

CHICAGO  
MRS. LACEY  
JUNE 32  
111  
111  
111

# The WORKING WOMAN

The Voice of Women Workers

Published Monthly by the Central Committee, Communist Party, U.S.A. Entered as second class matter April 22, 1930 at the Post Office New York, N. Y. Under the Act of March 3, 1879

Subscription rates. 50 cents per year. Foreign \$1.00 per year. Single copies 5 cents

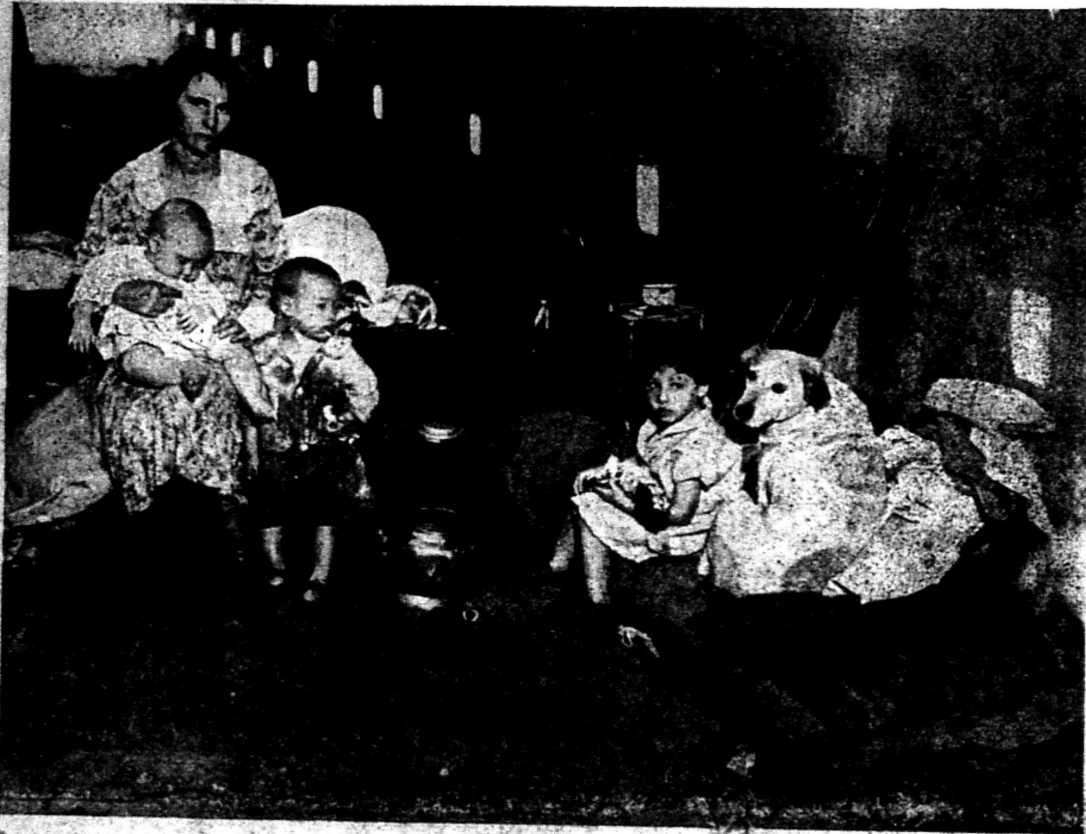
50 East 13th Street, New York, N. Y.

VOL. 2, No. 9

NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER, 1931

5 CENTS

## 100,000 JOBLESS WOMEN and GIRLS IN NEW YORK CITY



**EVICTED WITH HER THREE SMALL CHILDREN.**—Mrs. Dorothy Lacey and her three little children who were evicted from their home at 1713 Monroe Street, Chicago, and are now forced to live in a damp, unsanitary tunnel in a stone quarry at Campbell and Grand Streets. The "civilized" landlords and bosses courts and government give their approval to this barbarity which the unemployed Councils and the Communist Party is fighting.

### Hunger, Strain, Misery, Prostitution Takes Heavy Toll of Jobless Women

NEW YORK.—That tens of thousands of jobless women in this city are starving is the admission of a statement made by the Welfare Council of New York, in warning working women and girls to stay away from New York.

"Alluring pictures of life in New York spread by fiction writers, movie producers and girls who have 'made good' to say nothing of the letters back home from girls who are nearly starving here, but will not admit defeat to friends and relatives—bring a continuous stream of fame-an-fortune-hunting young people to this city."

"New York is a wonderful city, but not if you are out of work, without friends, relatives or bank account. The Research Bureau of the Welfare Council estimated a few months ago that there were 600,000 persons out of work in this one city (the number is nearer 1,000,000—Editor, Working Woman). No one knows how many of these are girls and unmarried women, but the experience of room registries and other welfare societies indicates the number must run up into tens of scores of thousands, if it does not actually approach a hundred thousand."

Admitting that the savage drive of the employers against the standard of living of the workers has extended to the working women and girls, the statement continues:

"The cost of living has gone down in New York, but so have wages for girls. The combination of long continued unemployment, and greatly reduced earnings when work is finally secured have forced thousands of girls to lower and lower standards of living. Many girls try to save on rent and so seek rooms in poorer neighborhoods, often with distressing results."

While the statement does not say what the distressing results are, there are already evidences that sickness, nervous strain induced by great anxiety, slow starvation and prostitution are making inroads on these thousands of unemployed working women and girls.

#### Prostitution Spread Is Seen

"Vice Worse in Fifteen Years," such were the headlines in the New York capitalist press on the report of the Committee for Fourteen, a "reformist" society, made public a short while ago.

The report told of the fearful growth of prostitution in such workingclass sections as South Brooklyn, and attached a series of its usual meaningless recommendations "to wipe out vice."

Police answered charges of the spread of prostitution by saying that they knew of its growth but could do nothing about it.

The report brought out that dance halls were being used to entice unsuspecting and jobless or homeless girls and there started on their "career."

#### Blurt Out Cause

The basic cause for the dreadful spread of this malignant disease (Continued on page 6)



**BRITISH WORKING WOMEN**, carrying placards in the August First demonstration against imperialist war plots, at Trafalgar Square, London. The demonstration exposed the role the Labor Party and government is playing in furthering the war plans of the bankers and capitalist militarists.

### 12,000 Detroit Relief Families Are Told They Must Starve

#### NOTICE TO ALL WELFARE FAMILIES

CITY OF DETROIT  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE  
July 9, 1931

The City of Detroit must reduce the money spent on unemployed families because of lack of funds.

After August 1, 1931, many of the families now receiving help will be dropped from our list. This will first affect the families with no small children. The larger families will be asked to eat at public dining rooms. We cannot promise clothing, rent, coal, gas, or light.

The Welfare Department deeply regrets this necessity and offers its services in helping the unemployed families carry out their plans. THE PUBLIC WELFARE COMMISSION

DETROIT.—Twelve thousand families dependent upon the miserable and inadequate relief doled out by the city, were cut off entirely without relief and face starvation, according to a statement by Mrs. Murphy, a charity supervisor here.

"Our offices are being stormed by frantic mothers, pleading for milk for their babies. It is going to be worse later, when the city suffers the consequences of what we are doing now," Mrs. Murphy said.

**Working Women! Support the Miners' Strike! Help the miners and their families win the fight against starvation — Rush relief to the Pennsylvania-Ohio Relief Committee, 611 Penn Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa**

# Wellsburg, W. Va. Miners' Wives Tell of the Hunger Conditions the Miners are Fighting

## Wellsburgh Miners Shot at and Jailed by Company Thugs

### Wives Stick to the Miners in Fight

Wellsburg  
Wellsburg, W. Va.

Comrades:

I am telling you what happened at Wellsburg on the 10th day of August. Our men from Colliers and Louise, W. Va., were going to McKingleyville to picket. There were two trucks loads of men and when they got half way to McKingleyville there was 6 state police met them and stopped the trucks and drew there guns on the men and my husband was on the side of the truck and they stuck their gun in his side so until he had to tell them to look out the way, and said they was shaking, acting like they were nervous. And so after they could not find nothing else to arrest the men over they took the two truck drivers for not having the driving license.

#### Coal Bosses Government

It looks as though the Government would give the striking miners a break like they do the operators. This strike would not last long for the miners would win in with all ease. They allow the operators to have all kinds of arms for protection and the poor miners are not allowed to carry too heavy of a stick. If they do they arrest them and put them in jail and then you cannot buy them out of jail. They have 19 men in jail from McKingleyville and 14 from Colliers, 3 from Louise, and 3 from Wellsburg and they tell you one time that they want so much bond and when you go get that amount of bonds when you get back to the jail they have raised it 2 or 3 thousand more just as though they had killed somebody.

I was reading in the Youngstown Telegram paper that Hoover was going to get up a relief to help the unemployed through the winter, but it won't be to help us poor miners because he is going to turn it over to the Red Cross and I know we won't get anything from it because they did not help us any last winter. Last winter when I went down to the Station they had here in town and I had to bawl the people out down here to get a pound of beans, 1 pound of bacon and 2 loaves of bread and they promised me underclothes for the children and I have not got them yet. So, comrades, when you read this paper I do hope that you will stick and fight in order to help win this strike.

MRS. MAY DONALDSON.

"The Working Woman," together with the rest of the workers' press is sending a press correspondent to the Soviet Union in order to get first hand stories for the American workers on life of the men and women toilers there, as well as of their children.

Every reader of our paper no doubt has many things she would like to hear more about, in the first workers' republic. If you will send in your questions, our correspondent promises to look up these matters and write about them to our paper.

Send your questions immediately to:

WORKING WOMAN  
50 East 13th St., New York



EVICTED ON THE HIGHWAY.—One of many miners' families in the strike mine area who were thrown out of their company-owned shacks and their furniture dumped upon the highway.

## Womenfolk in Mine Area Handle Their Pressing Problems

By BARBARA RAND

"The men inside the mine must be reached. They must be drawn into the struggle against starvation, and into our union where they belong. We must change our tactics and all together, strikers and miners inside the pits, fight for local demands that the men inside the pits help us draw up, and fight and win them! The union best men must not be squeezed out of the industry. This policy the Central Rank and File Strike Committee adopted is the best thing we can do now. We all agree here. Now to lay plans to carry it out."

Then the members of the New Kensington Section Rank and File Committee went to work on the job. Mine after mine was discussed. Here we are stronger, so our demands can be stronger. Here most of the men have gone back to work, but they are really with us. They were forced back because we had no tents, and the deputies were going to throw them all out of the patch. This time we must try harder than ever to get tents and bread enough to go round and we'll force the operators to settle. In the other mine, the boys have found out that the United Mine Workers of America agreement is fake, that it means worse starvation than before, with the company union working with the operators. The men here have strong grievances that they will be willing to strike for. Our committees inside the mine are on the job.

These are old-timers sitting on the committee—men who dug coal

more years than the young committee members had lived, veterans of many a hard-fought strike. There are the young boys who were forced to leave school only a few years ago to go down into the mines before dawn not to return to the surface until the sun set. They learned a lot in those years!

Then there are the women, representatives of the Women's Auxiliaries of the section, wives of miners and mothers of miners. They listen to the reports that come first, faces alert. All together, women, all timers and young boys are at work drawing up plans for putting the "new line" into effect, to reorganize their forces for renewed struggle against starvation. The women are no longer shy, backward. The task at hand is a terribly important one—it means bread, milk for their babies, life itself! All together, with intense earnestness, everybody makes suggestions. Many heads are needed!

#### To Re-strike the Mine

A hundred men are back at work in the Barking mine. These men must be reached. Together—the 250 striking at the mine and the hundred who were forced back by hunger, misunderstanding, terror, evictions—together they must draw up local demands and elect a joint committee to present their demands and organize a broad local fight for them.

But since the Barking mine belongs to the Hillman Coal Co., owners of many struck mines, this committee must hold a conference with committees from other Hillman mines, and together present

their demands to the company and together fight and win them! The conference? Monday. Any objections? Adopted.

But to reach the miners on the Barking Company patch the path from the houses on the patch to the mine is on coal company property. And to reach the mine railroad property has to be crossed, too. And the deputies are always on the watch. Those who cross the ferry from Springdale, or who come on the train to work in the mine, they can be reached and the leaflet announcing the meeting given to them. But to get on the company patch?

"Leave them to us! We'll handle the job!" one woman said. Settled. Now to take up the Kinlock mine...

Before dawn, everybody on the patch had a leaflet and even the mine itself was flooded with them.

The miners' womenfolk are faced with many tremendous problems, problems that cannot be brushed aside. They have learned to "handle them," whether it meant braving the deputies and state troopers on the picket lines to help empty the mines, or explaining to starved children why there is no bread, and then go out to raise relief; putting her babies to sleep under the rain-laden sky next to the pile of furniture, on the road and then together with the eviction committee finding a shack or a shed, a barn—anything with a roof until tents can be found.

And there are many more problems to handle. That is why the women have decided to call a section convention August 24. From all the auxiliaries in the section, delegates will come to thrash them out. They will strengthen committees to go out into nearby towns, or to the farms to ask workers and farmers help in the struggle. They will find new ways of raising money to buy bread and spreading the auxiliaries to those mining camps in the section where one isn't already established.

School is opening soon and the

## Clothing was Made From Crocus Sack For the Children

### "We Must Stick to the Union"

Wellsburg, W. Va.

Dear Comrades:

I am a poor miner's wife, mother of six children. My husband is an experienced miner, has worked in the mine for years. I am going to write you a little of what I have experienced since my husband has been loading 38c coal.

He would leave the house at 4 o'clock in the morning, go in the mine and move ton and tons of rock for nothing, working under drippers from the roof, and water under his feet, working in leaky boots because he could not afford to buy a pair. Doing all this in order to load a couple of cars of coal so we could have bread. And when we go for a store order the best we could do, would be to get a \$1.00 check, just enough to get a sack of flour and a little lard. Times have been so bad that I would have to take crocus sack and wash them and cut pants out of them and sew them up, to put on my little boys to hide their little bodies. But since we found the union, times are lot better. I know a lot of you who read my few lines will sympathize with me, for many more have experienced the same thing. It is an awful thing for the little children to have to suffer for bread. They do not realize what it is all about so we must stick to the union and help win the strike for the sake of the little children.

—From A Negro Miners' Wife, Irene Hocker.

children have no shoes to wear, or clothes to cover their little undernourished bodies. Food and shoes and clothing must be demanded of the county! The women are preparing this fight too!

And elections are coming soon. That's another job the women say they will take a hand in—defeating the bosses' candidates and electing workers on the Communist Party ticket.

And the children are in the fight. Mrs. Agnes Mitchell organized 24 children into the Young Pioneers. Fifty more want to join already, and cannot wait until second meeting is held. The youngsters have divided themselves into groups of tens, just like their parents, for picket line duty. They have got jobs to handle, too!

#### Help the Miners

And the working women all over the country have a big job too. The job of collecting food—food and clothes and tents! The men face bullets! The women and children are at their side! Tear gas, clubbings! Dogs—trained German police dogs are brought by the police to terrorize the children and women, to snap at their bare feet. Evictions and grinding hunger these miners' families are facing to "handle the job" before them, the job of defeating starvation!

Your help is needed—now. Each day counts! Send every penny you can spare, every penny you can collect, all the food you can gather to the Pennsylvania-Ohio-West-Virginia-Kentucky Striking Miners' Relief Committee, Room 205, 611 Penn Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa.

If you haven't already organized a branch of this relief committee in your town, do so immediately! Write to us for suggestions. Every class-conscious working woman, support the miners' strike!

## Build Women's Auxiliaries of N. M. U.

### Women Get Down to Work on Task of Building Nat. Miners Union

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—Coincident with the change of tactics of the National Miners Union to concentrate on local mines for a re-strike movement, the Women's Auxiliaries of the union continue to be built and developed.

At a conference held here on July 31 delegates from Women's Auxiliaries in district six were present. A good discussion was held and the role of the women in building a strong miners' union

was thrashed out in detail. Officers were elected, with an executive committee for 16.

#### Women's Dept. of N.M.U.

A functioning women's department of the National Miners Union has been set up that has for its task the development of the women's auxiliaries in connection with building the union.

A very good auxiliary is now operating at Wellsburg, W. Va. The activities of the women in

Eastern Ohio and Western Pennsylvania has shown that women are an important factor in building the union and in strike struggles. When picketing was conducted at Dillonvale, at Dillon No. 1 mine, the women made up half the picket and showed a good spirit on the line. Fifty women and girls marched from Adena, Ohio to picket the Blaine mine at Baline, a marching distance of 18 miles. They started at 12 midnight and walked until 6 in the morning.

# The WORKING WOMAN

The Voice of Women Workers

Published Monthly by the Central Committee, Communist Party, U. S. A.,  
Section of the Communist International

50 East 13th Street, New York, N. Y.,

Entered as second class matter April 22, 1930, at the Post Office New York,  
N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

VOL. 2 SEPTEMBER, 1931 No. 9

Subscription Rates: 50 CENTS PER YEAR; Foreign \$1.00. Single Copies 5 Cents

23

## Struggle Against Growing Miseries of jobless Women

By ANNA DAMON

The misery of the unemployed working women and girls throughout the country in the third year of the capitalist crisis has now reached new depths with the official federal and municipal government still refusing to give unemployment relief.

The story of the 100,000 jobless women and girls of New York published in this issue is a story that can be repeated in all industrial and agricultural centers. Slow, gnawing hunger that saps the vitality and life of the women workers, reducing them to physical and nervous wrecks. The fear of having no roof over their heads leaves its telltale marks on all unemployed women. Furtive, silent hiding in dark unsanitary places, ashamed to reveal their suffering and misery—capitalism has taught them they must hide their misery for they are women.

Especially appalling is the growing personal degradation of hundreds of jobless women and girls forced into the horrors of prostitution.

The case of the two young unemployed girls, Margaret Walsh and Jean McCuen, who were forced into selling themselves to live, the reports of the Young Women's Christian Association and the Committee of 14, show what is happening to tens of thousands of working girls similarly situated. No jobs, no relief, their parents also unemployed, these young working girls, in the very bloom of young womanhood, were made the victims of that horrible institution of capitalism, prostitution. "We sold ourselves for a sandwich," that cry of anguish from Jean McCuen should make every working woman, girl and housewife more determined than ever to fight for unemployment insurance.

The fearful extent of the personal degradation of unemployed workingclass women is seen in the latest report of the Committee of Fourteen that reports the following increase of prostitution:

Thirty-eight houses of prostitution in the Red Hook district of Brooklyn during the first two months of 1931 as compared with 19 houses during a three year period from 1927-29, is reported.

The same increase is shown for all boroughs in New York City.

The Committee of Fourteen, an old bourgeois reform organization was forced to admit the case:

"The abnormal number of unemployed young men and women, in whose ranks are many who are turning to crime and vice to get money."

In this situation workingclass women, employed and unemployed, must join in the great struggle of the Unemployed Councils, the Trade Union Unity League and the Communist Party for immediate unemployment insurance, against evictions and for immediate cash relief of jobless women and girls, married and unmarried.

More than ever before working women and girls must plunge into the election campaign of the Communist Party to strengthen the

More than ever before working women and girls of all races must plunge into the election campaign of the Communist Party to strengthen the fight for unemployment insurance, against the stagger plan, against wage-cuts and speed up, against discrimination and lower wages for Negro women

In connection with the drawing in of women and girls in the struggle for unemployed relief, the district women's department must be strengthened and the method of work among jobless women placed on a basis of mobilization for day to day demands.

Most districts have paid less attention to drawing in women into the councils of the unemployed than to any other phase of work among the unemployed. The slow progress in drawing women into the general councils of the unemployed is due in the main to the fact that the councils of the unemployed do not carry on any struggles which would draw the women into the movement and into the councils as a result of their activities.

Women will come into the councils of unemployed when there is definite work for them to carry through. Cases of unemployed women breadwinners, of jobless unmarried girls, struggle for free food and clothing for children of the unemployed—would serve to bring out the need for women to join the unemployed council activities.

All sorts of confused ideas exist regarding the drawing of women into the councils of the Unemployed and the districts instead of seeking for forms and methods of drawing women into the councils. In Denver, as a case in point, separate councils of the unemployed women organized. In Ohio, Women's Auxiliaries were formed. Special committees of the councils bringing in specific proposals to the council as to how to begin work around specific issues in the locality and to draw working women and girls into the struggle, is the correct method.

These proposals, together with organizational measures such as holding of special meetings of women, should be discussed by the entire council. And after the plan has been worked out and adopted by the council, special meetings of women in the neighborhood, at employment agencies, factory gates—should be called to rally them around the issues raised.

The struggle against the high cost of living, against high rents, for free milk and lunches for school children, for immediate cash relief of especially needed cases of jobless women-breadwinners and unmarried girls are among the issues to rally all women in a given neighborhood.

The "Working Woman" should reflect these rising struggles of the unemployed and employed and especially invites worker correspondence on this subject.

The Pedestal is But an Auction Block



## HIGHLIGHTS OF A NEGRO WOMAN'S LIFE

### DOWN SOUTH

SEATTLE, Wash.—We lived in a Cabin where there were four rooms, but we were only able to afford to pay for two. For the two small holes, called rooms, we had to pay \$5.00 a week.

In order to be at home with my little girl, I took in washing and made from 75c to \$1.00 a day. You can see that after working hard all week and paying for the rent there was nothing left for us to buy clothes or food with. We used to get the clothes from the rich white women, who felt "sorry" for us, and handed over a few old rags. The rich white women also sent over some fruit; that is that fruit which had fallen on the ground and was beginning to rot.

### Chicago

I have received a ticket from a relative to come to the promised land. Once I get to Chicago I wouldn't have to suffer for lack of money, and would be able to go wherever I wanted to go, and do whatever I wanted to do.

My first job paid \$2.10 a day—quite a difference from what I made down South. I worked from 7:00 a. m. to 5:00 p. m. the first week. The second week I worked as usual up to lunch time and took time off for eating, and then went back to work. It seems that the afternoons had somehow gotten longer hours in the second week. I worked and worked and then looked at the clock, it said 3 o'clock. So I worked two more hours. The folks at home wanted to know where I was so late—it was after 7:00 p. m. I stopped to think to find out what was wrong. The only thing I could think of was that the bosses' clock was wrong. The next day I borrowed my friend's watch. Two o'clock came and the watch and clock were both correct. I worked another hour—by my watch—and took another look at the bosses' clock. Well, the clock still said 2. I thought the clock had stopped, but I listened and it was ticking. I heard footsteps and went back to work. Now I knew that I was being cheated somehow, and I was going to keep my eyes open and find out how.

The next day I made sure that the clock and watch were correct and waited until five minutes to five. At five o'clock I heard steps and hid in a corner to see what sort of miracles took place that made the clock tick, and at the same time suddenly lose two hours. The boss looked around—it was the boss who came in—took up the clock and turned the hands back to 3 o'clock. The miracle was a miracle no more.

I didn't dare come out and accuse the boss, because I had learned thru experience that she could frame up some way of getting me arrested—she could say I stole some of her things. I worked the extra two hours and asked for my pay.

### The "Golden" West

I moved to Seattle, Wash., but found conditions just the same as in the South and Chicago—mass unemployment, the almost impossibility of getting a job, and when I did get one, it was almost like working for nothing—I got such low wages. Things came to the point where there was nothing in the house to eat. I went to the charitable institutions, and after going thru a lot of red tape got nothing.

One day some men knocked at

the door and said they were from the "Unemployed Council." They found out that we had nothing to eat and they said they would be back later. We thought that that was all we would see of them, because so many charity workers had come and promised to bring relief and never showed up—we thought that these men also came from some charity organization. About four hours later, these men came back with food for us.

We attended a meeting of one of the branches of the Unemployed Council and learned that it was not a charity organization, but a working class organization, which was out trying to organize the unemployed workers. And if it found some needy families in its tour of work, it got the other members of the branch to go out and get help for the family. It is a true working class organization, because it has no lines drawn in regards to color, race or creed.

This revolutionary organization has opened my eyes to the class struggle, and I am with it to the end. I have learned the meaning of the slogan, "Fight, don't starve," and I hope that all the workers hurry and learn the meaning of the slogan, too.

Negro Woman Worker.

## THE MAIL BOX

STUDA, Pa.—I live on a little farm right next to the company town. The company I rent from says that if I do not pay for my rent I will have to get out. I owe four months rent already. My husband is on the blacklist at the mine. I do not know what we are going to do. After I worked so hard to get a couple of cows and things and what will we do with them now. If the union can help pay some of the rent, my husband and I will do everything that the N.M.U. would want us to do. You could hold your meetings at our place.

Elizabeth Chaburka.

Fredericktown, Pa.—I have to move again. So I just don't know what we are going to do. If we only had a tent or so. That's just the trouble around here with the people. If they seen they had place to live why they would go out on strike and stay out but you know nobody wants to be out in rain on these cool nights.

You know school starts soon and I have the two kids to look for. They are at home now so you know I have a lot of worry about for from day to day. I do not know where I will land.

Elizabeth Balonovic.

# LETTERS FROM THE SHOPS

## Miners Wives Have to Wait Days to Get Credit at Co. Store that Robs

Living Conditions Bad, Work Hard and Little Pay; This is What They're Fighting

Dear Fellow Workers:

I am a poor-miner's wife. I just want to tell you some of the conditions of the Gilchrist Mine No. 3 of West Virginia, Pittsburgh Coal Company, of all through the past winter of sufferings to a many of a family. I am one who had to put up with everything but starvation.

Depending on the great price given then in the mine, 38c, this price he could not make a living.

If we got something to eat we would have to suffer for clothes, a time in winter for food in order. We had to suffer a many and many to get coal to keep fire for 30 bushels. We would pay \$2.40 and \$1.50 for hauling of this coal, \$10 a month for house rent, no water. The way we had of getting water on this hill is through by the city pumping it to others who own their own homes and we have a tank and this water pumped in to it some times the people will pump once a day and now they don't pump any. We have to carry water a half mile from a spring in order to have drinking and washing water. Those living in mining camps know this for themselves that are striking.

### Company Store Rob Miners

This is what they say when we would go to the head office. They gave a thing called store order, we did not have a company store but this way was just as bad. If you got it cashed they would take 10c of the dollar and if you spend it otherwise you spent it where they would allow you to get them to. The stores was the M & D and IGA fo Wellsburg, W. Va., and Perrins, another reptile of Wellsburg, W. Va. Also Wellsburg is one of the dirtiest mining towns I ever lived in. They sold food so high that when you take \$5 to spend at these stores you would bring home \$2 worth of food for your five.

In order to get a little more for your money we would have to get it cashed and take it to the tea stores in order to get a little more for our money. Sometimes we poor coal miners wives would go to this so-called head office for this store order and ask for \$3.00.

He would say is he working today and you say yes and he will look over the books and say I can give you \$2. Sometimes we would have to stay away from the office 2 or 3 days in order to get \$2 or \$3 and sometimes then we could not get only \$1.

### Houses Are Shacks

Some of us living in the houses, the Company has leased for us to live in from the Bank and trust, they are sticking on a hill side, no yard and bed bugs there isn't any more of how many are in them. And in the mines conditions were so bad we could not even buy 5c wall paper to put on the walls. We had to put newspaper on the walls instead and compelled to scrub bare floors not able to buy coverings for them. I am just writing the conditions of the place that we have suffered over a year. These are the conditions of West Va., Pittsburgh Coal Company.

Every woman, child and man must fight, now is the time to fight starvation and slavery. We have to fight to win the National Miners' Union. It means all to us. We women are going to stick and fight right along side of the men and also children.

### Fight to Win!

Men—men, carry your battle on, please don't give up. Stick I have a brother who has a little one and he had to almost go barefooted in order to feed his little children and he is a young man about the age of 29. With such a family trying to feed on that 38c coal than's why we are striking trying to better ourselves. What a pity folks.

Now folks help us with relief and clothing to win this slavery and starvation. I am a Negro miner's wife a striking miner.

MRS. FRANCES PRINGLE.



ON THE PICKET LINE—Women and girls in the front of a picket line in Western Pennsylvania.

## Salesgirls Driven at Breakdown Pace

Oakland, Calif.

Is the work speeded up for us girls in the Department stores? I'll say. The store I work at — Whittorne and Swan is economizing more than ever.

Not only that less of us are working now than a year ago, but we must work longer and can't leave our stands at all without permission of the manager—this even when the day is over.

Store has several sales per month. On these days extra help is hired. This help list is kept from month to month and upon call, the girls are ready and glad to put in at least a day or two per month. They pay extra girls \$3 per day. They were kept thru the day. These girls helped to straighten out the counters after rush was over, etc.

### Just One Big Rush!

Now they are hired only for the rush hours 9 to 12 or 1 P. M. They get paid only for these hours of work, spending their carfare and getting their lunch out of their

## Soviet Builts Packing Plants

Thirty-nine huge meat packing plants, with the most modern equipment will be constructed and operated during 1931-32 in the Soviet Union at a cost of more than \$200,000,000.00 it was announced by the Commissariat of Internal Supply.

Plants will be located at Moscow, Leningrad, Semipalatinsk and other urban centers. American technical methods will be used.

A meat canning department producing 300,000 cans daily will be part of the equipment.

State farms, especially hog farms, will be organized to supply the cattle for the plants.

It is expected that within a few years all urban centers will be well supplied with fresh and canned meats of the best order.

pay \$1.10 or \$1.60.

This change leaves us regular girls so much more work on these days, that our shoulders ache from rush folding for several days after.

Wouldn't it be wonderful to be organized and able to fight for better conditions?

Clerk.

## Prosser Committee Fires 1400 Women On Its Made Jobs

Add to 100,000 of Jobless Women

NEW YORK.—Fourteen hundred jobless women and girls who were given relief jobs at inadequate wages by the Prosser Committee will soon lose these jobs according to a statement of the Committee.

"At present there are 1,400 women being carried on the Women's Fund Committee payroll. The balance of this fund will be used as wages for approximately this number up to October 1," the statement of the committee reads.

The fourteen hundred jobs represented the only effort made by the Tammany officials and New York employers in "making" jobs at cut wages and long hours. Now that these 1400 women will be thrown out on the streets again the acute problems facing more than 100,000 jobless women and girls will become worse.

## Mother of Four in Mine Region Writes

Maynard, Ohio.

Dear Fellow Workers;

I want to tell you the conditions in Ohio.

My husband was working in the Besola Mine they paid him 45c a ton then a cut every month, until the men got together and all came out on strike. Now I am the mother of four small children and haven't a piece of bread to give them in the morning until I sent them for dinner to the soup kitchen and the young one can't wait till dinner my heart aches for them before they go out to dinner they children look like corpse. A few months ago I brought home 35c for a pay. How can a person make a living. Women you must all fight and strike to win your bread and butter for yourself and children.

Subscribe For the "WORKING WOMAN"

## Mill Women Fight 14 Hour Day; Demand Extra Shift

(By a Worker Correspondent)

CLEVELAND, Ohio — Continual complaint and opposition of the workers, 95 per cent of whom are women, has forced the bosses in the Friedman Blau Farber knitting mills here to put on an extra night shift which will work from 5.15 until midnight. Before this, operatives have been working 14 hours a day for five days, 8 hours on Saturday and 4 1/2 hours on Sunday. No overtime was paid except on Sunday when workers were given 50 cents extra. Until several weeks ago, overtime Saturday was also paid, but this was stopped. The average wages of week worker are \$10 to \$13 while a piece worker, at a tremendous speed up, is sometimes able to attain \$19.05 for 65 1/2 hours work per week.

Working women! Organize and fight against this speed-up and these low wages! Fight for free nurseries connected with factories where women work; for leave of absence with pay for four weeks prior and two weeks after child birth.

## Practical Nurses Are Worked Long Hours Small Hospitals Sweat Nurses Until They Drop from Their Feet

(By a Worker Correspondent) Sacramento, California.

May a graduate nurse say a few words about her profession?

To begin with, I've a bit of criticism for those inhuman bleeders, the training schools! Three months probation, they tell the prospective student nurse, and she must furnish books and uniforms upon entrance. At the end of three months she is given a cap, charge of a certain number of patients, and a small monthly allowance which barely covers her laundry bill. Of course, if she proves unworthy of a nurse's diploma during the probation period, she is sent home (if she has such a thing! many girls put themselves through training on earnings gotten in other professions), and the noble hospital staff feels compensated for her short presence by the amount of work squeezed out of her body. Why shouldn't the hospital furnish these necessities?

At a certain large and very beautiful hospital in San Francisco, I've seen nurses expelled from the training school twenty days and three weeks before they were to receive their diplomas. The

charges? In one case, the theft of a pair of stockings from another nurse, and in the other, a secret marriage contracted three weeks before graduation. Both of these girls were splendid nurses, honest and conscientious in their work. The nurse who committed the theft came of extremely poor parents, and PERHAPS IF SHE HAD BEEN PAID MORE THAN TEN DOLLARS A MONTH, SHE WOULD NOT HAVE HAD TO RESORT TO THIEVERY FOR A PAIR OF HOSE! As for the marriage, did this legal alliance with a respectable man in any way lower the standard of her nursing?

### Dismiss Many Girls

At this same hospital, it was a common occurrence to see nurses dismissed after six, eight, ten and twelve months' training. The charges were too often ridiculous, and the result of being "framed" by superiors who for some petty reason had resolved to get the girl out of the school.

If, after being dismissed from a training school, the student nurse has not the funds nor heart to transfer, she faces the prospect of registering as an undergraduate,

and doing practical nursing. And don't for one minute think that she is admitted to register at the first class hospitals! She takes home cases for whatever she can get, and is often nurse, cook, laundress, and janitor, or she does general duty in a small-town hospital or asylum. THESE SMALL HOSPITALS NEARLY ALL R E E K O F NURSES' BLOOD THAT IS SWEATED OUT UNDER THE CONDITION OF LONG HOURS AND SMALL WAGES.

### Dr. Morton Hoodwinks Girls

There is Dr. Morton running a training school in San Francisco, and nurses who step forth with one of his diplomas are barred from taking the state board examinations. Unfortunately for these women, Dr. Morton became involved in a criminal operation several years ago, and his nurses have no standing, but the doctor goes on practising and filling his pockets. Why is Dr. Morton allowed to run this training school, and hood-wink poor girls into training who more than likely don't know of the existence of a state board examination at the time of their entrance into his hospital? Graduate

(Continued on page 6)

## Family of 12 Is Evicted as Baby Dies of Sickness

Evicted by a Tammany city marshal, Mrs. Lena Breur, 253 Simonsen Avenue, Staten Island, New York, clung frantically to her baby that died as a result of the exposure and misery of the eviction.

Nine other children tugged at her skirts as they stood in the road and watched the marshal throw their furniture into the street.

### Husband Jobless

Her husband, Henry Breur, an automobile mechanic, had been unemployed and unable to pay the rent on the house since May 15.

### A Cruel Landlord

When the landlord threatened to evict the family, Mrs. Bruer tearfully pleaded for a few days grace because of the illness of the baby. But the landlord, like all others, refused and ordered the marshal to throw out the family. As a result the baby, already sick and feeble from undernourishment died.

# Women Silk Strikers in Paterson, N. J. Tell of Hunger Wages, Speed-up in the Shops

## Weavers' Wages Cut by More Than Half in 3 Years

### Women Are Fighters on Picket Line

PATERSON, N. J. — Three years ago when I started to work in the Newtex Silk Mill I was making \$72.00 for two weeks, working 8 hours a day. Now I am working harder, and at the end of two weeks the highest pay in the mill is \$36.00 for two weeks for weavers. Many of us make as little as \$17.00 for two weeks. In time when it was slow, the boss made us work on one loom making as little as \$1.00 a day. In the past year the wages of the weavers were cut several times, the boss telling us a hard luck story every time. Now it seems no more possible to cut as there is almost nothing to cut from—

### Joined National Textile Workers Union

Now we are all out on strike, joined the N.T.W.U. and will stick together until we will win. Our boss knows that when the workers are united it is not good for him, so he tried to call some of us in by letter to talk over settlement. We had a meeting of the shop and decided to have another meeting of all the workers, elect a committee of all crafts to present our demands to the boss. We will not let the boss fool us—we will prove to him that we can stand together, that women can be as good fighters as the men and that we mean to fight till we win.

### Greek Communist Party Electoral Successes

A by election took place on the 5th of July in Mytiline on the island of Lesbos to fill the seat of Minister Carapanayotis who was compelled to resign as the result of the exposure of corruption in his administration. The government candidate received 10,500 votes, the communist candidate received 4,680 votes, the Republican candidate received 3,689 votes, and the Liberal Dissident candidate received 3,298 votes. The Communist Party has thus become the second strongest party.

This is the second important electoral success of the Greek Communist Party recently. At the time the bourgeois press comforted itself by declaring that in any case Salolika was the stronghold of Communism in Greece. The result in Mytilene is very significant in view of the fact that the Communist Party in the town is organizationally weak.

Referring to the result of the election, Veniselos expressed satisfaction at the victory of the government candidate, but pointed warningly to the growth of communist influence. He declared that a united front of all the bourgeois parties was necessary against the communist danger.

## Poor Ky. Farmer Is Forced to Give His Child for Adoption

Shrout, a poor farmer of Winchester, Ky., was forced to give his seventh child away for adoption because he could not support her.

So bad are conditions here that Mrs. Shrout is forced to work for \$3 a week cooking for someone else and to take care of one child. The rest of the children are on the farm where Shrout is desperately trying to make ends meet to keep them alive.



WOMAN TEXTILE STRIKER—Arrested in Pawtucket, R. I., for militancy on the picket line in Rhode Island strike.

## Girls Picket at E. 19th St. Shops

### Bosses for Associated Workers Join the Nat'l Textile

PATERSON, N. J. — Monday morning our pickets were picketing on E. 19th St. One of them was an employee of the shop and she was immediately noticed by the bosses when she called out the daughters and friends of the bosses, not to scab on the workers.

"Why does this girl annoy me with the N.T.W.U. picketeers," the boss said, "why can't she join the Associated as the rest of my employees have done? "They don't bother my daughters. If she comes here for her pay or belongings I shall kick her down the stairs.

From this we can see who is the friend of the workers, and which union the bosses favor—we know what is good for the bosses is not good for the workers. JOIN THE NATIONAL TEXTILE WORKERS UNION AND FIGHT THE BOSSES, the U.T.W. Associated and the police, until the strike is won.

A Striker.

## Weavers Pay Cut at Levine Silk

### Workers Join the Nat'l Textile

PATERSON, N. J. — I am a weaver from Levine Silk Shop—a woman worker. There were twelve workers in our shop—4 women, 8 men. We used to get six cents for 72 picks, but the boss decided that he should make more profits and so he began to cut our prices and before the strike was called he cut the price to 5 cents for 72 picks—while we used to make \$72.00 for 2 weeks, the pay was cut down to \$50.00. This was to lower our standard of living.

We, the workers are now members of the National Textile Workers Union and we will fight to win our demands.

### PERKASIE WEAVERS WIN STRIKE

PERKASIE, Pa. — Weavers at the Vanhouten Silk Mills struck at a wage cut and forced the company to increase the yardage rates.

## MOST GIRLS AT MARYLAND SILK MILL ARE OUT

### Associated Silk Workers Officials Have No Picketing at Shops

PATERSON, N. J. — I am a striker of the Maryland Silk Mill, a member of the N.T.W.U. Our workers together with other pickets from the U.F.G.S.C. picketed the shop and we then decided to have a meeting of our shop. I had a few other workers tried to persuade to workers to meet in our hall, but the majority wanted to meet at the U.T.W. hall. We had a meeting there and some of the workers registered with them. We were asked to join the union too—Although the majority of us were at the meeting, still there was no shop committee or shop chairman elected. After we left the hall,

some of the workers who registered with the Associated decided to go up and see what the boss has to say—he told them that he could not give in to any of our demands but all he could offer us is police protection. He told us to come back to work the next day or he would close the mill down for three months. Some of the workers decided to come in to work the next day.

### Most Girls Stay Out

I notified the National Textile Workers Union and the Associated about this and both promised to send a picket line in the morning. In the morning many of the work-

## Green Throwing Co. Women on Strike Against Low Pay

### Had to Keep Going on \$12.00 Weekly

PATERSON, N. J.—The workers of our plant, the Green Throwing Co. went out on strike at the call of the UNITED FRONT GENERAL STRIKE COMMITTEE. We did not know very much about the committee or Union, and so we drew up our own demands and presented them to the boss. The boss would not listen to us and tore up our demands.

The women in this plant work as winders, piece work, making about 90 cents a day, although we used to make \$12.00 a week, which is little enough. On this we have to live and often keep up a family. We now realize we can win only when we stick together with the rest of the workers under the leadership of the National Textile Workers Union.

All the workers, men and women should stick together. Come out on the picket line—Then only will we win our demands for decent living conditions.

### FIGHT EVICTIONS IN COAL REGION

MAYNARD, Ohio — About three weeks ago I got notice to move from the Company house. I made no intentions of moving until the boss came over and started his men by carrying my furniture out. They carried it out the front way. I got my gang and we carried the furniture in the back way so they simply got tired and quit carrying it out so fight hard one but all.

A Miner.

### Protests Against Anti-Jewish Pogroms

VIENNA.—The Communist Balkan Federation has issued an appeal against the anti-Jewish pogroms organized by the chauvinist and fascists bands in Salokina. The appeal registers the responsibility of the Veniselos government for the fascist anti-semitic excesses and calls upon the toilers of all nationalities and religions to unite against the joint enemy—capitalism.

### FARMERS GET 38c A BUSHEL FOR WHEAT

(By a Worker Correspondent)  
WIDDLETOWN, Ind. — Wheat threshing now. Long hours, 4 a. m. to 8 or 9 at night. Elevators paying 38 cents a bushel. And there is good chance that they will not be able to handle nearly all of it at that scandalously low figure. Glorious and prosperous U.S.A.—Farmer.

## NEWS of the MONTH

### Harlan Court Holds Wakefield

HARLAN, Ky.—Jessie London Wakefield, representative of the International Labor Defense was arrested, charged with criminal syndicalism and held for \$10,000 bail. When told by the police and the capitalist court that she would be released if she would leave the country, she refused.

### Farmers Pledge Aid to Miners

BONETRAIL, N. D.—At a picnic of 900 farmers, their wives and children, Ell Reeve (Mother) Bloor spoke on the mine strike. All pledged solidarity of the farmers and warmers' wives in the miners' struggle against the starvation.

### Women Active in Paterson Strike

In the strike of the mill workers at Paterson, N. J., under the leadership of the National Textile Workers Union, women workers have shown spirited resistance to police attacks on the picket lines. On August 13th, when police broke up the parade and mass meeting of the NTWU two women, B. Salzberg and Lillian Saltzberg were among the six workers who were arrested and beaten. Mother Bloor speaking at a strike meeting brought greetings to the silk strikers from the farmers of the Northwest.

### 110,000 Chicago Toilers in Funeral

A mass outpouring of more than 110,000 Negro and white workers in Chicago to honor the memory of three Negro workers killed by Chicago police by orders of Negro and white landlords and the Cermak administration, marched thru the streets of the South Side, Saturday, August 8.

The three workers were shot down in cold blood by the police when they resisted an eviction of an aged Negro woman.

The fight against evictions, for immediate cash relief for the jobless has been strengthened and thousands of other Negro and white workers have taken the place of their stricken comrades.

### CONDITIONS IN OHIO COAL FIELDS

Dear Fellow Workers:  
The conditions here in Ohio are rotten. Children need clothes, shoes and what's more food to eat; they are starving. A father comes home pay day with \$1.45 after the rent is paid and power bill that is what we bring home, \$1.45. Children need clothing and are out on picket line bare-footed and still they can call out and say give us some bread and butter. Poor children.

### A Miner's Wife

SIX CENTS FEEDS PRISONERS  
DETROIT.—The county jail authorities here boast that they have reduced the cost of a meal from 8.9 cents to 6.6.

A Striker.

# 100,000 JOBLESS WOMEN and GIRLS IN NEW YORK CITY FACE STARVATION

## Hunger, Strain, Misery, Prostitution Takes Heavy Toll of Jobless Women

### Fight This Frightful Degradation! Fight For Immediate Jobless Relief

(Continued from page 1)

of capitalism is not given in the report and certainly there is not a hint of it in the capitalist press. But a police official in an unguarded moment blurted out the truth:

"Scores of so-called homes in this section have become houses of prostitution. Most of the people in the neighborhood are out of work. Women have become prostitutes in their own homes to keep their families from starvation. In some cases, men have gone on the streets to solicit trade for their wives and daughters as the only means of keeping themselves from starvation."

Not only is this true of New York, but the same condition obtains in all industrial and manufacturing centers.

The employers, their government and charity agencies have conspired to force this brutal degradation upon jobless women and girls and wives of jobless workers.

#### Charities Foster Degradation

Writing from San Francisco, a worker correspondent of the "Daily Worker" tells how a charity worker plays the despicable role of suggesting prostitution to a young wife who had applied for relief. The correspondence as published in the "Daily Worker" of Saturday, July 25, is as follows:

"The Associated Charities here (San Francisco) shows the vile depths of which they are capable by suggesting prostitution to starving women as a means of keeping themselves and families alive.

"A young mother applied to the Charities for aid declaring her husband had been out of work for months and her children starving.

"Being a good charity mantron the woman in charge, easily found an excuse to withhold any help to the desperate family, but she was on the job with a 'helpful' suggestion. Suggested she: 'You are rather pretty. I don't see any reason why you couldn't make a few dollars if you are in need.'

"The young woman became very indignant at the obnoxious suggestion and proceeded to tell the charity dispenser what she thought of her and her idea. Whereupon bouncers were called and the young woman thrown out into the streets where she told her story to passerby."

#### Jobless Young Girls Degraded

What becomes of the thousands of New York's unemployed women and girls? Where do they find food, clothing and shelter and how do they manage to exist?

The story of the suffering, the depth of misery into which tens of thousands of jobless women, especially the single working women or girls, have been forced into, will never be fully told. Only here and there, by accidental flare ups, does the plight of the jobless woman become known.

The sordid story of how two unemployed working girls, hungry, in despair, were forced to sell themselves to underworld characters in return for something to eat and a place to sleep, was broken rather accidentally.

...Police broke into a flat inhabited by small time gunmen in Brooklyn and accidentally stumbled on the girls there, whom the tabloids immediately dramatized as "gun molls" and underworld women.

But the girls told their own story in a damning indictment against capitalism forcing jobless women into depths of degradation and misery.

The two girls, Jean McCuen, 20, and Margaret Walsh, 19, are daughters of an unemployed tailor and farmer respectively.

"We're just gunmen's molls. That's what the police call us. Well, let me tell it. Both of us went straight until we couldn't get any kind of jobs had nothing to eat, no place to sleep, no way of doing anything, only jump in the river. Why we didn't I don't know.

"These boys had a flat. They offered us a place to sleep, something to eat. Of course, you know what went with that. What's a working girl to do when she can't get work?

"I didn't know these men," Jean McCuen said, "Margaret didn't know. Neither of us had any affection for the men we were with. They just used us—that's all. So if you to know how gun molls get to be gun molls, get the story.

"Do you know what I got for my virtue? A hamburger sandwich and a bottle of milk. I was starving."

Jean McCuen and Margaret Walsh told they had worked as long as they could fight regular employment but had been unemployed now for a long time.

The stories of many more hundreds forced into this horrible degradation is not told by the capitalist press.

Trained by the same system that now condemns them to slow hunger, daily misery and personal degradation, to hide their misery in dark back rooms, in silence, so as not to admit their plight, unemployed women and girls have not been as active as they could be in the Unemployed Councils, in the demonstrations for unemployment relief, in the great struggle for social insurance.

The conditions described above are becoming worse and during winter the misery will be even greater than it is now. Unemployed women and girls must throw themselves into the fight for immediate unemployment insurance in a struggle against the added misery and horrors forced on helpless jobless women.



## Conditions Forcing Women Into Prostitution

By M. S.

"Sure, I'm a prostitute or whatever you want to call me. What do you expect me to do, lay down and die? Do you know that I did not work for a whole year, and then I got a job in Macy's Cafeteria for \$5.00 a week. I'll tell you how I got that way if you want to listen."

A young girl of sixteen, arrested as a prostitute, faced the social worker in the children's court in anger. She was asked to tell the rest of her story.

She said she had a chance. Her father died when she was young. Her mother had to work day and night to make ends meet for the six children. The kiddies were always alone. Once they were put in an orphan asylum because the police said they were neglected.

#### Bad Home Conditions

When they came home things weren't any better. She remembers her mother was always tired and angry and hit the children when they asked for anything.

Once a man in the street promised to buy her a new dress, so she went to his house. Later she was arrested and put in a girl's school. When she was released a social worker told her to go to a trade school and that it was necessary to earn a living to go straight.

But she couldn't afford to go to trade school and her mother nagged her to work because she had no strength left in herself.

#### Weak for Lack of Food

For a whole year she looked without success. During the day her feet ached, she grew weak for lack of food and looked enviously at the beautiful clothes in the department stores.

Nights her mother screamed with fatigue. The social worker told her to keep up her courage. One day she burst out, "Courage for what? To starve!... I'm sick and tired of it all. I'm going to take my chances and get money and food to eat and decent clothes for a change. It's my business hwo."

#### \$5.00 A Week Pay

She got a job in Macy's cafeteria finally for \$5 a week but what good was that?

Not quite sixteen she accepted the offer of a man in a street car and did not return home for several months. She was discovered living in a furnished room and admitted to relations with several men. She was arrested. The judge considered her fresh because she told him she was forced to do what she did.

The story of this girl is multiplied many times in the files of so-

cial workers and increases in the number of girl sex offenders are reported constantly unemployed, starving, living in miserable quarters, underfed and poorly clothed when working at starvation wages, many young girls take this way out.

And the society which deprives them of the barest necessities arrests them for violating the "morals" of society. Working mothers are called "unfit guardians."

#### Fight This Horror

Working mothers, your daughters are not to blame. You are not to blame. Capitalist society creates prostitution as a solution to unemployment and then in true hypocritical fashion acts outraged and throws the burden on its victims.

Working class mothers! Organize and fight for better living conditions.

Young working girls and women! There is another way out. You do not have to sell your bodies. You can organize against the bosses, against wage cuts, for unemployment insurance, for the right to live as human beings.

## International Notes

#### Congress of Working Women In Hannover

BERLIN, Germany.—A congress of working women has taken place in Hannover. 156 delegates were present. Six social-democratic women were amongst the delegates. A Communist member of the Reichstag delivered the main speech at the congress. 22 women spoke in the discussion. Two social-democratic working women joined the Communist Party. The main resolution of the congress was unanimously adopted.

#### Strike and Lock-Out in Traisen

VIENNA.—400 working women have gone on strike in the zinc works in Markt-Traisen. The employers have answered by locking out the whole staff so that 700 men and women are now on the streets. The management of the firm has posted up notices calling for the immediate calling off of the strike and threatening that otherwise the works would be completely closed down for an indefinite period and all orders sent to Germany.

The strike is under the leadership of the revolutionary trade union opposition. The reformist trade union refuses to support the strikers and calls on them to re-

## Practical Nurses Are Worked Long Hours in Hospitals

(Continued from page 4)

ates from this hospital can either go on working for Dr. Morton for cheaper wages, or be interviewed by the osteopaths.

The osteopaths of this state have fattened their purses on the labor of undergraduate nurses. They are barred from the M.D.'s hospitals, and as a result their own small hospitals have sprung into existence. The small hospital is always run with a shortage of funds. The osteopath is "bucking" the M.D., and frequently offers cheaper rates as an inducement to the patient. The undergraduate nurse makes these cheaper rates possible with her long hours and low wages. In this state, there is a small hospital operated by osteopaths, where undergraduate nurses only a short time ago did twenty-four hour duty on general, were paid sixty-five & seventy five doll. a month, and were responsible for their own laundry bills. The accommodating doctors very kindly had a night bell installed in the nurses' room, and when this little instrument of torture tinkled, the nurse roused herself, donned a robe over her nightie or pajamas, and sallied forth to "cool fevered brows."

#### Worked Long Hours

Frequently, one hears that these undergraduate, or practical, nurses are paid all they are worth, and that they are incompetent. Perhaps they don't come up to the standard of the graduate nurses in all cases, but aren't they filling the places? Does the fact that they lack a diploma justify hospitals in working them overtime? One doesn't hear the doctors who employ these nurses telling the patients that they are undergraduates. No Sire-ee! He says they are graduates, and has them keeping the floors warm with caps on their heads!

More power to the "Working Woman," and here's hoping more workers will come to realize that Communism is their Defender. Graduate Nurse.

turn to work. The strikers demand a wage increase of 20 percent. The women workers have been out under revolutionary leadership since the 6th of July.

#### Illega Women's Demonstration

BERLIN, Germany.—An illegal demonstration of over 300 working women took place yesterday in Herdeck in the Ruhr dist., against the Emergency Decree. The police appeared on the scene too late to make any arrests.

#### School Strike in Duisburg and Hamborn

BERLIN, Germany.—A school strike has broken out led by the Young Pioneers against the victimization of a progressive teacher. 800 children are out in Duisburg and Hamborn.

#### KU KLUX-KLAN RAIDS GREENVILLE ORGANIZER

GREENVILLE, S. C.—The Ku Klux Klan, association of petty capitalists and lackeys of the bosses, raided the rooms of Clara Holden, organizer of the Trade Union Unity League here and took everything but the furniture. There were 200 of them and they told the landlady of the rooming house that they would "get" the organizer next.

# Dinner for a Dime Starvation Menu for Kentuckians

By CAROLINE DREW  
Dinner for a dime! This is the American standard of living recommended by the coal barons for the pure Anglo-Saxon coal miners and their families in the mountains of Kentucky. Pick up any capitalist newspaper in the state of Kentucky and you will find these ads.

The miners of Kentucky have been working and starving. They have been going into the mines one, two, and three days a week, and working under the clean-up system, which means that they have to load coal until the cut is cleaned up, sometimes 8 hours before dinner and 8 hours after.

All winter men, women and children starved. The commissaries (company stores) refused to give them scrip for food. They begged

for the week. The UMW acted true to form. They sold out the workers, they betrayed over a hundred local leaders who were framed on charges of murder, banding and confederating, criminal syndicalism. They never gave relief.

In spite of the betrayal the miners were not crushed. They realized that they had to go on fighting. They tried to get in touch with the Communist Party. They had not heard of the militant National Miners Union, because the operators had carefully kept all references to the NMU out of the Kentucky coal fields, and all the capitalist papers kept the NMU out of their pages.

The I.W.W. came into the field. Some of the most militant sold beans from their gardens and got

## Mine Women in Fight Against the Hunger in Fields

At the Ohio Women's Conference the discussion of the women work was of great importance to show how the women in the mining towns understood the struggle of the miners and why the other women must join them in this struggle.

Discussion was as follows:  
**Adena, Ohio, women.** — Bosses have kept us under their feet long enough. Nothing in the kitchen, and bosses prattle of prosperity has awakened the workers that there is prosperity for the bosses who speak about it. In the last bosses' war a certain young man out West where I lived was sent off to war, leaving a young wife and child behind. Then our wonderful government sent this young man back he had no feet or arms, and was turned over to his wife to take care of him. The government refused in court to give anything to this veteran. This young wife in court shot herself for she saw that it was impossible for her to support him all his life.

War is not for the workers but is the bosses' fight who make big profits by it.

I was in the mine where my husband works, and when I saw under what conditions he works, I certainly will not let him go into the mines now when we have a chance to win this strike. The workers must now organize or else they will soon be working for 10c a ton of coal. If we do not win this strike we know what conditions we will have later. If we are expected to improve our conditions we must fight to the finish and defeat the starvation of the bosses.

**Maynard, Ohio, women.** — Men have slavery and not decent jobs. Courts do not give workers any justice but always let the bosses tell them what to do with an arrested worker. When we ask the arrest of a scab for carrying a gun the deputy tells us that it is not our business. When we ask

in the Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia coal fields and determined to set up kitchens for the starving miners and their families in Kentucky.

The miners of Kentucky responded quickly to the program of the N.M.U. and today the members of the NMU in the states of Kentucky and Tennessee number into the thousands. Three women's auxiliaries have been set up. Six National Miners Union Relief Kitchens have been established.

All this work was accomplished in spite of extreme terror, over a thousand armed gangsters imported from every state in the union, and criminals let out on \$25,000 bail which was paid by the coal operators.

Hundreds of militant miners' homes are raided over and over again. Many are thrown into jail on all kinds of fake charges. Jesse London Wakefield, representative

## NEGRO WOMEN and THE ELECTIONS

By SADIE VAN VEEN  
The Scottsboro case is now a world famous case. The nine Negro boys framed up on a fake charge and facing death in Alabama are symbolic of the terror against the Negro masses in this country.

Almost as well known as the case itself are the mothers of the young boys now touring the country and telling in the simple language of the South the whole terrible case against their children.

These Scottsboro mothers are for relief from the county they tell us to go to the poor house. We are willing to work for a decent living wage and do not want to go to any poor house.

**Dillonvale, Ohio, women.** — I have lived in Bradley in one house for seven years. The rent I paid to the company could buy that house twice. But now I have been evicted because the bosses do not like to have me active in organizing the women. I have seven children and I will continue to struggle together with them until we win this fight. When I was being evicted I asked the boss to pay for my garden. He told me to put it on my back and take it with me, altho he really wanted me to leave it as it was so that when the scabs moved in they would have goods from the garden. The boss certainly did not get this pleasure out of my hard labor. Sometimes the cops come and raid the houses of certain active miners on the pretense of liquor. But when they find any kind of union literature they arrest the miner. Women as well as men must fight against these conditions.

**Dillonvale, Ohio, woman.** — I have been evicted from the company house. I really never was very anxious to live in a company house. I am willing to live anywhere now just to win this strike. All women Negro and white must be active in all picket lines if we intend to keep our ranks solid and win this fight.

for the International Labor Defense, is kept in jail for daring to give food to the wives and families of the miners in jail, and for helping in the case. Negro miners have been beaten and shot at. A price has been set on the heads of the organizers. The relief kitchen in Evarts has been completely destroyed by the thugs, and all the other kitchens have been threatened. Still the work goes on and the NMU continues to grow.

The miners, their wives and children in Kentucky are engaged in a militant struggle for a chance to live. The struggle cannot be won unless the working men and women all over the country help them. Food must be rushed in, funds must come forward for defense. Workingclass women! Help the Kentucky Miners and their families. Send funds to the Penn.-Ohio-W.Va-Ky. Striking Miners Relief Committee, 611 Penn. Ave., Room 205, Pittsburgh, Pa.

also typical of the whole struggle of the black race. These mothers are well aware that not only their own children are in immediate danger of death at the hands of a Ku Klux Klan court but that tens of thousands of other Negro mother's sons are in danger of the rope, the chain, the flames or the electric chair.

What is the life of millions of Negro mothers in the United States?

They are used for the dirtiest hardest work. Their pay is not enough to feed themselves and pay their rent let alone to feed the children. In the South Negro women are the wives and mothers of share croppers. They work all day in the burning sun. They live in boxes that are called houses. They know nothing but toil and worry and hardships. Added to this is fear, day and night, of slave drivers, planters and landlords.

The terror against the Negro masses finds its most frightful expression in the South but in the North the Negroes are also jim-crowed and persecuted. The Negro masses and particularly the women get the hardest meanest work in factories shops and restaurants. They receive lower pay and worse treatment than the white workers.

**Many Women Jobless**  
At the present time hundreds of thousands of Negro women are out of work. Turn this way and that they can't get enough to feed the children. In despair they turn to the charities only to find that they can get no help there either. The greedy landlords evict workers by the thousands throwing them and their furniture and their children on the street winter or summer, it is all the same to the real estate sharks. Unemployed mothers, starving babies mean nothing to them.

The government of the landlords and bosses fights the Negro masses. The billionaire government drafted the Negro boys for death in the great war but will do nothing to help the unemployed mothers. And they will take their boys again for the next war.

The Republican, Democratic and Socialist parties all stand together with the lynching and jim-crow policy of the government. They all stand for the rule for the billionaires.

Only the Communist Party fights for the Negro masses. The Communist Party fights for race equality. Millions of white and Negro mothers in the United States are wondering how they are going to feed their children this winter. The Communist Party organizes the masses to fight for unemployment insurance and against evictions.

The Communist Party is the party of the working class Negro and white.

Working women, Negro and white, get behind the party of your class. Vote Red in the coming elections. Vote Communist.

# DINNER

## FOR A DIME

18 OZ. LOAF BREAD  
—AND A CAN OF PINTO BEANS

# 10c

**WHITE STORES** Home Owned

from the Red Cross, from farmers, from neighbors who still had a can of berries, put up the summer before without sugar. When spring came the coal companies charged them rent for a piece of land to plant a garden. Every miner in Kentucky has to be a farmer as well as a miner in order to eat. Some of these gardens are way up on the mountain sides.

**Miners Want to Organize**  
When the United Mine Workers came into the field last winter and talked organization, the miners became very thoughtful. They wanted to struggle, they could not go on working and starving, but the past betrayals of these fakers were still keen in their memories. They did not know any other union and so decided to try again.

The miners did not consult their women folk. The women in Kentucky have always been taught to take care of home and babies. The UMW fakers never considered the women. But the conditions, the starvation, that fact that there was nothing to cook in the house, and the children starving and ragged, froed the women to say what they thought. Many told their men they better watch out or the fakers would once again run away with their dollars which they gave at great sacrifice of flour for biscuits

a dollar for an IWW card. But the IWW had no program, had no policy of struggle. They did not want the leaders in jail to have a labor trial, instead their policy was to fight the case just as a murder trial. The miners became disgusted and said they would form their own union.

**Take to National Miners Union**  
Just about this time the National Miners Union organizer succeeded in spite of the terror, the militia, the operators and the thugs, in reaching some of the militant Kentucky miners. He explained the policies of the rank and file union, and invited them to send delegates to the conference in Pittsburgh July 15-16. Twenty-eight Kentucky delegates attended and were so impressed with the policies and work of the NMU that they all asked to join and determined to go back to Kentucky and build up a real miners union, that never die, under real militant leadership.

The program of the N.M.U. for the organization of the miners wives and daughters especially impressed the delegates, and they were determined to go back and organize their families and the families of all miners.

The delegates were also impressed with the relief kitchens



Scenes from the mine-fields in Western Pennsylvania. Left, women active in the strike. Center, men peeling potatoes for the relief kitchen. Right, children before the kitchen

# WORKING WOMEN SHOULD VOTE COMMUNIST TO STRENGTHEN STRUGGLE ON STARVATION!

By I. AMTER

"The snake of Communism must be uprooted from our community," thus spoke the judge in Harlan County, Kentucky, on August 18, when 35 miners were brought to trial for fighting against the slave conditions in the Kentucky mines.

The bosses don't like the Communists. The bosses don't like anybody who fights for the workers. The bosses call every worker, man or woman, white or Negro, who fights for his class and the interests of this class, a Red, a Communist.

What are the Communists fighting for? They are fighting for unemployment relief and insurance at the expense of the bosses and their government. They are fighting against evictions and the high cost of food. Is there anything wrong about this? The bosses says so—they would rather let the workers die in the streets or feed them charity slop than grant them unemployment relief. The Communists are fighting for unemployment relief and insurance. And for this they are called "snakes."

### Fight Against Wage Cuts

The Communists are fighting against wage cuts, long hours, speed-up. They are building up the fighting industrial unions of the Trade Union Unity League, to compel the bosses to pay decent wages, to get 7 hour day and to abolish speed-up; to put an end to child labor and hunger and misery. The bosses want to put the workers on charity rations, work them to death in a few years and then throw them on the scrap heap and pull the young workers into the shops. The Communists are fighting against this. And for this they are called "snakes!"

The Communists are fighting against persecution of the foreign-born. The bosses refuse to give a job to unemployed foreign-born or Negro workers unless they promise to vote for the bosses' machine. The foreign-born workers who lived in hell in the old country and came here, as they expected, to escape from it, now face hunger. When they fight against this misery, they face deportation. The Communist are organizing the workers to fight against the persecution of the foreign-born workers. And for this they are called "snakes!"

The Communists are building up fighting organizations of white and Negro workers to put an end to the jim-crowism, segregation and lynching of the Negroes. The Communists go into the solid South of the Ku Klux Klan, and organize the workers and poor tenant farmers, white and Negro, to fight against the beastly conditions. The bosses don't want the white and Negro workers organized together in the north or south but want to use one against the other. The Communists are fighting to unite the ranks of the white and Negro workers to fight for Negro rights. And for this they are called "snakes!"

### Against Bosses Wars

The Communists are organizing and mobilizing the workers, men and women, against another bosses' war. The U. S. government is spending billions of dollars for war, but refuse to give one penny for the unemployed. A new world war will mean tens of millions of working class sons killed, crippled and injured. It will mean the destruction of cities and whole populations by airplanes dropping bombs, gases, bacteria on them. It will mean the most terrible suffering. The Communists are fighting against a new imperialist slaughter and are preparing the workers for this fight. And for this, they are called "snakes!"

The Communists tell the workers that there is no need of continuing the misery of the present system. Why should men and women workers and their families hunger, when there is plenty of

food? Why should millions toil, millions go without work, only to let the bosses make profits? Why should jails, policemen's clubs, tear gas, murder at the hands of the bosses' thugs continue? Why should the war face us and our sons? The Communists tell the workers that this is not necessary. The workers must be organized to put an end to the system that breeds misery for the workers and poor farmers, and put up a workers' and peasants' government in this country, like the Government of the Soviet Union, where the workers and peasants control. The bosses fear the Soviet Government of the workers and peasants and therefore they are preparing to destroy it. The Communists are organizing for defense of the Soviet Union and for the overthrow of the bosses' system of starvation. And for this they are called "snakes!"

### Vote Communist!

The miners, textile workers, needle, food, shoe, metal workers, men and women know what hunger means. They know that the workers are fighting against the bosses under the leadership of the Communist. They know that the bosses hate the Communists—because they are the best fighters for the working class.

Women workers! Working Class Housewives! The Communists are our best fighters. Follow them into the struggle. Join the organizations that take part in the fight, the fighting industrial unions of the Trade Union Unity League, the Unemployed Councils, Tenants' Leagues, etc. Join in the election campaign against the bosses and all their parties—the republican, democratic and socialist. Support the party that the bosses call "snakes," because it fights for the workers.

**Fight with the Communists against the bosses—Vote Communist against the bosses! Vote as you fight—vote for your class! Vote for the Party which fights for milk for your baby, against evictions and the high price of food, for unemployed relief and insurance, against wage cuts, long hours and speed-up, against persecution of the foreign-born, against lynching of the Negroes, against another imperialist war, for defense of the Soviet Union.** This is the working class program of the Communist Party—the Party of your class. But for this they call us "snakes!"

We are not afraid of their names! We know that the bosses fear the Communists. They fear all fighters—for fighters become revolutionists, Reds, Communists.

Women Workers: Red is the color of your class. Red is the color of your party. The Communist Party fights for your interests. Support your party!

**Fight and Vote Communist! Join the Communist Party!**

### WOMEN DELEGATE MEET IN PATERSON

PATERSON, N. J.—The first Women's Shop Delegate conference was held on Monday, August 24, at Turn Hall. 28 delegates were present representing 12 shops the Women's Councils, and IWO, and the Singing Society. Comrade Pauline Rogers who has just returned from the Soviet Union, gave a report on the shop delegate meetings that are held in the Soviet Union, Germany and England. The delegates left the meeting with full determination that the next meeting in two weeks' time will have at least 75 delegates representing as many mills from this city. The meeting also went on record to organize a study group on Trade Union Problems.

The shop delegate meetings will become one of the major methods of organizing the women both in the mills, and shops.

## How the Women of the East Were Freed

By ANNA JONES

Negro working women of America will be specially interested in the story of the emancipation of colored women of the Soviet Union. These women belong in every case to a small nation or group which were living under primitive, sometimes tribal conditions.

Some tribes had no fixed dwelling place, but were nomads, moving from place to place. Others were bound by the shackles of religion to an existence of life behind the scenes of tribal activity. Warring veils, waiting hand and foot on their husbands, always in the background, working day in and day out.

They were not considered as individuals, they were not consulted in the affairs of the tribe, and they could not even eat at the table with their husbands. Their whole life was considered in relation to men. As girls they were some man's daughter, as married women, they were some man's wife, they bore children, they were some man's child's mother.

All of this has been changed by the coming of teachers and organizers from the North. Slowly, by meetings in the homes, through collecting of the handwork of the women and its sale, by one means or another, the women were given interests outside of their home. Then they were drawn to clubs and classes and study circles.

This work has gone on to such an extent and for so long a period that all over this region in many national groups masses of women are entering the life of the community. A considerable body of women and girls has been developed also who are trained to carry on the work among their own people in this region.

Such a revolution was not accomplished without much sacrifice. The work was dangerous, the life was hard, the traveling was primitive and uncomfortable. The men folks, as was to be expected, resisted this movement, and in some cases, killed organizers and the militant women of their families.

But even this did not stop the dauntless crusaders from the North in their work of freeing their sisters. Every year sees more and more women leaving the narrow confines of a tribal household and a religion which dooms them to a joyless life of drudgery. Their entrance into a free life is symbolized by groups of them casting the veils, which religious custom bound them to wear, into huge bonfires built in the center of their little villages.

### Cleveland Women Aid Mine Relief

(By a Worker Correspondent)

CLEVELAND, O. — A few months ago a women's branch of the International Workers Order was organized. These women are yet few in number but very militant and loyal to the workingclass.

They have been very active in miners relief work, haven't missed a week and the food that collected certainly is appreciated.

Thursday, August 20, a miners relief women's conference is called at 5607 St. Clair. Working women both colored and white are active in the work of organizing and getting relief.

A good women's conference was organized at 14101 Kinsman Road and the women have already collected both food and money.

## "Working Woman" Drive for 1,000 New Subscribers and Sustaining Fund

Thousands of copies of the "Working Woman" have been eagerly received in the minefields of Pennsylvania and Ohio, where the miners wives have been fighting heroically side by side with their men against the attacks of the mine owners. In the present silk strike in Paterson the "Working Woman" has been spreading the message of organization and solidarity to the women workers who constitute 50 per cent of the textile workers.

The "Working Woman" has been reaching shops and factories, many farms and homes, but it is only at the beginning of the road toward the building of a mass working women's paper in the U. S.

The attacks on the working class are becoming sharper from day to day, and therefore the "Working Woman" must become a powerful weapon in the hands of the working women to fight these growing attacks upon them. The paper must talk to more women in the factories, it must spread its message of organization to all sections of the country where working women are exploited.

### RENEW OLD SUBS

We are at the point now where we must have more subscribers and the means to carry on the publication of the paper. On the 15th of September we are starting a drive for the "Working Women," the



aim of which shall be 1000 new subscribers, \$1,000 sustaining fund and 50 new worker correspondents. Our paper has already become necessary to thousands of workers throughout the country. Working women in all districts should lead this drive for our paper with the same spirit and energy, with the same enthusiasm with which they lead the picket lines and demonstrations. Subscribers should renew their subs.

### On with the Drive!

1000 new subscribers—\$1000 sustaining fund.  
A beautiful Lenin plaque given away with each new subscription!  
Build a mass working women's paper in the U. S.

### HOW TO DO IT:

1. Visit and write to old subscribers for renewals.
2. Organize "Working Woman" Committees to sell paper and subs at all indoor and outdoor meetings, conferences, etc.
3. Have regular distribution, sale of the "Working Woman" at factories where women predominate.
4. Visit all women's organizations to get donations.
5. Distribute collection lists.
6. Have regular neighborhood house to house collections.
7. Organize an affair—large mass meetings, etc., during the drive.
8. Organize workers correspondence groups in your club.

### The Working Woman

P. O. BOX 87, STATION D, NEW YORK CITY

Enclosed find 50 cents for one year's subscription to The Working Woman.

Name .....

Address .....

City ..... State .....