

# SOUTHERN WORKER

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## Five Kentucky Mines Out On Strike

U. S. GOVERNMENT SECRETLY MOVES WARSHIPS TO CHINA

### HOOVER WOULD GRAB COLONIES ATTACK SOVIET

Definite moves toward war are being taken by the United States government. While Hooey Hoover is talking peace, the Navy Department is secretly moving battleships into the "disturbed area" off the coast of China and Manchuria. The move is another step by American imperialism to try to grab what it regards as its share of colonies—and it considers all colonies its prey. It doesn't want Japanese imperialism to get all of Manchuria as it is trying to do.

The U. S. butchers are not trying to "protect" China, but to divide it into helpless spheres of influence and dependencies in the hope of using it as a base for war against the Soviet Union.

Workers must fight against this war trickery. One of the most effective ways now is to fight wage cuts which are in part a preparation for war, by beating down the working class, trying to prevent working class unity so we will not be able to effectively fight against war maneuvers and to stop war industry by strike action and other action.

### Rail Workers Get Big Wage Cut On 2 Roads

CHICAGO.—Wholesale wage cutting has begun on the railroads. Two of the biggest systems running out of here and covering the West cut wages last week. They are the Chicago & Northwestern and the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul. Both cuts amounted to ten percent, but both are regarded as only preliminary to further cuts, which the bosses say must come as a "final adjustment" to meet the present situation.

The Railroad Workers Industrial League is calling upon all railroad workers, regardless of whether they are engineers, firemen, conductors, brakemen, maintenance of way workers, switchmen or any other branch of the "service," or whether they are organized or unorganized, to meet and form Committees of Action to prepare strikes against the wage cuts, with the central demand being six hours work for eight hours pay.

The director of the New York Public Library has requested files of the Southern Worker as follows: Vol. I, Nos. 1 to 31; also numbers 42 and 43 as well as Vol. II, Nos. 1 to 8. Any reader who has these papers and is willing to dispose of them may send them to the New York Public Library, Fifth Avenue and 42nd St., New York City, and notify the editor of the Southern Worker of the fact.

### Strike Defeats Wage Cut Drive On Chicago Shop

CHICAGO.—The American Wood Carving company was forced to withdraw a ten percent wage cut when 150 workers, about half of whom were young workers struck. The company at first refused to listen to the demands of the strikers, but when an organizer of the Trade Union Unity League called the men together and told them how to put up a real fight, the bosses announced that they would take back the order for the cut. All workers are again on the job.

### N.A.C.P. Lawyer to Defend Lynch Fiend

Roderick Beddow, lawyer for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, has been engaged to defend Dent Williams, the white thug who unloaded the contents of a revolver at Willie Peterson, Negro miner, in a Birmingham jail.

The sheriff and chief of police were in the room at the time and, with members of the Williams and Wood families, had been torturing the defenseless and imprisoned Negro to try to force him to confess to the murder of two girls in spite of the fact that he has a complete alibi to prove he was nowhere near the scene of the shooting of the two girls.

#### Indict Peterson

The grand jury, composed of business men, well-to-do farmers, and salesmen, returned an indictment charging first degree murder against the wounded Negro who is on the point of death in a hospital. It also indicted Dent Williams for attempting to murder Willie Peterson.

The "trial" of Williams will be used to justify the campaign of terror against Negro workers that is raging in Birmingham. Beddow, who was selected by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, to try to take away the defense of the Scottsboro boys from the International Labor Defense, so the state could railroad them more easily to the electric chair, will plead that it is the duty of white men to shoot Negroes whenever they see fit "in order to keep the nigger in his place." To try to fan the flames of race hatred is his main purpose, and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People have again exposed their servility to the white ruling class; and its Birmingham supporters even contributed to the \$3,300 fund to be used as a reward for the perjuror, Miss Williams, who is trying to send the Negro to the electric chair so she can get the money.

Miss Williams has already lied on

### Stop Sell-Out Of Miners In Wilkes-Barre

WILKES-BARRE, Pa.—Activity of the Unity Committees of Action and the National Miners' Union influenced the 25,000 strikers of the Glen-Alden coal company to refuse to accept the sell-out plans of Maloney, agent of the strike-breaking United Mine Workers of America, who pretends to be against the official Lewis machine, but who is secretly dealing with Phil Murray, international vice-president of the scabby United Mine Workers.

### Straight Creek Mines Resist Wage Cutting

HARLAN, Ky.—Five mines are now completely closed as a result of the strike that began in the Caroline and Coleman mines on Straight Creek. The three other mines now on strike are the Cary, Glandon and Ferde mines. Relief kitchens are now running in Coleman and Caroline and one is being established at Cary.

### General Strike Ties Up Mass. Textile Mills

LAWRENCE, Mass.—A general strike of 25,000 textile workers here has shut down the largest textile center in the country. The strike is against a general wage cut.

Mass picketing embracing thousands of workers is going on. Many thousands met on City Common to listen to speakers. The strike-breakers at the head of the United Textile Workers tried to speak to them, but the crowd refused to listen, boozing and jeering until they had to leave.

This enraged the police who attacked the meeting. Seven workers, including Edith Berkman, organizer for the National Textile Workers Union, were arrested. The crowd cheered the National Textile Workers Union as much as they jeered the United outfit.

The International Labor Defense staged a demonstration demanding the release of Edith Berkman and other strike leaders and exposing the brutality of the cops.

A preliminary mill delegate United Front Conference was called by the National Miners' Union to elect the rank and file leadership of the strike.

resolution to the state conference of the United Mine Workers, describing the acts of betrayal of the officials and charges them with being responsible for dividing the rank and file. The resolution calls for the establishment of the Illinois District Unity Conference to unite rank and file members with the National Miners Union and to fight for:

Six hour day and five-day week. No reduction in pay.

Payment for all dead work.

Abolition of the bug-light.

Abolition of the Cardox system of shooting coal, as a dangerous method.

Full payment of yardage on all narrow work.

Enforcement of all present state mining laws.

Creation of other laws to safeguard the miners at work.

No discrimination in any form against Negro and foreign-born.

Immediate unemployment relief—for unemployment insurance.

A minimum weekly wage of \$35 in the mechanized mines.

#### Strike Sentiment Growing

Straight Creek is in Bell county, adjoining Harlan county and the strike movement will spread into Harlan county. Some weeks ago when it was known to Sheriff Blair and his thugs and gunmen that the National Miners' Union had determined upon a tactic of developing strikes on the left bank of Straight Creek and then extending the movement to the rest of the Kentucky and Tennessee field, the gunmen began invading Bell county. However, the murder gang was not able to get into the mines where the men slaved and where careful and secret organizational work was proceeding.

The one thing that finally set the miners in motion was another five percent wage cut in addition to the beating down of living standards already suffered by the miners.

On every hand there is undisguised strike sentiment. Soon the Kentucky and Tennessee fields will be in action from one end to the other and the professional murder gang under Sheriff Blair and the miserable hirelings of the calibre of Judge Jones will have to scramble for cover because there is a unanimous demand that these vermin be driven out and civil rights established here.

#### Women Active Fighters

Women of Straight Creek are directly participating in the struggle. Thirty joined the Women's Auxiliary of the National Miners' Union at the first meeting. Five women are on the strike committee of the Carolina mine and others will be on the rank and file strike committees that are directing the strikes which are the beginning of a movement that will consolidate into one mighty movement of the mine workers of this region.

### Protest Murder of Warren, O., Worker

WARREN, Ohio.—Hundreds of white and Negro workers gathered in one of the most militant meetings ever held in this city to protest against the brutal slaying of Henry Baker, unemployed Negro worker. The Negro was shot down in cold blood by a policeman while he was handcuffed and unable to defend himself. A mass funeral was arranged for the victim of police savagery.

Workers here are also protesting against the slaughter of 2 unarmed Negroes in Cleveland by the police of that city.

# Camp Hill Girl Terribly Beaten by Sheriff

## OFFICER GOES TO HOME AND ATTACKS GIRL

Estelle Milner, young Negro girl, daughter of a share cropper in Camp Hill, Ala., was brutally beaten about a week ago by Sheriff Young, in her home. This beating resulted in a serious injury to the girl's spine. The beating was given because Estelle had received a personal letter from New York through the mail, and the sheriff seems to think it is his business to keep the croppers and their families from "contamination" by the rest of the world.

Upon learning what had occurred, from one of its representatives, the Southern District of the International Labor Defense sent the following communication to the sheriff:

"According to a report from one of our representatives we are informed that you went to the home of Estelle Milner and gave her a brutal beating which resulted in a serious injury to her spine. This vicious treatment was administered on account of the fact that Estelle Milner received a letter from New York through the mails and you seem to consider it your business to keep the share croppers and their families in the Camp Hill section from any contact with the rest of the world.

"In the name of hundreds of thousands of workers in our ranks, we protest against this brutal violation of the most elementary rights of the croppers of Camp Hill. We pledge our continued support to them in their efforts to organize against starvation and in their fight against the reign of terror carried on against them by you, your deputies and the landowners, and to continue to expose your murderous terrorism to the rest of the world."

Last spring the share croppers of Camp Hill organized into a Share-Croppers Union to demand from the landowners: Advances of food until settlement time; cash settlement for the crops; the right to sell the crops where they want to; the right to have a garden; free busses to take the children to school; a rest period around noon. The meetings of the Union were broken up by the sheriff and landowners and thirty-four croppers were thrown into jail. All of these men were released as a result of the defense and publicity obtained by the Southern District of the International Labor Defense. The croppers won their first demand—advances of food until settlement time.

## Bill Green Boosts The Stagger System

VANCOUVER, B. C. — William Green, president of the A. F. of L. told the convention here that he was in favor of the stagger system. That is to say he supports those bosses who say that all workers should be on short time, with ever lower wages. He does not say that the stagger system may maintain hourly rates and easily cut down total wages received to a weekly income of less than workers ought to receive in one day. In other words, Green favors mass starvation to help the capitalist class place the burden of its crisis upon the workers.

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## Child Slavery Rampant Throughout All Alabama

Alabama, known throughout the whole world because of the horrible conditions under which masses of black and white wage-slaves live, has within its borders 31,565 child slaves between the ages of 10 and 13; there are above an equal number, 31,837 to be exact at the age of 14 and 15 in Alabama slave pens. These are not reports based upon fancy, but are figures taken from the United States Government bureau of census, of the Department of Commerce, and are based upon the census of last year (1930).

### Facts Really Worse

The actual state of affairs is really worse, many children below ten years of age are having their young lives stunted in industry and in slavery on the land. There is no record of these child slaves—because the government pays no attention to child labor UNDER ten years of age.

### Many Women In Industry

There were a total of 1,026,295 "gainful" workers in Alabama in 1930 according to the census. Of these 92,116 were single; 84,812 were married and 60,499 were widowed or divorced. Of the women 70,245 are farm laborers who do not get any pay at all for their slavery; wives and daughters of croppers, etc. More than 12,000 women are working in cotton mills; 25,828 are laundresses (not in laundry) meaning women who live by taking in washing; 42,192 are servants employed full or part time for the nabobs of the state. There are 6,032 stenographers and typists, about 5,000 clerks and about the same number of bookkeepers and cashiers, while 14,000 are school teachers.

### Almost Half Are Negroes

Distributed by color and nativity, 584,593 or 57.0 percent of the total "gainful" workers are native white; 432,349, or 42.1 per cent are Negro; 9,091 or 0.9 per cent are foreign-born white and 262 workers are of other races.

The government census does not give the proportion of Negroes to whites employed in specific industries but simply gives the totals "gainfully" employed, which includes all forms of industrial and farm labor, whether the workers get wages or not.

### Farmers a Minority

Of the total gainfully employed the farmers are a minority. There are 235,000 male and 17,255 female owners and tenants; there are 63,181 male and 16,922 female farm laborers who receive wages; and 88,887 male and 70,245 female farm laborers who do not receive any wages at all—who live in a condition of virtual peonage.

Factory laborers and operatives are the next largest group (102,000). Coal miners number 23,956; steel and iron workers, 28,862; lumbermen, raftsmen, woodchoppers, saw mill operatives and turpentine camp workers number 24,982.

Tens of thousands of workers subsist on a starvation level. Two economic systems meet, overlap in some places—the semi-feudal survivals of the slave-owners' south and the highly-developed, rationalized modern industry as typified by the Birmingham steel mills. All workers in industry are being subjected to the fiercest wage cuts and general drives on their standards of life, while the boss class increases its campaign of terror against Negro and white workers who are becoming more radicalized and are showing signs of organizing together to resist wage-cuts and fight

for a living wage and shorter hours of labor.

### Fight Peonage and Slavery

Government figures are also unreliable inasmuch as they place in the category of those who receive wages the tens of thousands of mine and mill workers who live in the company towns, get paid in company scrip and who are always in debt to the company and dare not attempt to move away for fear of police and mill thug terror and imprisonment or worse slavery on the chain gangs.

On the land the lot of the cropper and the share cropper beggars description. No chattel slaves ever suffered half the pangs of hunger and misery or were ever subjected to the ruthless terror of these workers, both white and Negro. The fable about the abolition of slavery sounds to them like a murderous joke at their expense. When they were bought and paid for property they were not killed off like dogs as they are today.

But the end of the slave system is in sight. The growing movement among the croppers to establish a union through which to fight against the bosses, the growing agitation for unity of white and Negro workers and farmers against the rich exploiters, the definite tendencies among the steel workers to build machinery to resist the wage-cuts—all these mean that the Alabama ruling class and all the rest of the exploiting gang is approaching its end.

The terror of the Alabama slave holders and their official lackeys, the police, the sheriffs, the judges and the jailers—and the Ku Klux butchers, can be ended. It will be ended as the workers and farmers rally in industrial unions and wage a CLASS fight against capitalism, along the lines laid down by the Communist Party, the one revolutionary working class Party.

By following the path of revolution and only by following that path, the workers and farmers can emancipate themselves.

## 25 Years on Job; Now Out Of Iron Works

(By a Worker Correspondent)

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—When at the Republic Iron Works last week looking for a job I saw on the bulletin board a sign about the ten percent wage cut to begin the first. Many workers got \$2.70 a day before the slash in wages, now they get \$2.43 a day and only work part time.

White and black workers hang around the place looking for a little work. They were told to get away because no one wanted them. Some of these have been on the job there for 25 years; now they got notice to get out and don't hang around. Ain't that hell?

We got to get together and fight against wage cuts, demand unemployed insurance—make the bosses pay us when we work so hard they don't need us any more. We must also follow the Communists who say old men kicked out after working a long time must get a pension same as soldiers only more like wages.

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## PENN. BOSSSES JAIL WORKING CLASS LEADERS

## W. VA. MINERS STRIKE AGAINST BIG WAGE CUT

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—The response of the workers to the Communist Party and Trade Union Unity League calls for a relentless fight against wage cuts has made the bosses and their police and judges furious. A number of arrests have recently been made.

Morris H. Powers, candidate for mayor of Philadelphia on the Communist Party ticket, has been sentenced to four months in jail at Allentown, Pa. He was charged with interference with railroad traffic during an attack of state troopers upon striking silk workers of that city. In reality he was jailed because he led guidance to the strike and because the Communist Party is using the Philadelphia election campaign to organize workers to resist wage cuts.

### Two Held on "Sedition"

For exposing the action of the "liberal" governor of Pennsylvania, Gifford Pinchot, in sending state troopers to shoot down striking miners in the Pittsburgh region, two workers are held for "sedition." They are H. Roth and Johnny Adams, members of the Communist Party and the Young Communist League.

In spite of these attacks the Communist Party continues its work of preparing the workers for the fight to stop wage cuts and more than ever throws its forces into the election campaign to expose the old parties and to connect up the campaign with the resistance to wage cuts.

MORGANTOWN, W. Va.—The strike against the infamous 25 percent wage cut agreed to by the United Mine Workers of America officials is rapidly spreading in this vicinity. Approximately 1,700 miners are now on strike in the Morgantown-Fairmount field.

The strike is being extended by marches of miners, their wives and children. Everywhere the miners say that John L. Lewis and the officers of the U. M. W. of A. help the mine owners enforce wage cuts against the miners.

The Workers' International Relief opened its first kitchen in Liberty, thus giving the lie to the statement of the labor fakers that the Natl. Miners' Union would not be able to furnish relief for the strikers. Other kitchens are opened in Cassville, Rosedale and in Star City, across the Monongahela river.

The Pennsylvania-Ohio-West Virginia-Kentucky Striking Miners' Relief Committee sent a truck load of flour, potatoes, fatback, beans and sugar to the strikers with a pledge of solidarity on the second morning of the strike.

The relief committee and the Workers International Relief call upon workers everywhere to help so that these wage cuts can be defeated. Send all pennies you can scrape together so that more kitchens can be opened. Address Striking Miners' Relief Committee, 611 Penn Ave., Room 205, Pittsburgh, Pa.

## Kill Two; Wound Many In Cleveland Eviction Fight

CLEVELAND, O.—Two workers dead, many wounded by bullets, women beaten into insensibility, children trampled upon by drunken policemen. Such is the record of one hours' police activity in this city Tuesday evening at East 47th Street, near Woodland avenue.

The attack of the police was directed against a group of workers, mostly Negro, who were defending a worker and his family from being evicted from the house in which they had been living.

### Crowd Checks Police

Without warning a squad of police fell upon a meeting called to protest the eviction of the family. In spite of the fact that the crowd was unarmed the first squad of police were held at bay. Some stool pigeons sent for police reinforcements, which soon arrived shooting revolvers and swinging their clubs over the heads of men, women and children. When the attack subsided the more seriously injured were taken to hospitals, where two of the workers, John Rayford and Ed. Jackson, both Negroes, died. They were members of Unemployed Branch No. 8.

**Terrorize Whole Neighborhood**  
The police went on a rampage through the neighborhood, breaking up even small groups of workers, arresting scores and terrorizing the whole vicinity. Workers were dragged from homes and thrown into jail where they were savagely clubbed. Many severely wounded were kept in jail without medical attention of any kind.

### Capitalist Press Lies

As usual the capitalist press, with the Plain Dealer in the van, lied about the killing, saying that the police were "investigating" when attacked

by a mob of hoodlums, some of whom were shot. The heads of the police department said they fully approved of the murders.

Sheriff Sultzman, who poses as a liberal-minded individual, announced some time ago that sheriffs and police would not be used to evict unemployed. This lie was only told so the workers would be deceived into thinking that they need not prepare defense forces to fight against police attacks in eviction cases.

### Must Build Defense

A few days before the Cleveland killings a Negro unemployed worker was killed by police at Warren, Ohio, after he had been handcuffed. The Chicago massacre of Negro workers is still remembered by workers here. Daily killings and attempts to kill have been going on in Harlan, Ky., and vicinity. Workers on picket lines are subject to wild attacks by police and thugs from Lawrence, Mass., to Galveston, Texas. Such attacks must be met by workers setting up Defense Corps and enlisting large masses to crush these police attacks.

Do not depend upon deceptive promises of the bosses and their police and sheriffs and judges, but organize your own defense forces.

Only working class power can stop these murder campaigns against us.

**CRIPPLE PENNSYLVANIA MINE**  
PITTSBURGH.—The Burnister-Westmoreland mine is now completely crippled, 50 more miners having gone on strike, bringing the number up to 550. A strike committee of 15 was elected after Vincent Kemenovich, district secretary of the National Miners' Union, spoke to the men. The strike is against a 15 percent wage cut.

## FROM THE MILLS, MINES AND THE FARMS

### DON'T STARVE; FIGHT BOSSES' FAKE CHARITY

(By a Worker Correspondent)

CHATTANOOGA.—Down with all the fake charities. They only hand out garbage hoping we will not organize and fight to take something to eat and wear this winter.

The bosses say this depression is war. It isn't yet. It ought to be. CLASS WAR! We ought to organize, both white and black workers and go and smash up some store windows and TAKE what we need.

The workers in Glasgow, Scotland, showed how it ought to be done. They made it hot for the bosses. Their suffering was no worse than ours. Why don't we do the same thing?

Are we going to crawl like dogs for a bone? Take anything the charity gang throws our way and smile and pretend to be thankful for it? Or will we stand up and fight as one big mass of men and women who refuse to starve or be treated like hungry dogs hardly worth feeding?

If we raid a few stores in every city the government will damn soon have to give us unemployed relief to save their gang running the industries and stores of the country. Let's do it. —A So-Called White Worker

### Demand Immediate Release of Roy Wright

Roy Wright, the 14-year-old victim of the Scottsboro frameup, is still being kept in the Birmingham jail, his trial indefinitely postponed in an effort to ward off the rising mass movement for the freedom of the Scottsboro boys.

The central point of the mass campaign now is to force the unconditional release of Roy Wright, who was never even sentenced by the lynch court at Scottsboro, and is better day. Intimidation is being used in by the authorities. The International Labor Defense is demanding, in the form of telegrams and resolutions of protest, that low bail be set immediately so that his release can be obtained.

The prison officials at Kilby, where the eight boys are still being kept in the death cells, are renewing and intensifying their campaign of persecution and discrimination against the boys there. The parents of the boys are again being turned away from the prison and told to come some other kept in jail, without any bail set an effort to get the boys to turn from the I.L.D. and the League of Struggle for Negro Rights.

Intensify the campaign for the immediate release of the innocent boys! Demand low bail for Roy Wright!

### Demand Withdrawal of Battleships from China.

### Three Men In Family Work, Yet All Face Starvation

(From the Wife of a Striker at Straight Creek, Ky.)

Dear Workers:

I want to write about my condition so you will know why we have to fight here. There are ten in my family. My husband and two sons work loading coal. They get 35 cents a ton for coal and \$1.75 a yard for slate. It's machine coal and they have to load part dust and part block and mix it up. That means they have to handle it about three or four times before they can get it loaded. They made from \$1.00 to \$1.75 apiece on their coal and the yardage had to go in before we could get anything on it.

#### Pay Out Everything

We had to pay \$3.00 a month for rent, \$1.00 for coal, \$1.00 for burial fund, \$1.20 for lights, \$2.00 a month to the doctor for my husband and \$1.50 apiece for the boys. They had to pay 25 cents apiece for blacksmithing, fuse, 80 cents a roll, powder 12½ cents a stick. It took 25 cents for carbide every day.

We had to trade at the company store for it was impossible to get a pay day so we could trade elsewhere. They sell bacon 25 cents a pound and we get about a half pound in place of a pound. It takes about 3 or 4 pounds a day. They sell lard for 20 cents a pound and one pound would scarcely season a meal. I had to buy

pinto beans and such food in order to make up food. I have six growing children and cannot buy milk for them.

#### Work In Tennis Shoes

My two sons that work in the mine (one is 19, the other 17) had to wear tennis shoes inside and outside the mine. They only had one pair apiece and when the bottoms wore out, they had to put leather insoles out of old scraps of leather inside the shoes.

We have no mattresses. Our springs are worn out, too. This fall I had to make bed ticks out of coffee sacks and flour sacks and just any old thing I could find. I had to pull grass and dry it to make beds. We have no blankets, or quilts, no pillow cases or sheets for the winter in spite of the fact that three in the family worked hard in the mines.

The children have no coats to wear to school; neither have they pants or shirts or underwear.

All the boys who work in these mines here are in the same shape. I have one little girl 13 years old and the rest are boys. If I can't get food and clothing for my children I can't send them to school this winter.

So please help out the miners who are striking and send in something so we can carry on, if possible.

—Mrs. Jim Smith.

### Jim-Crow School Treats Children Worse Than Dogs

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—I go to the

Second Ward High school in Charlotte and the principal won't let the students come in the front door. He tells them to go in the side door. The students have to be there in the morning at 8 o'clock, and when the last bell rings in the school room, if they are one minute late, they must go home and bring their father. The parent must be there at 3 p.m. Some of the students live about 7 miles from this Jim-Crow school. The other day 41 had to go back home because they were one minute late.

The Principal writes out a slip for the books the students need. The students must buy their own books. The school doesn't furnish any and in the Negro section the streets are not paved and there are no lights on the corners and this, even though the Negro workers pay thousands of dollars in taxes to the robbing city government and get nothing in return.

All students should organize committees of students in all class rooms in the school and under the leadership of the Young Communist League should demand free bus fare back and forth from the school, free books and hot lunches in the school and then organize the parents against the high taxes and to force the city to pave the streets and furnish lights on corners.

Down with the rotten conditions the workers are living in while the boss class rules!

—A. Y. C. L. Member of the 2nd Ward High School Unit.

### CROOKED BOSS JAILS TAMPA FRAUD VICTIM

(By a Worker Correspondent)

TAMPA, Fla.—I am a Negro deep water fisherman and I worked all summer on a fishing boat. We just made a trip that we all shared \$20, the first money we made this season for over five months. When our fish was taken in the fish house the owners of the vessel cheated us on the weight of the fish and then told us we would have to wait for the money till the fish were sold. I raised hell and the owner had me arrested. I got ten days in the stockade for demanding the rights of an American citizen. While in jail the city wanted me to work and clean the streets. I refused to do work for the city as there are 4,000 unemployed registered workers here crying for bread for their families.

I was put in the dog house and fed bread and water till my time was up.

I am now out of jail and my boss on the boat I was working on told me to get off the dock or he would put me in jail again. I have joined the unemployed Council of the T.U.U.L. I am hoping that all the Negroes here in Tampa that are unemployed join the Unemployed Council of the T.U.U.L. and show the bosses here that we Negroes are not going to starve quietly.

—Snapper Fisherman.

### Fair Crops and Lower Prices Increase Poverty of Farmers

Whether the farmers increase production or decrease it makes no difference as far as their return in prices is concerned. Wheat and hog production is down, but the prices, instead of increasing, are falling sharply.

This indicates the continuous deepening of the crisis, the restricted buying power of the masses.

Poor and middle class farmers face the most severe winter in history. Hundreds of thousands of families are facing starvation.

Government figures from the department of agriculture give a number of facts regarding the situation, but they do not refer to the fact that the government that denies relief to farmers as well as to workers in the cities, spends millions monthly upon preparations for war.

#### Admits Big Price Slump

"Fair crops, low prices," summarizes the farm situation on October 1, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The central fact in the season now drawing to a close," says the bureau, "is that notwithstanding production on a fairly even keel, the prices of farm products have suffered a further serious slump. Wheat growers harvested a 5 percent smaller acreage this year than last but the

price of wheat to growers is about half what it was last year.

"Potato growers increased their acreage nearly 11 per cent this year, but the crop reports indicate that they are not going to get much, if any, larger crop than last year. Yet potato prices average approximately 30 cents a bushel less to growers than a year ago.

#### Supply Lower; Prices Lower

"Hog production has decreased steadily since 1928, so that at the beginning of this year we had 8,300,000 (or 14 per cent) fewer hogs than three years earlier. In the first ten months of current marketing year, 5 per cent fewer hogs went to slaughter than a year ago. Despite all this reduction in supply, the average price paid by the packers declined from \$9.57 last year to \$7.43 this year. There is evidence that the abundance and relative cheapness of feed grains stimulated an expansion in hog production."

The western livestock situation is summed up as "a bad season." The report says that "not many western stockmen will regret the passing of the 1931 summer." In addition to the tremendous decline in gross income from the sale of livestock and their products, western stockmen experienced a severe drought season, which affected practically all parts with the exception of Arizona. "The drastic reduction in gross receipts with the accompanying loss in borrowing power, together with increased costs occasioned by the drought, have placed many stockmen in uncomfortable positions."

The bureau finds "crops and general conditions unsatisfactory in Minnesota", "fair crops but low prices in Iowa", "production good but prices low in Indiana", "unfavorable conditions in Georgia", and "crops good, dairy situation difficult in New York."

NEW YORK.—Theodore Dreiser, and a number of other prominent writers and publicists are going to Harlan county, Kentucky, to investigate conditions in that black hole of reaction and to "break down the wall of silence and gun-man terror thrown around the Kentucky coal strike."

A dinner was given here Friday evening at Teutonia Hall for those writers who are to visit Harlan.

The delegation is being formed by the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners, which includes Dreiser, Lincoln Steffens, Edna St. Vincent Millay, Henry Elmer Barnes, Burton Roscoe, Franz Boas, and Malcolm Cowley.

### Appeals For The Southern Worker

(By a Worker Correspondent)

HARLAN, Ky.—I think it is an awful damn shame on all us workers to have poor sick workers like them in the Colorado hospital send in the pennies they got, while lots of well workers don't send in nothing. This is the first time for six months I have seen a Southern Worker on account of thug Blair and old Jones. It makes my blood boil when I know workers in many places hain't no fight on hand and can send in money to help our fighting paper go on.

Our paper shows us how to fight. It shows other Southern workers how they can fight to beat capitalists and dirty dogs like Blair and Jones. We all here are for the National Miners' Union in its fight to get the rights that have been taken away from us.

### Klan Sets Off Fireworks in S.C. Mill Slave Town

GREENVILLE, S. C.—A few hundred members of the Ku Klux Klan demonstrated here on the night of October 8th against Communists who are active in organizing the mill workers to defeat wage cuts.

These hooded agents of the mill owners staged their demonstration near the Perry avenue showgrounds. They burned some inflammable material so constructed as to read "Down With the Reds" when it was set on fire. The spectacle attracted a crowd of several thousand. It had been well advertised and many workers expressed disgust at the affair but there was no disorder, partly because there was no preliminary organization of forces opposed to the anti-labor and pro-lynching Klan outfit, and partly because of the heavy police guard furnished by the authorities.

### Workers Forced To Eat Garbage In Bosses' Barn

(By a Worker Correspondent)

TAMPA, Fla.—Down here at Tampa I read the Southern Worker and I always wanted to tell the white and Negro workers up in the northern states how we are made to slave in the field for 16 hours a day for three or four dollars a week. We are supposed to get our meals in the bosses' kitchen, but most of the time we eat our rations in the yard, or if it is raining we go to the barn to eat. The bossman's wife has a cat and dog that she feeds better grub than what us Negro farm hands get that work on the truck farms in and around Tampa.

—Sixteen Year Old Farm Hand.

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## The Southern Worker

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Jim Allen, Managing Editor  
Chattanooga, Tenn.  
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### Stock Market Rise Follows Wage Cuts

Sunday papers carried screaming headlines on their front pages to the effect that "Wall Street Ends The Week Jubilantly." Capitalist editorial writers said that the crisis is passing, that the first rays heralding good times are already upon the horizon; that the night of depression is passing and the dawn of prosperity is breaking. All this because stocks on Wall street gained six billion dollars in five days.

But the workers, standing in bread lines, starving in the cold, miserable hovels they dwell in, searching for jobs, have not felt any of this jubilation. The pangs of hunger still wrack them, their children still have scant clothing or no clothing to wear to school. The physical resistance to disease grows ever weaker while additional thousands die of malnutrition. Those who still work in industry and who slave on the farms see their families reduced to the condition of the dependents of the unemployed because their wages, reduced time and again, are not enough to keep the wolf of hunger from their doors.

As far as production in the United States is concerned it has not gone up, but is going down. Those who try to make us believe otherwise are again lying to us; trying to deceive us so we will not fight, but will wait expectantly for the "wave of good times," started on Wall Street, to reach us.

Steel stocks have gone higher, following the wage cut. But steel production still falls. The United States Steel Corporation's September tonnage statement, published Saturday, showed a decrease of 24,624 tons. Yet millions of dollars were added to steel stocks on Wall Street. The same situation exists in regard to oil, to General Motors, to General Electric.

What, then, is the real reason for this rise in the stock market?

The principal reason is to be found in the general wage cut imposed upon workers in all the big industries of the country. Stocks rise on the market when the capitalists think they will be able to exploit the workers more, when they think they will be able to get more profits out of us than before. Six billion dollars were added to the industrial stocks because the Wall Street gang believe they can realize the average rate of profit on six more billions of dollars in addition to the billions supposed to be invested in stocks before the wage cuts went into effect. The Wall Street bandits are gambling on the future possibility of distilling the very life blood of the working class into bigger profits. They think that because October 1st passed without a general revolt against the sweeping wage cuts they can safely speculate upon future possibilities of driving us still harder and beating down our starvation standards of life still lower. We must blast the capitalist hope.

The wage cut was followed by the "bankers' conference" which decided upon "releasing credits," to bolster up the banking structure of the country. A financial dictatorship is to be established through the newly created National Credit Corporation, which will issue credits on any security it deems fit. It will enable the big corporations and banks to dispose of their indebtedness on any basis they choose. "Frozen assets," that is to say securities that cannot now be converted into money will be "rediscounted"—that is to say the banks, after taking their discount for handling the paper securities, will be permitted to issue loans in the form of paper money. Thus we will have two forms of inflation— inflation through releasing credits and inflation by issuing more paper money, rediscounting weak securities. Inflation always means a drastic rise in the prices of necessities of life. The wages we receive will purchase less than before. Hence, inflation is always a cut in real wages.

Another factor in the rise of the stock market is the rapidity with which the United States is plunging toward war. At the same time the market rises the capitalist press reports that the situation in Manchuria has reached alarming proportions and that "America is ready to take action on China and Japan." United States warship move into Chinese waters to try to grab a share of plunder in Manchuria and to take a leading part in establishing a base for imperialist war operations against the Soviet Union. The big bankers and industrialists anticipate tremendous war profits very soon.

We workers must see to it that the Wall Street gang, which means the real rulers of capitalist America, do not realize the profits they expect at the expense of our increasing misery. We must speed up our preparations organizationally to resist the October wage cut. Committees of Action must be set up in all key industries to prepare for strike action. We must increase our fight against hunger and unemployment. We must stop all evictions. We must fight against imperialist war conspiracies and in defense of the Soviet Union. We must intensify our fight a thousand-fold against white chauvinism in the ranks of the workers, especially here in the South, and must unite the white and black workers on a class basis in the industrial centers. All these tasks are inseparable parts of our work of resisting the capitalist offensive and turning it into a counter-offensive of the workers against the bosses.

Already there are signs, as indicated by the Lawrence strike, the growing revolt in the Kentucky fields, the preparations for action in the steel industry, the movement among the workers on the railroads, the ferment from the ranks of our class that the boss wage cutting campaign will be challenged through widespread strike action.

When masses of workers get into action against wage cuts we will then see a mad scramble to again unload stocks on Wall Street and again "the bottom will drop out" of them.

Stock market prices are based upon "futures"—the future possibility of exploiting us and of plundering colonies and trying to destroy the Soviet Union. They do not represent real value. Such real value is represented in food, clothing, machinery, raw material, useful things that are here in an abundance sufficient to feed and clothe and shelter in ample comfort every man, woman and child. The one thing that stands between us and that wealth is the capitalist system which, with its government, its police, its

### Halt Evictions In Chattanooga

(By a Worker Correspondent)

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn.— Determined action by a neighborhood unemployment committee has forced Mayor Bass to halt at least for the time being the eviction of an unemployed worker and his family.

Mr. E. Boynton, Negro worker of 358 North Willow Street, has been out of work for many months. His wife and his grown children are also out of work. With no money coming in, Mr. Boynton has been trying to support a family of 13. When he got behind with his rent, he was ordered out and notice of eviction was served.

Workers in the neighborhood at once organized into the Willow street block committee to halt the eviction. They told the landlady that if she did not stop the eviction order, they would take steps to do so. They then elected a committee to visit Mayor Bass. The committee told the Mayor that a family out of work has the right to live; that if he did not stop the eviction, the workers of the neighborhood would see to it that the family remained in the home.

Under this pressure, Mayor Bass was forced to telephone the landlady and order the eviction stopped for the time being.

The Willow street workers, however are not being fooled by mere promises. They know that unless they organize still more strongly to force the mayor to stick to his word, the promise will be worth exactly nothing. Only organized force and mass pressure will get the mayor, whose interests are those of the bosses and landlords, to keep the promise which the workers have forced from him. To this end, a mass meeting is being called on a Willow street lot in the near future.

This is the second time in one week that organized action by workers of the neighborhood has stopped the eviction of a jobless worker. The workers living near Mrs. Ruth Pain 503 W. 14th street, began the organization of a block committee to stop the eviction of this woman, who was very ill from tuberculosis and had no job and no income. The next day Sheriff Taylor ordered the notice of eviction cancelled.

### Union Denied Use Of Public Library

(By a Worker Correspondent)

GREENVILLE, S. C.—The Public Library of Greenville has a hall. Any one is supposed to be able to use it, for a small sum. But when the National Textile Workers' Union tried to get the hall for a meeting, although the library people said there were many nights free, still the hall was refused.

"Under the circumstances," they said, "the trustees can not let the hall be used by the union." The "circumstances" are that some mill-owners are trustees of the library, and the whole town is run by the mill-owners and their agents. No wonder they didn't want the National Textile Workers' Union to tell that to the workers!

But in spite of the mill-owners and their tricks the mill workers of Greenville are organizing. They know they must fight back against the rotten low wages and the stretchout. They know the National Textile Workers' Union is a union that will lead them in struggles for better conditions. All mill workers should join. Come on, lets go!

—Mill worker.

army, its courts, its jailers enables a few to claim ownership of all these necessities of life and dooms the rest of us to hunger and starvation.

When we fight against wage cuts and for unemployment insurance we fight to stop the capitalist imposing the burdens of his own crisis upon us. We Communists fight to strengthen the working class so that we can in the not distant future abolish the capitalist system—this last system of slavery—and establish the rule of the workers and farmers.

### Everything Is Jim-Crowed But Dollars

(By a Worker Correspondent)

GREENVILLE, S. C.—The colored population pay as high taxes as the white here in Greenville, but they don't have the conveniences. Their school term is shorter. The school busses come out of tax money and the colored should have a bus just the same as the whites. The Negro sections don't have no roads—they have gullies. They don't have no house, either—just lousy shacks. Still they pay big rent. The colored population is Jim-crowed in everything but his money. They don't Jim-crow his money.

I think the Negro and white workers ought to organize all in one body, and fight for their rights. That's the only way we'll ever get better conditions for the laboring class. Everybody roll at the wheel!

—White Mill Worker.

### Landlord Tries To Jim-Crow TUUL

Refusing to be terrorized by threats from the landlord, Negro and white workers are visiting the Chatanooga center of the Trade Union Unity League recently opened at 1476 1/2 Market street.

When it was found that the hall of the Trade Union Unity League is not a Jim-Crow center, but welcomes the workers of every color, the order went out from the landlord and his caretaker that no more Negro workers were to be permitted to enter the hall. The sign which had been tacked up to guide the workers into the hall was torn down.

The Trade Union Unity League of Chattanooga is determined to keep open a hall for both Negro and white workers, who are welcome there to get information and literature about the movement. It will not have forced upon it any policy of Jim-Crow. If necessary, defense groups will be organized to enforce the right of the Negro workers to enter the hall.

### Crooked Bishop's Pal Gets Govt. Parole

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Bishop James Cannon, Jr., of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, is again in the limelight because of his grafting and stock swindling activities. This time the eminent reverend who handled some of Hoover's slush fund during the 1928 campaign is accused of bribing Department of Justice officials to parole one of his pals named Harry L. Goldhurst.

Goldhurst is from New York City, where he operated a bucket shop. The religious prelate, Bishop Cannon, was one of the chief operators in Goldhurst's bucket shop.

The New York crook was arrested but agreed to plead guilty so that the real culprit, Bishop Cannon, would not be exposed as a low crook and grafter. Cannon "fixed" up matters with the "law" so that Goldhurst would not get a severe sentence. The result was that the bucket shop operator, who was working for Cannon, was transferred from the Atlanta federal prison to open camps for "accessibility to their friends and relatives." Goldhurst is enjoying himself at Fort Meade, near Washington and will be released even from re-

### Meet to Fight Wage Cut Drive

A mass meeting to start a struggle against the wage cuts being put thru in Chattanooga is being planned for Monday night, October 19, at Washington and 22nd streets.

The general wage cuts in steel and other important industries are already beginning to have an effect on the factories of Chattanooga. Within the last few weeks, and especially since October 1, workers have reported to the Trade Union Unity League the following cuts and worsening of conditions:

If Casey-Hedges, a cut of 10 cents on the dollar, affecting both yard gang and molders, went thru October 6. Last year there was a general cut of \$1.00—in a few cases more—throughout the factory. The present cut of another 10 cents is no doubt the beginning of still greater reduction. The factory works only two to four days a week, chiefly because of the terrific speed-up in loading and unloading.

Workers in the U. S. Pipe report that 6 pits have been shut down in the lower shop. This action included a drastic wage cut. Molders who used to make \$25.50 for a full week now make \$22.50 for the same full week. A full week, however is a thing of the past at the U. S. Pipe, which is working only one or two days a week.

Sandpitchers' helpers in the U. S. Pipe who were getting \$2.70 a day got a ten percent wage cut. Molders also got 10 per cent off from \$3.75. Vesta Stove workers have got a cut of 10 cents on the dollar and are being speeded up still more.

Fire knockers and helpers in the Southern railway have got a cut of 40 cents on the dollar. The car department is being speeded up more; 10 car men were laid off Monday. The freight house of the Southern was cut from \$2.88 to \$2.48. Those who had been earning \$2.84 now get \$2.64.

About 20 men were laid off recently at the Tennessee Stove Co. At the same time the men are being cut 1-5 cent per day on the piece rate for an indefinite period. Molders are permitted to lay only half as much flooring.

At the same time that pay is being cut, some of the factories are shutting down altogether and many others are working only short time.

Milne's Chair factory, which was working 5 1/2 days, is now to 4 1/2 with threats of further reduction being constantly used by foremen to speed the workers up. Workers in Milne's have had two wage cuts in 6 weeks; the bonus which the workers are supposed to get now goes only to the checkers and foremen. The average wage is 22 cents an hour, with many workers making less. Altho it is often necessary to wait on work for an hour at a time, the workers get nothing for this time lost.

Crane Enamel is working only 3 days a week.

International Harvester has shut down altogether.

The coming mass meeting on October 19 is part of a campaign to rally the workers around the Trade Union Unity League for a struggle against these wage cuts and against the further reductions that the bosses will try to put thru in the near future.

porting at the place next April, by decision of the parole board.

Meanwhile Cannon, the man of God, continues bellowing against Reds and remains head of one of the biggest religious sects of the Ku Klux south.

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