

# SOUTHERN WORKER



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## Judge "Fixes" Miners Change of Venue

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### AUGUST 22 DEMONSTRATIONS DEMAND FREEDOM OF PRISONERS

#### CAMP HILL CROPPER AT CHATTA. MEET

In numerous cities of the South and North and throughout the world, workers held mass meetings and demonstrations on August 22, the anniversary of the death of the two working class fighters, Sacco and Vanzetti. At these demonstrations both white and colored workers pledged themselves to go on with the fight to save the nine boys framed up at Scottsboro, the Camp Hill croppers who were jailed in their fight against starvation, the Harlan miners whom the state seeks to put to death for the crime of organizing for better conditions, and all the other workers facing death or jail at the hands of the bosses and their courts.

Chattanooga workers who attended the Sacco-Vanzetti meeting on August 22 heard from the lips of one of the Camp Hill croppers, Taft Holmes, the story of how the Alabama cotton croppers organized against starvation. Comrade Holmes is one of the 20 croppers arrested but released after a mass protest by workers under the leadership of the International Labor Defense. He pointed out to the workers present that be a determined effort of the workers and farmers, black and white the 7 croppers still under charges can also be released.

Mrs. Williams, mother of Eugene Williams, and Mrs. Patterson, mother of Haywood Patterson, two of the nine boys in Kilby prison awaiting death on a framed-up rape charge, spoke of the successes already achieved by the International Labor Defense in defending the Scottsboro cases.

The meeting was closed by Comrade Elizabeth Lawson, Section Organizer of the Communist Party. Many of the workers asked to join Scottsboro block committees.

#### CONFERENCE TO DEMAND SCHOOLS

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—As part of the system of persecution against the Negro race, little and inadequate schooling facilities are given the Negro children. In Charlotte, N. C., in the Jim-Crow third ward, although the majority of workers in this section are Negroes, the Negro children have not one school in the entire section. Those wishing to go to school must walk four miles to the nearest white school they must walk to has been condemned as unsafe after mass pressure was exerted by workers under the leadership of the Communist Party and the Young Communist League.

A wave of indignation is rapidly rising amongst the workers of the 3rd ward. Already under the leadership of the Communist Party and the Young Communist League a Third

#### Miners Fired — Gave Out Southern Worker

By a Worker Correspondent  
Thornton, Ky.

I and several others have been discharged for giving out SOUTHERN WORKERS but it does not matter much as we made only enough to starve on anyway, and what with the miserable conditions we had to put up with around the mines.

The bosses are losing lots of sleep and burning up lots of gas and wearing out their cars trying to find out what is going on among the workers. Their sneaks and stools have got their noses into everybody's business.  
—A Miner.

#### Reign of Terror Sweeping B,ham

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Terror and intimidation of Negro workers and members of workers' organizations in Birmingham and other Southern cities, supposedly due to the shooting of two white girls here a few weeks ago, but actually a vital effort of the bosses to stamp out the growing militancy of the workers, still continue.

Harry Jackson, District Organizer of the Communist Party, has been released on \$500 bond. John and David James were released by Judge Abernathy Saturday, Aug. 22 with a long lecture about getting a job and not selling Communist literature. Eugene Braxton, who has been imprisoned in Birmingham jails for his militant workingclass activities, was given a fine of \$25 and 90 days. His case is being appealed by the International Labor Defense.

From North Carolina to Texas, Negro workers are being imprisoned and beaten up with the excuse that they know something about the killing of the girls. Police Chief McDuff is now in Chicago trying to get Elijah  
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#### BUDDY DAVIS AND 3 OTHER CROPPERS SAFE

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — The Southern Worker has received authentic reports that Buddy Davis and three other croppers, who Sheriff Young spoke of as having gone to "cut stovewood," have not been murdered as was supposed from their long absence and the rumors around Camp Hill.

They hid in the woods and creek swamps, eating berries, or stealing in to their friends under cover of night for food, until they found it possible to escape to the homes of far distant relatives.

#### Unemployed Put Evicted Family's Furniture Back

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—About fifty workers mobilized by the Unemployed Council of Washington Heights in Charlotte, put back the furniture of an evicted worker into his home. The fight against the eviction took place after a committee was sent by the Unemployed Council to demand that the worker remain in his home, rent free, until he could get a job. The committee was answered by the landlord's agent that the owner was a wealthy Negro and that his orders were to evict the tenants immediately upon non-payment of rent. He also added that the landlords had just organized in town and that an agreement was made that all unemployed workers would be put out if rent due was not immediately paid up.

The evicted worker's name is Henry Lewis and he has six small children. He only owed for two weeks. In the neighborhood in which he lives several workers have been threatened with evictions and this fight to keep Lewis in his home hails the beginning of a mass movement of unemployed white and Negro workers against hunger and evictions. While the many workers were carrying the furniture of Henry Lewis back into his home a group of Pioneers formed around the furniture and sang "The Cops are having a hell of a time, Parlay Voo!"

If you want more information about the Communist Party, what it stands for and what it fights for, write to:

COMMUNIST PARTY,  
Box 1813,  
Birmingham, Ala.

One way to help the Soviet Union is to spread among the workers "Soviet Forced Labor," by Max Bedacht, 10 cents per copy.

#### Coal Judge Transfers 19 Murder Cases to Reactionary Counties for Trial

HARLAN, Ky.—The cases of Wm. Burnett and 18 other miners, being tried on framed up murder charges, were transferred to courts in various "bluegrass counties," where rich landowners would be chosen exclusively on the jury, making certain death convictions.

The strategy of the coal operators and their court is to spread the cases in the most reactionary counties they can find so that witnesses who testify in the various cases will be chased from one county to another.

#### 3 1/2c HOUR FOR U.S. COOLIES

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.— We reprint the following clipping from the Winston-Salem Journal;

"Labor at three and a half cents an hour sounds like Chinese wages.

"But that figure is exactly what was offered by a well-known Winston-Salem warehouse man to American labor, for which he applied through the City Employment Bureau.

"The local warehouseman called the Employment Bureau and asked for a man who could fill the requirement of a watchman on a job that would last until the opening of the tobacco market. A watchman—a white man—was dispatched to the warehouse, but returned a short while later. He said he could not afford to work for the price offered—six dollars a week. The job required him to remain on guard at the warehouse day and night, seven days a week. He wasn't that destitute he said.

"Another man was that destitute however, for the job was filled a short time later on those terms, it was learned."

The only unusual thing about this clipping is that it got into the bosses' press. All over the country workers and farmers are selling themselves into actual slavery, while the bosses' profits are reaching unequal heights.

#### WAR — IN THE KY. MINE FIELDS

By DAN BROOKS

Fighting for the right to organize, the miners of Harlan county came out on strike in April. The United Mine Workers of America had collected thousands of dollars in initiation fees and dues. Turnblazer, the appointee of Lewis, told the miners that if the companies fired any of them for joining the union, they should come out on strike, that they would have relief in 30 days.

At a mass meeting in Pineville, at which Murray, vice-president of the UMW of A spoke, he repeated the same story told by Turnblazer, that the UMW of A would protect the miners. The miners returned home after this meeting and the next day the coal companies started firing miners who had attended the meeting at Pineville, and the strike was on.

Thousands of miners in Harlan

In this way and by extreme terror methods the Rockefeller and Peabody coal interests and their bought and paid-for judges expect to send 25 miners to their deaths and imprison many more for long years in the state penitentiary.

Arrests, raids shootings and attempted shootings by the hired thugs and their co-workers Sheriff Blair and his deputies are the order of the day. No color line is drawn here and white and colored workers crowd the Harlan county jail.

Wm. Gibbs, a militant striker and a member of the Communist Party, was singled out for his union activities, and after the thugs made an attempt to shoot him and the bullet passed within 4 inches of his head, he was arrested and charged with criminal syndicalism, which carries a sentence of 2 to 20 years in Kentucky.

Defense lawyers Golden and Hall were fined \$30 each for contempt of court when they presented affidavits showing Judge Jones affiliation with the coal interests. The judge, a vicious labor-hating servant of the coal operators, refused to disqualify himself.

The International Labor Defense and the Harlan Miners Defense Committee need funds immediately to carry on the cases as every step of the prosecution under the leadership of the coal companies increases difficulties of defense and places greater burdens upon them. Send all funds to International Labor Defense, Box 1511, Chattanooga, Tenn.

Write to the workers in the Soviet Union. They will answer your questions regarding the Five-Year Plan. Send all letters to International Letter Exchange, Daily Worker, 50 E. 13th Street, New York City.

county laid down their tools and came out on strike in defense of their discharged buddies, and the strike continued to spread, more miners coming out daily.

Fake Officials Desert

The officials of the UMW of A deserted the miners, never going into the strike area, and when after 30 days the starving miners asked for relief, they were told that the strike was not officially called and that the National Office of the UMW of A could not give any relief, that if they did they would be sued by the coal companies for damages.

Miners Battle Thugs

In the meantime at Coal Mountain, the U. S. Steel Company had started importing scabs and along with them came the hired killers of the coal company, who began an im-

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## CAMP HILL CROPPER FREE, TELLS STORY

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — Taft Holmes, one of the 20 Camp Hill croppers recently released from the Dadeville jail, through the efforts of the I. L. D., told of his efforts to learn more about the movement.

Getting hold of a Scottsboro leaflet from a neighbor, which was left there by a Southern Worker representative who had been travelling thru the Black Belt, he wrote to the I.L.D. for more information. Later he found Communist Party literature stuck on the branches of trees and he wrote asking to be admitted as a member. Finally he found that a Share Croppers' Union was being organized in his section and invited the organizer to speak in a vacant house nearby.

That night the sheriff and seven others raided the meeting. Someone blew out the oil lamp. The white men began hitting wildly and succeeded in beating up a number of the croppers and arresting Jasper Kennedy, who is one of the 5 still held in jail.

The croppers went over to Tommy Gray's house to talk things over. All had left but one, when the sheriff's burst into Gray's house, hit his wife and child over the head with pistol butts and beat up Tommy.

The next day Holmes was arrested in the little country store by two white men. "Didn't need to be any sheriffs. White men just arrested any Negro they laid their eyes on."

"There was no room in the cells for so many of us, so they laid us out on the hard cement floor without any bedding. We only got two meals a day, a bit of cornbread and peas 10 years old. We didn't mind jail so much—at least we weren't starving and if we had to go to the penitentiary they would have to feed us."

"The one that were let out of jail with me are mostly scattered. The landowners won't give them no work to do, or no advances. They intend to starve them to death. That's the reason I left home."

"In Camp Hill, when a colored man starts a crop, they call it his, but when he goes to gather it, the white man says 'It is mine.'"

"He will say you did not work and cannot pay your debts."

"All he furnishes to make a crop is a little white flour and a little white meat and that's all, and then he says 'the crop is mine, and if you say anything about it I will put you out of doors. If you want anything you had better go and make it.'"

"Well then I say that I have made a crop."

"Well, then the white man will say 'You are a damn liar. Then he will take the corn and put it in his barn and lock it up, and that is the end of your crop.'"

The landowners are giving less advances to the parents of the boys in jail. They are threatening to kill any Negro they find has Southern Workers, or any other literature in his house.

"Cotton pickin' starts about Sept. 10, but there won't be any settlement for the croppers this year, just like there wasn't none last year."

"Four-cent cotton doesn't pay for the fertilizer, even. Every one-horse farmer that gets 5 or 6 bales of cotton must use two tons of fertilizer and that costs \$20 a ton. Last year the farmers got 8c for cotton and that didn't pay for the fertilizer."

Taft Holmes spoke at the Aug. 22 demonstration in Chattanooga and was enthusiastically greeted by the workers here.

## World-Wide Protests Demand Their Freedom



The hearing for a new trial of the Nine Scottsboro Boys comes up in January, 1932. The International Labor Defense is actively preparing for the trial of Roy Wright, 14 years old, which will come up very soon. Mothers of the boys are travelling throughout the country under the auspices of the I. L. D. speaking and raising funds to defend the boys.

## Atlanta Family Victims of Police Brutality

By JIM HAWKINS

On June 22nd a crippled, defenseless Negro by the name of M. C. Pitts was shot down in cold blood by an Atlanta city policeman called Waters, who has a past record behind him as a killer during his career as a cop and this cold-blooded murderer is walking around a free man.

Two innocent men, brothers of that murdered Negro, are in the Fulton county jail, charged with murder, and a grandchild, a boy of fourteen, is also held in jail as a material witness for the state against his own uncles, forced through a third degree by the police to make some kind of statement, which he now denies. And here is how it happened:

The crippled Negro was sitting on a wall near the side-walk on the corner of Frazier and Georgia Avenue. The cop just walked out of a bootlegging place. Evidence showed that he was drunk.

He had no motive to justify the killing from what I could find out, only that pure desire to "kill me a nigger," that desire that remains in the heart of Waters and his kind always and develops to the extreme when drunk.

That cop evidently didn't like the idea of that Negro sitting on the wall and ordered him to move.

The Negro, whose mind was gone for the last three years, did not understand the orders of the cop, and of course did not move immediately. That cop pulled his gun and plugged him on the spot before the eyes of many bystanders.

Isn't it natural that feeling grew high? That the heart of every by-stander worker stormed with protest against such an outrage as this?

It happened that the bystanders were colored, as this happened in a colored section. All over this country workers are starving to death in the coal mines and cotton mills and other industries, and when they dare to demand a living, those same methods are used upon the white workers as well as upon the Negro workers, police clubs and other weapons.

Not only do they use them upon the white working men, even upon women such as the case of Ella May Wiggins in Gastonia, N. C., when she was shot down by police by the order of the bosses during a strike for a living wage. Now doesn't this plainly show how little they value the lives of all the working class, whoever they may be, white or black?

Now let us see what happened next. About five hours later, when the blood of this murdered man was still fresh before the eyes of the bystanders, that same policeman and a civilian white man, evidently a friend of his, were purposely maneuvering around the same scene where the

killing took place to show the poor Negroes of this community that he has no fear of them.

Someone chased the policeman's car and shot at him, but missed him and killed his companion. But the two Negroes, brothers of the dead Negro, were not there at the time the policeman's companion was killed. They were at home, grief-stricken over the death of their invalid, helpless brother. Yes, they were home, trying to cheer up their old mother.

And today, they are in jail, charged with murder.

Workers, white and black, show your solidarity! A protest must be raised to free these two men from those charges! They are innocent!

The boss class has killed their brother and now is preparing two more sacrifices to the Great God Mammon. Protest police brutality! Protest this legal lynching and that of the Scottsboro boys! Police terror is the weapon of the boss class against the workers. We must save the Pitts brothers and the Scottsboro boys. This fight is the fight of both black and white workers against police brutality and boss persecution of the entire working class.

## War in Kentucky Mine Fields; UMW Betrayal

(Continued from Front Page)

mediate reign of terror, all "law" disappeared with the coming of these gunmen, and then on the 5th of May the battle of Evarts took place, in which five of the thugs were killed and one miner had given his life in defense of the starving miners and their families.

The striking miners appealed to the officials of the U.M.W. of A. again for aid and were told that they were done with the strike. Many of the miners were forced by starvation to return to work.

But there were 3500 of these militant fighters that all the terror of the hired killers failed to drive back into the mines to starve. They continued to battle on against starvation.

### N. M. U. Enters Struggle

And then one day came an organizer of the National Miners Union, with a program of struggle, and miners by the thousands joined in the first few weeks. A general committee was elected from among the rank and file by the miners themselves, and for the first time the miners of Kentucky were heard making demands of the coal operators.

This really meant the end of the rule of the coal companies by their hired killers, as the coal operators knew, and another reign of terror was let loose on these starving miners and their families.

The coal operators thought that

## N.M.U. Makes New Plans For Strike

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—At a special meeting of the Central Rank and File Miners' Committee new plans were adopted to consolidate the strike and make it more effective. In part these plans call for the concentration on local mines to force them to grant the demands of the strikers in as short a time as possible. These local mines are to be struck as near as possible 100 percent.

The new plan is especially to fight against the starvation conditions of the miners.

The coal operators have a plan to starve the miners to death and drive as many thousands as they can out of the industry. This they intend to do by blacklisting the militant strikers and thru evictions, wage-cutting and unemployment.

To meet this offensive, the National Miners' Union and the Central Rank and File Committee are first considering the welfare of the miners and their families. Second the union will become rooted in the mines to protect the interests of the union working members. Third, it will be much easier to gather together forces to build a mighty organization to prepare for future large strike struggles.

The plan was debated during two special meetings. Out of 200 members of the committee who took part in the discussion only 11 voted against the adoption of the plan. Thru the effects of the plan, 75 percent of those who have returned to work because of the starving of their families, will again become involved in the strike. The centering of the struggle on partial and immediate demands for the strikers is a means of firmly building a broader strike movement.

they would stop the National Miners' Union while it was yet young, but it had grown to a man overnight. Relief was coming in, kitchens to feed the miners and their families were being set up, and the organization spread to numerous mining sections of Kentucky and Tennessee.

(To be continued next week.)

## LYNCH LAW AT WORK

GREENVILLE, Ala.—Many posers of would-be lynchers are scouring the country around here in search of a Negro, Dove Ballard, who is alleged to have shot a Deputy Sheriff who had attempted to arrest him.

OPELIKA, Ala.—Ten Negroes, who had probably demanded food from their landlords, were held in jail here on charges of "abusing" a white planter and his family, and a trumped-up charge of "shooting at a traveling salesman" whom nobody seems to be able to find. Opelika is a few miles from Camp Hill, recent scene of lynch terror against the Share Croppers Union.

FLORENCE, Ala.—Two Special Deputies shot on sight and killed Tom Smith, a Negro worker, who is charged with killing Constable Barr. The deputies opened fire on Smith when they met him on the public highway.

CLEVELAND, Miss.—A Bolivar county posse captured Jake Washington, Negro cropper and another is reported to have hunted down Ed Wisex, also a cropper. Both, if not lynched in the meantime will be held for the shooting of B. T. Fulcher, plantation manager. Fulcher drove many Negroes from his plantation after taking their crop and refusing them settlement.

## Reign of Terror Sweeps Birmingham

(Continued from Front Page)

Thompson, a Negro worker, extradited, on the charge of having killed the girls. Altho there is not the slightest evidence against Thompson, McDuff uses this opportunity to make a spectacular display, probably get the Negro extradited and "incidentally" lynched, and collect the \$3,300 reward which Negro business men have joined in offering.

In Birmingham all churches must disband in time for their congregations to be home at 10 o'clock. Any Negro seen on the streets later than 9 o'clock is arrested and beaten up. Police cars and motorcycles whiz through the Negro sections. Every Negro is a suspect and any white man can beat, arrest, or shoot a "nigger" and get praised for it by the police department and the T. C. I. government.

The desperate efforts of the bosses to terrorize the workers into complete servility result only in the growth of the workers' organizations. Thousands of leaflets and Southern Workers are now being spread in the shops and neighborhoods of Birmingham, protesting the police terror against the workers. The struggle for immediate relief and unemployment insurance is being intensified. The workers are organizing to fight against hunger.

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# FROM THE MILLS, MINES AND THE FARMS

## NEW TRICK TO JAIL WORKERS USED IN N. O.

By a Worker Correspondent  
New Orleans, La.  
Instead of coming out openly with a Red Squad as the bosses' police do in Birmingham in order to beat, murder and railroad all militant workers to jail, in New Orleans they have "declared war on lottery vendors," which is a nice way of saying "Red Squad."

Police and plain clothes men walk and ride all up and down the city, stopping workers and searching them. If a lottery vendor is caught his boss is already waiting at police station and in no time he is out. He is turned loose and never comes up for trial.

The police have a good excuse to stop workers on the street and search them for "red" literature. If they don't find any on you they charge you with loitering which carries a fine of \$15 or 30 days.

In Birmingham, they arrest the I. L. D. representative when he goes to the jail to defend militant workers. There they hold up every Negro with a bundle as they do here.

But this won't stop us from getting our literature out. We'll paint the town red with our papers and leaflets.

Workers of New Orleans! Unite together. Show the bosses none of their wise tricks can stop us.

—A Young Worker.

## Landowner Wants "No White Trash Croppin' For Me"

By a Worker Correspondent  
Birmingham, Ala.

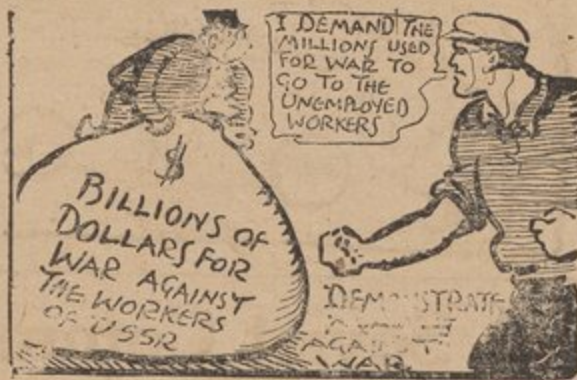
One of our white comrades, while in Huntsville, Alabama, was waiting for his next in a barber shop. In walked a big, pot-bellied white landlord growling to himself, with his face red with anger.

He said "Damn it," he would never have any more white croppers on his land again. "Imagine it," he said, "one of my poor white trash croppers had the nerve to set up and tell me he was as damn much a white man as I was and that I wasn't going to tell him what to do, as he was as good as I was." As he spoke, you could see that this greedy landlord and bloodsucker was really burned up at such "dastardly impudence" from a tenant of his. He ended up telling of this "horrible thing" by saying: "You can bet I sho ain't never a-goin' to have no poor white trash croppin' for me—I'm going to get niggers, as they is easier to get around on."

This shows plainly to the white croppers and workers how the landlord regards the bunk of "white superiority." The only superiority is for the bosses and the landlords. They aim to play off the white worker and opper against the poor Negro worker and cropper so as they can make more profit out of our sweat and blood and not that they give a damn more for a white man than for a Negro. It means that we workers and poor croppers, white and Negro, have der organize together against starvation, unemployment, wage-cuts and layoffs in the city and the starvation of the landlords on the farms. Rally under the leadership of the Communist Party and Young Communist League in unity for better conditions.

—Young Worker.

## Demand Unemployment Insurance!



## Mill Town Government

By a Worker Correspondent  
Lanett, Ala.

We heard about the trouble they had at Camp Hill, Ala., which is about 30 miles from here. Our bosses pictures it that every Negro man demanded a white wife.

In LaFayette the sheriff, Bob Slay, is opposed to your program. He says the literature is going before the Grand Jury when it meets the first Monday in September.

Our superintendent of the cotton mill in Lanett, R. W. Jennings, who rules over the people like a czar or kaiser got one of your papers, and he wrote a black picture of the movement and sent it to the Montgomery Advertiser, so I thought if he knocked it, it must be something good or beneficial to the poor people.

R. W. Jennings dominates the workers in the cotton mill as completely as an slave owner dominated his slaves. The officials of the West Point Mfg. Co., of which he is one, control anybody that amounts to anything.

They control the police department in Lanett. They have one of their overseers deputy sheriff at Langdale, Fairfax and Riverview, Ala. At Shawmut, they have a policeman who they pay for half his salary and they pay all the salaries of the Deputy Sheriffs I mentioned above. They pay \$10 per month on the salary of one of the Lanett policemen and all the policemen get \$25 and other presents at Christmas. No man can be an officer unless he is willing to be completely dominated by the company.

The company furnishes the preachers a house and pays each one \$200 a year and other presents. This muzzles their mouths and they speak on the line of being long suffering and humble and obedient to our master and all will be all right on the Judgment Day.

The doctors are paid a salary by the company and that makes them ardent defenders of the company.

The company built the school buildings and pay a part of the teachers salaries and how they boast of that! But I am of the opinion that for every 10c they give the school, they save dollars in taxes.

They dominate the officials of both county and circuit courts, both solicitors for each court and both judges of each court. R. W. Jennings can call either judge over the telephone

## Florida Offers Chain Gangs

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Florida cities are already sending out warnings and threats of the chain gang for the unemployed or their families that will "hop the freights" to this warm climate as soon as the cold weather sets in.

The construction of a new Soldiers Home in Pinellas county is already drawing thousands from other states and the American Legion and the Community chest are "cooperating" in kicking them home or on a chain gang.

and tell them what to do in all cases where either he or the company is interested.

To distribute literature here, under the rule of the company, means getting run out of town immediately, or worse.

—A Worker.

## Tobacco Profits High, Workers' Wages Cut

By a Worker Correspondent  
Winston-Salem, N. C.

The Haynes Knitting Company have always paid their girls on a piece work basis, which automatically brought speed-up and stretch-out with it.

Not satisfied with the miserable wages they were paying, they have now put the girls on a day pay rate and told them they must make the same amount of garments as they did under piece work system. This is impossible as the girls worked overtime on piece-work system in order to make a decent wage.

The Reynolds Tobacco Co. has cut their hands to 4 days a week and 8 hours a day, under the excuse that it is too hot to work any more. But the direct reason is that the new machinery and the new management have made it possible to produce the same amount of cigarettes with less labor.

—An Ex-Worker.

## City Pays \$1 Day To Father of Six

By a Worker Correspondent  
Charlotte, N. C.

I didn't have a steady job for a long time. I have a family of six to support. I didn't want any charity, I wanted to get some work so I came to the Associated Charities and asked them to help me find a few days' work. They sent me to work for the city. I got two days of hard labor at the rate of two dollars a day. But even this miserable amount of four dollars was not given to me direct. Instead of me getting this money, the Charities got it and sent me in some rotten groceries charging me four dollars for it. I could all this junk for less than two dollars in a grocery store.

So you see, fellow-workers, how the city and the charities are taking care of us and our families. My children are begging me to buy them some fruit and I haven't a cent in my pocket.

This is a good reason why every unemployed worker in Charlotte, both white and colored, should join the Unemployed Council and put up a fight against such treatments from the Charities and the City.

I will do my best to get things going, so we can get some relief or jobs and get the cash when we work.

—A White Unemployed Worker.

## Harlan Miners Determined To "Fight On, Win or Die"

By a Worker Correspondent  
Harlan, Ky.

The situation remains pretty much the same in Harlan county—watchful waiting. On the one hand it's the sheriff and his gang of thugs against the starving miners and their families. On the other, the operators with their capitalistic attitude toward the miners—starve without work, go to work and starve, just the same.

The conditions are deplorable, and beyond human endurance. Yet the struggle goes on, the end is not in sight. Conditions grow worse, if possible, as winter approaches. Little children are naked, men and women the same, yet they declare that they will never give up without victory. A fine strong determination prevails and the watchword is "Fight on, win or die!"

"The lives and property of all law-abiding citizens will be protected," says Sheriff Blair.

The Ford sedan belonging to Basil Rice, and occupied by Bill Gibbs and Rice, was fired upon last Saturday night, two bullets entering through the windshield, passing between the two men. Neither man was missed by over four inches. These two have received threatening notes, threatening messages and now being fired upon while traveling on the public highway.

This is the reign of terror that is being practiced upon the workers of Harlan county. An effort is being made to force these two leaders to cease their activities in the National Miners' Union. But acts of this kind only spur the organizers on to greater efforts.

—A Miner.

## Shoeshine Slaves Get 50c Day for 11 Hours

Charlotte, N. C.

I want to tell you workers of the worst slave job there is. I had a job on Saturday morning, August 1st, at a shoe shine parlor. Well, the boss was paying me only 50 cents for Saturday and Sunday. I had to work from 7:30 Saturday morning to 4 o'clock in the afternoon and then all day Sunday.

On August 1st, when I walked in, the boss told me that he had five regular boys and that he had a new boy in my place. Then he said he would try out the boy and see if he was any good and if not I should call back later and maybe he would take me back. I told him never mind, I did not want his slave job any longer anyway. I told him the pay was not enough to pay my room rent with. The tips I got only counted up to about 50 cents for both Saturday and Sunday. After working hard for these two days it was impossible for me to stay in my room.

I walked off from the boss and told him that I was going to the demonstration we were holding and that they only thing young workers should do is to organize and fight against all bosses for better conditions and then we will be able to get more wages.

—A Y.C.L. Member.

## DON'T SPILL THE BEANS

MEXICO CITY, Mex. — George Parker, editor-in-chief of the Scripps-Howard papers told the World Press Congress that "Newspapers must avoid undue stress on abnormal conditions, and revolutionary movements in South America should not be stressed."

## Bosses Use B,ham Killing To Check Workers Struggle

By a Worker Correspondent  
Birmingham, Ala.

The lynch terror which has been directed against the white and black workers in Birmingham recently, is another sign of the fear of the bosses of the workers' struggle for bread. The growing unity of the white and colored workers is a tremendous blow to the landowners, bankers and business men in Birmingham.

The recent shooting of three white girls at Mountain Brook is being used by the Alabama bosses to check the revolutionary struggle of the workers and sharecroppers and compel them to submit to hunger, starvation and unemployment, and accept war and winter without a grumble.

Who is responsible for the shooting at Mountain Brook? A Negro worker? A white worker? Hell NO! It is the white ruling class in the South, the Alabama landowners and bankers, Negro preachers, leaders of the NAACP, and the Negro business men cooperating with the sheriffs and Grand Dragon of the Alabama KKK. Mountain Brook is a beautiful site where Birmingham white citizens spend their summer evenings (No Negroes Allowed.). It is a place that is specially reserved for "white womanhood" and Southern lily-white gentlemen.

It is a place where the daughters of prominent white lawyers and other bosses meet with young court clerks and County high sheriffs and pass the time away . . . until their husbands and wives approach and then they try to conceal the business by shooting each other down and making their getaway by going to their racketeer friends and framing up some innocent Negro worker.

But the white and colored workers are putting up a stiff fight against this brutal persecution and will continue the fight against the shooting down of militant Negro workers and the framing of working class leaders of Birmingham.

We will continue to fight for Unemployment Insurance and against wage-cuts, unemployment, lynching, Jim-Crowism.

Down with Capitalism. For a Workers and Farmers Government!

## Cadden Says 20,000 Unemployed in B,ham

By a Worker Correspondent  
Birmingham, Ala.

The paper says now that there are at least 20,000 unemployed in Birmingham. This is the estimate of R. C. Cadden, director of federal unemployment service here. Four thousand have already registered but damned if they got any jobs.

This faker tells about the pitiful stories the unemployed tell him but says the government can't do any more than they are with their fake unemployment service. What the hell good is the employment service when there aren't any jobs? We all know it is just a registration scheme the bosses will use for the war which they are preparing now.

Fellow workers, we have got to get together or else we will all starve to death this winter. Get together NOW under the lead of the Communists. Fools starve—men fight!

—Young Worker.

# The Southern Worker

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Jim Allen, Managing Editor

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## Farm Board Fancies

The latest solution the Farm Board has to offer to millions of starving farmers is that one-third of the cotton be plowed under. There is too much cotton, too much wheat, therefore let us destroy the surplus. Not that the wheat and the cotton and vegetables and fruit and other farm products are not needed. Ten million unemployed workers and millions of starving farmers could use them right now. Half-naked workers and farmers need clothes, starving workers and their children need food. But—destroy the surplus, says capitalism, to keep the prices up. Like every other "relief" measure that the ruling class and its government proposes, this latest one is designed to put the burden of the crisis on the masses, to assure the profits of bosses.

### POLICY OF HUNGER GOVERNMENT

No matter that millions of tenant farmers and poor farmers and their families have toiled on the field all summer through, barely keeping alive out of the meagre allowances. No matter that cotton croppers and poor farmers see the certainty of starvation in the approach of winter. These things do not matter to the gentlemen bankers of the Farm Board. They are concerned with trying to sell the surplus bought up by the Farm Board at a profit, with seeing to it that the surplus wheat and cotton held by them and the large landowners and by the merchants and banks be sold at the price of even greater misery for the poor farmers and croppers. While one-third of the cotton crop will not be plowed under, yet the unannounced policy of the hunger government is being carried thru—one-third of the farming masses and workers are being plowed under by starvation and misery.

### NO CRISIS IN SOVIET UNION

The bosses see no way out of the crisis except at the expense of the toiling masses. For the starving farmers and unemployed workers capitalism offers no solution. It cannot, for its only concern is increased profits and increased exploitation. Only when the present system is overthrown and the workers and farmers have taken control of industry, agriculture and the government will there be no waste of food and clothing, while millions of people go starved and naked. In the Soviet Union, there is no crisis, there is no waste of food or clothing. The building of Socialism in the Soviet Union guarantees food and clothing for the workers and farmers.

In united ranks the white and colored croppers and poor farmers must organize and demand cash settlement at harvest time from the landlords, moratoriums on all debts and rent, and relief from the county, state and national governments. Mass organization and mass struggle is the only possible immediate salvation from a winter of death from starvation.

## "Law and Order" in Harlan County

The Hoover policy of thirds—destroy one-third of the cotton, starve off one-third of the workers—is also being applied to the most militant workers, to the leaders of the struggle against starvation. The new cry is: Murder, kill, electrocute the leaders of the workingclass. Shoot down Negro workers in Birmingham and Negro croppers in Camp Hill. Electrocute the militant leaders of the Harlan miners, shoot others off with high powered guns.

The jails of Harlan county, Ky., are crowded with hundreds of miners, arrested on framed-up charges of murder, banding and confederating, criminal syndicalism by high sheriff John Henry Blair and his hired thugs. Judge Jones, twin brother in boss class brutality to Judge Thayer of Massachusetts, is beginning to try the miners charged with murder. On the eve of these trials he has publicly pledged himself to rid the county of the Communists, the leaders of the miners in their fight against starvation. The organizer for the International Labor Defense has been thrown into jail and charged with criminal syndicalism. The lawyers for the imprisoned miners have been threatened. The coal operators, Judge Jones, High Sheriff Blair and his mailed thugs are in possession of the county. Armored trucks, machine guns, bombs surround the court house. In this appropriate setting for boss class justice, the state asks the electrocution of 35 miners.

### MINERS FIGHT 100 PERCENT STARVATION

And why? Because the miners of Kentucky are fighting against starvation. These 100 percent American miners do not accept the 100 percent American boss order of starve without a murmur. Organized into the militant National Miners Union, having dumped off their backs the parasites of the U. M. W. A., they are fighting for their very lives, for food for themselves and their children. They do not want the 100 percent American starvation conditions that Judge Jones calls for and in the name of which he is preparing to send 35 miners to the electric chair.

The International Labor Defense and the Harlan Miners Defense Committee needs the help of every worker immediately to save the lives of the Harlan miners from the 100 percent American electric chair. Rush all funds to the International Labor Defense, Box 1511, Chattanooga, Tenn.

## Charlotte YCL Holds Meeting Against War

CHARLOTTE, N. C. — The Young Communist League held a meeting on the corner of Tenth and Alexander streets. Eighty-six workers were present, most of whom were young workers.

The meeting was held in protest of boss wars. The speakers pointed out how the starvation and lynching system of the bosses helped them to force young workers to go out and fight in the next war.

The First Ward unit of the Young Communist League will hold a demonstration in protest of bosses' wars and in defense of the Soviet Union on International Youth Day at the corner of 6th and Alexander streets.

LOS ANGELES.—Starving and exhausted by a long search for work, Johanna Lee collapsed on a street car in Los Angeles. When she revived at a police station, she said \$90, a month's salary as office clerk, was still owed her by her last employer.

## The Backbone of America



## How A Soviet Commune Builds Its Own Industry

While the industrialization of the Soviet Union strives ahead with unheard of speed all forms of socialist labor and competition is being developed. Everywhere the words shock worker and shock brigade is heard. The main tasks of the shock workers and brigades are to develop socialist competition between the workers, to increase the production; to increase the quality, to lower the cost of production and to set an example in labor discipline.

Another form of socialist labor and competition is the so-called Production Communes that exist in many factories in the Soviet Union. In the Stalingrad Tractor Plant there is also such a Commune. This Commune is at the same time a living Commune. It consists at present of 130 members, all of them working in the same section, which makes it possible for them to check up their role in the production, in a simple manner.

### Socialized Wages

This Commune was organized during the time the factory was under construction. During this time they helped to build the factory and to unload and erect the machines. Sometimes they worked voluntarily 8-10-12 hours per day, at the same time they participated in the schools for technical training, corresponding to the needs of the plant. In the beginning they had to live in barracks and tents. (It must be remembered that while today a city of stone and brick houses surrounds the plant at that time the city did not exist.) While living in the barracks they carried on political and cultural work among the backward seasonal workers that worked on the constructions. Later on when the new brick houses were finished the Commune was given living quarters in one of them.

At first all the wages that were received were socialized, regardless of skill or specialty. However it became clear that this was too big a jump. Many of the members of the Commune needed extra money for special purposes, as for instance, specialists foremen, etc., who needed special books on technique, and so on. This 100 per cent socialization of the wages meant the equalization of wages regardless of qualifications, and this is not a correct policy in the present stage of socialist development. The Commune was therefore reorganized on a new basis. Instead of 100 per

cent socialization it is now based on 60 per cent of socialization as a temporary form until 100 per cent can be realized. These 60 per cent are used for food, room, education, cultural needs, etc. The other 40 per cent is kept by the earner and he disposes of them in the way he pleases.

### Building Own Industry

At the present the living quarters of the Commune are being reorganized. After this is finished the Commune will have its own Red Corner, library, reading room and room for technical studies, etc. The members of the Commune are now studying in the factory circles, but as soon as the reorganization is finished the Commune will have its own technical and political classes. The conditions for becoming a member of the Commune is that the applicant works in the same department so that it will be possible to check up his role in production. At present 95 per cent of the members are either Party or Y. C. L. members. The Commune also includes married workers with children. To lead the work a council of five is elected, including a president, treasurer, production organizer and cultural organizer. The days off from the factory are usually spent either in the country side or by excursions on the famous Volga River.

This is how the Russian workers are trying to find the form of organization to increase production, to establish their life on a higher cultural level. In their Red Corners they will gather together for their meetings, for their cultural evenings. There they will sing their songs of freedom. They are the builders of SOCIALISM.

Compare this with the conditions of the workers in the U. S. A. With the starving miners in Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Ohio, etc. Or take the workers in any state or city. Take the millions of unemployed left without any means of subsistence. Liberty under capitalism means the right for a few to exploit the masses, to oppress them with police clubs, machine guns, tear gas bombs, prison and chain gang sentences, the electric chair. The workers of the U. S. must rally under the banner of the Communist Party for the successful defeat of American capitalism. Under the leadership of the Communist Party the American working-class will eventually build SOCIALISM in the United States.

## Greetings From Y. C. L., District No. 17

The District Committee of the Young Communist League, District No. 17, extends revolutionary greetings to the Southern Workers on its first anniversary.

Not alone has the Southern Worker been a mass agitator but an organizer as well. In Camp Hill the Southern Worker was a tremendous aid in organizing the poor croppers into the Croppers' Union. Around the Scottsboro case the Southern Worker played a big part in building up the defense movement, the block committees. In Harlan, Ky., in Elizabethton, Tenn., the Southern Worker helped

to organize the workers round the Communist Party and revolutionary unions.

Congratulations to our fearless little paper. This must be our resolve on the first anniversary of the Southern Worker, for all of us to buckle down to the job of increasing circulation, to spread it everywhere, to get workers to write for the Southern Worker.

To build the Southern Worker is to build the Communist Party and working class movement. Long live the Southern Worker!

## Birmingham Notes

Birmingham, Ala.

The other night while walking down the street I heard a well-fed Bible pounder of the Salvation (starvation) Army trying to get the "ignorant sinners" to be saved. He said that the bad conditions, and unemployment is because we have lost Jesus in our souls. The gem was when he said "only one kind of people will enter the Kingdom." Well, right there I thought that the only ones who did were—dead people. We workers have got to get together to fight for better conditions from the bosses right here and not listen to all this bunk about what we'll get when we die.

The other day in Selma a penniless pack peddler begged the police to kill him to put him out of his misery. He is 75 years old. It turned out that he used to be a fingerprint expert in Los Angeles. This is just how the bosses care for their own tools. When they get too old — out they go.

Fellow workers, that is what the capitalists offer for us—to work us and starve us and when we are too old, out to starve we go. We all should consider this and join with the Reds to do away with such a crazy starvation system. Organize against unemployment and starvation.

The police are sure enough trying to get a goat for the killing of two white girls and wounding of another in Shades Valley by an alleged Negro. They are pushing this to terrorize the Negro workers everywhere and trying to smash the Communist Party with their lies and persecutions. Now Chief McDuff is in Chicago trying to extradite a Negro worker by the name of Elijah Thompson, to Birmingham so that he can be framed up.

Although the Negro worker has proven he was in Chicago when the girls were shot, still they are trying to get him back. Then the chief will show what good work the police do in terrorizing and framing up Negro workers and collect the \$3300 reward. Workers everywhere, in Chicago especially, must protest against this attempt to frame up this worker and demand that he not be extradited, but be immediately released.

What with all the lies in the papers about steel production going up and prosperity just a little ways off we might all think things were getting better. A week ago Monday the American Wire Mill in Fairfield (subsidiary U. S. Steel) shut down almost completely, laying off over 1,000 men (only 9 are left) for an indefinite period. The prostitute press didn't say one word about this.

In the T. C. I. in Ensley the white collar men have got their wages slashed already 5 to 15 percent. There is widespread talk that in 60 to 90 days all the wages of workers in the T.C.I. will be cut 10 percent in order for the U. S. Steel to compete on the world market. That is why the layoff took place the last couple of weeks—to starve the workers so they will accept the wagecuts. That is why the terror against the Negro workers and Communists—so that they will be submissive to the wagecuts. Workers, we have got to organize against the wage-cutting, layoffs, starvation plans of the bosses. Organize white and Negro NOW in the shops, in the neighborhoods for unemployment insurance and against evictions. Join the Communist Party and Young Communist League.

—Young Worker.

Workers' correspondence is the backbone of the revolutionary press. Build your press by writing for it about your day-to-day struggle.