

White and  
Colored Workers,  
Unite!

# SOUTHERN WORKER

Don't Starve—  
Fight for Social  
Insurance!

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

Volume 1, No. 43.

Chattanooga, Tenn., June 13, 1931

2 Cents a Copy

## NAACP Joins Southern Lynchers In Attack On Scottsboro Boys Defense

9,000 PENNA. MINERS STRIKE AGAINST STARVATION, LED BY NMU

### Issue Strike Call For Bituminous Mine Field

Men, Women and Children March on Mine After Mine, Despite Tear Gas

Over 9,000 miners in 35 mines in the Pittsburgh area are on strike against starvation under the leadership of their own District Rank-and-File Strike Committee and the National Miners' Union.

Under the slogan of "Better Starve Striking than Starve Working!" "Strike Every Bituminous Mine in Pennsylvania!" "Spread the Strike!" White and Negro miners, their women folks and children are on the march, withstanding the brutal Coal and Iron police and tear gas, and pulling out mine after mine.

#### Negro and White Solidarity

The Negro workers imported by the mine owners during the 1927 strike are standing solid and fighting shoulder to shoulder with the white miners, appearing in great force in the mass picket lines and marches which in one case numbered 1,400 miners at the Montour mine, No. 10, at Library, Pa.

Over 3,000 miners have already joined the National Miners Union. District President Pagan of the United Mine Workers is trying to sell out the strike by conferring with Department of Labor conciliators and the mine owners, but the strike committee has given its decisive answer to this attempted sell-out by stating that it will not abide by any decision has arrived at.

#### General Strike Call

The Pa. District Strike Committee of the National Miners Union has issued a general strike call in the bituminous fields calling upon every miner to lay down his tools and strike against starvation. The unemployed miners are fighting solidly with the strikers, participating in the picket lines.

The miners have been eking out an existence at 30 cents a ton, having up to a third of that stolen because they are allowed no check-weighman. The miners are not paid for dead work, the tools are not delivered to the miner where he works and when he does get his pay lots of it is stolen at the company stores.

#### STARVATION!

A situation similar to the one existing in the Harlan Coal fields and in the mines around Birmingham and in Tennessee and West Virginia is described by Vern Smith, staff correspondent of the DAILY WORKER. He writes:

"While the operators live in luxury, on the golf links and in pleasure resorts, on the profits of this cruel and dangerous labor of their half-starved underground serfs, the homes of the miners are bleak with want. Hunger is a daily experience, not on-

ly of the men who risk death every hour they are underground, but of their wives and families. In the miners' homes there is no gas, no light, no water. Many women cannot leave the house because they have no

(Continued on Page 3)

### Mass Arrests of Harlan Miners; I.L.D. on Scene

HARLAN, Ky.—Additional arrests have been made in the strike area, bringing the total number of miners now held in Harlan county jail to over eighty. Two score more arrests are threatening. An attack of mine guards and deputy sheriffs on strikers which took place in the Yellow Creek area resulted in the injury of two mine-owners thug. Hundred of militiamen were immediately hifted from the Everts zone. This was followed by the arrest of strikers.

The striking miners charge that fifty thousand rounds of dum-dum bullet cartridges were sent in for use by the gunmen of the mine barons.

J. Louis Engdahl, general secretary of the International Labor Defense, visited the imprisoned miners in the county jail, arranging for their legal defense and a mass protest against the bloody regime and wholesale persecutions by the mine-owners headed by the infamous Peabody Coal Co. of Chicago and the United States Steel Corporation. Engdahl, who came here following the All-Southern Scottsboro Defense Conference in Chattanooga, declared the situation here to be a second Gastonia. He pointed out that the Harlan miners, consisting of about half and half of Negro and white miners, are fighting shoulder to shoulder.

An idea of the growing mass revolt of the miners of Tennessee against Starvation conditions and their readiness to organize and strike, can be obtained from remarks made by Paul Aymon, president of the Tennessee Federation of Labor.

In an interview given a boss paper in Chattanooga, Aymon declared that the situation in the mines was tense and that a general strike may result. He says that miners in the Wilderfield in Fentress and Overman counties are itching to strike. He reports

### Berry Pickers Win 3 Strikes On Soddy Farm

With strawberry picking over, news finally leaks out of three strikes on the Igoe Farm, the South's largest strawberry farm in the Soddy section, Tennessee. The pickers, carriers and packers all won their demand of an increase in pay, after strikes in the height of the season, during which county police forces were called to the farm three times in an effort to subdue the strikes.

First, more than 100 workers picking the berries struck, demanding 2 cents instead of 1½ cents a cup. They won their wage increase. Then the carriers—those who carry the berries from the patch to the packing center—walked out, demanding 10 cents per crate for carrying the berries, instead of the 9 cents they were getting. They also won. Then the packers carried thru a successful strike for a wage increase.

These three successful strikes by unorganized workers show that strikes can be won, if the fight is militant, and that if the workers stick, picket together and don't stand for any sell-outs they can not only prevent wage-cuts, but even get better conditions.

### Miners Lose Jobs By Mechanical Loading

Increase in mechanical loading and in use of hand-loaded conveyors is becoming a more important factor in throwing miners out of work. Total tonnage of bituminous deep-mined and loaded by machine or conveyor jumped from 21,599,000 (or 4.3 per cent of the total) in 1928 to 46,824,000 (or over 10 percent of the smaller total) in 1930.

States have not developed evenly. Alabama and Pennsylvania showed the sharpest increase in mechanical loading from 1929 to 1930. But Wyoming (with 51 percent) Illinois (with 43 percent) and Montana (with 39 percent) are still far in the lead for percentage of total state output mechanically loaded underground.

that 500 miners in this territory, evidently misled about the fighting qualities of the United Mine Workers officials, sent in applications for the union and that 150 of them had been fired for doing so.

But, in the characteristic fashion of a labor faker, Aymon hastens to add that the "leaders of the miners," meaning the A. F. of L. misleaders were "making every effort to bring about a settlement." Leave it to these fakery and they will see to it that there is no strike and the miners

### Pickens, In Chattanooga, Cries "Lynch" For "Reds"

Young Negro Workers Expose Judas After Speech at St. Paul Church

While Judge Hawkins refused to oust Stephen Roddy from the Scottsboro cases and June 13th was set as the final date in the filing of new affidavits on the hearing for a new trial, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has launched into an even more vicious attack on the mass movement to save the boys in the South.

William Pickens, field organizer of N.A.A.C.P., is in the south, not engaged in helping to obtain the release of the nine Negro boys, but doing all in his power to cooperate with the white ruling class in an attack upon the mass movement led by the International Labor Defense and the League of Struggle for Negro Rights.

#### Joins Lynchers

Speaking at the St. Paul A. M. E. Church, under the auspices of the Interdenominational Ministers' Alliance, Pickens called upon the white ruling class and upper-class Negroes to fight the Communists. "The most serious menace in the whole matter (Scottsboro case)," he said, "is the Communist activity and propaganda among colored people in the south, based on the pretext of defending these boys."

When Stephen Roddy, employed by the Ministers' Alliance without the consent of the boys or their parents, and who had worked to send them to the electric chair at the first trial, arose in court at the beginning of the hearing, the I.L.D. attorneys demanded that Judge Hawkins recognize only those lawyers whom the boys have accepted. Judge Hawkins refused to do so, permitting Roddy to stay in the case, against the wishes of the boys, their parents and all those sincerely fighting for the release of the nine youths.

An extension of 10 days, to June 13th, was granted for the purpose of filing additional affidavits and evidence to show the innocence of the boys. At that time the judge is expected to render his decision as to whether he will grant the boys a new trial or not. If a new trial is not granted by Judge Hawkins, the International Labor Defense will carry the case to the Supreme Court of the United States.

(Continued on Page 2)

go back to work under starvation conditions.

The best way to avoid this kind of a sell-out is for the miners to organize their own rank-and-file committees in every mine and strike under the leadership of their own strike committee.

Workers are watching the situation in the Tennessee coal fields very closely, with hopes that the miners will follow the example of the bituminous miners of western Pennsylvania.

Speaking in the same manner as the vicious lynch paper at Scottsboro, the Jackson Sentinel, Pickens issued the call for an attack upon all Negro and white workers following the leadership of the I.L.D. and the L.S.N.F. and closed his speech with the virtual lynch cry: "The sane and just among Negroes and whites here must not let them get away with it." By "them" Pickens means the Communists and by getting away with it is meant saving the boys.

#### Boss Talk

In the same manner as a white boss speaking to Negro workers, Pickens declared: "If the defendants in the Scottsboro trials need justice they should get it from the law-abiding Negro and the influential and just-minded whites." In these words he tells the nine Negro boys in the death block at Kibby and all those fighting for their release to look to the white ruling class, which has lynched thousands of Negroes and sent others to legal lynchings, for "justice." His aim is to break down the growing unity of Negro and white workers and feed the Negroes the treacherous idea that they must look to their bosses for aid and not to the workers of their own color and of the white race.

This traitor and Judas, who defends and retains the K.K.K. lawyer, Roddy, proved to be just as vicious a liar in his speech, stopping at nothing in his attempt to break the defense movement. He said that the Communists were threatening authorities with violence, offered to free the

(Continued on Page 2)

### Pickens Joins Southern Lynchers

Continued from Front Page)  
 prisoners by force and "have corralled, abducted, fenced in and hidden out the relatives of the Negro youths to prevent their being reached by agents of law-abiding organizations." These are all the most contemptible lies, which every one of the parents and relatives of the boys denounce as tricks coming from their worst enemy.

**Workers Expose Pickens**  
 When Pickens was thru with his treacherous speech, which showed that he had been sent South by his organization for no other purpose than to attack the organizations defending the boys, two young Negro workers in the audience fought for the floor until they got it, and then spoke in their turn, exposing the treachery and Judas role of Pickens, the N.A.A.C.P., and the Ministers' Alliance. The young workers wanted to know how it was that the N.A.A.C.P. did not enter the case at the very beginning, but came in only later for the one purpose of attacking the International Labor Defense and the L. S.N.R. They wanted to know why it was that Pickens' crowd kept Roddy in the case, the K.K.K. lawyer who did his best to send the boys to the electric chair at the trial. They stated that the boys themselves, their parents and near relatives were all solid for the International Labor Defense and had stated that they wanted no other lawyers in the case to defend them. They pointed out that the principal activity of the Pickens crowd was attacking the organizations and the mass movement defending the boys and that they were doing nothing for the boys themselves.

The pastor of St. Paul is the Rev. N. B. Morton, and Dr. J. R. Bownes, who threatened the Atlanta delegates to the All-Southern Scottsboro Defense Conference with arrest should they come, was also present. Bownes is president of the Ministers' Alliance.

**Parents Denounce Pickens**  
 Pickens, who speaks of "a whole flood of treacherous lies" of the Communists in the South, is following the actions of Walter White, secretary of the N.A.A.C.P., who, during his trip in the South tried to fool the boys, and parents with all sorts of tricks and lies into accepting the "sweetenin'" defense of his organization. Pickens has visited the boys in jail—the jailers will readily grant admission to these traitors but allow the parents of the boys only 7 minutes with their sons—and lied to them also. He is attempting to turn the parents away from the mass defense movement, but the parents, all of them workers, know where the interests of their sons lie and are staying solid with the International Labor Defense and denouncing these latest electric chair moves of the N.A.A.C.P. They have written their sons in Kilby warning them against this lat-

### Indo-China Natives Fight for Liberation

INDO China.—Bands of Indo Chinese peasants wearing red insignia and led by their chiefs are making a desperate attack upon the armed forces of French Imperialism for liberty. The French papers have characterized these heroic groups of desperately striving to drive out the French robbers who have tortured and mutilated thousands of men and women only because they dared to raise a voice in condemnation of French terror and exploitation. They are called outlaws by French bandits who have robbed them of the Country and are resorting to the only possible methods of securing their liberation—an appeal to arms.

est move of treachery.  
 These lynch-law attacks upon the defense and upon the lives of the boys are serving to show to the Negro masses who are their friends and who their enemies. The masses are following the United Front set up at the Scottsboro Defense Conferences held throughout the country called by the International Labor Defense and the League of Struggle for Negro Rights, whose only purpose is to obtain the release of the nine boys railroaded to the electric chair.

### Mob Threatens I.L.D. Lawyers

Continued from Front Page)  
 Ten jurymen who sat on the jury which convicted five of the boys were examined by the defense attorneys, and Mr. Chamlee brought out by cross-examination that some of these jurymen had been influenced by the mob of 10,000 around the courthouse, by the brass band which fiendishly hailed the electric chair verdicts, and by the verdicts given in the first two trials. Each jurymen was asked whether or not he had any prejudice against Negroes, a question which the judge did not permit them to answer.

**Lynch Spirit in Scottsboro**  
 The lynch spirit in Scottsboro was shown when one townsman approached Joseph Brodsky in court, pointing a threatening finger at him and said: "We're just laying for you S—O—B—reds. Wait till we get you outside."

During the hearing, the men crowding the courtroom all rose and pushed to the front more than once, especially when Brodsky insisted that Roddy had no place in the case. The judge made no move to quiet the courtroom.

Before the hearing the crowd stood around on the courthouse lawn, mulling threats against the International Labor Defense attorneys and declaring that the boys had gotten a "fair trial" and they should have been hung anyhow. After the hearing a large crowd waited in front of the courthouse for the I.L.D. attorneys to come out and made a concerted move towards them when Brodsky in the company of other I.L.D. representatives, emerged from another exit. Inflamed by lynch spirit, the crowd showed the lynch terrorism which pervaded the Scottsboro court during the trial and which pervades it now, when it is supposed to be considering impartially the demand for a new trial.

**Threaten Patterson**  
 Judge Hawkins refused to permit Claude Patterson, father of Haywood, to testify in court that he, all the parents and the boys wanted only the International Labor Defense lawyers to defend the boys. Patterson was present in Scottsboro at the hearing and ready to testify despite the lynch spirit that prevailed. It will be remembered that the members of the Ministers' Alliance were afraid to put foot in Scottsboro and that neither Walter White or William Pickens, so busy attacking the defense, would not dare go near it.

Further evidence of the lynch spirit was shown when a group of boss-inspired lynchers threatened Patterson with violence and lynching on the Scottsboro streets.

The prosecution lawyers, some of whom are being paid out of a fund raised in Scottsboro, filed affidavits which are supposed to show that those Chattanooga workers swearing to the fact that Ruby Bates and Victoria Price were prostitutes with Negro men in that city, had been "bought" for 75 cents a-piece. This ridiculous charge was exposed by Mr. Chamlee as holding no water and a futile attempt to protect the character of the two girls, who are well-known prostitutes thruout Northern Alabama and Southern Tennessee.

### General Fabrics Picket Line



Mass picket line around the General Fabrics Mill, Central Falls, R. I., where the National Textile Workers Union is leading its fourth strike within a month.

### "Education" for A. F. of L. Sells Out Line of Labor Fakery

(L.R.A.)—How the American Federation of Labor and the United Textile Workers of America "organize" textile workers by "educational methods" is illustrated in a report by the Rev. Paul Fuller, Educational Director of the A. F. of L., which appears in the Textile Worker, official monthly organ of the U. T. W.

Fuller, it will be remembered, is the man Matthew Woll sent to Passaic, N. J., in 1927, to fight the radical influence among the wool workers there after the great strike of 1926. Fuller at that time made an alliance with the Passaic Chamber of Commerce and the Kiwanis Club and held what he called a labor Chatauqua, from which all militants were barred and at which Woll and the Chamber of Commerce secretary were the main orators.

His tactics recently in the South have been likewise devoted largely to wooing employers and employers' associations with promises of class cooperation and offers to "readjust industrial conditions" for the starving cotton workers. He has been active in the Horse Creek Valley of South Carolina and in Augusta, Ga., where he makes his headquarters. He says: "Business groups have repeatedly invited me to give our message. I have addressed some of the largest business men's organizations in the city and all have received me cordially. I have preached in the pulpits of most of the large churches of Augusta . . . I had the use of the local radio station every week for several weeks without charge."

That the U.T.W. has no intention of calling strikes or of making demands on the mill owners is made clear in other parts of Fuller's report: "No promise (to the workers) of relief or any immediate action for the adjustment of conditions have regulated strictly to education of the aims and purposes of the A. F. of L." And, just to make sure that his pol-

icy is not misunderstood, he adds: "The recent wage cuts of from 10 percent to 25 percent have not affected the morale of the movement. No strike talk has been circulated nor has it affected the growth and influence of the movement."

### 3 Billions Lost In Wage-Cuts In 3 Months of 1931

WASHINGTON, D. C.—American workers lost between \$2,500,000,000 and \$3,000,000,000 thru wage-cuts, unemployment and part time work in the first three months of 1931, even the American Federation of Labor is forced to admit in its monthly business survey.

Despite these figures put out by economists working for his own organization, William Green still continues his dribble about there being no wide wage-slashing. His own figures show that there was a drop of one-third in wages paid during the spring of this year from the same month last year. While in the spring of 1930 factory wages were \$990,000,000, this spring they were only \$650,000,000 in those industries covered by the report.

The A. F. of L. still sticks to its ridiculously low unemployment figure of 5,000,000, and says that only 17.1 percent of the workers were unemployed in May. The figure is closer to 10,000,000 unemployed, and conditions are growing worse steadily, with the next winter looming darkly ahead as one of even worse starvation and freezing than last.

The miners at Harlan, Ky., and Pittsburgh, and the textile workers of Rhode Island are showing what can be done in the way of organizing and fighting against wage-cuts under the militant unions of the Trade Union Unity League.

not, just so he can work him at the little wages he offers him.

So let us workers fight for our equal rights, and get our prices. That is the only way for us to get the

### LYNCH LAW AT WORK

GREENWOOD, Miss.—Leon Upchurch, Negro, was sentenced to life imprisonment on a charge of burning a house.

MOBILE, Ala.—Charles Williams, indicted by a grand jury for assaulting a six-year-old girl, was arraigned here in the midst of a lynch spirit and his trial set for June 10. The effect of the mass movement to save the Scottsboro boys on the Alabama ruling class was shown when the grand jury was advanced a month to make the legal procedure seem proper.

ALEXANDRIA, La.—Seven white men, who dynamited road machinery here in order to scare away Negro workers employed on the road, were acquitted by a "white superiority" jury.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—An unidentified unemployed Negro worker riding a freight out of Birmingham was shot to death when four white men attacked him on the train.

### Farm Wages 50 Cents in N. C. Cotton County

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—Scotland county, the richest cotton section in this state, is a picture of poverty throughout, with hundreds of farm families actually starving.

The county itself is bankrupt, having 17 cents in the treasury, and every bank in the county seat is closed down. Two or three large landowners have gobbled up everything there is to be had.

White farmers, owners of large farms, from 100 to 600 acres, have had their mortgages foreclosed and are hiring themselves out, together with the poor farmers, to the largest plantation owners as croppers and tenants. Many of these farmers were at one time prosperous, having autos and tractors. But now the houses are deteriorating and everything is going to rack and ruin.

One farmer, father of 10 children, said he was allowed 33 1-3 cents per day by the landowner. Men farm laborers are getting 50 cents a day and women 25 cents, boarding themselves.

The coming winter will be even worse than last winter for the tenants and croppers and small landowners. It is necessary to begin organization immediately, to demand greater portion of the crop from the planters, cutting down of exorbitant credit interest, and other relief from the county and landowners, if wide spread starvation is to be avoided.

right price for our work. Stick together! Fight together!

—AWorker.

### \$1.25 Day For Ditch Digging

By a Worker Correspondent Greenville S. C.

There are a lot of people out of work and nothing to do. A job was opened up here Monday and the boss only hired 30 poor hungry men who were out of work and only paid them \$1.25 a day. They are ditching in deep ditches, risking their lives and likely to get killed at any time. They are bossed by the poor white men who let the rich bosses use them as their pets. They stand over the poor working men who are down in the deep ditches and watch as if they were convicts. They expect the poor men to take \$7.50 and pay their high house rent they charge him and live the best they can. They do not care whether he gets any food or

**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

## By Cotton?— Sure, But Where Is The Money?

By a Worker Correspondent  
Greenville, S. C.  
Well, the big boss cotton festival begins here in Greenville. This week the capitalist papers are getting all over themselves trying to get everybody to buy and wear cotton.

The bosses should not worry—for we sure wear cotton already, and cotton rags at that. If we happen by some accident to get enough money to buy a garment it sure will not be silk or wool.

It is a sure fact that the mill barons and the bankers are getting up in the air and more than that they see a much harder time coming this winter than we have had and they are trying to get every penny the worker has, robbing us and making millions for themselves.

Here is the point: the mills and cotton brokers have some 10 and 12 cent cotton on hand and they want to pile the burden on the workers, for it has already been predicted that cotton will sell this fall for 5 and 6 cents.

How can we buy silk and wool with a salary of from 3 to 12 dollars a week? The workers of the South should take warning in advance for the mills and mines and all industry has got no market. Let's spur up and get ready!

—Mill Worker.

## More Wage-Cuts In Textiles

(L.R.A.)—Latest Department of Labor figures on wage decreases in textiles are for the month ending March 15, 1931. These government figures are entirely inadequate for in that month they gave only 11 cuts in cotton, 12 in hosiery and knit goods and 3 in woolen and worsted. Reports from workers show how meaningless are the fragmentary returns to the government bureau. In every branch of textiles, workers' reports show hundreds of cuts each month of 1931.

The Massachusetts Dept. of Labor and Industries reports that average weekly earnings in cotton goods mills was 31 cents lower in April than in March.

Over 170,000 textile workers in Northern France have struck against a 10 percent reduction in wages. The employers' reaction, as in the U. S. A., is the economic crisis.

"Following the defeat of the union (U. T. W.) at Danville, writes a capitalist textile expert in the Daily News Record, "some mill executives undertook to take advantage of this setback by further cutting wages and taking advantage of the workers."

## NEGRO PRISONERS BURN'T TO DEATH

CORAL GABLES, Fla.—The carelessness of a white prison guard carrying ignited dynamite in a prison van in which some Negro prisoners were being taken to jail. The guard who was in charge of the keys of the van immediately ran off and the prisoners were left to roast to death.

Several prisoners horribly burned were asked to sign affidavits clearing the cowardly guards from all blame. That nothing will be done to convict these guards of murder is assured.

## Demanding Jobless Insurance



Mass meeting and demonstration for unemployment insurance, held in Military Park, Indianapolis, after the state hunger marchers and the demonstrators had been driven from in front of the state house.

## WOMEN WORKERS IN GREENVILLE LAUNDRIES GET \$6 A WEEK PAY

By a Worker Correspondent  
Greenville, S. C.

Women that work in laundries in Greenville work from 7:30 in the morning until 6 o'clock in the afternoon, and only get 30 minutes recess at dinner. Wages are \$6.00 a week. They have to stand on cement floor, and work awfully hard, going at full speed all day. No matter how hot it is they have to go just the same.

Women here, too, houseclean for 15c and 20c an hour. They scrub floors, wash windows and do the roughest part of the house work. They won't pay but 15c and 20c an hour and you have to be awful generous or you won't get that.

Cooks in boarding houses are getting only \$2 and \$3 a week. Nurses \$4, when they stay in the house all night, keeping the children, while the housewives go to the moving pictures and card parties, and out in society. They don't get to bed till the housewives get through the frolicking hour. They have to be on the job early in the morning at the usual hour. Many of the cooks and nurses don't even get the little salary that's promised them. The housewives hold the money back, promise it and never pay them. The workers can't help themselves. I know one worker who asked for her back time, and the housewife said: "I'll pay you when

I get it. If I don't get it, you won't get it." The worker knows there is nothing she can do about it; the housewives do just as they please.

We sure would be glad for a change to be made. We sure are tired of slaving and toiling so hard for nothing.

—A Woman Laborer.

## Scabs Warned To Keep Off Harlan

By a Worker Correspondent  
Thornton, Ky.

I am sending for 26 copies of the SOUTHERN WORKER as we need more copies up here. All workers are in starvation conditions and we will remain in starving conditions if we don't speed up and make better conditions before winter time.

Our clothes are short as well as food supplies. We will stand as much show to freeze to death this winter as of starving to death this summer.

Am advising coal miners stay away from the Harlan coal fields until the strike is settled.

—A Coal Miner.

## Want Organizers At Huntingdon, Tenn.

By a Worker Correspondent  
Huntingdon, Tenn.

Dear Comrade Allen:  
Can you send an organizer to Carroll county, Tennessee? No work here for the employed. Work is scarce for unemployed and farm labor. Several not making a crop.

—Worker.

## 9,000 Miners Strike in Penn.

(Continued from Front Page)

clothes but rags. Little children, crying for food, for bread, for anything that they can eat, are barefooted and in rags. They are being permanently stunted in body because of starvation. They are being put at a disadvantage all their life because they cannot attend school. Mr. Mellon's capitalist schools will not let a child attend classes if he has no clothes, but a rag around the middle, and thousands of miners children—before the strike, were literally garbed in nothing else. This weakened, half-starved, half clad mining population is ravaged by disease—by hunger diseases, by starvation diseases.

The Pennsylvania miners are answering these starvation conditions by a militant fight under the leadership of the National Miners' Union. This is also the only way to avoid death by starvation for the miners of the South.

## U.T.W. FAKERS AGAIN ROBBING DUES FROM DANVILLE WORKERS

By a Worker Correspondent  
Danville, Va.

The U. T. W. has lots of nerve. A few of them are still hanging around trying to squeeze a few more nickles out of the workers they betrayed. Last week they gathered a few of the workers, who are still blind to their treachery and told them to still have faith in the U.T.W.

They said we got a good settlement for the strike, over 1,500 union men have been taken back to work, etc. Well, all I can say is: it takes nerve to lie like that when we workers know better. We know that from the very first Gorman and his bunch tried to sell us out. They didn't call the strike in the first place. We workers struck because of the terrible conditions. All Gorman and the dirty rats of the A. F. of L. did was to say: "Don't strike. Let's settle it peaceably with the mill owners." It took them 9 months to complete the sell-out.

Now they are trying to collect dues from us poor workers—\$1.25 to join if you are a striker, and \$4 if you were a scab. If you are unemployed and starving, to hell with you.

But Mr. Gorman, and Mr. Capitalist, there is a union that organizes all the workers for a common fight against the common enemy. The National Textile Workers Union and the Unemployed Council organize all workers, employed and unemployed, men and women, Negroes and whites. And they organize them to fight the bosses, not to sell out to them. And

this is the organization which we workers of Danville will join and support.

If you are not already a member look up the organizer, get a group together and get to work. We workers must get busy or starve. Fight, don't starve!

—A Worker.

## CUT WAGES IN TAPESTRY MILL IN CHARLOTTE

Charlotte, N. C.

The workers at the Darlington Fabric Company of Charlotte, N. C., should wake up and fight against the indirect wage cutting the bosses are handing them there.

The tapestry weavers at this plant are supposed to operate two looms, but often have to run only one when production is not wanted on some pattern which they have on their loom. The have been receiving 6c per thousand picks when running two looms or 10c per thousand on one loom. But the bosses decided they should be satisfied with less and cut 4c per thousand off the one loom scale and are now paying them 6c per thousand whether they have one or two looms.

We workers who are now getting starvation wages will soon be working for less because the bosses like to hand out wage cuts to workers who haven't the guts to fight.

Organize! Fight wagecuts! Fight starvation wages!

—A Worker.

## T. C. I. CLOSES MORE MINES

By a Worker Correspondent  
Birmingham, Ala.

All colored and white workers need to get busy in Birmingham, for it is now in a worse condition than it ever has been. The Tennessee Coal and Iron Co. is shutting the mines. They have taken off the work train that carried the men to work.

Our Negro preachers of Birmingham are teaching their members not to interfere with the Scottsboro boys. They told one of the members that they were going to do all they could for the boys, but that the International Labor Defense had taken it up from New York. He told one of the members not to have anything to do with them, for they are overthrowing our government. The man he was talking to said: "Where is your government, you haven't got any."

—Colored Worker.

## "Cut Wages Of The Privileged"

By a Worker Correspondent  
Dora, Ala.

According to a report from the International Labor Office at Geneva, unemployment thruout the civilized world is twice what it was one year ago, with the exception of Russia, which is finding it difficult to find enough labor. According to the United States treasury department, over 600 men have a net income of \$1,000,000 in this country.

If there is to be any wage-cutting—and there's plenty of it—why not try it on the wages of privilege? If there is anything that makes a Communist it is the oppression of the capitalists and we are all reds who are under this oppression.

—Unemployed Miner.

## NTWU Leads 4th Strike in R. I.

(L.R.A.)—The strike of 500 workers at the General Fabrics Silk Corp. is fourth in a series of strikes led by the National Textile Workers Union in Central Falls, R. I. In each case, mass picketing has been maintained and a large strike committee, including women and youths, has represented the different departments.

At the Royal Weaving mill a successful strike stopped a wage cut earlier in the year. A wage cut of 17 per cent at the Bay State silk mill was withdrawn after a strike in April. In 3 days, from May 14-18, workers at the Lexington Worsted mill won a strike against a 10 percent wage cut. The General Fabrics strike, declared on May 7, is an offensive struggle against one of the largest silk companies in the United States, the General Silk Corp.

With 17 mills in 6 states, the General Silk Corp. represents a vicious trust. Marcus Frieder, president of the company, and Leonard P. Frieder vice-president, were responsible for the "Frieder Plan" in New Bedford—a method of speed-up by which weavers were made to run 12 looms instead of 4 or 6 as formerly. Strikers at the General Fabrics Silk Mill are demanding no more than 4 looms to a weaver, instead of as many as 12 at the time of the strike.

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Seventy-five Jolly cab drivers forced the withdrawal of a new percentage rate, which amounted to a drastic wage cut, by calling a strike. On the day before the strike was to go into effect the boss granted the drivers' demands.

## Expose the N.A.A.C.P., They Are Lynchers!

# 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

## N. A. A. C. P. Joins Lynching Mob

A second emissary has been sent south by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, to complete the task of Walter White. This is none other than William Pickens, the Judas in angel's wings, who has flown to perch himself on the switch of the electric chair at Kilby prison.

The first emissary, Walter White, secretary of the N.A.A.C.P., tried to accomplish his task by dastardly and underhanded tricks and lies. He failed. The Scottsboro boys, their parents, the masses of workers fighting for their release saw that his principal concern was to attack the International Labor Defense, to cripple the mass defense movement, and see the courtroom lynching thru in the peace and harmony of a secluded courtroom.

William Pickens came South. He came for one purpose and one purpose only—to launch a bitter attack against those who are honestly defending the boys; in this attack to openly cooperate with the white ruling class of the South.

In his speech at St. Paul's church in Chattanooga last Sunday he exposed his purpose and openly called, in virtual lynch law terms, for an attack upon the Communists. Did he come for the purpose of defending the boys? Let him answer for himself:

"The most serious menace in the whole matter is the Communist activity and propaganda among colored people in the South."

Here is an open acknowledgment that the only reason he and the N.A.A.C.P. have entered the case is to fight the Communists, not to obtain the release of the boys.

Does Pickens say the boys are innocent, that it is a frame-up? Again let him answer for himself:

"There is some doubt in the minds of people; in the minds of white people, and in the minds of Southern white people, as to the guilt or innocence of the nine Negro youth."

Note, fellow-workers, that Pickens says "there is some doubt in the minds of people." Nowhere does he say that this is a pure frame-up and a railroad carried out by the lynch law South. He dare not say that, for he would lose his position, that he so eagerly sought, on the right-hand side of the white ruling class. And what people? The workers, black and militant white? No, he has nothing to do with the workers, his concern is with the white bosses. In fact, in his speech, he refers to the Negro masses in an impertinent insult, as "the densely ignorant portion of the colored population."

And who are these people that Pickens turns to? They are no other than the very ones who incite lynch mobs, oppress and suppress 9,000,000 Negro toilers in the South, the very ones who intend to send the nine boys to the electric chair.

"If the defendants in the Scottsboro trials need justice they should get it from the law-abiding Negro and the influential and just-minded whites, and not from a political party of revolutionary aims."

In open terms Pickens calls upon the Negro masses to look for "justice" from their oppressors and lynchers! It is exactly the same kind of talk that has been given the Negro masses by the white rulers and their own betrayers for years. Avoid solidarity with your fellow-white workers, look to us, the benevolent bosses, for help and guidance! This is Pickens' talk, typical lynch law talk, aiming to divide the working class, to hand the Negro masses over to the white bosses to do with as they please.

And this is not all. This Judas openly calls upon the master class, in typical lynch law style, to wipe out the only true defenders of the boys. The guiding hand of the lynchers gives his advice. Says Pickens:

"Let the white people of Alabama and the South sit up and take notice. This Communist sapping through the densely ignorant portion of the colored population (he means workers and farmers, Ed.) while not immediately menacing to government itself, is certainly most menacing to good race relations."

Note, please, the same "peace and harmony" of the South mentioned by the Ministers' Alliance and now glorified by Pickens. Note that he calls upon the white bosses to "sit up and take notice"—to do what? Again let him speak for himself:

"The sane and the just among the Negroes and whites here must not let them get away with it."

He means that the white ruling class must not allow the workers defense movement to save the boys, for it would mean a tremendous step forward in the fight for equal rights for Negroes, and furthermore, would mean the end of Pickens and his ilk, as "race leaders."

Pickens can now step into Scottsboro without any fear in his heart, for he has won the lasting friendship of the lynch mob.

This is the same Pickens who in a letter to the Daily Worker, dated April 19, 1931, wrote in part:

"The one objective for final security is the absolute and unqualified unity and cooperation of ALL WORKERS, of all the exploited masses, across all race and color lines, and all other lines. . . . In the present case the Daily Worker and the workers have moved so far, more speedily and effectively than all other agencies put together. . . . This is one occasion for every Negro who has intelligence enough to read, to send aid to you and the I. L. D."

This complete change in front, under the influence of the white ruling class, shows how little the Negro masses can trust their "race leaders." The only hope for the Scottsboro boys and for the whole Negro people, lies in a united mass movement, shoulder to shoulder with the white workers.

## Militant Textile Strikers



General Fabrics mill weavers, militant and determined as ever, and holding their lines fast. These strikers have turned back scabs sent in from Connecticut.

## Must Accomplish Tasks Set By South Scottsboro Conference

The great All-Southern Scottsboro Defense Conference is behind us. But the real work of freeing the nine boys in prison lies still before us. The Conference itself was highly successful with over 100 delegates from all over the South meeting together to plan the fight to save the Scottsboro boys. But in the long run the Conference will have proven to be unsuccessful unless these plans are actually carried out. The manner in which each organization and group which sent delegates to the Conference carries out the tasks decided on will be the real yard stick by which the final success of the Conference may be judged.

### Three Tasks

The Conference gave us the three fundamental tasks before us: First, the development of a mass movement to free the boys; Second, the organization of this movement; Third, the financing of this movement. These three chief tasks must be impressed on the membership of every organization when the delegates make their report. How are they to be carried out?

In order to develop a mass protest movement which alone can free the boys, it is first of all necessary to get to the widest possible masses of the white and Negro toilers with the facts in the case. To do this every organization and Neighborhood Committee should first of all order a regular bundle of the LIBERATOR, the weekly official paper of the League of Struggle for Negro Rights for sale and distribution among the workers. A bundle of the LIBERATOR, which carries in each weekly issue, all the news of late developments in the case, can be obtained by any organization by writing to the LEAGUE OF STRUGGLE FOR NEGRO RIGHTS, 799 Broadway, New York City. Each organization should write to the International Labor Defense at Box 1511, Chattanooga Tenn., for leaflets on the case issued by this organization and by the L.S.N.R. Finally every one who supports the fight to

free the Scottsboro boys should explain to his neighbors, his shopmates, to everyone he comes in contact with, the facts of the case and the great movement to save the boys.

### Form Neighborhood Groups

The Neighborhood Scottsboro Defense Committees have proven the best means of mobilizing and organizing the masses of Negro and white toilers for the struggle against the legal lynching. Each delegate should impress on his organization the necessity of helping to build up these neighborhood committees. Any worker who wants to help in the fight and is not now a member of a Neighborhood Committee should write to the L.S.N.R. at Box 219, Chattanooga, Tenn., for information and help in organizing such a committee in his neighborhood.

Finally funds are urgently needed for lawyers' fees, expenses of investigators, etc. Each delegate should take up with his organization which really supports the fight making now some financial contribution to the defense. Contributions for the defense should be mailed to the International Labor Defense, Box 1511, Chattanooga, Tenn.

### Collect Funds

Each organization should order at once a bundle of the collection lists issued by the I. L. D. and should urge that each member take a list to collect money on from his shopmates and neighbors. Delegates should ask their organizations to take up the question of arranging a social, fish fry, or other affair to raise money for the defense.

To coordinate the work of all committees and organizations working for the defense in each locality, the delegates from each city or section should meet together as soon as possible to set up a functioning City Scottsboro Defense Committee.

These are the fundamental tasks which must be carried out with the greatest possible speed if the Conference is to accomplish its purpose and save the lives of the boys.

## Miners' Strike Blow at Starvation

The first rumblings of a mass revolt against starvation are heard from the miners. There were forerunners of it all thru the winter and spring in the form of small spontaneous strikes, hunger marches, petitioning of authorities for relief in Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Alabama, Oklahoma, Indiana and Illinois.

The bituminous miners of Pennsylvania are striking the first organized blow against wage-cuts, unemployment and terrible working conditions. "Better to starve striking than to starve working," they say. They have organized their own broad strike committee and are spreading the strike under the leadership of the National Miners' Union. This leadership assures no sell-out, no treachery, but a fight to a finish. Nine thousand miners in Pennsylvania have already joined this fight.

In the Harlan coal fields the fight still continues, but here the militancy of the fight and the determination of the miners to fight to a finish is being dampened by the United Mine Workers officials who are doing their best to sell out the struggle.

In Tennessee there is talk of a general strike in the coal fields. The District Strike Committee of the N.M.U. at Pittsburgh has issued a general strike call for the bituminous fields. The strike may spread in Illinois and even to the anthracite fields of Pennsylvania.

The miners are taking up the battle in earnest. The fight is not only against the mine owners but also against the treacherous officials of the

## Convention of YCL In South

By HARRIS GILBERT

On June 14 the First District Convention of the Young Communist League in the South will be held. Delegates are expected from Chattanooga, New Orleans, the Black Belt, Birmingham, Atlanta and other points.

This convention is very important coming at this time, when the conditions of the young workers in the cities and on the farms are worse than ever before and steadily growing still worse. The young workers in the shops are speeded up and forced to do double work on the new machinery. The boss hires young people, because they can stand the speed-up and work for lower pay. Wages are cut everywhere. Thousands of young people walk the street or ride the freights looking for work. On the farms it is likewise the same—work from sun-up till sun-down for barely enough to eat. No pleasures, no fun and nothing to look forward to but more starvation. At this convention the delegates will discuss the problems facing the young workers in the city and on the farm. Plans will be laid to start the work to organize the young white and Negro workers to get together with the adults in the fight against the present conditions. The Scottsboro case and the whole terror and oppression of the Negro people, the bosses' poison of white prejudice whereby the young white workers are divided from the young Negro workers, will also be discussed and ways worked out how to expose it and unite the young white and colored youth for joint action against the boss class. The bosses WAR plans, in which the young workers will be sent to die for profits will be exposed and steps taken to mobilize the youth against it.

The main tasks of the Convention are: 1. To consolidate the league; 2 Transform the Y.C.L. into the leader of the young workers of the South for their demands.

The past work will be analyzed and the need to build up the Y. C. L. stronger and to have it function better will be stressed. Above all the task of the Y. C. L. is to root itself in the shops, mines, mills and on the farms and to fight for the every day demands of the young workers and to organize and lead them into struggle for these demands will be the main task of the convention. The building up of regular meeting units in the outside sections and the need to develop local forces will receive utmost attention. The Y. C. L. calls upon all class-conscious workers to greet our convention by helping us build the Y.C.L. among the young workers everywhere.

United Mine Workers, who are on the field to sell-out the growing strikes, to enforce starvation conditions upon the miners.

Only under the leadership of the National Miners Union can the miners win in their struggle. The Harlan miners will have to dump their UMW officials, set up their own strike committees, follow the leadership of the N.M.U. The Tennessee miners will have to do likewise. What is needed is a national coal strike and that is what is coming. This strike will only be successful insofar as the miners throw off their back the treacherous UMW leadership and follow the militant strike tactics of the N.M.U.

## Demand New Trial For Scottsboro Boys!