training of skilled workers, etc.

In an interview with the Vice-Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars and the Chairman of the State Planning Commission, Comrades Kuibichev and Kritsmann, the delegates informed themselves of the work for the carrying out of the first Five Years' Plan.

The delegates also spent an evening together with the veterans of the revolution, the society of old Bolsheviks. Comrade Kalinin was present and addressed the delegates.

while in jail after being arrested on a drunkenness charge. The first seven men arrested on the murder charge are in jail waiting the result of a writ demanding the Judge Jones, openly a coal operators' man, vacate the bench and not try them.

The strikes can be won, if the miners set up their own broad rank-and-file strike committees, mass picket the mines and spread the strike. The dilly-dallying tactics of the U. M. W. officials as shown by the convention at Pineville, will only lead to a sell-out and the railroading of the most militant miners to long prison terms.

The delegates described their first impressions of the Soviet Union and promised to do their utmost to counteract the lies of the press on their return.

The delegates also visited the Moscow Soviet, where they were informed in detail concerning the work of the municipal administration of the red capital. They inquired into housing problems, public food supplies, the work of the militia, taxation, etc.

The delegations all left Moscow for various destinations, Caucasia, the Don Basin, the Urals, the Volga district, Central Asia, the Soviet textile districts, etc. They will all visit Soviet and collective farms.

5-Year Plan Speeds Ahead

MOSCOW.—The Leningrad light metal works, "Voroshilov," has already exceeded its Five-Year Plan program. In the last year of the plan it was to have produced goods to the value of \$3,375,000. The present annual production, however is valued at \$5,376,000. This year the total value of production is calculated to be \$10,300,000.

The Leningrad Optical and Photographic works, "Ogpu," has just completed its Five-Year Plan program. It is the biggest works of its kind in Europe.

Further factories which have already completed their Five-Year Plan are the Moscow brake works, the Leningrad works "Red Chemist," the rope factory in Odessa, the petrol distillery in Krasnodar, the "Red Treugolnik" rubber works in Leningrad, etc. The value of production in the "Red Treugolnik" works during the past 12 months was 57 million roubles or 9 per cent more than the production proposed for the last year of the Five-Year Plan.

The Makayavka foundry, in the Don Basin, which has just been reconstructed at a cost of 30 million rubles, has now fired the largest blast furnace in the Soviet Union, which has a capacity of 710 tons of pig iron.

Workers' Correspondence Course

NEW YORK.—The Workers' School, the central school of the Communist Party, is now offering correspondence courses for all workers, in addition to its regular classes. This gives an opportunity for workers thruout the country to study subjects that will help in an understanding of the revolutionary movement and in their organizational work. Courses offered include Fundamentals of Communism, Political Economy and Leninism. The courses are open for registration and all workers interested may write to The Workers' School, 45-50 E. 13th Street, New York City, for more information.

Resist Eviction of Negro Worker In Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—A battle took place here when a large force of police, threatening with drawn pistols and swinging clubs attacked a crowd assembled under the leadership of the unemployed council of 612 South Brooklyn street, attempted to prevent the eviction of an unemployed Negro worker's family at 3617 Warren street.

The constable came down to do his dirty work with five police.

The unemployed mobilized quickly, and resisted. The police pulled their guns and the crowd defied them to shoot. They did not dare to shoot.

A riot car came up loaded with police and then the fight started. It raged for half an hour before the growing police forces managed to break up the demonstration, and throw the Negro worker's furniture out.

Eleven were arrested, after having been clubbed. Among them are three whites.

They are charged with disorderly conduct, inciting to riot, breach of the peace, resisting arrest, and attempted assault and battery.

Expose Lies in "B'ham Truth" on Scottsboro

By a Worker Correspondent
Birmingham, Ala.

In the Birmingham Truth (local Negro paper) of May 8, I noticed an article by the N. A. A. C. P. stating that they were defending the nine boys at Scottsboro, —which we all know is a lie—and then going ahead and appealing for FUNDS TO DEFEND THE BOYS. I hope the Southern Worker will publish this and expose these dirty underhanded fakers—who try first to break up the working class protest mobilized by the International Labor Defense and when they don't do this try to line their pockets with the money they can steal out of the workers' pockets. It is reported they already have got a lot of money this way.

—A Worker.

EXPOSE BABY PEONAGE ON PLANTATION

JACKSON, Miss.—A six-week-old colored baby of a tenant family on a plantation near here, was kidnapped by a neighboring white tenant family as security on a debt, which was needed to pay the rent to Will Terry, plantation owner.

Ben Franklin, the white farmer, kidnapped the baby and refused to return it until Will Jackson, the Negro tenant farmer, paid his debt. Franklin, who owned rent to the landlord, claims that he was holding the child under the direction of Terry, the landlord, who thus tried to get his rent out of the Negro family and used the white tenant to do so.

This is another instance of how the landlords constantly play the Negro against the white in order to make them enemies and keep them from organizing together and getting better conditions.

The child was eventually returned on a writ of habeas corpus, but both the Negro and white tenant family still remain in debt and have no way out unless they get together with the other tenants on the plantation and fight for their demands.

Legally Lynch Negro Worker In Elberton

(Continued from Front Page)

The testimony on which he was convicted is extremely fishy and shows the whole thing to be a frame-up. A white man, with the woman at the time of the supposed attack, was the state's chief witness. According to him, he and the woman went riding in his car and they stopped on a lonely road "while he smoked a cigarette." Suddenly Downer is supposed to have appeared and forced the woman from the car at the point of a pistol. The next day the white man married the woman. Three other Negroes were arrested and were almost lynched. Downer was picked for the legal lynching.

This case like innumerable others, prove again that a Negro has no chance in the world in a court manned and controlled by whites in the South. The fight being carried on by the International Labor Defense and the League of Struggle for Negro Rights for the release of the Scottsboro boys is a fight against this whole system of legal lynching and for the simple democratic rights supposed to be granted Negroes, like the right of Negroes to sit on juries.

258 Delegates in Chi. Scottsboro Defense

(Continued from Front Page)

tional Labor Defense, who is touring the country in connection with the Scottsboro case, spoke before a spirited mass meeting of 400 white and Negro workers at the Roi Davis hall in Toledo.

Daily, additional organizations join the mass campaign for the freedom of the boys and the mass protest grows stronger thruout the country.

SUBSCRIBE TO

SOUTHERN WORKER

SPECIAL SCOTTSBORO OFFER: 25 Cents for 3 Months
USE THIS BLANK

SOUTHERN WORKER,
Box 1653, Chattanooga, Tenn.,

Enclosed is 25 Cents for 3 months subscription to the SOUTHERN WORKER.

Name _____

Address _____

FROM THE MILLS, MINES AND THE FARMS

FACTS ABOUT UNEMPLOYMENT FEDERAL AGENT DIDN'T REPORT

By a Worker Correspondent
Elizabethton, Tenn.

See where a federal employment faker by the name of Robert N. Campbell came through Northeast Tennessee to "investigate" conditions and reported that "there are a few unemployed persons in each center (Johnson City, Elizabethton and Kingsport) but not enough to burden charity organizations or cause want."

This faker says that the "psychological aspects of the situation are distinctly encouraging." Whatever the hell all that may mean, the workers of Northeast Tennessee know one thing very definitely: the JOB aspects and the WAGE aspects of the situation are — rotten.

"Encouraging" Cities

Take Kingsport, which Mr. Campbell gives as one of these "encouraging" cities. He opens his report on Kingsport by saying that "one plant has recently shut down; another one is able to operate in a desultory way only, while a third is operating only one department." That is all supposed to be encouraging.

And listen, here's some more facts that Mr. Campbell didn't put in: The main plant at Kingsport, the Eastman Kodak, is operating with only 2-3 of its crew; it has not worked a full crew in over 18 months. The Mead Fibre company is working a half crew. The silk mills, both of them, work 2-3 of a crew. All these plants have cut wages. Kingsport used to do a lot of construction work; there is only one construction job going on in Kingsport now. Mr. Campbell says there is one mill working night and day; that probably refers to the cotton mill which is paying its workers \$2.00 a day.

Then take Johnson City, another "encouraging" center of employment. The hosiery mills are working a half crew, on a stagger system, giving two to three days' work per worker each week. The Sells Lumber Co. works two-thirds of a crew. The Miller Bros. flooring plant works two-thirds of a crew.

Reconciled, Eh?

Mr. Campbell says the Elizabethton rayon plants are working more workers than ever before. Which is a downright lie. In every department of the mills, almost, there are idle machines. Maybe the plants are putting out more production than ever — although even this is doubtful — but how is it done? A 7-day production week, 12-hour shifts on Sunday, crazy speed-up in every department. And what about Carter County's 2000 or more blacklisted workers? Mr. Campbell says that some unemployed

Quiz Workers For War Jobs in Birmingham

By a Worker Correspondent
Birmingham, Ala.

While the big landowners and merchants in Alabama are trying to burn in the electric chair nine innocent working class Negro children, the White House bosses are charming the charving white and colored workers and fooling them into signing themselves into another bloody imperialist war.

The bosses have now arranged to have the workers go to the post office and register for (war) jobs. The workers are quizzed as if they were criminal suspects and are signed up and sent home until the 15th of June. Then they will be sent all over the country, but will have to pay their own transportation.

This is clear. The bosses will not outlaw war until we organize and fight against imperialist war.

—An Unemployed Worker.

workers have gone to the farms and some are still unemployed. So a worker who has to go to live on his people at the farm—and we know how little farming there is to be done these days—is no longer unemployed?

Mr. Campbell is most encouraged when he considers "the changed mental attitude towards the depression . . . adjustments to reduced incomes . . . and the people have become reconciled to them." Which means that Mr. Campbell has become reconciled to the reduced incomes of the workers. He says: "Definite programs for the stabilization of business are now being proposed and discussed." Yes, we know what this means. Putting the crisis off onto the workers, no jobs, stagger systems, speed-up and cut rates. These methods are not only being discussed—they are being put into effect everywhere—and Northeast Tennessee, just as everywhere else.

12-Hour Shift in Rayon Plants

By a Worker Correspondent
Elizabethton, Tenn.

The very first strike we had here in the Bemberg-Glanzstoff mills, was for the 8-hour shift, and we thought we won it. But now by all sorts of tricks they have cut out our 8-hour day, and making us work overtime, but only at the regular rate.

Take the spinning room of both plants. Since they went on the 7-day production week, they have a 12-hour shift on Sundays, there is a full crew working from 7 to 7. By making the men work overtime 4 hours, they manage to cut one shift for Sundays. During these 12 hours, we get one 15-minute lunch period and one 15-minute rest period. Which is only 30 minutes in a 12-hour shift, at a crazy pace.

Where there is only one or two shifts, like in the reeling and inspection departments, they work you 8 hours and 35 minutes. In other departments, if you are going to get your half-day Saturday, you work 9 hours every day. And then sometimes you don't get it after all, because you have to stay overtime.

Some of the men in the chemical department worked 72 hours last week, and some 68.

Why do they have to do this crazy speed-up and 7-day week? Is it because there are not enough machines? Well in the spinning room there are 86 machines and only 72 are working. It is the same in other departments—idle machines all over. They could hire more workers on these machines, work us all 8 hours, but machines are more precious to them than workers, so they let some of the machines go and work the workers faster and faster, and longer hours all the time.

—A Worker.

Gal. Ministers "Thank" Gov. Miller For Favor

By a Worker Correspondent
Galveston, Texas.

The Ministers' Alliance of Galveston backed the sabotaging N. A. A. C. P. and sent a wire to Gov. Miller "thanking" him for the granting of a change of venue for the nine Scottsboro boys, which he was forced to grant thru the efforts of the International Labor Defense.

These preachers haven't the guts to say the truth, yet they have the nerve to call themselves the leaders of an oppressed race. Don't they

Calls On Negroes To Join With White Workers In Fight

By a Worker Correspondent
Greenville, S. C.

Something must be done for my people. I want to say that we are here in this world and we have to live. It seems like the whole round world is down on us because our skins are black. We are human just the same as the whites are.

Once upon a time the bosses sold us as if we were cattle. They still want to hold us under their feet. We are going to crawl out from there. We want work and we want pay for what we do. The wages that we get can't pay our debts. We want enough for our work. We have to feed our families and clothe our families just as the white man does. Why not pay us the same. Where we work, we have got to live. Something must be done.

The way we are treated, some of us are forced to steal. We can't live honest at \$12 and \$15 a week, and pay the high rent we are charged for the houses we live in. We are asking for higher wages and lower rent so we can live. There are people in Greenville who are starving, with no shoes and clothes for their children to wear. We are pulling this veil from our faces. We see a light. Something must be done.

Speed up, workers! Be up and doing! Join the union! We workers are the ones who keep things going. Without our labor nothing can be done. Fight for your rights! Fight for equal pay for equal work! Fight for unemployment insurance! Listen! We are not going to starve.

Negro Preachers Say "Can't Bother About 9"

By a Worker Correspondent
Birmingham, Ala.

The misleaders of the Negro people are sure exposing themselves thru their attitude on the Scottsboro case. A league member approached Rev. Goodgame in Birmingham about doing something to help the I. L. D. on the Scottsboro case and to speak in his church.

He told him that he was too busy to do anything and that instead we should all pray more for the boys. Further he said they are guilty and we can't bother our heads about them. All these fakers want is the poor people's money and to keep the Negro race down in quiet starvation before the bosses and not unite with the white workers to fight for better conditions.

—Y. C. L. Member.

Dock Workers Pay For Not Finishing Sooner

By a Worker Correspondent
Galveston, Texas.

Hector Paving Contractors disregarded all labor laws Saturday by docking a number of workers three hours pay.

In spite of the terrific speed-up and the back-breaking work handling cement under a boiling sun, the bosses yelled—faster! hurry! until the half-starved bodies of the workers could not stand the strain.

Then the workers had to forfeit three hours pay because the work was not completed as soon as was expected.

—A Worker.

know that only low down dogs whine and plead to their masters for mercy, and that leaders of men stand up and demand their rights.

Why should we "thank" those slave driving, grafting parasites when we force them to give us a point.

—A Worker.

NEW STRETCH-OUT IN CALVIN MILL; SEAL ALL WINDOWS

By a Worker Correspondent
Charlotte N. C.

At the Calvin Mill, where I work, the bosses are putting in a new system of stretchout and speed-up. They used to work us from 6 to 8 a.m. and from 12 to 7 p.m. and have another man double up with us on the job in the spinning department. Now they changed the hours from 6 to 9 a.m. and 12 to 7 p.m. and cut off the other workers who doubled with us. We must not only do our own work but the other man's as well.

The boss saved a lot of money by giving us an hour extra and cutting off the other man, so he got very kindhearted and gives us \$1.80 more a week which makes our wages \$13.50 for the work of two.

The boss nailed down all windows to keep us from going there and getting some fresh air. He wants to make sure that we are right on the job.

They keep coming around, yelling to us to work faster and harder. but

Greenville Building Workers Unemployed

By a Worker Correspondent
Greenville, S. C.

Most of the carpenters, painters, brickmasons, etc., here in Greenville, are either out of work, or only get a day or two a week. There is practically no building going on. Probably 2,000 are just floating and half starved. None of us used to take a job under 50c an hour. Now we are working for 20c and even less.

We have an A. F. of L. union here, but it never did us any good. We need something with a little fight in it. Quite a bunch of us joined the Unemployed Council. That's the best thing that's been around here.

—A Greenville Carpenter.

Farm Children Do Work of Men — Get No Chance

Birmingham, Ala.

While traveling to Chattanooga, I talked to a boy about 8, and his brother, and asked him how long he went to school. He said nine months a year, so I told him this was good but did he get to go all the time? To this he said that when the plowing is on and also other times that he has to stay out of school and help his father, which means that he only gets 5 or 6 months, if that much. Along the way could be seen boys 8 or 10 years old behind a plow doing a man's work.

This is the "freedom of opportunity, which this bosses' country gives to these poor boys. Only when there is a workers' and farmers' government like they have in Russia will this sort of conditions change.

—Young Worker.

Coffin Mills Only Ones Running in Greenville

By a Worker Correspondent
Greenville, S. C.

Last week I was in Batesburg, S. C. The night shift of the only cotton mill there shut down on Friday and they are talking of shutting down the whole mill. This means that at least 500 workers will have to be going to the Red Cross for some hard bread.

The only thing I saw going good was the coffin factories. There are three of them, and all running five and a half days a week, and they are talking of starting them up at night. This looks like the workers are starving to death.

—Worker.

now all the workers are beginning to wake up. We are organizing in the National Textile Workers' Union and are demanding that the stretch-out be cut with an increase in pay.

—A Worker.

FARM WORKER GETS \$1.00 FOR WEEK'S WORK

By a Farmer Correspondent
Camp Hill, Ala.

W. A. Langley, a landowner and farmer, has a share-cropper, a renter and a wage-hand. He pretended to pay the Negro farm laborer \$10.00 a month, and worked him 5 weeks, and only gave him \$5.00—only \$1.00 a week.

He worked this Negro in all kinds of bad weather. He lost three days and the landowner's wife took out \$1.50 for each day he lost and dared him to dispute her word.

H. C. Meadow, another landowner is working a Negro deaf and dumb. He works him for just what he can eat and his smoking tobacco, in all kinds of weather.

—A Farmer.

Leaves City To Starve On Farm

By a Worker Correspondent
Dawson, Ala.

It is time for us workers to wake up, white and colored, and organize and fight against these damn conditions.

I will tell you how a boss done the other day that I was working for. I was getting a dollar a day. We hauled out 10 loads of manure. He was so angry the he run the mules and beat the blood out of one of them.

I was broke down in the shop and was thrown out by the bosses on the streets to starve and am now on the farm working one and two days a week trying to make a living for my wife and baby. We have to eat Hoover's green and lard gravy.

Let's try and get this paper in every worker's home and set us up a workers' government like Soviet Russia.

—From a Red.

75c a Day For Plowing in S. C.

By a Worker Correspondent
Greenville, S. C.

Workers are getting 75c a day for ploughing, in Greenville. They work from sun-up to sun-down. Yesterday I saw a man who hands were all blistered and full of corns. I asked him how it happened and he told me he had been ploughing last week from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., and only made 75c a day. Last year for this same work men got \$1.25 for a day's ploughing, and the year before \$1.50 and \$2.00.

Year before last cotton pickers got \$1.00 for 100 pounds. Last year they got 50c. This year farmers says they are going to pay 35c. How can workers live on these shabby wages?

—Worker.

ATTACK ON FOREIGN-BORN
CHICAGO, Ill.—By June 1 1,000 foreign-born workers will be deported from Chicago, most of them employed, twice the number deported during the same period last year.

The Southern Worker

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

Jim Allen, Managing Editor

Chattanooga, Tenn.

Box 1653

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

Story of Arkansas Food March Told By Leader

(The following is an account of the food riot at England Ark., last year as told by Mr. Coney a white tenant farmer, and one of the leaders of the 500 farmers. This story is recorded in the New Republic, a New York magazine, by Clement Harris.)

"Well," he began, "here's how it happened. We all got pretty low on food out here and some was a-starvin'. Mebbe I was a little better fixed than most, 'cause we still had some food left. But when a woman comes to me a-cryin' and tells me her kids ain't et nothin' fer two days and grabs me and says, 'Coney, what are we a-goin' to do?' then somethin' went up in my head. I jest says, 'Lady, you wait here. I'm a-goin' to get some feed.' Then I cranks up my truck you see settin' over yonder, and takes my wife and rolls over to Bell's place. Bell's the feller them Red Cross guys pick out to run the relief, but he never give out nothin'. He always tells 'em that he hain't got no blanks and they gotta wait.

"Well, I rolls over to Bell's place and finds a crowd of hungry men and Bell still a-sayin' that he hain't got no blanks. So I hollers out, 'All you that hain't yaller, climb on my truck. We're a goin' into England to get some grub.' They all loads onto her—forty-seven clum on, and let me tell you there warn't a one among 'em that had a gun of any sort. 'Now, then, when we gets to town,' I says, 'we'll ask for food quiet-like, and if they don't give it to us, we'll take it, also quiet-like.' I and another did all the talkin'. The gang just kept silent. They was a right pathetic sight.

"When we gets into town we goes up to Chief Swain and then to the mayor and tells 'em that we hain't got no food. They both tells us to wait, and we go over in front of the grocery store. Afterwards I heard the feller that ran another store got excited and told his men that if the crowd busted in, to let the gang grab the stuff, but to save the cash register. Then he faints and is lugged upstairs. When he comes to, he hollers 'I'll give a thousand dollars!'

"Out there in front of the grocery store mebbe 500 folks had collected. Lawyer Morris made up a talk, and I must say he was fair-minded. He tells us to wait and he'll see that we get grub. While he was a-talkin' I busted in and asked him if it warn't true that Congress in Washington wanted to vote relief, but that the Red Cross says they would handle it and no folks would starve. I got that one out of the Kansas City Star, and Lawyer Morris had to agree it was true. Yes, sir my gang stuck all right. I wouldn't a taken 'em if I hadn't a thought so. It wouldn't a wanted but jest a little bit o' sass ter've had a showdown. But they doled out the food and we all rolled back here without nobody gettin' hurt.

"You ask me how I'm fixed. Well, I'll tell you. I'm a-goin' to make a crop this year if I have to graze one mule and plow the other one. I never did see such a season as last year. Why, last August I tried to hock that truck out there fer \$25, which is less than the tires are worth. No takers. We hain't got enough clothes in this

house to wad a shot-gun proper. That pair o' rompers the kid's a-wearin' is the only clothes we bought in a year. That boy there is thirteen. He's the oldest and we had to keep him from school to help with the plowin'. He's a right smart hand. All winter we've been a-feedin' on beans and a bit o' lard to kinda give it flavor. There are seven of us here, and fer a while we drew \$6 every two weeks from the the Red Cross. Once we drew \$7. It was some job to get through on that, I'm tellin' you. They've quit payin' and we only got food enough left fer four or five days. But these kids hain't a-goin' to starve while I'm loose. They may coop me up and then let 'em starve, but not with me around.

"I've been atryin' to borrow money fer my crop this year. I pay \$8 an acre fer corn and cotton to the landlord. He's a cotton broker who lives in Memphis. I tried to get his man out here to waive his claim fer last year, when we didn't get no crop at all, and then I might get the government loan. He tried to get me to sign the loan money over to him so's he could spend it fer me. Strikes me like they was tryin' to make us croppers keep the bankers. Now I'm tryin' to get \$250 on the government loan, but they're slow about it.

"I don't know what's a-comin'. I hain't got no edjication to speak of, but I hain't yaller. I live right here on Route Two, and if they want me they'll find me right here to home. Mebbe I'll be closed out next year, but I tell you, I don't aim to leave a-runnin'. I notice one thing. This winter has done one good thing. The farmers are more sociable-like. Was a time when they would'a walked by you, without knowin' you was there. I think that three winters like this one would see them organized. I'll tell you that there's sure goin' to be somethin' tearin' loose 'round here some day."

Chatta. Kitchens Hand Out Bread to 12,000

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — Over 12,000 unemployed workers received bread at the city soup kitchens for the week ending May 23, the first week after the city had stopped dispensing soup at the kitchens, according to the report of R. L. Davis, in charge of the work for Mayor Bass.

This gives the direct lie to the reason given by Mayor Bass and his committee for discontinuing the sup kitchens. They claimed that unemployment in the city was on the decrease and that therefore there was no more need for the kitchens.

When notice of the closing of the kitchens was first posted the Unemployed Council immediately issued leaflets to the workers asking them to demand continuation of the kitchens from the city along with cash relief. This agitation led to the distribution of bread for the week, the city fearing to cut out relief altogether. Continued demands by the jobless will force the re-opening of the kitchens and further concessions from the city.

SCOTTSBORO SCENES



First Picture—Mrs. Benice Norris, sister-in-law of Clarence Norris; Mrs. Josephine Powell, mother of Ozie; Mrs. Viola Montgomery, mother of Olen; and Mrs. Ida Norris, mother of Clarence.



Second Picture—Part of the mob of 10,000 which surrounded the courthouse and howled for the blood of the nine Negro boys at the first trial in Scottsboro, Ala. The Southern boss papers are now saying that there was no mob at this trial.



Third Picture—The jail in Scottsboro, Ala., where the boys were taken after their arrest at Paint Rock, and where they were beaten and threatened into making "admissions."



Fourth Picture—The Scottsboro, Ala., courthouse where eight of the nine boys were sentenced to the electric chair with the help of Stephen Roddy, sent by the Minists Alliance of Chattanooga and claimed by the N.A.A.C.P.

10c Coins for "Safety" And More Speed-up

By a Worker Correspondent
Birmingham, Ala.

The U. S. Pipe and Foundry Co. gave all workers a 10-cent coin good only at the cafe operated by the company, thanking the workers for their help in the safety first work.

But on the day we were given the coin, men in the stock department

were speeded up to carry six more tons of iron and we work half an hour overtime every day for nothing. Besides, this hard heavy work pays only 30 cents an hour. This speed-up will mean more accidents will take place. We workers must organize into the Metal Trades Workers Industrial League to fight against such speed-up and against wage-cuts.

—A Worker.

The Marion Strike

(To the tune of "The Wreck of the Altoona.")

When they had that strike in North Carolina,
Up there at the Marion Mill,
Somebody called for the sheriff,
To come down there on the hill.
The sheriff came down there to the factory,
And brought all of his men along,
And he says to the mill strikers:
"Now, boys, you all know this is wrong."

"But sheriff, we just can't work for nothing,

For we've got a family to feed,
And they've got to pay us more money,

To buy food and clothes that we need.
"You've heard of the stretch-out system,

A-going through the country today.
They put us on two men's jobs,
And give us half enough pay.

"You know we helped give you your office.

And we helped to give you your pay.
And you want us to work for nothing,
That's why you're down here today."

So one word just brought on another,
And the bullets they started to flying.
And after the battle was over,
Six men lay on the ground a-dying.

Now, people, labor needs protection,
We need it badly today.

If we will just get together,
Then they can't do us that way.

Now I hear the whistle blowing,
I guess I'd better run along.

I work in the factory,
That's why I wrote this little song.

—J. G., Greenville, S. C.

Charlotte Scottsboro Meet Elects Five

(Continued from Front Page)

us parents. They've done everything they could. I've seen some of the good they've done. If it hadn't been for the I.L.D. we mothers wouldn't have been able to see our boys. I guess, until Judgment Day. Now we have seen them twice. I hope we win this. If we don't win this, they will do something else against the workers."

One of the white delegates said: "The capitalists when talking about the Scottsboro case claim they are protecting white womanhood. These same people killed Ella May Wiggins and lynch women. It's not women they're protecting but Capitalism. We must fight for these framed-up boys. Mrs. Williams is our sister because she is a worker." A colored woman worker stated: "I've got boys myself, and don't know when they'll be railroaded to the electric chair. We must work to free these boys."

An 11-year-old pioneer, a colored little girl, said: "We are here this afternoon in behalf of the nine boys of our class who are being held prisoners in Scottsboro for a crime for which they are not guilty. So let's get together and do all we can for the nine boys of our race. We want to save their lives if possible so let us get our hearts, minds and wits together like brave soldiers and fight for them. We want to protect them if we can." D. Doran spoke for the I.L.D. and District organizer of the Party. J. Carson also spoke.

A committee of ten Negro and white workers were elected at the District Scottsboro Defense Committee. Five delegates were elected to the Chattanooga All-Southern United Front Conference to be held May 31st. Resolutions were sent to Governor Miller of Alabama, and Judge Hawkins of the Scottsboro Court.

Following the Conference Mr. Williams addressed a congregation, 2000 at the House of Prayer for People, the largest Negro church in Charlotte.