

THE SOUTHERN WORKER

The Paper of the Common People of The South

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Hitler Moves To Start War In Europe

While Germany and Japan mobilize for the purpose of descending upon the Soviet Union, Italy is preparing openly for European war. Mussolini has declared all big industry in Italy to be under state ownership in preparation for the war that is coming. Austria, Hungary and Italy have united against any move on the part of the League of Nations to stop war and punish Germany for breaking the agreements she made after the last war.

When Hitler sent armed troops into the Rhineland early this month, he openly announced that his purpose was war and that his object was the Soviet Union. France and Belgium, the two capitalist nations most concerned about the immediate steps of Hitler, demanded that he withdraw his troops and be punished by the League of Nations for violating the Locarno Treaty, an agreement which Germany signed after the last war. The treaty forbade Germany to send troops beyond her borders and ordered her to keep her nose out of territory that did not belong to her.

Attack On Soviet Union

Openly, Hitler's attack seems to be on France and Belgium. In reality it is the first step in a drive against the Soviet Union. Hitler's Germany, a wild, Fascist state, is based on a program of war. Because France and the Soviet Union have an agreement to help defend each other in case of attack, Hitler's first step was in the direction of France in order to smash this agreement and start the trouble he wants.

At the Council of the League of Nations, called to meet to discuss (Continued on Page Five)

TOWNSEND PLAN INVESTIGATED BY CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, D. C.—\$50,000 has been granted by Congress for an investigation into the Townsend and other old-age pension plans.

The proposed investigation met with no opposition from the Townsend leaders in Washington. They objected, however, to the size of the amount appropriated for that purpose.

Politicians are already scrambling for the many votes of Townsend followers. Dr. Townsend recently endorsed the campaign of Senator Borah, Republican candidate for presidential nomination. Borah, while not endorsing the Townsend plan, has come out with a politician's speech about the need for old-age pensions.

The Bankers Have The Key!



SCHOOLS are closing down by the tens and hundreds in Alabama and the other states of the South. The children of the South, most of whom have never known what it feels like to eat enough or wear clothes that keep them warm or go to school long enough to receive the education that every child is entitled to, are now being turned out of schools altogether. The school door is locked—and the big bankers are running away with the key.

What has happened to the money that should go for the schools?

The common people of Alabama and the South have paid out enough money in taxes to keep the schools going full term without a break. They've paid out enough to hire the best teachers and to pay these teachers decent salaries. What has happened?

The school money has gone for graft, to buy votes and to keep the state legislators' whiskey

closets full. It has been pooled among the state's biggest racketeers—the politicians.

Why are the bankers running away with the school house key? Because they know the danger to them if the children of the South learn the truth of the situation here—the divide and rule, keep them ignorant, blood-sucking policies of the Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railroad Company and the other big corporations, the textile companies, the tobacco kings, the cotton planters.

If they can do away with education altogether, they will like it fine. The South doesn't have to pay any attention to child labor laws. The kids go into the factories and fields when they are big enough to walk there.

But the common people of the South are alive to the situation. It is up to the common people of the South to take the key away from the bankers and open up the school house door!

Relief Cut Off; Disease, Hunger Rampant In Ala.

BIRMINGHAM—Eighty thousand people have been cut off direct relief in the state of Alabama. Added to these are the 20,000 old people who have been stricken from the old age pension rolls of the state and 45,000 workers who are to be taken off WPA projects the first of April.

Many of these people are already starving. Many of them have no bread, no coal. Some of them have been evicted from their miserable homes. Diseases springing from hunger and cold run rampant through the state.

No Help

Huddled outside the DPW building in the heart of Birmingham, relief clients cried out for food and clothing and medical care, only to be turned away. One woman appealed for help, walking down to the DPW building in the cold. She said her husband had been sent to the penitentiary. She had three small children at home, and no food and no money. The DPW sent her away empty-handed. Another case is that of a former WPA worker who was injured at his work and has been dependent upon relief to care for him and his family of five. The children are afflicted with pellagra, the terrible disease of the poor.

The Birmingham Department of Public Welfare has been refusing aid to 20,000 destitute people. City Commissioners Downs and Jones refused to appropriate a weekly amount from city funds for the relief of these thousands. Downs is the same city commissioner who spent \$177 of the city's money for a trip to New Orleans a couple of weeks ago.

At Montgomery the Governor and the Legislature continue to make statements instead of handing out food and fuel. The governor says "there has been too much borrowing." This is the reason he gives for not getting money to keep thousands of people from starving to death.

Disease Rampant

Influenza and other diseases have attacked whole sections of poverty stricken Alabama citizens during the past month. Pneumonia spread rapidly due to lack of fuel and proper clothing. The victims of the epidemic have been chiefly persons with resistance lowered by the starvation diet to which many have been reduced.

Meanwhile federal funds amounting to \$196,000 lie untouched because the state and local governments have failed to match this amount. The federal funds are wrapped in red tape which cannot be sorted to feed people whose lives depend upon whether or not they get food within the next few hours.

TARGET OF CONGRESS



DR. F. E. TOWNSEND

Klan Killers Stand Trial In Tampa, Fla.

TAMPA—Three of the policemen charged with the murder of Joseph Shoemaker, unemployed leader of Tampa, last November, are now on trial here. C. A. Brown, Bridges and C. W. Carls are the three city policemen who are under indictment with seven others for the kidnapping of Shoemaker; E. F. Paulant and S. D.

(Continued on Page 5)

WPA Convention Strikes Blow at Low Wage Scale

CHATTANOOGA—It is entirely impossible for WPA workers in Chattanooga to feed and clothe families on the wages they receive," said Joe Dubbs, president of the Chattanooga Trades and Labor Council, to the delegates at the All-Southern WPA and Relief Workers' Convention held here March 21-22. Dubbs was

(Continued on Page Five)

ALABAMA LABOR AT THE CROSSROADS

By WILLIAM MOSELY

District Organizer of the Communist Party, District 17

CERTAINLY any thoughtful Labor man must realize that the organized Labor movement in Alabama is at the cross-roads. If it takes one road, it means the eventual crippling of this great movement, with the result that the working people of the state will be hog-tied and defenseless before the fascist attacks of the big employers.

If it takes the other road, Labor will travel forward, grow stronger and put itself in a position to win really better conditions for the workers of Alabama. It is important to realize that not only the workers but the farmers and the entire common people of the state will benefit if this progressive path is followed.

The annual convention of the Alabama Federation of Labor which will take place in Florence in April is the time and place where Labor must register its choice.

Organize the Unorganized in Alabama

ONE of the biggest issues facing Labor not only in Alabama, but throughout the South is that of organizing the unorganized. This issue is identical with the issue of industrial unionism. The old policies of narrow craft unions, splitting the workers up into little camps (even when they are all employed in one great mill) have been shown bankrupt and impotent. Such policies will not organize the workers because the workers have no confidence in such small, narrow organizations. Such policies will never touch the great masses of semi-skilled and common laborers.

As John L. Lewis, president of the UMWA and head of the Committee on Industrial Organization stated, there are forces at work, fascist forces of big business, who seek to destroy the Labor movement here just as they destroyed the Labor movement in Germany and Italy. We have those forces here in Alabama, as every working man knows. The only defense is the defense of strong, militant organizations. Industrial unionism points the way. Therefore, the Alabama Federation of Labor must go on record at the Florence convention in favor of the industrial union form of organization and of support for the Committee on Industrial organization of Lewis, Howard and so forth.

Campaign to Build Steel Union

The State Federation must itself take more responsibility for organizing the unorganized in this state. We have in mind the steel workers particularly. There are more than 12,000 steel workers employed in the Birmingham area alone and the Amalgamated Association of Iron Tin and Steel Workers includes on its membership lists hardly more than a couple of hundred. The great steel companies of course never let up in their fight against the AA. Their paid stool pigeons and thugs are constantly busy at work intimidating union men, beating them up, or turning them up so the company can fire them. They spend money lavishly on this spy system and at the same time build up yellow company unions which they practically force the men to join. Organizing the steel workers, defeating the company unions, and defending the steel workers against attacks of the U. S. Steel and other big steel corporations is a job too big for the AA to take on by itself. It needs help, moral, financial and otherwise. It is the duty of the Alabama Federation not only to give this help itself but also to demand help from the national executive council of the A. F. of L.

Abolish South Differential

The Alabama Federation must realize that the Labor movement is not a tea-party—it is a struggle. To date, the Federation has fallen down on a most important matter. That is the struggle against the so-called

What Are the Main Issues Facing Organized Labor in the State as Annual Convention at Florence Draws Near? A Timely Discussion

ed Southern differential, by which it is taken for granted that Southern workers are to be paid less than Northern workers for the same sort of work. Because of the spineless acceptance of this differential in the past, the bosses made this into law when the NRA codes were drawn up. Then Roosevelt and Hopkins handed us the WPA wage scales. Here was the natural, inevitable result of our failure to struggle against the differential. Minimum wages in Alabama rural districts were set at \$19 a month as compared with \$40 in other parts of the country. Minimum wages in Alabama cities were set at \$30 a month, as compared with \$65 in Northern cities.

The Alabama Federation of Labor should pass resolutions calling for the abolition of the differential entirely and carry on a consistent fight to get rid of them, not only on WPA jobs but on private jobs as well.

Southern Workers Need Unity

One of the main reasons for the differential is the fact that the employers have been able to play white against Negro here in the South and thus keep down wages. Negroes are paid lower wages than white workers and when white workers demand more pay, the bosses threaten to fire them and give their jobs to Negroes. It works the other way, too, of course, when trade unions bar Negroes from certain kinds of work and refuse to organize them.

As the resolution passed by the recent convention of the United Mine Workers points out, "Freedom for the white wage earners cannot be won without freedom for the Negro workers, and this can only be won when Negro and white workers are united and organized together in a common struggle for the improvement of their conditions." The UMWA resolution demanded "equal pay for equal work, equal opportunity for jobs, full equality with white workers on the job and in the union, including the right to hold office."

To have a strong Labor movement in Alabama, we must have the Negro workers, that much is clear. And we are going to have the Negro workers only when the Alabama Federation and its affiliated unions take the clear and uncompromising position of the above resolution of the U. M. W. A.

We recommend that this resolution be passed by the State Federation and that its officers be instructed to see that it is actually put into practice.

Build A Farmer Labor Party

Southern Labor is beginning to realize the gains won on the economic field must be protected by similar victories on the political front. Otherwise, we lose everything through the tricks of politicians. Our strikes are broken by National Guards or thugs or sheriffs, working for the politicians who themselves work for the bosses.

Here in Alabama we have seen this time and time again. Police crack the heads of laundry pickets, Company thugs shoot down striking workers and even murder good union men, as they did Virgil Thomas at Acmar and Sam Dowell at Pratt City. The state and county governments do nothing to protect the workers—on the contrary they frequently send their tin-soldiers or their sheriffs to break up picket lines and jail workers.

When the politicians are unable to do it this way, they resort to slicker methods. We have the very notable example of Governor Bibb Graves, that sterling "friend" of Labor, who settled the recent coal strike by beating down the workers' demand to a fraction and deciding it in favor of the coal operators. As a matter of fact, Governor Graves' actions in office are the clearest possible argument why Labor cannot support these capitalist politicians. Graves promised the workers much but when he got in office he broke every pledge, including his promise not to joint a sales tax on us.

These Democrats are as bad as the Republicans, and neither means any good for the common people. The answer we recommend is the same answer given by Francis Goldman, vice-president of the United Textile Workers in a brilliant address before the 55th convention of the A. F. of L.—**BUILD A FARMER LABOR PARTY.**

For The Right To Vote

The trade union movement must take up the cudgels now, too, for the right to vote for the masses of common people. The poll tax deprives thousands of the right to vote. Additional thousands of workers are deprived of the right to vote because their skin is black. A Farmer-Labor Party can win a victory for the workers and common people only if it fights to establish the right to vote for all workers and farmers, regardless of race and color—and only if it fights to abolish the poll tax.

We are convinced that there must be a national Farmer Labor Party which will

enter the national elections with a working class candidate to defeat not only the Republican Liberty League gang, but also Roosevelt and the Democrats. The coal miners, in our opinion, committed a most serious blunder when they allowed John L. Lewis to persuade them to put the organization on record as supporting Roosevelt for re-election.

However, suppose we cannot agree on a national Farmer-Labor Party, is it not possible for us to get together on a STATE Farmer Labor Party? The U. M. W. A. for instance, endorsed Roosevelt, but did NOT endorse the Democratic Party. It rejected the proposal to form a Farmer-Labor Party AT THIS TIME, but it did not reject the principle of independent political action by the working people. On this basis, the UMWA, which received such a dirty deal at the hands of Gov. Graves, should take the lead in the formation of a state Party. The state convention should set up a committee which will begin at once to form such a party and pick working class candidates to run for office.

Such a move will surely have the support of the United Textile Workers, the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, the I. L. G. W. U., and the A. A., which are already on record in favor of a Labor Party.

For Trade Union Democracy

It is necessary that the Alabama Federation take the above steps at its coming convention. But the Federation must also take steps to revise its whole attitude, its whole policy, on a certain fundamental issue. That issue is trade union democracy.

The unions belong to the workers who make up its membership, who pay its dues, and who are in the forefront of the fight. The situation in which a few officials can control the whole life of the trade union movement must be brought to an end.

Recently in Birmingham, we had a most disgraceful exhibition of the rathunting in the unions. W. O. Hare, secretary of the Federation and Ben Robinson, a hanger-on at the Trades Council, rushed around feverishly "exposing" Communists, threatening to revoke charters and generally stirring up trouble.

Robinson and Hare both boasted of being in communication with Sheriff McCall and with Milton McDuff, the notorious stool pigeon and private detective hired by U. I. The red-hunt naturally extended beyond the unions and several workers were fired from their jobs on suspicion of being Communists, although as it happened, NONE OF THEM WERE NOT COMMUNISTS.

Communists are union builders. They are good fighters. They belong in the unions and they are going to be there, in spite of such skullduggery as has been pulled recently. The honest, decent trade union men will agree that this is their right.

Who To Elect For 1936

That brings up the whole question of who shall guide the Alabama Federation of Labor during the coming year, the election of officers. The record of Bob Moore, W. O. Hare and their gang, is there for everybody to read.

Brother Moore, the president, is a politician in the machine of Bibb Graves. He endorsed the WPA and FWA wage scales for Alabama and approved of the settlement in the coal strike. He and Hare and their gang are against industrial unions, against a Farmer Labor Party, against trade union democracy. Their one accomplishment is dragging the red herring around local meetings and getting in the way of legitimate trade union activities.

Moore has read the handwriting on the wall and has announced that he will not be candidate for re-election. But Moore and the old gang will be very busy trying to slip into office some of their bunch who

(Continued on Page 7)

Sherlock Ike Hunts Reds



Sherlock Ike Robinson is very busy with the progressive movement in Alabama. He red hunts, but red hunts do not build Labor means the end of Ike Robinson and unions. Industrial unionism does, and his kind.

Downs Expense Account Shocks B'ham Taxpayers

BIRMINGHAM—White Commissioner W. D. Downs came out against the city's spending money for relief of the hungry thousands who are dying on the streets here, he defended himself for spending \$177 of the city's money for a week end trip to New Orleans. He said the city of Birmingham would not want its representatives to hitch-hike or stay at flophouses while going to a mayor's convention.

So instead of hitch-hiking, Commissioner Downs paid \$52.40 for railroad fare and Pullman, \$18.10 for taxis and porter, and \$24.65 for "miscellaneous" or unexplained expenses. And instead of staying in a flophouse, Commissioner put himself up at a hotel that cost him \$80.50 for rooms and meals for a 3-day visit.

Commissioner Downs has been hard-boiled in the matter of relief expenditures here. He doesn't approve of the city's paying out 2 and 3 dollars a week to the destitute people in Birmingham. Perhaps he is afraid the city would cut his expense account.

Arkansas Tenant Is Given 7 Years

MEMPHIS—Jim Ball, Secretary of the St. Peters Local, Southern Tenant Farmers' Union, was given a 7-year sentence for "assault with intent to kill." He was convicted by a jury chosen by Arkansas planters and sentenced by a judge who is also a large landowner.

Jim Ball was arrested for trying to preserve order when a union meeting was raided and broken up by deputy sheriffs on the night of January 18. Two men were shot in the back by the deputy sheriffs.

Simon Bass, John Ligons and Sam Brown, militant union men, face trials on a charge of rioting. They were arrested for reporting the raided union meeting to union headquarters in Memphis.

The Central Defense Committee of the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union has issued an appeal to help fight these cases. Communications should be addressed to Howard Kester, Secretary of the Central Defense Committee, Southern Tenant Farmers' Union, Box 5215, Memphis, Tenn.

NAACP Leader Arrested in Birmingham

BIRMINGHAM—Dr. E. W. Taggart, president of the Birmingham chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, was arrested here because of NAACP posters which were displayed in the windows of barber shops and stores in the Negro section of the city. He was given a suspended sentence of \$25 and costs in the Recorder's Court.

The poster on display was named "You Can't Win Alone." It showed the body of a lynched Negro and urged Negroes to become members of the NAACP.

Is The South a Part of The United States?

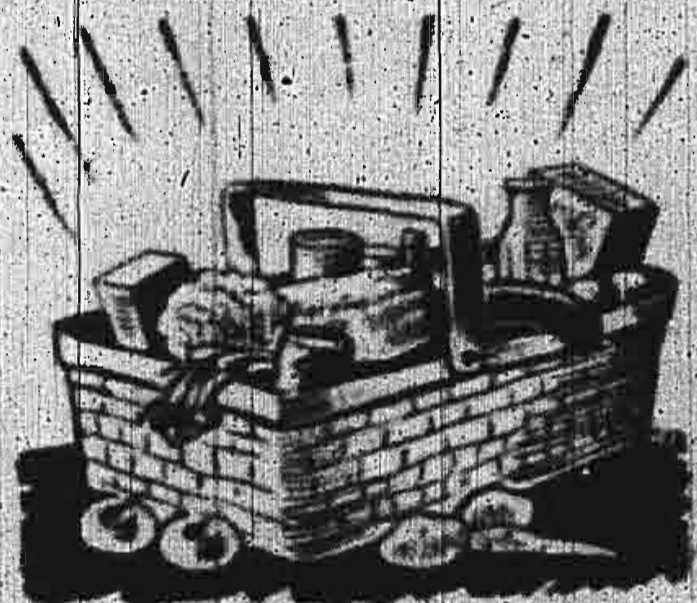
NORTH



A DAY'S WORK

Smith is a steel worker in the North. Brown is a steel worker in the South. They do exactly the same work. They each produce steel, the same amount each day and the same grade. When the whistle blows, they both go home to their families. Smith, let us say, lives in South Chicago. Brown lives in Bessemer. But South Chicago or Bessemer, the children of the steel workers need the same amount of good food, pure milk, warm clothes and sturdy shoes. And these things cost just as much in Bessemer or Birmingham as they do in South Chicago or Pittsburgh.

NORTH



A DAY'S PAY

For his day's work in the steel mills of South Chicago, Smith gets darned little. But Brown, who does the same work in the steel mills of Bessemer, GETS EVEN LESS. The day's pay in the South is from one-fifth to one-half less than the day's pay in the North.

What is true for Brown, the steel worker, is also true for the textile workers, for the coal miners, or for the thousands who work on WPA projects. On every job, the workers of the South have the lowest wage in the country. Since "vittles" and clothes cost just as much here as in the North, the common people of the South have the lowest standard of living in the USA. This is called the Southern "differential."

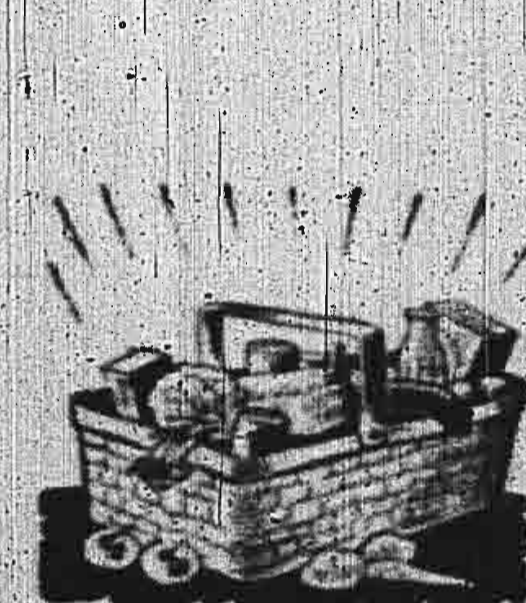
What is the answer? You guessed it—ORGANIZE.—Join a union and build the American Federation of Labor. If you are already a union man or woman, have your union take up the fight to abolish the Southern differential and raise wage levels in the South. Build a Farmer Labor Party, the political party of the common people, which will wipe out the differentials entirely!

SOUTH



A DAY'S WORK

SOUTH



A DAY'S PAY

Bessemer Central Body Endorses Ind. Committee

BESSEMER, Ala. (UNS)—The Bessemer Central Labor Union has gone on record endorsing the Committee for Industrial Organization. Only one vote was cast against it, in spite of the circulars sent around by President William Green, criticizing such action.

The resolution adopted by the Bessemer Central Labor Union points out that new organizational forms must be used if the mass production industries are to be unionized and that strikes are often lost because of the difference in the end of agreements. This means is used to make the workers of one craft remain at work while the others are out on strike, states the resolution.

THE SOUTHERN WORKER
Tells the Truth About Things
You Should Know!

Sheriff Hands Defenseless Negro Over To Lynch Mob

CUSSETA, Ga.—Phillip Baker, a 35-year old Negro worker, was lynched in a swamp near here on March 14. A rope had been pulled tight around his neck, and his head was riddled with bullets.

Baker was accused of attacking two white women. The sheriff was carrying the Negro in a car from Macon to Columbus for what is known as "safe-keeping" in these parts. The sheriff turned Baker over to a mob at a given point in the road. Sheriff Van Horn said the masked mob overpowered him. There was no evidence that he had tried to protect the prisoners in his custody. He let the mob have his guns and ammunition and gave them the keys to his car.

Van Horn refused to identify any members of the mob, saying that they were masked and unrecognizable.

Dairy Strikers Tricked Into Signing 'Confession'

BIRMINGHAM—Convicted after being tricked into signing fake confessions, Erwin Warren and Howard Robinson, dairy workers, have begun serving time in a convict camp near here. Warren and Johnson were arrested during the strike against the Barton and Condens dairies last June. They were tricked into signing confessions by Milt McDuff, who is notorious in Birmingham for the assistance he gives the industrialists in framing union men and arranging kidnappings.

Warren and Robinson were convicted and sentenced to work out fines of \$132, which is equal to a long jail sentence.

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SOUTHERN WORKER
Write to Box 572,
Birmingham, Ala.

Government Facts Expose High Cost of Living in South

Facts given out by Labor Research Association on the Southern Differential prove that the story given out by Southern bosses who say living is cheaper in the South than elsewhere is a lie.

Labor Research shows that what southern workers have is not a lower cost of living, but a lower standard of living. Their diet is made up chiefly of corn-bread, white flour, beans, "fat-back," coffee, cabbage and potatoes. They eat cheaper food and less of it, wear cheaper and fewer clothes, live in worse houses than even the poorly paid workers of the North.

Government Figures

Using government figures, Labor Research proves that living is not only as high in the South as in the North, but that by comparison it is far higher.

"The cost of the diet in Birmingham, Alabama, was exceeded by the cost in only three of the north cities," according to a report made by the Bureau of Home Economics, which said that only three Southern cities had costs below that of Pittsburgh.

Government statistics prove that the retail prices of foods in the south average higher than in the North. These comparisons were made only in the cities, however, and not in the rural communities of the South where every article of food doubles its price.

Company Store Prices

The workers in the South who are forced to trade in company stores are robbed twice over. In every case the Department of Labor statistics shows that the workers pay more to the company stores than to independent stores. For potatoes, workers obliged to trade at company stores pay half as much again as they would at another store; for eggs they pay one-fourth as much again; for pork sausage a third again.

Many of the Southern workers have no choice but to trade at the company stores which rob them. They cannot put enough ahead out of their miserable pay envelopes to provide food for their families for a week in advance. They must go to the company stores which rob them of whatever is left after rent, electricity and water bills are paid.

Rent Higher

Instead of being lower, as the Southern bosses try to make out, rent for the shacks that the workers in the South live in is higher by comparison with other places.

As for relief, the last statistics gathered were got together before the wholesale slashes of the past month. But comparative figures showed as long ago as a year back that while relief for families in New York amounted to \$36.71, in Tennessee it was \$8.98. An investigation by Federated Press into the conditions of families on relief in Macon, Georgia, in October showed that the majority ate less than two meals a day and that their diet had nothing nourishing in it, but was made up chiefly of "cornmeal, meat skins and grits."

Southern Listeners Hear Browder Call For Labor Party

BIRMINGHAM. — When Earl Browder, general secretary of the Communist Party of the U. S. A., addressed his fellow countrymen over the radio on the night of March 5, the people who waited in Birmingham to hear him were disappointed. Local station WRBC gave Browder's time to Lewey Robinson, red-baiting city commissioner.

Browder's speech, however, received the attention of a widely assorted number of local groups. Some listeners managed to pick up the last portion of his speech over a Texas station.

Clearly outlining the failure of the government to provide food for the hungry and work for the unemployed while billions are spent for war purposes, Earl Browder eloquently presented the need for a Farmer-Labor Party and what it would bring the American people.

Such a Farmer-Labor Party, stated Browder, would be pledged to re-open the closed down factories and put workers back to work at union wages; it would outlaw the yellow-dog contract and company unions; it would help the workers to make our industries and agriculture 100 percent unionized; it would enact genuine old-age, unemployment and social insurance legislation along the lines of the Frazier-Lundeen Bill; it would guarantee equal rights for Negroes and provide for the millions of youth who now see nothing ahead for themselves but misery and despair.

WASHINGTON. — Radio station WLW, one of the most powerful in the country, has refused to permit Townsendites to broadcast until after the Congressional Committee has finished its investigation of the Townsend plan. This newest attack upon free speech shows the truth of the Communist Party's warning that attacks on civil rights would be made first on Communists and Socialists, then widen to include all groups of labor and the middle class not in agreement with Hearst and Wall Street.

Death of Chain Gang Victims Starts Inquiry

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—Death of two more Negro convicts forced state and county officials to announce another "investigation" into chain gang conditions in North Carolina. The two men, John McMoore and Alex Lineberger, both of Gastonia, died of pneumonia after serving 3 weeks at a prison camp near here. These deaths follow an exposure of inhuman conditions on North Carolina chain gangs. Last winter two Negroes lost their legs because of gangrene caused by their having been chained for several days in the "dark house."

HE'S FROM KANSAS



EARL BROWDER

Card Shows Why Industry Moves South

WASHINGTON.—Why industries move South was shown by a post card sent to Congressmen here. The card came from Greensboro, North Carolina. It announced that "Mt. Airy, North Carolina, had a very low priced labor market. Girls on piece work earn 60 cents a day. Women on piece work earn a dollar a day. Men on piece work earn \$1.25 a day. Population 8,500 people, 10,000 in surrounding few miles. Experienced hosiery and underwear operators available. Wonderful opportunities for any manufacturing business."

A complaint filed against the North Georgia Granite Corp. at this same Mt. Airy shows why things are so nice for the boss there. Seven union workers were fired for their activities, and company unions are fostered by all the big concerns.

Jack Barton Freed of "Downs Law" Charge

BIRMINGHAM.—Jack Barton, trade union leader, was freed here of "Downs" literature charges. Barton was arrested a few weeks ago during a red-baiting drive led by Matt McDuff. An attempt was made to railroad him to the chain gang for his militant activity among the unemployed workers of Birmingham.

I.L.D. PAMPHLET DESCRIBES TERROR IN SOUTH

LIVE AND DIE IN DIXIE, by Robert Wood, Southern Secretary of the International Labor Defense. Published by the Southern Workers' Defense Committee. Price 5 cents.

"SELMA, Ala.—Foster has not been seen since they put him in jail. The landlords say that if any of them Reds come down here from any place they were going to kill them—I heard that they found a man dead out on the Summersfield road. And the law went out there and put him in the ground and told the colored people they had better not tell no one about it. So I don't know if it were Foster or not. But we don't hear nothing from Foster, so it could have been him."

The above is an extract from a letter that is part of the text of

45,000 Workers Cut From WPA In Ala. April 1

BIRMINGHAM.—A 2-weeks lay-off without pay for Works Progress Administration workers in Jefferson County was announced by WPA authorities here. Following the two-weeks' lay-off, thousands of relief workers are to be thrown off WPA projects permanently. Ten percent of the workers on WPA are scheduled to be thrown out of their jobs on the first of April. This is the official announcement of Ray Crow, state director of the WPA. Thousands more are to be thrown off each week until June 30, when WPA is due to be abeyed.

The critical condition of the workers on WPA, much worse in the South than anywhere else because of the miserable wage scale here, is made more terrible by the relief situation. The WPA workers, the majority of whom will not have other jobs to go to, will be forced on relief. This means that more than 45,000 WPA workers and their families must go to swell the ranks of the starving 80,000 relief clients in Alabama.

The workers on WPA projects in Alabama and the other Southern states have been receiving only enough to keep themselves and their families from actual starvation. The wage scale for this region is of the 4th, or lowest, rating. Workers with large families get \$30 a month in the cities, \$19 a month in the rural areas.

BLOUNT COUNTY, Ala.—Two WPA projects were struck here as 130 relief workers walked off the job, demanding higher wages and shorter hours. The workers on the projects here have been getting \$19 a month for 140 hours. They demand the Jefferson County rate of \$30 for a 112-hour month.

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Sixteen thousand workers are to be dropped from WPA rolls in Louisiana by the end of March and 10,000 more will be dropped before May 31, according to an announcement by J. H. Crutcher, state WPA administrator.

BIRMINGHAM.—The Birmingham

Robert Woods' pamphlet, "Live and Die in Dixie." The booklet is a series of case histories of actual happenings in the deep South. It gives a graphic picture of the terror used to keep workers out of trade unions and beat down their wages.

The Downs Law

Many of the cases described in the pamphlet deal with the Downs literature law, a Birmingham law which sent many militant workers to the chain gang for ten months.

The pamphlet tells of happenings in Georgia, of the chain gang, the violation of all civil liberties, the brutal methods used by the ruling class of the South against the ruling class of the South against

Describing the terror used by Black Belt landlords to break the Cotton Choppers' strike in Ala-

ANSWERS RED BAITERS



A. PHILIP RANDOLPH

Red Baiters Answered By Randolph

The attempt to drap the National Negro Congress held in Chicago February 14 with the Red scare was best answered by A. Philip Randolph, president of the Congress and president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. Randolph, a militant Socialist, is in the forefront of the fight for a united front and a Farmer-Labor Party.

"The National Negro Congress," said Randolph, "is a Negro movement, projected to fight for Negro rights. Being a Negro movement, it naturally includes Negroes of all political faiths. It is not, and will not be, dominated by Communists, Republicans, Socialists or Democrats."

"Since when can Negroes," continued Randolph, "the victims of the 'black scare' by the Ku Klux Klan, afford to raise the 'red scare' in these United States? Negroes who elect to be Communists need make no apology for it. That is their right, guaranteed by the Federal Constitution. Communists are not criminals. The Communist Party is a legitimate political party."

Randolph Answers

The red scare was raised not only by Hearst and other anti-working class newspapers, but it was carried on by Negro preachers who were either misled or bribed to attack the Congress and its leaders. Randolph asks them:

"Can Negroes who have Scottsboro and Angelo Herndon cases; can Negroes who are insulted, mobbed and Jim-crowded; can Negroes who are denied justice in the courts, the right to work on certain jobs, the right to equal education; can Negroes who are the victims of a ruthless share-crop and tenant farm slavery system, of vagrancy laws and grandfather clauses, afford to join the pack of bigoted witch hunters and rave and yell like mad devils for the blood of Communists?"

Randolph was unanimously re-elected president of the National Negro Congress.

Leader of Brazilian Workers Faces Death in Prison

Luis Carlos Prestes, leader of the People's National Liberation Alliance in Brazil, is now in prison and faces death at the hands of fascists who have taken over the reins of Brazilian government.

Victor Barron, an American youth, was murdered by the police of the Vargas government. Getulio Vargas, now dictator of Brazil, works closely with the money powers of Wall Street who are backing this terror in the interests of American imperialism. In the reactionary terror that followed the rising of Brazil workers in November, 17,000 people have been thrown into jail where they were tortured or murdered.

ham Building Trades Council passed a resolution demanding the immediate removal of W. D. Twing as district director of the WPA last night. The action follows Twing's threat to break the strike of WPA workers on the industrial water project by replacing the strikers with scabs. The resolution also demanded equal representation for organized labor in the WPA administration and suggested that Mr. Twing be "given a shovel and placed in a ditch at 15c an hour and permitted to expose himself to the epidemic of flu that is now raging in the district."

Sickness Spreads Among Women On WPA Work

(By a Woman WPA Worker)

BIRMINGHAM.—The conditions of the women workers on the WPA jobs are bad. They have no fires at all in the buildings where the Negro women work. Now many of them are suffering of sickness got because they work where it is damp and cold. They tell them they have to buy coal out of their wages if they want to keep warm.

Twenty-seven of the women in my building are out sick with flu. They cannot get a doctor to help them get well. This is the way things are in all the departments here for Negroes especially. They get 30 dollars a month and no pay for the days they are out sick.

Organization Goes On
The booklet gives a vivid idea of how organization goes on under conditions of terror. The courage and tirelessness of the oppressed workers of the South rise above terror and carry with them the strength of a new day rising out of the bitterness, misery and degradation that has been the Southern worker's lot.

"Live And Die In Dixie" should be in the hands of every worker in the South and every sympathizer outside the South. It is published by the Southern Workers' Defense Committee and sells for 5 cents a copy.

From Churches

In a strong plea that Negroes be given equal opportunities with whites, two Birmingham ministers came forward to lay the blame on the whites for "unfair treatment of Negroes in the South."

Dr. Henry M. Edmonds, pastor of the Independent Presbyterian Rock, pastor of the Edgewood Presbyterian Church, spoke on the subject of Race Relations in connection with Race Relations Day, sponsored by a division of the Federal Council of Churches.

Dr. Edmonds, who spoke chiefly on the Negro's right to vote, declared:

"The Negro will never get justice in the division of educational funds, will never get justice at the hands of the police or the courts until he can defend himself politically. That is, until he can vote."

Dr. Edmonds told of the discrimination practiced by public officials to keep Negroes from voting and gave as an example the case of a Negro in Mobile who, when applying to register to vote, was asked by the registrar, "Who was the assistant Secretary of the Navy under the 13th President of the United States?"

By such means as this, declared Dr. Edmonds, Negroes who can pay the poll tax are kept from voting.

Education For Negroes

The Reverend Houk strongly advocated educational advantages for Negroes to lift them to their deserved place. He blamed lynching on ignorance, declaring:

"Lynching is the logical result in every community that pursues the policy of humiliation and degradation of a part of its citizenship because of the accident of birth, exploits them for economic gain, segregates them artificially to unsanitary sections and denies them a voice in the government."

Klan Killers to Stand Trial in Tampa, Fla.

(Continued from Page 1)

Roberts, all Socialists and active in organizing the unemployed.

The policemen are to be tried first for the kidnapping of E. F. Poulnot. Police Chief R. G. Tittsworth, on duty the night of Nov. 29, when the kidnap-murder took place, and his clerk, are among those to be tried. Tittsworth tried to whitewash the affair after it happened.

KKK On Trial

The first sessions of court were marked by jury selection. This went slowly. Circulars issued by the Communist Party were passed around the court room, pointing to the guilt of the Ku Klux Klan whose long record of assault and murder has never led its members to trial before. The Communist Party showed that the present trial is the result of mass pressure on the part of labor organizations and liberals all over the country.

Another statement, signed by Reverend Walter Metcalf, chairman of the committee for the defense of civil liberties in Tampa, stated "Many have expressed fear that these fogglings will be white-

La. 'Sugar Bowl' Workers Get 70c a Day in Scrip

(By a Worker Correspondent)

NEW ORLEANS.—The conditions of the workers in Louisiana's "Sugar Bowl," one of the state's largest industries, show the result of the monopoly of the industry. Tremendous plantations produce the most of the sugar cane and the same plantation owners run the refineries.

The majority of the workers are Negroes. Many of the poor white farmers, who own 20 to 50 acres of land, raise from 10 to 25 acres of sugar cane during the year, which is sold to the big refineries, but these farmers spend at least 3 months of the year working in the big refineries.

Not Paid in Cash

The planting, cultivating and cutting of cane is done mainly by hired labor and wages are about 70c a day. The grinding and refining of the sugar brings wages of about \$1.25 a day. None of the workers are paid in cash, they are paid in scrip to the plantation store. Around Raceland, the workers live in small villages on the plantations, mostly, while around Franklin the plantation owners have broken up many of the settlements and the workers now live in the towns.

Organization has not been heard of among these workers. The Negro workers are willing to organize because they do not own land and their conditions get much worse than the whites out of season.

washed and the guilty parties never brought to justice. We hope these fears are unfounded."

No one seeing the Ku Klux Klan brought to court to answer for murder for the first time in the South can doubt that mass pressure is effective. Labor over the country was so aroused that William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, threatened Tampa authorities that the Federation's convention this year will be held somewhere else unless the murderers of Shoemaker are tried and punished. The 1936 A. F. of L. Convention is scheduled to be held in Tampa.

Witnesses Die mysteriously

Two important witnesses in the case have already died in mysterious fashion. Robert Farina was found dead in his car in his garage on the morning of January 26. On February 27 Police Sergeant H. Carl Tompkins either jumped or was thrown from a third-story hospital window. Both Tompkins and Farina were to have been witnesses in the case.

Among the many who will testify for the prosecution are Poulnot, Mrs. Poulnot, Frank Henderson, International Longshoremen's Union organizer, C. E. Jensen, state secretary of the Socialist Party, and Walter Bousch, member of the State Executive Committee of the Socialist Party. Jensen, Bousch and Henderson were also arrested on the night of the fogglings. They were held at the police station but not turned over to the fogglers.

A SHARECROPPER'S SHACK



WPA Convention Strikes Blow at Low Wage Scale

(Continued from Page One)

one of the many labor speakers at a mass meeting held in the Municipal Auditorium Saturday night. The convention was sponsored by Local 848, International Hod Carriers' Building and Common Laborers' Union of Chattanooga.

The 27 seated delegates at the convention represented labor groups from 4 southern states, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee and Arkansas. The convention was also endorsed by the Virginia and Texas Federations of Labor and by Trades Councils and local unions in many cities of 8 southern states.

Endorse Social Insurance

The convention endorsed and called upon Congress to pass the Frazier-Lundsen Social Insurance and Marcantonio Relief Acts. It also endorsed the National Workers' Alliance convention to be held in Washington April 7-10, and came out strongly for immediate formation of a national Farmer-Labor Party.

Among the delegates at the convention were blacklisted members of the United Textile Workers, who have been on WPA since the General Strike of 1934, representatives of Hod Carriers locals from Alabama and Tennessee, and delegates from the Workers' Alliance, Unemployed Leagues and independent relief groups. The Birmingham Trades Council was represented by Brother Copeland.

Calls For Wage Increase

The convention's chief purpose was to lay plans to fight for an increase in the wages of the Southern workers on WPA. The wage scale throughout the south is of the 4th, or lowest classification. In the cities the WPA workers get \$36 a month. In the rural areas they get \$19. The convention went on record demanding that the Southern wage differential be wiped out and the same wage scale adopted here as in the North, based on prevailing trade union rates.

Hitler Moves to Start War In Europe

(Continued from Page One)

side what steps should be taken against Germany. Maxim Litvinoff, the representative of the Soviet Union, was the only person present who gave a clear picture of what is happening in Europe. Litvinoff exposed Hitler's war moves in honest language and showed how Hitler, by breaking the Locarno Treaty, is working to plunge Europe and the world into another bloody war so that Germany may have new markets for her products and at the same time try to destroy the peace-loving Soviet Union. He showed how Germany has been a nation preparing for war ever since Hitler came into power, with her war industries turning out armaments and war machines at a terrific rate while the German people exist in terror and hunger. He showed how only collective action by the other nations of Europe can stop Hitler now.

Dangers In The East

While Germany crazily prepares for and tries to start a war directed against the Soviet Union in Europe, Japan continues feverish war preparations in the Far East. Japan is working hard to build up an all-military state for war against the country of workers and farmers.

So wild and bloody is the road of Fascism, both at home and abroad, that the military elements in Japan cold-bloodedly murdered liberals who won in the elections last month. Both Hitler and Japan use the same method to get rid of people who oppose a war state.

Red Army Marches

In China, however, the latest news shows that the Communist Red Army is growing stronger and marching faster against the Japanese controlled Chinese government.

The latest reports show that the Communists have captured Hantung, a town in Shansi province. Hantung is an important center.

Farm News

By Jerry Coleman

WHEN W. H. Robertson of Auburn, Ala., jumped and shouted: "Do you expect the South to account for 43 percent of the acres to be shifted to conserving crops this year in return for only 21 percent of the total amount of subsidy money?" at the Memphis Conference on the Soil Conservation program, he hit the nail on the head.

Just like the Southern workers get lower wages than northern workers, so the southern farmers, living in the most hellish conditions in America, get the least of the subsidy money from the government.

The Soil Conservation Act has been passed. The New Deal is shouting from the rooftops that we have to conserve and build up America's soil. In the cotton country the land is the poorest of all. Years of one crop, years of neglect of the land, has left it worn-out, eroded and barren. We believe that we should build up the land, and do it rapidly and thoroughly because the farmers can't make a living off the poor land today. But how it is to be done is the big question.

Secretary Wallace is to be the Supreme Dictator of the new program. There will not be contracts like under the AAA. Wallace will decide everything.

Each landowner will be asked to take a certain amount of cotton acreage out of production like under the AAA. Then if the landowner plants soil-conserving crops, patches up the land and in general improves it, he is supposed to get a "bonus" from the government.

The County Agents will determine how much the landowners will get. These County Agents, trusted friends of the biggest landlords, will see that the big guys get it all and that the little man gets nothing, or almost nothing.

There is no provision for the sharecropper or tenant. The Act mentions that the cropper and tenant should be "considered." But that is all. We know what the landlords will do when it comes to giving the cropper or tenant any of the "bonus" money. We know how they smashed the AAA contracts and robbed the croppers and tenants out of benefit payments.

But who will do the work? The landlords will force the cropper and tenant to do all the work of building up the land. The Soil Conservation Service is doing a little of this work but as soon as cotton cultivation starts, they plan to cut off all these people so the landlords will have a supply of cheap labor. They have said this already.

The cropper and tenant will do all the work of soil rebuilding but will receive nothing for the work, and will not even benefit from the improved land because he has no guarantee that he will be on the land next year.

It is another program for the rich farmer. It shows us that Roosevelt's New Deal is doing more for the rich farmer and is leaving all the work for the poor people.

Talmadge Faces Impeachment by Angry Georgians

ATLANTA.—Having taken possession of the state's \$1,000,000 gasoline tax money, Governor Eugene Talmadge, who made himself financial dictator of Georgia, has also taken hold of fuel oil taxes.

The governor, who wears red suspenders and acts like a clown while taking over powers like Hitler and Huey Long, faces impeachment soon, according to Georgia newspapers. The governor will be charged with unlawfully putting out state funds.

Talmadge made himself financial dictator at the beginning of the year when he found himself without access to treasury funds. The legislature had finished its session without granting the governor funds for state affairs. Talmadge assumed charge, threw George B. Hamilton, state treasurer, out of office and has been running things by himself ever since.

Throwing a bone to the bewildered and angry people of Georgia, Talmadge told them he would cut real estate tax this year.

The labor unions, whose members are not real estate owners on a large scale, have joined together to enjoin the governor from unlawfully disbursing state funds.

Ga. Mill Workers Ordered Rehired

ATLANTA.—Seven textile mill workers, blacklisted since the General Strike of 1934, have been ordered reinstated by the National Labor Relations Board.

The seven workers, active union members, were discharged from the Atlanta Woolen Mills Company here. Since the strike they have been unable to find employment at any mill. The case was brought before the National Labor Relations Board only after 2 years of unemployment for the workers who have been trying to get justice and jobs.

The textile local in Atlanta, of which the seven mill workers were members, was formed during the strike, in September, 1934. It was because they organized the union at the Atlanta Woolen Mills that the company fired them.

Scottsboro Trial Set for April 1st

DECATUR, Ala.—The trial of Clarence Norris, one of the Scottsboro boys, will take place on April 17, in Decatur.

Norris will be tried on an indictment for rape based on the perjured testimony of Victoria Price.

No date has as yet been set for hearings on the reported charges made against Norris, Ozie Powell and Roy Wright, of "assault with intent to murder" Sheriff Sandlin who shot Ozie Powell through the head on January 24.

GEORGIA DICTATOR



GOVERNOR EUGENE TALMADGE

Mill Strikers Slept On Railway Tracks to Keep Cars Still

(By a Mill Worker Correspondent)

FLORENCE, Ala.—I'd like to let some of those people who don't think Southern workers can fight in on some memories I've got of the General Textile Strike. The mill owners here sent out letters to their stockholders allowing that it was nothing but a bit of trouble caused by a handful of radicals. This was what they had it in their minds to make the stockholders believe, but the truth of the matter is that the whole townful of workers was carrying on.

There was a picket line day and night on the railroad tracks to keep the cars from going out. The workers built fires and slept on the tracks. They were REAL pickets.

Workers Desert Company Unions
By a Mine Worker Correspondent

BIRMINGHAM.—Here is how the Employees Representation Plan was put into effect around here. It went into effect in June 1933, in the Alabama Division of U. S. Steel Corporation. Each local plant having its representatives in the steel works where a majority are not union members. But in the mines, the plan was a failure, because the UMWA is strong here.

The plan was outlined to the workers who were pretty cowed still from the boss rule they been knowing all their lives. But during the years 1933-1934, the working people around here saw strikes that made them begin to think different than they had been doing.

Saw That Strikes Can Win
They saw conditions made better for those men who had courage to strike and stay out. The results were that from 1934 to 1935 complaints of all descriptions were filed—piece-work tonnage, hourly rates, sanitation and seniority (there were many workers nearing the pension age who were laid off). The workers fought for their rights through their representatives. They also asked for vacations with pay and for pensions for those qualified.

Now the workers who have been waiting to get the things they asked for through their representatives are beginning to see that the only way they are going to get anything is to make their union so strong the bosses won't have the nerve to hold out on them. This is

what they are doing now. And the men in the company unions are not staying in them.

Worker Who Scabbed In Strike Wants Chance to Build Unions

(By a Worker Correspondent)

BIRMINGHAM.—In 1921, the year before the great Railroad Strike, I was a 17-year-old boy, disgusted with farm life, with feeding the stock, cutting wood, clearing fence rows that belonged to somebody else (we lived on a rented place). I knew that probably next year I would have to clear the fences again, because our landlord might be

WPA Children Go Hungry to School

(By a Woman Worker Correspondent)

TARRANT, Ala.—I want to write of the conditions in the WPA workers' homes, of those on direct relief, and those trying to get relief. I am a WPA worker's wife, and we have three children. The 30 dollars a month, which is all we get to buy everything we need, is not enough to keep us in the barest necessities of life. To try to prepare good meals on such an income is heartbreaking. When you see your children sit down to eat and then get up and say, "Mother, I just can't eat gravy and bread so often, I'm hungry for something real," it's hard on you if you are a mother who cares about your children. And all workers want their children to be strong and healthy.

My children go to school without any breakfast part of the time. For lunch they eat only the thin soup the P. T. A. donates to children who cannot buy lunch. The only real meal they get is in the evening, and in our house that is just beans most of the time.

So Many Beans

My littlest boy said to me yesterday: "Mother, I've eat so many beans even my breath smells like them."

The children of the WPA workers are all like this. They have hardly enough clothes to keep their little bodies warm. At home, we haven't enough money to buy coal to keep the house warm. They go to school on rainy days with their feet wet, and they sit all day in the school room without having a chance to get them dry.

We workers cannot buy coal and pay house rent and water bills. One or all of the bills has to go unpaid, if there are any clothes to be bought. We cannot buy meat or butter, and these are the kinds of foods that have to be fed to growing children to make them strong.

Direct Relief Worse

The people who were on direct relief are now starving, since it was all cut off. Some of these are families of 10 and 11 and more. They were getting a grocery order of \$2.60 a week and forced to cash it at a DPW commissary, where they can't buy any more than half as much as the same amount would get for them at another store.

A worker had to almost go down on his knees to get on direct relief. They asked him questions about everything from his birth to his grandfather's religion. They tell him he should have saved money when he had a job.

I'd like to see a family man who could save money with ex-

(Continued On Page Seven)

taking a notion to get somebody else in our place, and he could do it if he wanted to. We didn't have much of anything that was good in life—not enough clothes, no pay days. Whatever we got that was any good we had to sell in order to buy coffee, salt, soap, matches or other necessities.

Sick and disgusted with such life, I decided to go out and see if there wasn't something else for me somewhere else. I hopped my way to Birmingham and caught a freight train out of there. I didn't have enough money to eat on beyond a day or two. Sometimes I would get crazy little jobs, beating rice, cutting wood, washing dishes—anything to earn something to eat. And the rest of the time begging food. I went back home, but there wasn't anything there. Father and mother and six sisters. I left again. My father was so worried about money troubles he wasn't easy to get along with. So I went back to Birmingham.

Had Not Heard of Strike

I hadn't heard anything about the Railroad Strike of 1922 until I came to Birmingham. There weren't any newspapers in the woods where I had been, and if there had been we couldn't have bought one. And besides in the bosses' papers we wouldn't have gotten the truth of the matter at all.

Of course the strike was conducted different from what it should have been. There wouldn't have been no one ready to scab if they had advertised the strike and the union in the right way and let all the workers know what they was doing and why. They didn't even pull all the railroad men out, leaving the most important men in the shop, such as the engineers, switchmen, conductors, etc.

Boys Didn't Know

I heard some of the boys talking. They didn't know that taking the jobs would be cutting their own throats. They were a little afraid of getting a whipping or getting killed, not knowing that it was the scabs and the National Guards who was totting the guns around these parts back in 1922. Not knowing any more than I did, I found out the railroad was hiring anyone who came along. I went over and talked to the boss and didn't have any trouble.

I went to work and worked hard, as this was the first public job I ever had and I thought this was some break in life for me. Well, the shop continued for a while, but finally they started laying off a bunch of men and they kept on laying them off until they closed the shop down.

Found Things Out

Since that time when I was scabbing, not knowing what I was doing, I learned a lot of things: knocking around, seeing working men get bad deals and if ever I get a chance to work in a railroad

(Continued On Page Seven)

Freedom of Soviet Union Is Described by American Writer

BY META BERGER

Note: The following paragraphs are reprinted from an article by Meta Berger in THE WOMAN TODAY. Mrs. Berger has spent a great deal of time in the Soviet Union. She is a well known labor and writer and the wife of the first Socialist Congressman.

Having seen the women of Russia doing hard work, having seen them in the fields and in ditches and on tractors, and in factories, I came home last summer convinced that for the woman of any nationality, no other country in the world offers a life of greater opportunity and greater opportunity. I saw a woman bricklayer why she did such heavy work. She replied simply that she chose to. Her children were in the crèche—the government nursery—where they were being given infinitely better education than she would have known how to give them, even had she the equipment which, of course, she hadn't. I visited some of these nurseries and was astounded that they compared favorably with the best and most expensive nursery schools in America—those which only the "income" classes can afford for their children here.

Darlings of New Order

But in Russia, the children are the darlings of the new order. There are nurseries for them in all the larger factories and neither money nor effort is spared to give them the best possible care, including properly balanced diets, stimulating work and play materials, and trained teachers and nurses.

In Russia mothers are well cared for before and after childbirth. The advent of a baby is not a problem or a worry, but a joy. The mothers have paid vacations for two months before and two months after the birth of their children. After the women return to work they are given time for nursing during working hours. At four in the afternoon they call for their children and take them home exactly as the more enlightened mothers of our upper middle classes call at the nursery schools in America. Then the family remains together until work starts next morning.

Women are free to choose the work they wish to do. Hours are shortened in proportion to the difficulty of the labor. Women are paid the same wages as men for the same work. Any field is open to them. There are nearly as many women in the professions as men. They are recognized engineers, scientists, explorers, statesmen, scholars. For the first time in history every woman can show her mettle and win her rewards.

Since Russian parents love their children exactly as all other parents do, I believe that the new family in Russia will endure as a joyous, companionable voluntary association of independent human beings for mutual satisfaction. It is an institution which every home-loving American may come to envy.

NEWS NOTES

S. T. F. U. Calls for Arkansas Strike

MEMPHIS. — The Southern Tenant Farmers' Union has announced its plan to call a second strike in the eastern Arkansas cotton fields to force plantation owners to sign "fair contracts" with its sharecropper members and stop evicting them by the hundreds.

H. L. Mitchell, executive secretary of the Union, said 7,000 to 8,000 union members will be called upon in that area to strike unless plantation owners sign union contracts and respect the tenant farmers' right to organize peacefully.

LABOR PROTESTS ATTACK ON UNIONS

MEMPHIS. — Eight hundred persons met here to demand the reinstatement of 15 firemen discharged from the force for union activities. The demands were voiced in a resolution bearing more than 600 signatures. The resolution stated that if the 15 firemen were not reinstated at once, the resignation of Mayor Watkins Overton and Commissioner Clifford Davis would be demanded.

BIRMINGHAM. — William Miller, 28-year-old Negro, was cut and beaten by four unidentified white men who assaulted him early one morning in Kelly Ingram Park. Miller is in a serious condition at Hillman Hospital.

GADSDEN, Ala. — The 2,000 employees of the Dwight Manufacturing Company plant here are to have a vote to determine whether or not they want representation by United Textile Workers' Union. The vote was ordered by the National Labor Relations Board after a number of complaints from workers in the Dwight Company.

MEMPHIS. — Ward Rogers, a young Methodist minister and FERA teacher, framed on an anarchy charge by a planters' court at Marked Tree, Ark. last year, was freed of the charge when the Arkansas Supreme Court ruled him not guilty.

The U.S.S.R. -- Land of Children



KINDERGARTEN CHILDREN AT KIEV, U. S. S. R.

AMERICAN YOUTH ACT AMLIE-BENSON BILL

(H. R. 10189)

Congressmen Amlie and Benson have introduced this highly important bill before the Congress now in session. It provides vocational training and employment for youth between the ages of 16 and 25, with full educational opportunities for high school, college and post-graduate students.

The Bill is the outgrowth of the American Youth Congress, where young people from all over the country showed their determination to set about bettering their conditions and winning for themselves the opportunity to finish school and to earn decent wages for their work.

The act provides for:

1. Immediate establishment of a system of vocational training and employment on public enterprises for the purpose of providing regular wages for youth between the ages of 16 and 25.
2. That these regular wages shall be equal to the prevailing union wages in each community.
3. That the wages shall never be less than \$15 a week, plus \$3 for each dependent.
4. Government payment of the expenses of needy students in high school and vocational schools and compensation for each such needy student of not less than \$15 a month in addition to payment of school expenses.
5. Establishment of a system of regular employment on college projects for the purposes of providing regular wages for needy students.
6. The \$15 minimum shall be raised with any rise in the cost of living.
7. The Act shall be administered by representatives elected from out of youth organizations, labor unions as well as social service, educational and consumer's organizations.
8. No projects sponsored under this act shall be of a military character.
9. There shall be no discrimination as to race, sex, color, religion or political views in the administration of this act.

10. The necessary funds shall be taken from the U. S. Treasury. Any further funds required shall be got from taxing inheritances and corporations of incomes of \$5,000 and over.

Especially in the South, where the mistreated youth are either totally unemployed or miserably paid for long hours of work, this Act should remove the full support of all trade union locals, and other churches and labor organizations. The Southern young people are being cheated out of an education. They must fight to put across this bill which will provide them a living while getting an education.

Organizations and individuals should write letters to their congressmen, demanding support of the American Youth Act, H. R. 10189.

Alabama Labor at The Cross-Roads

(Continued from Page 2) will carry on the same tactics. Delegates must be on guard against this.

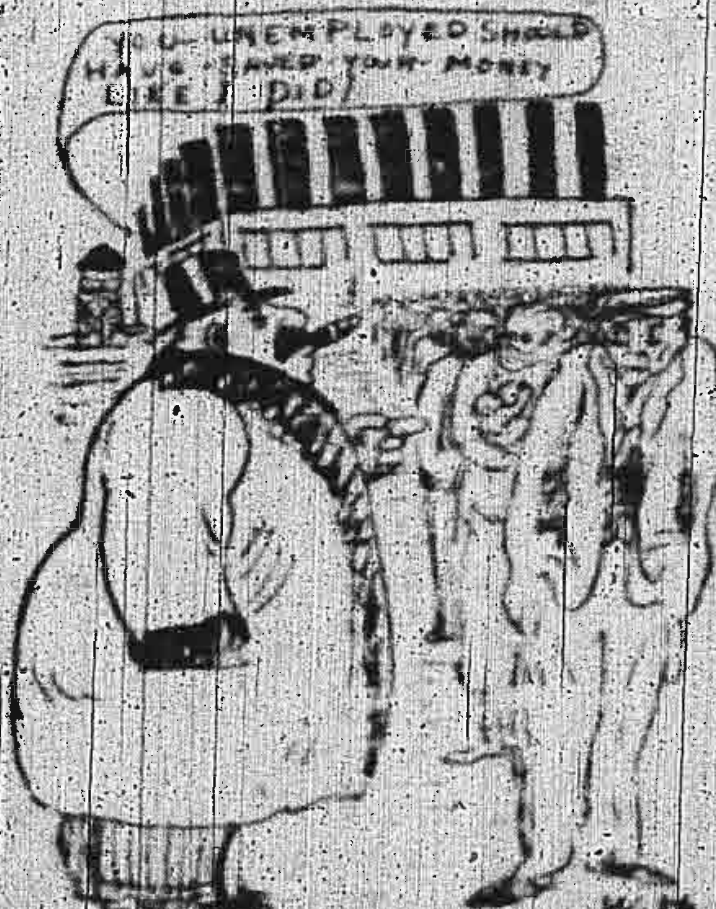
Delegates should vote for candidates on the basis of their records and their program. We want a state of officers who are 100% for the workers, who stand for industrial unionism, for organizing the unorganized, for trade union democracy for the Farmer-Labor Party.

If the Alabama Federation of Labor convention takes this path, by the enactment of resolutions and by electing the right officers, we can say that Alabama Labor is moving along towards a new day in this state and throughout the South.

If the convention goes the other path, however we will then be headed toward fascism, towards a government presided over by the Liberty Leaguers and the open-shoppers.

ATLANTA WPA WORKER IS KILLED ON JOB

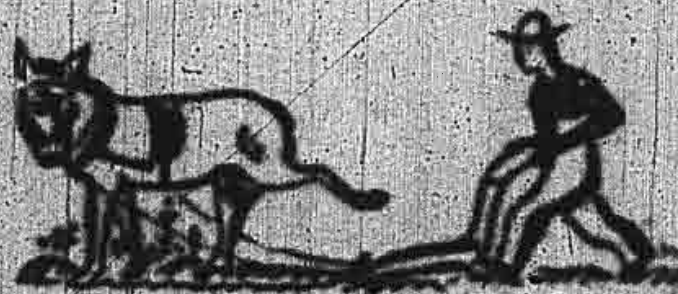
ATLANTA. — Six WPA workers were hurt from the roof of the city auditorium yesterday. Horace Wade, father of 6 children, was killed.



Worker Who Scabbed In Strike Wants Chance To Build Unions

(Continued From Page Six)

shop again, it's going to be my chance to build the union and do something to make up for the time I scabbed. It was through the Communists that I found out that to be a scab was to be a traitor to yourself and your neighbor. It was the Communists who showed me that the working people got to build their unions and build them strong, so they can win their demands when they strike.



WPA Children Go Hungry To School

(Continued From Page Six)

pages so high. If you slip up on your house rent the real estate company throws you out on the street. If you don't pay your bill the water company shuts off your supply. Our water has been cut off three times, and we just cannot pay a water deposit.

I say that the WPA workers and those who aren't on WPA even better get together into the unions and fight for something better than this misery.

Help Open Up the Empty Factories and Give Jobs to the Unemployed. Build A Farmer-Labor Party!



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Convict the Klan!

FOR THE first time in the history of the South, the Ku Klux Klan has been brought to account for one of its murders. The trials of the Klan-cop kidnap-murderers of Joseph Shoemaker in Tampa, Florida, mark the beginning of a new day for Southern labor.

The whole history of workers' struggles South of the Mason-Dixon line has been bloody with the misdeeds of the Ku Klux Klan and other fascist outfits whose aim is to terrorize workers into remaining unorganized and humble. Sharecroppers and miners, textile workers and citrus workers, none have been safe from the night rides of the Klan.

In leaflets distributed in the Tampa courtroom at the beginning of these trials, the Communist Party pointed out that it is the Ku Klux Klan that is on trial! The reason that this has come about is because workers in their organizations over the country DEMANDED ACTION. Socialists and Communists, trade unionists, preachers and just common, shocked, every-day American people who didn't believe this sort of thing really happened were aroused enough to see that the trials really did come about. Now it is up to them to see that the trials are carried through—that the murderers of Joseph Shoemaker (men who have murdered no one knows how many other workers) are punished and the kidnap-murder activities of the Klan and police exposed before America.

What happens in that Tampa courtroom means a great deal to every worker in the South. If enough pressure is brought to bear, a noose can be put around the neck of the foul Ku Klux Klan. This will serve as a warning to the Milton McDuffs of Birmingham, the night riders of Tallapoosa, and to all other anti-union outfits in the South that it is no longer safe to kidnap and kill workers who organize to better their conditions!

The fascist nature of this whole business is indicated in the "surprise-death" of two of the principal witnesses. The official story is that they committed suicide. Whether they committed suicide or were murdered to still their tongues, it is clear that rats don't trust each other and are afraid to take the consequences of their filthy deeds.

Death Sentence.

WHILE 80,000 people in Alabama are being allowed to starve to death, thousands of WPA workers are being sent to swell the ranks of the starving and 30,000 old people have had the miserable old age pension which supplied their food taken from them.

The people on direct relief were not receiving enough to keep them alive at best. Now they have not even got bread. They are not even getting the "staples" that the Federal government used to distribute among them. Eighty thousand people are dying of starvation in Alabama, and the governor won't act to save them, the legislature won't do anything about them, and the local city authorities turn their heads the other way.

On April 1, more than 45,000 WPA workers are being thrown off the projects. These workers have suffered all winter trying to eke out a living for themselves and their families on the \$12-\$30 a month that the Federal government thinks is enough for the Southern workers to live on. The wage scale that makes pellagra and the other diseases of poverty rampant in the South.

Now 30,000 broken and starving old men and women are joining the ranks of those who are condemned to die of starvation in Alabama. The state old-age pension plan provided the magnificent sum of \$6 to \$18 for its old people. Now the state announces that the burden is too much. "Let them all die!" is what the state authorities are really saying.

What is the answer? Shall 150,000 people die because the state and local government is held fast in the hands of big bankers and their little fat politicians? Or will the working people of Alabama put their own men in office—will they send Farmer-Labor representatives to the legislature to fight for their needs and to see that no one starves to death in the midst of plenty? Will they fight to put across the Frazier-Lundeen Social Security Bill that will provide real unemployment, old age and social insurance of every kind? Or will they take this death sentence with a "thank you, sir?"

YOU'RE GETTING TOO BIG TO WHIP!



This what the T. C. C. and other bosses have to say to the U. M. W. A. They are afraid of the United Mine Workers because this is the fastest growing, most progressive union in the American Federation of Labor. It is growing fast and strong because it is an INDUSTRIAL UNION. And this is why the bosses fear it.

The bosses are not afraid of craft unions because they know that craft unions are not dangerous to them. In an industrial union all of the workers in one industry belong in the same union. When one goes out on strike, they all go out on strike. In craft unions, the workers in one industry are divided among a number of unions, such as plumbers, carpenter, electricians and weavers. If the electricians go out on strike, they have no guarantee that the plumbers, carpenters and weavers will support them. But in an industrial union, the workers of all crafts and trades go out together. Skilled and unskilled, they are all real union brothers, fighting their battles in an organized, sure-to-win formation.

The growing strength of the U. M. W. A. should show the workers in the South, as well as in the

North, that the way for labor to grow big and strong and powerful, to be in a position to win demands and fight back reaction, is to organize into industrial unions.

However, the U. M. W. A. can continue to grow only if it sets an example of complete trade union democracy within its ranks. The miners must have district autonomy—that is, they must be allowed to elect their own district officials instead of their being appointed by President Lewis and the executive board.

And the U. M. W. A. must get rid of the red-baiting, anti-Communist clause still in its by-laws. This is a reactionary hangover that will check the growth of the U. M. W. A. It will cripple the strong arm of the greatest trade union in America.

And, lastly, the United Mine Workers must bring themselves to an honest political position—for a Farmer-Labor Party that will put iron into the fist of labor, fight to put people to work at decent wages, and fight against starvation, greed and the terror used by the T. C. C. and other bosses in the South to keep labor unorganized and at the mercy of industrialists and rich landowners!

NEWS IN BRIEF

MEMPHIS—A resolution forbidding teachers to join the Teachers' Union or any labor organization was passed by the city government here. The action affects 1,066 teachers scheduled to sign contracts.

LOUDON, Tenn.—Forty-five WPA workers struck here for shorter hours, a 10 percent wage increase, and dry dirt to work in. The workers have been working on sewers near a creek where the ground is soggy. They demanded the 30-hour week.

BIRMINGHAM—Matthew Knox, a Negro worker, was released in Judge Henry Martin's court after being charged with violation of the Deans' literature law. Knox was arrested by members of the local red squad. He was charged also with changing his name to conceal identity. This charge, too, was dropped in Judge Martin's court. Martin said that both charges were unsubstantiated by evidence.

PARKIN, Ark.—Three sticks of dynamite were tossed among the tents of evicted sharecroppers (near here). Notices warning all union men to leave the state were scrawled in pencil on boards. The tent colony houses 108 sharecroppers who were evicted from the C. H. Dibble plantation for union activity. The Southern Tenant Farmers' Union has demanded protection from the sheriff and governor for these homeless people.

CHATTANOOGA—The Cleveland Chair Company was ordered to rehire 14 workers who were dismissed last summer for their union activities. The order was given by the National Labor Relations Board who investigated the union's charge of unfair labor practices at the Chair Company. The 14 men were members of Local 1759, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners.

CHATTANOOGA—A city workhouse guard and a truck driver were charged with the brutal flogging of Farrell Parcell, workhouse prisoner. Eye

witnesses described the unmerciful beating given the prisoner. Prison authorities said that Parcell had "attempted to escape."

CHATTANOOGA—Union drivers of the Economy Cab Company won out against a wage cut proposed by the company. The drivers refused to take out their cabs until the company agreed to return the rate to the union scale.

DOTHAN, Ala.—Isom Kennedy, 15-year-old student, was arrested when he picketed the Flowers Chapel School here in protest of the mistreatment of his sister by a teacher. Isom was taken to jail, then released on bond.

ATLANTA—The trials of 10 workers, jailed for picketing the American Hat Manufacturing Company here, have been set for March 20. All are charged with "disorderly conduct." The strike was called by the United Hat, Cap and Millinery Workers' Union, when discrimination against union workers was carried on in violation of an agreement.