

SOUTHERN WORKER



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WAR PLANS IN BIRMINGHAM LINK UP SHOPS

As Birmingham is in the interior of the country and a center of heavy industry it is of especially great importance in the war plans that are going forward, according to Captain D. N. Hauseman, United States Army, in charge of ordnance affairs in the Birmingham district.

Preparations are completed to utilize the entire Birmingham industrial district wholly for the manufacture of arms and munitions in the event of a war.

Iron Boss Get Job

Capt Hauseman announced that the Army Ordnance Department had appointed Frank H. Crockard, president of the Woodward Iron Company, as chief of the engineering section of the Birmingham Ordnance District. Crockard has been for a long time a civilian member of the advisory board of the Birmingham Ordnance District. The duty of the engineering section which he heads is to aid manufacturers of munitions in getting full production in case of a "national emergency."

Bitter Labor Hater

Crockard is noted as one of the most violent enemies of the working class in the notoriously scabby city of Birmingham—dominated by the steel trust.

Public announcement of the appointment of such an exploiter of labor and big industrialist again shows that war is a good business proposition for the steel and iron concerns.

As against these preparations of the ruling class for war and against the savage attack on wages launched by the steel trust the workers of Birmingham and all other places where the metal industry exists should join the Metal Workers' Industrial League and prepare to resist wage cuts, to fight for shorter hours. Don't let the bosses frighten you with threats about Negro workers taking your jobs, but build up a powerful organization comprising all workers in the metal industry, black and white, and begin the fight. The longer such united action is postponed the stronger the bosses get and the more difficulties they place in our path.

Fight War Danger

Every class conscious worker should join the ranks of the Communist Party and help prepare the resistance to wage cuts and to fight against this terror rule in Birmingham and the whole state of Alabama.

The boss class hopes to overcome the crisis of capitalism by placing greater burdens upon our class and by plunging the world into another war. The fight for wages, hours and conditions is part of the fight against the war danger.

Unless the Birmingham workers and all other workers in the heavy industry of the South mobilize their forces and beat back the attacks on wages we will be faced with war and compulsory labor, conscription of labor, without any limit to hours or conditions and for wages sufficient only to buy a starvation diet.

The preparations of the war department are a warning to the workers and must be a signal for action.

Farm Crisis Deepens In So. Carolina

In the ten years from 1920 to 1930 the value of farm property in the state of North Carolina has fallen by more than fifty per cent. The exact figures as given by the census bureau of the United States Department of Commerce at Washington show that in 1920 the total value of South Carolina farm land was \$953,064,742 while last year (1930) it had dropped to \$439,680,329. Thus in ten years the value of farm land decreased by more than half, while the ratio of debt on the basis of farm mortgages was but 27.32 in 1920 and is today 40.06. This, in spite of the fact that many mortgages have been foreclosed during the past ten years and thousands of farmers and families driven from the land.

The total number of full owners decreased from 67,724 in 1920 to 54,470 in 1930. Many of the owners control large estates where cropping is the form of slavery in vogue.

A later report promises to give figures on the number of idle farms and the individual acreage by way of completing the report for the state. The bureau of census figures given above are on the basis of the preliminary announcement released September 25.

CLEVELAND, O.—Two thousand workers here demonstrated for the immediate and unconditional release of Tom Mooney and Warren K. Billings, the Scottsboro boys, the Negro and white Ky. miners, the Imperial Valley and other prisoners. Resolutions were adopted denouncing the imprisonment and attempted lynching of some of the workers and telegrams of protest were sent to the governors.

Morgan, Mellon, Ford, Insull Back of Murder Gang Active in Harlan

By ANNA ROCHESTER

United States Coal & Coke Co., subsidiary of U. S. Steel Corp. guards the northeastern gateway to Harlan county with its tightly closed town of Lynch, next to Lynch, at Benham, are the coal mines of Wisconsin Steel Co., owned by Intl. Harvester Co. These Morgan mines employ one-fourth of the miners and mine one-fourth of the coal in Harlan county.

Southwest of Harlan, the dark shadow of Henry Ford's speed-up and feudal domination lies over the Wallins Creek Valley. Across the creek from the Fordson Co. is another Morgan outpost: the Kentucky King mine is owned by a subsidiary of the Morgan-Bonbright Commonwealth and Southern Corp.

Most of the Harlan county class war battles of 1931 have been fought along the creeks and mountain sides nearer to Harlan and Evarts, where except for the Black Mountain Corporation, owned by Insull's Peabody Coal Co., the links with outside capitalists are not so immediately visible. But other links are there. At least three of the companies actively and openly involved in the war are

Kentucky Miners Prepare Strike Machinery In Spite of New Raids and Arrests by Gunmen

Sheriff's Gang Can't Wipe Out Organization Which Is Becoming Rooted In Pits and Building Net Work of Committees That Will Develop Drive Against Slave Conditions and Thug Rule

HARLAN, Ky.—Four car loads of gunmen, 20 in all, headed by Sheriff Blair, raided the homes of a number of miners at Wallins Creek. These thugs swooped down on the village this morning, searching for SOUTHERN WORKERS and Daily Workers. As they broke into the homes, cursing the women and children, one of the thugs named Joe Mars, threatened to blow the women and children "to hell, and it won't take me but a minute to do it." Other gunmen, in answer to the questions women and children asked as to what they would do if their men were driven away, were told to stand before a mirror and watch themselves starve to death. During the raid three workers were arrested; Oliver Howard, Mas Sumner and another worker whose name I do not know yet.

Conditions in the mines, already worse than chattel slavery, are becoming much worse with every passing day. Miners are no longer paid for "dead work," but are forced to handle coal twice. The Kentucky law says there must be a check-weighman, but the operators do not permit it.

In the mines around here they have what is known as the clean-up system; the day men are paid for eight hours, but they work right through until the cuts are cleaned up.

(By our Own Special Correspondent)

NOTE:—The SOUTHERN WORKER has defied the threat of Sheriff John Henry Blair and the coal operator, Judge Jones, to drive out any representative of this paper who dares to visit Harlan county and has a special representative on the scene. Furthermore, in spite of the boast that no copies of our paper would be circulated in Harlan county we have established and are maintaining secret machinery for distributing the paper. The following items from our correspondent further expose the thug regime in Harlan and Bell counties and indicate why the miners are preparing for a strike against the mine owners, their judges, jailers and thugs.

This means the men work from 12 to 15 hours a day. If they refuse they are fired and blacklisted. The tonnage men, even though they work 12 to 15 hours a day, get nothing but zeros marked on their pay checks and carry nothing but water in their lunch buckets. When the companies have deducted from their pay for powder, blacksmithing, insurance, hospital fund, burial fund, school, horse doc-

tor, house rent, electric light, there is nothing left but zeros.

The company stores play a big part in this robbery. Since the miners have no money at all, they are forced to obtain credit at the company stores. The miners are charged 25c for meat the independent stores sell for 10c. The miners have to pay \$1.35 for a 24-lb. sack of flour, while the private store sell the same flour 3 sacks for \$1.30. At many of the company stores the women have to wait until the miners' pay sheets are turned in before they receive any food.

The coal companies are so fearful of the miners getting the SOUTHERN WORKER and the material of the National Miners' Union that they maintain guards of deputy sheriffs, (thugs and gunmen) at the postoffice to drive the miners away. Now they wonder why the men don't bother to inquire at the postoffices for SOUTHERN WORKERS any more. The answer is, they are able to get them without patronizing Uncle Sam's post-office.

Soon there will be a mass distribution of SOUTHERN WORKERS all over both Harlan and Bell counties and in the Tennessee mine region adjoining this. Not all the forces of the mine owners will be able to stop it.

On every hand the miners are talking about the preparations being made for launching the counter-offensive against the slavery and thug regime. The real work is being done in the pits, where Sheriff Blair's gang can't go for fear of something happening to them before they get out. Gunmen, thugs, pimps, procurers, pickpockets and the rest of the riff-raff comprising Sheriff Blair's "men" are afraid to go under ground except when they try to disguise themselves as human beings in order to stool on the miners. Most of them keep away from inside the mines altogether. Their long suit is murdering defenseless men, women and children.

Before long the miners will drive this scum from this region.

AGAIN SELLS MINERS

Miners went on strike in Pike county, Indiana and made the mistake of calling in John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, who ordered them back to work under conditions of a wage-cut while he talked with the boss. The miners are still working at lower pay, but some of them are inquiring about the National Miners' Union, which is leading the strike in Pennsylvania and preparing to launch a fight in Harlan, Kentucky region.

within the sphere of Morgan influence.

Morgan in Peabody Coal

The Peabody Coal Co. itself is an example. In Pennsylvania, this company operates bituminous mines owned by the Morgan-Van Sweringen Erie R. R. Both in Pennsylvania and in Chicago it plays in closely with the U. S. Distributing Corp. and its subsidiaries. And the man who represents these interests on the Peabody board is H. T. Peters, a director of the New York Trust Co., which is watched over by two members of the Morgan firm.

Detroit Edison Co., which owns the King Harlan Coal Co., is tied to Morgan's Bankers' Trust Co., in New York City. It is also linked with the North American Corp., a big utility holding company that owns the West Kentucky Coal Co. This in turn is the dominant company in western Kentucky.

Harlan Coal & Coke Co. sells exclusively through the General Coal Co., tied up with groups operating under Morgan domination in Virginia, Westmoreland county, Pa., and

the anthracite.

Andy Mellon Here Too

Most of the Mellon mines in Kentucky are in Floyd county, considerably to the north of Harlan county. But one, the Kayu mine, owned by a Koppers subsidiary, lies between Harlan and Evarts in the thick of the fighting.

Other Harlan mines are linked with smaller capitalists in Detroit, in Pittsburgh, in Cincinnati; or with coal operators in Illinois and Indiana. Several of the "local" companies have mines in other Kentucky counties or over the line in other Southern states. Most conspicuous are the Mahan family interests which are represented by five companies in Harlan county and at least a dozen companies in other fields of Kentucky and Tennessee.

Clearly, the terror in Harlan county against miners who fight starvation wages, unemployment and feudal tyranny is no local matter! Through this "local" struggle, outstanding leaders of the capitalist class are deliberately trying to crush the workers' rising spirit of revolt.

Mooney Sends United Front Call to Harlan Miners

Miners' Union Calls Workers To Support Their Class Party

The present election campaign, especially in the mining fields, has let loose a flood of special demagoguery in order to catch the votes of the miners. Many political fakery are coming forward as "friends of the miners." Most of these fakery are candidates for either the Republican or Democratic Parties. Some of them are running on the Socialist Party ticket.

The National Miners Union is an Industrial union composed of workers of many political beliefs. This Union bars no members from membership because of race, religion or his political beliefs. But the N.M.U. cannot be non-committal on a question which vitally concerns every miner's family.

In the strike of the 40,000 Pennsylvania Ohio, West Virginia and Kentucky miners, we got a clear picture of the role played by the city, county, state and national government. The authorities, regardless of the political party in control, showed their true color as agents of the coal operators against the striking miners. The Socialists also did their best as strike breakers, by helping the corrupt Lewis machine. In Reading, where there is a Socialist administration, our relief collectors were arrested.

They come forward now, with their program of "nationalization," trusting the industry and placing more of the burden on the miners, the same as the Lewis machine proposes.

This strike against starvation saw the fiercest reign of terror against strikers. In Pennsylvania three strikers were killed in cold blood. Many others were wounded, shot down in cold blood, by deputy sheriffs, state police and armed company thugs. Numerous strikers' meetings and picket lines, were broken up thru the use of tear gas and vicious clubbings. Hundreds of strikers and their leaders were thrown into jail. In Pennsylvania this terror is carried on under the rule of the "liberal" republican machine of Pinchot.

In the Ohio coal fields a similar terror has been carried on against the striking miners, and other workers who are helping the miners, under the leadership of Governor White Democrat.

The terror used against the miners and the National Miners' Union in Kentucky, is well known to every miner. Here the bosses are in complete control of every branch of city, county and state government. Hundreds of thugs and gangsters, have been let loose like mad dogs, upon the struggling miners. The miners are framed on murder and other fake charges. At least 50 miners are indicted for murder and seventy-five on criminal syndicalism charges. Hundreds are held on smaller charges. While the miners are jailed, those uniformed and plain clothes thugs, who murdered strikers, are let loose and free. In West Virginia the situation is not different than in the other states mentioned. Everywhere terror and everywhere this terror is under the leadership of the Republican or Democratic parties.

In view of these conditions can the National Miners Union remain neutral on the present election campaign? Can the National Miners' Union stand aside and calmly see some miners being fooled by fakery from these political parties? The National Board feels that to do this would be a betrayal of the trust placed in the National Board by the rank and file. Today it is one set of Republican or

Democratic fakery who use the governmental machine to terrorize the miners and keep them from improving their miserable conditions. Tomorrow it may be another set of politicians using the same political machine to again terrorize the miners in their attempt for a more decent living.

The A.F.L. so-called "non-partisan" policy is now pretty clear to every miner as a policy which aims to hold the workers safely in line for the bosses' political parties. The A.F.L. policy of boosting individuals in political office is a policy which detracts the attention of the workers from the real powers in back of these individuals—the bosses and their political parties, the Republican the Democratic and the Socialist parties. The National Miners' Union condemns this fake "non-partisan" policy of betrayal.

The National Miners' Union clearly declares that it is PARTISAN in the election campaigns and in the political life of the miners. The N.M.U. will utilize the election campaigns as a part of their daily struggle against starvation. The N. M. U. will expose to the miners, the fake politicians, who come to the miners, during an election campaign in a saint's cloak in order to be able to terrorize them after they are elected in office. The National Miners' Union will show to the miners what political party is their own party; what political party is a working class party, what political party is the party which takes part in and leads the workers in their daily struggles against the bosses.

During the strike of the 40,000 miners there has been one political party which has been in the midst of the fight. It has used its press and influence to help the strikers.

Its members have been at the head of the picket lines ready to face the thugs' guns and clubs. The Daily Worker, official organ of the Communist Party is the only newspaper in English, which gave the true facts of the strike and actually has been the official spokesman for the strikers. Its members were active in the collection of miners' relief and for the defense of the arrested miners. This political party is the COMMUNIST PARTY. The Communist Party is a political organization of workers. No bosses are to be found in its midst. The Communist Party has no interest except the interests of the working class.

It is for the above reasons that the National Board of the National Miners' Union, declares its support of the Communist Party candidates, and its election program. The National Board urges its local unions, and every miner, striking, unemployed, and working, to take an active part in this election campaign in support of the Communist Party candidates, and its platform.

CONFISCATE LEGION BOOZE

DETROIT — Prohibition agents confiscated more than 2,500 bottles of whiskey, champagne, cognac and beer which delegates attending the American Legion convention here tried to smuggle in. The Detroit police and the government agents considered such imports would interfere with their bootlegger partners and friends who run the racket in Detroit and who had, with the aid of police and prohibition agents, laid in big supplies for the drunken mob that controls the Legion.

I.L.D. BROADCASTS CALL FROM PRISON

NEW YORK. — A telegram appears in the October issue of the Labor Defender, official organ of the International Labor Defense, just off the press, from Tom Mooney in San Quentin, addressed to "the fighting miners of Harlan, Ky., in greetings of genuine working class fellowship and solidarity," and calling upon militant workers to "rise as never before" in a united front to free all class war prisoners.

As Mooney wired this appeal from his prison cell, International Labor Defense organizers in 25 large American cities were ralsying workers into huge mass demonstrations of protest against his imprisonment on perjured testimony of the power trusts in California. The I.L.D. is tying up with this case other victims of capitalist justice, such as the eight Scottsboro Negro boys, framed for rape and facing the electric chair in Alabama; the Harlan Negro and white miners still behind bars on flimsy charges of murder and criminal syndicalism; the Imperial Valley prisoners held for organizing agricultural workers; foreign-born workers held for deportation and many others.

Mooney's complete telegram follows:

"Fighting miners of Harlan: Greetings of genuine working-class solidarity and fellowship. You face the electric chair for your courage in defense of the working-class' right of life, liberty and happiness against brutal capitalist slavery forced upon you. Your crime is loyalty to the working class. Your hopes for freedom lies only in united working-class action.

"Today it is the Harlan miners; yesterday the miners of Pennsylvania; the textile workers of Gastonia in 1927. The brutal master class burned Sacco and Vanzetti. Twelve years ago the lumber barons buried alive in Walla Walla prison nine Industrial Workers of the World. Fifteen years ago they sent Mooney and Billings to a living death. Tomorrow it will be other valiant workers fighting in defense of their rights.

"Shall all these sacrifices be in vain? Are they not enough to wipe out petty differences of opinion and annihilate grudge to solidify all toilers with a spark of militancy or revolutionary purpose into a real united front of workers in defense of its bravest fighters ready to offer their lives in the struggle?"

"These are times that try the soul of every worker. Gird yourself for the battle! Rise as you never have before in defense of your advance guard! Capitalists are desperate. They see dawning a better civilization in which there will be no place for their brutal exploitation of workers. Unite in the fight for the Harlan miners and all class war prisoners. You must not let these brave soldiers of the class war be slaughtered. My thoughts are constantly with them. Warm fraternal revolutionary greetings! Always in the struggle. TOM MOONEY."

Mooney-Harlan-Scottsboro united front demonstrations are being held this week and next in most of the large cities of the country. Workers are sending hundreds of telegrams to governors demanding the release of

DePriest Raves Against Workers In Atlanta Show

Once more Oscar DePriest, rich Negro politician, landlord and capitalist, showed his true color by attacking the Communist Party. He openly proved himself to be a faithful servant of the white master class, speaking identically in the same language that they do; he advised the colored working masses, who he claims, are his people, to stay in their place. In a speech that he recently made in Atlanta through the Baptist Convention, he says the following: "Negro, lend no ear to Communism; it is not good for you because the Negro depends upon the white man for a job, and by joining the Communist Party he would find himself the very man who gives him a living."

Well, Mr. DePriest may be a good Congressman, a faithful servant of his class, but he can't fool the "Reds."

If Mr. DePriest was not an enemy of the working class at large, and of the colored working masses in particular, he should have come to Atlanta, and with a storm of protest from the platform he should have exposed the boss class for the thirty some odd lynchings that they made possible in less than one year; for the frame-up of the nine innocent Negro youths in Scottsboro who are facing the electric chair under the boss law, and for the frame-up of the Camp Hill share croppers and the regime of terror against them just because they dare to demand food, and against the general cruelty performed against the common Negro people throughout the South.

Did Mr. DePriest make mention of that? Indeed not, but instead he defended their oppressors by urging the colored workers not to organize, but to accept conditions as they exist.

By telling them that old crap about their existence depending upon the boss; he is trying to drag them back to slavery of seventy-five years ago, of the years of "yes,sar," and "yes 'um." He completely denies the value of the man in overalls; he therefore proves himself to be an arch enemy of the working class, and here is what the "Reds" say:

"Mr. DePriest, you cannot fool the working class any longer, the common people of the Negro race as a part of the working class of the United States will side by side, together with the white working class, organize themselves for the establishment of a Workers and Farmers Government where no workers' life will depend upon any boss as Mr. DePriest, but the worker will receive the full fruit of his work, and that can only happen under the leadership of the Communist Party."

Mooney and other class war victims from their cells.

KIDNAP, BEAT UNEMPLOYED IN S. CAROLINA

GREENVILLE, S. C.—That the Ku Klux Klan is not an organization of "white, protestant, native-born" out to fight the Negroes and Jews, but a class organization embracing all colors and nationalities of the boss class is clear to many workers—white and Negro—here.

The other night a Ku Klux mob contained in its ranks two Negro deacons of the Springfield Baptist church on East McBee avenue. This mob, guns and blackjacks in hand, raided a Negro worker's home, seized two members of the Unemployed Council and took them out into the woods and brutally whipped them. One of the workers was left unconscious and was left for dead.

More and more, the workers, white and black, are talking about the definite organization of Workers Defense Corps to give the "Rag Gang" or "Sack Heads," as they call the K. K. K. here, such a hot reception on one of their raids that the miserable cowards will realize that they cannot indefinitely continue their kidnappings and beating.

A few nights later eight carloads of Ku Kluxers cruised around the streets of Greenville, slowing up when they passed the house where they thought Clara Holden, organizer of the National Textile Workers' Union, was staying, and waved their arms threateningly. This was presumably a gentle hint that she follow the advice of the five men who kidnaped and flogged her a few weeks ago and leave town.

The Kluxers are upheld by the Negro preachers who, every Sunday, deliver long, ignorant slanders against the Communist Party, the union, and tell their listeners to respect the white bosses. Many Negroes are wondering how much these preachers get from the mill owners for trying to keep them away from organized fighting against mass starvation and slavery.

Arrests, Frame-Ups Rapidly Increasing

Capitalism is desperate at the growing resistance to its wage-cutting and starvation program. In an effort to stop the growing mass movement the police and courts are filling jails with prisoners arrested in free speech cases, say nothing of its mad campaign of frame-ups, legal and semi-legal lynchings, etc. Last year there were 1,630 prosecutions on free speech charges. The year before, in 1929, there were 228.

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FROM THE MILLS, MINES AND THE FARMS

WORKERS GIVE SPEED-UP MAN BUM'S RUSH

GREENVILLE, S. C.—The little mill town of Inman, S. C., with a population of 761, started something the other day. The Inman Mills, Inc., capitalized at \$1,000,000, employ 700 workers, who manufacture print cloth, on 1000 broad looms. The bosses thought the workers were loafing too much and getting too much pay. The workers thought different.

A "minute man" was brought in in the guise of an ordinary weaver. The first morning he asked for 50 looms; after a day or two he asked for 70 and in another day or two he said he would like to work 100 looms. By this time, the weavers got wise to him and gave him just so many hours to leave town. He left.

At the same time, the workers were told of a 10 per cent wage cut. The whole mill struck against the wage-cut and also against the stretch-out, that had been put over on them. In a few hours the management gave in.

The mill workers of the little town of Inman won a big victory, and workers all over the South should follow their example. Such victories can and will be won, in other mills, under the leadership of the National Textile Workers' Union (Southern address: 30 South College Street, Charlotte, N. C., or Box 65, Greenville S. C.)

Paid For House But Ordered Out

(By a Worker Correspondent)

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—The rent man told Mrs. Norah Thomas who lives on Clarkson Street Alley to get out because she could not pay rent. She has been living there for the past 15 years. In the time she lived there she paid out the cost of the shack over and over in the high rents that the landlord squeezed out of her. Now he says he cannot furnish her a house for nothing. She has been sick a year. The unemployed council in the neighborhood is going to see to it that the landlord will not put the poor sick woman out.

—A Y.C.L. Member.

Thieving Preacher-Landlord Robs Whole Cropper Family

CHATTANOOGA.—I want to tell you about how one of the preacher-landlords did us in Georgia. We were living in Chattanooga and about a year ago a preacher Akon, who runs a Missionary Baptist church, came to us to ask us to be share croppers on his land at Rango, Ga.

We had about a 20-acre farm there and worked mighty hard, thinking to make a good crop. There were 11 of us in the family then and all worked except the baby. Even the two littlest girls worked picking cotton. We raised corn, cotton, watermelons, potatoes and cane. All this time we got a food allowance of \$6.50 a week for a family of 11. It was hard to make this go, so we used to borrow from the white families and we ran up a bill of \$25 at the grocery store.

We worked so hard and made such a good crop that people would come from miles around to look at the farm. Preacher Akon used to come around and say: "You will clear yourselves sure and have \$200 or \$300 to spare. You are fine farmers."

Then picking time came and the owner said we owed him \$170 for feed and fertilizer. Our crop was worth \$1005.50 exactly. This is what the lawyer figured it at afterwards.

Big Soviet Farm Organized and Run by Young Workers

Night Raids To Scare Leaders Of Unemployed

GREENVILLE, S. C. — James

Washington, active member of the Unemployed Council, has been arrested for the second time within a few weeks, on the framed up charge of vagrancy. Both times he was pulled out of bed at about 5 a.m. and attempts made to rush a trial thru without him having a lawyer. The attorney, however, gotten by the International Labor Defense, was on the job and demanded a jury trial. Fellow-Worker Washington is now out on 10 days' "sick leave," and the chances are that the case will be dropped.

Washington was active in the Scottsboro work, being on the committee that went every night for two weeks with Mrs. Montgomery, the mother of one of the Scottsboro boys, to deferent meetings. For this and his other activities, the Greenville cops and KKK have had it in for him. Besides the two arrests, he was seized one night by the KKK, taken into the woods and brutally beaten.

The colored workers of Greenville who are known to be active in the Unemployed Council, have suffered all kinds of terror and persecution. They have been arrested, beaten up, and their houses searched countless times by the police. One colored worker was recently offered \$100 if he would turn stool-pigeon. The colored workers of Greenville are holding firm, their determination to organize and fight together with the white workers has not been shaken by the vicious campaign of terror put over by the master class.

ARKANSAS CUTS WAGES

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—All state employees have had their salaries cut 10 percent beginning the first of September.

But Akon said that it was not worth much, so he took everything we had to pay that \$170 debt. He did not even allow us to touch the crop—had someone else in to pick it. He said our land was attached, but that was all fixed up with the sheriff—they did not even bother to get out papers but just had the sheriff come around and tell us to give it up. Our lawyer found out afterwards that it had never been attached at all. He was so mean he even came and had the potatoes in our garden, that we had planted for our own food, dug up and carted off. We made 400 gallons of cane syrup, but we only got three gallons and Akon got all the rest. We didn't even get the three gallons because Akon sent that off to someone we owed a little money to.

If the white farm neighbors all around us hadn't helped us out we would have starved after all our work. We were put out of the house four days after Christmas.

Then we got a lawyer and started suit against Akon. But although we and our witnesses have been there four times somehow the case is never called. And we know now that it never will be called.

This farm was organized on the first of January, 1931. At present it embraces an area of 50,000 hectares, divided into 4 main sections. The number of full time workers is 530. The main product of the farm is wheat. The farm is working according to the highest technique in agriculture. Sixty-six tractors of the Deering type are working day and night in the fields, besides that there are five of the Caterpillar type. In the fields the combines are working not less than 18 hours a day. Practically all the workers are young workers between the ages of 18 and 20 years. Most of them have come directly from the collective farms without any experience of mechanized agriculture. The result is that the struggle for technique, like in the industries, is the main question facing the workers. Special courses for this purpose are organized.

Most of the work is done by piece-work. The cost of living is about 50 percent of the wages received. Social insurance, etc., is the same as for the workers in the factories.

Every year the workers on the farm receive two weeks vacation with full pay. The enthusiasm among the workers is very high.

By socialist competition and shock work the workers are overfulfilling the production plan. At the same time as they are increasing the production output they are also decreasing the cost of it as can be seen for instance in the cost of the combines.

The plan in the farm calls for not more than 3 rubles, 90 kopeks (\$1.05) per hectare. The workers have reduced it through piece work to 2 rubles, 90 kopeks (95c). The enthusiasm of the workers can also be seen in the reply of the workers in one of the sections to the plans of intervention against the Soviet Union carried on by the Imperialist powers. Their reply on the eve of August 1st was to give their work free on this day to strengthen the defence of the Soviet Union. At the same time they decided to collectively join the International Labor Defense as a protest against the white terror in the capitalist countries. A protest resolution in regards to the Scottsboro case was also adopted demanding the release of the 8 Negro boys.

The farm as mentioned above has only existed this year but still much work has been carried out in regards to living and cultural conditions. In every section there is a dining room and at the same time there are also field kitchens. Red Corners, library, etc., are organized, and also clubs where the workers can spend their free time. At present the farm is spending half a million for new buildings and improvement of cultural conditions. The farm is being put on a self-supporting basis in regards to many things. So, for instance, is there established a special milk and meat farm for domestic consumption, vegetable garden, fruit farm, etc.

The workers of the farm not only carry on work on the farm itself, they are also helping the collective farms by sending brigades with tractors to help with the plowing and harvesting campaign in these collective farms.

The ties between the workers and farmers becomes thereby much stronger. Together, in the country where they are the rulers, they build socialism.

In spite of many difficulties they march forward to the completion of the Five Year Plan in four years. Nothing will stop them.

—Peters.

Charity Fake Forces Jobless to Donate Work

(By a Worker Correspondent)

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn.—When workers go to the relief headquarters at the police station, Mrs. Bines, who is in charge there will not give them anything at all unless there is work for them to do first. But why would we come to the relief station at all if we could find work? She makes us go first, no matter how hungry we are, to the Goodwill Industries, where we pick over a lot of old rags and clean old spittoons and so on. Then for one or two days' work we get a grocery order for \$1.00. If there is no work that day at Goodwill's we go hungry.

Goodwill's gets labor real cheap this way and they don't have to give us any real relief.

Old lady Bines often makes promises, but keeping them is another thing. She promised my husband \$5 for painting a garage. When he was through she gave him \$2 and a grocery order for \$2.

Many Starve To Death Daily In Auto City

DETROIT.—A physician of the Detroit receiving hospital reported to a representative of the Federated Press that four people a day on the average are brought to the hospital too far gone from starvation for their lives to be saved. Thus workers starve because they produced more than the bosses were able to sell. There is more than enough for all, but workers starve because the boss cannot sell it at a profit. As the bosses know Communism ends the profit system by destroying capitalism they fight the Reds and hire professional liars like preachers and politicians to lie about Communism.

Fewer Auto Workers On Job in Detroit

DETROIT, Mich.—While the advertisements talk much about the new model cars that are to be put upon the market, the plants here remain closed many days of the week, with the exception of the maintenance gang. The Ford Motor company did not call back 60 percent of those workers laid off last June; the 40 percent working only get two or three days a week. Fisher Body plant is closed altogether. Cadillac workers only get seven hours a week.

Salvation Army Captain Tries to Fool Ex-Soldiers

BIRMINGHAM.—Capt T. S. Welch, of the Salvation Army, addressing the Birmingham Chapter of the Disabled American Veterans of the World War, attacked Communism and warned his hearers that "forces that sought to destroy democracy during the World War are now seeking to take advantage of the unrest to make another attack," and called upon those who had fought in the World War to resist the attack.

It is a joke to talk in Birmingham about democracy, because here the ruling class has long ago wiped out every sign of democracy and civil rights and has substituted the rule of lynch mobs, officially sanctioned and led by the police and the city and state officials.

What Welch wants is not democracy, but further tyranny in an effort to crush the growing determina-

Foundry Cuts Wages; Drives Workers More

(By a Worker Correspondent)

CHATTANOOGA.—The men at the Vesta Stove Foundry have been working short time now for about a month.

At the same time that the days were cut down, the pay was cut for everyone in the factory by 10 cents on the dollar. This cut was for everyone, common labor and molders and all.

Still we are doing much more work than we were before the pay cut, especially the common laborers who are doing the work of about two now. The common laborers make only about \$4.50 a week.

Improves Old Place; Landlord Wants Pay

(By a Worker Correspondent)

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—The rich landlord of our house told Ruth Super, an unemployed worker, to plant some corn on a hill to keep the grass from growing so high. After she had planted it, the landlord told her if she cleaned off 5 acres of land, maybe he would give her some. He then hired a man to do the work for 25c an hour. The hired man has been working almost two weeks now and the landlord wants the poor woman to pay for it. This is what the rich bosses do to us workers, when we are not organized.

A Y.C.L. Member.

Opposing Parties In Cuba Expose Selves

HAVANA.—That the so-called Opposition Parties of the ruling class have no real points of difference, is conclusively proven by the readiness with which they rally to the support of the bloody butcher Machado when he appealed for unity in this "emergency." The rise of a revolutionary movement from the working class has hastened the consolidation of all the "opposition" groups in Cuban politics. The leaders of the bourgeoisie find common cause in ruthlessly stamping out every expression of revolt on the part of the exploited and oppressed masses.

They have now agreed with the butcher Machado to legislate certain constitutional "reform" and together to "study" and adopt measures necessary to "solve" the economic crisis.

This policy of collaboration however will not save the bloody tools of American imperialism.

tion of the workers to fight against wage reductions and long hours and for the right to join the metal Workers' Industrial League and distribute and read any revolutionary literature they desire.

Tens of thousands of returned soldiers who are facing starvation know what hollow mockery is concealed behind the words of those who try to tell them they fought for democracy. They know that the world war was not a war for democracy, but a war to enable Morgan and other millionaires to become still stronger at the expense of the toiling masses in industry and on the land.

They know that the only enemy they should fight is the capitalist class right here in America and not the workers of some other country who are victims of capitalist exploitation the same as themselves.

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Strike Against Wage-Cuts

For more than two years the working class has been subjected to continuous reduction of living standards—through widespread unemployment, short time work and through direct wage cutting in every industry. Millions of workers are living today near the starvation level.

Now comes a general wage-slashing campaign that hits every industry. The steel trust announcement of a general 10 percent cut against 250,000 workers, is followed by wage-cut announcements by General Motors, United States Rubber, the oil combines and the railroads. Already the longshoremen have had their wages slashed and are to get more cuts, according to the boss press.

For a long time the imperialist ruling class and all its tools in the South have been waging the most savage attacks against the toiling masses in an attempt to crush every move on the part of the workers and farmers to resist the attacks of the industrial bosses and the big landowners. Scottsboro, Camp Hill, the continual attacks against Negro workers, the attempts to outlaw the Communist Party, are all made to terrorize and crush the growing resistance of the masses. The revival of Ku Klux activity, with its inciting of mob violence is part of the capitalist campaign against the working class, calculated to divide the black and white workers and stop the movement toward unity of action to resist wage cuts.

Against the attempts of the boss class to divide the workers so they can cut our wages we must unite and answer the wage cutting campaign with strike action in every industry affected—which means in all industry.

Birmingham steel workers, already getting below 20 cents an hour, are openly talking strike against further reduction of their miserable wage. Of great importance for the steel workers of the South are the decisions of the conference of steel workers held in Pittsburgh, Pa., last Sunday. The details of the conference decisions are not available at the time of printing the SOUTHERN WORKER, but they will be printed in these columns next issue as a guide to action for the steel workers. The conference was held under the leadership of the Metal Workers' Industrial League and, according to the announcement, was to become the "rallying center for the organization of the fight against the steel barons."

The Trade Union Unity League, the United States section of the Red International of Labor Unions, under the signature of its secretary, Wm. Z. Foster, leader of the great steel strike of 1919-20, has issued a call to action, declaring that the present wage-cutting campaign is a conspiracy of the bosses, the government and the American Federation of Labor machine, against the working class, a conspiracy that must be resisted by organized strike action.

Like the capitalist class of every country of the world, the American ruling class tries to make the workers and farmers bear the burden of its own crisis. Each ruling class tries to compete with the other in seeing who can smash down wages lowest. England, the biggest imperialist rival of the United States, further reduces standards of life of the British workers through abandoning the gold standard and inflating currency (always an indirect wage cut) so they can sell goods cheaper on the world market. A few days later the American ruling class follows with an attack on American workers, so American products can be sold still cheaper than English. At the same time both of the big imperialistic powers, like all other such thieving ruling classes, try to grab more colonies to exploit.

This increasing conflict between the big powers leads directly to war—not only between the imperialist powers themselves, but the ruling classes of the whole world to try to force war upon the Soviet Union, because that part of the world, which is one-sixth of the inhabitable globe, is not capitalist, but is under a Communist government, and there is no unemployment and instead of wages being cut they are rapidly rising. The toiling masses of the world are, in ever larger numbers, coming to understand that the way out of the misery of capitalism is to destroy it as the workers and farmers did in Russia and establish their own government.

It can be seen, when we consider the war danger, that the fight against wage cuts and for shorter hours and better living and working conditions is a fight also against the imperialist war-mongers. We workers, in alliance with the poor farmers must do everything in our power to cripple the American ruling class so it will not be able to carry on its world-wide economic fight which leads to war. We must realize the definite connection between wage cuts and war preparations. We must know that the schemes to set the white workers against the Negro workers are for the purpose of weakening the working class by dividing us, so that it will be easier to put over wage cuts and war plans.

Of especial importance is the organization of strike machinery in the great steel mills of Birmingham, so that it can be extended throughout the industrial South. In another part of this issue of the SOUTHERN WORKER we expose some of the war department schemes to make Birmingham a big center of war industry. This war material, guns and ammunition, will be used not only against workers of other countries, but also against we workers here. Hence we must organize against wage cuts and particularly concentrate on Birmingham as one of the most important points from which to deliver a smashing blow at the boss class.

Wall Street's War Game

Continuing its policy of masking its war plans behind talk about peace, the United States government, through its secretary of state, Henry L. Stimson, sent a note to Japan and China regarding the "small" war being carried on in Manchuria.

No one should be deceived into believing that Stimson, as the agent of Wall Street (the real government of this country) is trying to bring about

STARVATION PLUS SLAVERY ON FARMS OF THE SOUTH

By JACK CARSON

The conditions of the farm laborers, share croppers and tenant farmers have never been as bad as they are now. Hundreds of thousands of second, by refusing to pay in cash, grocers, are faced with death from starvation.

The greatest majority of the Negro share croppers and farm laborers hardly know what money looks like. During the time of work on the crop, which starts around March and lasts until the end of September or October, irregular advances of food are made by the landlords. The landlords decide the kind of food and the amount they give out, as one cropper expressed it: "When we ask for lard and flour, we get the flour and miss the lard. We can never check up on the cost of the food we get, as the landlord is the one who gets it and brings it out. By the end of the season the landlord takes the whole crop and we are left to starve the rest of the months till the work on the new crop begins."

The Condition of the Farm Laborers

During the recent years there has been a tremendous increase in the number of farm laborers, as the people refuse to share crop and prefer any kind of wage for their toil. But the landlords manage to keep the farm laborers in the same starving and slaving conditions first by forcing those workers to work for as low as forty cents down to twenty-five cents a day for the grown ups and five to ten cents a day for the children, second, by refusing to pay in cash. Instead they advance food and thereby cheat the workers even in this miserable wage. This way they keep this great army of farm laborers, which is taking men, women and children as young as five years of age to work 13 hours a day for the most pitiful

peace. On the contrary, Stimson horns in on the fight so that he can push forward Wall Street plans for taking the lead in world reaction; so that Wall Street can decide when and where and under what conditions wars are carried out against the colonial and semi-colonial masses and especially against the fatherland of the working class of the whole world, the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics.

The new stage of the crisis of overproduction, occurring in the period of the general decline of capitalism—the financial crisis that first broke out in Austria, then spread to Germany, then involved England, from whence it rapidly spread to Norway and Sweden and will involve the whole capitalist world, has left the Wall Street gang in a relatively strong position because of its tremendous gold reserve. Wall Street and its political agents, Mellon, Hoover and Stimson, use this gold reserve for definite political purposes: to bring other nations into its imperialist orbit in its struggle against its great rival, England, and to definitely fight to take the lead of all capitalist nations in preparing for imperialist war and intervention against the Soviet Union. Even though the United States ruling class is relatively strong, the position of world capitalism as a whole is much weaker as a result of the currency catastrophe. This position tremendously increases the danger of a war of intervention as a final act of desperation to try to find a capitalist way out of the crisis.

Yankee imperialism is particularly interested in events in Manchuria because it is from Manchuria that world imperialism hopes to launch one of its fiercest attacks against the workers' and peasants' government, Japan's armed invasion of Manchuria is plainly a move against the Soviet Union; Japan's forces are moving rapidly toward the Soviet border, coordinating railway lines, linking them up so that there can be rapid movement of large numbers of troops to Harbin and thence to the Soviet border.

The Wall Street government at Washington, remembering the disastrous attempt of imperialism in the summer of 1929 to strike at the Soviet Union through Manchuria, doesn't want a repetition of that fiasco. It wants to be sure that all other capitalist states, mostly open fascist, along the borders of the Soviet Union, from Finland, the Baltic States (Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia), Poland, Roumania, down through the group of states bordering Soviet territory on the south and clear to Manchuria are ready for attempts at war and intervention. Also Yankee imperialism wants to be guaranteed its share of any further extension of looting of the rich resources of Manchuria.

Each deepening of the crisis of capitalism, each outbreak of a "small" war, each "peace" move on the part of the imperialists must spur the working class of this and of every country to more determined fight against the war danger, to greater efforts to defend the Soviet Union.

In fighting the war danger the workers must understand that one of the most effective ways at the moment is to resist with all our might the wage cuts that are being imposed upon us; to beat back the offensive of capitalism against our class by defensive strike action in a number of industries that will develop rapidly into a general movement for a counter-offensive against capitalism.

existence and that only in the time of work on the crop.

Government Demands Taxes from Starving People

The government plays its part in further enslaving the people by sending out Tax Collectors to squeeze whatever they can out of the share croppers. About two years ago a general taxation on farm stock and implements was put on those share croppers who owned such. The taxes amount to about twenty percent of the earnings of a cropper's family, sometimes to as much as \$10.00. During the last years of complete ruin of the croppers all such implements were lost by them to the landlords and in many cases the live stock the croppers had, perished from lack of food.

Here is a statement of a cropper which is very significant in connection with the taxes: "I was taxed for a mule and wagon two years ago to the amount of \$12.00 per year. Since then my mule perished and the wheels of the wagon are laying in the scrap pile in the yard, but the government tax collector still demands \$12.00 for taxes and threatens me with jail if I don't pay. Well, I just can't pay."

Organization and Fight Against Those Slave Conditions The Only Way Out

Faced with their deadly enemies, the white landlord, the overseer, the sheriffs, who are the loyal watchdogs of the landlords, the county, state, and national government of the rich, and all the methods of those forces to enforce the slave conditions, such as lynchings frame ups and the punishment through the legal lynchings in the electric chair and chain gang labor, those Negro masses are aware that only through a mass movement can they successfully fight against the present conditions. Such a mass

movement needs the efforts and leadership of a militant organization.

The share croppers and Farm Laborers' Union is therefore the only hope to those people for the leadership in the every day fight against their masters. This is the reason why the response of those people to our organization is tremendous. The Southern Worker is to them the best organizer and they look forward towards the whole force of the Communist Party to lead them in the struggle for liberation.

Not a cent in taxes from the starving share croppers and instead Government relief to all share croppers, and farm laborers, Negro and white.

Demand advance in cash from the landlords shall not be stopped during the winter months.

Demand the right of the share croppers to sell their own crop.

Demand the rights of the Farm Laborers and Share Croppers to organize their own union.

FORCED LABOR ON HIGHWAYS IN ALABAMA

(By a Worker Correspondent)
BIRMINGHAM.—This morning as I was passing along the highway, I saw the city prisoners working on the streets and over them stood three white bosses armed with guns and two Negro bosses, who, although they were not permitted to have guns, had sticks with which they beat the other prisoners. These two Negro prisoners who are able to boss the others were walking around these other poor prisoners, telling them to hurry up. The prisoners were just as wet with sweat as if they had just come up out of a hole of water. Most of the prisoners are only workers without jobs.

It is time that all workers, both white and black, got together and stopped all this slavery and starvation. If we don't the bosses will starve us all out.

—Stockham Pipe Worker.

Young Workers Fight War And Charity Fakes

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—The Young Communist League of Charlotte held an open air meeting on the corner of Twelfth and Alexander Streets. The meeting was very enthusiastic and took place in a section of the city where the workers suffer most from unemployment.

The young workers who spoke denounced the fake moves of the local charities who were peddling lies about helping the starving workers and demanded that all donations given in to the charities be turned over immediately to the Unemployed Councils to be distributed by them directly to the unemployed.

The young workers also scored the war moves of the bosses demanding all war funds go to the unemployed. Several young workers applied for membership in the Y. C. L. and some literature was sold.

ARREST KIMBEL IN HARLAN

According to press reports, John Kimbel, Harlan miner, was arrested on a charge of criminal syndicalism, after Blair's thugs said they found radical literature in his possession. It is reported that Kimbel previously had been released on a similar charge when he agreed to leave the county.