

# The Working Woman

ALICE PARK COLLECTION

I WORK IN  
CHILDS

By a Waitress



READY FOR  
ACTION

By Katherine Harris



THE UNWANTED  
BABY

By Kartar Dillon



September

1935

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# THE Working Woman

MARGARET COWL, Editor

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## August Strike Wave

SMART society magazines, that sell for fifty cents a copy, tell us that August is the month of hot sun and gay vacations—of seashore breeze and mountain streams. Well—maybe August is a play month for the Barbara Huttons. But not for the southern textile workers, the needle trades' workers, the miners' wives or farm women. For these, August, like any other month, holds the threat of wage-cuts and the consequent need for resisting these wage-cuts.

August, just passed, was such a month. The millionaires vacationing on the coast of Maine, on the exclusive Newport beach, or perhaps on the ultra-ultra Riviera, were dishing out wage-cuts to their slaves at home. But, unfortunately for the play-boy millionaires, the slaves at home were not nearly so eager to provide pleasure for their bosses as they were to provide bread, milk and shoes for their kids. No, the wage-cut idea didn't go over with the workers. Just take a look at the wave of strikes that swept across the country during August.

The Omaha carmen's strike, where the strikers fought so bravely, not only against the street-car bosses, but against police clubs; the Terre Haute General Strike, where the whole labor movement protested the use of government troops against the strikers of the Columbia Enamel plant. In Camden, New Jersey, over 3,000 shipyard workers, aided by their wives and kids, have been on strike for weeks, and have rejected the federal

government's arbitration offer, which did not grant union recognition. The W.P.A. strike against the Roosevelt starvation relief wage where Roosevelt issued his infamous "work or starve" edict, shows that the workers mean business.

### Against Fascism and War

And then the Bremen—the unforgettable Bremen demonstration—where thousands of New York men and women hurled their hatred and anger at the Nazi madmen. We take our hats off to the six heroic seamen, who pulled down the swastika flag—emblem of massacres and misery. Nor can we forget the August 1 demonstrations of Negro and white, shouting, "Hands off Ethiopia, only independent Negro country." Then there is France, where great things are happening these days. On July 14, Socialists, Radical-Socialists, Communists—Catholics, Jews and Protestants, united to keep fascism out of France. And in August the shipyard workers and sailors came out on strike against the 10 per cent wage-cut decreed by the French government.

We women can learn from these strikes and demonstrations that united struggle is the way out for us. The women of Detroit have learned this lesson well, and have put up a stiff fight for reduced meat prices. It is obvious that the things we working women and our families so badly need will not be handed to us on a silver platter—surely not by the Roosevelt government. The things we need we will have to fight for with everything that we've got.

### For a Real Labor Party

September is here, and with it Labor Day. It's up to us to see that this Labor Day is not merely an occasion for speech-making, as has been the practice of the Green leadership in the American Federation of Labor. Labor Day should be a day for mustering all

our forces for effective struggles against wage-cuts, against the high cost of living, for unemployment and maternity insurance, for the defense of our trade unions, and against war preparations.

Let this Labor Day mark the beginning of a movement against those who are responsible for our poverty and suffering—the Roosevelt administration and all other boss-controlled political parties. Roosevelt's promises have turned out to be dust thrown in our eyes to blind us to the realities of his share-the-misery program. The promises of Huey Long and Father Coughlin are the same. Women! Let us no longer rely on these treacherous politicians. Let us join with our men in building a party that will really represent us—a party controlled by trade unions, by farmers' and workers' organizations—a genuine anti-capitalist workers' and farmers' party.

## This is No Joke!

WE want you to know that one hundred subscriptions expired during August. We have notified our readers twice. Many more subscriptions expire in September and we will notify these readers twice, too. Please renew at once! Without your support we cannot expand our magazine as to size and content.

We were forced to drop the color on the front cover over the summer months because it meant extra expense, and our funds were low. Now we are back to color again but—our troubles are not over.

We call on each and every one of you to subscribe yourself, get others to subscribe, renew your subscription when it expires—and to push the sales of the WORKING WOMAN. The need for immediate action is imperative!

Business Manager.

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# I WORK IN



By A Childs Waitress

CHILDs seemed to be a grand place to work to many girls who desire occupation in the food line. So many girls flocked into the employment office to get jobs. I was one of them. After sitting there for a week without results I decided to take matters in my own hands. Without waiting to be called I very bravely walked up to the personnel manager and asked for a job.

Question: "Ever worked for Childs before?"

Answer: "No. But I want to work for a good company such as Childs."

Question: "Nationality?"

Answer: "Irish."

### "The Nation's Host" Prejudiced

The question seemed funny to me at the time not realizing that racial discrimination existed in the company. In other words, anti-Semitism. And so I was given an application blank to fill out. There were questions about age, nationality, religion, health, former job references, and so forth. After filling out the blank I took it up to the personnel manager who carefully read the details, looked up, gave me a careful scrutiny and then must have decided my appearance was presentable. She then told me that no positions as waitress, check girl, or cashier were open, but I could start in the company in a lower position with the promise of promotion if I

showed ability and obedience at my work.

Being in need of work, I decided to take the job. A physical examination was necessary before the job was cinched. After passing the exam, I went back to the office where I received a slip to report to one of their stores. When I asked them about what clothes to wear at work, I was told to get a uniform from the company which furnished the Childs uniform. Not knowing that I had to put out \$4 from my own pocket, I reported at the office. I was told that the uniform could be obtained only by putting out cash for it. Not having the \$4 I asked if I couldn't possibly pay them for it from my first week's salary. "No good," they said.

### Had to Borrow Money

Well I figured I had lost the job unless I could raise the money. After some pretty hard work I persuaded a friend to loan it to me. Starting in at 12 noon and ending up at 8:30 P.M. seemed to be just grand for me and the salary of \$10.50 per week to start! And so began my job in Childs which I thought would be full of promotions and full of promise for better things. Much to my disillusionment, the continuous grind of the first two days almost finished me. What with eight hours steady work on my feet with only a half hour for lunch, I felt

exhausted by the time 8:30 came along. But gradually my feet became calloused and hardened. Working on that position two months I got my first promotion—yes—promotion to me at the time. I was trained to be a waitress. By being trained I mean that I was forced to work ten days without pay and got a percentage of the tips from my "trainer" which amounted to fifty cents per day.

### Addition and Subtraction

By this time I was slowly getting fed-up about the whole job, but I decided to stick it out figuring that I could make it up later when I was a full-fledged waitress. And so I was trained. It was a great thrill for me to get my first "station" as we call them. But not so fast. I was placed on the slowest station in the house where I could only average about 50 to 75 cents per day. But then I had no \$10.50 a week to get by, as my salary was that of a waitress—18 cents per hour. Eighteen times seven equals \$1.26 per day or \$7.56 a week. But again I say not so fast. Due to the fact that the house was busy for lunch and not so busy for dinner I was sent home on an average of two or three days out of six. And so that brought my salary down from \$7.56 a week to about \$3 or \$4 per, plus my tips which were few.

### From Bad to Worse

Not knowing how to fight these conditions I was forced as many others were to just keep on taking it on the chin and not saying anything because complaining was not allowed. They'd just as soon fire you as look at you. About this time the company changed hands. Mr. Childs owing to heavy losses on the stock market could no longer meet his debts, so Mr. Dupont (the munitions manufacturer) one of the richest men in the U.S.A. took Childs over for his own benefit. From then on conditions went from bad to worse. Salaries were slashed from a measly 18 cents per hour to a miserly scale of 11 cents an hour. Plenty of talk and fuss went on between the girls but no one knew how to apply any action to it. Not even I. And here again I was taking it on the chin. Conditions became extremely bad. Hands were changed frequently. Hiring and firing went on at a wholesale rate. Managers and hostesses were

A MAGAZINE FOR WORKING WOMEN, FARM WOMEN AND WORKING CLASS HOUSEWIVES

replaced. The new crew were well picked by the bosses. One word from employees and out they went. We had no protection whatsoever on the job. Older girls were thrown out by the score. Girls who had worked for the company 15 or 20 years were thrown out of a job without warning. A new, younger set were taking their jobs. The strictest rules were enforced. We were supposed to get an hour for lunch, but we got half an hour and

were docked an hours' time.

Conditions serve to open up workers' eyes. Well they opened mine and they opened many others. This was going too far. Some girls began to talk about organizing. But it seemed that they talked too openly and many of them were fired. Not only fired but placed on the black list which is very "popular" in Childs. It keeps you from working in any of the Childs stores, as all hiring is done

at the Sixth Avenue and 33rd Street employment office. This enabled them to keep these girls out of the entire system.

#### Not Fit to Eat

But then the N.R.A. came promising us 19 cents an hour. Yes, very good, our wages were increased. But wait. They take out 50 cents a day for meals. That's worse than before the N.R.A.. Where you got about \$4 a week in wages, we only received \$3 because we had to pay for our meals. And what meals—the left-overs from the day before. Meat that isn't fit to eat many a time. Sometimes we couldn't find anything decent to eat on the employees' menu so we were forced to eat soup and bread or go hungry. And this certainly isn't a fit meal for a girl who has to carry heavy trays and run around on aching feet for eight and sometimes nine hours a day.

We aren't paid for overtime either. We are relieved from duty at 8, but if we have customers to finish we have to stay on our own time—or else??

#### We Need the Union

But something must be done. I and hundreds of others can see that. It's no job where you are paid coolie wages for your labor. Where you have to buy your own uniform. Where you are cheated out of your time and are forced to take time off without pay. Where you are forced to work under the threat of being fired for the slightest move you make or for saying anything in favor of bettering your conditions. We should have protection on our jobs, not where after working for the company for 20 years you are suddenly knocked out because they want younger girls.

Must we take this on the chin as we are taking it forever? I, as a waitress from Childs, say "No."

Girls, I make an appeal to you as one of your fellow workers. Don't take it any longer. Organize and demand decent wages and working conditions. Stand together. Join the Food Workers Union. Let us build our own fighting union. Let's get together and get what is due us.

The address of the Food Workers' Industrial Union is 915 Eighth Avenue, New York, where information on union matters may be had.—Editor.

# Ready for Action

## Farmers' Wives Enter the Struggle



Chappin

"I'm ready to fight now." I heard a tall blonde farmer's wife say at the end of the second day of a stormy Convention of the North Dakota Holiday Convention. This may sound strange coming from a Sunday school teacher, a farmer's wife with a big family, who hadn't left her farm before in 15 years! What did she mean?

Over thirty farm women like her had come to Bismarck, North Dakota. Along with them came over a hundred and fifty militant farmers. They came to take some action at this convention that would protect their homes and their families from the greedy creditors who threaten to deprive every small farmer of all the proceeds of this year's crop, and a decent living until the next crop comes in.

#### The Struggle Begins

No sooner had the convention begun than these farm women witnessed the beginning of a battle that was to continue throughout it. A battle between the militant farmer delegates on the floor, and the smug, smiling politicians from the State Capitol, supported by their wives and stenographers, and some rich farmers who are not facing under-nourishment, eviction, or poverty.

It was a struggle between those who believe that militant action is necessary to protect the living standards of the average farmer, and those who believe that "times are not so bad," that lobbying for legislation is all that is necessary.

#### By Katherine Harris

State officials of the Holiday Association, Peterson, Morgan, and Schumaker, secretary to Congressman Burdick, attempted to railroad and steamroller the whole convention. They packed the program of the three days with speeches by State officials, legislators, Governor Welford, Milo Reno, and so on. They pushed aside discussion by delegates, appointed packed committees, and provided speech after speech of empty words for the supposed entertainment of the delegates.

But the farmers' wives who had been elected as delegates to the convention—who had made great sacrifices to come there in order to find a way out of their present plight—were not content to let this shameful procedure go on without trying to do something about it.

"We didn't come here to listen to that clown"—one woman said to me while State Treasurer Gray was speaking. Another said—"They think we are just a bunch of sheep but we are not and they are going to find it out some day."

#### The Women Get Busy

After the chairman abruptly adjourned the first session fearing the result of discussion on the floor—the women decided to have their own session and their own discussion. They met that first evening, and although practically none of them had even been to a convention before—they decided to do something about it. And they did.

They held a meeting that lasted late that night. "We don't have cream separators to wash tomorrow morning and we'll work all night if we have to, to accomplish something," declared one farmers' wife from Williams County.

They decided to run their session democratically, to add some farmers to the very unrepresentative committees that the dictatorial chairman had appointed—to add farm women, who knew the struggles of the farmers and who knew what action was needed to prevent further misery, to draw up a formal protest that would be read before the whole Convention—a protest of the women against the disgraceful conduct of the Chairman and the state officials. They also decided to draw up a resolution against war.

#### They Enter the Battle

The next day in the Convention, they fought to get the floor for their report. The farm women were not to be defeated! One after another they rose from the floor to insist that the women be given a place on the program to give their report. Finally they won and their protest was read. All of the women whom they had nominated were added to each committee by vote of the convention. Their anti-war resolution was read and unanimously adopted by the whole convention. It is a stirring resolution that will provide the means for organizing a strong anti-war fight throughout the Holiday Association in North Dakota, calling for the setting up of state and

## They Fight for Us

### Angelo Herndon and Mother Bloor Must Have Our Support

By Sasha Small

TWO jails—more than a thousand miles apart—are waiting to receive two heroic people. One is a dinky little country jail way out in Nebraska. The other is not strictly a jail. It's a group of filthy steel cages, or ram-shackle wooden barracks where there are men, chained like beasts, backs bent to toil from sunrise to sunset, day in and day out under the watchful eyes of armed thugs—all its horror summed up in the fearful words—Georgia chain gang.

The two people involved have only one thing in common—their great courage, their hope and their determination to fight on until the goal they are willing to give their freedom and their lives for, is won.

One of the people is quite old in years, and experience. Her spirit is young and ageless. For more than 50 years she has been wherever the stiffest battles of the class war in the United States have been fought—and right on the firing line—with the miners, with the textile workers, with the farmers.

The other, is very young in years, but rapidly aging in experience. Into the 22 years of his life, he has already crowded many experiences. Work in the coal mines, living in the horrible misery of mine patches, jim-crow Negro ghettos in southern cities, successful leadership of black and white unemployed in the city of Atlanta and then 26 months in the brutal dungeon of Fulton Tower prison.

You know their names by this time

I am sure—the first is our grand old Mother Bloor, the second our splendid Angelo Herndon.

Both are out on bail raised by workers' solidarity. Both are menaced by decisions of higher courts which upheld the sentences meted out to them by local authorities.

Mother Bloor's sentence is not anywhere near Angelo's. But we can't



Angelo Herndon

let our Mother Bloor spend one single day in jail. She can't take any time off. She's too busy. She has too many things to do. Too many men and women and youngsters to talk

(Continued on page 14)

county anti-war committees to be named by the women members, and condemning the \$1,300,000 armory-building program of the Federal government in North Dakota.

#### And Learn a Lesson

Not only this but they organized a protest demonstration to Governor Welford in his fine office with its high black marble walls, gilded decorations, and soft rugs. They learned there that Governor Welford would not promise his support in the fight against the

twenty new armories of North Dakota.

"You've got a job. You've forgotten us," the women said.

"The Governor has said enough to show that he is for war!" The women walked out of his office and on the steps of the State Capitol elected the first anti-war committee for the state of North Dakota.

These women learned that their interests lie with the small farmers against the politicians. Men and women fought together to make the Holiday Association stronger in the fight to protect their homes. They

fought side by side to keep the Holiday an organization fighting militantly for the interests of the working farmers and farm women of North Dakota.

These women will go back to their homes never again the same women as before. They learned their own power by standing solidly together, by fighting determinedly for what they believed to be the right. They will go back to their homes with a wider knowledge, a clearer vision, and with a deeper conviction that in organization there is strength.

## The Unwanted Baby

By Kartar Dillon

**N**ELL was going to have a baby. Nell was only seventeen years old and the food she ate was far from nourishing, and the clothes she wore were ragged, but she was going to have a baby—and she was overjoyed. Nature and the present economic system just didn't seem to agree on the matter. At any rate, nature had settled the question, and the rest was left up to Nell and Dave to worry about. That worry consisted of trying to make a decent living out of the meager wages Dave earned in the agricultural fields. He was one of that large mass of migratory workers, who live in tents in the back yards of wealthy farmers, and harvest the farmers' crops for them. Dave and Nell had been married one year now, and that year had been the happiest in their lives, in spite of the horrible living conditions and hardships. They knew that there was something better ahead for them and they were undaunted.

But they hadn't counted on the baby. At first Nell had been bewildered, resentful, desperate. But as the little life within her body developed, her resentment gave way to wonder and to pleasant thoughts. Now when the precious little burden throbbed and fluttered, she was amazed that she had ever wanted to free herself from it. Reason told her that she was doing the child an injustice by bringing it into a world so steeped with misery and so wrought with injustice. But it couldn't be helped now. She'd have to go through with it—and she was glad of it. Besides Dave assured her that times would get better because Presi-

dent Roosevelt had said so in his last speech.

The months passed and she tried to be brave about sleeping on the ground in spite of all the discomfort it caused her. They hadn't even a bed. Poor Dave worked so hard—when he could find work. But the weeks in between

jobs took every cent they could save. In the first place the farmer always paid the lowest possible wage and then the contractor took a commission out of that. What little was left was hardly enough for the barest necessities of life.

Either Roosevelt had forgotten about his promises or else Dave had misunderstood him, because by the time Nell's confinement drew near, Dave didn't have any more money in his pockets than he did before Roosevelt made his speech. So Nell applied for admittance to the county hospital, only to be told that she wasn't eligible because she had been in the county only three months. She went home to her forlorn tent and wondered what to do next. The last month dragged by slowly. Sitting in the meagre shade of the tent all through the hot sum-

mer days, she stitched on little clothes made from cheap cloth. Her mind was always busy with thoughts of her baby. The flies swarmed all around, buzzing a mournful droning tune. Out in the field Dave picked grapes in the awful heat and wondered how he was going to get a doctor. Their sole fortune was seven dollars and thirty five cents. And they weren't acquainted with any women who might help at the birth of the child.

The day finally came. Nell was frightened. She sat on a box and started crying. Dave went out of the tent with a set face and started the ramshackle car. He told Nell to get in and drove her to the hospital. There, the head nurse looked at them sternly, and reluctantly led Nell to a little white room. It was an emergency case; she couldn't turn them away. All that day and night Nell lay on the hospital bed, suffering unspeakable agony. The next morning just as the gray dawn was flooding the room with dirty light, a baby boy was born. Then Nell fell into a deep sleep, exhausted.

She woke in the afternoon to bright sunlight streaming in through the high windows, to the strong odor of disinfectant, and to the wailing of a dozen babies from the nursery. Nell's heart-beat quickened as she thought that one of those babies was hers entered her mind. She was anxious to see it and could hardly wait until the nurse brought it in, wrapped in a white blanket. The tiny, red little face of the baby so overwhelmed Nell with love that tears came to her eyes. This was the life she had suffered and fought so valiantly for!

The days in the hospital passed quickly. The service and good food and companionship of the other girls in the ward kept the days from dragging. On the sixth day, Dave took her



home to their dusty tent. They put the baby in a little box lined with soft rags, and covered with a piece of cheesecloth to keep the flies out. As the days and weeks went by Dave and Nell grew to love the child more and more. Their one pleasure in life was to sit in front of the tent in the eve-

nings and caress the baby and plan for its future. They decided that he would be a farmer and help his Dad on the farm that they would someday own. And all the while the flies kept swarming around the tent and the heat kept beating down upon it.

Two months later the baby got

stuck. Nell took it to the hospital, but the baby was "ineligible" now.

Pneumonia is a great leveler. It strikes down babies, even those for whom great plans have been made. The infant son of Dave and Nell was buried in the same box which had been its little bed.

## A MESSAGE TO LONGSHOREMENS' WIVES

**C**OMPARE this: The West Coast longshoremen average \$35 a week. They have a rotary system of hiring, which evens up work among all the men. Speed-up has been reduced, and as a result the 1,600 longshoremen who were formerly unemployed can now get work. The East Coast longshoremen average about \$13 to \$15 a week. They go down to the docks every day, not knowing whether they'll be taken on or told "nothing doing today."

### There Is a Good Reason

Why this difference? Because one year ago on the west coast the marine workers, led by the fearless trade unionist, Harry Bridges, struck, and won these swell conditions. Now these gains are in danger of being lost. The shipowners and the Department of Labor have combined to oust the fighting leaders of the West Coast Maritime Federation. The enemies of the marine workers want these leaders out of the way so that they can wipe out the gains made in the Great Strike.

The agreement expires in September. The West Coast men are preparing for a bigger fight to preserve their union conditions. But they must have the support of the East Coast marine workers.

Now this is where you wives come in. If you want your husbands on the East Coast docks to get \$35 instead of \$13 a week, you will do your bit by lining them up in support of the coming fight. Here's your chance to help yourselves and families.

Which reminds us: At the recent convention of the International Longshoremen's Association, the president, Joseph Ryan, said he was going to organize women's auxiliaries of the I.L.A. But judging from the way he

tried to sell out the West Coast strike, we know that we must beware of Ryan's gifts. His motives, as he himself admitted, were not to strengthen the union, but to "combat the influence" of the Communist women, who do go down to the docks and urge the building of strong, democratically-run unions. (Which is not such a bad idea—but Ryan hates the sound of the word democracy). They already have such an auxiliary in San Francisco. We suggest that the longshoremen's wives in Boston, Baltimore, New York and Philadelphia take the lead and organize an I.L.A. auxiliary in their cities. The WORKING WOMAN will be glad to help any woman or group of women with this job.

## A Union for the Domestic Workers

By a Union Member

**"B**UT suppose you gave servants their evenings off, what in the world would they do with them?" The man speaking is rich. Domestic "servants" are a special lot, he thinks, with no life outside the family in which they work; something like children, something like slaves.

### A Ready Answer

The domestic workers of New York City can answer this gentleman about what to do with free time. Some of them are spending theirs in organizing a strong union. They had begun to wonder why it was the workers' compensation laws, minimum wage, maximum hour laws applied to them only in one or two states. They wanted to know why all proposed unemployment insurance bills, except H. R. 2827 specifically stated that domestic workers would not receive its benefits.

These workers wondered, and they saw they were excluded because they had never organized.

### Strong Union Invaluable

Their conditions of work were unbearable. They were tired of slaving fourteen and fifteen hours a day. They were sick of doing heavy housework, expert cooking and ironing for 25 cents an hour, of standing on the corners as if in a slave market waiting for a "master" or of paying outrageous fees to racketeering employment agencies for starvation jobs and of receiving lower wages because of their color. These were some of the reasons they formed themselves into the Domestic Workers Union. That union is now Local 149-B of the Building Service Employees International Union, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

These workers in private houses now have the support of nearly 180,000 union elevator operators and service employees. They have a strong union to protect them, to fight with them for higher wages, shorter hours, and better conditions. Local 149-B conducts an employment agency whose services are free to union members. The domestic workers of New York City are out to unionize their trade. No more "masters" and "mistresses". No more slave conditions.

The domestic workers must get together to guard against the misery of unemployment. They should demand unemployment insurance, as is provided for in the Workers' Social Insurance Bill, H. R. 2827. Roosevelt's social security bill which has just been passed by Congress, excludes domestic workers, the majority of whom are Negro women, from its "benefits". A strong union will be able to break down this discrimination, against domestic workers, and win decent unemployment, social and maternity insurance.



Workers in the Soviet Union out for a day's sail in a boat owned by their union of longshoremen.

## WHERE WOMEN ARE FREE

By R. B.

**M**ANY lies have been spread about women in the Soviet Union by the enemies of labor—by strikebreakers like William Randolph Hearst, millionaire newspaper publisher. These silly tales shriek about nationalization of women, and the break-up of the home. This cry of nationalization is an old cry. It goes back to 1850, when the capitalists made the same lying accusation against the Communist Manifesto, which was written by Karl Marx, one of the greatest leaders of the working class. To this lie Marx replied that the capitalists regard women merely as a means of producing profits and children; and when they hear of common ownership of the means of production (machinery, etc.), in a socialist society, they conclude that woman,

too, will be nationalized. Only the mind of a capitalist exploiter, who thinks of nothing but profits, can cook up such outlandish notions.

### Bosses Cause Prostitution

Marx showed how it is the bosses themselves, who through wage-cuts and relief-cuts force girls to prostitution, and destroy the family. The private lives of scoundrels like Hearst, with their kept women, their unofficial mistresses and their official wives, reveal the extent of their "respect" for American women and for the American family.

How do women really fare in the Soviet Union, under the rule of workers and farmers? The Soviet woman has for the first time in the history of civilization attained her full stature

as a thinking human being. While each day brings new worlds for the Soviet women to conquer, women in fascist countries are being thrown back into the darkness of the middle ages.

### Are Women "Nothing?"

The German fascists howl: "Man is all, woman is nothing." The German woman is merely the tool and plaything of men. Woman's inequality is further expressed in the fact that she is paid lower wages than man for the same work performed. Women on relief are forced to either knit socks for the military camps, or clean public toilets in return for relief. However, the Nazis make one exception. They consider women equal when it comes to lining them up for Germany's war plans. German law provides for obligatory military work for women in so-called labor armies.

### Fascism Denies Mothers' Rights

Even the rights of the German mother are denied. She dare not influence or teach her children. This privilege is reserved for Hitler alone. With this denial of the political and social rights of women, is it any wonder that suicides among German women are on the increase? However, more and more German women are beginning to see that their salvation lies in a struggle against Hitler and his blood-thirsty gang.

### "A Chicken Is Not a Bird"

In Russia, the October 1917 revolution wiped away all the old prejudices, which were summed up in the proverb: "A chicken is not a bird, and a woman is not a human being." In czarist Russia the oppression of working women was revealed in the wide-spread illiteracy, which was especially high among the peasant women, reaching almost 90 per cent. The capitalists, who denied women equal pay and equal political rights, justified this on the grounds that women were the weaker sex, and hence the inferior sex. Lenin, the great leader, declared that women's inequality was not due to inborn sex differences, but was rooted in capitalist exploitation, which sought to use sex differences to get cheaper labor. Lenin said that the feminists cannot realize their demands for full equality

until working and professional women are freed from this system of wage slavery and the inequality that flows therefrom.

Working women can gain full equality only when they join their working class brothers and fight to overthrow the boss class, who are responsible for woman's double oppression—as a worker and as a woman.

### Women Have Full Rights

Life itself has proved this. In the Soviet Union, where the capitalist class has been overthrown, the working women have full political, economic and social rights. The Soviet woman gets equal pay for equal work. She is judged not by sex, but by her personal abilities. Every profession has been thrown open to her. Women occupy leading positions in factories, on collective farms, in the government, in the highest professions. Motherhood is really sacred in the Soviet Union. There is no such thing as a legal or illegal child. All children are equal before the Soviet law. Mothers are given special security. They receive a four-month vacation with pay during pregnancy, and a guarantee of their jobs. During the first year of the child's life, no mother can be dismissed from her job. By organizing nurseries, restaurants, laundries, kindergartens, the Soviet government freed the woman from her former kitchen slavery, and gave her the opportunity to develop all her capacities. The liberation from the mosque and veil of the Central Asian women, one of the most humiliated sections of humanity, was an outstanding achievement.

### They Set Example

Soviet women are ready to guard these great gains with their last drop of blood. In the early days of the October Revolution the women were among the boldest fighters against the czarist counter-revolutionists. Today the Soviet women stand ready to fight side by side with their working class brothers against any attempt of the capitalist countries to attack the Soviet Union. And the working class women all over the world, eager to make the same gains, are ready to defend the Soviet Union, and are striving to establish Soviet governments in every land.

# Our Next Task

By ROSE NELSON

Secretary of the United Council of Working Class Women

**F**OLLOWING our annual conference held on May 11 and 12, members of the United Council of Working Class Women were involved in the city-wide strike of the New York consumers against the high cost of meat that was declared on May 22. For one month our membership participated tirelessly on picket lines and in demonstrations. Open air meetings and indoor mass meetings were the order of the day. Through these activities we succeeded in gaining the support of tens of thousands of New York workers for the strike which won us a reduction of four and five cents on a pound in more than a thousand stores throughout the city.

The meat strike proved to us how timely the struggle against the high cost of living is. The working masses regardless of nationality, race, color, or creed have shown that they are ready to struggle against the high prices. The splendid strikes against the high price of meat in Detroit, Chicago, St. Louis, Pittsburgh and other cities bear this out.

Prior to the meat strike we carried on a militant six weeks' bread strike against the bakers in the Middle Bronx section who failed to live up to their agreement. We won a victory despite limited forces and other obstacles that arose in that struggle. Around the same time the price of milk rose one cent on a quart. We issued special leaflets and held indoor and open air mass meetings. We sent delegations to the local alderman and the milk companies protesting against this increase.

During the month of December we carried on vigorous protests against the sales tax. We participated in the open hearings on this question. We held five section conferences demanding the repeal of the sales tax and the reduction of the high cost of living. These conferences were supported by branches of the Workmen's Circle Auxiliaries, Union Label clubs, churches and settlement houses as well as delegates from house and block committees.

Our main task is to build a broad united front of all forces to fight the high cost of living. Our job is to organize strong neighborhood action committees in every block and territory. We should draw new people into these committees. Members of churches, lodges, clubs, unemployed and employed, Negro and white should be approached to join in this movement to force down the high prices on all food stuffs, rents, gas, electricity, and so on.

Local councils must again take the initiative in organizing local action committees based on the above. Immediate steps should be taken to compile a list of all organizations in every particular territory. These organizations should be visited and approached to join the local action committees. Local conferences should be arranged during the month of September and early October where the next steps in the campaign will be worked out. These local conferences will be followed by a city-wide conference in preparation for a national consumers' congress which is planned for late winter to take place in Washington. At the national congress the experiences of the other cities will be reviewed and further steps planned.

Basing ourselves on the decisions of our Twelfth Annual Conference we must make a decisive turn in our work. Our program will attract many more working women and housewives, giving us an opportunity to build strong councils everywhere. During this month every council should once again discuss the conference decisions and see that these decisions are carried out. We have to further the work in the direction of becoming a national organization. We have many councils in nearly every major city in the country. Our tasks will be, in the coming few months, to build a national organization of all councils. A national organization will give us the opportunity to lay the basis for the building of a broad united front throughout the whole country to fight the high cost of living.

# Notes from Abroad

By Grace Hutchins

AS the Italian soldiers were departing for Ethiopia in Africa, where they are forced to carry out the imperialist aims of the fascist Mussolini and the capitalists behind him, anti-war demonstrations were held in many towns of Italy. News of these protests against the war are only just leaking out, because, of course, no word of such action was allowed in the fascist press.

At Parma, Italy, early in July, the women placed themselves on the railway line with their children and refused to move. The State authorities had to postpone the departure of the

troops who were later secretly dispatched at night. These soldiers at Cavenago went to say goodbye to their families before leaving. They were arrested by gendarmes and taken to their battalion where they were beaten by officers until they had to be taken to the hospital.

The families of Italian soldiers at the front in East Africa can hear nothing about the health of the men. The climate is terribly unhealthy and many are dying. When the soldier dies, families receive only a brief notice. In many cases when the soldiers have died suddenly the families sus-

pect that they have been executed by court martial for protesting against the imperialist expedition. So great is the discontent among the troops that the authorities have had to increase the wages of the soldiers and improve the quality of food—at least temporarily. These improvements have been forced by the restlessness among the men in the expeditionary forces.

In fascist Germany, too, unrest is increasing, reports the *New York Times* correspondent. One important reason for the discontent is the rise in price of food and other necessities which the workers have to buy. Here are some of the prices per pound in marks paid in July a year ago and in July, 1935: (A mark is about 40 cents.)

	July, 1934	July, 1935
Roast beef—	1.60 to 1.80	1.80 to 2.50
Pork cutlets—	.80 to .90	1.10 to 1.20

Vegetables have gone up even more in price. The German housewife must now pay double or more what she paid a year ago at the vegetable market. Eggs have gone up by two to four pfennigs a dozen.

It is no wonder that "there remains a great deal of unrest among the masses, which seems to be increasing rather than decreasing." (*New York Times*, July 29, 1935.)

This tune of "Prices up—Wages down" has a familiar ring to us in America. The price of meat alone was 21 per cent higher in July, 1935, than July, 1934—according to figures put out by the New York Department of Public Markets. Food prices have gone up 37 per cent under the New Deal.

### What a Difference

Just a day before this account of rising prices in Germany, came a news story from Moscow, U.S.S.R., under the headline: "Soviet Prices Drop On All Necessities." Average food prices in ten chief cities of the Soviet Union have declined 35 per cent in the last two years.

Pork has gone down by two to three rubles a kilogram (equal to 2.2 pounds). Beef has gone down by about the same amount, and so has butter. Prices of women's coats and dresses have declined by 50 or more rubles. Reductions on men's suits,

textiles, and other consumer goods are on the same scale.

### In a Workers' Country

While the housewives of Germany and the U. S. A. are forced to cut down on the family feeding, the Russian housewives are constantly getting more food, clothing and better living quarters for their families. Why? Because in Germany and the United States the bankers rule, while in Russia—the workers and farmers run the government.

### Women Jailed Under Fascism

During the first six months of this year, 93 women were sentenced to a total of 158.6 years of imprisonment and hard labor in the prisons of fascist Germany. In one month the sentences imposed increased by almost 40 per cent.

A young woman worker, named Golla, 22 years old, from Silesia, was sentenced to seven years of hard labor by the Third Senate of the People's Court in Berlin, because she dared to speak against Hitler's war armament policy.

How the women are treated in these Nazi prisons has lately been revealed to the Conference of the Women's World Committee Against War and Fascism. Helene Glatzer was tortured to death in jail and the police finally announced her death. One woman 65 years old was arrested because she asked for news of her son and then arrested again after the first sentence was completed.

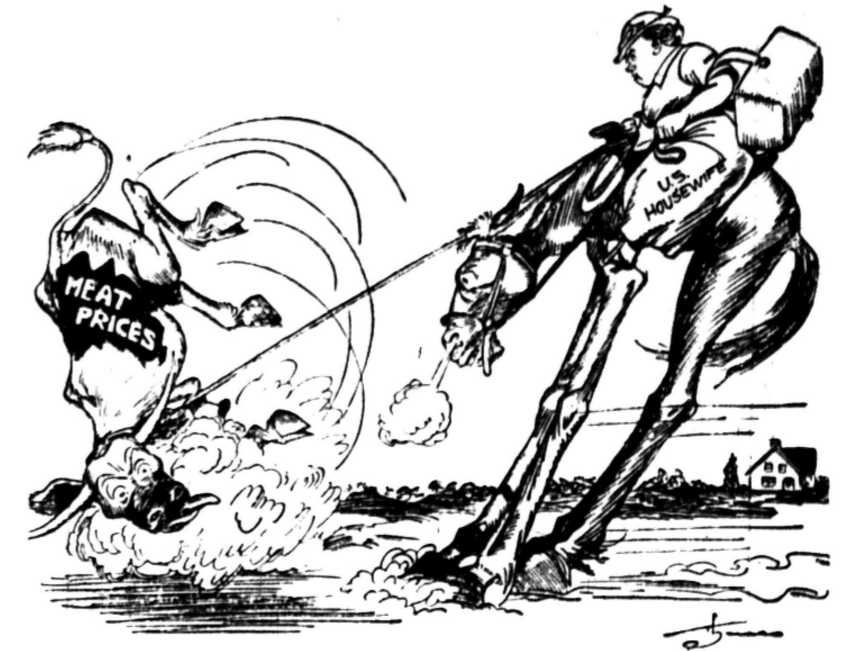
Even pregnant women are arrested and one woman had to give birth to her child on the hard stone floor of the prison cell, with no help of any kind from anyone.

\* \* \*

Among the 187 Japanese Communists arrested on July 16 in Tokyo were 35 women. The prisoners were accused of having taken part in the work of the Communist Party, which has been underground in Japan since 1928.

### Danish Women Win

We congratulate the 60 women employed in a Copenhagen men's clothing shop, who pulled a successful three days' strike. They won their demand that the forelady, who was responsible for the speed-up, be dismissed from her post.



When the Lady is on her High Horse

—Thomas in *The Chicago Daily News*, August 7, 1935

# Hurrah for Detroit!

THEY did it! Yes, the housewives of Detroit, like New York, Paterson, and Los Angeles before them, came out on strike against the high price of meat. And do these Detroit women know their stuff!

They're a scrapping, determined bunch. And nothing, neither police clubs, nor tear gas, nor jail sentences, can stop them. They're out to get more meat for their families. And it looks like they will. The strike, which has spread throughout the whole city, has received the endorsement of the Detroit Central Labor Council. Detroit's union men know very well that the fight against high prices is the fight of all trade unionists, consumers, small store keepers, and farmers against the big food trusts. The Detroit women, under the leadership of

Mrs. Mary Zuk, plan to extend this fight until they have won, not only reduced meat prices, but also lower prices on milk, eggs, light and gas.

This fight against the high cost of living must take root in other big cities. That will be the only guarantee that prices will come down and stay down. With the fall months approaching, and prices threatening to shoot sky-high, housewives in every city should get down to business and organize action committees in their neighborhoods. These action committees should at once begin to line up all women's organizations in the fight against the high price of meat, so that this Fall we can call a nationwide meat stoppage, which will make the food trusts come down in their prices.

### CORRECTION

A printers' error was made in the August issue of the *Working Woman* which we want to correct. On page 12 in "Our Answer" to the *Western Farm Woman's* letter the text should have read:

"Most of the working men and women are taught in schools and often in churches that birth control is sinful. We believe it is sinful to bring children into a world of starvation and suffering."



Soviet photo

A Soviet charmer of (not quite) three.

Notes from Abroad



Hurrah for Detroit!



# The Reader Has the Floor

## Making "Fulton" Sizzle

Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Editor:

Since May we have been reading your magazine and enjoy it very much.

A friend has been talking to me, and a group of us decided to write a story about the Fulton. We will show the conditions of the workers and their lives, made miserable by hard times and no chance to organize.

### Read, Discussed, Liked

The two issues (May and June) that you sent free were read, discussed and liked by all the women of the neighborhood. They read it and passed it on to their friends.

The social worker old lady Rivers got hold of one and showed it to Mr. Florence (the employment man) and he said for the women not to pay any attention to it that he could do nothing about it. The working women here in Atlanta sure have a hard time, the single girls as well as the married women.

Some of the married women have to support their husbands and children. Most of the single girls have to turn over most of their small wages to support their parents and brothers and sisters.

It is hard for us when we are working in the factory but much worse for those on relief for only one is permitted to work in a family.

### Determined to Organize

Most of the strikers (that is the militant ones) have been thrown out and are now on relief. It is hard down here in the South but it makes us more determined than ever to organize for security of our jobs and our rights as human beings.

In spite of the fact that the bosses fire any one belonging to the Union it is still alive and kicking. We all want to belong but the working class is weak and unorganized. But some day all of us will belong.

Page 12

We promise to send you a story that will make Fulton sizzle but it is the truth as we see it.

A FRIEND

## The Way Out

### Our Answer

Dear Friend:

By all means send us your story about Fulton. The columns of this magazine are always open to you. We're glad you liked the May and June issues. It's a good idea to pass the magazine on to your friends as you do. Keep up the good work.

You've got the right fighting spirit. Yes, there can be no doubt about it. The only way out for working women and men is through organizing—through building strong unions, defending these unions as their most precious possessions.

### Workers Are Uniting

The working class is getting stronger and more united all the time. Look at the growth of unions, and the recent strike wave in our own country. Look at the advance of the anti-fascist People's Front in France. Look at the sweep of the Chinese Soviets, which has vastly improved the conditions of the peasants and workers, and has given the Chinese women political activity. And finally look at the Soviet Union, where socialism is being built. It was the strength of the workers and peasants of Russia that made the great Russian Revolution of 1917. And it is the strength of the working class both in Russia and the world over, who consider the Soviet Union their fatherland, that has made possible the tremendous improvement of the conditions of the workers and farmers in the Soviet Union. These are signs of strength. The women of this country, in the spirit of the pioneer women, who dared all in the covered wagon days, must add their strength and daring to the American working class. We women must help

unite the American masses, into one mighty force that will move forward as one man towards a workers' and farmers' government in this country.

## Calls for Unity of Negro and White

A Special Letter to Mrs. X.  
of Atlanta

Cushing, Okla.

Dear Editor:

I just received my July Working Woman, and read the letter from Mrs. X of Atlanta, Ga. And I would like to say a few things to her and all other readers in regard to the Negro and Communist questions. I am of Southern parents. My grandparents were slave owners before the Civil War. I was raised among Negroes, but never had much dealings with them only once in a while to hire them to work for me until about one and a half years ago.

When I joined the Unemployment Council here, I felt at first that maybe they were carrying things too far in regard to the Negro in mixing with them. Then I was elected secretary of the Payne County Council, and how glad I was after I really got to work in earnest. I have been working as secretary of the Unemployment Council for almost a year now with Negro and white. And I am sorry to say that the white workers here do not respond or attend meetings or cannot be depended on for work, like the Negro workers.

Of course, we have a few white workers we can depend on. In my work I have seen that the Negro is a human being the same as myself. Also that they love their families and grieve as much as anyone when their dear ones have to suffer for the things of life. I have made some real friends in the Negro part of the town here, and when I go over there which I do quite often, I always try to attend their block meetings. I am always welcome in every home.

As long as the bosses who run this country can keep the workers divided by jim-crowing the Negroes, so long will the bosses hold their rule, and that long will the workers starve and suffer. But when we all unite regardless of religion or political or racial differences, then we will get some place.

Yours,

MRS. M. G.

## Strong Strike Support And How We Did It

Wilkesbarre, Pa.

Dear Editor:

I am writing this to encourage women to organize and band together to obtain whatever they need in the part of the country they live in. I live in a section called the Anthracite section. There is so much unemployment that workers are being used one against the other to lower the standard of wages being paid by the mine owners. Conditions were so bad that the mine workers were obliged to strike. We had a Women's Auxiliary of the mine workers, organized about a year, which had twenty-six branches. As soon as the strike became effective the coal barons had the State Police come in and it was almost impossible for our men to picket. We women decided that something had to be done so we went out on picket duty.

### We Picketed All Right

Our picketing was getting results. More men were persuaded to stay away from work. Then the bosses went out in the farm sections and got the farmers to come into the mines. Our women had become so militant on seeing all that was being done to the men that they went picketing in masses and they did such a good job of it that the bosses went to the State troopers and said that it should be stopped, which resulted in our women being clubbed and left in the road unconscious; many needing hospital treatment. We kept the strike going for five months. We collected from our branches over a thousand dollars for the Defense Fund to pay fines and expenses of pickets arrested. The branches too made up baskets of food and fruit, and sent cigarettes and tobacco to our men in prison.

### Doubled Our Membership

When there's a strike, you know men always put the blame on the women, saying that they are being made to go to work by their wives. So we try to educate ourselves to understand that only by being united and fighting side by side can the workers ever make gains. During the strike we doubled our membership and the women attended the mass meetings and in many instances criticized the

speakers if they were not militant enough.

Women—do organize, have an agreement with your men to mind the children the nights that you meet. I was afraid when I started this that I would not have much to say, but I find now I have too much, so if you find this worth reading I can write again some time.

—CATHERINE WEEKS

## DO WE RECOGNIZE WOMEN?

NOTE: We reprint the following letter from the *NEW MASSES* of July 16, 1935, because it raises a question that is on the lips of hundreds of women. We are going to let our readers answer the question in forthcoming issues. We are very eager to have men, especially those leading workers and farmers organizations, give us their opinion. Women! Let us hear your voice on this vital question of women's rights.

I have had a number of discussions lately with Communists about the new deal Communism proposes to give women. So far as I can see it is equivalent, roughly, to the liberation the Negroes were given after the Civil War. When I say so far as I can see, I simply mean here and now, in this country, and insofar as I am able to see what it does. I am speaking of actual deeds and real results, not of the abstract policy which is beautiful enough. As an outsider looking in and seeing only through the window, I catch glimpses like this:

1. The current (July 2) *New Masses* is written 100 per cent by men.

## Author! Author!

Do you know that many of our stories and articles are "just sent in" to us from our readers? Do you realize that you have as good a chance as anyone to have your story, article, letter or poem printed in the *WORKING WOMAN*?

We are interested in material telling of women's lives and struggles. These can be letters, articles or stories. They should not be longer than 800 words, written on one side of the

(If there is a woman writer in the issue or on the staff, her name is disguised so that the fact is not too evident, an even worse shame.)

2. The executive positions in the Party are held by men. Of course, as an outsider, I can only estimate vaguely, but I see a predominance of women in the ranks and a man in every position of any consequence.

When I mention these facts to Communists they react in one of three ways. They point with pride to some lone woman who holds a third-rate post, much as Mr. Roosevelt might point to Ruth Owen or Miss Perkins to prove that women get a square deal in America. Or they sneer, and say with fine sophistication, "What! still a suffragette?" to which one might well reply, "Yes, and still an abolitionist, also." The third reply is verbose, and, now that I have heard it so often, rather tiresome; it is a lengthy recitation of the whole attitude of Communism toward women, plus a retreat to Moscow for concrete examples.

Without having access to your files, I would say that the impression one gets is that your recognition of women is even more grudging than that given by capitalism. To match the current *New Masses*, take *Scribners*, in which there are four women contributors — there may be others with names disguised — but four frankly so named. And is there an article written by a woman in the current *Communist*? If so, she is a ghost writer.

I believe the question should be put this way: Do you feel that women are lacking in ability, or do you admit that you have failed to recognize their ability?

ANN WEEDON

paper if possible. Don't worry about grammar or spelling. What we want is facts! We are interested in True Life stories of not more than 1,500 words. We cannot pay for contributions and we reserve the right to return unsuitable manuscripts which will be returned with our comment if you ask for it.

Authors! Budding authors! And just plain people! Write to us. We are eager to hear from you.

Page 13



(Continued from page 4)

to and to organize and to encourage with her splendid enthusiasm.

Angelo Herndon faces a sentence of 18 to 20 years on the Georgia chain-gang. That means only one thing—death. I saw the Georgia chain-gangs at work only a few weeks ago. I saw what it means to mind, body, and spirit, to toil without ceasing from dawn to dark.

"Discipline" means heavier chains, with spikes added, stocks, and bullets. "Sassy talk," "laziness" are serious offenses which require "severe punishment."

## Sioux Falls Strike Backed by Jobless

By LILY LAKE

COMING into Sioux Falls, S. D., I learned that the Morrell packing plant has been ringed with pickets for a week with 95 per cent of the skilled knife men out on strike. The bosses are giving out a statement that 1,000 hogs will be killed today and that the plant is rapidly getting back to normal.

The so-called strike leaders say we're sure of winning and of having the 29 fired union men reinstated and the seniority rights enforced because Morrell products are being boycotted. Farmers are refusing to sell their raw products; railroad men and long-shoremen will not handle the finished goods.

For seven days now, however, the scab herders have succeeded in passing 600 non-union men and women into the plant. A dozen carloads of meat leave the plant and more hogs keep coming in, but again the strike leaders reassure us.

"Let the scabs into the plant. Keep cool on the picket line. Morrell can't operate with half the force and he won't dare call the militia if we let the scabs in. (Morrell doesn't dare call the militia because they haven't been paid since the last time they had strike duty). We need no outsiders on the picket line. Trouble-makers, agitators and 'reds' stay away. Tell your friends they help you most by staying home"

I couldn't stay away. I can see the

Angelo Herndon will never submit to the brutality of his keepers. His release on bail is an open challenge to all the forces of reaction in the south. They don't hide that fact. They tell it freely to anyone who may ask. They feel that they have been robbed of their prey and if they ever get their hands on him—

### We Must Free Them

That is why the same solidarity which gathered the nickels and dimes and dollars that made it possible to free our brave fighters on bail, must

strikers looking over the scabs going into the plant.

"Look at this old gray beard. Guess he'll tell us he has a wife and 14 children to support," they say. Some turn back because they can't face the pleading eyes of their fellows. Others—older men—go in.

"Scab! You'll never live this down," follows them as they go.

The double line of pickets narrows so there is no room for the scabs to pass. "Open up, open up there boys. Let 'em through," shouts a cop. "Let 'em through on their hands and knees, the yellow-bellies, the rats. There's plenty of room for scabs to get through." "You guys sure want to work," says another cop to the pickets.

And the *Argus Leader* prints that "Abuse hurled this morning lacks the enthusiasm and descriptive quality of that lavished yesterday." Boss Morrell states: "The amount of abuse our men were subjected to was outrageous!"

### To Our Subscribers:

The New York Public Library wishes to complete its file of our magazine. The numbers missing are:

Volume 1 (entire); Volume 2, numbers 1 to 4 and 6 to 12, and Volume 3 (entire). These volume and issue numbers will always be found near the Post Office notice and subscription price. The issues wanted are those from before March, 1933, when the *WORKING WOMAN* newspaper became a magazine. We have no extra copies. If you have will you please forward them to H. M. Lydenberg, N. Y. Public Library, Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street, New York, N. Y.

be rallied to keep them free and to wipe out the sentences against them. The authorities really fear this solidarity and if the Governor of Nebraska will get hundreds of letters from men and women from all over the country telling him, "You cannot send our Mother Bloor to jail"—she won't go to jail.

And if the Governor of Georgia will get the two million signatures of two million men and women from every corner of the land demanding the freedom of Angelo Herndon and all others facing jail sentences under the same law—he will go free.

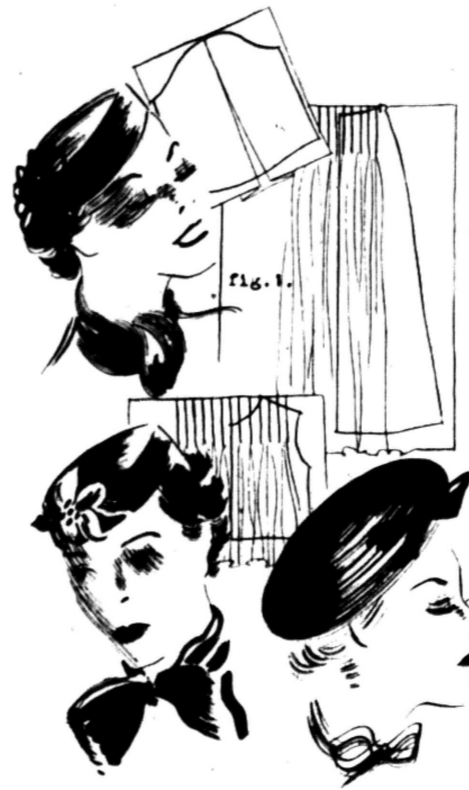
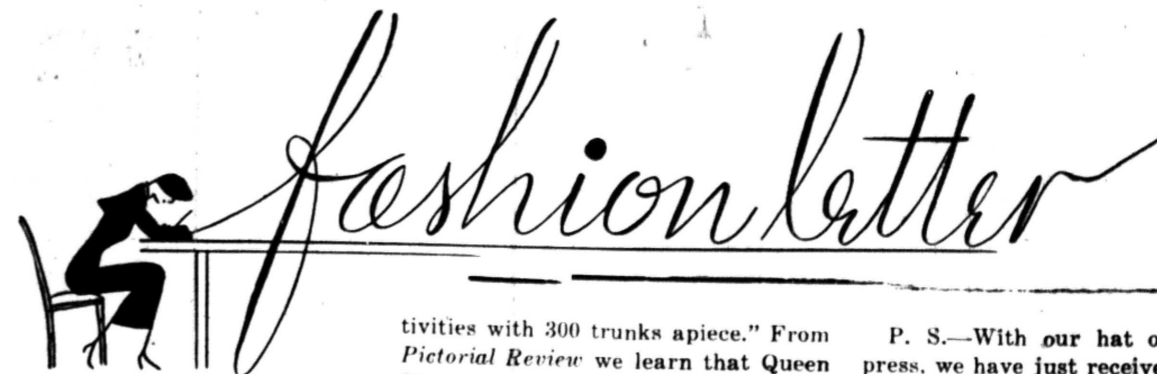
More outrageous were the bruises sustained by the pickets from clubs.

It's sticky heat. It rained before dawn but now the dust from the roads that lead to the wheat fields is raised into clouds by the wind. It is the eighth day of the strike and 19,000 now on relief in South Dakota (1,608 in Sioux Falls), are dropped from the payrolls and told to go to the farms. The farmer needs help to harvest his wheat. Until shocking is over and until able-bodied men find jobs on the farms, relief is cut off.

State Relief Administrator M. A. Kennedy states: "Without desiring to be specific, but in view of the local conditions which exist in Sioux Falls, persons refusing employment with the Morrell Packing Co., or any other employer . . . must not be given relief from state or general funds."

On the picket line I learned that strikers must scab or be kept off relief. For the rest of the unemployed there's a harvest to reap for the farmers who cannot afford to pay the full rate for hired hands. Even after threshing there is no money for the farmers. The government holds a first mortgage on account of back seed and feed loans.

But the unemployed of Sioux Falls refused to scab and they gathered in a great mass meeting protesting the cutting off of relief. They went to the Relief Administrator and said, "If the farmer needs help to harvest, see that he gets the money to pay his hands a living wage. If you want the packing-house to produce again, settle the strike and reinstate the 29 blacklisted men, because none of the unemployed here will scab."



activities with 300 trunks apiece." From *Pictorial Review* we learn that Queen Mary runs the royal household on a \$500,000 budget, and *Harper's Bazaar* tells a waiting world that *nothing* is allowed to interrupt England's Queen while she is doing her fingernails. It's enough to make a girl frow up.

However, let us brush the sand off our backs and do something appropriate to the season. If you have a stray bill, your first move has been, no doubt, to get a dark velvet or felt hat. If not you can easily make a little velvet pillbox hat or beret to wear like a halo, with a scarf to match. Think of these in terms of deep vivid colors, or black, which looks so new every autumn.

### Grooming the Bride

Life is awfully serious for most of us now, but don't let us be above that careful grooming which is more important than ever. The girl who looks as sleek and smooth as a fresh-scrubbed little boy is the easiest to look at with or without feminine trimmings.

And I still go on and on about how it's wisest to have one simple dress with good lines. Two or three inexpensive or homemade hats and a few changes of accessories give surprising variety. And try to be the smart one who will have a new wool dress all ready for the first chilly days.

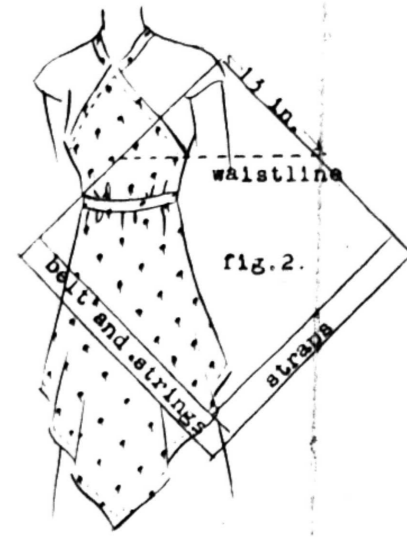
### And Here's How

Everything in clothes has the new front fullness, and if you have a good plain pattern that you're attached to, Fig. 1 shows you how to adapt it. Pleat the material *before* you cut. For the skirt make rather deep inverted pleats (about ten inches of them) center front and sew flat from the waistline down about five inches. (Recommended for nice flat stomachs.) The same can be done for the top of the blouse or jacket fronts. One deep inverted pleat is best for the top of sleeve.

P. S.—With our hat on, going to press. We have just received the nicest letter. Mrs. E. Y., of Philadelphia, writes very kind words about this department and says she has followed our suggestions many times with good results.

### An Easy-to-Make Apron

She encloses directions with a drawing for an easy-to-make apron. A yard of material is needed. Cut 3 inches off 2 sides and turn up 1½ inches for hem, all around the remaining square. Gather the waistline as shown in Fig. 2. Sew belt over gathers, leaving ends to tie. Make a strap about 23 inches long and sew both ends to the upper point. This makes a loop to slip over the head—but this length seems rather a tight squeeze to me. I would suggest making the bib shorter with a longer loop or make two straps so they can be tied at back of neck. The latter



keeps the high neck effect, which is so nice.

Since we are printing Mrs. E. Y.'s contribution, we are very glad to send her, or anyone she may name, a year's sub. to the *WORKING WOMAN*, as offered in an earlier issue.

—GWEN BARDE.

# A Million Women Against WAR!

**Subscribe  
Now!**

Aberdeen, S. D.

Dear Editor:

Enclosed is 40 cents in payment for the August WORKING WOMAN. We are organizing a club around this splendid magazine. Will you increase our monthly order of ten to fifteen copies?

R.C.

Stamford, Conn.

Dear Editor:

Enclosed is a check that pays our bill to date.

The United Council of Working Class Women of Stamford wishes the WORKING WOMAN every possible success.

H. S., Sec'y.

Yorkville, Ohio.

Dear Editor:

Please renew my WORKING WOMAN for the next two years for which I sent \$1 a few days ago. Now I am sending \$1 for two new subscriptions of one year each.

I and two other comrades had no trouble selling 25 copies at a picnic, even got two new subscribers.

We are calling on the other women to do the same so that women can read it to find the way out of their misery. Then they will be able to build a better world for themselves and their children.

P. M.

**1,000,000 SIGNATURES**

will be presented as a petition for total disarmament to Congress in Washington, D. C.

40,000 signatures have been received. Send in those you have and get new lists. Spread this Petition! In your houses, shops, clubs and churches.

Spread this Petition! War clouds are gathering over the world; waste no time in registering your hatred of war by deeds not not by words!

Write for Petitions to the Women's Committee of the American League Against War and Fascism, 112 East 19th Street, New York, N. Y., Room 605.

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