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STRIKES IN SOUTH WIN PAY INCREASES FOR THOUSANDS

A wave of strikes is sweeping the South, chiefly in textile mills. The workers in many plants have already won their demands by militant action. The workers have won gains in Mobile, Ala., Greenville, S. C., Anniston, Ala. (Cordage Company), Columbia, S. C., and Norfolk, Va.

The chief grievances of the workers are:

1. The installation of new and terrific stretch-out systems, sometimes in connection with announcement of wage-increases of a few measly pennies. 2. Wages so low that they do not begin to cover the cost of necessities, especially now that inflation is raising prices. 3. In two cases, wage-cuts

of from 10 to 50 per cent.

The strikers have shown a splendid spirit of struggle, in spite of militia, sheriffs and deputies, eviction notices, and attempts at sell-outs by the Department of Labor and by representatives of the misleadership of the American Federation of Labor.

Greenville Strike Wins 10 P. C. Raise

10 P. C. Raise

GREENVILLE, S. C.—One thousand textile workers of the W. T. Poe Manufacturing Company went on strike here on May 23, and won their demands. They struck against the new stretch-out system, which forced the workers to do more and threw many out of jobs. They also asked an increase of 25 per cent in their wages.

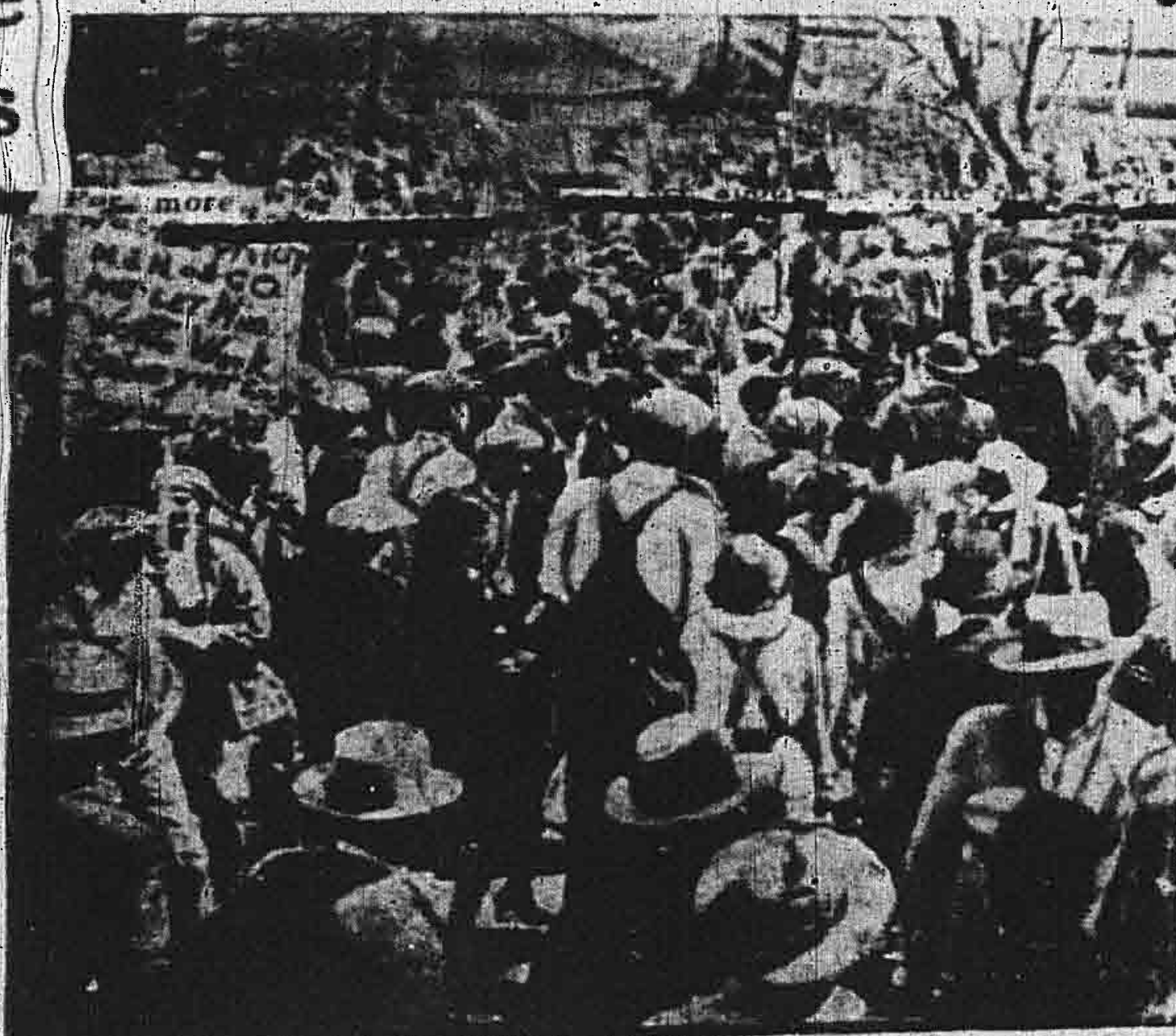
Anniston Cordage Workers Win Raise

ANNISTON, Ala.—The threat of a solid strike forced the Anniston Cordage Company to increase the wages of its workers. On the night of May 23, a committee from the workers visited the plant officials and announced that a strike would begin next morning unless their demands were met. On the morning of May 24, Resident Manager Leslie Sutton instituted an increase of more than 10 per cent.

Columbia Strikers Win Their Demands

COLUMBIA, S. C.—Seven hundred workers of the Mt. Vernon Woodbury Mills at Columbia, S. C., went on strike on May 29 for an increase in wages. The strike was so complete that within a few hours L. G. Smith, mill agent at Columbia, was forced to announce a 10 per cent increase, effective immediately.

SOUTHERN TEXTILE LABOR STIRS AGAIN



This is a scene from the Gastonia strike of 1929, when workers demonstrated before the gates of the Loray Mill. Today the textile workers of the South, and workers in other industries, are again astir against stretch-out and wage-cuts.

MOBILE WORKERS WIN DEMANDS AFTER SPLENDID STRUGGLE

Prichard Mill Bosses Forced to Grant 10% Raise

MOBILE, Ala.—The determined spirit of the workers of the Prichard Cotton Mill Products Company here has won for them a 10 per cent increase in wages. After a strike lasting for some weeks, the workers went back after the management had announced the increase and promised that there would be no discrimination against strikers.

It is now up to the workers to keep strong committees in every department, to build up a militant union, and to see to it that the Prichard bosses stick to the terms of the agreement.

Against Wage-Cut and Stretch-Out

The strike was called against a wage cut of 50 per cent and the attempt to make the workers tend 40 looms instead of 28. The work-

ers demanded a 10 per cent increase to meet in part the rising cost of necessities, and abolition of the new speed-up system.

A committee of strikers went to call on J. W. Sanders, president and treasurer of the Prichard Com-

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Utica Mill Strikers in Anniston Defy Militia

STRUGGLE AGAINST NEW STRETCH-OUT

ANNISTON, Ala.—In spite of every effort to break the strike, the 600 workers of the Utica Knitting Mills here are solidly out against a 10 per cent wage-cut and a vicious new stretch-out system.

Guardsmen, with two fully-loaded machine guns, are all around the mill. The strikers picket constantly, and only about 15 have gone back to work. One day last week, the 15 scabs were loaded into autos on which stood several guardsmen with rifles and revolvers in their hands. The strikers yelled at the scabs, and one carload of strikers set out to capture them. The guards then shot seven times at the tires of the strikers' car.

The guardsmen were called in when the sheriff failed to get a single man to act as deputy. One company guard pulled off his uniform and joined the picket line.

New Stretch-Out System

The night workers in the Utica Mills work 12 hours, and get only the same pay as the day workers who work 10 hours. The new stretch-out system set a standard of 19 dozen heavy-weight men's underwear a day to be sewn. If the full 19 dozen are finished, the girls get \$1.80 a day, but only 10 per cent of the girls can do this. Ninety per cent of the workers make from \$1 to \$3 a week, for 55 hours. Laborers make 10 or 11 cents an hour.

Before the new stretch-out system was started, the workers watched six machines, now they had to watch 16. If a machine breaks down, even for as long as two days, the workers are not paid, although they must remain at the machines. They are also docked for "bad" work. The computing system is so complicated that the workers never know what they will get.

The Minute Men

Shortly before the strike broke out, men with watches in their

hands appeared and watched every movement of the workers. These "minute-men" figured out the maximum possible production for a given period, and made that the standard for the 10-hour day. If the workers dropped below that

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White Comrade Won't Leave Negro in Jail

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Jane Speed, young white girl of Montgomery, has unconditionally refused to accept bond for her release from Birmingham jail unless Ned Goodwin, Negro worker who was arrested with her at the May First meeting of the Birmingham workers, can get out on bond also.

Won't Leave Negro Worker in Jail

Jane Speed was manhandled by the cops when she tried to speak, and was defended by Goodwin and many other workers. Speed was given a \$50 fine, and Goodwin six months and \$100 fine.

Personal friends offered Jane Speed bond, but she refused it unless they would agree to bail Goodwin also.

MASS PRESSURE FORCES TRANSFER OF CASES OF TWO YOUNGEST OF SCOTTSBORO BOYS TO JUVENILE COURT

Strike Wave Sweeps Over Many Southern States

GOUGE BETRAYS WHITE, NEGRO BLUE MOUNTAIN MINERS SOLID STRIKE TO BOSS IN KENTUCKY

ANNISTON, Ala.—After a splendid militant strike, the workers of the Blue Mountain Mill of the American Net and Twine Company were sold out to the bosses by George L. Gouge, southeastern representative of the American Federation of Labor, and Federal Conciliator Richardson.

Nine of the demands were met, the efficiency system remaining in force. In spite of the strike "settlement," the plant remains closed, and it is evident that the bosses, together with Gouge and Richardson have worked out a scheme to make the workers stop militant strike activity and still not give them their jobs back. The bosses will be up to something or other during this interval, and it won't be for the benefit of the strikers.

National Guard Out
Four companies of National Guardsmen were ordered out during this strike, including one machine-gun company. The strikers successfully prevented scabs from entering the plant.

A. B. Borders and two deputies tried to escort Foreman Jack Carter into the plant to make repairs on machinery, the strikers kept them out and tore Carter's clothes to shreds.

The strike was in protest against a new "efficiency" system, which means more work for less pay.

Gouge told the workers of the Blue Mountain Plant, in a mass meeting that their conditions were "better than in most mills of the South", and that "the strike there seems to have been a result from the one at the Utica mills." In other words, Gouge told the workers in effect: "You're well off; be satisfied; an efficiency system that makes you do more for the same pay is nothing to strike about."

HARVEYTON, Ky.—Two hundred and fifty miners are on strike here against the Harvey Coal Company, because of wage-cuts and lengthening of hours. The commissary prices had been increased.

There is excellent cooperation between the white and colored miners, and each has assured the other that they will not return to work until the demands are met and all are satisfied.

DANVILLE STRIKERS PREVENT CUT

DANVILLE, Va.—Two hundred workers at the Danville Knitting Mills went on strike against a 10 per cent wage-cut. The strike was settled with the return of the cut.

RED CROSS HELPS SCABS ONLY

WILDER, Tenn.—More than 250 miners are still on strike at the Featress Coal and Coke Company here. A walk-out has been in effect since July 8, 1932. Wages had been cut to 26 1/2 cents a ton. Strikers are refused all Red Cross aid, which is freely given to scabs and their families.

STRIKES AT BELTON AND SENECA

BELTON, S. C.—Five hundred workers struck here at the Belton Mill.

SENECA, S. C.—Part of the day force at the Lonsdale Mills have walked out, and forced the mills to close completely.



Roy Wright, one of the Scottsboro boys whose case has been sent to the Juvenile Court. Roy was never convicted, but has been two years in jail. Ruby Bates, witness against him in Scottsboro in 1931, has repudiated her testimony.

Utica Mill Strike

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production standard, their work was docked by that much. No minimum rate of pay was set for any job.

The time records no longer showed how many hours the girls worked, but how many hours they "made" by the standards of the new efficiency system.

For instance, the girls in the label division were sewing labels on 144 garments an hour—an average of about 2 1/2 labels per minute. The efficiency engineers decided on a standard of 162 labels per hour for 15c an hour. If the girls sewed only half of that many labels, they got only 7 1/2 cents an hour, being docked for everything under the standard.

The strike started when the superintendent fired an aged woman who told him that she couldn't possibly speed up, that fast. Everybody walked out with her.

Took Work Home
The girls had taken home work that they could not finish on the shift, and worked it up with their relatives to make their quota. Some material was lost in this way, and the mill stopped that practice. They hired other girls when the regular crew was unable to keep up, and whenever the regular girls had to receive such help they were docked an hour a day for it.

Treachery Fails
Efforts to break the strike from within the strikers' ranks, by treachery, have failed completely. Last week the strike committee, evidently under the influence of the bosses, agreed to send the workers back at the old scale and "arbitrate" later. The rank and file indignantly rejected this deal and remained on strike. Federal Conciliator Richardson put in several days trying to "arbitrate"—that is, break—the strike, but was unsuccessful. Several carloads of workers came from Rome Ga., to warn the strikers against Richardson, whose record as a strike-breaker they know well.

State Still Plans to Demand Their Electrocution

DECATUR, Ala.—After a bitter struggle by the International Labor Defense, backed up by the protests of hundreds of thousands, the state of Alabama has been forced to permit the transfer of the cases of the two youngest Scottsboro boys to the juvenile courts of Morgan County.

Roy Wright was 14 years old at the time of the arrest of the nine Scottsboro boys in March, 1931, on a framed rape charge. Eugene Williams was 13. Roy's trial ended in a mistrial, and Eugene was sentenced to the electric chair, along with seven other boys. Ever since that time these two children have been in jail, while the mass action of millions of people all over the world has again and again snatched all the boys from the very shadow of the electric chair.

Still in Danger of Electric Chair

The danger of electrocution for Roy and Eugene is by no means over. Attorney General Thomas E. Knight, acting for the rulers of Alabama, has already announced that once the cases are in juvenile court he will demand that they

boys—as well as for the others—be released before the cases are ever heard in juvenile court. Roy, for instance, is accused of attacking Ruby Bates, who at the new trial will in Decatur denied that she was even touched.

Just as the mass protests have forced the court, conscious of the eyes of the world's workers upon it, to transfer the cases of the two children to the juvenile court, so continued pressure will win freedom for these and for all the boys. Send letters, resolutions, and telegrams of protest to Governor B. M. Miller of Alabama, demanding the immediate and unconditional release of all the Scottsboro boys.

NEW TRIAL HEARING FOR PATTERSON JUNE 22

DECATUR, Ala.—On June 22, a hearing will be held here on a motion for a new trial for Haywood Patterson, one of the nine Scottsboro boys.

Patterson was the first of the nine Scottsboro boys to be retried. He was convicted and sentenced to die in the face of complete evidence of his innocence.

This date is only two days before the day set for his execution.

Demand a new trial for Haywood Patterson! Rush telegrams and resolutions and letters to Judge A. E. Horton, Decatur, Ala.

55 HOURS WORK, \$1-\$3 PAY IN UTICA MILLS

We print below the contents of a leaflet issued by the striking workers of the Utica Knitting Company.—EDITOR, SOUTHERN WORKER.

We, the employees of the Utica Knitting Co., wish to show the people of Anniston just exactly what we used to get for our work and what the minute men have done to the scale of work and the cut.

Spreaders used to get \$5.50 for a hundred dozen, and now they get \$3.00. Cutters used to get \$1.50 a hundred and now 81 cents a hundred.

Knitters used to get \$30.00 a week, on an average, and now they can hardly average \$16.00. One man worked 76 hours and drew \$9.16, a married man.

Day laborers used to get \$2.50 per day, and now they do well to average \$1.25.

A man in the dye house used to get \$2.75 a day, and now he gets \$1.75.

Boys in the stock room used to get \$2.00, and now average \$1.50 per day.

Firemen used to get \$21.00, and now get \$16.00, and do twice as much work—got two boilers to fire.

Inspectors used to get \$6.00 for inspecting a hundred dozen and now get \$4.00, if they can make standard.

Wages range from \$1.00 to \$3.00 a week—55 hours.

Packers used to get \$2.50 a day and now can hardly make \$1.25.

Flatlock girls used to get \$16.00 for a hundred dozen garments, and now make \$9.50 for 55 hours, if they make standard. Most make four to five dollars per week.

They used to get 25 cents an hour for unloading freight, and now get \$1.10 a day, or 11 cents an hour.

This is an average wage scale. Others have been cut likewise. It is an up and down proposition, and outrageously unfair to the human class of workers. We certainly wish to thank the citizens of Anniston for their support and backing during this walk-out.

THE EMPLOYEES OF THE UTICA KNITTING CO.

MOBILE WORKERS WIN DEMANDS

(Continued from p. 1)

pany, to demand the increase. The committee consisted of C. D. Kent, Oren Jones, David Shumaker, Richard Willis, Mrs. Aline Fineman, and Mrs. Mary Willis Sanders at that time refused the demands of the committee.

The pay was as follows:

Miserable Pay-Checks	
Weaving room	\$7.00
Cording room	5.40
Spooling room	3.00
Spinning room	4.00
Cloth room	7.50
Yard department	6.10

L. P. Bell, local manager, announced a pay cut that would bring wages from 7 and 10 cents per cut to 5 cents per cut.

The working day at the Prichard begins at 6:15 in the morning, ends at 2 o'clock at night, 45 minutes for dinner. Any

time lost for breakdown of the machines—and they are very old—has to be made up that same night. These are grievances against which the workers can struggle with greater success now that they have won their original strike demands.

Company Ordered Evictions

On Friday, May 19, the strikers were ordered to evacuate the houses in the mill village within ten days from the day of notice, unless they returned to work at the old scale. There are about 75 houses in the mill village, housing 750 persons.

The officials of the Prichard Company who rushed to Mobile when the strike broke out told the workers that "the stories about increases of wages throughout the country are not true."



GOVERNOR OF NORTH CAROLINA CUTS OFF ALL RELIEF TO STARVING FARM WORKERS

Disease, Hunger, Debt-Slavery Is Lot of Toilers on Va. Berry Farms

(By a Worker Correspondent)
NORFOLK, Va. — Hundreds of entire families, the majority Negroes, are leaving daily from Norfolk, Portsmouth and other cities in eastern Virginia, for the strawberry and potato farms. They do not make enough to feed their children. They have to work under a blistering sun picking berries at the rate of a cent and a cent-and-a-half a quart.

City Cuts Off Relief
At the opening of the trucking season, all relief was cut off in Norfolk and other cities, and we are forced to go out to these slave farms, or we must die in the cities.

Cape Charles is a hell-hole for us. We are kicked and knocked around, and can't leave the farm unless the overseers approve. Some escape. We have to buy our food from the big farmers, who charge us higher prices than in the cities. By the time the season is over we are all in debt, and have no way to get back to the cities. Sometimes they make whole families stay over the winter to work off a "debt" they got in the summer. If we refuse to stay we are beaten.

We don't get paid off in money, but in tickets. The farm bosses refuse to cash them, because they are afraid we'll escape.

During this time last year, I worked in a town called Hallwood, Va. They are as mean as dogs there. You can't go to a store in town or walk the sidewalks without being cussed, slapped and kicked by the white bosses and their sons. If you go down to the Post Office you are cussed and kicked before you get back to the "nigger" camps in the strawberry and potato fields.

Sleep on Boards and Hay
They don't stop at beating little children, and they want you to tip your hat to them and laugh whenever they call you "nigger". The conditions in the camp are

like this. You sleep on boards and hay. You have to take grass bogs and make a mattress out of them. You fill up with straw and when it gets settled it's as hard as cement. In these camps, we and our kids have all kinds of illnesses. We can never get a doctor because we have no money. Last year in Hallwood many babies died from these conditions.

Note: The workers in the strawberry fields should organize to demand cash payment, the right to buy food where they please, free transportation to and from the farms, the right to leave the farms whenever they wish, and the continuance of the city relief during the summer time. For more information, write Box 554, Charlotte, N. C.

Nut and Produce Workers Get Cut

(By a Worker Correspondent)
DENISON, Tex. — While we hear about Roosevelt and "recovery", the mass misery grows deeper. This is just a kidding game of the bosses. They talk "prosperity" and throw more workers out of jobs and cut wages still more.

For instance, last fall the Bernhardt Company wanted to cut the pecan pickers from 5 cents per pound to 3 cents, but there was so much grumbling they didn't dare. Now remember, the boss class have a lot of different tricks up their sleeves. So this winter the Bernhardt Company said they would have to close their factory, but if the workers wanted to, they could come and get pecans and take them home to pick at 4 cents a pound. Many of the workers fell for this kind of cut.

Cut Chicken Pickers
Last fall, the produce houses paid the chicken pickers 2 cents per chicken for picking off the feathers, and that was 3 cents less than the usual rate. Now they pay only 1 cent—and this is Roosevelt prosperity.

If the pecan workers and produce workers will organize, they can remedy these conditions to a great extent, if they band together in a real militant organization. Now don't spring that old gag, "They won't stick together." They will if you will.

Surely, fellow-workers, with the boss class slowly starving us to death, all of us have the "guts" to fight back, and fight HARD!

MEN FIGHT BUZZARDS FOR ROTTEN MEAT

(By a Worker Correspondent)

SELMA, Ala. — Here is what is happening in this country. There is such a shortage of work-animals that oxen are being used instead of mules, and in one case we know of, two white boys were hitched to pull a plow. That was near Marion Junction.

Lots of the farmers can't start a crop because their animals have all died and they can't get any more.

Fight With Buzzards for Food

A county agent was very much surprised at something he found out here and told the papers about it, but it is not surprising. A cow was killed and when he went to see about the value because it had been killed in shipping, he found farmers standing around it and keeping the vultures away. The cow was already stinking. The farmers said they were going to eat the cow because they did not have anything else to eat.

Work of Croppers Produces Only One Share—the Landlord's Share

(By a Worker Correspondent)

CHARLOTTE, N. C. — According to the usual "quaint Southern custom", the share-croppers who work the soil in this and nearby counties are supposed to produce two shares, one for themselves and the other for the landlords. But when the crop is in, the landlords take possession and suddenly it becomes one share—the landlord's share.

As a result, the share-croppers in this county were compelled to go to the County Welfare Department to get aid, either as workers on the relief "chain-gangs" for fifty cents a day, or else food orders. The Unemployed Council forced the authorities to put quite a number on the relief rolls during the winter.

Landlords Refuse to Make Advances

Just before the planting season get in, the landlords worked out a new scheme. Heretofore they advanced to the croppers, furnishings, food, fertilizer, stock, equipment and other necessities to pro-

duce a crop. This year they all decided to advance nothing. They said they would "allow" the croppers to work the land any way they wanted, and would have to give one-third to one-half, to the landlords.

Farmers Thrown Off Relief Lists

Now, to be sure that the croppers would starve, Governor Eringhaus has ordered all farm workers to be thrown off the relief lists. The Governor's Office directed the Welfare Department "to notify every farm family on relief that so far as they are concerned all work projects will be suspended after the 5th of April." The directions say also that the Welfare Department does not "supply fertilizer, stock or farm equipment."

How the dickens do they expect

croppers to work the land without stock, seed or fertilizer, and then how can they get food until the crop is in?

NOTE: Toiling farmers of North Carolina: Build up committees of action among the farmers, croppers and farm-laborers. Demand an accounting from the landlord and the right to sell your own crops. Demand that farm workers be kept on the relief lists.

?? ? The Question Box ? ? ?

WHAT DOES THE SALES TAX MEAN TO US WORKERS?

Note: The workers and toiling farmers of the South are invited to write to the SOUTHERN WORKER asking whatever questions they wish. To the best of its ability, the SOUTHERN WORKER will undertake to answer questions concerning the program of the Communist Party and militant mass organizations such as the Unemployed Council, etc.; concerning every-day affairs and their effect upon the workers; concerning the tactics of the class struggle. We also invite our readers to give their own opinion on questions asked in these columns. Write to Box 572, Birmingham, Ala.

This week's question is: What does the sales tax mean to us? Congress has passed the federal sales tax bill, whereby the buyers of goods will be forced to pay an increase in the price of every single article they buy. As if inflation and wage-cuts

hadn't already done enough to shrink our pay-checks, here comes the sales-tax to take another bite out of our income.

The employers who have to pay sales tax on their raw materials will pass that tax on to the worker-consumer — never fear! And they'll likewise try to cut wages further to make up for it.

The workers and the poor farmers will be faced with increased prices on food, clothes, seed, fertilizer and everything else, because of the sales tax.

What did Roosevelt say about such a tax while he was wangling votes last fall? He said that he was "against taxes on food and clothing, whose burden is actually shifted to the consumers of these necessities of life." And now, with his favor, the sales tax has been passed.

That's one more "new deal" promise broken.

We're for taxes, not on the masses, but on the rich!

Red Cross Works Jobless Twelve Hours for \$1.00

(By a Worker Correspondent)
TALLAPOOSA COUNTY, Ala. — I am writing you some of the facts about Tallapoosa County. The Red Cross is working Negroes and whites on the county road for \$1.00 a day and for 12 hours. The Negro women have to work in the cemetery and the white women to do sewing, making dresses and so on.

We only work from one to four days a week and only one out of a family. Some of the Negroes have a family and only get two days, and some of the whites who are single get three days, which is bad enough.

Merchants Raise Prices
Comrades, this is a dirty place. The bosses try every way to keep the laboring men down, especially the Negroes. Since the Red Cross started here with a little work, all the merchants have raised their prices on everything, in order to keep us in a tight place.

We are willing to put up a mass fight and we call on all the workers to help us.

F. F., A Young Worker

Relief Cuts Go On In New Orleans

(By a Worker Correspondent)
NEW ORLEANS, La. — The wage-cut on relief has gone into effect. Take me, for example. I used to work six days a month at \$2. I got \$12 a month. This month I got nine days and made \$13.00, working three more days for \$1.50 more in pay, and there will be a reduction in my days next month.

THE SOUTHERN WORKER

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 Official Organ of the Communist Party of the United States
 JIM MALLORY, EDITOR
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We Answer New Attacks With New Struggles

Once more a series of militant strike actions is giving the lie to the boast of the Southern employing class that we Southern workers are a gold-mine of "cheap and contented labor."

Within the past few weeks, thousands of workers, in six Southern states, have gone on strike against fresh wage-cuts, and against new and vicious stretch-out systems.

News from the strike field shows, first, that all the talk of wage-increases given as presents from the boss, are so many lies. Where the workers have struggled militantly, they have made gains. Often the bosses gave increases before strike action had become ripe, through fear of the militancy of the workers. The bosses of the Prichard Cotton Mills in Mobile made a quick turn-about-face from the ballyhoo of "prosperity and higher wages," and, confronted by the demands of their workers to put higher wages into effect, said bluntly that the reports of voluntary wage increases throughout the country are untrue! This much is certain—we'll get no wage increases on a silver platter.

In the face of rising prices caused by inflation, the Southern bosses—like the Northern bosses—are trying to put over fresh wage-cuts. Not only this—but the prosperity talk has been made the excuse for applying new and terrific stretch-out system in hundreds of Southern mills and shops. Not since the latter 1920's has there been such an epidemic of "minute-men," more looms to tend, higher quotas to make.

The new deal that is handed down to us by Roosevelt is made up of wage-cuts, higher prices, stretch-outs, and the taking away of our rights. The only decent new deal we'll get is the one we deal out to ourselves.

The Southern workers are not taking these blows against their living standards lying down. Up against machine-gun companies, guardsmen, sheriffs and deputies, imported scabs and even treachery from fakery and misleaders, we Southern workers are showing of what stuff we are made.

The employers are making every attempt to crush these struggles, including efforts to split the ranks of the workers. The bosses of the Utica plant at Anniston have threatened to bring in Negro scabs, thereby trying to turn the hatred of the Utica mill workers away from themselves, the bosses, toward the Negroes. The only way to keep the bosses from using such means and such threats to break strikes is solid organization of all races, nationalities, sexes, creeds and crafts into one militant union in each industry. What about the Negro question? Listen: in Harvinton, Ky., the miners, white and Negro, organized solidly together, came out on strike together, and are assuring each other that neither will go back to work until the demands of all the workers are satisfied. That's the answer!

We today, in 1933, can learn much from the strikes carried on in the South in 1929. We are familiar with the old "arbitration" trick—one of the easiest means of smashing a strike. There is no such thing as an impartial arbitration board. Either you're for the strikers or you're against them. Many of the bosses of the struck mills are today talking arbitration. You can put this in your pipe and smoke it: arbitration means a sell-out for the strikers, every time.

The misleaders of the American Federation of Labor are continuing the treachery of which we saw so much in 1929 and 1930. Already they have helped to break the Blue Mountain strike at Anniston. They tell us to be peaceful. They tell us to be quiet. They tell us we're not badly off—with wages at \$1 to \$12 a week and prices jumping every day and efficiency experts thinking up new schemes to suck the last drop of blood from our bodies. The government conciliators are hot on the job, too, trying to sell us out. No wonder the workers of Rome, Ga., came to Anniston to warn their fellow-workers against Richardson. No wonder the Utica strikers and the Mobile strikers rejected Richardson's attempts to conciliate! Conciliation, arbitration—that means lost struggles and worse conditions.

To carry on our struggles successfully, we need rank and file committees, all dealings in the open, militant strike action and picketing, and, to prepare further struggles and insure our gains, we need a militant union in each industry, taking in all workers in the shop, unions that are run by ourselves and in our own interests. Workers who want more information can write to Box 513, Birmingham, Ala., or to Box 551 Charlotte, N. C.

Our main need now in the shops and mines is the organization of militant unions, under revolutionary leadership. The officials of these unions must be elected by the rank and file in the factories. No self-appointed Gooses and Richardsons to betray us. Only such unions as these will lead us in our day to day struggle until the time when we will take over for ourselves the factories, the mines and the land.



Wirt Taylor, organizer of the Unemployed Council in Birmingham, who is in jail after being found "guilty" of disorderly conduct. What Taylor was "guilty" of was organizing the jobless workers.



Alice Burke, organizer of the International Labor Defense, arrested in Birmingham last November 7 at an unemployed demonstration. Together with Wirt Taylor, she is now in jail after a fine of \$100 was imposed on her.

We Are Not Taking This One Lying Down

The city officials of Montgomery, who act for the Montgomery employers, have passed an ordinance against "criminal anarchy." That ordinance is designed to crush the struggles of the workers against starvation and terrible working conditions, for equal rights for Negroes and self-determination for the Black Belt.

The law is aimed at the Communist Party, the Unemployed Councils, the International Labor Defense, the militant unions, and all groups and organizations struggling for the workers' interests. None of these groups advocate what is strictly known as "criminal anarchy." But from experience, we know that the following things will be so interpreted by the bosses' courts and police:

Organizing for decent conditions and more relief to the city, a political party other than one the employers approve. Joining a union or shop committee, Meeting with our fellows for purposes of discussion or action. Going on strike. White and Negro workers meeting together. Attending any meeting called by a militant workers' organization. Reading or distributing leaflets against wage-cuts or the cutting down of relief. Discussing your working-conditions with your friends, fellow-workers, or even your husband or your wife!

By means of this ordinance, the bosses of Montgomery aim to deal a smashing blow at the organizations of the working-class and at the most elementary workers' rights. Then, they think, they can cut our wages right and left; they can put us off the relief rolls; they can install new stretch-out systems—and we won't be able to do anything because we'll be handcuffed and hogtied by the new ordinance.

Will we, though? If the tyrants think we're cattle, that we'll let go all our rights to organize, to meet, to petition, to strike, to circulate our press and our leaflets—they're making a big mistake.

Workers of Montgomery! Demand your rights as men and women! Join the Communist Party, build mass workers' organizations, as your answer to the bosses. Struggle for increased relief, demand wage-increases, demand the right to organize and to act in labor's interest. Protest the new law.

Red Rhymes

By BILL MORTON

When Wall Street bosses need us to defend their bloomin' millions, and to make them still more millions in a war that's not for us, it's our "patriotic duty" to protect the bosses' booty, and we hear "our country needs us and the cause is glorious." When the markets all are glutted and there ain't enough to eat, though the shops are full of plenty and the bins are full of wheat—why it's then we have depression, and our misery is sore and we burn up all this plenty in a "patriotic" war! For it's plain and gettin' plainer: when our labor makes too much of food and clothes and plows and cars, its then we get in Dutch. It's then the mines and mills and shops and farms are forced to stop, until the bosses find a way to burn up all the crop. As long as we have bosses, it don't do us any good to farm like hell and plow right well and raise a lot of food; to slave like hell and work real well at shops and motor-cars—**FOR PLENTY MEANS STARVATION WHILE WE'RE RULED BY MONEY CZARS.**

(A Red Rhyme by Bill Morton will appear in each issue hereafter.)

CHARGE JAX LONGSHOREMEN FOR ICE WATER

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — The longshoremen of Jacksonville are organizing against low wages and terrible conditions on the docks.

The latest graft against the longshoremen is to charge them 5 cents for ice-water. The workers are demanding no wage-cuts, free ice-water, no tip-offs (payment to the boss or a friend of the boss for the "privileges" of working on the Jacksonville docks) and increased relief to the unemployed longshoremen.

The rank and file longshoremen in Jacksonville are issuing a paper, "The Voice of the Florida Longshoremen." The editorial in the first issue of the "Voice" says in part: "The hundreds of longshoremen along the wharfs of Jax are among the hardest working and lowest paid laborers in the city. The hours are long, and the pushing of heavy trucks, the straining, the lifting, all combine to make a job that few men can do and that few men want to do."

Pay Cuts and Layoffs

"We have had one pay cut and then another since the depression. We work three, two and one day a week, and many weeks no days at all."

"When a charge is placed on ice-water, something that every longshoreman must have in order to keep up the back-breaking work in a blazing sun, then it is time to complain, and to do more than complain—**TO ORGANIZE.**"

"Another thing that the longshoremen do not intend to tolerate is the firing system that is keeping so many earnest workers unemployed. You find that the only way you can get a job is to pay part of your starvation wages to some friend of the boss."

Herndon Attorney To Speak in B'ham

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., of Atlanta, will speak here on Sunday, June 11, on the Civil Rights Bill which delegates of thousands of white and Negro workers recently presented to Congress. The Bill is designed to secure complete equality for the Negro people.

The meeting will be held at the Metropolitan Church, 16th street and Fourth avenue, North, at 3 p. m., under the auspices of the Scottsboro Aid Committee. Admission is free.

Mr. Davis is one of the attorneys for Angelo Herndon, Negro youth now under sentence of 20 years in prison for organizing the unemployed workers of Atlanta.

Expose Murder of Negro in N. O.

NEW ORLEANS, La. — White and Negro workers of this city met in the church in Upperline street, under the auspices of the International Labor Defense, to protest the murder by police of Lloyd Pinson, young Negro boy.

Pinson, who was 22 years old, was killed by police officials in jail in the Fourth Precinct. The cops fired nine shots into his body.

Pinson was the sole support of his family. He had been employed for years in the French Hospital on Orleans avenue, but had been sick for many months and was not able to work.